

# UFO

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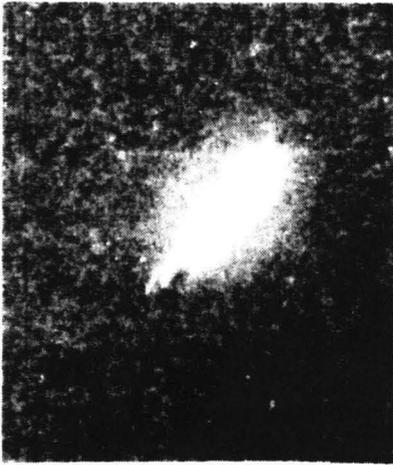
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NUMBER 93

JANUARY 1977

## Student Has Chase With Flying Object

DOMINION POST  
MORGANTOWN, W. VA.  
NOV. 19, 1976



FAN'S PHOTOGRAPH OF FLYING OBJECT

Was it just another evening star or was it verily a return of the UFOs, long missing from the Morgantown scene?

At 8:15 p.m. yesterday, Dominic Fan, a West Virginia University graduate student in Medical Microbiology, noticed a "bright object hanging above the hospital building."

Fan turned looked across the valley toward the Engineering Building, where he had earlier seen a planet-like object. It was gone.

Attempting to determine what caused the rapid disappearance and reappearance of the object, Fan stood in the cold wind for approximately 10 minutes. But even the cold could not prompt an answer to the chilling question: what is the object?

Fan first spotted the object at 7 p.m., when he first went to eat. He thought little of it then.

Picking up his binoculars, the student began to gaze starward to determine what the mysterious object was. "It was not a planet," he thought.

He described it as "irregular in shape and (it) appeared to have appendages."

Just seeing the object was not enough for Fan. He went home to get his camera and his roommate Paul To. His roommate saw the appendages on the object.

Because his studies require use of a camera, Fan has experience in photography and owns a 125 mm tele-lens camera.

(CONT. ON PAGE 2)

## NH natives 'saw' mystery object, state officials say they didn't

Depending on whom you believe, a radioactive object was retrieved yesterday from a pond on Bill McCarthy's farm in Wakefield, N.H. — or it was only a figment of people's imaginations. Here are the two versions, one from eyewitnesses and the other from equally-positive government officials, as compiled by staff writer Robert Keeley.

BOSTON HERALD  
AMERICAN  
BOSTON, MASS.  
JAN. 14, 1977

### Eyewitnesses

WAKEFIELD, N.H. — New Hampshire National Guard troops and State Police yesterday removed an unidentified object from a Wakefield pond and rushed it to Concord, apparently for analysis, according to eyewitnesses.

Wakefield Police Chief Michael Senecal told reporters he knew what was retrieved. Asked what it was, he replied, "No comment."

So the mystery — which began last Monday when the object reportedly fell from the sky into the pond — deepened.

Reporters pressed Senecal to give out some information, but he replied he was "under a gag order" issued directly from Gov. Meldrim Thomson and the state attorney general's office.

### State officials

CONCORD, N.H. — State officials have found no unidentified object and no radiation in that now-famous little pond in Wakefield, Gov. Meldrim Thomson announced yesterday.

He gave the "all clear" after National Guardsmen and State Police cut through the ice, searched the bottom and reportedly carried away nothing but mud and water for analysis.

Asst. Atty. Gen. Gregory Smith reported to the governor after the search was over that the probe "has proved the whole thing is false."

"The entire matter was caused by false preliminary instrument readings," said Roland Jenkins, a spokesman for the governor.



Curious passersby stopped to see mysterious hole in frozen pond at McCarthy Farm

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

For more than an hour Fan maneuvered his car in the parking lot so he could steady his camera against it, all the while taking pictures of the object. He took timed exposures

The object finally disappeared at 1:15 a.m. today.

Fan developed the pictures, noting that the object was not a planet or a star. "It had appendages on it and appeared to be rotating so that different shapes are seen," he said.

The student said he wants persons interested in the matter to get in touch with him. Of specific interest, he wants persons with astrological knowledge to call him at 293-2759.

During the evening the observer contacted State Police and the Morgantown Airport Tower about his nocturnal find.

State Police did not appear to be impressed. They referred the matter to the WVU Security Force.

There were no other reports about the object.

## Eyewitnesses

(Continued from Page One)

"I can't tell you what it is, but it is safe to say it is not a space ship," the police chief said.

William and Dorothy McCarthy, who own the farm on which the pond is located, were telling all they know.

Mrs. McCarthy said her husband was in the family room Monday afternoon when he looked out and saw the pond was melting despite near zero weather.

"Ice and snow don't melt for nothing around here," said Mrs. McCarthy. "We were in the midst of a blizzard and the temperature was near zero."

McCarthy and his daughter, Kathy, walked out to the pond and discovered a three-foot-square hole in the ice, which was two-to-three feet thick, Mrs. McCarthy said.

She continued that her husband used a pole to poke around in the hole and observed what appeared to him to be a black flat object about 24-inches square, with a round, bubble-like protuberance. He prodded it with the pole, she added.

The pond, which is man-made and about 50 feet in diameter, melted in more than one spot, Mrs. McCarthy continued.

"There appeared to be a square trench in the mud below the surface from the first hole going across to the second hole," she said.

The melting continued over several hours and at one point the ice became so weak her husband fell through, she said, pointing out that it held up one of the family's saddle horses the previous day.

"There definitely was something different in the pond," she assessed. "Ponds do not melt in the dead of winter. This is not Miami Beach."

Like everyone else, Mrs. McCarthy remains befuddled by it all.

"At first we were told there was a high radioactive reading from the scene and that the state wanted to quarantine us," she said. That was after the McCarthys reported the matter to police after the ice started to melt.

She said Chief Senecal arrived with a geiger counter that Monday night and reported high radiation in the area. She added that secrecy seemed to surround the matter after the attorney general's office was called in.

Meanwhile, excitement was the commodity of the day this normally quiet town of less than 2000 population, located near the Maine border.



William McCarthy views hole in ice on pond on his farm.

Hundreds of visitors—including newsmen from far-flung states—descended on the farm, which the McCarthys had chosen as a quiet refuge from Massachusetts seven years ago.

Spectators were held some 300 yards from the farm yesterday while the National Guard attempted unsuccessfully to pump out the pond. Failing this, large ice saws were used to cut a six-by-three foot rectangular hole in the ice.

Eyewitnesses in the crowd said they saw workers place the object—whatever it was—into a metal box. The box was placed in a van, believed to be a National Guard vehicle, and driven away.

After the alleged object was carted away, Senecal told reporters he knew what it was but couldn't talk. He then went to the Palmers Motel, center of the town's activity, and told Bob and Charlotte Palmer there was nothing to worry about because nothing was found, according to eyewitnesses.

## State officials

(Continued from Page One)

The excitement began Monday after Mr. and Mrs. William McCarthy reported an object had fallen into a pond behind their farmhouse and had melted ice which had been two-to-three feet thick. Subsequently, Geiger counter readings reportedly showed radiation in the area.

But Jenkins said that equipment was "faulty."

Other state and federal officials contacted agreed with the governor's official assessment. There was no radioactive object in the pond and the whole matter has been blown out of proportion.

In a prepared statement, Thomson said that what may have looked like something on the bottom of the pond was "the result of shadows of cracked ice."

National Guard Adjutant Gen. John Blatsos, said he had called various installations to determine whether any government equipment had fallen from the sky.

"I called Pease Air Force Base to see if something fell off an airplane," said Blatsos. "I called the satellite station. Nothing."

He explained a Civil Defense worker had thought he heard a "beep" on a geiger counter earlier in the week. But tests yesterday found the pond free from radiation, he added.

Blatsos said that plastic bags seen by eyewitnesses at the site could have been used for lowering monitoring equipment into the water for better readings. He also noted that officials were taking water and soil samples in the area.

After state investigators had left the scene, Charles Regan, a college-student from Portsmouth, took a reading with his own geiger counter.

He said the mud he tested registered high radioactivity.

However, government spokesmen were depending on their own readings with their own equipment — not on unofficial reports.

Meanwhile, Asst. Atty. Gen. Thomas Rath announced that rock and soil samples from the floor of the pond were taken by state public health authorities to the state laboratory for examination.

Also checking out the pond for the state were the Fish and Game Dept. and the New Hampshire Disaster Office.

# Shallow N.H. pond still unfathomable

By William B. Hamilton  
and Peter Anderson  
Globe Staff

WAKEFIELD, N.H. — The ice on William McCarthy's small pond is 18 inches thick. "You could drive a tank over it," he said. But when McCarthy looked out his window Monday afternoon, "I looked down there on the pond and saw a black hole in the ice."

"I looked into the hole and saw what appeared to be a square black object," said McCarthy, 52. The hole was round, and about 3 feet in diameter, he said. McCarthy pushed a stick into the water (about 3 feet deep) but could find nothing. A short time later, ice began melting around the hole.

McCarthy spoke to authorities in this small town and they, using instruments, found what they thought was high radioactivity around the mysterious hole. McCarthy said he was told to keep quiet about it. But secrets travel fast. "If you're not supposed to talk about things, people think there must be something to it. And that's how it got going so good."

The Pentagon read of the incident on a news wire and made an inquiry of the North American Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., which said that "no object had de-orbited in the last week."

Officially, Washington was unimpressed. The news media, however, were titillated; and the state was fascinated. Wednesday afternoon, an assistant attorney general phoned McCarthy, asking permission to inspect his pond.

Early yesterday morning the assistant attorney general, the adjutant general of the N.H. National Guard, the state disaster coordinator and state fish and game personnel showed up at McCarthy's man-made, 100 by 75-foot pond. At one point, Mrs. (Dorothy) McCarthy looked up as a television craft approached and said: "Isn't that cute, a helicopter in our field."

A dozen reporters were in the McCarthy kitchen and reporters from places such as Richmond, Va., kept calling the McCarthys.

But when state officials enlarged the hole in the ice to about 10 feet by 4 feet they found nothing — no square, black object or radioactivity.

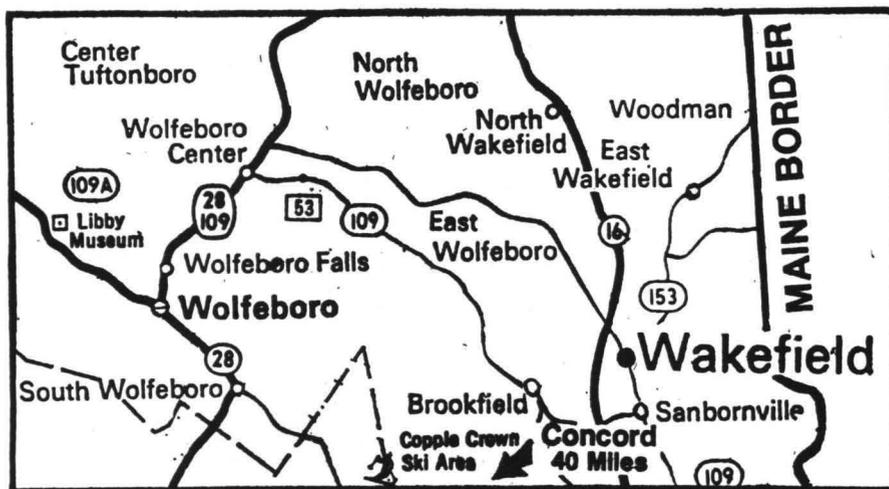
Gov. Meldrim Thomson's office issued a written statement which said in part:

BOSTON EVENING  
GLOBE  
BOSTON, MASS.  
JAN. 14, 1977

"The entire report is false . . . an examination of the pond reveals no object. Results also revealed that the instruments used (originally) had given a false reading (of radioactivity) and the use of more sophisticated instruments revealed negative findings."

McCarthy and his wife are matter-of-fact about the hole, but a bit bewildered. McCarthy, a former bricklayer, had moved from Arlington, Mass., to Andover, Mass., and then to his 100-acre Rocky Ridge farm here to raise horses and find the rustic life.

The state fish and game department took a sample of rock and sand from the pond for laboratory analysis. Otherwise, there is nothing left to the story. Except: What made a hole three feet in diameter, perfectly rounded, the black hole in ice 18 inches thick?



# UFO Buff Gets Unidentified

POST-DISPATCH  
ST. LOUIS, MO.  
NOV. 12, 1976

## Flying Escort To Group's Meeting

By BOB CHRISTMAN  
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Mrs. Rosetta Holmes was traveling down Highway 40 to last night's meeting of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis when she saw blue lights traveling at a terrific rate of speed.

"Then there was nothing," said Mrs. Holmes, a housewife and member of the board of the group, which studies unidentified flying objects. "I don't know what it was, but I liked it."

Willard P. Armstrong, the group's president, said voting members would have to pay \$4 a year dues beginning in January—a \$1 increase.

"We need technical equipment, such as a Geiger counter to measure radio activity around UFO areas," he explained.

The evening's featured speaker, attorney Edward F. O'Herin of Malden, Mo., said he had been convinced of the existence of unidentified flying objects for 30 years. But he had to admit that he had never spied one.

"I even went to Piedmont, Mo., in 1973 when folks down there were giving so many reports it was like watching the

Veiled Prophet Parade," he told the 40 club members at the Farm and Home Savings Association in Des Peres. "And I went to Brush Creek where the UFOs were supposed to be going every which way—and never saw a thing."

But it was O'Herin's hypothesis that there was sufficient evidence to prove the existence of UFOs.

"The testimony by persons in a court trial is of no higher level than when witnesses testify that they saw a UFO," O'Herin said. "Take the Piedmont area. It's not a hippie area. These are bedrock farmers, conservative people."

He read from the transcript of a tape recording made by a 50-year-old Piedmont farm woman who described flashing lights and whirling rotary blades.

"I've dealt with a lot of liars in my life," O'Herin said. "But in the first place, she wasn't that kind of lady. I don't believe she would have made up the details."

He said that in another sighting, two rural men were gigging for frogs out of season. As they floated down the stream, O'Herin said, a bright light suddenly shone above them.

O'Herin said the men assumed that the

Department of Conservation had a helicopter that made no noise "and they've got us bigger than all hell." O'Herin said the men tried to get away from the light and it disappeared.

The next day they were warning townspeople about the game warden's new helicopter and expecting a summons from the warden any minute. "At no time did it occur to them that the light was an unidentified flying object," O'Herin said.

"Disbelievers say UFOs can't be true because 'we believe it's not true,'" he said. "It irks me to hear the scientific community say this. If it doesn't fit what they believe and know, then they attack the observer."

"Many people—especially members of the news media—won't believe until one lands on the White House lawn and the President greets some little green men."

O'Herin told of one observer who still wasn't a believer.

"A farmer and his son were calving one evening when an object appeared and hovered a short distance away," O'Herin said. "The son said he was going to investigate, but his father said, 'I don't believe in those things, but don't go near it anyway. It may harm you.'"

# Hill reconstructs experience aboard UFO

STATE COLLEGE 49ER  
LONG BEACH, CA  
DEC 10, 1976

Would you believe a story about a person's experience onboard a flying saucer with "little green men" reminiscent of H. G. Wells' "War of the Worlds"? Of course not, an absurd hoax, right?

But then, how about a story in which the UFO observer astounds prominent astronomers by drawing a map of outer space that points out specific star formations that have only recently been discovered?

This is what separates Betty Hill's testimony from that of ordinary UFO sightings.

Speaking before more than 200 curious onlookers in the Multi-Purpose room in the Student Union Thursday afternoon, Hill reconstructed the events of what she called her two-hour abduction in both a slide and lecture presentation.

On the night of Sept. 19, 1961, while she and her husband Barney were returning to their New Hampshire home from Montreal, Canada, the Hills saw a strange disc-like object hovering over their car, she said.

"I saw what I thought was a new star in the sky; we thought it was a satellite," Hill said. "Then there was a series of 'beeps,' and the car vibrated and then we suddenly saw human-like figures in the road and at the same time our motor died," she said.

Hill said that both she and her husband were then taken onboard the space craft that had landed in an area known as Indianhead, 16 miles north of Concord, New Hampshire.

"While onboard we were given a physical examination which included scrapings from our skin, samples of our hair and I was punctured with a needle in my navel," Hill said. "The leader told me that it was a test for pregnancy

and I replied that it was extremely painful, and there was nothing like this test here (earth).

"There were nine crew members, one examiner and a leader. They were dressed in dark clothes, they had slanted eyes and used both mental telepathy and verbal discourse for communication," she said.

"I asked them where they were from and the leader showed me a map."

After the examination the couple were allowed to return to their car and continue their journey—a journey in which 36 miles and two hours could not be remembered, Hill recalled.

Three years later Barney Hill developed ulcers stemming from the fear of the unknown experience and both decided to consult a psychiatrist, Dr. Benjamin Simon of Boston, Mass., she said.

Simon, a disbeliever in UFO phenomena, used hypnosis to induce the Hills into reliving the UFO incident. When the tapes were played back to the couple after the conclusion of Simon's psychiatric therapy, the story as it is told above was finally realized by the Hills, she said.

In the question-and-answer session of the presentation, Hill described for the audience the dimensions of the alien space craft.

"It was of a thin metal and was approximately 60 to 65 feet across," she said.

Hill also said that the United States Airforce has confirmed radar sightings of an unknown flying object on the same day and in the same area that she claims to have witnessed beings from another planet.

The amazing thing about Hill's story is that when her map (drawn under hypnosis) was first examined by astronomers, it bore no resemblance to any known star systems, her supporters say.

According to an article written in a 1975 issue of the Los Angeles Times, Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist with a strong background in space science said, "When I first heard about the (Hills) case I put it into my 'gray' basket because of insufficient evidence. Then I met the Hills in 1968 and began to be convinced," Friedman said.

"Recent discoveries of stars that were invisible to us in 1964 led an Ohio schoolteacher and amateur astronomer named Marjorie Fish to speculate as to whether or not Hill's drawing might be a view of some distant galaxy as seen not from earth but from a point in space," said Friedman. Using this new data, a computer came up with a map of the Zeta Reticuli system—faint stars 220 trillion miles away—which astronomers agree matches Mrs. Hill's precisely," the article said.



Betty Hill points to a plaster cast conception (not actual size) of one of several humanoid creatures she claims to have been abducted by, along with her

husband Barney, in 1961. In the Multi-Purpose room of the Student Union Thursday, she recounted her frightening ordeal. Photo by BENNY SIEU

## Police, motorist see strange light

Ashland police early this morning were told that an Ashland man saw a "strange light" as he drove on Highway 99 south toward Ashland. Two police officers later reported they also saw the light in the eastern sky.

Officers said the man saw the light in the sky toward Grizzly Peak and said it was "extremely bright and didn't last very long." Officer James Haldiman reported he saw a light from the Terrace Street area. The man said he

saw the light at about 12:11 a.m.

Police contacted the Medford-Jackson County Airport tower and said the tower had calls from other citizens saying they saw something similar.

A spokesman at the Medford Airport tower said this morning that they did receive "a few" calls about a light, but added "it's a phenomenon we know nothing about. We didn't observe it." He said no aircraft was recorded in that area at that time.

DAILY TIDINGS  
ASHLAND, OREGON  
DEC 3, 1976

# Area Residents Report UFOs

Unidentified Flying Objects? Reconnaissance planes? Meteors?

Several Sarasotans have reported observing unusually bright lights alternately "hovering" and "darting" in the night skies over the area.

One report from Siesta Key described "two white lights, like two northern stars close together" over the southern end of the key last week. The lights "looked almost like a plane" but were stationary for "an hour or so" and were similar to ones observed in the same location early in the summer by the same individual.

The object appeared to be directly over the Gulf of Mexico, the observer said. "We know it's not a constellation, or a meteor, but we would like to know what we're seeing out there," she said.

A second source reported seeing flashing white lights "at about the level a helicopter would fly" between six to eight weeks ago while parked at the intersection of Wood and Brink Streets. "The object appeared to be over the land at this sighting.

"The lights were closer together than those on a plane and the object "darted off in different directions. It didn't follow a route or a pattern."

The first source said the lights were stationary but then could be seen moving slowly away.

Local officials had no answer to the question of what is up there.

Mote Marine Laboratory reported NASA had flown several U-2 reconnaissance planes over the Gulf as part of a Red Tide investigation, but the planes were flying at an altitude of 12 miles, too high to be seen, said the lab's Mike Heyl. No flights have been conducted since September and all missions were made during the day, he said.

Capt. Tom Kennington of MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa said the descriptions could apply to a helicopter but that MacDill had flown no helicopters over the Sarasota area during the past week. Two weeks ago however, helicopters were flying night missions over the area as part of a medical evacuation assistance program. Pilots fly over the area at night to familiarize themselves with local landing areas, Kennington said.

The U.S. Weather station at Ruskin had no explanation for the phenomena and Bishop Planetarium said earlier there were no meteors or comets in the area.

# UFO Sighting Stirs CB'ers

**PALATKA** — A bright whirling unidentified object was spotted in the sky during the early morning hours Thursday, according to reports telephoned to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

Citizen Band radio channels buzzed with the first sighting shortly after midnight, according to an East Palatka service station owner who watched the unusual object until it disappeared from his sight at 5:30 a.m.

A West Putnam REACT Club report at 12:27 a.m. told of a sighting over Spuds, a small community southeast of St. Augustine. A second call to the sheriff's office came at 12:52 from a CB'er who identified himself by license and the handle Astro Boy.

**BOTH SIGHTINGS** described the object as having flashing light at the top with blue and green lights at the bottom.

A group of Interlachen CB'ers report watching the unidentified object as it "hovered and then rose and lowered and then moved from what looked like the Hastings area toward Lake Como."

A former Air Force serviceman said he watched the object from atop his mobile home at Interlachen.

He first sighted it about 2:30 a.m. and described it as whirling with very bright lights of blue, green, amber and white. He watched it with highpowered glasses as well as by naked eye, he stated.

SANTA MARIA TIMES  
SANTA MARIA, CA  
DEC 9, 1976

FLORIDA TIMES-  
UNION  
JACKSONVILLE, FL  
DEC 10, 1976

SARSOTA JOURNAL  
SARSOTA, FL  
DEC 13, 1976

MILFORD CHRONICLE  
MILFORD, DEL  
DEC 9, 1976

## 9-Foot 'Martians' Cited at Sl. Neck

Two Milford men are shaking their heads this week and swearing it happened — they say they saw an Unidentified Flying Object outside town last weekend.

John Brady and Ronald Fullman swear they saw the UFO or the occupants from one as they returned home last Monday morning from Milton.

"We ordinarily come up the highway, but we decided to come the back way," Brady explains. "We were coming through Slaughter Neck and we stopped at the stop sign by the Milford by-pass."

Brady says that when they stopped at the road sign, he glanced over into the cornfield next to the road. He swears he saw "two tall objects, maybe eight or nine feet tall, standing close together as though they were hugging."

The sight of it shocked him so much he looked over at his companion and Fullman was staring at the same thing. Fullman even opened his car door to make sure they were

really seeing something outside the car, according to Brady.

There were no lights about the figures or luminance to them, but Brady says the night was very bright and it was easy to see. He described the objects as green-looking, "sort of a pine green."

"We went back to the same spot Monday," he relates. "We both agreed on the location where 'they' were standing. It was about 100 yards off the highway in the cornfield."

"There were no trees there and no machinery that might have confused us. We looked for prints on the ground or some other mark to show something had been there but we couldn't find a thing. We even took some of our friends back to look at the spot."

"There's no doubt in my mind that something was there," Brady swore Tuesday. "People will think we're crazy but we know we saw something."

He estimated the sighting happened about 3:30 a.m.

### Flying saucer?

Said the lady on the telephone:

"I feel so completely frustrated ... I called the sheriff, I called the Vandenberg Air Force Base people twice ... nobody will even answer me about it ..."

She had seen a "real flying saucer." In the early evening of Dec. 2, as she and her 13-year-old daughter were driving along Clark Ave., near Dominion Road.

"My daughter saw it first. She said 'Mom, look at that. It doesn't even look like an airplane.'

"It was about the shape of a football and the size of a small airplane. It had a red light on the center of its top and white lights at each end. Across the middle was a band of many-colored lights, all blinking. We watched it come lower and lower and finally it seemed to land between two small mountains."

That's when the frustration began. Nobody in officialdom will discuss the thing with her. It was, she said, a "thrilling" experience — but now she and her daughter are afraid to talk about it because they may be exposed to ridicule.

...

Now we switch you, by identified flying objects like a voice on a telephone, to Vandenberg Air Force Base. Please meet Major Dick Kline, who is in charge of communicating from the AF to the public. He pulls from his files an official Air Force memorandum and informs us:

"On 17 December 1969 the Air Force terminated Project Bluebook — its study of unidentified flying objects. The termination was based on a study made by the University of Colorado.

"The university decided that 20 years of Air Force experience in studying UFO reports has determined that (1) no such report has ever indicated a threat to the safety of this county, (2) no evidence has been developed that such sightings represent technical development or principles beyond the range of known modern scientific capability and (3) there is no evidence that such sightings indicate the objects reported seen represent extra terrestrial developments."

The Air Force does, Maj. Kline continued, suggest that people who are concerned about their safety contact law enforcement agencies. If people have what they think is scientific information, the AF wants them to contact their nearest college.

And, Maj. Kline reports, if people want to learn what the Air Force learned about UFOs (virtually nothing), they can buy a Bantam paperback work put together by the University of Colorado, "Scientific Study of UFOs." You had better be very interested — the book costs \$18.

# Two were real genuine label on Gaston sightings

The official word is this:  
Two of those hundreds of unidentified flying objects (UFO) reports that swamped The Gazette switchboard in mid-November have been confirmed as the real thing.

The word comes from Wayne Laporte of Matthews and Pat Rose of Charlotte, field investigators for an international group of UFO believers known as Aerial Phenomena Research Organization Inc. (APRO).

"Our confirmation at this point is tentative," Laporte said Monday. "We are willing to say that there was an unknown object flying over Gastonia on Nov. 10 mainly because we have two witnesses who apparently saw the same thing, and described it in separate interviews without knowing, as far as we can determine, anything about the other similar case."

The cases Laporte is referring to are these:

— On Nov. 10, Gastonian James Mickles and his son were driving down I-85 toward Charlotte. As they approached the Cox Road exit, they saw, according to the APRO report, "two lights like car headlights hovering in the sky. One light was above the other . . . and the lights were bright and intense but not blinding."

## WATCHED IT HOVER

— The same night, Marie Bingham, another Gastonian, and her boyfriend were traveling south on the interstate highway in the direction of the U.S. 321 exit. The two spotted a bright light (about the size of a nickle) moving over a water tower in southwest Gastonia. As they drove their car onto U.S. 321, Miss Bingham noticed the light moving north toward Dallas. They watched it hover over Sims Park "and in a few minutes two orange balls ejected downward . . . then the object accelerated vertically into the clouds."

The information was sufficient to convince Laporte and Mrs. Rose that the objects sighted by Mickles and Miss Bingham were indeed UFOs.

Both sightings occurred between 9:30 and 10 p.m.

The directional paths of the two objects were the same. Both Mickles and Miss Bingham saw two lights.

## TWO OBJECTS

"It is possible that the I-85 object was actually two objects flying in formation with the top object orbiting the lower one," Laporte said. "It is possible that we had two objects observing Gastonians. For sure, we know that these two persons saw the same objects since sighting times, sighting area and flight behavior in both testimonies match."

Laporte and Mrs. Rose began contacting UFO sighters shortly after reports appeared in The Gazette during the second and third weeks in November.

Most of the reports, Laporte said, were dismissed as being the planet Venus.

"November is a high-frequency month for reports and for misidentifications," Laporte explained. "However, a higher than normal frequency of authentic UFOs also tends to occur during the first two weeks of November. This is why we were very much interested in investigating reports made to The Gazette."

Why so many misidentifications in November?

Laporte said the reason is mainly that the switch to eastern standard time from daylight savings time in the eastern United States results in people traveling home from work at dusk or after dark.

"In the darker sky they can see Venus, which is clearly visible in November and often appears as if it is following a motorist as he drives over the changing elevations in the pavement," he said.

He added that November also is a month for meteor showers and that meteors often are mistaken for UFOs.

Both Laporte and Mrs. Rose are searching for other persons who believe they saw similar objects described by Miss Bingham and Mickles on the night of Nov. 10. They also are launching an investigation into Friday night sightings reported in Gastonia.

The most recent UFO reports were made by persons walking on South Marietta Street. The persons told Gazette reporters that they saw oval objects equipped with red, yellow and blue flashing lights.

# They're back!

They're back.

UFOs, that is. They're back around Crowders Mountain. But what's more, they're blinking their lights at evening strollers taking a walk down Marietta Street near the heart of Gastonia.

It's been a month since the rash of UFO reports hit town, causing The Gazette's switchboard to light up like a Christmas tree before the Thanksgiving turkey had been baked.

Friday night in the newsroom seemed like a repeat. Just as darkness settled in, the calls began coming and the voices seemed more excited — even more frantic — than those we heard telling us about UFOs that were hovering over the treetops, whizzing through the skies and beaming lights on motorists traveling area highways in mid-November.

Three callers reported seeing bright lights in the vicinity of Crowders Mountain. Two refused to give their names, but both apparently were seeing exactly what Mrs. Dewey Rollins was seeing from a window in her home at 609 Lynwood Rd.

"It's a great, big, kind of red light over there on the south side of Crowders Mountain," Mrs. Rollins said. She and her husband had been watching the light for nearly an hour when she called at 7:30 p.m.

"It isn't moving now," Mrs. Rollins said. "But my brother was watching it earlier and he saw it blinking on and off."

Fifteen minutes earlier the Marietta Street strollers were calling.

Two persons, neither of which would pinpoint their locations for fear of revealing their identity, said they saw an oval object with yellow, blue and red flashing lights moving from Marietta in an easterly direction. Both reported seeing the lights for approximately 15 minutes before they disappeared.

The Gazette's UFO expert, Wayne Laporte, who is researching November sightings, wouldn't venture a guess as to what folks were seeing Friday night.

We're still checking. More later.

## UFO reported

Judith Johnston of Sandoval has reported to the Times-Commoner that she sighted an unidentified flying object hovering over the Salem Bowl on route 50 east at 1 a.m. Wednesday night of last week.

"I thought I should let the newspaper know so they can tell other people," she wrote.

"At 1 a.m. I saw a UFO hovering over the bowling alley on route 50. It was silent, had all blue lights, I'd say at least 15, on it. As I approached my CB went dead as if I didn't have any."

She added, "I didn't lose time getting away from there."

This is the third report of UFO sightings in the immediate Salem area recently. James Rightnowar of Bonnie, a trucker, said he saw a UFO November 16 hovering over I-57 west of Salem. This one had red lights. On Tuesday, November 23, at 2 a.m., he reported sighting a UFO hovering just above the ground at the east edge of Salem on route 50 by a creek bridge. This one had from 12 to 14 pink lights.

Any other reports? The reports received to-date are without documentation, as most UFO reports are, but thousands such reports have been recorded over the years throughout the world. However, there has been no positive fact established concerning the actual existence of such objects.

GASTONIA GAZETTE  
GASTONIA, NC  
DEC 21, 1976

GASTONIA GAZETTE  
GASTONIA, NC  
DEC 18, 1976

## Minister, Deputy Report Seeing UFO in Oklahoma

HUGO, Okla. (AP) — Residents of this far southeast Oklahoma area, including a deputy sheriff and an Episcopal rector, spotted what they termed an unidentified flying object late Thursday.

Deputy Roy Akens and Rev. Mike Swann, an Episcopal minister who also is the jail chaplain, said the object flew across a section line road in front of their car before climbing away at high speed.

It all began when Mr. and Mrs. John Jefferson, who live to the northeast of Hugo, looked out a window after they went to bed and saw an object in the sky. They said it was flashing red, blue and white lights and staying pretty much in the same position.

After watching the object for a time, they called the police, and Akens and Mr. Swann responded.

The minister and the deputy

said they were traveling east on U.S. Highway 70 when they spotted the object through some trees, flying low. They took a section line road toward it, and said that as they approached it, the object passed in front of them very low, then began to go up very fast.

Both said they used night glasses and said the object had colored lights on it and that the lights were rotating. It was soon lost to view, they said.

The two came back into headquarters, where they reported to the dispatcher. Soon, dozens of people were out scanning the sky for the object, but all that could be seen was a bright star.

TIMES-COMMONER  
SALEM, IL  
DEC 1, 1976

ARKANSAS GAZETTE  
LITTLE ROCK, ARK  
DEC 4, 1976

TRIBUNE  
OAKLAND, CA  
DEC 3, 1976

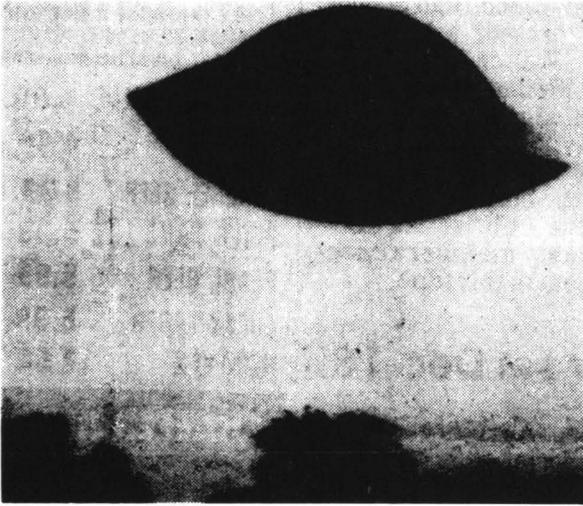
## Outer Space Lecture

SAN FRANCISCO—A young French journalist who maintains he has been appointed by beings from outer space to save humanity from itself will give a lecture at the Jack Tar Hotel tonight at 8:30.

Claude Vorilhon, 28, calls the beings who he says took him into their space ship on October 7, 1975 "Elohim," a name familiar to Bible readers as synonymous with the god of the Jews.

# UFO reported over Camptown

OSCEOLA SUN  
KISSIMMEE, FL  
DEC 7, 1976



CHILTON TIMES-  
JOURNAL  
CHILTON, WI  
DEC 9, 1976

## Judge Seborá Reviewing UFO Alleged Abduction Case

Whether or not charges are brought against relatives of a Howards Grove woman who claims she was kidnapped by them from the UFO education center in Appleton Oct. 9, rests in the judgment of Calumet County Judge D. H. Seborá. Seborá adjourned a hearing last Wednesday to review testimony given and to study the Appleton Police Department report of the incident.

The hearing was being held under state statute 968.02 which permits persons who believe a crime has been committed to request that a judge issue a summons of warrant when the district attorney cannot or will not do so. Seborá said he expected to make a decision within 10 days.

The hearing relates to possible charges connected with the alleged abduction of Susan Kolb, 23, who now lives in Appleton. She was the only person to testify at the hearing.

Mrs. Kolb, who has recently filed for a divorce from her husband, Tom, testified that her father, Donald Utecht, Kiel, her brothers, her husband, and others, dragged her from the basement of the UFO Center on Oct. 9. She said that the alleged abductors smashed windows and destroyed property in their attempt to kidnap her.

Mrs. Kolb said that a friend had informed her of her family's plan to remove her from the center earlier in the week. Consequently, she called Appleton police, who, she said, declared they could do nothing until a crime had been committed. Mrs. Kolb told Judge Seborá that a crowd had gathered in front of the educational center and remained there for several hours before she was captured. The police, she claimed, failed to disperse the crowd, even though, she felt they were causing a disturbance.

The 23-year-old woman said she was taken from Appleton to a cottage in Little Suamico where she was to be deprogrammed, over the telephone, in talking to a woman who was identified as Sally Miller. Mrs. Kolb said that Miller asked her many questions about the UFO Center, and determined that she did not need deprogramming.

From there, Mrs. Kolb was delivered to the Appleton Police Department by her alleged abductors.

District Attorney Donald A. Poppy, Brillion, said that he felt there was insufficient evidence, lack of a criminal intent on the part of the alleged abductors, and that the incident was a "family feud." As district attorney, Poppy said, he had the discretion in these cases and that he had to not only consider the rights of one person, but the rights of the state, and the rights of the taxpayer.

Mrs. Kolb said she feels her rights have been violated, her life has been affected by the publicity, and that her family should be punished.

A picture was made Saturday of a "silvery, 50-foot-diameter" unidentified flying object as it "hovered noiselessly" above Camptown in the northeast corner of the county.

The unidentified photographer left the area soon after the picture was made, but a maintenance man at the camp, who says he is skeptical of UFOs, said he observed the object and obtained one of three pictures made of it.

James Setvin Sr., a Fells Cove resident, said he observed the object near dawn Saturday as it apparently observed him and a group of about four other persons.

"I don't have any idea what its intention was," Setvin said. "At the time I thought somebody was pulling a trick out there and didn't think too much about it. But now I don't think it's a trick. I'm not really sure what I've seen."

Setvin said he was in one of the buildings when he heard several women screaming outside. When he ran out, he saw the huge object hanging in the sky with no visible means of flight or lift.

A camper at the grounds took the picture of the UFO — in fact he had time to take three photographs of the craft with his Polaroid camera — before it disappeared in a northern direction about two minutes later, Setvin said.

Setvin said the 60-year-old photographer didn't want to get involved but after some coaxing he gave one of the pictures to him. Setvin added he doesn't know the man's name and he has already left the campground, along with the other visitors who apparently viewed the craft.

In the original picture small figures of people could be seen standing underneath the object,

but these images were not clear enough to stand out in the newspaper reproduction

Trees at the scene are about 40 feet high and Setvin estimated the height of the object at 100 to 150 feet above the ground. Setvin's wife, Joan, an employe of Applied Devices, said she took the photograph to several engineers at the plant and they agreed the object was about 50 feet long after using a micrometer to measure the image.

"Their general reaction was amazement," Mrs. Setvin said. "They had no theories about it."

Mrs. Setvin said she believes UFO's exist but her husband is skeptical of them.

The craft came from the west, hovered above several astonished campers, then took off slowly towards the north, Setvin said.

He said the UFO looked like two bowls with their rims together and another dome on top. At the bottom of the object were three holes equidistant apart. There were no lights, observers felt no heat or air, he added.

"When it left it sounded like the wind going over. Or maybe a glider," said Setvin. "I've always heard they have halos but this didn't have any lights."

Setvin is the only employe at the camp that early in the morning; he arrives to begin work at 4 a.m. Also any other possible observers have left the area . . . including the photographer who "was headed towards Washington."

"I wasn't going to say anything about this because people always say these pictures are faked, but there wasn't anything done to this one," Setvin said.

# Strange Light Spooks Researchers

WASHINGTON TWP. — "I couldn't believe my eyes. The geiger counter went all the way off the scale. Something physical existed out there for a period of time."

That is the way William Wagner, an electronics engineer from Hopatcong, described how he and 16 members of an investigative group made contact Saturday night with the "spook light" that has mystified residents of this area for decades.

The team set up radar, infrared sensing devices, radiation detectors, geiger counters, a methane detector, magnetic equipment, cameras and a parabolic listening device Saturday night along a stretch of railroad tracks where the light has been seen on numerous occasions. They remained on the scene until 5 a.m. yesterday.

"At 11:35 p.m. three of our investigators stationed at a post some 3,000 feet from our electronic van reported seeing a light. At the same time, the geiger counter showed an abnormal increase in radiation.

"The electrical capacitance showed a reading which indicated there was something metallic between the rails, although this could have been a car which stopped on the tracks two miles away," Wagner explained. "Another instrument indicated there was an electrical build-up in the wire we had strung along the tracks for our equipment.

"At the same time there was a communications blackout for about 30 seconds. We couldn't communicate on our radios. The three people at the post said later the light was visible for one to two minutes. It wasn't very bright and it appeared to move side to side. It didn't come towards them, but was about 300 yards away. It was a reddish, glowing light," Wagner continued.

Strangely enough, three other observers at a post located 3,000 feet fur-

DAILY RECORD  
MORRISTOWN, NJ  
NOV 22, 1976

ther down the tracks, were unable to see any light whatever, even though they were alerted to the sighting.

"When they ran towards the post which reported seeing the light, the electrical reading and the geiger counter dropped. Suddenly the geiger counter flipped all the way back. The reading was higher than before. It went right off the scale, I couldn't believe my eyes," Wagner reported.

He said the geiger counter was checked later with a sample and found to be in perfect working order.

Although there were 16 in the group strung along a one-mile section of the Conrail tracks, only three observed the light. Wagner said motion pictures and 35mm camera shots were made at the time the light was visible. The 35mm camera was loaded with infrared film which has not yet been developed, he said.

"We're definitely going to try again," Wagner said. "When we went out there I had little hope we would actually see anything. The only conclusion I have is that whatever was causing the phenomenon is of a tangible nature. It is not supernatural. It is something of an electrical nature.

Wagner and the group are members of Vestigia, a society formed to investigate unusual occurrences. The effort Saturday night involved the use of some \$35,000 worth of electronic equipment.

The strange light has been reported in this area for many years. It is similar to others reported seen in 47 other sections of the United States. It is known as "spook light," "the hooker man" or "ghost light."

ENTERPRISE RECORD  
CHICO, CA  
DEC 6, 1976

## Chico Man Spots UFO Over Park

A Chico man last night reported the sighting of an unidentified flying object which hovered over lower Bidwell Park.

Lyn Funkhauser said he spotted the silvery metallic object off Vallombrosa Avenue north of Big Chico Creek and west of Manzanita Avenue about 10:30 p.m.

Funkhauser said the object appeared to be about the size of a small truck and had four red lights, two on each end.

He said he first saw it at about the top of the trees in the area, approximately 120 feet, and that it moved southeast and upward to about a half-mile where it again hovered. He said at the higher altitude, it appeared to have red, white and green lights.

He said he also heard what sounded like a very muffled jet engine.

NEWPORT MINER  
NEWPORT, WA  
NOV 18, 1976

## UFO Sighted In Sp. Valley

Newport's UFO is back. Mrs. Elmer Leslie, Rt. 2, Newport, spotted an object which gave off a reddish light at 5 p.m. last Wednesday, Nov. 10. The object was headed in a northeasterly direction. It moved rather slowly and seemed to stop at times.

The Poly Lears spotted a UFO in Newport Nov. 3, apparently near Diamond Lake.

# UFOs: Part II

Get ready for the latest chapter in the ongoing saga of Gaston County UFOs.

Those bright lights popping up over the tree tops, sailing through the air, and hovering in the southwestern skies over Crowders Mountain could be something more than Venus.

They could be jet planes zeroing in for a landing at Douglas Municipal Airport in Charlotte.

That's the word from Wayne Laporte, an unidentified-flying-object field investigator for Aerial Phenomena Research Organization Inc. (APRO).

Laporte, a Matthews resident, and his fellow APRO member, Pat Rose of Charlotte, have spent the past week checking out claims of UFO sightings in Gaston County. They represent a group of international UFO believers who follow up on reports and collect information to store at the the road pavement.

A large number of the hundreds of reported UFO sightings which have come into The Gazette newsroom in the past two weeks have included descriptions of yellow or orange lights which blink on and off.

"It could be that these are the landing lights of jets," Laporte said. "The lights normally are very bright and although they are white, appear to be golden because of atmospheric conditions."

He said Gastonia, where the majority of the reports have originated, is located in a landing route used by aircraft approaching Douglas Airport.

"That landing corridor is about 12 miles wide and that could explain why, if they are landing lights, the sightings have been seen somewhere other than a central point," Laporte added. "A lot of pollution and warmth in the air can cause the landing lights, when viewed at a distance, to appear to bob up and down or disappear all together."

GASTONIA GAZETTE  
GASTONIA, NC  
NOV 24, 1976

He also said that the lights are of such an intensity that they can be seen for greater distances than the other less brilliant lights on airplanes.

APRO headquarters in Tucson, Ariz.

### VENUS OR PLANES

"Our tentative findings are that the sightings are either Venus or the landing lights on a jet," Laporte said Tuesday. "Of course we are not ready to dismiss the possibility that actual UFOs have been sighted. There are some reported sightings which are very much different from the majority and we want to check them out seriously before we conclude our investigation."

Laporte and Mrs. Rose have retraced the route followed by Gazette photographer Kermit Hull, who photographed a brilliant light in the southwestern part of the county two weeks ago.

They agree with other ufologists that the light Hull was chasing was the planet Venus.

"When you are driving it is quite easy to watch a celestial body that appears to be moving as you travel toward it," Laporte said. He explained that the movement is not in the star or planet, but rather is caused by the vehicle's up and down motion as it travels over levels in

# Mysterious Lights Seen At Ashland

HAYS DAILY NEWS  
HAYS, KANSAS  
NOV 18, 1976

ASHLAND (HNS) — Skeptics at Ashland probably may be having second thoughts about men from outer space and ~~UFOs~~ following four straight nights of sighting "mysterious lights" near their town.

Wednesday night, Clark County Sheriff Loftis Messer said he saw a strange light northeast of the city and one to the southwest. Both have been appearing between 7 and 8 p. m. each night. He said the light in the southwest moved across the sky in about 40 minutes.

"It streaked clear across the sky and out of sight," he said, describing it as if the sun was setting "but only faster." The light "hanging" in the northeast, he said, appeared to be moving further away on a northeast course.

"It just looks like a bright light bigger and brighter than a star," he said.

Messer said some smaller lights could be seen around the larger northeast light.

"They change from red to orange to green," he said of the smaller 'orbs'. The larger lights also have changed colors, from green to yellow to red.

The mystery of the lights began Sunday night. A youth reported to the sheriff that he had been driving north of the city on a gravel road when a light suddenly appeared.

"It was a terribly bright light right beside his pickup. It like to scared him to death," Messer said. The youth was the only one to get a close look at the lights, which shown about 20 yards from his pickup, he added,

Monday and Tuesday nights, the lights were visible in the skies. Tuesday night, the light in the southwest moved for the first time and disappeared as it did Wednesday night.

Messer said his phone had been ringing constantly at his office Wednesday morning. Residents in and around the county seat town of about 1,200 were reporting seeing the strange lights.

The sightings were one of three reported in Southwest Kansas during the month. On Nov. 6, Danny Parr, 14, of Mullinville, reported seeing a large "red light" south of Belpre while he was visiting his grandparents.

Wednesday night, a television crew from KTVC-TV at Ensign was at Ashland. Messer said he also received a call from a man in Kansas City inquiring about the strange lights.

Messer said the objects don't look like helicopters or any other types of aircraft.

"I've never seen anything quite like it before," he said.

## UFO Reportedly Knocks Lights Out

An Alexandria man told city police he spotted an unidentified flying object about 9 p.m. Monday when he stopped his car at a traffic light at Memorial Drive and Southfield Drive.

"All of the lights in the area suddenly went out, including the traffic light," police quoted William J. Adams of 2015 Memorial as saying.

Adams, police said, explained that he saw a blue-green steak behind what appeared to be a blue-green ball. The UFO, he said, was traveling horizontally at a very high rate of speed and only appeared for a second or two.

When the UFO disappeared, the lights all came back on, Adams told police.

TOWN TALK  
ALEXANDRIA, LA  
NOV 23, 1976

## UFO reports continue

DAILY GLOBE  
DODGE CITY, KAN  
NOV 19, 1976

ASHLAND—Thursday evening was the fifth in a row that the residents of this southwest Kansas community have viewed the multi-colored unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in the autumn skies.

According to the Clark county sheriff's office, there has been one UFO hovering in the east, one bright object in the southwest, and one moving UFO in the northeast on each night.

Sheriff Loftis Messer was out of the office, and it was unknown if he had attempted to contact McConnell Air Force base in Wichita or any other military facilities in an attempt to determine the origin and nature of the celestial bodies.

District Judge Robert Baker admitted that his wife, son and he had gone out to watch them. He tracked the moving object with binoculars, but it moved too fast to be viewed with a rifle scope. The objects display all colors,

particularly a flashing red light. Baker observed that there were no other flashing lights on them common to aircraft.

Baker, well-known in Ashland for his wit, has quipped that the objects were probably spies from Pretty Prairie scouting the Ashland Blue Jay football team prior to their class 1-A semi-final battle tonight. Aslo, he said he was kidding Sheriff Messer about "how his smelly old pipe finally got to him."

So the Ashland mystery continues, but the extraterrestrials had better be wary of the judge's curiosity. A crack shot with his trap shotguns, Baker declared, "I've got my license and my shotgun, so if one gets close enough, I'll bag him, and then we'll know."

(The bright object in the southwest has also been visible in Dodge City, and Hutchinson also received UFO reports Thursday evening.)

## Woman spots strange object in the sky

PLAINVILLE — "Large. Oval. Very bright. And with glowing tentacles."

That's how Mrs. Janice Colby of 32 Lincoln St., described the strange object she said she saw in the sky last night.

"It looked like a big street light in the sky looming very low between two trees," said Mrs. Colby. She added that she was "sure it wasn't the moon or an aircraft because there was no motor noise."

Mrs. Colby, who was out walking at the time, said that a motorist stopped at about 10:30 p.m. while she was looking at the "eerie" sight and

peered into the sky, asking, "What is it?"

The light then soared across the sky and appeared to take on a flat shape as it turned over, according to Mrs. Colby.

She then told of seeing five tentacles, each with blue, green and red lights, protruding from the object's blurred edges.

"I became so frightened later that I went inside my house and didn't come out anymore," said Mrs. Colby. She said, "This is no figment of my imagination. I think it was some kind of an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO)."

HERALD  
NEW BRITAIN, CONN  
NOV 18, 1976

## The sky is falling

About two weeks ago Mr. and Mrs. Louis Zitek and two of their grandchildren were driving home to their farm near Staplehurst.

They saw an airplane in the sky, descending slowly toward the ground.

"It was like a large vapor light," Mrs. Zitek said. The family thought nothing of it until later, when they found out it was not an airplane. It could have been a meteorite.

The heat from the falling space debris ignited a cornfield northwest of Ulysses, on property farmed by Fred Hromas.

Several other persons in the area witnessed the falling bundle of light minutes before the field began burning.

About five acres of corn field was burned before the Ulysses volunteer fire department extinguished the blaze. At first fire fighters believed that the blaze was caused by an airplane crash, but there was no wreckage.

A search for the meteorite by people from the University of Nebraska Department of Geology proved fruitless, however.

"These things could be as small as the end of your thumb," said Art Merkle, professor of geology.

Merkle said government agencies assured them that it was not "space junk"—pieces of satellites and man-made debris floating in space.

The meteorite came from the "astroid belt" Merkle said, an area between Jupiter and Mars. The sizes of meteorites vary in size from "anything as small as infinity" to as large as "portions of Southeast United States." Some 150 meteorites the size of an orange fall to the earth a year.

Merkle advised persons in the Ulysses area to watch for what could be the fallen meteorite. There are two types, he said:

SEWARD INDEPENDENT  
SEWARD, NE  
DEC 1, 1976

-stoney meteorites, which look very much like a regular stone, except the outer coating is sooty and blackened.

-metallic meteorites, which are made of combination of iron and nickel. Merkle said these types are extremely heavy for a small volume of material. One the size of a softball, he said, might weigh 10 to 15 pounds. The corners will also be rounded as though partially melted, and it will be rust colored.

# Night passes without UFO report

DODGE CITY DAILY  
GLOBE  
DODGE CITY, KAN  
NOV 20, 1976

ASHLAND—Friday night was the first night this week that Clark county Sheriff Loftis Messer didn't receive a call about unidentified flying objects in the Indian Summer skies over this southwestern Kansas community.

The sheriff attributed this to lack of interest inspired by the high school football Class 1-A playoff game, which the Ashland Blue Jays won 42-0, defeating Pretty Prairie.

The origin of the mysterious multi-colored flashing lights, both moving and stationary, is unknown. The sheriff

said that he had never seen anything like them before but admitted laughingly that he had never looked for them before, either.

The sightings drew attention across the state, and a Wichita newspaper made inquiry to the Omnisphere Earth-Space center in Wichita. It quoted the director as stating that the bright object low in the southwest sky at sundown was probably the planet Venus. The UFO seen in the northeast was most likely the star Capella.

Other moving objects were not ex-

plained but speculation was that they might have been military aircraft showing lights not common to civilian and commercial craft.

The director noted that an unstable atmosphere can cause refraction of light and color changes and that Venus has been the brightest body in the skies recently.

Indian summer is known for unusual atmospheric conditions, such as low-level temperature inversion layers and dust that can magnify or shroud celestial objects.

## UFO Report —Bright, Egg-Shaped

A Tuolumne man has reported the recent sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO) first in the Long Barn area and then as he drove down to Tuolumne.

Dan Nelson, who runs a produce store in Tuolumne, said his wife and family plus several local children observed the bright, egg-shaped object as it hovered about 500 feet above the Westside Lumber Co. property.

Nelson said this was not the first time he has sighted UFO's. He reported a strange, egg-shaped object followed him home along Tuolumne Rd. on two different Saturday nights last year.

Several other area residents, who have asked not to be identified, reported seeing an aerial object with pulsating lights as they drove between Sonora and Jamestown on Sept. 25.

Nelson said the object he sighted at Long Barn on Nov. 16 at about 6:30 p.m. "looked like a big jet without any wings." From his home in Tuolumne it "looked like a star, but much brighter and very close."

He said the object appeared to move over the Basin Creek canyon.

Nelson described an incident about a year ago in which an object about "22 to 24 feet tall" and

"about 18 feet across" started following his vehicle as he drove past the Pickering Lumber plant toward Tuolumne.

He said that object had a number of red dots arranged 10 to 12 inches apart, all emitting beams of white light.

"It stayed with me at tree level, barely in front of me, all the way to Summerville High school, and then it shot up Basin Creek canyon just as fast as you can imagine," Nelson said.

Another county resident has described the sighting on Sept. 25 of a "very bright object with red and green lights" which made very fast, erratic move-

ments and hovered at several points."

The witness, a man who said he has taken aerial recognition classes with the Navy, said the UFO "went way too fast to be a helicopter" and "maneuvered like no plane I've ever seen." He said it was shaped like a flattened football.

Another witness of the same object said it came in "very low" over a hill and made no sound.

UNION DEMOCRAT  
SONORA, CA  
DEC 1, 1976

## Blinking airship puzzles Bucks

Cpl. Lamar Slemmer, a Bristol Township police officer, looked up at the sky last night and saw what appeared to be a blimp covered with electronic advertising.

"I didn't think anything of it," Slemmer said this morning. After the sighting, he settled down to watch the Monday night football game.

But others in Lower Bucks reacted differently to the still unidentified object.

Lorena Witty, of 113 Lydia Ave., Churchville, observed flashing lights in the sky around 7:15 last night. The lights went on and off, she said, and the sound of an engine faded and got stronger with the changing lights.

Mrs. Witty said she could not make out the shape of the object because of the dark, but said the lights formed an oblong pattern.

She insists it was neither an airplane or a helicopter.

Randy Vogt, of the Dorilyn Terrace Apartments in Middletown Township, said he spotted an object at 7 p.m. zig-zagging above the Oxford Valley Mall near Route 1. He said it was traveling slow in a northerly direction.

He described it as a "plane on fire."

Regina Gold, of 68 Shelter Lane in Levittown's Stonybrook section, said she observed an unidentified object flying back and forth between the Lakeside section and the Bucks County Free Library on Mill Creek Parkway.

She said she saw lights flashing off and on.

At 7:30 p.m., a Levittown mother of three was driving on Route 13 in Lower Bucks when she saw a "gigantic" flying craft that was "much too big to be a plane."

The woman, who would not identify herself, said, "I swear to God there was a flying saucer up there."

If a large number of residents saw such a craft, its news to the police.

Township police from Upper Southampton, Middletown and Bristol and also the State Police in Trevose, said they received no reports of UFOs and have no idea what the object might have been.

Harold Laudien, chief pilot at the 3M Airport on Green Lane in Bristol Township, heard nothing about strange sightings, but said

a plane with an electronic message board under its wings has been flying around the area of late.

"It was probably a political ad," he said. The pilot said the plane flew over the Oxford Valley Mall Saturday during President Gerald Ford's visit.

Spokespersons at the Mercer County Airport, the North Philadelphia Airport and the Warminster Naval Air Development Center said they received no UFO reports last night, and did not know what the craft was.

BUCKS CO. COURIER  
LEVITTOWN, PA  
NOV 6, 1976

Officials at the Federal Aviation Administration in Philadelphia had no information on an unidentified object, and a Good-year Tire and Rubber Company spokesman in Akron, Ohio, said the company's nearest blimp last night was in Miami, Fla.

ST. AUGUSTINE RECORD  
ST. AUGUSTINE, FL  
DEC 9, 1976

## 'UFO' Reported

A report of a sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO) over Deep Creek touched off a check by the sheriff's department early today.

A citizens band radio operator whose "handle" is appropriately enough "Astroboy" advised the Putnam County Sheriff's Department he'd sighted a UFO at the creek crossed by SR 207, and the Putnam agency relayed the information to the local sheriff's department at 12:49 a.m.

Deputy Richard Chauncey said he and Jim Barnes checked the area but could locate nothing.

The county's southwest area has produced a number of reports of UFOs in the past.

# UFO Makes a Rare Visit Here

FAIRFAX GLOBE  
FAIRFAX, VA  
NOV 11, 1976

STATESMAN-MESSENGER  
DEXTER, MO  
NOV 7, 1976

That hardy perennial, the unidentified flying object, makes its presence felt from time to time in the Northern Virginia area, although not so often as formerly.

Latest mention of the folks from outer space occurs in a current magazine which graces stands in supermarkets and drugstores.

A Fairfax County employment counselor, according to the story, saw a flying craft land at a local lake and burn up foliage, kill squirrels and par-boil the fish in a local lake.

When efforts to turn up the "Fairfax County employment counselor" failed, some more solid data emerged concerning UFO sightings.

Fairfax County police officer Jesse Meekins, 26, says good-naturedly that he took a lot of ribbing from his fellow officers at the McLean station after he reported his sighting this summer. But he still maintains he knows what he saw and it was very strange.

About 10:45 p.m. last July 17, Meekins was driving a squad car northbound on Route 495 when he heard "a tremendous explosion, a real bang." He said he thought at first that a transformer on a power line had blown.

"Then I saw it up in the air. It was a craft of some kind and it glowed. What really got me was the incredible speed. When it took off it went so fast that I don't think a human being could have stood such acceleration."

Meekins said he was afraid of going on the air with a UFO sighting, so he merely reported a possible blown transformer.

The officer said he turned his car around and tried to sight the thing again but failed. "I actually ran out of gas chasing that thing," Meekins said ruefully.

Meekins said it wasn't until the next day that he decided to report what he actually saw. What changed his mind was a call from a group of Vienna residents who said they had seen a vehicle shaped like a nail suspended vertically with the head uppermost. Officers were dispatched to search for whatever-it-was.

The Vienna residents had been unable to estimate the size or altitude of the UFO, but reported that it moved slowly across the sky and disappeared behind some trees. The officers found nothing. Meekins told his story and took the inevitable kidding.

## The view of others

They're seeing unidentified flying objects again. This time, the sightings are being made in the skies over Rockland and Putnam counties in New York, and a number of apparently normal people have made them - businessmen, policemen, school teachers and housewives.

One man who claims to have seen UFO's is a 33-year-old lawyer with two engineering degrees named Warren Berbit, who characterized himself as "not too hysterical and fairly objective."

"I definitely looked at them, and I saw that it was not a natural phenomenon or anything I could explain," he declared.

Well, not having seen them we can't make a judgment, but we do have a theory. It is that these whirling, flashing objects are a natural phenomenon that appears every election year about this time. Sometimes hard to explain, and oftentimes hard put to explain themselves, they're called candidates.

Fairfax police records show a random pattern of sightings over the years, less than the initial excitement stirred up in the late 1940's and early 1950's.

This does not surprise Jack Acuff of the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena. The committee, located in the District of Columbia, is privately financed and investigates reports of sightings. Acuff says they are able to identify 80 per cent of them as perfectly normal activity.

"The advertising plane gets seen a lot," Acuff said. "During the summer it flies around with a long streamer behind. People see it at an odd angle, or with odd optical effects in the air, and they think it's a UFO."

About the time Meekins

and the Vienna residents were seeing their UFO, Acuff said, a Russian satellite broke up and re-entered the atmosphere in fragments. Acuff said no news reports about the satellite were given and many people thought they were seeing saucers when they were seeing parts of the burning space hardware.

Acuff insisted that the 20 per cent of sightings for which his committee cannot account present a very real mystery.

He added that Meekins' and the Vienna residents' descriptions did not match those of the satellite.

Meanwhile, Jesse Meekins says emphatically, "I've seen all types of aircraft. This object was more advanced than anything I've ever seen. It was, well, tremendous."

## Flying saucer is 30-foot blimp floating away

ARDMORE, Okla. (UPI) — Citizens fearful of reporting a giant flying saucer that looks like a 30-foot hot dog need not worry. The thing really exists.

The hot dog, actually a 30-foot blimp, floated away from its mooring over an Ardmore restaurant during the weekend and police said someone apparently cut the line holding the \$2,000 balloon.

Several hours later, the hot dog was spotted caught in a tree about 12 miles away. Police suggested they get a rifle and shoot it down, but the workers didn't want to ruin their pride and joy.

They climbed the tree and shook the blimp free. But it floated out of sight again, and police have been told to watch for the brown-and-white airborne hot dog.

## UFO abductee recounts tale; fails to explain contradiction

Travis Walton gave a lengthy account of his alleged abduction a year ago by creatures from outer space, but his story was marred by contradictions.

An ASU audience of more than 50 listened to Walton Wednesday as he described his "nightmare experience."

In a low, almost frightened voice, he explained the incident from beginning to end and then accepted questions from the audience.

Walton denied the \$10,000 he received from the *National Enquirer* was payment for his personal account of the incident, which was published in the *Enquirer*.

"I didn't sell my story," Walton said. "But I did receive an award from the *National Enquirer* for the best story of 1975."

The \$10,000 "award" was to be divided among Walton and his six companions.

"I received half of the money," Walton said. "The remaining \$5,000 was split evenly between my six companions."

In Walton's recount of the incident, the creatures released him on the fifth day of his abduction. "They laid me on a table and covered my mouth and nose with a mask.

"After that I blacked out and lost consciousness," Walton said. "The next thing I knew I was laying on the pavement in the middle of the street in Heber."

Walton said he staggered to a phone booth and called his family. Hours after his family picked him up, Walton said, he "underwent blood tests to destroy any accusations that may lead people to believe drugs had

any part of the experience."

"The tests were negative, meaning there weren't any drugs in my body," Walton said. But he could not explain why the test did not reveal the presence of a drug administered through the "mask" he referred to in his story that made him "black out."

Walton said he does not remember going to the bathroom at any time during the five days and six hours he allegedly spent on board the spacecraft.

"I don't remember doing anything like that," Walton said. "But I was only conscious for approximately two hours."

Walton said he suffered no serious physical affects from his experience, except a small rash on one hand.

JOURNAL  
JACKSONVILLE, IL  
NOV 25, 1976

STATE PRESS  
ARIZONA UNIVERSITY  
NOV 19, 1976



## WAS THIS BOY BURNED BY A FLYING SAUCER?

from TERRY GREENWOOD: Stockholm

REPORTS of two mysterious balls of light which appeared in the sky over Sweden are baffling the authorities.

The riddle began with a report from Finnish schoolboy Eero Lammi who claimed he had been knocked down by a "beam of light." He was on his way home to Uleaborg, on the Finnish side of the Swedish frontier, when he saw a ball of light move across the border from Sweden and appear to land in a nearby field.

"I went to look at it," he said, "but suddenly, a ray of light seemed to beam out from it and I felt a searing pain in my chest and everything went black."

Even his parents thought it was a prank until a doctor found the boy had slight burns on his chest . . . and back.

At the Swedish Military High Command, which investigates all reports of UFO sightings, Colonel Bertil Eriksson, said: "We do not know how it happened. We have been unable to trace anybody else in the area who saw anything unusual on that day." The second report came from a university student who was out bird-watching near Tiveden, 400 miles south of the border.

His description of the object tallied exactly with the measurements given by the Finnish youth. "It was about five metres in width and looked like a moving ball of light."

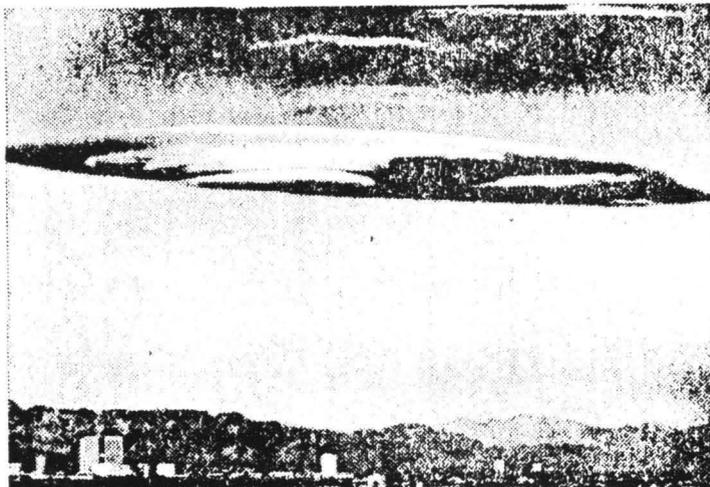
Mr. Sture Wickerts, UFO expert and research chief at the headquarters of the Swedish Defence Intelligence Organisation said: "The student's name is not being released at the moment. He is a technical student and was very precise with his description. He was using binoculars and suddenly spotted a 'round object with pulsating lights' lift into the air."

### Strange noise

"He was able to detect that the object was coloured black and grey and he heard a strong throbbing noise which lasted about ten seconds. He even estimates that the frequency of the noise was about three hertz."

"We have carried out a thorough investigation. But, like the case of the Finnish youth, we have drawn a complete blank."

Was it a hoax? Or was the young man's imagination playing him tricks? "We don't know," said Mr. Wickerts. "All I can say is that I do not believe, for one moment, that this young man would make up such a story."



**IDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT** — A lenticular or 'wave' cloud resembling a flying saucer floats over the Santa Monica Bay area Nov. 16 at dusk. Such clouds are formed by undulating air flowing over the mountains and are tapered by winds like the Santa Ana winds which are keeping much of Southern California clear, hot and dry. (UPI)

JAPAN  
DAILY NEWS  
MAINICHI, JAPAN  
NOV 20, 1976

ENGLAND  
SUNDAY EXPRESS  
LONDON, ENGLAND  
DEC 12, 1976

ENGLAND  
GAZETTE  
THURROCK, ESSEX  
DEC 3, 1976

## UFO Phenomena Is Real: Hynek

LONDON (Kyodo-Reuters) — American astronomer Allen Hynek said Friday that "the unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena is real."

Dr. Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., and director of Ohio State University's McMillan Observatory, was holding a press conference here on his way to Jakarta at the invitation of Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik.

The astronomer, who will be in Indonesia from Dec. 14 to 21, said Malik is interested in UFO's and had invited him to lecture on them, as well as on the current U.S. Viking

missions to the planet Mars.

Hynek, who is technical consultant on a film on UFO's written and directed by Steven Spielberg, who directed the popular film Jaws, said he believed the people reporting contact with UFO's "have had a real experience."

"There is a hard core of stuff going on that I do not understand," he said. "The UFO experience is real . . . but is it really real?" he added, suggesting that the objects sighted might not obey physical laws as they are known on earth.

For 21 years he was astronomical consultant to the U.S. Air Force's project on

UFO's, the reports from which are recorded in a 140,000 page "Blue Book Report," only recently declassified. Hynek is writing a book about this research.

The Air Force recently dropped the UFO probe, claiming that all but 2 or 3 per cent could be explained by natural causes, and the matter was not worth pursuing.

Hynek disagrees, and claims his computer study of UFO sightings has revealed a pattern, and he believes his center can now predict appearances. However, he declined to give details, noting that a public prediction might even cause sightings to take place.

## More see the UFO

THE MYSTERY UFO which passed over Thurrock a month ago attracted more than one sighting.

Last week the Gazette reported how students Ingrid Carter and Andrew Moakes saw a glowing, orange object in the sky.

Now Mrs Mary Strand, of Rosemary Close, South Ockendon, says she saw the same object. "I was coming from Hornchurch when I saw this big orange thing in the sky. It was so strange, it seemed to have a black cloud round it. My husband said it was the moon, but I kept looking at it and I wasn't convinced."

JAPAN TIMES  
DEC 12, 1976

## UFO OVER CLUB?

A FLYING saucer was reported hovering over Rushden's Skew Bridge Ski Club at the weekend.

Staff were so alarmed that the police were called in, but the saucer had disappeared by the time they arrived.

An eye witness — waitress Pat McSherry (20) — described the UFO as a flashing green and white revolving disc. "It was no joke. People think we are mad, but three of us saw it," she said.

She was called out by chefs Andy Stokes and Stephen Lack after they had spotted the object at around 5.40 pm on Friday. It hovered over the club grounds for about five minutes before moving off towards Higham Ferrers.

Miss McSherry said she had not been frightened by the experience. "I quite enjoyed it really — it was like science fiction in real life."

Club staff were planning a second sortie to see if the UFO put in another teatime appearance.

ENGLAND  
EVENING TELEGRAPH  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
DEC 6, 1976

# Coastal UFO mystify officials

**Own Correspondent**  
DURBAN—Air traffic and port authorities are mystified by a number of brightly glowing objects seen in the sky over South Coast towns last night.

One of the objects was investigated by a South African Air Force helicopter before it shot upwards and out of sight.

The Puma helicopter of 19 Squadron B Flight, with a crew of three, was on a routine night training flight when the crew first sighted an object north of Scottburgh.

An officer, who asked not to be named, said: "It had a glowing light, not a sharp one, and was like nothing I've seen before. By the way it was moving, it appeared as if it was controlled in some way."

SOUTH AFRICA  
STAR  
DURBAN, SA  
NOV 16, 1976

The major said he and the other crew members had seen "some glowing lights" in the Umkomaas area at first. They were reddish-orange in colour.

A spokesman at Air Traffic Control, Louis Botha Airport, confirmed the helicopter crew had reported the sighting and that members of the public had reported up to a dozen glowing objects.

Durban port authorities also received calls from the public that "orange flares" had been seen.

## Beings In Outer Space?

MOSCOW (AFP) — An unusual debate has been going on for the past few months here on television and in the press on whether there are intelligent beings in outer space.

The Russians have always been highly interested in flying saucers and recently a clandestine "Samizdat" pamphlet reported on a lecture by a professor at the aviation institute on this theme.

He commented on recent sightings of unidentified flying objects in various parts of the Soviet Union and even gave a description of spacemen. The pamphlet has been severely criticized by the Communist youth organ "Komsomolskaya Pravda" which preferred explanations that flying saucers and other objects were the result of optical or atmospheric illusions.

Professor Alexei Zolotov has contradicted these explanations. After 17 years of research, the professor said that the 1908 explosion in Siberia was caused by the crash

JAPAN  
DAILY NEWS  
MAINICHI, JAPAN  
DEC 8, 1976

of a nuclear powered vehicle from outer space.

The debate on whether there are beings in outer space has spilled over from science into philosophy. A member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences told the Soviet party newspaper Pravda that he was convinced there were other beings in the universe because "this belief motivates man to explore the cosmos."

But the celebrated astrophysicist Josef Chlosky on the other hand wrote recently in the philosophical review "Voprossy Filosofii" that "we must realize that we are alone in the universe and this should be a stimulant for our work."

Recently the Russians have been excited by tales of the so-called "Bermuda triangle" where over 100 boats and planes have disappeared in the past decade.

## Zigel's Account Of UFOs Stirs Soviet Citizenry

MOSCOW (AFP)—The existence of "flying saucers" and other unidentified flying objects (UFOs) was strongly denied recently by the Soviet newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda.

The communist youth newspaper particularly criticized a "resume of a course attributed to the dean of the Moscow Aviation Institute, F. Zigel," which is now circulating in Samizdat form. (Samizdat refers to manuscripts typed in a number of copies by various people and or copied by hand then circulated unofficially.)

This resume has indeed been the subject of a lot of discussion lately in all circles of the Soviet capital.

Pravda said the resume reported on a two-day period last January during which a flying saucer was said to have hovered over the city of Nalchik in the Caucasus. It also said a UFO had accompanied an airplane on a flight from Vorkuta to Omsk (Siberia).

Komsomolskaya Pravda noted: "Copied by hand or typewriter in hundreds and even thousands of copies, Zigel's resume is experiencing an independent life, provoking passionate discussions among a very large readership—in the office, at home, and even in the bus."

The author of the Komsomolskaya Pravda article is Eremel Parnov, a science fiction author.

The resume said, though Parnov did not point it out, that flying saucers systematically observe all military maneuvers.

The newspaper article also denounced a passage in the resume in which it reported that cars stopped for a rail crossing at Kut Sevo, in the Moscow suburbs, had been overflown by a saucer, and that all of the car motors were suddenly turned off. The article noted that a similar report about a tank column had appeared in West Germany.

The paper said: "There is no proof of the existence in the past or present of a superior civilization able to create machines. There is no proof that people have had contacts with other forms of life or of reason."

Parnov said that while the Zigel resume claims it is forbidden in the Soviet Union to write about UFOs, "the mere publication of my article negates that dishonest claim more clearly than any words."

DAILY YOMIURI  
YOMIURI, JAPAN  
DEC 4, 1976

## UFOs Reported

CARACAS - Natives of the small Indian village of San Juan de Manapiare reported that an unidentified flying object, which became smaller each night, hovered over their town for more than a week.

The press reported that army personnel were sent into the area to reassure the citizenry.

VENEZUELA  
TIMES OF THE AMERICAS  
CARACAS, VENEZUELA  
DEC 22, 1976

## Indonesia To Create UFO Dept.

JAKARTA (AFP) — Indonesia has decided to create a UFO (unidentified flying object) department within the National Aviation and Interspace Institute (LAPAN) to cooperate with other UFO research centers in the U.S., France, Brazil and Britain.

The decision was announced Monday at the end of a visit here by Professor Joseph Allen Hynek, director of the center for UFO studies, USA, made at the invitation of Foreign Minister Adam Malik.

LAPAN chairman, Air Vice Marshal Salatun, said eight UFO cases have been recorded so far in Indonesia, the last one being over an oil platform off the east Java coast.

JAPAN  
DAILY NEWS  
MAINICHI, JAPAN  
DEC 23, 1976

# Was it really a UFO or are they all just up in the clouds...?

ENGLAND  
ECHO  
LIVERPOOL, ENG  
DEC 8, 1976

By Jim Mansell

The great debate was reopened just a few days ago when driver Michael Bufton claimed he was "frightened to death" when his lorry was overtaken by a mysterious object.

Michael, from Rh-yader, was on his way to Shotton steelworks early one morning when the object passed over him, a few hundred feet above the ground.

"It was almost cigar-shaped and a fair size and belching orange and red flame. After hovering for a short time it veered off over the top of the mountains."

So the question persists—are there really such things as Unidentified Flying Objects? Do they penetrate our skies. And, if so, what are they up to? Spying? Inquiring? Kidding? Attacking?

These and countless other questions have been baffling laymen and experts for years.

Michael needn't feel embarrassed about his experience. The Echo files are full of stories of Merseysiders from all walks of life claiming to have spotted U.F.O's.

Witnesses have described all sorts of weird and wonderful things in the sky. They've been every conceivable colour, shape and size and travelling at all sorts of speeds, in all sorts of directions, in all sorts of movements and at all sorts of heights.

Most of the mystery sightings can be easily explained. Usually they are little more than a meteorite, a satellite, an aircraft, a weather balloon or cloud formation.

But in a minority of cases there remains a nagging doubt. For these there is no earthly explanation. They remain ghost riders in the sky.

Two years ago, for instance, telephone calls poured into the Echo about "something" that was gliding across the Merseyside skyline one Sunday evening. Air Traffic Control at Broughton could not shed

any light on the mystery.

Speculation about the existence of life outside Earth has increased with space exploration.

Last year, Julian Ravest, keeper of physical sciences at Liverpool Museum, said: "U.F.O. is a dustbin term for everything we cannot explain, but the reason we can't explain is often because of insufficient knowledge or inaccurate observation."

"Scientists are becoming increasingly aware there is nothing special about the earth and that there is every likelihood of there being life on another planet."

Indeed only last week Dr. James Martin, head of the 10,000 strong team which put the Viking spacecraft on Mars, said: "We have not proved there is life there. But we have certainly not proved there is no life."

Evidence suggests something is breathing and 'eating' carbon dioxide on Mars. But nobody is sure what. And if it's an animal form, research has so far failed to reveal any bodies or remains on the planet.

Yet there is a strong body of opinion in America, particularly in the C.I.A. and the United States Air Force, that U.F.O.'s are very much in evidence.

So far, the U.S.A.F. has refused—officially anyway—to recognise their presence, despite a wealth of carefully documented evidence.

Backed by the C.I.A., the U.S.A.F. has hidden behind a wall of blank denials and the ridiculing of witnesses.

For many years, the U.S.A.F. has had full proof of their existence and has even carried out some dangerous missions in a bid to capture one.

Because U.F.O. sightings are so common on Merseyside and in North Wales, numerous observer groups have been formed to keep a record of them.

Sceptics will always say, of course, that "seeing is believing—until I see one, I don't believe in U.F.O.s."

That was exactly the feeling of former war-time pilot Colin Campbell, until Boxing Day, 12 years ago. On a walk with his wife and then five-years-old son through Croxteth Hall estate, he spotted "something which looked more like an old fashioned car horn in shape than a saucer."

"As I watched, it stopped moving, then started to revolve and change shape and went upwards and off at an angle at a tremendous rate in a kind of bouncing manoeuvre. What I saw can't be naturally explained."

Dramatic reports like this add considerable weight to the argument about U.F.O.s.

As yet, there is no definitive proof to satisfy all the sceptics. The arguments continue. But perhaps the evidence is there and we just can't see it!

# AUSSIE UFOS IN FILM EPIC

AUSTRALIA  
SUN-HERALD  
SYDNEY, NSW  
DEC 12, 1976

By PETER MAHONEY

Sydney author Michael Hervey hopes to co-operate in making an epic film about unidentified flying objects.

Mr Hervey has become an expert on UFOs having researched 800 of an estimated 8,000 reported sightings.

Now Richard Dreyfuss, who directed the terrifying film Jaws, plans an epic on the subject and he wants to make his knowledge available.

Mr Hervey learned of the project from Great Britain's leading UFO organisation, Istra.

"Istra told Mr Dreyfuss to contact me in Sydney for advice and knowledge on the subject," he said yesterday.

"If he does contact me then I will be happy to help him with whatever he has on his mind. I hope this proposed UFO film will do justice on the subject."



MICHAEL HERVEY

Mr Hervey has been researching UFOs for 27 years and has just written a book called UFOs: The American Scene.

## Documentary

At present he is writing the script of a \$20,000 documentary based on his latest book UFOs Over the Southern Hemisphere.

The documentary will be produced in Australia and the Pacific by Mr Michael Chonka of Homebush.

His book quotes US Major Donald G. Carpenter as having told US Air Force Academy cadets, "The

been reported for almost 50,000 years by reliable witnesses.

He said yesterday that they were also reported in ancient Hindu manuscripts.

Mr Hervey told of a young Melbourne couple whose car was buzzed by a UFO as they drove home.

"The car ran off the road and he was injured and she was killed," he said.

His files tell of a UFO which landed on a roadway 400 metres from a Queensland country hotel and remained in view of drinkers for 20 minutes before flying away.

Another landed on a New Guinea beach near a native priest and some villagers.

"They waved to the occupants, who responded," Mr Hervey said.

At Railway Town in Broken Hill, an illuminated UFO had been

seen by a group comprising a headmaster, a Church of England minister and the manager of an Aboriginal reserve.

"The light was white and bright and surrounded by an aura of lesser brilliance. What puzzled them was that it was shaped like an hourglass.

## UFO landings

"It went off at a speed of not less than 1,000 mph.

"In some cases UFOs have been chased by police in police cars. This took place in 1966 in Grafton."

On December 15, 1954, Naval radar had confirmed the presence of two mysterious moving lights spotted at 15,000ft by a Navy pilot, Lieutenant O'Farrell.

He had reported that the lights flashed past him spinning at a fantastic speed.

The Navy had established that no other aircraft were in the area at the time.

Two aldermen of Queanbeyan Council had seen a windowless cigar shaped object while returning home after a council meeting, "and both men said it was under controlled flight."

Their description of the UFO tallied with that of two objects sighted over Williamstown, Melbourne.



GUIDE  
JACKSON, WYO  
NOV 24, 1976

GAZETTE  
KEMMERER, WYO  
DEC 2, 1976

## Bear Lake 'Monster' sighted again

Pickleville, Rich County - Utah Wildlife officials think they may have discovered the true identity of the legendary Bear Lake monster — a heard of swimming elk.

Division of Wildlife biologist Bryce Nielson said he watched a small herd of elk - 17 cows and calves - swim nearly seven miles across the lake and then back again late last month, a sight that conjured up images of the monster that's been part of local folklore for more than a century.

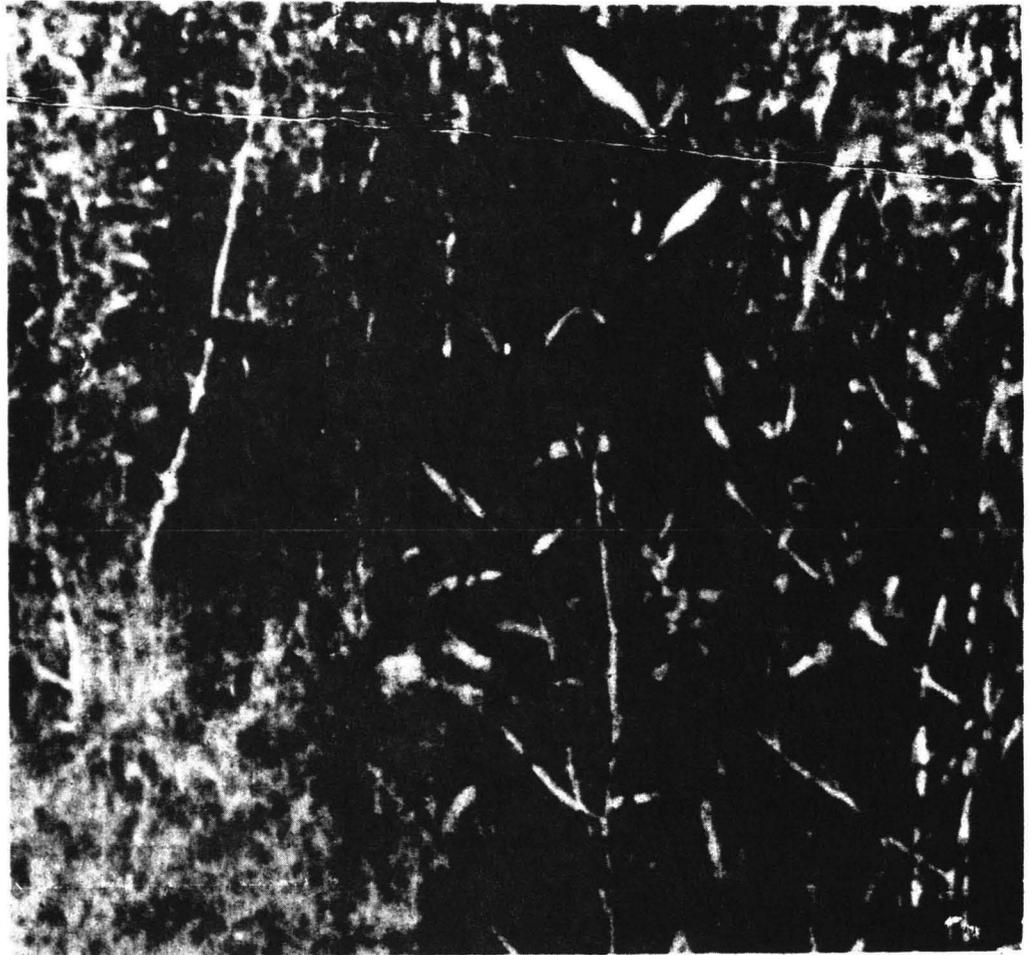
Nielson said the elk somehow got between the highway and the lake and decided the water was their best avenue of escape.

"All 17 animals, led by what appeared to be a 'herd cow' entered the lake one-half mile east of Gus Rich point and touched land again three and one-half hours later on South Eden point," he said. The total distance was 6.5 to 7 miles.

Nielson said the lead cow herded the others through the water, slowing up when members of the group began to straggle and swimming around to round up strays. The elk whistled to each other during the entire swim.

The biologist said the elk bedded down for the night with a herd of cows near South Eden point and then plunged back into the lake the next day, swimming the seven miles to where they had started. Two elk were missing from the herd and evidently drowned.

HERALD  
NEWTON, NJ  
DEC 8, 1976



Man or beast???

## Bigfoot in Jackson Hole?

Has "Bigfoot", that legendary half-man, half-ape, really invaded the valley of the Tetons? One Jackson Hole visitor is convinced that someone, or something, is lurking out there in the wilds of Grand Teton National Park.

These pictures were sent to the Jackson Hole GUIDE by a man in Golden, Colorado, who claimed he took them while on a float trip down the Snake River. His letter reads: "I snapped these pictures last summer and just had them developed. I was on a float trip when we saw this funny thing in the bushes by the river. The boatman said he didn't see anything at all. I have forgotten his name, so thought you might find out what it was so all the people who said they saw it would know what it was."

Well, our staff (all graduates of the Park's Animal Identification School) studied these pictures very carefully. It's our "expert" opinion that the dark object in the photographs is one of four things:

1. Tarzan's ma
2. A long-lost hippie
3. Smokey the Bear, Jr.
4. The Abominable Snowman with his summer tan

There are unconfirmed rumors that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is investigating the possibility that it is indeed, Bigfoot. A spokesman for the Fish and Wildlife Service, who preferred to remain anonymous, would neither confirm nor deny reports that Grand Teton National Park might be designated as "critical Bigfoot habitat".

## Hunters are warned 'Bigfoot' not game

By NANNETTE MILSTEAD  
Staff Writer

COLUMBIA — The Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (SITU) is seeking help from hunters, should they come across anything resembling the so-called "Bigfoot."

R. Martin Wolf, vice president and trustee of SITU, asked that the society be notified of any sightings or unusual tracks that cannot be

identified.

Wolf also asked that if the reported hairy biped should be seen, the animal not be shot.

"It is more important for scientific evidence that we get Bigfoot alive," he said, "if there is such a thing."

Wolf said he knew the natural impulse for a hunter would be to shoot such a phenomenon. He said,

however, "such an incredibly rare animal" would prove more valuable alive than dead.

Wolf said he had recently returned from the West where investigators are still seeking solution to the mysterious cattle mutilations.

"Bigfoot" has been reported by sighters as a tall, hairy, shy nocturnal biped. No reports of injuries or attack on humans is said to have been reported.

# Seekers of Loch Ness Monster Disappointed, Not Discouraged

NEW YORK TIMES  
NEW YORK, NY  
DEC 6, 1976

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

The 1976 search for the so-called Loch Ness monster has come to an end with results that were—well, in a word—disappointing, but, the searchers hasten to add, not discouraging.

The American-led expedition that probed the Scottish lake all summer and into the fall failed to turn up new evidence to explain the mysterious and legendary phenomenon. A few tantalizing clues, perhaps, but nothing was found that was any more conclusive than the occasional "sightings" and blurry photographs that have long fired imaginations and mobilized all manner of searches.

Leaders of the expedition described their findings and nonfindings in interviews and in reports to be published today in the December issue of *Technology Review*, a publication edited at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The expedition, directed by Dr. Robert H. Rines of Boston, was the most ambitious and technologically sophisticated of the many investigations of the Loch Ness mystery. It was sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science, a Boston-based group of engineers and inventors, and *The New York Times*.

## Array of Underwater Cameras

Beginning in June engineers and scientists from the United States, Canada and Britain monitored the murky waters of the lake with an array of underwater cameras, hoping to get pictures that would make identification possible. In addition, sonar systems were deployed to detect moving objects and to survey the lake bottom for possible carcasses or skeletons.

Charles W. Wyckoff of Applied Photo Sciences, Inc., the expedition's chief of photographic operations, reported that not a single large creature was seen on any of the 108,000 pictures taken. Indeed, only 33 of the pictures showed fish or eels.

The dearth of fish seemed unusual and possibly important, Mr. Wyckoff said, adding: "We theorize that the severe drought in the British Isles had lowered the level of the loch so much that the usual salmon spawning runs were not taking place, and there were no salmon in the shallow areas of the loch to bring the animal up from its usual depths to feed."

## Nothing on the Film

During the fall sonar-activated cameras were left submerged from a raft in Urquhart Bay. A computer attached to the sonar device was set so that objects over a certain size moving into the sonar beam would trigger the camera to begin taking elapsed-time pictures. About a month ago, when Scottish members of the expedition checked the system, they reported that something had triggered the camera to expose 10 feet of film, or 400 pictures.

Mr. Wyckoff rushed back to Scotland and had the film processed. Nothing. The computer had malfunctioned and transmitted spurious signals. He took the computer to Boston to be repaired.

"I'm disappointed, yes, but not discouraged," Mr. Wyckoff commented. "I'm still convinced in my own mind that there's something there."

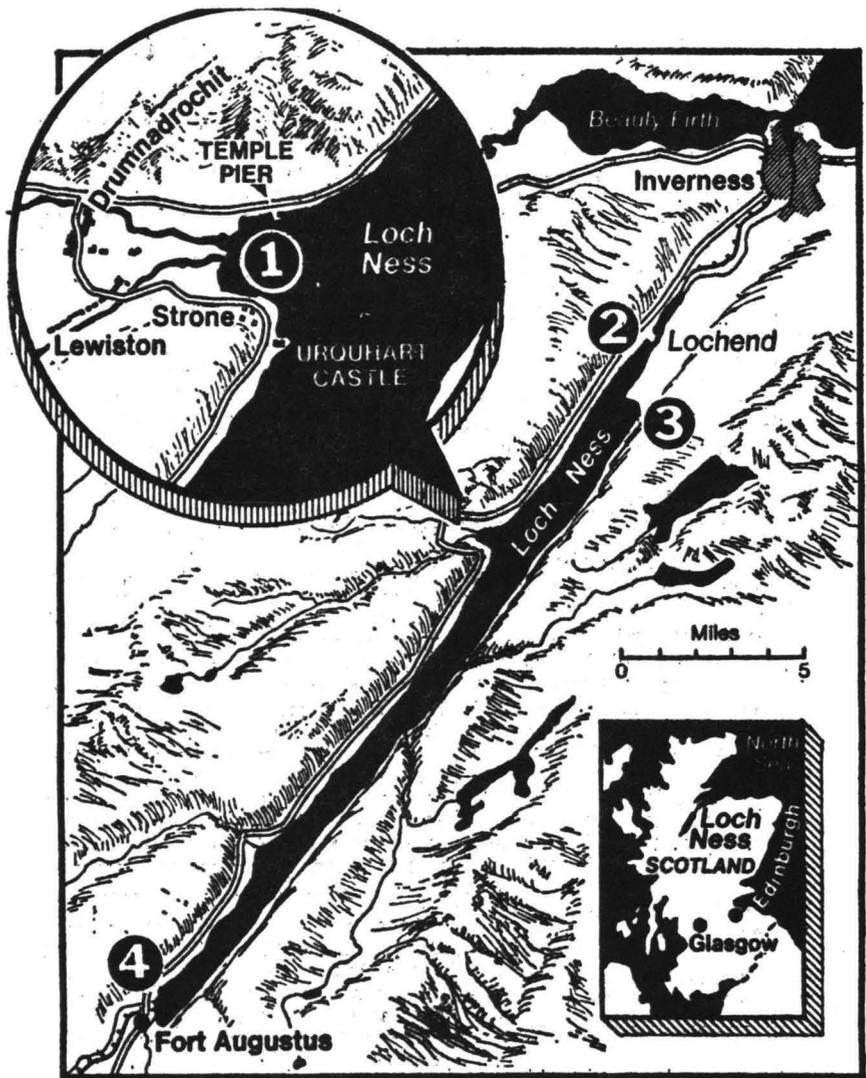
The sonar investigations proved somewhat more productive.

In the report for *Technology Review*, Martin Klein and Charles Finkelstein of Klein Associates, Inc., an underwater exploration company, said that "much to our amazement, every area we searched revealed targets of interest."

## Ships, Planes and Stones

Many of the "targets" were shipwrecks, downed airplanes and stones of possible archeological importance, but a few warrant further investigation, the sonar experts said.

In the shallow waters of Dores Bay, for example, the sonar discovered a hump-like formation on the bottom. The hump seemed to have a series of "regular rib-like ridges to it." A monster carcass?



The New York Times/Dec. 6, 1976

Sonar picked up traces of large objects moving in Urquhart Bay (1), the principal search site; stones in circles at Lochend (2), a ribbed humplike formation at the bottom of a nearby bay (3) and traces of a carcasslike shape in the water near Fort Augustus (4).

After diving to investigate, Mr. Finkelstein reported: "The formation turned out to be clay; however, it was later pointed out that the clay could have overlain another, more solid structure beneath the silt."

Off Lochend, at the northeastern end of Loch Ness, the sonar picked up a number of traces of circular patterns. Divers confirmed that they were circles of stones 1½ to as much as 150 feet in diameter. Since the circles resembled the ceremonial and burial formations common to the British Isles, notably at Stonehenge, the expedition took to calling them Kleinenge, after Mr. Klein.

"Although much more study needs to be done," Mr. Klein and Mr. Finkelstein said, "our guess is that these structures were built on land, perhaps thousands of years ago, and that the level of the loch has risen to its present level [about 50 feet above sea level] since that time. The exciting thing about a possible underwater archeological site is that it is likely to be undisturbed, whereas similar sites on land have been moved and plundered over the centuries."

In Borlum Bay, near Fort Augustus, at the southwestern end of the lake, the sonar surveyors, on one of their last runs of the summer, detected traces unlike anything else they had seen on the lake bottom. Mr. Klein and Mr. Finkelstein described the target as a "carcass-like shape with a long necklike projection" and estimated that it was 30 feet long.

"Of course, it would be wild speculation to make any assumptions about this target without further investigation," the

report said. "An underwater television or a small submersible would probably be needed for identification at this depth [300 feet]. We named this target 'the Average Plesiosaur' to tease our paleontologist friends."

## Survivors of Ancient Reptiles

One of the most appealing theories in Loch Ness lore is that the large creatures, if they exist, could be survivors of the supposedly extinct sea-going reptiles known as plesiosaurs. Loch Ness, once an arm of the sea, became landlocked after the last ice age.

With another sonar system, which cast an underwater radio beam from Temple Pier, the expedition's base on Urquhart Bay, Dr. Harold E. Edgerton noted "sonar traces of large objects moving underwater" on June 30 and July 1. He described the June 30 sighting as follows:

"After about a minute of movement inward, the object slowed and stopped, presenting a target width of 10 feet. After about one minute of rest, 250 feet from the cameras, the object departed with about the same velocity, but with slight hesitation after about one minute of movement. Also on this record can be seen two small signals, which could be reflections of disturbed fish."

Since the objects never got close enough to the submerged cameras, no identification was possible.

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)

### Sizable Object Detected

On another foray, in July, Dr. Rines said that the sonar detected a sizable object that moved into range, paused for a few minutes and then disappeared. The contact coincided with "chirping or rattles sounds" picked up by hydrophones.

Though the monster remains as elusive as ever, leaders of the expedition, undaunted and still professing faith in the existence of something large and mysterious in the dark waters of Loch Ness, are making plans for next year.

In January or February, Dr. Rines said, he intends to resume the photographic search with the sonar-computer camera system. The plan is to send down divers equipped with the television cameras and strong lights in the late spring to investigate the stone circles. Dr. Rines also said that he was investigating the possibility of using a manned submersible to explore other sonar findings, particularly the carcasslike shape.

After more than six years of trying, Dr. Rines remained optimistic, declaring "We'll be at it until we get results."

# Have scientists found Nessie?

BOSTON (AP-Special) — Nessie's real! Maybe.

A sonar search for the legendary Loch Ness monster has turned up an object on the bottom of the deep Scottish lake which could well be the remains of a dinosaur, a member of the search expedition said yesterday.

Martin Klein, head sonar expert in last summer's expedition — sponsored by the New York Times and the Academy of Applied Science in Boston — is "not getting too excited, yet."

However, he said, the find "certainly bears further investigation."

A picture of what might be a monster carcass, a shipwreck or something else, appeared in the electronics trade journal EDN, published Friday.

A carcass would establish Nessie as real as well as a live specimen, but no one has ever found either.

The picture is a side-scan sonar trace of the bottom of

Loch Ness. It shows what Klein, in EDN, described as "an unusual shape with a long neck-like projection and what could possibly be flippers." It was about 30 feet long.

"Of course it would be wild speculation to make any assumptions about this target without further investigation. An underwater television or a small submersible would probably be needed for identification."

JAPAN  
DAILY NEWS  
MAINICHI, JAPAN  
DEC 6, 1976

CANADA  
SUNDAY SUN  
TORONTO, ONT  
NOV 7, 1976

## Russian 'Solves' Mystery About Bermuda Triangle

MOSCOW (UPI) — A Soviet scientist may have solved the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle with a hypothesis that also could predict earth and seaquakes in many parts of the world, the government newspaper Izvestia said Saturday.

Izvestia said Dr. A.I. Yelkin, professor of physical and mathematical sciences at the Moscow Institute of Building Engineering, correctly predicted last summer that an earthquake would hit Turkey in late November.

Under his hypothesis there would be danger of earth and seaquakes Dec. 5-8 and 20-25 and Jan. 18-22 in Turkey, New Zealand, Japan, South America and California, Izvestia said.

The newspaper said Yelkin found a correlation between the forces of the moon and sun on the earth and the mysterious disappearance of ships and planes in the so-called Bermuda Triangle, Devil's Sea off Japan and eight similar areas.

Yelkin said each disappearance coincided with the period of new or full moon, when the force of the sun and moon are strongest on the equator.

"The regularity found permits the supposition that at such moments in the regions of the Bermuda and other triangles the moon-solar tides can cause the movement of ionized magma (molten rock) under the oceanic bottom,

which in turn gives birth to magnetic anomalies," Yelkin said.

"This could prevent conventional and gyro magnetic compasses and other electric and electronic devices from functioning properly, thus leading to plane and ship accidents," he said.

Yelkin said the next period of possible risk in the ocean triangles would be Dec. 20, then Jan. 18.

And, he said, "You can't exclude the possibility that the long-range process that leads to earthquakes and seaquakes in certain regions of deep-water hollows may be connected with the nature of the formation of fields of force in the triangles," he added.

CHRONICLE  
HOUSTON, TX  
NOV 20, 1976

### Mystery shark is captured

San Francisco (UPI) — Scientists are awaiting shipment of a mysterious 12-foot shark with a mouth that apparently glows in the dark.

Navy crewmen hauled up the creature from 3,000 feet below the surface near Hawaii after it became entangled in some testing gear. The dead shark was given to the Waikiki Aquarium for eventual shipment to San Francisco's Steinhart Aquarium.

Leighton Taylor, director of Waikiki Aquarium, told Steinhart director John McCosker that the shark's species and genus is unknown.

"He told me you can't call this thing 'jaws,'" McCosker said. "He said it's more like 'lips'."

The 1500-pound shark apparently feeds on deep water plankton, "which may explain why we've never seen one," he said. "It is too big for most nets, and it wouldn't take a hook."

McCosker said it looks like a "big, flabby shark with a giant mouth and tiny little teeth. Its mouth appears to be ringed by bioluminescent organs that may glow in the dark."

"It must make quite a sight, a big glowing ring swishing through the water. This just shows how little we know about the bottom of the ocean. There are probably whole families of fish down there we have never seen," McCosker said.

## Huge Bird Is Shot by Rancher

John S. Carroll, Jr. Montalba area hog rancher, shot and wounded a huge bird taller than himself with 10 to 12 foot wingspread, at his place east of Montalba, his wife said today.

Carroll, president of the Athens Feeder Pig Association, shot the huge bird out of a tree with his deer rifle at a great distance, but the bird got away leaving only a bloody, broken feather, Mrs. Carroll said.

Mrs. Carroll said the big bird was wounded Wednesday afternoon of last week after it flew away into the hills from a pond back of the Carroll home.

Carroll had left a shed in the backyard when he saw the bird standing in the pond within 150-feet of him. It was bluish steel-gray in color, taller than

Carroll, with a golden-hued breast, a bill about 12 inches long and eyes that bugged out six inches apart at the base of the long beak.

The thing, standing in the edge of the pond, was a startling sight. Man and bird stared at each other for a moment. Carroll darted for his pickup, where he kept his deer rifle.

The bird took wing, soaring above the farrowing house north of the pond, then circled and flew toward the high hills to the west. It came to rest in a tree on the mountain.

Carroll took his rifle, rested it against the corner of the farrowing house and fired. The big bird dropped from his perch.

HERALD-PRESS  
PALESTINE, TEXAS  
DEC 16, 1976

Carroll raced in his pickup down the road west, then ran into the woods where the bird had fallen.

A neighbor, Mike Ellis, hearing the shot, joined Carroll. They searched for the bird for two hours. They found only the bloody, broken feather under the tree from which Carroll had seen the bird plummet when he fired. It is about two inches long and bluish steel-gray, Mrs. Carroll said.

Mrs. Carroll called Donnie Simmons, who saw a large bird on South Jackson Street here Monday morning. He and Mr. Carroll compared notes on what they had seen.

Carroll is the fourth person to report having seen a huge bird in this area.

# Do creatures lurk in ET creek bottoms?

JOURNAL  
LONGVIEW, TX  
NOV 28, 1976

**EDITOR'S NOTE**—Journal Staffer Charles Able talked with several concerned with "Bigfoot" sightings before he wrote the story and in each instance he received basically the same information. Maybe such a creature does exist. Who knows?

By CHARLES ABLE  
Staff Writer

**HALLSVILLE**—Does Bigfoot roam the East Texas creek bottoms with his mate?

Zollie Owens, a White Oak para-psychologist and student of supernatural phenomena thinks it does.

He swears the legend of such a creature in East Texas is fact and he has swatches of animal hair and a tape recording of Bigfoot to back up his claim.

Allen Berry, author of "Bigfoot" and leader of several expeditions seeking the creature, believes so too, and has asked Owens to forward all evidence to Berry's headquarters.

Owens' study of the local creature began last summer when a frantic friend called to say she and her son had been frightened from a blackberry field near Hallsville by the creature.

She told reporters the animal came from the bushes, breaking trees and bushes in his rush. The White Oak man went immediately to the scene and found "two-inch trees snapped in half."

Enthused, Owens and a friend asked the landowner if they could try to study the animal.

He gave them an emphatic "No" and promised to "shoot that thing on sight" because of its damage to crops.

The two men convinced him such an idea would be folly since the creatures have been shot point blank with a .20 gauge shotgun with little damage

"Everyone that has a gun wants to kill the thing, I want to study it — tape it, photograph it or capture a young one for a short while," he said.

He fears such captivity might cause severe trauma to the creature.

His thirst for knowledge impressed the farmer and Owens and a friend returned night after night with corn and food to lure Bigfoot within sight.

"We had put out some corn and sat back to wait awhile when we heard a noise and saw him, nearly 12 feet tall, standing at the edge of a clearing," Owens said.

He said the creature walked upright and was covered with silver hair. With him was a smaller, obviously female creature with red-tinged hair. The larger of the two seemed protective of the other.

That protectiveness Owens attributes to a well-developed intelligence. He was also astonished to see the animal shuck an ear of corn, something done solely by man.

The intelligence theory was reinforced, according to Owens, when he moved toward the men.

"We had the feeling he was trying to communicate with us through telepathy," he said, noting neither of the men were in any condition to communicate.

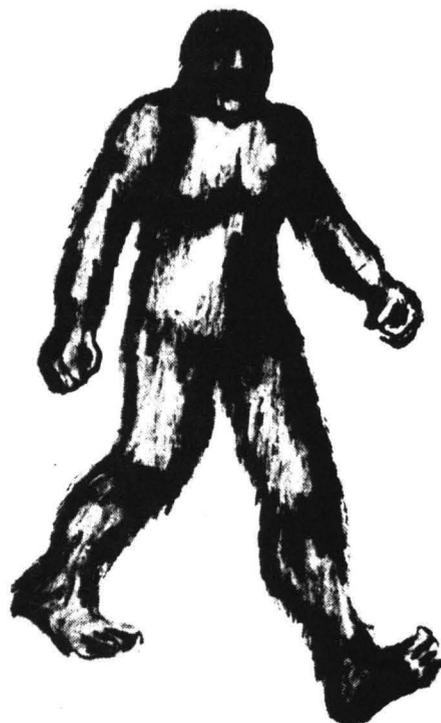
"But even if I had had a gun and the urge, I don't think I could have shot him...it would have been impossible," Owens said.

While the two men made mental notes and observations about the two creatures, a tape recording was picking up animal grunts and low whistles from the pair of beasts.

The tape also picked up what Owens says is "Hebrew or an Oriental language, speeded up like Donald Duck sounds."

The sighting whetted Owens' thirst to study the creature further, but he said hunting pressure on the Cypress Bottomland you may have driven "Bigfoot" away from the area.

He said anyone with information about the creature's whereabouts should call 759-2598, but warns against confronting the beast.



You should never set out on a study like this if you are scared...he can pick up on it quickly. So far in all the sightings of Bigfoot near Troup and Quitman and in Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma, no one has been hurt. But all it takes is to back him up in a corner one time," Owens cautioned.

Owens, a freelance writer for several magazines dealing with the strange phenomena present today, said the idea of studying the animal, though, overrides any fear he might have.

"It's quite an animal, this Bigfoot, but I know it sounds far out to most people," Owens said.

NEWS-REVIEW  
ROSEBURG, ORE  
NOV 22, 1976

We kinda wish those tracks in the hills near Umpqua would have been left by a Sasquatch.

You may have read where Warren Ward, who lives in that area, reported that he had spotted tracks of the Big Foot monster.

Well, we grabbed the camera and made our way over to Warren's home. After all, we don't have a chance to go up into the hills very often. But that's okay, too.

And we don't get to see animal tracks either, because we're not a hunter—or a mountain climber, either. Climbing the steps to the court house is enough for us. So we went to the Umpqua area with mixed emotions. We wished that Warren was right about the Sasquatch tracks, but we had our doubts.

"Let me smell your breath," we demanded upon reaching his home.

He advised us with a chuckle that he was a retired Church of Christ minister and about the strongest thing he ever drank was coffee—without acid.

At least our hopes were raised somewhat on hearing that.

So Warren grabbed a rifle and a shotgun and we started up the hills on the trail of Sasquatch. When we had to leave his pickup behind, we proceeded on foot—something we like to avoid as much as possible.

Pretty soon Warren summoned us to a small open area and pointed to the ground, where there we saw this big print. "That's one of his tracks," Warren informed us.

We were able to follow the tracks for a ways in the soft and damp ground before losing them. They appeared to be headed for an old apple orchard. Warren said that he had looked around when he first spotted them a couple of days earlier but had seen only about 10 or 12 prints.

Well, it was a pretty nice afternoon so we decided to spend a little time and see if we couldn't find some more of the tracks. Assuming our Great White Hunter role we started a circle on the area and sure enough, came upon some more of the tracks.

We were beginning to enjoy the hunt and took numerous pictures of the prints we uncovered. We did begin to walk a little farther from the dense, wooded sections, however, as more and more we felt we were on the trail of the monster.

What would we do, we pondered, if we were to peer into a brushy area and find the big creature sleeping peacefully on the ground?

And worse yet, what would we do if he woke up and spotted us?

"It's time to get back," we advised Warren at that point.

Back in the office, and elated with our big discovery, we contacted Ken Cochran at the Fish and Game office to tell him all about it.

Much to our dismay, Ken sounded a little doubtful about the whole thing, but he said he'd send a man out to check on it.

That's the thanks we get for taking our life in hand to go forth bravely into the wilds in the interests of furthering mankind's knowledge about his past. Ken, you really know how to shoot down a fledgling hunter.

Anyone want to buy a new rifle, hunting boots, and foul weather clothing—they've never been used.

FREE PRESS  
DETROIT, MI  
DEC 5, 1976

# Big Foot: Is It Real?

BY JERRY LeBLANC  
Special to the Free Press

What is eight feet tall, covered with hair and muscle, resembles a human and reportedly was seen recently in the Everglades, the Illinois woods and the Pacific Northwest?

Nobody knows for sure, but there are a growing number of sober, rational men who believe that a giant, human-like creature from mankind's distant past has survived in the thickest forests of America, primarily in the Pacific Northwest. Legend calls him Big Foot.

Despite the skepticism of a nation wary of hoaxes, and even though television and exploitation films have tried to make of Big Foot a sort of werewolf or Frankenstein monster derived from fiction, Big Foot has begun to take on the status of a scientific mystery akin to the Yeti, or abominable snowman, of the Himalayas.

THE ACADEMY of Applied Science in Boston, the same organization that has launched recent Loch Ness Monster expeditions, has lent a measure of dignity to the Big Foot search by helping finance it.

"This is the greatest hunt, the most exciting hunt of all," said Peter Byrne, the tall, soft-spoken adventurer who leads the Big Foot search from a headquarters in the Dalles, Oregon.

Byrne, an Englishman who spent 20 years hunting big game in Africa and Asia and participated in three Himalayan expeditions seeking the abominable snowman, now hunts only with a camera. His goal is to disprove or verify the existence of the creature called Big Foot, a feat which he believes would be "the find of the century."

He has devoted the last five years of his life in the attempt to clear up what he considers America's greatest mystery.

What is there in the Big Foot legend to attract a clear-headed man of scientific bent to the isolated hills and convince him that a real quarry exists?

Sitting in his office in what is called the Big Foot Information Center at the Dalles, Byrne speaks with authority as he reviews the facts.

"There have been reports of Big Foot sightings for the past 160 years," he said. "In the five years

I've been here, reports have come in on the average of four a year, and I've personally talked to scores of people involved in these sightings. Many of them are very convincing.

"We have many plaster casts of footprints 14 to 17 inches long, footprints which could not have been grizzly bears, from sites where Big Foot has been seen. These footprints are perhaps our best evidence, because no hoax, no other known animal can account for them."

THE MOST RECENT sighting was by a logger at Mount Shasta, Calif.; in August. He had been working with a crew and was sitting on a stump alone, waiting for someone, when he heard a noise behind him and called, "Is that you, Bill?"

He turned and saw a large, hairy creature standing 30 yards away. The creature immediately ran for cover but stopped a moment to peer back through some bushes, the logger said.

"I talked to the man," said Byrne, "and to forestry officials up there and the report sounds quite genuine. The man has a reputation for reliability and is not the sort to fabricate things."

Byrne, who tries to verify and document all reports of sightings, said, "We get hundreds of letters from all over, and we've had sighting reports from all around America. We question each report, but we do tend to discount those from outside of the Pacific Northwest.

"Within the last two years we've had reports from adults and children in Illinois and Florida. These people claim to have seen something, but while they sound truthful, it doesn't seem certain what they saw, perhaps a bear or some other animal.

"In the Everglades case, I happened to be in the east myself at the time of that report, so I went to Florida and talked to the wildlife and forestry people.

"It's my opinion that the Florida incident is doubtful, if only because there is no history to back it up. In the Pacific Northwest we have journals and Indian references to such a creature dating back as far as 1811.

"We've found references to Big Foot, who was also called Sasquatch, Mammoth and Omaha by the Indians, in several journals of early explorers in this area."

HE DISPLAYED a copy from the Port of Victoria (British Columbia) Daily Colonist dated July 1884, reporting the capture of a young, injured Big Foot, who it is believed, was put on a ship bound for England for exhibition. The ship never reached port.

Earlier newspaper reports of the strange creature were relayed in the press in New Orleans and Galveston, Texas, in May 1851, he said.

Byrne also cited a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers statement, "Alleged Sasquatch hair samples inspected by FBI laboratories resulted in the conclusion that no such hair exists on any human or presently known animal for which such data are available."

Some alleged sightings have been faked by pranksters, attention seekers and others, Byrne has concluded, but many also have been followed up with the discovery of footprints in the area or other signs of the presence of a strange animal.

Byrne believes that Big Foot does exist and may be a prehistoric link that crossed from Asia to

America when the two continents were connected at what is now the Bering Strait, and he believes that some discoveries in China of huge skeletal remains of human-like creatures support that thesis.

If such a creature exists in our modern era, with woodsmen and aircraft penetrating every area of wilderness, how could Big Foot remain undiscovered, skeptics often ask Byrne.

Byrne answers that the Tasadays and other such tribes only recently came into touch with civilization, that a Japanese soldier hid out for 30 years on the tiny, relatively crowded island of Guam, and that he's never seen such vast, untrod forests as in the Pacific Northwest.

HE BELIEVES that the evidence shows Big Foot is extremely shy, avoids and perhaps fears man, and in these great, dense forests, any creature of of any size could easily hide.

Byrne also likes to recall that the gorilla, although mentioned in print in the 15th Century, was not accepted as a reality until the late 1800s.

"If I could conduct a properly financed expedition making a series of systematic trackings, I'm sure I could contact a Big Foot or a tribe of them within two years," Byrne declared.

The need for equipment and manpower makes the current effort a weak one, he said. Funding now comes principally from a small science grant and the income from the monthly "Big Foot News," a newsletter distributed from the Dalles, Ore.; headquarters to anyone who wishes to subscribe.

Right now Byrne and his staff of five — which includes three part-time volunteers — are limited to sifting through and verifying reports, with only an occasional excursion into the forests for the hunt itself.

"We throw out 85 percent of the reports that come into the Big Foot Information Center," Byrne said, "chalking some up to pure bunk and others to honest mistakes and imagination. Our motto is, when in doubt, throw it out. But there is film footage taken in 1967 which I give 95 percent credibility. I'm almost totally convinced it's real."

The shaky film of 1967, taken from horseback purports to show a Big Foot female startled by the appearance of people, and the footage reportedly has been examined by film experts and scientists without being discredited, although two later films, taken elsewhere by other people, have been declared fakes. But the blurry nature of the 1967 footage is inconclusive.

The goal of Byrne's proposed all-out expedition would be limited to taking clear, unmistakable photographic evidence of the Big Foot, using all-terrain vehicles in a safari of unimpeachable scientists, using bloodhounds and the most modern of tracking equipment.

As for even temporary capture, he has doubts that this would be desirable. He has gone as far as establishing the proper tranquilizing equipment to render the creature unconscious temporarily without harming it. He does not want the creature harmed.

Because of the sensationalized nature of Big Foot, Byrne pointed out, there are hunters roaming the wilds not only with cameras but with guns, seeking to profit by being the first to bring back proof dead or alive on film. Byrne wants to beat these people with his scientific expedition.

## squid deaths

TIMES-HERALD  
DALLAS, TX  
DEC 12, 1976

EASTHAM, Mass. (AP) — Biologists are trying to figure out why millions of squid have squirmed onto the sandy beaches of Cape Cod since mid-October, committing mass suicide in the freezing air.

"Some days there are so many of them on the beach that it's impossible to walk without stepping on them," said Robert Prescott of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History.

If rescued and thrown alive back into the sea, the long-tentacled animals immediately climb back ashore.

The dead squid litter the icy beaches along the Cape Cod Bay side of the arm-shaped peninsula. The heaviest concentrations are between Brewster and Eastham about halfway out the Cape, but unusually large numbers are being found along the entire length from Provincetown to Sandwich.

The squid, some of them two feet long, ride the waves onto the beaches. Then they push themselves above the water's reach by squirting water through the jets they use for propulsion, and wiggle on the sand until they die or are killed by hungry birds.

"This would be a problem if it was summer," Prescott said. "They would really smell."

But since it is cold, the dead squid freeze on the beach, and flocks of gulls and other sea birds eventually eat them. Some people have been putting the squid in freezers for use next summer as fishing bait.

Various theories have emerged to explain the mass suicide. One is that it has been caused by decimation of schools of fish, squid's natural enemies, by foreign fishing fleets.

In Cambridge, the Center for Short-Lived Phenomena has also noted that squid are much more plentiful than usual in the waters off Cape Cod. It said commercial fishermen have caught up to 11,000 pounds of squid in two hours. Ordinarily they would bring in 10 to 20 pounds.

"Squid are a popular prey for ground fish like cod and pollock," noted Fred Lux of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

"It's possible there is a relationship between the decline of fish and the increase in squid," he said. "If you get an extra large population, they will extend farther north and south than their normal range."

Other theories tie it to unusually cold weather or to unfathomed cycles of nature, like those which guide the migrations of birds.

# Police call Big Foot a joke but others wonder . . .

By Ken O. Botwright  
Globe Staff

Five-toed, 27½-inch-long footprints found in the snow at Agawam were made by a practical joker, not the legendary, ape-like monster known as Big Foot, according to local police.

That's also the opinion of the self-styled Big Foot expert, who traveled from New York to the western Massachusetts community after the mystery tracks first were reported by school children on Monday. But some townsfolk remain convinced there's something more than just a practical joker lurking in the wintry woods.

"We conducted an investigation, saw the prints near Robinson State Park, and we've written it off," Det. Leonard Rising said yesterday from Agawam in a telephone interview.

"We didn't spend 100 hours on the case or mobilize a posse to hunt a monster, but we think it's the work of kids or a hoaxer."

Lee Frank, 23, the Big Foot expert who arrived in town Wednesday, agrees with police.

"I've just examined photographs of the footprints, taken by a police officer who saw them soon after they were discovered, and it's my educated appraisal we're dealing with a hoax," said Frank, president of the Unclassified Species Assn.

"The angle of the gait is totally out of keeping with the length of the prints," he said. "And the very size of the prints indicates a creature so big that it just couldn't exist."

However, Frank insisted that he didn't believe that the existence of a Big Foot is a myth. He claimed he has been tracking the elusive critter — most commonly reported in the Pacific Northwest — for four years.

"The creature has been seen in Maine and Connecticut — I can't say just when off the top of my head," he said. "And I'm still doing research on sightings elsewhere on the East Coast — down South."

Frank was called to Agawam by a local woman, Marianne Cascio, 35, another Big Foot believer. Cascio founded the Research Assn. of Phenomena two years ago "to look into such things as Big Foot and UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects)."

Cascio disagrees with Frank and police. She said she saw the prints near the Westfield river and was convinced at the time that they were authentic. She told one reporter this week that the creature that made them must have been "a 7 to 12-foot, 1500-pound giant."

One of the first to spot the markings in the snow was Kim Hoar, 19, of Moore street, who saw them at about 11:30 a.m. Monday. "The tracks went right through my backyard . . . toward the Westfield river," she said yesterday in a telephone interview. "No human could make those tracks. I know. I got a book from the library on Big Foot."

## Is 'Big Foot' prowling Agawam or are huge foot prints a hoax?

AGAWAM — Although local police have dismissed 27½-inch-long footprints in the snow here as the work of a prankster, two self-styled Big Foot authorities yesterday continued to investigate whether the tracks might have been made by the legendary, ape-like mammal.

But both Marianne Cascio, a local woman, and George Earley, a Bloomfield, Conn., church administrator, admitted they were beginning to have their doubts about the tracks discovered Monday near Robinson State Park.

"I'm not giving up my investigation yet, although I have some reservations that the tracks were made by a Big Foot creature," said Cascio.

"People around here have reported seeing Big Foot

tracks, and even Big Foot creatures themselves, for the last 10 years."

Cascio said she has the credentials to conduct an inquiry. She's the founder of the Research Assn. of Phenomena, which specializes in gathering data on Big Foot and UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) sightings.

She said in a telephone interview that she's convinced Big Foot is somehow connected with UFOs, or flying saucers. She also said that when she was 11, "I was taken aboard a UFO . . . and I damaged my eyesight by looking at something bright aboard it."

Earley, a 50-year-old former aerospace administrator and Air Force officer, arrived here yesterday and agreed with Cascio that there seemed to be a connection between Big Foot and UFO sightings. He added he had been researching UFOs for 25 years.

He said he visited the area along the Westfield River, where the tracks were first spotted by school children and at least one adult, and commented later: "I think it's a hoax . . . There's no sign of tree damage, and a creature big enough to make 27½-inch prints would have broken trees."

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A neighbor, Angelia Rossi, 18, and her father Charlie, 53, also saw the tracks. Angela couldn't be reached for comment yesterday, but her father said: "No man made those prints."

Det. Rising couldn't finger the alleged Big Foot hoaxer. However, he said that the town Junior Chamber of Commerce operated a haunted house last Halloween, featuring a club member costumed as Big Foot. The member had made his monster's feet out of plaster of paris.

Bob Ferris, cochairman of the haunted house project, was amused by Rising's suggestion that maybe the club had something to do with footprints.

"As far as I know, we didn't do it," he said, chuckling. "But maybe somebody stole our idea."

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## Santa Sights Sasquatch

A Sasquatch sighting was reported Monday night to Multnomah County Sheriff's deputies by Roger Hines, 19, of 711 NE 191st Ave.

And Hines had uncommon difficulty making the report.

Hines said he was driving home at about 10:30 from a Christmas party at his father's house on Larch Mountain when a creature eight feet tall, with "lots of hair," crossed Larch Mountain Road about 80 feet ahead of him with a stooping, wide-strided gait.

The beast turned to look at him, but didn't stop walking, Hines said.

And Hines didn't stop driving, or even slow down, until he reached Corbett, at the bottom of the road. (The sighting was about 16½ miles from the top of the road, he estimated.)

He tried to report the sighting in Corbett, but the volunteer fire department hall was closed.

So was the ranger station.

So, Hines continued to the sheriff's office to make his report.

"And they just cracked up when I told the deputies," said Hines. "I was still wearing the Santa Claus suit from the party."

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