

UFO

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Encounters with 'Men in Black': fact or fantasy?

By Gordon Slovut/Staff Writer

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

In the audience were people like biophysicist Otto Schmitt, a retired professor of electrical engineering at the University of Minnesota, retired aircraft developer and physicist Cecil Behringer, physician Steven Zuckerman and polymer scientist Arthur Coury, Medtronic's director of venture technology.

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

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

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

Rojcewicz told the audience that his own MIB (Men in Black) experience occurred in 1980. "I have never gone public with this before," he said.

Most of the modern era MIB encounters have followed sightings of UFOs or strange lights.

Rojcewicz's encounter involved no sightings. He was just sitting in the University of Pennsylvania library, reading a UFO book suggested by another professor who thought that Rojcewicz, as a folklorist, would be interested in such phenomena.

"Then in the corner of my vision I noticed a black pants leg and a black shoe, scuffed," Rojcewicz said.

The folding chairs in the auditorium of the Bakken Library of Electricity in Medicine, 3537 Zenith Av. S., stopped creaking as Rojcewicz's audience listened intently.

Standing in front of him, Rojcewicz said, was a very gaunt, very pale man. He was about 6-1, weighed about 140 pounds and wore a black suit, black shoes, black string tie and a bright white shirt. "His suit was loose and it looked as though he had slept in it for three days," Rojcewicz said.

Rojcewicz didn't know what to make of the figure.

At the time he wasn't aware of the

The man screamed: "Flying saucers are the most important fact of the century and you are not interested?"

Men in Black phenomena which, he subsequently learned, dates back to at least Biblical times.

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

The Man in Black asked Rojcewicz what he was doing.

Rojcewicz said he was reading about flying saucers.

"Have you seen a flying saucer?" the Man in Black asked.

Rojcewicz said he hadn't.

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

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

The man screamed: "Flying saucers are the most important fact of the century and you are not interested?"

"I tried to calm him," Rojcewicz said. The man got up, once again all in a single awkward movement,

put his hand on Rojcewicz's shoulder and said: "Go well on your purpose" and left.

Rojcewicz looked out at his audience. "In 10 seconds I was overwhelmed by fear. . . . I had a sense that this man was out of the ordinary and that idea frightened me. . . . I got up and walked around the stacks toward where the reference librarians usually are. The librarians weren't there. There were no guards there — there was nobody else in the library. . . . I was terrified."

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

He didn't talk about his experience in public because he was concerned about how people might react to his story, he said.

Was he dreaming?

He doesn't think so. He said he suspects he was in an "altered state."

Rojcewicz said he thinks his experience — and that of others who have been exposed to the Men in Black — are somewhere "in the crack" between real life and fantasy.

He has been studying anomalous phenomena such as the Men in Black ever since his 1980 experience. He has interviewed many people who have reported UFOs, flying saucers and Men in Black experiences. He said the Men in Black most frequently appear in threes, but sometimes in twos, ones and fours.

Some of the MIBs carry brief cases and represent themselves as being Air Force UFO investigators, he said.

The MIBs warn UFO spotters to tell no one of their experiences with aliens from outer space. When the

MIBs leave, people are fearful, dizzy and, sometimes, nauseous, he said.

Frequently their lives are changed by the experience.

Some become more successful in their jobs and marriages and report a *joie de vivre*. Others lose their jobs and marriages. One of his friends quit a good academic position and went into hiding, he said. Some become addicted to drugs, and many feel they have been victimized, he said.

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

To illustrate the various reactions he cited a case of a psychiatrist and her husband, a professor of education, who saw a UFO in Maine and subsequently had a MIB encounter.

"She has been all right since then, but he has not." The professor was left lethargic and troubled by the encounter.

Rojcewicz, who teaches at the C. J. Jung Foundation for Analytical Psychology as well as at Juilliard, said he suspects the psychiatrist was able to handle the experience better because she is more open to spiritual matters while her husband by training and experience is rooted in the acceptance of only what seems reasonable.

In another case, Rojcewicz interviewed a woman named Deborah from Burlington, Va., who said she had been visited by a slender, 6-foot, 9-inch Man in Black who was wearing a bowler hat. She said her knees went weak when the man was close to her. She said of her experience: "There was something wrong — evil about this."

When Rojcewicz telephoned Deborah to recheck his notes, there was a beeping on the line and they couldn't hear each other. He redialed and the line was all right.

Rojcewicz said there are references to Men in Black going back

to Abraham in Biblical times, and there have been many similar stories in folklore over the years. Often the Men in Black have been considered to be the devil or his representatives. Some of the Roman Catholic church's saints had Men in Black experiences. The church itself recognizes the possibility by endorsing exorcism, Rojcewicz said.

What is a good defense against the Men in Black?

"Laughter," Rojcewicz said. "If they ask you why you're laughing, tell them, 'Rojcewicz told me to do it.' " He added: "When you confront evil, don't feed them your fear. Say you are not worried — ha-ha."

When his talk was over, several of those attending were asked if they took the Men in Black stories seriously.

"Maybe there is something there," said Dennis Skillings, director of the Archaeus Project, which sponsored the meeting.

But he said he doubts that there is any way of confirming that MIB encounters "really, truly happened."

Zuckerman, a specialist in internal medicine, said he thought Rojcewicz was serious.

"I have a friend who knows a fellow who is investigating reports that men from space are coming to Earth and taking biopsies of people's calf muscles," Zuckerman said. "He says the biopsy sites heal right away."

Why would people from outer space take biopsies of people's calf muscles?

"An interesting question," Zuckerman said with a smile.

The Archaeus Project, which is subsidized by Medtronic founder Earl Bakken, regularly brings in researchers in the field of the paranormal and so-called alternative science for special lectures.

Couple: UFO sighting over Highway 59 'spooky'

By Jill Morris
Gazette Correspondent

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and disappeared, they said.

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

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

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

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

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

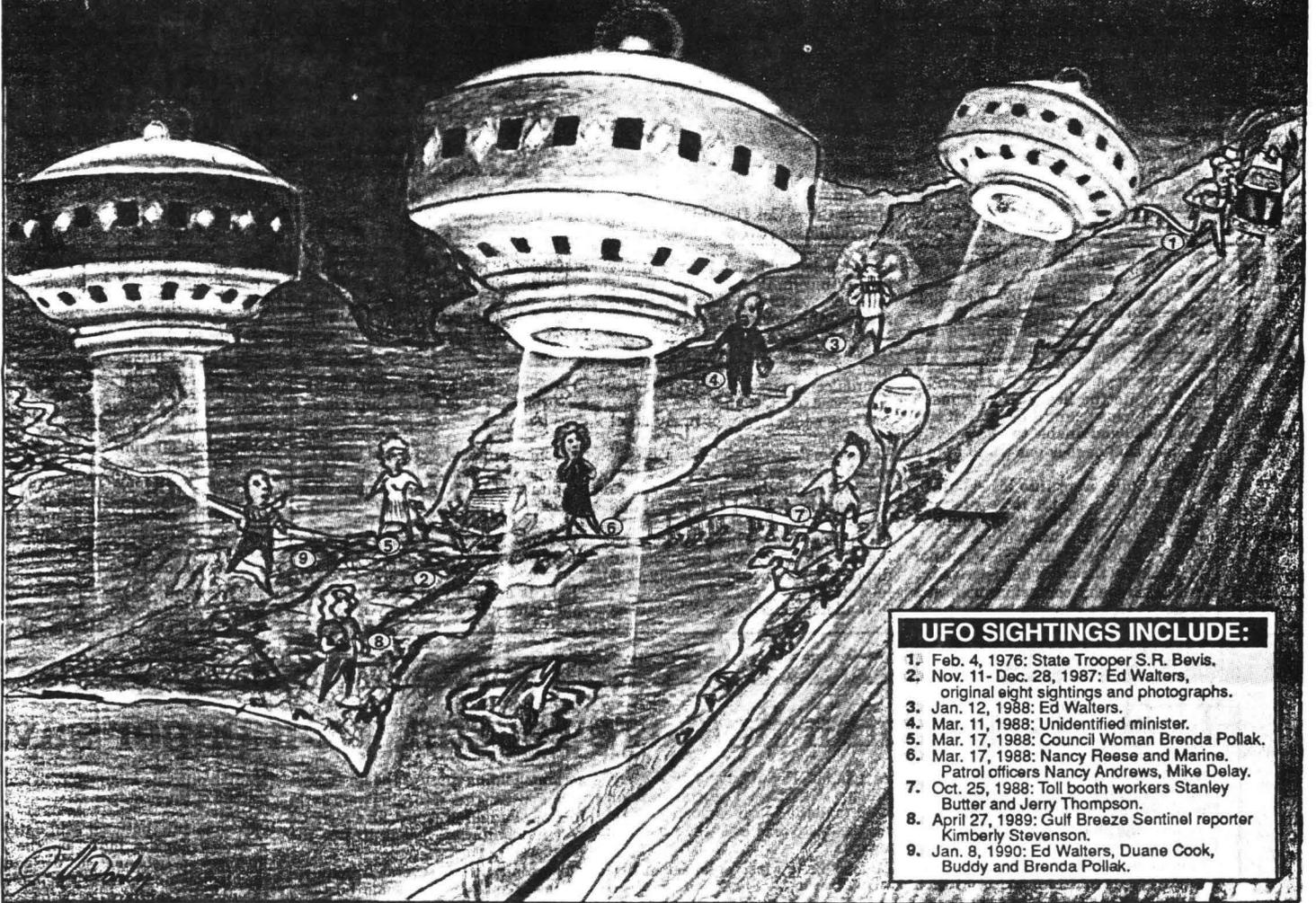
"I said it couldn't have been, because it didn't move at all," he said.

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

Juliana described the sighting as "a bit spooky."

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

ENCOUNTERS WITH UFOS



UFO SIGHTINGS INCLUDE:

1. Feb. 4, 1976: State Trooper S.R. Bevis.
2. Nov. 11- Dec. 28, 1987: Ed Walters, original eight sightings and photographs.
3. Jan. 12, 1988: Ed Walters.
4. Mar. 11, 1988: Unidentified minister.
5. Mar. 17, 1988: Council Woman Brenda Pollak.
6. Mar. 17, 1988: Nancy Reese and Marine. Patrol officers Nancy Andrews, Mike Delay.
7. Oct. 25, 1988: Toll booth workers Stanley Butter and Jerry Thompson.
8. April 27, 1989: Gulf Breeze Sentinel reporter Kimberly Stevenson.
9. Jan. 8, 1990: Ed Walters, Duane Cook, Buddy and Brenda Pollak.

Jeff Darby/News Journal

Gulf Breeze UFOs: Science or fiction?

By Craig Myers and Bill DiPaolo
News Journal

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

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

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

For five minutes around dawn July 8, the McConnells watched as an object hovered over their pier in Pensacola Bay. The object matched photos taken by retired contractor Ed Walters and published in the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, the McConnells said. Walters' pictures are published in his just-released book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings."

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

"I told it to come back (for the party) Sunday," Mrs. McConnell said.

The sighting by the McConnells is just one of many — more than 200 — that were reported in the skies over Northwest Florida since Nov. 11, 1987, when Walters

said he had a close encounter with a UFO.

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

In the November 1987 incident, Walters said that about 5 p.m., as he looked out a window at the front of his house, he saw an object he described as "right out of a (Steven) Spielberg movie" hovering about 200 feet above the ground. He got a camera, went out the front door and took pictures.

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

Since then, Walters and members of his family have reported 19 other sightings or encounters, including an incident in which he said he lost consciousness for an hour.

Walters says he went to Shoreline Park on May 1, 1988. Shortly after midnight, he says he felt the presence of a UFO. He took a picture of it, and then went blank, waking up bruised with no recall of the "missing" hour.

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

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

"Boy, doesn't that get your heart to thumping?" he said.

Walters says he has taken 39 photographs of three types of



Jerry Kovach/News Journal

Ed Walters describes a UFO he saw over Gulf Breeze. The publication of Walters' photographs touched off a rash of UFO sightings.

SPECIAL REPORT: UFOS

■ "E.T." director Steven Spielberg has been invited to be guest speaker at a conference on UFOS, 10A

■ Some of the most famous international and local sightings of unidentified flying objects. An extraordinary outburst of reports occurred in the late 1940s, 1950s and 1960s and locally since November 1987, 11A



Charlie Steed/News Journal

Pensacola Beach toll booth operator Jerry Thompson saw lights over Santa Rosa Sound.

UFOs on 20 occasions. Several were taken with a NIMSLO stereo camera, which produces a three-dimensional type image. The film is sealed by UFO investigators to prevent tampering.

Copies of Walters' book are on bookshelves in Pensacola and Gulf Breeze. He is scheduled to begin a 10-city promotional tour March 19 in New York.

Walter Andrus, director of Mutual UFO Network, a UFO investigations group that claims 2,500

worldwide members, believes the photographs are real.

Other Gulf Breeze residents have seen UFOS, but fear of ridicule keeps them silent, Walters said.

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

Brown said he believes most of the sightings can be explained

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

"None of my officers has ever seen one. We are always the last to know. People call us if their cat is in a tree, but we don't get calls" on UFOS, he said.

The McConnells, though, say

(continued on page 3) 2

UFO CONFERENCE

Mutual UFO Network, a UFO investigations group that claims 2,500 worldwide members, is having its annual conference in July in Gulf Breeze.

"E.T." director Steven Spielberg has been invited to be guest speaker. Although it is not known whether he will attend, about 450 others are expected at the convention, said Sheila Bowman, convention and tourism director for Pensacola.

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

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

City Councilwoman Brenda Pollak said she had nothing to gain and everything to lose by going public with her UFO sighting Jan. 8, 1990. She even took a photograph of the object as it moved erratically across the sky, leaving a multi-color trail.

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

"You could only see two dimensions, no depth," Pollak said, pointing to the sky east of the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church.

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

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

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

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

For example, in 1980, five UFO landings were reported by personnel at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M., he said.

Jerry Thompson, a toll booth worker at the Bob Sikes Bridge at Pensacola Beach says he saw something Oct. 25, 1988. And he's not sure whether he would prefer the objects to be military or alien.

Thompson said he and dozens of other people watched as 13 lighted objects blinked in and out above Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze. The pinkish lights on the crafts appeared and disappeared in a pattern that almost seemed to be sending a message, he said.

"There were 8, then 13, then 5," Thompson said. "I don't know what it was. The guy working with me said he was scared...."

"I couldn't come up with any logical explanation. It was like they were doing something. Maybe they were trying to signal."

Residents of Fyffe, a town of 1,300 in northeast Alabama, had their turn in the UFO spotlight in February and March 1989 when 100 sightings were reported. The UFOs ranged from tiny, hovering aircraft to huge, lightning-fast glittering vehicles, Assistant Police Chief Fred Works said.

The sightings attracted interest from local publications to the British Broadcasting Corp., and stations in Australia and Canada. "I'm not saying all these sightings were spaceships. I told the media it was probably something to do with the government. It was a big deal here. We don't even have a red light, just a yellow flashing one," Works said.

But Gulf Breeze, with its professionals and retired military residents, is a much more credible community than Fyffe, said Duane Cook, publisher of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, which first published Walters' photos.

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

"There is something flying around out there," Cook said. "Fyffe is more the rural community you see stereotyped in the sci-fi movies. I just want it (the UFO) to settle down in the middle of a football field one Friday night and say, 'We're here!'"

"Whether or not I get pictures published wouldn't matter then," he said.



News Journal

Duane Cook, publisher of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel, holds the original edition in which his newspaper reprinted photos from Ed Walters, who reported seeing UFOs over the Gulf Breeze peninsula.



Bruce Graner/News Journal

Gulf Breeze Councilwoman Brenda Pollak holds up her photo of a UFO she saw as a bright, red light hovering over a Methodist church before it zipped across Pensacola Bay.

UFO sightings have intrigued us for decades

Sightings of unidentified flying objects have been reported since ancient times, but an extraordinary outburst of reports occurred in the late 1940s, 1950s and 1960s and locally since November 1987. Here are some of the most famous international and local sightings, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Pensacola News Journal and the Gulf Breeze Sentinel:

- **July 7, 1947** — U.S. Army investigators reportedly collect wreckage and remains of four dead aliens from the site of a reported UFO crash near Roswell, N.M. The aliens are described as humanoids, 3 1/2- to 4-foot tall, with large heads and large eyes. Reports say that more than 100 witnesses testified that they saw the craft or the aliens. Rumors persist the bodies and craft were stored at Building 18 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, and never have been moved.
- **Jan. 7, 1948** — A Louisville, Ky., highway patrolman reports a flying saucer to Godman Air Force Base, which sends up a group of four F-51 jets. One pilot reports seeing it and follows it to 20,000 feet where his oxygen runs out and he crashes.
- **July 24, 1948** — A pilot and co-pilot over Montgomery, Ala., report a red object passes them at 5,000 feet. They describe it as 100 feet long with two rows of lighted windows and a dark blue glow beneath.
- **Aug. 13, 1966** — Two Royal Air Force ground radar station workers detect several objects near Lakenheath, England, and track them at 3,000 mph.
- **Sept. 10, 1967** — Three fishermen near Sao Paulo, Brazil, report a UFO explodes over the water. Tests of fragments show it is "magnesium of a higher purity than attainable in techniques known to man."
- **Sept. 20, 1961** — A couple returning from a Canadian vacation to Portsmouth, N.H., see a large disk-shaped object and walk over to investigate it. Later, under hypnosis, the two tell similar stories about being taken aboard a flying saucer and being examined by humanoids.
- **April 24, 1964** — A highway patrolman in Socorro, N.M., reports a 20-foot hemispherical object on four legs near an abandoned shack, where he earlier saw two people dressed in white. He finds four deep impressions in the ground.
- **Nov. 9, 1965** — New York City was without power for exactly 12 hours (to the minute) after a short near Niagara Falls caused a power surge that knocked out breakers. Witnesses reportedly sighted UFOs at Niagara Falls at the time of the unexplained surge.
- **Oct. 10, 1966** — A woman and her five children witness the slow passing of a metallic object near their farm home in Newton, Ill., on a clear, dry day.

- **Local sightings:**
 - **Oct. 14-17, 1973** — More than 50 scattered UFO sightings are reported along the Gulf Coast in Destin, Walnut Hill and near Crestview. Most are described as glowing white lights. Eglin Air Force Base personnel report tracking a UFO north of the base about the same time as six motorists watch objects hover over Interstate 10 between Crestview and Milton.
 - **April 21, 1975** — 12 Holmes County residents and two sheriff's deputies see a large glowing, egg-shaped UFO fly at sharp angles just above the trees near Bonitay.
 - **July 6, 1975** — 12 people fishing in Bayou Grande see an object cut across the sky "at incredible speed." One witness, Ed Gillette, assistant chief of the Federal Aviation Administration radar control tower at Pensacola NAS.
 - **Jan. 31, 1976** — Late in the afternoon, Eglin personnel take 40 frames with high-quality film of a round and brightly lit UFO over Duke Field. Nothing shows up except background when the film is developed the next day.
 - **Feb. 4, 1976** — For at least an hour before dawn a Florida Highway Patrolman watches a star-like UFO move erratically across the Gulf south of Navarre.
 - **April 24, 1980** — A Vernon resident reports that something lands in her pasture leaving a burned circle 26 feet wide.
 - **Nov. 11, 1987 to May 1, 1988** — Ed Walters reports 20 encounters of UFOs and takes numerous pictures, leading to a debate between UFO and photographic experts that culminates on a nationally televised show. During the same period, dozens of Gulf Breeze residents report similar UFO sightings.

- **Oct. 25, 1988** — Two toll booth operators at the Bob Sikes Bridge at Pensacola Beach and dozens of motorists report seeing 13 bright lights in the sky near Tiger Point.
- **April 21, 1988** — Gulf Breeze resident Truman Holcomb reports UFO staying just ahead of his car above the trees on U.S. 98.
- **March 4-21 1988** — 16 people report UFO sightings, including a man and his date driving on Soundside Drive after seeing television special on the UFO phenomenon. Other witnesses included an 11-year-old boy at Shoreline Park; a newspaper employee driving east on U.S. 98 at Gulf Islands National Seashore; a Florida Marine Patrol officer and Escambia County Sheriff's deputy.
- **Sept. 12, 1989** — 35 people at Unity Church on Ninth Avenue in Pensacola watch a red, glowing object in the sky while Walters photographs them.
- **Jan. 8, 1990** — Gulf Breeze City Councilwoman Brenda Pollak and husband Buddy, along with Walters and Cook, watch and photograph a UFO; claim helicopters follow it.

[City & Paper Unknown], IN - May 20, 1990

Pigs mum about mysterious circles

BLOOMINGTON — Bruce and Becky Merida can't explain what left a 25-foot circle of mashed grass in their field northeast of Bloomington. The only witnesses were 12 pigs, who aren't talking.

Merida and his uncle, Junior Merida, came across the dead and yellowish grass Wednesday, about 300 feet from the pig pen.

"I don't know if I believe in UFOs or not, but I'd like to know what it is. It was just like on TV, a bunch of perfect circles," Bruce said.

The grass was not burned, Merida's wife, Becky, said. There were three depressions in the middle as if something landed on a tripod, she said.

The mysterious shape, made of smaller and smaller rings, is off Miller Road about two miles east of Dolan Road.

CR: J. Timmerman



Egon Bach links Redoubt Volcano with the production of ball lightning. (Photo by Jon Little)

Goodness gracious, great balls of fire

Redoubt Volcano eruptions brings peculiar scientist to the peninsula

By JON LITTLE
Staff Writer

A geologist and almond farmer from Modesto, Calif., says Redoubt Volcano is a source of luminescent spheres that jet across the surface of the planet in a search for fuel.

Ball lightning, UFOs, Saint Elmo's fire — whatever people want to call these things — Egon Bach is convinced they are self-perpetuating "natural engines" that feed on infrared light.

He is also certain they come from volcanoes.

The phenomenon he describes is chemical, born from the hot high-pressure vent of an active volcano.

Bach is in Alaska to find evidence supporting his theory.

He says the fireballs are super-efficient engines. By studying their secrets, he believes humanity may halve its energy consumption.

Bach says he is a geologist, with a degree from Humboldt University in East Berlin. For the last 18 years he has researched the idea of self-perpetuating engines, a line of study that led him to Redoubt.

His roots are in Soviet Siberia and East Germany. He says he escaped from the Eastern Bloc in 1968 and began studying what he now calls "gorgons" in 1972.

"My thought primarily was freedom because I am a refugee from the Communist world," he said, his accent distinctly foreign but difficult to place.

Normally he tends an almond farm in California, which gives him time to pursue his research during the off-season.

A friendly, eager and talkative man, Bach has been cornering virtually everyone he sees in Kenai to ask if they witnessed the

latest eruption. Some people have called him eccentric.

Bach arrived Thursday evening in Kenai, driving in from Anchorage when he found out the volcano had again blown its top. An 18-minute eruption at 4 a.m. sent an ash cloud across the southern peninsula.

On Friday, he waited outside the Unocal Chemicals plant in Nikiski as a shift of workers left the compound. "I stood there, just shouting out, 'Who saw it, who saw it, who saw it,'" he said.

By Sunday he said he had spoken to at least 250 people.

He approached The Clarion hoping to place an advertisement calling for more eyewitness accounts.

Bach says he has found five people who were awake and saw the spectacular eruption from the beginning.

One of them, the captain of an oil-service vessel, even captured bright balls of light spewing from

the peak on video tape, Bach said. He was waiting for the tape to be copied and did not have it available Sunday for viewing.

Scientists at the Alaska Volcano Observatory said they would like to see that tape. However, one geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey pointed out that he might reach a different conclusion about what the captain actually saw 50 miles across Cook Inlet.

The geologist felt uncomfortable making a public statement about Bach's activities and passed the telephone to Tom Miller, scientist-in-charge of the observatory.

Miller's response was, "He has nothing to do with us."

"He seems to be a pleasant fellow who is very interested and concerned about this topic," Miller said. "He's very dedicated to this topic ... He's real

evangelical on this."

Bach has sent copies of an unpublished manuscript about the fireballs to the volcano observatory. He called scientists here in 1986 when St. Augustine blew, and touched base with the Cascades Volcano Observatory when Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980.

Working out of a Kenai motel until March 3, Bach is looking for anyone who saw the last eruption. They had to be looking at the volcano within the first five minutes, he says, to witness fireballs shooting out sometimes faster than the speed of sound.

Taxi drivers, people getting ready for work at 4 a.m. and others who saw the spectacle have already given him breath-taking accounts, Bach said.

He said they told him about balls of bright white light that shot from the peak just after the eruption began. "They zoomed off just like rockets," he said, gesturing to the side with his arms, "about twice the speed of jet planes. That's what they told me."

The fireballs, he said, shot silently to the north and south along the magnetic parallel. People told him they were beautiful shades of blue and gold, he said. Some were just brilliant white or tinged with violet.

He said the fireballs can stop and veer different directions, which may lead some people to believe they are UFOs. But that notion is "bunk," he said.

The fireballs exist for hours or days roaming the skies for the nearest source of infrared light, whether it is the warmth of a human body or sunlight, he said.

"I won't say off the top of my head it's impossible, but I won't say it happens either," said Sue Ann Bowling, a physics professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute.

Bowling said she heard of a theory that ball lightning was actually "plasma phenomena" of highly ionized gas, electrons stripped from the cores of atoms.

"It's one of those things that's become more respectable than it used to be, scientifically, but I don't think it's been proven one way or the other," Bowling said.

"There's so darn many 'ifs'." A lot of Bach's research appears to have been done by compiling stories that date back hundreds of years. He said he has also studied physics, fluid dynamics, chemistry, electronics and other sciences.

Ball lightning is described as "one of nature's most mysterious manifestations" in a book published in the early 1980s called "Lightning, Auroras, Nocturnal Lights and Related Luminous Phenomena, a catalog of geophysical anomalies." The book, provided by the UAF Geophysical Institute library, says ball lightning accompanies thunderstorms, tornadoes and earthquakes.

"It is one of those rare natural anomalies recognized by science as real but which eludes all attempts at explanation," wrote William J. Corliss, who compiled the book.

The book lists reports of silent glowing balls of varying sizes and colors that hovered through houses, sheds and airplanes, sometimes exploding with a sulfurous smell.

Anyone interested in giving an account of what they saw when the volcano erupted can leave a message for Bach at a Kenai answering service, 283-6101, or after March 5 at home, (209) 551-3508.

UFO Investigation in Tri-State Area

By Bob Fullerton

"The U.S. Government is covering up the UFO phenomena," Bill Knell, a private UFO investigator with a tri-state group known as Island Skywatch told an audience of 80 men and women, and a few children, at the Center Moriches Library on April 12th.

"The U.S. Military openly investigated UFO reports from the 1940's on, but never made public their findings," Knell continued. "Finally, in 1969, they closed the lid tight on the subject with a Senate committee report known as the (Edward J.) Condon Report. This report announced there was 'no such UFO phenomena' and what the public were sighting were 'cloud formations, sun rays, bolt lightning, and military experimenting of faster and higher flying aircraft'."

Knell, and Robert Atlas, an electrical engineer and Tri-State Coordinator of private UFO investigators, are members of a group called Island Skywatch.

"Because the government has, and continues to have, a 'no comment' position on UFO's, private investigative individuals and groups on the subject began form-

ing in 1947. Continual UFO sightings received media publication throughout the world," Knell related.

Slides, enlarged, emphasize burned ground in almost perfect circles of a variety of sizes and in different world locations. "It has been proven that nothing will grow again within these circles," Knell related; "In Kissena Park, Queens, a city bus with 20 passengers, while travelling through Central Park, on 64th Street, witnessed an object hovering, and then disappearing, from a not to distant area of the Park Lake. The bus driver had stopped in awe, and in a bus of suddenly silent passengers continued his route.

"A lady passenger of that bus, upon reaching home, reported the phenomenon to the neighborhood 107th Police Precinct. It is a matter of record," Knell related. "I investigated this March 1989 sighting to the fullest. At first I had the cooperation of Kissena Park Rangers. Suddenly they discontinued their help, as though ordered to do so. There was the usual burnt circle on the ground, but, in a matter of weeks, a large tree immediately next to the circle died in stages, and the park lake recently stocked with over 500

fish for a local fishing contest, was filled with floating dead fish." Knell produced slides of the tree's stages of death of dead fish piled on the concrete next to the lake.

Bill Knell has hundreds of slides of strange objects in the key, sighted in both day and night, aerial photos of burned patches that, unlike circles, seem like a message many miles long. Knell and Atlas hypothesize the hieroglyphic type of messages, the pyramids of Egypt ancient ruins, and biblical references, that could be the creation of UFO visitors.

Herbert Taylor, Chief UFO Investigator for Island Skywatch, says of the given description of a UFO inhabitant: "They have been witnessed as four-to-five feet tall, with large skulls in proportion to their bodies; massive eyes wrapping around and upward from their face. Witnesses state they are rarely verbal and communicate by telepathy."

Bill Knell tells of several UFO kidnappings verified under hypnosis. He has a slide of an unidentified Mastic man (face mostly blocked out) who disappeared from his home and job for five days and who stated he was

kidnapped by the large skulled strangers in a UFO. "We checked his story thoroughly and concluded there couldn't have been any other circumstances," Knell stated. "Long Island has a more than the average amount of UFO sightings, especially, for unexplainable reasons, reportings on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays."

Bill Knell says astronauts Glenn, Scott, and Carpenter had UFO sightings, but after a three month hospital stay for an ear infection and dizziness, the men denied their (former) UFO statements. Knell also relates "the story of Mt. Misery, off Route 1110, and its Indian and church history relates to unusual space happenings."

Knell further tells "of three men in dark clothing introducing themselves as religious missionaries to new UFO witnesses and ominously questioning what was seen," and "of President Nixon's and Carter's UFO interest and Jackie Gleason's upstate home built as a round house for his acceptance of the phenomenon." There were far more narrative than can be reported. Island Skywatch.

Sighting Hotline is (718) 380-8644.

Fawcett Report On Local UFO's

BY GEORGE D. FAWCETT

Fawcett of Lincolnton reports that Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) sighted in the Southern United States are down, according to citizen reports, while reports of sightings are up in other places around the world.

Fawcett is State Director of the Mutual UFO Network for North Carolina and a 22-year-veteran UFO watcher.

Fawcett will be guest speaker for at a session at Guilford Technical Community College in Greensboro, Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 9:15 p.m. in Weaver Education Center Auditorium at 330 Spring St., Greensboro.

Admission is \$5 per person and reservations may be made by calling extension 203, 334-3822 or 889-4545 in High Point for More information.

Reports of 'unidentified flying objects' (UFOs), snowballed on a national and global basis, but were down for North Carolina in 1989, a veteran UFO investigator and researcher for the past 45 years stated today.

George D. Fawcett, 60 who serves as the recently elected state director for the North Carolina unit of the worldwide Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON) issued his twenty second report for the Tar Heel State this morning.

In the United States and overseas reports of UFO landings, occupant encounters, radar trackings, pilot reports, landing marks and photographs, plus video films skyrocketed in North Dakota, California, New York, South Carolina, Arkansas, Washington State, Oklahoma, Colorado, Maine, Mississippi, Connecticut, Florida, Alabama, Arizona and Kansas, Foreign sightings came from England, Russia, Australia, South Africa, Hungary, Columbia, West Germany, Bulgaria, Japan, Canada and New Zealand.

Reports of UFO observations in North Carolina filtered through the MUFON-NC network from Pilot Mountain, Lincolnton, Connelly Springs, Jacksonville, Lake Norman, Mount Holly and Enfield. Many cases went unreported.

Strangely enough, say Fawcett, two clusters of UFO reports were centered around the months of Oct. and August. These clusters occurred with no collusion among the different multiple witnesses.

On Oct. 29, a former Marine pilot and his wife had their mountain climbing trip to Linville Gorge delayed when a UFO "about the size of a three-room house" came down from the sky and was followed by John D. White and his wife 7 miles west from Lincolnton for about 5 minutes. They got out of their car and watched the strange object through a pair of binoculars and noticed that the UFO had a cross design of lights on its bottom. Next, the couple turned their car around and chased the UFO back towards Lincolnton. The oval UFO had red, green and white lights on it and the incident occurred on Highway 27 West from Lincolnton at 7:02 a.m. White's wife called get other family members in Japan to report their experience, while John called the Douglas Control Tower in Charlotte, who told him to contact Fawcett in Lincolnton.

On Oct. 25 student Jason Newton reported four disc-shaped UFOs that flew in formation above Connelly Springs that were moving south with a series of slow maneuvers at 6:55 p.m. Newton noticed that one of the UFOs dropped from the formation, descended and hovered for one minute before returning rapidly to the rest of the UFOs.



GEORGE D. FAWCETT

Newton watched the UFOs through binoculars.

For four nights, on Oct. 22-Oct. 25, Gary Bledsoe and a large number of other observers watched a series of objects, shaped like sugar cubes standing on end that maneuvered in the northeastern sky below the Little Dipper. The sightings occurred near Sauratown Mountain in Pilot Mountain. The UFOs were colored with red, green, white and blue lights and they appeared to fly across the sky each evening between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. before leaving the area.

On August 21, dozens of eyewitnesses (many of them independent sightings) reported an "oval-shaped UFO with a tail on each side" at Jacksonville N.C. at 5:30 a.m. The UFO was chased by sheriff deputies, photographs were taken, seen for 35 to 40 minutes. This UFO was believed to be a space booster rocket (sounding rocket) sent up from Wallops Island, Va. according to Major Alan Freitag. Many of the eyewitnesses did not however accept this explanation.

On August 18 at 5:40 a.m., three employees of the Cochrane Furniture Company reported seeing a brilliant white lighted object in the sky that moved from East to North. The UFO was seen by the witnesses for at least one minute from Highway 150 and from Highway 27 outside of Lincolnton. (Witnesses names, confidential on file).

On August 18 at 3:00 p.m. (the 2nd daylight sighting reported in NC in 1989) a retired security guard Paul L. Moore of the McGuire Nuclear Plant saw a strange triangle-shaped UFO for about two seconds. The UFO, about the size of a Stealth Bomber made a 45 degree descent and moved towards the McGuire Sub-Station. The UFO was brownish-red all over. The incident occurred at Lake Norman.

On March 28, at about dusk, Mount Holly Junior High student Brett Keeter (13), saw a white cigar-shaped UFO while out riding his bicycle. The UFO moved horizontally at low altitude above Mount Holly, then the soundless object made a 60 degree turn and left the area.

On Feb. 19 farmer Ferdie Barkeley reported his sighting of a cigar-shaped UFO that made a 90 degree right angle turn and left the area in 10 seconds. Barkley was attracted to the object overhead in the daytime by a "brilliant white flash of light." He watched the UFO for over five minutes (noticing that the UFO was covered by squared-like tile all over) before it moved from North to South at low altitude near Enfield.

With Reports of UFO encounters increasing worldwide, investigator Fawcett says he feels confident that 1990 will "most likely" become a big year for UFO activity in the Tar Heel State. And such reports should be mailed to him at 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092. Reports will be kept confidential if so requested.

UFO conference draws 300

Crowd hears updates on research, personal accounts

By Pat Dallas

For The News-Leader

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

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

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

hear some of the presentations.

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

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

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

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

finding out what UFOs are and where they come from.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Other speakers included Linda Moulton Howe and Dr. John H. Altshuler, who discussed cattle and animal mutilations; Lauren Rose, a Virginia writer who related an alien-abduction experience; and Antonio Huneus, a New York journalist who updated UFO activity in the U.S.S.R.

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

HERALD, Boston, MA - May 21, 1990 CR: J. Melesciuc

Jackson: UFOs told me to help them land here

Oddball Michael Jackson, who has been called "part E.T." by his manager, is building a giant landing pad in the Nevada desert, hoping to videotape a UFO touchdown.

"I guess maybe he wants to be the first to do the moonwalk with aliens," said a source close to the singer.

In an earlier interview, his manager Frank Dileo told Hollywood star-gazer Malcolm Balfour: "Michael is convinced that there's life in outer space. He'll do anything to prove it. He says it's only common sense that there's life out there."

The Thriller, who admits he sleeps in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber in an effort to live to 150, has already had blueprints drawn up and is scouting potential sites for the pad.

A source told this week's National Enquirer: "His spacecraft will have a radio transmitter that beams continuous signals



MICHAEL JACKSON

to outer space so ET's can home-in on it. If a saucer lands, the video camera will capture the historic event, which will then be fed to TV screens in Michael's new Las Vegas office."

The singer reportedly had a dream recently about space aliens and he believes messages were "beamed into" his brain by these ET's.

"The reason he has the cameras set up is that he wants to present evidence on television news broadcasts proving once and for all that UFOs really do exist," said the source.

No UFOs in Mars? Try Oakland Twp.

By ROGER BARNHART
Eagle Staff Writer

Are visitors from outer space interested in Mars, Pa.?

Producers of the television program "A Current Affair" seem to think so, despite the fact that no unidentified flying objects have been sighted there.

Mars was featured in the May 4 episode of the nightly television show, which boasted videotape evidence of strange objects in the nighttime sky and the discovery of unexplainable eight-foot patches of scorched earth in Mars. The UFO sightings were said to have occurred in early March, the program reported.

According to UFO researcher Stan Gordon, the events described on the television show really did happen — they just didn't happen in Mars.

Gordon, director of the Greensburg-based Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, said the strange occurrences actually happened northeast of the City of Butler in Oakland Township, approximately 20 miles by air from Mars. The sightings were eventually reported to PASU, which Gordon describes as a clearinghouse for reports of UFO sightings.

According to Gordon, the television show was conducted by friends of Cheryl Covert and Jane Woodcock, neighboring property owners in Oakland Township who first reported the strange burn marks and objects in the sky. Gor-

don said there were several UFO sightings in the same area during March.

Woodcock, when contacted Wednesday, said she was unhappy with the report on the television show.

"It made the whole thing look foolish," Woodcock declined further comment on the strange events, other than to say that the burn marks on her property are now grown over and no longer exist.

Woodcock said that the burn marks are now grown over and no longer exist.

While part of the television interview was filmed in the town of Mars, which had nothing to do with the UFO sightings, Gordon said "A Current Affair" did visit and film the actual site where nine oval-shaped burn marks had been discovered by Oakland Township residents atop a grassy hill on March 8.

Gordon said the videotape evidence of a UFO shown on the program is real also. A "brilliant," hovering object was filmed by three cameras from different angles for approximately nine minutes on the night of March 14, Gordon said. The tapes are still being analyzed and enhanced by PASU experts, he said. They are also being reviewed by pilots and other UFO researchers, he said.

PASU field researcher John Gribble was one of eight eye-witnesses who saw the UFO. Gribble said he and fellow researcher Evelyn Schurman were inspecting the site

of the scorch marks and obtaining soil samples at the site when the strange object was captured on film.

"I don't know what it was," Gribble said. "I wish I did."

Schurman, who videotaped the object, described it as pinkish-orange, very bright, noiseless, and moving "unlike any conventional aircraft." It also had a definite shape and appeared to be spinning, she said.

EAGLE, Butler, PA

May 11, 1990

CR: S. Gordon

Are they here?

Seminar explores possibility that UFOs really do exist

By Sarah E. Crowley
Staff Writer

"There are two methods of getting a sighting. One is to go where lots of sightings have happened and camp out night after night until you see one. The other is to send up a thought message that you'd like to have a sighting. And you'll get one."

R. Leo Sprinkle pressed the remote control on his projector and up flipped another slide of a UFO hovering hauntingly in a black-and-white sky. Even though it was a reproduction of a black-and-white photo, the familiar Frisbee shape, and Sprinkle's comments, caused the audience to sit up and take notice.

Not that they hadn't been sitting up right along. These 17 people had come from all over Southern California to hear Sprinkle, an internationally known UFO researcher, explain a subject that seemingly has no explanation at all.

Titled "Inner Time and Outer Space," the recent workshop at Griswold's Claremont Center examined techniques for exploring and evaluating patterns of UFO reports, as well as the more intriguing aspects of abductee/contactee reports (people claiming to have been kidnapped by aliens and those receiving telepathic messages from them).

Judging from the personal experiences revealed, the attendees had more than a casual interest in what most of

us consider to be a fascinating but bizarre topic. Stories ranged from the woman who believed she saw an alien in her laundry room to a man with a small pockmark on his leg which, he thought, was caused by space folk experimenting on him aboard their craft.

Sponsored by the Association for Past-Life Research and Therapies Inc. of Riverside, the program also introduced the possibility of reincarnation as a link to UFO phenomena.

Sounds like a heavy dose of goofball stuff for a supposedly rational person to swallow. After all, UFOs are nothing new. We've all read reports about them, and just about everybody can still recall that five-note musical theme from the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

The common reaction of so-called normal people is to smile smugly, and wonder how in the world anyone could believe in extra-terrestrial visitors. But let's be honest. Deep down in your soul, haven't you wondered if maybe, just maybe, those people might be right? And somehow, there's a little part of us that hopes they are.

But right or wrong, there's a stigma attached to those willing to stand up for their beliefs.

"No one wants to be thought of as a fool. But I guarantee if you go into UFO research, you'll be thought of as a fool," said Sprinkle, a counseling psychologist in private practice in Laramie, Wyo. A professor emeritus at the University of

Wyoming, he's known among researchers as a pioneer in the field, and has appeared on a number of national TV and radio interview programs.

Sprinkle's interest in UFOs began in 1949 at the University of Colorado at Boulder, when he and a classmate saw a silent saucer in the evening sky.

"I reacted like most people — with fear and trembling. I repressed it," said Sprinkle, adding in 1956 he and his wife saw another UFO, again near Boulder. "It hovered and moved. It was no airplane, no helicopter. I thought uh oh, two sightings is something unusual."

Since then, Sprinkle has documented hundreds of cases, interviewing people who feel they've experienced something strange, and often using hypnosis to aid their recollections.

However, the problem with pursuing such an elusive subject, said the ufologist (pronounced "youfologist"), is that even when people believe they've seen a saucer, they tend to discount their own experiences.

"People are frightened to talk about it. They're afraid people will think they're crazy. When I try to reassure them, and tell them I've also seen them they say, 'Well, you must be crazy, too,'" said Sprinkle, who maintains a real discrepancy exists between what he calls "objective" established science and the "bastard" studies of

parapsychology and UFO research.

"My bias is I know flying saucers exist, I'm not sure about science. The problem is we're used to investigating phenomena as objective observers, and UFOs are too elusive for objective observation."

During the seminar, Sprinkle discussed patterns of UFO reports and said that according to statistics, two-thirds of all educated people in the world believe in them.

In a lecture-slide presentation, he showed dozens of examples of different space craft, everything from what he called "daylight discs" (the usual saucer shape) to "radar visuals" (something perceived on a radar screen).

It seems that 71 percent of those who had seen UFOs reported circular-shaped objects, and the duration of these sightings was roughly five to 15 minutes.

"That's long enough to see something unusual, but not long enough to get the Air Force jets out," said Sprinkle.

That's just the trouble with them. Just when you think you've seen one and run for witnesses, the darn things

disappear.

At least, that's what one seminar participant said. Because of the nature of this workshop, everyone interviewed for this story (with the exception of Sprinkle) asked that their names not be used.

This woman, let's call her Debbie, is a certified clinical hypnotherapist who said she saw a UFO when she was a 12-year-old living in Granada Hills. Or, more to the point, she was rudely awakened by one at 2 a.m.

"I remember awakening with an extremely bright light in my room. I could see it through my eyelids," said the 35-year-old. "The whole room was lit up. I looked out the window and saw a huge flying vehicle ... big as a football field. It was all bright, yellow lights, millions of them. It moved slowly, there was no sound."

Of course, when she dragged her parents out of bed the amazing spectacle had vanished. But Debbie still feels a close kinship with those mysterious visitors.

"It was exciting, but my impression was that it was more like an old friend stopping to say hi. Just a nice 'hello, we're here.'"

EXTRATERRESTRIALS ALIEN ISLAND?



KNELL: "There is evidence UFOs have landed here."

they're still being shadowed by unmarked black helicopters. All refuse to identify themselves. "These are respectable people with full-time professions," says Knell. "They're afraid of being ridiculed."

Knell says there are other UFO landing pads around the island: Spoonk, Smithtown, and Brentwood have all been tagged as alien vacation spots. The sites share some peculiar properties, according to Knell: All of the spots are round, though none have diseases that spread circularly. The grass, for years hardy and green, has been mysteriously drained of chlorophyll. Trees nearby the sites have suddenly died. In some cases, a trail of dead grass has been found leading from the dying trees to the site.

Chariots of the gods?

"It's baffling," says Ted Benitt, associate professor of physical science at Nassau Community College, who has done soil analysis at the Kissena Park site. "In most of these areas, the soil has lost the capacity to hold water, which could have been caused by one of two things: Something heating the ground up to incredible temperatures, or radioactive waves similar to those emitted by a microwave oven."

"I'm not saying it was a UFO," he cautions. "All I can say is it wasn't caused by a lawn disease or gasoline. The explanation isn't in a horticulture book. It's not caused by anything we know of here."

Kissena Park astronomer Dr. Gregory Matloff disagrees: "The soil we tested at Kissena showed no signs of heat damage," he says. Matloff believes Knell is jumping to conclusions without a thorough investigation. "It took me only 20 hours of research to debunk his Kissena claim."

Knell says he wasn't aware of Matloff's findings, but did say that all of the sites have been analyzed by Dr. William G. Fateley of Kansas State University. When we contacted Fateley, he said: "I never heard of Bill Knell, Island Skywatch, or any UFO soil tests."

Bill Knell wasn't surprised by Fateley's response: "A lot of scientists back off from these things once it gets too publicized."

So, what do you think? Have aliens landed on LI? Are they living among us? Are they running for public office? The answers to these questions remain unanswered, but should you spot a flying saucer, call the Island Skywatch 24-hour hot line at 718-380-8644. Inquiring minds want to know.

—Brian O'Connor

LONG ISLAND MONTHLY, Manhasset, NY - April 1990 CR: B. Fisher.

March 1989: The Q65 bus is making its scheduled run past Kissena Park in Queens when 20 passengers notice three bright lights soaring in the sky over the park's lake. The bus pulls over to observe, and the object disappears. Days later, a circular patch of dead grass, 20 feet in diameter, is discovered near the area.

April 1989: Several people report seeing unusually bright lights over an abandoned golf course in East Norwich. The next day, a tenant on the property discovers an 85-foot round patch of dead grass.

September 1989: A 12-foot section of thick wire-mesh fence is discovered crushed to the ground near the Bayard Cutting Arboretum in Great River. Nearby, a mysterious circle of dead grass is found.

To you, they're problems for Lawn Doctor. But Flushing's Bill Knell is betting they're landing sites for UFOs.

Knell is Long Island's resident UFO watchdog—he's the founder and spokesperson for Island Skywatch, a 140-member organization dedicated to the study of UFO phenomena on the island. In his view, there's plenty of it.

"We get between 15 to 500 reported sightings every week on our UFO hot line," says Knell, who also hosts his own TV program, "UFOs Over Long Island," on Brookhaven cable. "There is evidence suggesting UFOs have landed here and actually abducted Long Islanders."

That's right, abducted. The Great River landing site, in fact, was revealed to Knell by an abductee who, according to Knell, is one of a number of Liers who claim they've been shanghaied by alien life forms. All were returned safely, but several claim

INVADERS' SPACE?
Saucer site in East Norwich.



Staff Photo by Tom Zasadzinski

R. Leo Sprinkle discusses patterns of UFO reports during a recent seminar in Claremont.



Jacques Vallee (right) meets with Antonio Gomes, a Brazilian who shot at a UFO.

UFO scientist says search needs skeptics

Jacques Vallee employs both respect and analysis

By TED MAHAR
of The Oregonian staff

Jacques Vallee occupies a peculiar place in the world of UFOs.

He is one of the most widely published believers in the phenomena. He was also the model for the French scientist whom Francois Truffaut played in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Trained as an astrophysicist, Vallee makes his living as a San Francisco computer consultant. His new book, "Confrontations" (Ballantine, \$19.95) is his fourth work on UFOs.

Unlike many devotees, who take a more religious than logical approach to the subject, Vallee advocates scientific study of the phenomena.

However, he approaches the field as a skeptic, even after 30 years of methodical study. And he has one strong belief that puts him at odds with many UFO believers: He doesn't see how they could be extraterrestrial in origin.

"If they are, they come from a surprisingly crude technology, considering what else they are capable of," Vallee said during a recent Portland visit. "They can appear and disappear at will, and they can outfly any human technology. But if they're studying our planet, they're terribly clumsy about it. We could learn all we need to know from a very small satellite orbiting the Earth. Landings would be almost completely unnecessary."

Tales of abductions and medical samplings sound unscientific to him.

"If they're studying our planet, they're terribly clumsy about it."

— Jacques Vallee

"If they want to study us, given that they can go anywhere they want, at least after dark, they could get everything they need from a blood bank, a sperm bank, a pathology lab. They could duplicate the human race with what we already know about molecular biology."

"The probings described by abductees are too crude and too repetitive to be scientific," Vallee said.

Reported UFO creatures are too humanoid to be from another planet.

"They are shaped like us, they breathe our air, they communicate with us in our own languages," Vallee said.

Vallee investigates as many sites as he can. For "Confrontations," he traveled to about 100 of the sites of the roughly 200 incidents discussed in the book. They occurred mostly in upper South America along the Atlantic coast, in isolated villages.

The subjects appealed to Vallee because they are isolated from all media and have not been imprinted with popular UFO images. Many of them have seen "chupas," airborne objects with glaring light beams and peculiar qualities.

Some of these sightings have resulted in death for the observers, but Vallee believes that the deaths were caused more by shock than anything else.

"They did not die from the impact of the beam itself, as far as I know," Vallee said.

Crewmen of two French submarines and a French navy ship saw impossible maneuvers off Guadeloupe. In other nearby sightings, UFOs seemed to come out of the water.

Vallee reported a similar case not mentioned in his book.

Ball of light startles Lilly man as UFO sightings rise

By James W. Siehl
The Tribune-Democrat

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Most callers described the object

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While the team members and several others were involved in the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UFO awards to journalists

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A two-hour television documentary on Unidentified Flying Objects recently won first place in the Donald E. Keyhoe Journalism Award competition, sponsored by the Fund for UFO Research.

The documentary, entitled "UFOs: The Best Evidence," was produced by George Knapp, news director at KLAS-TV, Las Vegas, Nev. "This two-hour special took an in-depth look at the current state of UFOlogy, its strengths and weaknesses, and at some of the most controversial UFO cases, documents and individual researchers, in an attempt to evaluate whether UFOs are real — and if so — what they are," said Knapp.

"This special originally aired as a nine-part series in our nightly newscasts. The response

to the series was so great that we made it into a special program," he added.

"The documentary was one of the best-produced television programs on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects," concluded the Keyhoe Journalism Award Panel. "It was especially impressive because it was put together by a local television station. But more important was the fact that it was a good piece of investigative journalism."

The panel for the award competition consisted of: Don Berliner, aviation writer; Richard Hall, editor; and Fred Whiting, public relations executive and former broadcast journalist. Berliner, Hall and Whiting are members of the board of directors for the Fund for UFO Research, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C.

The first place winner in the journalism competition will receive a cash award of \$1,000.

Second place went to Kim Opatka, staff writer for the *Latrobe Bulletin*, for her six-part series on UFOs published May 1-4, 1989. "The series was aimed at fostering a better public understanding of the UFO phenomenon and at abolishing misconceptions associated with the field and persons who have claimed sightings," said Opatka.

Another local television news series, "UFO Ohio," produced by WBNS-TV, Columbus, Ohio, was ranked third by the competition judges. The entry, which dealt with a week-long series of reports dealing with UFO activity in Ohio, was submitted by reporter Tom Berman. The station also conducted a telephone poll on UFOs, which resulted in more than 16,000 responses.

Runners-up in the award competition included:

— Patricia S. Wren, bureau chief, Okanogan County, *The Wenatchee World*, Okanogan, Wash., for her article, "Locals Still Believe in the Duley Lake UFOs," published Feb. 2, 1989.

— Pat Moore, reporter for the *La Crosse (Wisconsin) Tribune*,

"Glasnost has meant that we are hearing more stories from the Soviet Union that have been buried for years," Vallee said. "In the Soviet Union, I met with Valdimir Azhazha. He headed a committee for the Soviet navy investigating UFOs."

"In one case, an icebreaker was operating in the Arctic, breaking ice, when an object rose straight out of the ice, showered the ships with ice and rose straight up. It was spherical and dark, and it was definitely no weather balloon."

"In another case, the captain of a submarine supply and maintenance ship called all officers and men topside to witness a series of objects flying in the vicinity. He was going to submit a report with his name on it, and he didn't want the authorities to say he was drunk or didn't see it."

Vallee is sure there are thousands of UFO reports in government files worldwide. They are the subject of a 1988 book called "Above Top Secret" by Timothy Good. The title is from a letter to Barry Goldwater, who tried to get access to information in a particular file. He was refused, even though he was a U.S. senator and a general in the Air Force Reserve. He was told the issue was "above top secret."

Flashy Meteor Streaks Through Southland Skies

A meteor streaked across the Southern California skies Tuesday night, flashing colors of orange and green, and spurring enough calls to authorities to jam phone lines from San Luis Obispo to Tijuana, officials said.

Hundreds of people called Los Angeles' Griffith Park Observatory, particularly from the Ventura County area, saying that a green or orange object was moving through the sky in various directions, said observatory assistant Nicholas Read.

The flashing light, lasting for several minutes, was reported in San Diego County about 7:55 p.m., where it was seen from Glorietta Bay in south San Diego to Carlsbad about 37 miles north, said Coast Guard spokesman William Driscoll.

"Our Coast Guard helicopter first spotted [the flashing], and I guess everyone else did too," said Driscoll, adding that he fielded more than 30 telephone calls from people wanting to know what it was. "I've never been so busy."

The Coast Guard said the meteor appeared to be moving in a southerly direction. Read added that meteor showers had been frequent for the past month.

CR: A. Rozenblum-Acebo

UFOs: Out of the tabloids, into hardcover

Reviewed by PAUL DELLINGER

THE GULF BREEZE SIGHTINGS. By Ed and Frances Walters. William Morrow and Co. Inc. \$21.95.

You probably saw something about it in supermarket tabloids or one of their television equivalents: A Gulf Breeze, Fla., man identifying himself only as "Mr. Ed" had seen, photographed and even videotaped some of the unidentified flying objects spotted over his part of the state by numerous residents between late 1987 and mid-1988.

One the one hand, the photographs seemed to prove the existence of unusual aircraft of some kind. On the other hand, nobody but the mysterious Mr. Ed ever saw the actual craft he photographed.

Mr. Ed is now revealed to have been Ed Walters, a building contractor who at first tried to keep his identity out of the publicity limelight. And the story he tells in this book, written with his wife in alternate short bursts (some chapters are only a page or two long), and including 35 of his controversial UFO photos, is more fantastic than even tabloid TV suggested.

Walters not only tells of repeated encounters with UFOs, but of telepathic contact with their occupants — contact which provoked memories that seemed to mean he had been abducted several times during his life for brief periods by UFOs.

This is either proof of UFO visitations, or a hoax perpetrated both by Walters and members of his family. There is no middle ground. Even an assumption that Walters was hallucinating would not explain the UFOs that other family members report seeing wink in and out of view.

Walters has convinced some people of his claims — Duane Cook, editor of the Sentinel, Gulf Breeze's weekly newspaper; Budd Hopkins, a specialist in supposed abductions by UFOs; and physicist Bruce Macca-bez who insists the photos are not faked. And yet, even Walters' own descriptions of what happened and why outsiders failed to spot the

UFOs he photographed with his Polaroid convey the feel of a stage magician who has just astounded his audience with a magic trick and defies it to explain how the trick was done.

"The photos constitute the backbone of the book, and readers can judge for themselves how real the

UFOs look. Even if the story is fiction, though, it's still a pretty good story involving close encounters of the worst kind.

Paul Dellinger is a reporter in the Southwest bureau of this newspaper.

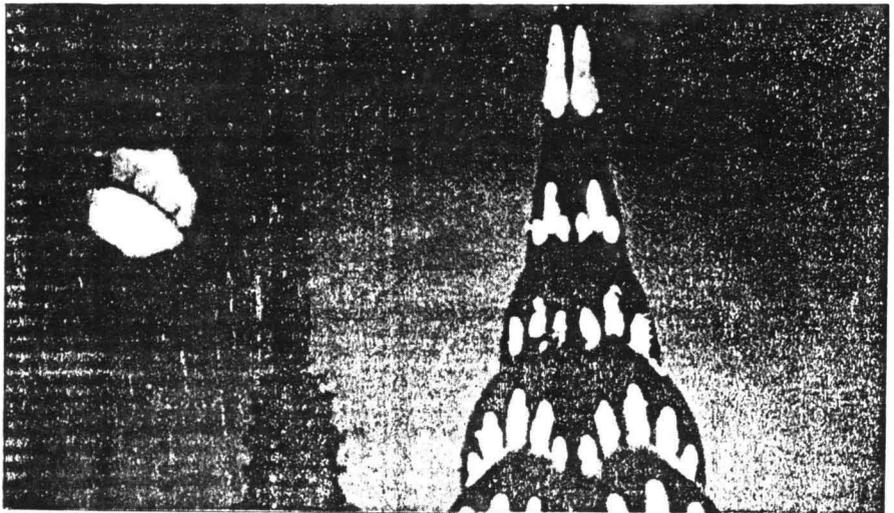
CR: D. Gordon

Debunkers desperate to ridicule UFO witnesses and photographs

UFO witness ridicule struck the front page of the Pensacola News Journal last Sunday. The front page "ghost/demon" story that the Sentinel checked out over two years ago was an attempt by two motivated debunkers to ridicule Ed Walters and discredit the hundreds of local UFO witnesses. The so called "ghost/demon" photo is a reflection off a glass door that anybody with a flash camera can produce. The photo in question not only shows a flash bounce but it also shows the reflection of other lights in the room.

The News Journal "forgot" to mention the debunking background of the "experts" they were quoting. For example: The New York Tribune exposed Smith as a hoaxer of fake evidence. "...Smith had actually manufactured through a photographer from the Bronx, certain replicas of the Gulf Breeze photos, as well as obtained and retouched a patently faked photo-montage of a Gulf Breeze-type craft against the backdrop of the Chrysler Building, originally made by photographer Manuel Fernandez. Smith then sent the Chrysler bldg photo to James Moseley, publisher of Saucer Smear together with a letter intimating the photo had been taken by Walters and that both sets were clearly faked. Smith, of course, knew better."

The publisher of the Sentinel hand carried the original UFO photos to Dr. Nathan at the JPL. Nathan said, "Unless I can prove these photos are fake I will have little to say." Months later, Dr. Nathan said that he thinks that some of the photos could be double exposures but he can find no evidence to prove it. Dr. Ebert, cer-



BOGUS UFO PHOTO made for fun by photographer Manuel Fernandez, later retouched and used by Willy Smith to discredit the Gulf Breeze UFO photos.

tified photogrammetrist, agrees that the photos do not prove that the objects are extraterrestrial but "I can detect no incontrovertible evidence of tricky or falsification."

Expert after expert agrees that some of the 108 Polaroid photos would be easy to double expose while others such as the UFO behind the tree (photo #1) would be very, very difficult to fake. Computer analysis would quickly detect a fake with a process called Edge Enhancement.

The News Journal also "forgot" to mention the photos taken with cameras that cannot be double

exposed, sealed stereo cameras and video cameras.

The UFO critics have fallen short in proving a single UFO photo taken by Ed Walters and others is anything but valid and it appears that ridicule is their next weapon. The News Journal quotes a critic who points to Ed Walters' arrest record of 24 years ago when he was eighteen. WOW! There is a big difference between an eighteen year old boy and a forty-three year old family man who also received a full pardon for his teenage offense. Only a very motivated or desperate debunker would try such a ridicule

tactic. On the other hand, when the backgrounds of the debunkers are looked into, we see a history of misleading information starting with the education they claim to have. For example: Smith, who started the "ghost/demon" story, also says that he has a PhD in Physics and was the department head of astronomy and physics at the University of Valencia. When this was checked, the universities verify that he does not have a PhD in physics and the University of Valencia had no record of him. So much for the credibility of the News Journal "experts."

Photo Reprinted from the New York City Tribune

UFO enthusiasts are gaining followers

By Dianna M. Talbot
Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — Dyllan Blodgett and his girlfriend were sitting on the shore of Coventry Lake one summer night four years ago when they noticed some white lights hovering above the lake and nearby trees.

The pair watched with interest until suddenly the lights disappeared.

"All of a sudden they just shot across the sky and out of sight. It was amazing," said the 19-year-old Blodgett.

Although he and his girlfriend were sure that what they had seen was a flying saucer, they did not report their sighting to authorities because they didn't think about doing so at the time, Blodgett said.

But since then, the long-haired, 3480 Main St. resident has been one of a number of area residents who say they believe in the existence of unidentified flying objects, also referred to as UFOs.

He was one of over 100 people who jammed Booth & Dimmock Memorial Library's conference room Tuesday night to attend a lecture on UFOs given by Coventry Police Lt. Lawrence Fawcett.

A 27-year veteran of the department, Fawcett has dedicated much of his life to proving that the earth has always been and is still being visited by extraterrestrial life.

He is co-author of the book "Clear Intent: The Government Cover Up of the U.F.O. Experience," which also was written by Barry Greenwood, and is subtitled, "What Does the Government Know About UFOs and Why Won't It Tell Us?"

Fawcett and Greenwood head up Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), an organization they created in 1978 to battle what they see as unjustified government secrecy in relation to UFOs.

Through Freedom of Information Act requests and several court cases, they say CAUS

has obtained about 10,800 pages of files on UFOs from many federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Central Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, the Department of State, and Army and Navy Intelligence.

The men also publish a four-page newsletter called "Just Cause" which reports on new UFO sightings and experiences. Subscriptions are \$10 per year and available by sending payment to CAUS, P.O. Box 218, Coventry 06238, Fawcett said. The money is used to offset the cost of funding information requests and publishing the newsletter, he said.

For over an hour at the library, Fawcett generated murmurs among his listeners as he spoke about his work to uncloak what he said is a shroud of government secrecy regarding UFO sightings.

In particular, he spoke about a reported 1947 crash of several UFOs in Roswell, New Mexico, where nine bodies of aliens allegedly were confiscated by the federal government. Fawcett said he believes UFOs crashed there because they flew over a high-powered military radar system that interfered with the aliens' own radar.

Fawcett said he is trying to obtain more facts regarding this reported crash, and does not plan to stop until he sees the reported alien bodies.

He also said he has proof that the government, which issued a formal statement in 1969 stating that UFOs do not exist, is hiding facts about UFO sightings and experiences.

Sightings recently have been reported in Russia and England, he said.

Among the items Fawcett offered as proof of past alien visits to the United States were a small bag of crashed "flying saucer" remnants and slides of photographs depicting what he said were real UFO sightings.

He also presented several copies of what he said were government documents with pages of blacked-out and unreadable information.

"If there are no UFOs, what are they trying to

hide? Why are they still gathering information?" Fawcett asked.

Audience members shook their heads and murmured.

Fawcett said he thinks the government is afraid people will panic if they learn that aliens have more advanced technology than people on earth. But he said he doesn't think people will panic because the aliens apparently do not want to hurt anyone.

Near the end of the lecture, Fawcett told the audience, "I'm not saying that everything I am telling you is gospel. We are working to authenticate some of it."

"I, myself, believe the Earth is being visited by extraterrestrial beings," he added. "I think we are dealing with people who are able to bend time and travel in dimensions."

Fawcett then asked if any members of the audience had ever seen a UFO.

About 25 people raised their hands. Fawcett asked how of them had reported their sightings to police or other authorities.

Only three said yes. Emily Townsend, of 735 Brewster St., was one of those who raised her hand to the first question. After the presentation, she said that one night in 1974 she saw green, red and white lights moving back and forth in the sky over the north end of Coventry.

Townsend said at the time she thought it was a UFO, but she didn't report it to authorities because she thought no one would believe her.

Joan Lerasseur, of Long Island, N.Y., who decided to attend the lecture while visiting relatives in Willington, also commented on UFOs. She said she enjoyed the lecture and found it interesting, but is unsure whether she believes in the existence of UFOs.

"I'd like to believe in them because I think it's exciting," Lerasseur said. "I'd love to see one."

WHITE LIGHT
DAILY RECORD,
Elliensburg, WA
April 23, 1990

A Graham man reported a white pulsating light on the mountainside in the Easton area to the Kittitas County Sheriff on Sunday. The Federal Aviation Administration reported that nothing was missing, and utility companies contacted advised that it was most likely a powerpole for a large powerline.

Author accused of trickery

By Craig Myers
News Journal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Critics dispute Walters' photographs

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

Among the old and new criticisms are:

• **Double exposures:**

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

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

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

• **"Ghost" photo:**

was him and I didn't believe it."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Editor:

I have many unanswered questions concerning the frequent UFO sightings in our area and the lack of information or explanation by our military.

As early as May 31, 1988, in a letter of response from the U.S. House of Representatives, the UFO sightings were referred to the Director of Congressional Affairs at NASA but for some reason the Department of the Navy answered "...it is not considered justifiable to use scarce Navy financial and personnel resources to investigate alleged UFO sightings."

When questioned about the radar devices in our area, the letter continued, "We suggest that the Army be contacted if you desire any releasable information concerning that project." Signed R.P. Ilg, Rear Admiral.

After two similar responses from the U.S. Senate, one from our U.S. House of Representatives and two from the U.S. Navy, the question remains unanswered.

Many of us have seen military aircraft in pursuit during and after a UFO sighting yet the officials deny any knowledge of the UFO and the pursuit aircraft. Why?

The man-in-the-street continues to see something very odd in our skies and the officials continue to deny it. I encourage 'witnesses' to write to Congress and hope for a responsible answer.

Edward Walters

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL
May 17, 1990 CR: R. Reid

NEWS JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL - May 31, 1990 CR: R. Reid UFO coverage deficient

Regarding your April 29 article about Ed Walters' UFO experiences in Gulf Breeze. The News Journal is to be commended for giving prominence to a story of great importance.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the article is slanted and sadly deficient in objectivity.

Why did Craig Myers not consult with even one local investigator? All of his "experts" reside elsewhere, and except for Dr. Nathan all are noted debunkers. (Debunkers make a point of obscuring the truth whenever any believable UFO case starts getting national attention. For reasons known best to themselves, naysaying is their business.) Local investigators had long ago carefully evaluated and deemed irrelevant every bit of their "evidence." There was nothing new in the article.

Your reporter spent two hours with Ed Walters, talking and looking at the evidence. He looked at the photo of the

craft partly hidden behind the tree, he saw the 17 photos made with cameras that are double exposure-proof, and he viewed the 98-second video of the craft flying around the sky. This evidence should have caused at least a ripple of doubt about the multiple-exposure trickery his article proclaims.

But assuming that even this evidence failed to sway him, why didn't he interview at least a few of the dozens of other witnesses? The Florida state director for the Mutual UFO Network lives in Pensacola. He and other local investigators are intimately familiar with the case and could have steered Mr. Myers to other witnesses and experts.

This article has damaged your reputation for unbiased reportage. It has also damaged the reputation of a man and his family who voluntarily gave up their privacy to come forward and tell their very important story. I hope you will do something appropriate to compensate.

Robert E. Reid
Fort Walton Beach

said.

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

The article was critical of Walters.

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

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

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

The camera Walters uses is an instant camera that requires the negative to be pulled out of the camera before the Polaroid film develops. To make multiple exposures, the photographer simply has to cock the shutter for each successive shot, then pull out the multiple-exposed negative.

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

The "ghost" photo so influenced her that when she saw UFO photos published anonymously in the Gulf Breeze Sentinel on Nov. 19, 1987, she immediately suspected it was a larger version of the prank. "I think it started out as a cool prank and he kept up with it," she said.

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

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

claim of a connection with UFOs.

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

• **Coincidental sightings:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Howard would not say whether investigators checked into

Walters' UFO claims in their investigation.

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

Overall said last week that he believes a \$350 forgery in 1966 may have become a \$200,000 forgery in 1990 — the amount of money William Morrow & Co. Inc. advanced Walters for his book. Walters said he also has been offered \$450,000 by ABC Television for mini-series rights on his UFO encounters. ABC officials in New York could not be reached to comment on Walters' claim.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UFO sighters refute debunkers, challenge coverage by the News Journal

By Buddy and Brenda Pollak

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

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

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

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

Another of your "experts" has written that Ed faked "ghost photos" and held seances in the basement of his house. How many houses in Gulf Breeze do you know with basements? Ed's alleged use

VIEWPOINT

of photo trickery is as much a figment of this man's imagination as Ed's basement is!

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

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

Space will not permit further

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

It is clear from a conversation with Craig Myers several months ago that he is unable to accept the possibility of strange things happening in the skies over the Pensacola area, for his own personal reasons. But, when he puts his by-line on the front page of the News Journal, he has an obligation to report the facts as accurately and thoroughly as possible.

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

By Art Hufford

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

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

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

The debunkers would like to suggest Ed Walters' photos are double exposures because the camera he first used was capable of taking double exposures. What they fail to mention is that his later photos were taken by cameras which can not take double exposures. For example, the SRS stereo photos in Walters' book were taken with two 600 Sun cameras; this type of polaroid camera automatically ejects the film immediately after the shot is taken, a fact conveniently left out of the NJ article.

Finally, a common problem faced by UFO investigators is that of a

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

A woman reported that she and others had seen a red light suspended from balloons pass over the ballpark at Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze. She stated the light was swinging back and forth in the breeze and that it moved along in the direction the wind was blowing.

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

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

NEWS JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL — May 16, 1990 CR: C. Salisberry

HOME NEWS, New Brunswick, NJ — April 3, 1990 CR: P. Marcattilio



Passing By

By Peter Genovese

UFO crews skipped this conference

BORDENTOWN — They came from near — Trenton, New Brunswick, Highland Park — and far — Rhode Island, Montreal, California — although maybe not as far as some in the audience would have liked.

"I was carried aboard a UFO in 1973 in Pascagoula, Mississippi," Charles Hickson said as if he were describing a trip to the local supermarket. "Two things came out of the craft. They were robots. They gave me some kind of examination, and they brought me back."

"This is one of the few legitimate photos of an alien," Antonio Huneeus said during his "UFO Humanoids and UFO Occupants World Picture Show." The researcher flashed a slide on the screen. "The picture is very grainy. But if you look carefully, there is an arm, there is a leg..."

"I got into a discussion with one of the aliens," Monte Cantsin said of a recent "close encounter" he said he had behind his Long Island home. "I was surprised to find that physically they were pretty weak."

The conference room at the Holiday Inn here was set up for a business seminar, with chairs, tables and microphones, but this was no ordinary seminar. The TV in the hotel bar was tuned to the Dinah Shore Open, but back in the conference room, speakers talked about aliens and humanoid, abductions and contact, and encounters of the second, third and fourth kind.

"This," said a proud Pat Marcattilio, "is the biggest thing to hit New Jersey since Orson Welles' Martian landing at Grovers Mills. Nothing has been this big since then."

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL — May 24, 1990 CR: R. Reid



A Japanese film crew visited Gulf Breeze this week to film latest UFO witnesses. Pictured are Masato Shishikura, assistant; Rex and Carol Salisberry, MUFON; Michi Nakamura, overseas producer; Jun-ichi Yaoi, executive director; Kaoru Suda, director; Toshi Kuri, cameraman; Yasuyuki Wakao, video engineer; Kathi Ware, Channel 12.

Marcattilio, founder of the Central New Jersey and Pennsylvania UFO Study Group and a mail processor at the Trenton Post Office, organized the weekend conference — the First Great UFO-ET-Humanoids-Visitors-Alien and Abduction Congress. About 150 people attended, including four people each from California and Florida, film crews from Montreal and the Rhode Island School of Design, and one former New Brunswick mayoral candidate.

"I think there's something to this; I wouldn't be here otherwise," the former candidate, David Meiswinkle said.

The conference was part seminar, part trade show/lea market. In the back of the room, Marcattilio sold out-of-print UFO books, Huneeus sold booklets about his research, and Preston Nichols demonstrated his Phoenix Biosonde, a "high-order wave transmitter" designed to make "subtle influences in auric fields of living things." A bumper sticker for MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, read, "UFOs are Real; Ask the Government."

"There are practically no photographs of aliens," said Huneeus, a Chilean-American journalist who is South American coordinator for MUFON. "We will show two

or three that are very controversial."

One he showed was taken by a Southern sheriff in 1973. When he said the sheriff had to quit his job in disgrace, a woman in the audience applauded.

"I do not know what you are clapping," Huneeus said.

"Because he (the sheriff) put the flashlight on the (U) and made (U) run away," she said.

"I've never been ridiculed," Hickson said of his abduction story during a break in the Saturday program. "I tell the story. It's up to people whether they believe it or not. Doesn't matter to me."

"This is the most important story in the world today — UFO abductions," said Budd Hopkins, author of "Intruders" and one of the speakers on Sunday.

"Things have been happening in New Jersey," said Marcattilio, whose UFO group meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Hamilton Township library. "There was an abduction in Mays Landing three months ago. There was a sighting over Wrightstown two months ago. In Seaside Heights (recently), a fellow was walking along the boardwalk and saw this greenish glow in the water..."

"The craft was 15 to 20 feet in diameter on the outside," Cantsin said Sunday. "On the inside it was like a football stadium. It was another dimension or something..."

Marcattilio was so pleased with the turnout — "people are coming from all over" — that he will make the congress an annual event.

"An annual galactic event," he said, laughing.

"Passing By" features offbeat, intriguing and little-known people and places, and appears Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have any ideas for Peter Genovese, write to him at The Home News, P.O. Box 551, New Brunswick, N.J., 08903.

[NOTE: No, we haven't entered a time warp, but when I received this item, I found it very interesting and thought it was well worth using, especially since it was apparently not used in the original 1978 UFONS issues. - LF]

UFOs Over Cheshire? The Untold Story

HERALD, Cheshire, CT - March 23, 1978 CR: J. White

By William Oberst

Tom Potter and his wife had driven to Portsmouth, New Hampshire last July to talk with Betty Hill. As anyone familiar with UFO literature will tell you, Mrs. Hill and her husband Barney were kidnapped by beings from another planet while returning home from Canada one night in 1961 and spent a few hours aboard an alien spacecraft. At least that was the conclusion drawn by John G. Fuller in his popular book on the incident, *Interrupted Journey*.

The Potters were sitting in Betty Hill's home with the tape recorder going (Barney died some time ago). The conversation turned to Mrs. Hill's current involvement with UFO activity.

"I have all these volunteers," she said. "People who contacted me who are in the habit of watching the skies. All over New England we're beginning to pinpoint spots where these UFO's come in."

"Where are these spots?" Tom Potter asked.

"Well, there's one outside of Cheshire," she said.

"Cheshire, New Hampshire?"

"Connecticut. There's a mountain there. There's a swamp. There's a microwave tower. There's powerlines and there's some kind of cable - I don't know what kind of cable it is. They come in there night after night and land. The neighbors who live there sit in their windows and watch for them."

Mr. Potter nearly fell off his chair. A Meriden school teacher who taught a course on UFO's last year at the Connecticut School for the Fine Arts in Wethersfield, he is a "believer" who conducts research on UFO sightings in his spare time. "Many scientists say UFO's seem to travel along the same routes," he said recently. "That's part of my research."

Armed with CB radios and other gear, he and his wife went to the area Betty Hill indicated and waited. Their efforts did not go unrewarded. Inexplicable lights were seen in the sky on three separate nights.

Cheshire in fact seems to be a hotbed of UFO activity. The Town's most celebrated case was that of Sterling Jewett, a local businessman who claims that on the afternoon of May 10, 1966 he

got within 90 to 100 feet of a silvery cylinder drifting toward his car over the Podgwaite hayfield off Mt. Sanford Road.

"The object seemed to be a solid cylinder with a more or less satin finish," Mr. Jewett said in a recent interview. "It did reflect some light, but not like chrome would. What amazed me most was that there were no large wheels or legs supporting the cylinder. I couldn't get over how an object with no wings or no apparent motor could be hovering above the ground."

"It seemed to be coming slightly toward the highway at a 45 degree angle," he said. "It made me think of a boat that was tied to a mooring out in the water that the wind was moving ever so slightly. That's the best I can explain it. I didn't hear any noise. There were no exhaust fumes, or smoke, or anything. It was just there."

"When I first saw it, it appeared to be higher off the ground, possibly three, four, or five feet. It was so strange I immediately jammed on my brakes. The object at first looked maybe four feet in diameter and 15 feet long. But as I got closer to it, it seemed to be closer to three feet in diameter and 10 to 12 feet long."

"There were about seven or eight pipes running the long way of the cylinder. None of them seemed to be of the same diameter. They didn't seem to be spaced the same distance apart. And the largest pipe, which was possibly four inches in diameter, had at the far end of the cylinder a perpendicular pipe coming from it which was curved to conform with the cylinder shape of the object. It was probably 15 inches long."

Mr. Jewett had no interest in UFO's at the time of his sighting and kept quiet about it for six months because he was afraid of being ridiculed. When he finally told his story to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kirchner - the couple whose home he left just prior to seeing the cylinder - they told him they had been watching him out their window and had seen him slow down and peer into the field. Trees blocked their view of the spot where Mr. Jewett said he saw the object.

People in town are understandably reluctant to talk about their UFO experiences. One



Tom Potter and his UFO map. Pins are color-coded to represent different kinds of sightings. Mr. Potter, who has staked out a UFO hot-spot in Cheshire, is worried about the concentration of reports in the Windsor area.

Cheshire woman was part of a group that saw one over the Meadowbrook golf course in Hamden a few years ago. She declined to talk about her encounter, but her son-in-law said "there were half a dozen women playing golf that day who saw it. It was an object in the sky suddenly there; silvery-looking, cloudless day, no wind. Then a couple of minutes later suddenly it was gone."

A member of the police force said the department continues to receive sporadic reports of unidentified flying objects, although not as many as in previous years. There have been about a dozen within the last five or six years, according to his estimate.

The most bizarre UFO story to date involves a couple and their five children who live in the southwestern part of town. The episode began at dusk one evening last March.

"The kids were outside playing baseball," the woman said (she and her husband have requested their names not be used). "I went out on the back step. As I was calling them in I looked up and saw an object."

The object, she said, was moving at treetop level a few thou-

sand feet away. She said she felt confusion come over her; she thought she was moving into the house to get her husband, but in fact did not. Through her confusion she remembers thinking very clearly: "What are you guys doing?"

The oldest boy went in and got her husband. The man described the object as "coming real slow across the treeline. I think it was one of the most spectacular things I've ever seen." He said there were lights around the perimeter of the craft that were "wedding band gold." On top was a translucent dome, inside of which he said he saw strutting. A "real deep red, a purplish red" light was flashing above it. There were holes in the bottom out of which blue light shone. "We figured it was about 80 feet across," he said.

He said it went down in a swampy area near their home. "As it slowed down, the rate of the lights flashing around the outside started to slow down," he said. "It stopped above the trees over there and descended right into them. You could see it blink through the trees and reflect off of trees."

He said the lights around the

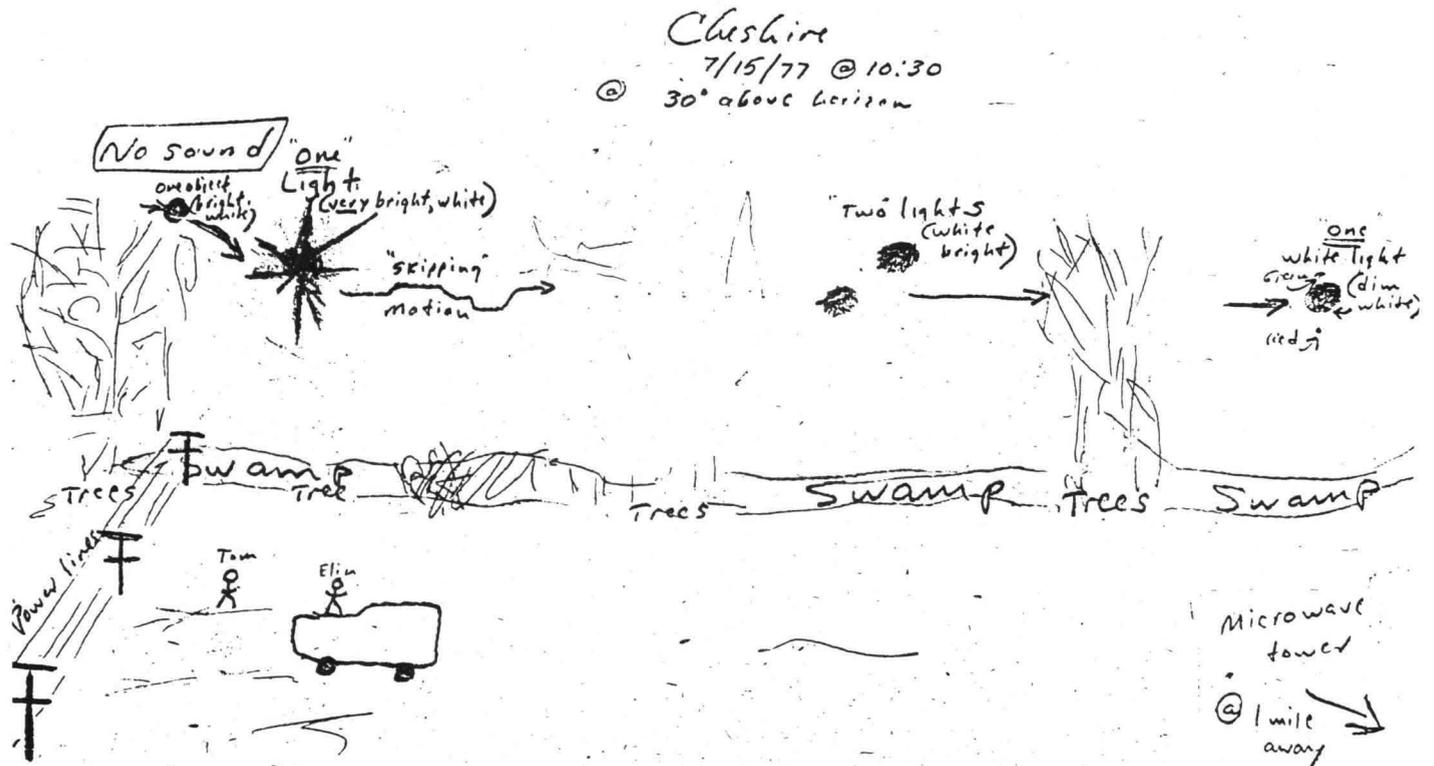
rim would fire in sequence very slowly around the circle, then stop. Then the red light on top would flash, and the pattern would repeat itself. No sound was heard.

The family watched the object for about two hours from their back yard. They tried to telephone someone they knew was a UFO investigator, but could not reach him.

By now it was about 9:30. The man said he and his two oldest boys got into their van and drove to a point nearer the object. He said the road was very quiet. "Everything was just dead. It was just awfully quiet. Even my boys noticed it," he said. They could not get a good view of the object and returned home 10 minutes later.

When they got home the other children were asleep in bed but the man's wife was not there, he said. They looked through the house for her. "We literally turned the house upside down trying to find her," he said. "I was yelling at the time."

The group gathered together in the living room. Suddenly the woman appeared. "She came out of the hallway," the man said. "Her speech was slurred. You



Notes made by Tom Potter shortly after he and his wife Elin had a multiple sighting in the woods one night.

(continued on page 12)



Sterling Jewett's 1966 encounter received the most attention in the press. It made him a believer. Here he shows a model of the object he saw floating over a field on Mt. Sanford Road.

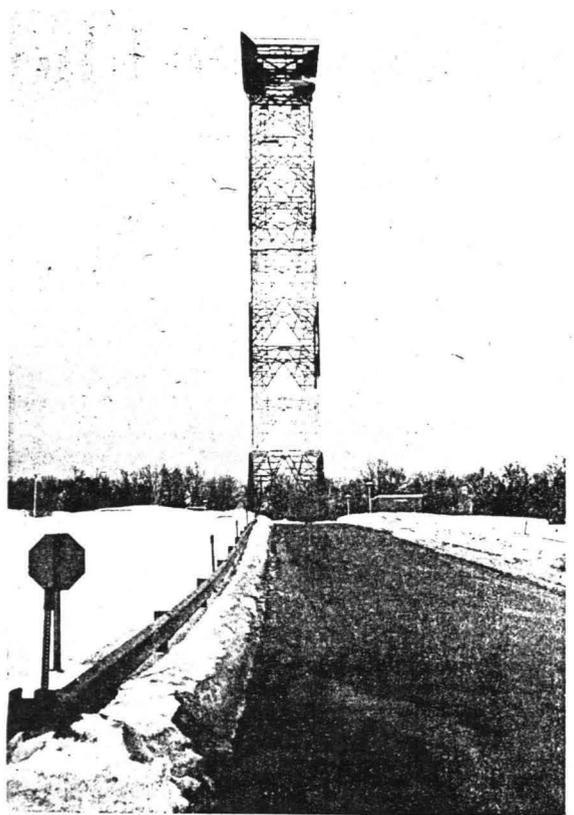
hair and had eyes that were three or four times as large as human eyes. Its skin was "whitish-gray."

The man described the alien's expression as one of "disdain." "I don't think there was any hostility," he said. "It was more questioning, like not all visitors are supposed to enter through that door. That's the only thing that really stands out in my mind."

Put under hypnosis by Mr. Harder, the woman said she remembered much more. "They're all different sizes. There are different classes of them," she said. She described one group as being about four feet high. Another group, "the doers," are five to five and a half feet high. Then, with some apparent anxiety, she described the "six to six and a half footers." "Their eyes are like this — they're huge," she said. "When they look at you it is a thought passage. When they're not talking their eyes go down. The pupil is like a cat's eye. It's got a covering over it." She said that when the eyes are smaller, they are a speckled yellow-green; when they grow large, they turn yellow.

The couple said they communicated with the beings mind-to-mind in a very natural manner. They said they fear their minds have been probed by extraterrestrials since the March incident. "Inwardly, you can feel it. You feel like someone's watching over your shoulder," the man said.

Photos By William Oberst



A beacon for UFO's? The AT&T microwave tower off Higgins Road has seen more than its share of sightings.

know, you take a record and slow it down? Very slurred."

She said she had been in the bedroom. At this point they called the investigator again, without success.

The family continued watching the object through the trees until 11:30, when the children went to bed.

As the couple was walking to their bedroom the man said his wife turned to him and said: "They're waiting for us to go to sleep." "I laughed it off," he said.

At about 12:45 the two woke up. "I woke up first," the man said. "I didn't feel too hot. We were swapped in bed."

The woman said that they always sleep on the same side of the bed each night. She said they did not know how they changed positions. "If we rolled over, we would have known," she said. "I sure can't push him."

"We both felt nauseated," the man continued. He said he finally got the UFO investigator on the telephone and told him "something's wrong. I want to know what's happening." He said they were both "concerned, not hys-

terical." The back doors of their house were found open.

The next day the investigator visited them and discovered three wedge-shaped holes in the ground where the craft landed, according to the man. He said tree branches were broken and that large limbs were swept upward and seemed to be burnt.

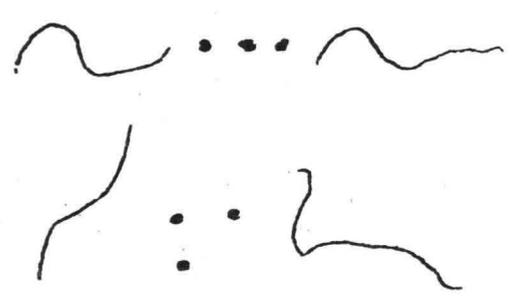
A few days later James Harder, an official with the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), arrived from Berkeley, California and questioned the couple extensively. Both said they remembered "bits and pieces" of the hour that elapsed between the time they went to bed and the time they woke up.

They claim they were taken aboard a spacecraft. The husband said he has a vague memory of walking up to the ship, and said he can clearly recall a brief moment while he was inside.

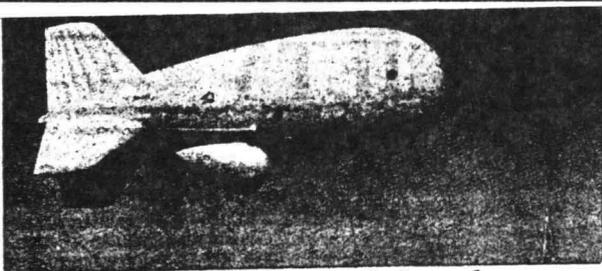
"The only thing I can really remember is being in a galley area where they were eating," he said. "An extraterrestrial was sitting there with his head on his hand looking up at me as if saying, 'What are you doing here?'. You could tell he was older. He had wrinkled skin, high cheek bones, a high forehead, a fairly large head." He said the alien had no



A witness claims he saw a UFO land in this desolate part of Cheshire behind Richlin's just off North Brooksville Road.



A Cheshire resident who claims she was taken aboard a UFO says she saw these mysterious symbols over two doorways inside the craft.



Army radar blimp sighted over Pensacola Bay

A radar blimp like this one (above) can be seen in Pensacola Bay and, according to the Army, will be here for six weeks.

The U.S. Customs Service has several similar radar carrying blimps that track lowflying aircraft near the Mexican American border and over Puerto Rico. But Harry White, spokesman at NAS, said the ship pulling the blimp, Carlton Tide, is U.S. Army and is running sea trials. The Army released no information as to the mission of this special radar in our area.

In January 1988 the same type radar was deployed in Pensacola/Gulf Breeze for over three months. At that time, George Roberts, Eglin Air Force Base public affairs, said the Army was conducting research. The attention as to the purpose of this special radar was in part due to the record setting UFO sightings that had begun a month earlier. As the UFO sightings continued, 150 foot portable radar towers were deployed and also received local media attention.

SENTINEL, Gulf Breeze, FL - May 31, 1990
CR: R. Reid

In mid-April 1990, reports, photographs and video tapes of UFOs flooded our area. Witnesses reported seeing helicopters and jets arrive within minutes at the locations of the sightings.

The UFO sighting reports have continued and we are now once again visited by a special radar blimp, the Carlton Tide. During and after each UFO sighting the Military denies having any aircraft in the area, even though dozens of witnesses have seen and even videotaped the UFO and the arrival of the helicopters and airplanes. The sightings continue but the military has "no comment."

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA - June 11, 1990

'FLYING SAUCER' PHOTOS: A Gulf Breeze, Fla., man whose photos of purported UFOs three years ago resulted in a book and worldwide attention, said a model flying saucer found in his former home isn't his. "If I were trying to pull a hoax — and I'm not — then it would have been stupid to leave it there," Ed Walters, 43, told the *Pensacola News Journal*. The newspaper used the foam-plate saucer in photos similar to the ones Walters showed in 1987.



PETER PAYNE

[Source Unknown], England - June 2, 1990 CR: K. Turner



Pat Delgado finds himself in the round in the flattened wheat field near Winchester last week, with the rectangles behind him

Squaring the corn circles

by Marcus Scriven

EXPERTS who for years have been studying circles which appear mysteriously overnight in cereal fields have found that their world is no longer round.

In a year which has proved remarkable in the crop-flattening phenomenon, with more circles than ever before, rectangles have been discovered for the first time in a wheat field at Cheesefoot Head, near Winchester, Hants.

A 50-ft diameter circle has a corridor 13ft wide leading from it. The corridor is 63ft long and tapers to a width of 8ft. A little to the north are four rectangular "coffins", each 18ft by 6ft.

Pat Delgado, a circle-watcher since 1981, who is convinced that the shapes are created by an "unknown intelligence", said: "I've never seen squares before. It's quite fantastic. This is going to shatter a lot of people's dreams. It takes us back to square one. I feel just a little worried about it. Orthodox physics has no answers to this."

But Dr Terence Meaden, a professor of physics and author of *The Circles Effect*, disagrees. His organisation, *Circles Effects Research (Ceres)*, thinks the circles — and rectangles — are the result of sudden air movements.

Given certain conditions, a "vortex break-down" occurs, causing a ring vortex to shoot down into the ground. If it hits a crop, a mark will be made.

SUNDAY LIFE, Belfast, Ireland - April 22, 1990 CR: T. Good

'RED BALL' IN SKY SPARKS UFO MYSTERY

RESIDENTS of several Co Down towns have been mystified by the sudden appearance of a UFO.

Witnesses have reported seeing "a red or orange sphere" in the sky above Rostrevor and Warrenpoint.

Pharmacist John O'Callaghan, from Carlingford, on the southern side of the border, says he snapped the mystery object on Easter Saturday.

The 34-year-old had been taking photographs of properties for sale for a friend in England, when he was shocked by a sudden noise.

Spinning

"I heard a terrible loud noise, my first reaction was to cover my ears with my hands. I then saw a dome-shaped object hanging and spinning in the sky and there was an orange colour all around it.

"After a few minutes it descended down to the ground. There were three bulges at the base of it and it had turned a blue/purple colour.

"I am not into UFOs at all and have always been very sceptical about such things but there was certainly a craft of some nature hovering in the sky."

Kevin Woods, a sales rep for a tobacco company, lives on the southern shores of Carlingford Lough, facing Warrenpoint and Rostrevor.

His description matches that of Mr O'Callaghan.

Red ball

Mr Woods said he heard a whistling noise and looked out to see what was happening.

By LENA FERGUSON

"There was a red ball in the sky around the Rostrevor and Warrenpoint area. It was a sphere of some description.

"It stayed in the sky and moved at great speed. I then lost sight of it behind some houses."

Mr Woods says he knows of at least seven people who saw the unidentified flying object, at least two of them day-trippers from Northern Ireland.

"We stood and talked about what we had seen for ages. I was glad to see the photographs afterwards because they confirmed what I had seen."

Rocket

A spokesman for the Armagh Planitarium said the mystery object could be a meteor, ball lightning or a rocket.

"If I had to guess I would go for a large meteor. It would travel faster than sound so you would get a sonic boom and the splash of colours," said lecturer John Flynn.

"You would also get lots of colours with ball lightning. The weather conditions over Easter would make that a possibility.

"It could also be a flare or a rocket from either the British or Irish armies.

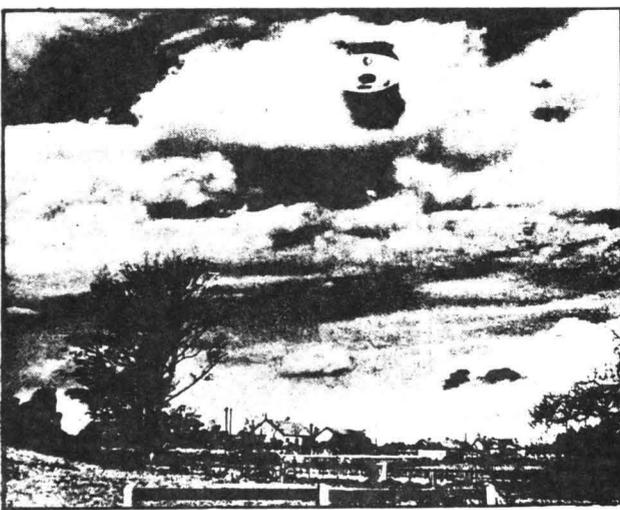
"It is easier for us to say what it isn't and it certainly isn't a craft from another planet.

"Anything like that is immediately tracked down by the Russians or Americans," he said.

"I am not into UFOs or moving statues or anything like that. I don't believe in flying saucers

and anyone who knows me in this area would know I am not a crank.

"But all I'm saying is that it was a sphere and it moved very fast and I saw it and heard it. There was no smoke or blades. I didn't find it frightening. It was just extraordinary."



MYSTERY over Co Down — Carlingford pharmacist John O'Callaghan says he took this picture of a UFO last week.

ROCHDALE OBSERVER, Lancs., England
May 5, 1990 CR: T. Good

UFO 'sighting'

POLICE say that a UFO, sighted over Shawlough early on Thursday, was tracked by Manchester Airport and the Met Office.

Superintendent Geoffrey Marshall said: "It was reported to us at 2am. The man who called said it was a gold and green oval, very low and silent.

"He did not give his name because he did not want people to think he was being silly.

"But it was apparently also seen in Bolton. The airport and the met office say there was a lot of meteorite activity during the night."

Mystery circles probed

Wiltshire's mysterious cornfield circles will be on the agenda at an international UFO conference.

A 100-strong group of physicists, meteorologists, psychologists and sociologists are taking part in the debate, organised by the French-based Association of Studies on Flying Saucers.

Among the topics will be the strange circles which appear each summer in fields across southern England.

Scientists trying to discover what causes the circles are still as baffled as ever and British physicist George Meaden has been compiling a report for several years.

The rings are formed by flattened, sometimes burned vegetation and there is speculation that they are UFO landing sites.

The circles are an annual phenomenon on the Wiltshire downs, appearing at Silbury Hill, near Avebury.

The conference will also debate the latest reported sighting of a UFO on March 30, over southern Belgium.

DAILY STAR, London, England - April 23, 1990

SPOTTA DA UFO, GINO

AN unidentified flying object brought Italy to a halt over the weekend.

Phone lines to police, radio and TV stations were blocked for two hours as thousands reported the pear-shaped luminous object that flashed across the sky.

Air force jets were sent in pursuit but failed to catch the UFO, which vanished in a puff of smoke.

Alien UFO over Runcorn

World exclusive by Carla Flynn

AN alien UFO was spotted flying low over Runcorn this week.

It was seen by a man cycling home to Murdishaw from a friend's house at 10.15pm on Tuesday night.

The man, who wants to be known as Tony, said of his bizarre experience: "It flew past right in front of me. It really took me by surprise.

"I've been spotting aircraft for years and I know this definitely wasn't any kind of aeroplane.

"It didn't travel like one, it didn't look like one and it was certainly going far too fast to be one."

Tony described the UFO as circular in shape with a dome on top. He said it was a white, creamy colour and was lit up by a luminous light.

"The nearest comparison I can think of is that it looked like the planet Saturn," he said.

"It was travelling at a tremendous speed and in a straight line but with a sort of bobbing movement. It was also very low or appeared to be very low.

"It was also silent. There was no noise coming from it at all and it was heading in the direction of Frodsham."

Before his strange encounter, Tony said he had always kept an open mind about alien spacecraft.

"I know thousands of people have said they have spotted UFOs in the past but I certainly believe in them now.

"People may think I'm crackers, but I know what I saw."

Tony also said it was travelling on the same flightpath aircraft take to Liverpool Airport.

"They must have picked it up on their radar," he said.

But a spokesman for Liverpool Airport told the World they didn't pick up anything unusual and declined to make any further comment.



Tony points out where he saw the UFO.

Investigating alien mysteries

By Catherine Langford

SPACECRAFT with flashing lights and alien beings may sound like a load of twaddle to most people . . . but if we're honest we'll own up and confess to being slightly intrigued at the possibility of there being such things.

UFO expert Andy Roberts, of Elland Road, Brighouse, started out with such an innocent interest which has over the years developed into a sound and thorough knowledge of the unexplained.

It all started off when as a child Andy read books on the subject and on other things that "just didn't seem to fit." In 1983 he became involved in the West Yorkshire UFO Research Group, and later the Individual UFO Network, which consists of 50-60 people who collect reports and sightings and follow them up.

Although Andy, who edits the magazine "UFO Brigantia" with a circulation worldwide of 2,500, confesses to applying logic to most cases of encounters with alien beings, he does research these reports at incredible length.

"We have an ongoing case at the moment which we just can't go any further with," said Andy, who has co-authored books "Earthlights Revelation" and "Phantoms In The Sky". "There's a lady from Batley who claims to have been abducted and taken on board by aliens since the age of 16.

"This lady is absolutely terrified, and is convinced that she is having real visits from these beings," explained Andy. "She claims she has alien/human children, who she sees when the aliens visit her and take her off for the night."

He added that the woman has been psychologically tested and is "as sane as the day is long." He explained the woman's husband doesn't believe her.

"However he does confess to finding her feet cold and damp on the nights she claims to have had visits," he continued. "It's as if she has been out in the garden, and he has said blades of grass have been found in the bed after her alleged visits.

"The woman has been interviewed at length for nearly 40 hours," said Andy. "The information she has given us has been researched as far as we can, but we can only go so far before we come to a dead end.

"There is also the unexplainable fact that she has told us things about her experience which she could not possibly know . . . we have only just found out about them ourselves."

Andy also mentioned the woman has unexplained marks on her body, as if she has been examined by these alien beings. He added that these could have come from anywhere, although in such cases many people have developed scars which they claim have come from medical examinations by these beings.

There are the cases like these that Andy researches and the sillier cases like the one he researched from Lancashire. "A woman rang us up and was crying her eyes out. We got over there and she was shaking with fear," recalled Andy. "She claimed to have been taken aboard by aliens and strapped to a table."

"She told us she had been woken by strange lights at the bottom of her garden, and when she had investigated she saw what looked like fairground lights.

"The woman went on to explain she had been taken into the aircraft, strapped to a table, and medically examined."

Andy said this case was researched and it was discovered that on that same night "Dynasty" had been on the television and the character "Krystal" had gone through exactly the same ordeal.

"When we suggested this to her, she was shocked and offended," laughed Andy. "And since then she has ceased communication with us."

He does believe that UFOs exist, because people see things which they



Brighouse UFO expert Andy Roberts relaxes at home with books on the unexplained.

can't explain. But he is rather sceptical about alien beings and their crafts, as in all the years he has been researching there has been no evidence to suggest it is true.

"Nobody has ever seen anyone being abducted by aliens, like they have witnessed other people sighting UFOs," said Andy, a relief project worker at a hostel for homeless people. "So it begs the question 'Why not?' Obviously because it hasn't really happened, it may have happened in their minds quite vividly but not as a physical occurrence.

"I don't think they're lying or mad. I've interviewed teachers, psychologists and they've been through hypnotherapy, to find out more about their abductions, its a mystery which cannot be explained. They lose a period of time, and sometimes can't account for it."

Andy, married to Helen, with a son Kai, has held several courses on UFOs and Calderdale folklore. His latest project is two lectures about British and American abductions at Bradford Central Library.

On July 14 and 15 Andy is taking part in the International UFO Conference at Sheffield Central Library. He will be speaking about the book he has co-authored "Phantoms In The Sky."

Andy is also currently working on an information booklet entitled "Calderdale Folklore."

He still believes, however, that people like to give names to something they have seen because they don't know what it is. "In 30 years time they won't be called UFOs — they will be called something entirely different."

Until that time anybody who has seen anything unusual with flashing lights should contact the UFO hotline on Batley 444049.

SECOND 'UFO' IS SPOTTED

There has been another UFO sighting in the south of the county!

A second person has reported seeing the mysterious flying object over Tenby two weeks ago.

Last week the *Western Telegraph* reported Edward and Irene Wad's sighting of a fast-moving, round, silver object flying over Kilgetty and Tenby at about 7.30am the previous Wednesday.

At the same time that morning Mrs Barbara Nicholls of Ludstone Cottage, Trafalgar Road, Tenby, was drawing her bedroom curtains when she saw something unusual.

Her description is very different from Mr and Mrs Wad's account.

"It looked a gold colour - the colour of the moon and it had points like stars," she recalled. It seemed to have a string behind it like a tail which was divided into three pieces at the end, she added.

After watching it fly the length of Tenby's South Beach, she drew a picture of the object for her son and

daughter-in-law.

PUZZLED

Unsure what to make of the incident, she said little to anyone until reading Mr and Mrs Wad's story. Then a friend told her she had seen a similar object many years ago but had also been reluctant to tell anyone about it.

Mrs Nicholls said she had never thought about UFOs before but was very puzzled about her apparently inexplicable sighting.

"I was so shocked. I hadn't any idea what it was."

A spokesman for RAF Brawdy said they had not received any reports of unidentified objects in that area.

"Nobody reported anything to us and nothing unusual has appeared on our radar screens," he said.

Any UFO sightings are forwarded to the Ministry of Defence for investigation, he explained. During the past two years, several reports had been looked into but no conclusions reached.

CR: T. Good

'Golf ball' lights seen in the sky

UNIDENTIFIED flying objects have been spotted by dozens of witnesses all over Essex and East London in recent weeks.

The East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association says it is excited by reports from Colchester, Romford, Braintree, Clacton, Chelmsford and Ipswich of three white lights forming a triangle in the sky.

It was spotted by two people in Basildon and six people in Southend at about 8 or 9pm on February 8.

Press Officer Sheridan Lane said: "These were lights the shape of golf balls and it is very impressive that so many people in different places saw them.

Anyone who saw it or any other paranormal phenomena should ring the association hotline on either 0268 286079 or 01-594 4797.

IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE... Police rocked by egg-shaped 'UFO'

By STEVE JONES

DETECTIVES BELIEVE an egg-shaped rock which crashed through a man's bedroom window came from outer space.

The flying egg made its earth landing in Chailacombe Close, Hutton, shooting through a wardrobe and embedding itself in the wall, on Friday at around 7am.

Police admit they have little chance of cracking the case. Unidentified Flying Object experts have been called in to examine the object.

A police spokesman said: "Our scene of crime officers investigated, but they could find no logical explanation.

"Because of the power at which it came through the window, it is unlikely that this strange object could have been thrown or catapulted.

"The only explanation we can come up with is that it fell from the sky, hitting this gentleman's bedroom.

Shocked

"Needless to say, the gentleman was very shocked."

The stone is charcoal grey, measures two inches by one inch, and has a smooth surface.

Scientists are carrying out tests to establish the possibility of extra terrestrial origin.



● Baffled Pc Paul Parker surveys the strangest item to be handed in to the property room of Brentwood police station.

Flying saucer fever grips Belgium

CR: T. Good
HERALD, Glasgow, Scotland - April 11, 1990

From JOHN FRASER

BRUSSELS, Tuesday BELGIUM has gone UFO daft with more than 700 sightings of a flying object which is larger than a house. Witnesses in the latest incident last weekend have included 18 gendarmes.

Two Air Force F16 fighters, were scrambled to investigate the UFO, but it was not detected by radar.

The interest in UFOs has become so intense that this weekend will see a special Easter vigil, with thousands of people scanning the skies for visitors from space.

Video film of the unidentified object has been screened on Belgian TV. It was taken by amateur photographer Mr Marcel Alfano, 42, from the window of his house in the centre of Brussels.

"The first time I saw the UFO, we were watching TV at home, and went into the kitchen," he said.

"We saw bright lights outside the window. I called the police, but they arrived too late.

"The next time I was ready with my video camera at the top of the house.

"I spotted it at about 2am, coming from the South Station, with three bright lights. It made a hissing noise, but seemed to glide effortlessly.

"It was shaped like a grey metal triangle with three bright white lights, and little red and green lights at the back."

Eighteen Gendarmes have also confirmed the latest sighting of the UFO, which disappeared after two Air Force F16 planes were sent to investigate.

The Belgian Society for Studying Phenomena from Space is organising a weekend vigil for UFOs, in the hope that more film evidence can be obtained.

'Close encounter' for local couple

A Pembroke couple had a puzzling close encounter when they saw a mysterious silver object flying in the morning sky last week.

Edward and Irene Ward of Holyland Drive, were driving to Tenby swimming pool at about 7.30am on Wednesday.

As they turned off the main A477 road at Sageston and passed Carew Airfield.

Mrs Ward caught her first glimpse of the strange flying object.

"It was most peculiar. It was round and silver and very high up."

She saw it a few moments later but said nothing until her husband pointed it out to her.

"Then it came directly in front of us but very high up. You could see it so clearly."

What caught their attention was not the unusual shape but its speed as it darted across the sky, first over Kilgetty, then out to the coast and along the beach before flashing back overhead.

"It was like in the blink of an eye. I couldn't understand what could travel at that speed," she explained.

They watched the strange object for several miles until it flew back overhead and suddenly disappeared.

Mrs Ward says she felt no fear, only curiosity about this early morning close encounter. She and her husband have regularly made the drive to Tenby for two years but never spotted anything remotely unusual. If they hadn't both seen it so clearly, she said she would have doubted what her eyes were telling her.

She would like to know if anyone else has had a similar experience or can throw any light on the incident.

"What I would like is to hear from anybody who knows anything about it. I want to find out what it was," she said with great determination.

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - May 25, 1990
CR: G. Conway

Soviet milkman finds thirsty E.T.s a threat

Reuter

MOSCOW — Villagers near the Soviet town of Lipetsk think thirsty visitors from space may be trying to kidnap the local milkman, a newspaper reported Thursday.

The daily Selskaya Zhizn quoted Vladimir Akhaltsev as saying he was trailed by a shining ball one night as he drove his milk truck to a dairy near Lipetsk, close to the southern city of Voronezh where Soviet media reported the landing of three-eyed extra-terrestrials last fall.

Farmers in three villages also claimed to have seen the ball, the paper said, leading them to ask: "If thirsty humanoids steal our driver, who is going to deliver the milk?"

Thank heaven for the unexplained

UFOs are in the news again. Unidentified flying objects. Or, "identical flying objects" as my young son calls them.

Whatever the label, they're a romantic notion. It's more uplifting to imagine life elsewhere, whether it be in heaven or in another galaxy, than to believe THIS is it.

The "reality" of other intelligence, however, is not always so charming. Normal people, like you or me, have had their lives changed by UFO "sightings" or "encounters" with extraterrestrial beings, and not always for the better.

Convinced they have seen something, they meet an official response of denial or even ridicule. The reaction from family and friends may be similar.

Several years ago, on a summer evening, I myself experienced a peculiar sighting.



Patricia Graham

I was not alone and each of the three of us who was there that evening — two men and one woman, two lawyers and one doctor — has always found solace and support in the fact of the others' presence.

It wasn't very late, perhaps 9 or 10 p.m. The summer night was warm and fragrant. The sky was clear but, as is usual from downtown Toronto, few stars were visible.

We had not been drinking alcohol or partaking of any other substance that might alter our perceptions. We had been conversing, in a quiet and lazily sporadic way.

And it was during a pause in the conversation that I noticed, high in the sky to my left, a bank of lights. There were four or perhaps five — I no longer recall for certain — lights side by side, forming a slight arc. Directly below the last light on the right was one single other light.

This bank of lights cut in perfect symmetry and utter silence straight across the sky. Its speed was much faster than that of an airplane. It took perhaps five, at the most 10 seconds for it to traverse the sky and disappear.

I sat another few seconds in perplexed silence. Then one of the others spoke.

"Did you see that?" he asked. And he, too, sounded perplexed. And each of us had seen it, had followed its progress across the sky.

And each of us was mystified — by the form, and by the silent speed of what we had seen.

The bank of lights cut in perfect symmetry and utter silence straight across the sky

I confess I felt tickled too. What a treat, to see something inexplicable.

But the doctor was concerned and the following day he wrote a letter to the Department of Defence, including a sketch of what we had seen and the exact time of the sighting.

In the hopes of adding credibility, he added all of our professional qualifications, just as I have done in relating this story to you.

Eerie tales from the night skies over East Anglia...

In contact with the unknown

THE COUPLE in their mid 20s were driving through East Anglia. It was early evening and winter.

Suddenly they were shocked to find their car was being "buzzed" by a brightly-lit object which hovered above them.

They pulled off the main road and the car immediately and inexplicably stalled. The source of the dazzling light came to a halt, too, just a few hundred yards away.

The couple both got out of the car to examine their "faulty" car engine. They could find no reason for it to have stopped.

Then, as far as their conscious minds remember, they got back into the car and this time the engine started. At the same moment, the mystery light rose sharply into the sky and disappeared.

Reports

It's just one of the 2,000 reports which members of the East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association say they are called-in to investigate every year.

But, according to chairman and founder member Ron Lake, 59, a technical sales engineer, there was more to this particular case than meets the eye.

One of the couple - the woman - agreed to be hypnotised and what emerged then, say the investigators, was a completely different story.

Under hypnosis, she said she felt a calmness as she stepped from the car. She described how she then "walked or glided" towards the light and actually entered the circular-shaped object.

From there, she said she looked back to see her husband "frozen in time" as if in suspended animation. It was like being in a vacuum.

What happened during her time inside the mystery craft is, says Ron Lake, still under investigation.

Creatures

He said: "The couple were on their way to Huntingdon and all this happened in the Sudbury area. They eventually arrived at their destination at 1.30 in the morning. They weren't aware of it, but they had lost three hours of their lives."

Losing time, he says, is a typical factor for those who may have had a close en-

counter with creatures from another world.

In another case, on the Suffolk-Essex border, a girl of 20 described how she was followed around her garden by an object in the sky. She called her parents and they immediately brought her inside and locked the doors and windows. That, as far as the family was concerned, was all that happened.

But under hypnosis, the girl described vividly how the object had actually landed in the garden and how she had found herself inside - meeting creatures which she described as 6ft. tall with large, hairless heads and huge black almond-shaped eyes.

According to the Association, the girl became distressed when she began to describe how the beings had subjected her to a detailed physical examination. But again, what had appeared to be a few minutes in the garden had actually been an hour.

Her description of the creatures tallied with similar reports from around the world - big-eyed, small mouthed beings who communicate by telepathy.

Mr Lake says the hypnosis sessions, which some would regard as controversial, are carried out under proper medical conditions and with the full consent of the person concerned.

He says: "The Association has scientists, doctors and police officers amongst its members. We do everything correctly."

The Association says it is determined to continue its work despite - at best - healthy scepticism and at worst, outright denial by the authorities.

Sightings

"The authorities say they don't investigate the sightings but they do," says Mr Lake. "And the reaction of the military is always No Comment."

Mr Lake and the Association's publicity officer Sheridan Lane, a freelance writer who lives at Boxted, near Colchester, say all the people who experience close encounters are psychic. But they may not realise it.

Whatever you believe, there's no doubting the increase in the number of "sightings in the sky." Four different witnesses reported seeing bright lights, in triangle form, near the British Sugar factory at Bury St Edmunds. "What are they doing over there?" says Mr Lake, who

THIN, bug-eyed aliens are in frequent contact with human beings going about their everyday business in the Suffolk area - fact or ridiculous science fiction?

Members of the East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association spend many hours each week probing reports of "sightings" and strange lights in the sky.

In some cases, they say they use hypnosis to help discover what happened when "close encounters" take place.

Here Jon Buss reports on some of the cases on the books of the Association. What you believe, of course, is up to you...

lives in Basildon, as he sifts through dozens of statements which have yet to be checked out.

There are also many reports of bright lights and saucer-shaped objects around Thetford Forest. Not all of them, says Mr Lake and Mrs Lane, can be easily explained.

People who know the forest area well dismiss the "glowing" phenomena as tricks of the night - perhaps caused by reflections from an aircraft or landing lights at Lakenheath Air Base.

Mundane

And critics of the UFO investigators say that people who really want to meet an alien can very often manage it - in their minds. Members of the Association say their methods of investigation are too thorough to allow this to happen.

Mrs Lane said: "Of the 2,000 reports we received last year, we believe about a quarter can be explained away in mundane terms. Between 20 and 30 were cases where actual contact was made."

The Association claims these encounters have been going on for years - perhaps thousands of years - and the visitors who come to this planet are only doing their jobs.

Mrs Lane said: "They are acting on orders, perhaps to find out more about the human race or to look for mineral deposits. They are here for their own purposes and although they sometimes frighten people they have a neutral interest as far as humans are concerned."

"They are behaving in exactly the same way as space travellers from this planet will behave when we have the means to visit other worlds. They are acting under instructions."

There are good and bad visitors from outer space, she says, just like humans. "Some treat us like laboratory animals" she said. "Others have more respect for human feelings."

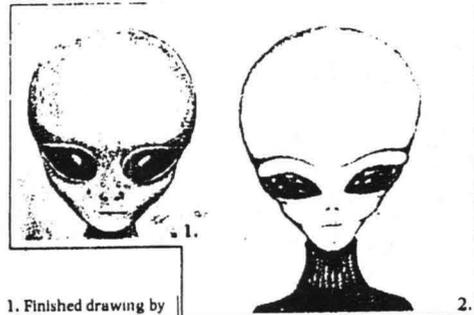
They say they have not received any details of anyone being harmed by the contact - just frightened.

Mr Lake says the Association started in 1968 with four members and now has over 100. And he says they are still looking for sightings, new or old.

They are now re-examining a case in 1983 when a mother and two children reported seeing a UFO as they drove through Fornham All Saints.

The mother said the craft hovered above their car before vanishing. But in a different statement, one of the girls said their car stalled at the same time as the sighting.

"That's just the sort of thing we are looking for" said Mr Lake. "It could well have been a contact encounter."



1. Finished drawing by UFO Investigator Gayle McBride, based on a North Carolina abduction case.

2. Finished drawing by Kathie Davis of the UFO occupant she has observed on a number of occasions.

3. Finished drawing by 'Rosemary', an artist abducted one night in 1972 from an apartment rooftop within the New York City limits. Note the wrinkled or mottled skin of the lower face, an unusual feature but one that has been reported in a few other cases.

(Sketches and text taken from an American magazine on the paranormal).

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England - Feb. 16, 1990

UFOs sighted over Newham

ALIENS have taken a shine to East London with a record number of UFO sightings over the area last month!

And the East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association are over the moon with the news.

The group which studies "observable phenomena" is asking locals to contact them if they see anything odd over the East London sky.

There were 24 UFO sightings over East London during January, all

of which were reported by the group to the Ministry of Defence.

But the MoD reported back that only a quarter of the sightings were identifiable.

Over Newham there were five UFO sightings in January. These were:-

•Jan 6, 10-11pm - several people in Stratford saw a saucer shaped object with red, green and blue lights spinning high over the East London sky. It was larger than a football, noiseless and was observed for an hour.

•Jan 17, 4.40-4.50am, Plaistow - a married couple in Plaistow saw

three lights in a triangular shape hovering over them. They estimated its size to be that of a golf ball, and was white in colour. Suddenly another similar 'craft' appeared and then both objects disappeared.

•Jan 20, 11.45pm, East Ham - one witness saw a blue light, round in shape and noiseless, travel very fast across the sky.

•Jan 23, 11pm over the A13 - a married couple driving along the A13 saw a blue light disappear into the distance. It was the size of a football.

•Jan 27, 9.15-9.25pm, Plaistow - an orange

ball of light, with an estimated 20-foot circumference, was seen revolving above a roof top by three friends.

Sheridan Lane, publicity officer for the group, said: "These are all extremely interesting sightings and made even more so by the fact that they cannot be accounted for by the MoD."

"There seems to be an increase in observable phenomena over the East London area which nobody can explain."

"We welcome news of UFO sightings and anyone who has seen anything odd in the sky should contact us on our hotline 594-4797."

CR: T. Good

EVENING LEADER, Wrexham, England - May 3, 1990 CR: T. Good

UFO ALERT AS FLASHING LIGHTS BAFLE EXPERTS

A MAJOR UFO alert involving police and scientists at Jodrell Bank was sparked when a man saw flashing lights in the sky.

Factory owner Rod Watson, 30, could not believe his eyes when he spotted flying coloured discs surrounding his house.

About six blue, green, and red discs lit up the sky as he gazed through binoculars in the early hours of the morning.

Rod, of Church Lane, Backford, near Chester,

phoned airports and weather centres to see if they had sighted the UFOs.

He then phoned Chester police station, who sent two officers to investigate but they were also unable to identify the objects.

Helicopters

Rod said: "A plane had been circling the house and I looked out of the window at 2am to see what it was doing. "As it passed I saw red,

green, and blue lights flashing in the sky. They were like huge helicopters and at first I didn't believe what I was seeing."

"Then I looked out of the window again and there were more of them."

The policemen contacted their HQ to ask for assistance from Jodrell Bank space scientists.

Weather experts at Liverpool and Manchester airports were unable to explain the sightings, but a coastguard said they were meteorites.

campaign to discover their origin.

Circle expert Colin Edwards, the mastermind behind the latest investigation, has asked the farmers to report any circle appearances to him over a special hotline.

Mr Edwards, co-author of a book about the mystery, said: "Farmers have first hand experience of these circles."

CR: T. Good

New probe into UFO mystery

A MAJOR new investigation has been launched to solve the bizarre 'circles-in-the-corn' mystery once and for all. Scientists have been baffled by the weird flattened circles

which appear in cornfields all over Britain and in 'hotspots' in the West Country.

Theories to explain the phenomenon include UFO landings, magnetic earth currents,

whirlwinds and spinning air currents formed in the slipstreams of jet aircraft.

Now hundreds of farmers have been recruited for Operation Cropwatch, a concerted

UFO hunt focused on Lower Mainland

By CRAIG SPENCE

UFORIC. The pun is subtle. It doesn't leap out of the acronym for UFO Research Institute of Canada. But if you say the word out loud it materializes ... UFORIC translates into euphoric.

Was that intentional? Did Lorne Goldfeather, founder and president of the fledgling organization which has only been in existence since last August, sit around his West End apartment puzzling out the nifty sound play?

Or is the likeness purely subliminal — an ingenious slip of the mind? More to the point: Are the extra terrestrials that Goldfeather believes in — along with his six fellow directors on the UFORIC board, and the handful of members — real, an illusion or a hoax?

Tough questions, but Goldfeather fields them jauntily. With conviction. Intelligent, articulate, his face lights up as he grapples with each point, and he positively beams when he describes (and tries to explain) the two West End sightings that have "transformed" his life.

In 1977 and again in 1988, Goldfeather saw what he took to be UFOs hovering between the crowd of apartments in the West End. After the second encounter he decided to find out more. Disappointed with the literature on the subject, though, he began to investigate the phenomenon on his own.

The result? UFORIC. "We're set up to investigate all aspects of the UFO phenomenon first in the Vancouver area, second in the British Columbia area and third anywhere else in the world," he explained. UFORIC is not alone. A network of "UFOlogy" organizations is on the lookout, and the search has acquired a quasi-scientific status in the minds of its participants.

At the Vancouver Public Library, a binder — jammed with articles on UFOlogy and with a stack of documents UFORIC uses in its rigorous investigations — banters along in the growing jargon of the field. There are "sightings," "contacts" and "abductions"; "contactees" and "abductees"; there are "CE-1s"

(Close Encounters of First Kind," through to "CE-4s" and so on.

UFORIC and its partners in the network have to be meticulous and thorough, Goldfeather explains. Hence the terminology and the burgeoning bureaucracy of the search.

The UFO hotline — actually an answering machine in Goldfeather's apartment (phone 685-1UFO) — records an average of six to eight calls per month concerning UFO activity in the Lower Mainland. Goldfeather figures there are 10 times that number of sightings, which never get reported. Of the reported sightings, UFORIC will investigate perhaps 25 per cent.

A complete investigation involves cross examination of witnesses using an exhaustive list of questions; a visit to the site of the encounter; study of magnetic field maps (sightings are often correlated to electrical or magnetic fields, Goldfeather noted); and comparisons with previous sightings. The results are entered into a computer data base UFORIC shares with other organizations.

"We just plug away slowly — day after day," he said. "Every sighting that ... we feel is worth investigating — that we feel is not a joke or some kind of hoax — we will try and investigate. We will prepare a report on it and we'll publish our findings after comparing data with other investigative organizations.

"In doing so, we have something to present to the public and the scientific community, where we can get further assistance from other people — but first we have to do the groundwork, the investigations."

Goldfeather knows the investigations he and his associates are able to mount are only the beginning. He hopes their findings will prompt the federal government and universities to take UFOlogy more seriously — officially.

"It's important that everyone work together on this phenomenon so we

can get at the truth," he said. He hopes government funding will someday be available and that professionals — psychologists, physicians, pathologists, physicists, geologists and so on — will be enlisted to the cause.

Will that ever happen? Goldfeather thinks so and he believes that he and many others will know the truth of UFOs within their own lifetimes.

What is the truth likely to be? Goldfeather shrugs and smiles — the sort of smile that hints at things known but not uttered. Even the

unconfirmed belief in UFOs has a metamorphosing affect on the believers.

"After I saw the object it completely changed the way I look at everything," he recounted. "It opened up the possibility that we're not alone, that there is another life form or life forms existing coming here to visit. The possibility of that is unbelievable to me — I mean the consequences of it if it's true — so my whole attitude toward everything has changed because of it."

CR: G. Conway

UFO sightings are brought to earth

by Adrian Berry

SCIENTISTS are heaping scorn on a claim in a book* that alien beings are arriving on Earth in spaceships and that governments are suppressing the information.

The writer Arthur C. Clarke told a meeting of the world's astronauts in the Saudi Arabian capital, Riyadh: "UFO fanatics are doing an enormous amount of damage to science by encouraging nonsensical beliefs.

"I myself have seen six UFOs. But I took the trouble to investigate their real causes. All of them proved to have mundane explanations."

The book's editor, Mr Timothy Good, repeats the story of the order allegedly signed by President Truman in 1947 to inquire into five alien corpses found in a spaceship in New Mexico. He does not mention the fact that Mr Truman's signature is a proven forgery.

The book discusses at length the 1983 "report" of a UFO that is supposed to have landed near the RAF base at Woodbridge in 1983 with the same chapter heading that the *News of the World* used for its front page headline: "UFO lands in Suffolk — and that's official!"

In fact, as a *Daily Telegraph* reporter discovered at the time, the alleged UFO, as seen by a naive American colonel at the base through the surrounding woods at night, was the rotating beam of the nearby Orford Ness lighthouse.

"This theory fits," said Mr Vincent Thurkettle, a local official of the Forestry Commission. "The lighthouse is the right distance away to explain what the American saw."

Mr Good's book devotes a chapter to a recent rush of UFO sightings in the Soviet Union. But nowhere does his contributor mention the explanation, given recently by Mr James Oberg, an expert in Soviet affairs, that this is a consequence of glasnost.

"For 70 years the Russian people were told what to think," said Mr Oberg. "Now they can think for themselves, and so they have crazy ideas."

A British astronomer, Mr Ian Ridpath, said that UFO mania was caused by a "desire to believe in something, however stupid it may be.

"The answer is always said to be just around the corner, but it never comes. The reason is that UFOs do not exist."

*The *UFO Report 1990*, edited by Timothy Good. (Sidgwick and Jackson, £7.99).

ADVERTISER, Bromsgrove, England
May 10, 1990 CR: T. Good

Police alert over UFO

BROMSGROVE police made an early morning May Day call to Tardebigge on Monday after a Charford man reported seeing a UFO flying over the area.

Mr Bill Moore, aged 71, of Lyrdeton Avenue, was peering from his landing window shortly after 4.15am waiting for the dawn chorus to begin when he saw a vivid bright light high in the sky over Stoke Prior.

Mr Moore said: "I saw this brilliant white light which at first didn't seem to be moving.

"I woke my wife Barbara to come and take a look through the binoculars.

"The light then appeared to travel across the sky on the horizon towards Barnet Green, where it started climbing higher before heading back towards the south."

Mr Moore said he was convinced it wasn't a balloon, aeroplane or a star he'd seen. "It resembled a motorcycle light coming towards me fast down a road," he said.

"I rang the police then contacted two breakers in Gloucester on my CB radio who told me they could also see the object quite clearly from there."

He said: "It remains a mystery. I had always treated UFOs with a little scepticism. I now feel there is something I know nothing of, but about which I would like to know more.

Inspector Bob Dibble

of Bromsgrove police confirmed that three vehicles had been sent to Tardebigge in response to Mr Moore's sighting of the UFO over the church, but said they could find no evidence

Debunking UFOs

IN his attempt to debunk UFOs (*The Sunday Telegraph*, November 19), Mr Adrian Berry made a number of factual errors.

There is no evidence that the signature on President Truman's memo of September 1947 (to Secretary of Defence James Forrestal, authorising "Operation Majestic Twelve") is "a proven forgery," neither has any evidence been found to date that disproves the authenticity of the "Majestic-12" briefing paper allegedly prepared for President-elect Eisenhower by Vice-Admiral Hillenkoetter in November 1952, in which it is stated that four alien bodies were recovered in the New Mexican desert in July 1947.

The 1981 (not 1983) official memorandum from Colonel Charles Halt to the Ministry of Defence describes a series of extraordinary events outside USAF Woodbridge in December, 1980, including a sighting by three security police patrolmen of an object that was "me-

tallic in appearance and triangular in shape, approximately two to three metres across the base and two metres high"

Colonel Halt, who has confirmed the accuracy of the report to me, rejects any suggestion that this sighting was caused by "the rotating beam of the nearby Orford Ness lighthouse," as does the former Ministry of Defence official Mr Ralph Noyes, in his appraisal of the case.

TIMOTHY GOOD,
UFO Research & Lectures,
20 Morley Court,
78 The Avenue,
Beckenham, Kent.

CR: T. Good

Mum's UFO shock

By JERRY LAWTON

UFO investigators are baffled by a cluster of mystery lights which followed and terrorised a mother and her daughter as they drove out of Grimsby.

The object — surrounded by a set of glaring lights — hovered above the road behind, in front, and directly on top of the women's car as they drove along the A180.

It stayed with them for several miles, before shooting out of sight.

Police and UFO investigators admit they have no idea what the phenomenon was, but it is believed to be linked to a series of "flap", of unexplained sightings across the north of England last year.

Details of the disturbing close encounter are revealed in a new book, *The UFO Report 1990*, published this week.

89 incidents

The report, by Graham and Mark Birdsall, of the Leeds-based Yorkshire UFO Society, said the Grimsby sighting was one of 89 incidents reported across the north in January last year.

It states Annette McDonaldson and her daughter Clare were returning to their York home after visiting friends in the port around 5pm on January 3.

As they drove out of town, Annette saw a set of bright lights in her mirror about 100 yards behind the car, which she thought belonged to a lorry.

But when she slowed

GRIMSBY SIGHTING IN NEW REPORT

down to let it overtake, it stayed the same distance behind her.

She asked her daughter to watch the lights, and Clare noticed they were hovering above the ground.

She could not see any object behind them.

The lights slowly moved closer to the car and suddenly disappeared.

Two minutes later Clare saw them directly above the car.

The report states: "Panic set in and Annette slammed her foot down hard on the accelerator, and in a short while was beyond the legal speed limit."

Reappeared

The lights went out of sight again, but suddenly reappeared in front of the car, before shooting vertically upwards out of sight.

The two women called the police, and details were passed on to the society.

Investigators thought the object could have been a low-flying helicopter chasing the car, but the women neither heard nor saw anything, and no aircraft was reported in the area.

A report of the incident has been catalogued as a genuine UFO sighting, but a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said no official research on UFOs was being carried out by the Government.

CR: G. Conway

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - May 25, 1990

Milkman 'fled UFO'

Reuter

MOSCOW — Villagers near the Russian town of Lipetsk think thirsty visitors from space may be trying to kidnap the local milkman, a newspaper reported yesterday.

The daily *Selskaya Zhizn* quoted Vladimir Akhaltsev as saying he was trailed by a shining ball one night as he drove his milk truck to

a dairy near Lipetsk.

It said Akhaltsev speeded up, but even when he reached 100 km/h "the ball was still following him ..."

Russians are fascinated by unidentified flying objects and the media regularly carries reports of unusual landings. The UFO reports are also linked to a fierce circulation war among newspapers.

YELLOW ADVERTISER,
Colchester, England

April 27, 1990 CR: T. Good

Waggly UFO report

EIGHT people in the Southend area reported seeing what they believed was an unidentified flying object on Easter Saturday night.

Four people in Southend, three from Leigh and one from Canvey rang the East Anglian UFO and Paranormal Research Association's hotline to say they had seen a large, oval dull red-coloured object flying above the River Thames from Southend towards Shell Haven.

Observers said the object "waggled" in flight, was saucer-shaped and about 40ft in diameter, flew at about 500ft and was visible for about 10 seconds.

One estimated its speed at around £1,000, said Sheridan Lane, investigator with EAUFORA. The association will investigate the sightings, she added.

UFO hotlines are 01 594 4797 or Basildon 286079.

DUNMOW BROADCAST AND RECORDER, Essex, England - Nov. 1, 1989 CR: T. Good

Family is left baffled by 'strange UFO' mystery

DID anyone else see unusual flashing lights in the sky over Dunmow last week? That's what Mrs Sandra Thackray would like to know.

For although her family were not all in the same place at the time, they all saw a strange green light "flashing all over the place" last Tuesday evening, October 24.

"It seemed to be moving much too fast for an aeroplane," said Mrs Thackray, a house manager at Croft House. She was driving from her home in Dunmow towards Little Easton at the time, with her elder son, Alan, 21.

"It was still in the sky when we got home and must have been there a good half-hour. We were intrigued by it."

But, she said, the following evening, Alan and his younger brother, Lee, 18, had an even stranger experience when they were out on their motor bikes with a friend.

"They were returning home from a karate class in Aythorpe Roding," their mother explained, "when they saw an orange light in the sky and a terrific orange dome hovered over a field and then landed."

By BROADCAST STAFF

She said one of the boys told her afterwards that he had seen someone running around inside the light.

She said the incident happened on an isolated stretch of road between High Roding and Dunmow.

A spokesman for Stansted said that the airport did not keep a log of unusual sightings but individuals passed on their own reports to the Civil Aviation Authority.

The Civil Aviation Authority said such reports were taken by the RAF "for reasons of national security", but at the Ministry of Defence, a sceptical spokesman said that unless a UFO actually landed in military territory, they were not really interested.

The Thackray family would love an explanation for their sightings. So if you saw something similar or can shed some light on the mystery, do let us know.

SOMERSET COUNTY GAZETTE, Taunton, England - May 4, 1990 CR: T. Good

I WAS SHAKING FOR HOURS, SAYS TAUNTON PENSIONER

Eileen (72) tells of UFO sighting

STRANGE red lights have been spotted hovering over Taunton homes — and pensioner Eileen Manders believes visitors from another planet might be responsible for the phenomenon.

Mrs Manders, aged 72, of Hope Corner Lane, saw the "unidentified flying object" outside her home at 2.40 am last Friday.

"My little Yorkshire Terrier started whining, so I got up to see what was wrong," she said. "Through the bathroom window I saw a strawberry red light."

"I went into the bedroom, where the windows were open, and from there I heard a terrific crackling noise, like a fire. I was frightened to death."

She told the *County Gazette* she saw a blood-red ball in the centre of the strange light, a bit like a setting sun. "It was gyrating," she said, "and hovering as if it was

trying to get down." Mrs Manders said the light came so close that she thought it must have dropped down somewhere in Taunton. But after watching the fiery ball for six or seven minutes she saw it disappear into the distance. Throughout the whole episode her Yorkshire Terrier stayed in his bed, hiding away in fright. "All I could think was that it was something from another world,"

By CARRIE DUNN

said Mrs Manders. "I was shaking for hours and couldn't get to sleep."

The next morning she telephoned the police, who suggested she may have seen a flare. "But I can't think that a flare would do that," she said.

And she was not the only one to see the light. An 85-year-old neighbour said she saw a glow coming through her curtains, but thought it was someone using a torch to search for a cat.

Tony Dodd, director of research and investigations at Quest International, runs a 24-hour hotline for

UFO sightings. He said a similar "light" had been sighted at Bristol in the same week.

"This is a fairly common phenomenon," he said. "We're getting quite a lot of information about this sort of thing at the moment. UFO sightings throughout the country and Europe have increased dramatically."

But he stressed that sightings could not be recorded by Quest International until detailed investigations had been carried out. Anyone with information is asked to contact Mr Dodd on 0756 752216.

POST, Jakarta, Indonesia
April 19, 1990

Soviet scientists claim flying saucer found in Estonia

PARIS (AFP): Soviet scientists say they are studying what they think is a 20 meter wide flying saucer from another planet found in Estonia.

Several institutes have analyzed the suspected unidentified flying object and have come to the same conclusion.

Colonel Marina Popovich wrote about the events in *Sovietski Sport*. The air force

test pilot and president of the world association of female scientists is an expert on unexplained phenomena such as UFOs and abominable snowmen.

She has been interested in flying saucers since coming across two Soviet pilots in hospital who had seen strange lights in the sky. One had his eyes affected by a strange radiation. The co-pilot had the calcium in his

By Serge Mazankine

bones evaporated and several ribs broken during landing.

Another crew of a Antonov-12 plane told her how on one occasion all onboard power suddenly failed. They were landing in complete dark when another vessel of some kind suddenly lit up the

whole area so they could see. The 60 ton plane landed without a problem.

Popovich plans a journey to Estonia where the flying saucer was found six meters below the surface. Soviet experts are to attempt to raise it, and so far no-one has been able to cut off a segment and several institutes have said it must be from another planet.

In 1984 Popovich went in

search of the Yeti with a Kiev University expedition to Pamir.

"We went up 3,000 meters and set up guards around the camp, because we knew it comes out mainly at night."

"We saw traces around the camp from the first day. It could break into cans of milk with its teeth and three stones in fires and moved other objects."

CR: J. Mundy

Was it a bird...? Was it a plane? Was it a UFO?

A LOCAL MAN was so stunned by the sight of the flying saucer whirring above the houses just across the road that he forgot to call his wife to witness the event.

The 35-year-old specification engineer from Addiscombe Grove, Croydon, was standing on his front porch for some fresh air just after 10pm on Thursday, when he heard what he called "whirring sounds, coming in bursts and hard to identify."

He looked up and saw an ellipse-shaped object, which he described as "more of a soup bowl than a saucer" 250ft above the rooftops 100ft away from where he stood.

The grey metallic craft hovered briefly then vanished. The whole episode lasted no more than one minute, according to the man who declined to be named.

But he admitted that

he had been so mesmerized by what he saw that he did not think of calling anyone.

It was the first time he had seen an unidentified flying object, he said.

No one else in the area seems to have seen the mysterious object.

A Civil Aviation Authority spokesman said the UFO might not have been spotted by the Heathrow-based radar if it were flying at 250ft.

The CAA only recorded UFOs if they were involved in near-misses

with aircraft, he said.

A Ministry of Defence official said there was only one member of staff who dealt with UFOs; that took very little of his time.

He added that the Addiscombe incident had not been logged anywhere.

Christine Aubrey, of the Fulham-based Aetherius Society, explained that the Addiscombe sighting was reported by only one person probably because

many witnesses did not dare tell anyone.

An East Anglia UFO and Paranormal Research Association spokesman said Croydon had reported few sightings in recent years; most had occurred in east London and Essex.

Anyone who has seen a UFO in the past can contact Roy Lake (01-594 4797) or the Aetherius hotline (01-731 1094).

YELLOW ADVERTISER, Colchester, England
Jan. 19, 1990 CR: T. Good

Two sightings on same night

UFO 'shone like gold'

A SHINING gold UFO is the latest in a long list of strange aerial phenomena seen in the Southend area during the past year and a half.

Sheridan Lane, spokeswoman for the East Anglia UFO Society, said a married couple were feeding their dog at around 10.50pm last Thursday at their home in Southbourne Grove, Westcliff.

Suddenly they spotted an unusual "round object which shone like burnished gold" in the night sky. They watched the object for about 10 minutes, before it "shot straight upwards" at great speed.

After taking details of the sighting to add to the society's huge record of unexplained phenomena, the spokeswoman quoted the couple as saying: "We have never seen anything like it before. It was round and shone like gold."

She added: "Judging from what they said, we estimate the object was enormous."

A second mysterious object was spotted at 11pm that night, by another married couple who were making their way home in Rectory Close, Hadleigh.

Bright lights

This couple reported seeing "four or five large square or oblong windows in a larger object which we couldn't define." They watched the object for about two minutes before rooftops hid it from their view.

"There was no sound, and the object, which seemed several hundred yards in the air, glided across our path without deviating from its route," they said.

"In this case," said Sheridan, "we consider the bright lights from the windows obscured the bulk of the object."

She would like to hear from anyone who has spotted a UFO, and is interested in any sightings which have occurred since 1940.

Contact the UFO Hotline on Basildon 286079.

STANDARD, Southend, England
April 20, 1990 CR: T. Good

Orange and saucer-shaped

UFO experts are investigating eight sightings of a hazy, orange saucer-shaped object which shot along the Thames from Southend towards London at around 1,000mph at midnight on Saturday.

Eight witnesses rang the East Anglian UFO Para Research Association to report the sightings of the 50 feet diameter orange object around a quarter of a mile up in the sky.

If you saw it, the hotline for sightings is 0268 286079.



Legendary lion still roams Lake Conway area

LOC CABIN DEMOCRAT, Conway, AR - June 11, 1990

Ever since I have lived in central Arkansas, I have heard stories of a black mountain lion that allegedly prowls remote sections of Lake Conway in southern Faulkner County.

These tales are always interesting and exciting. The subject of the tales, the black mountain lion, is usually involved in some terrible deed such as attacking the observer, raiding livestock or keeping a rural family from leaving their house. Very few of the tellers of these tales report merely seeing the mountain lion where it is doing nothing in particular.

I have heard well over a dozen so-called first-hand reports of black mountain lion observations, all of them by individuals who apparently did not know one another. All who have related their stories have done so with the utmost sincerity.

Another thing these tales have in common, according to people who study mountain lions for a living, is that they are all probably false. Not only is there no such thing as a black phase mountain lion, a recent survey initiated by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission "failed to find one scrap of evidence that wild mountain lions still roam the Natural State."

The mountain lion (*Felis concolor*), also called puma, panther, painter, cougar and catamount, was once plentiful throughout Arkansas and the south. Early settlers in Arkansas reported killing dozens, even hundreds, of the tawny cats prior to the turn of the century.

As a result of the perception that the cougar was a threat to livestock, deer populations and even humans, the cat was all but effectively eliminated from its natural Arkansas habitat by the 1940s. A mountain lion sighting would be reported from time to time, but obviously the population had dipped to nearly nothing.

In 1988, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission hired a world-famous mountain lion tracker and expert to conduct field investigations for evidence of the great cats in the state.



W. C. Jameson's Arkansas

Dr. Jameson is an associate professor of geography at the University of Central Arkansas and the author of several books and articles.

Roy McBride of Alpine, Texas, is the most highly regarded cougar expert in the world, bar none.

After spending several weeks in the Ozarks and Ouachita Mountains, traveling thousands of miles and examining potential cougar habitats, he, along with the game and fish people, concluded "there were no truly remote,

inaccessible areas within the forest that could harbor an undetected population of mountain lions." Those few lions that have been recorded in recent years have apparently been escaped pets or transient lions wandering in from Missouri and Texas.

With regard to the famous Lake Conway black mountain lion, we are

forced to suspect that this wily animal lives only in folklore and the imaginations of some men. Jim Bob Tinsley, author of "The Puma, Legendary Lion of the Americas," reports that no substantiated report of a black mountain lion exists, anywhere. Tinsley's book is considered to be the definitive work on mountain lions.

So, what are we to believe? Is the Lake Conway black panther one of those elusive beasts like the Fouke monster, Bigfoot, and the Loch Ness monster that somehow manages to exist just beyond the fringes of human habitation, coming out only rarely? Or is it merely the product of an overactive imagination?

I like to think that the Lake Conway black mountain lion is out there, roaming the wild and tangled creek bottoms that feed into the lake. I like to think the lion has better sense than to show himself too often to excitable human beings.

I hope the lion is there, and I hope it is doing well.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS,
Denver, CO - May 29,
1990 CR: C. Carpenter

FACT SHEET

STUDIES

A monster moneymaker

The fabled Loch Ness monster is worth \$42 million in annual tourist revenues to Scotland, according to a study published yesterday. Half a million tourists visit the Highlands lake each year in hopes of seeing the creature, although there is no scientific proof it exists. *The Times of London* said. It quoted Mackay Consultants of Inverness as saying the monster myth also is good for about 2,500 tourist-industry jobs.

PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
May 24, 1990 CR: G. Conway

A golf ball from space, or what?

Canadian Press

FORT McMURRAY, Alta. — Many are certain it came from outer space.

Others say it was formed on Earth. Everyone agrees it's a mystery.

"It" is a two-tonne, grey, crater-surfaced ball that was unearthed last week at the Syncrude oil-sands site in north-eastern Alberta. The object is a metre (just over a yard) high

and three-quarters of a metre wide.

Syncrude worker Rick Smith says: "It looks like a giant golf ball... I'm sure it's a meteorite."

Geologists at the Syncrude plant believe it is a coral fossil left behind by a glacier.

Russ Sampson, of the Edmonton Space and Science Centre, says the huge rock sounds like a "meteor-wrong."

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - May 4, 1990 CR: J. Fry

Discovery of hair makes him believer in China's 'wildman'

By Michael B. Lafferty
Dispatch Science Reporter

Frank Poirier, an Ohio State University anthropologist, turned from skeptic to believer last fall when Chinese peasants brought him some hair from what they said was a fabled, near-human "wildman."

Poirier, who recalled the incident yesterday, was near the end of a two-month expedition attempting to film the 6-foot-tall, hairy, elusive, fruit-and-vegetable-eating, manlike primates the Chinese have talked about as the Yehren for some 2,500 years.

The expedition, headed by Poirier and Richard Greenwell of the International Society of Cryptozoology, had searched some of the most remote areas of central China — without luck — until members saw the hair.

The hair stood up to chemical analysis at Shanghai University, where scientists were unable to match it with gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutan, human or other animal hair.

"I'm quite convinced. I'm very excited," said Poirier, a veteran of 25 years of primate field research.

The television documentary will be aired Aug. 8 on public broadcasting stations, he said.

Poirier said the wildman is separate from the yeti, which is said to roam the Himalayan Mountains, or the sasquatch, which some people believe lives in remote areas of the United States, including parts of southeastern Ohio.

"If all three exist, I think they are totally different creatures," he said.

Poirier said fossils of a prehistoric, human-apelike species known as *Gigantopithecus* have been found in areas of Hubei, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces where wildmen are believed to live.

The 6-foot-tall creature is believed to have become extinct about 400,000 years ago. Poirier

speculates that wildmen, which are said to weigh 500 pounds, may have evolved from *Gigantopithecus* or could be the same creature.

If so, it wouldn't be the first time an organism thought extinct has been discovered. Scientists periodically make such discoveries, including the deep-sea fish called a coelacanth, found a few years ago, and the Chinese ginkgo tree.

Poirier first went to China in 1982 as part of an official visit by Ohioans to the state's sister province, Hubei. It was then he was told of the auburn-haired wildman, thought to exist in the remote Shennongjia Forest.

Poirier and a Chinese guide searched remote areas of the province for signs of the creature without success.

Although Poirier then discounted the reports, he quickly learned how much credence the Chinese give them.

On one occasion, while sleeping next to a stream, Poirier awoke to find a gun pointed at him and excited Chinese yelling that they had found a wildman.

"I can't tell you how scared I was," he said. It turned out that Poirier, who had more body hair than the Chinese, appeared to be a wildman to people who had never seen a foreigner.

Poirier said children at a nearby town often ran from him, shrieking that he was the wildman.

In 1982, Poirier had been given hair reportedly recovered from a wildman, but it turned out to be hair from a rare golden monkey. He returned to OSU and eventually wrote two papers discounting the wildman's existence.

Nevertheless, Filmworks, an English film production company, persuaded him to return to China for a more systematic search.

The filming was nearly at an end when Poirier and Greenwell were given the hair,



Dispatch photo by Eric Albrecht

Frank Poirier holds replica of jaw of *Gigantopithecus*, human-apelike creature

which the Chinese said had been collected from places the wildman had been seen sitting or rubbing against a tree.

This time, the hair defied analysis.

Chinese researchers examined its structure and chemistry. The iron-to-zinc ratio most closely resembled human hair, but it wasn't human hair or that of any other animal.

Chinese authorities would not allow the hair out of the country. Poirier said plans are in the works to attempt to get some strands out of China for analysis, to see if the Shanghai results can be duplicated.

Except for the hair, only anecdotal information exists of wildmen. Chinese living in the region have produced no bodies or skins.

"If we had one million hairs, the only final proof will be finding an existing creature," Poirier said. But the lack of a body doesn't bother him.

"They're living in an area where hardly anyone lives," he said. "The areas are so remote and steeply forested."

Poirier said other expeditions likely will be mounted to search for wildmen, and he has been asked to return to China.

Andean tablets linked to Solomon? Scientists scoff

LIMA, Peru (UPI) — Archaeologists discount a U.S. explorer's claim that tablets he says he found near Incan ruins in the Amazon basin are somehow linked to the legendary gold mines of King Solomon, but some experts say the ruins themselves could become a major tourist attraction for Peru.

Gene Savoy, 62, a Nevada resident, recently said the tablets will "revolutionize the archaeological interpretation of ancient Peruvian civilizations." His comments appeared worldwide in news stories.

But Federico Kauffman, one of Peru's most distinguished archaeologists, said it is "nonsense to suppose that petroglyphs seen by Savoy have some special significance, because in Peru there are 2,000 to 3,000 different locations with the same petroglyphs."

Petroglyphs are pictorial carvings on stones. Savoy claims to have discovered large stone tablets in August in a cave near a large pre-Columbian ruin known as Gran Vilaya. The tablets contain the first evidence found in ancient Andean civilization of writing similar to that of the Phoenicians or Semitic hieroglyphics, said Savoy, who has been described in Nevada newspapers as an "Indiana Jones."

About two weeks ago, Savoy was honored by the Peruvian Senate for his part in publicizing the discovery of another ruined city called Gran Pajatan in the same area.

The ruins were found by a local government official about 20 years ago, but it wasn't until Savoy visited them that the discovery became generally known.

Gran Pajatan and Gran Vilaya, now covered by jungle growth, were part of the Chachapoyas civilization. They are about 350 miles northeast of Lima.

Peruvian officials believe Gran Pajatan, if properly developed, could become a tourist attraction on a par with Machu Picchu. However, the area is remote and difficult to reach and, at the moment, is a center of guerrilla and drug-smuggling activity, making it highly dangerous.

Machu Picchu is an ancient Incan city in the Andes Mountains that has become one of South America's major tourist attractions.

Savoy says the markings on the stone tablets are similar to hieroglyphics used during the time of King Solomon and include one symbol identical to those that appeared on the boats the monarch sent to the lands containing the legendary gold mines described in the Bible.

But Kauffman said the speculation that the symbols have something to do with Phoenicians or ancient Egyptians "is even more ridiculous."

"Everything that this man says has to be approached with skepticism," said Duccio Bonavia Berber, another Peruvian archaeologist.

Kauffman said data gathered by archaeologists and Savoy indicate the tablets were fashioned between A.D. 800 and 1200.

"At this time, there are no Phoenicians, there are no Egyptians, there are feudal lords," said Kauffman. "Those civilizations had died."

He said the King Solomon legend in the Bible would have occurred about 500 B.C., a time when there were no developed civilizations in the Peruvian Andes.

Betty Meggers, an archaeologist at the Museum of Natural History in Washington, said Savoy is well-known in archaeological circles and has a reputation as something of an adventurer.

As for his claims, she said, "you can't tell until you get some specialists to look at it."

But she said petroglyphs are common in many places in Peru and elsewhere, but are hard to date.

USA TODAY, Arlington, VA - May 17, 1990

'Wildman of China' may really exist

By Tim Friend
USA TODAY

The "Wildman of China" legend may have been based on a real creature, according to new evidence. "The Chinese legend goes back 2,500 to 3,000 years," says Ohio State University's Frank Poirier.

The creature — a man-like ape — was not seen, but hair samples found during the filming of a documentary in remote China were compared with synthetic fibers and hair from other species, including primates and humans.

Found: The hair was neither human nor ape, but more closely matched human hair. The analyses indicate a "high likelihood of the existence of these creatures," Poirier says.

Descriptions suggest it:
► Is 6-7 feet tall, weighs 500-600 pounds and is covered with reddish hair.

► Walks erect, eats plants and uses no tools.

Poirier says Wildman most likely descended from *Gigantopithecus*, a giant ape extinct for 400,000 years. Less likely: another species of humans.

"But as a scientist I'm embarrassed to say it. We were so sure these things didn't exist," Poirier says.

The problem, he says: "Against all odds, say we find a creature. Every anthropologist ... and every zoo will want one and that's the beginning of the end."

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - April 7, 1990

The 'Beast of Exmoor' — Britain's Mystery Killer Hundreds of sheep wiped out since '83 by powerful blood-sucking creature

By Patricia Reaney
Reuters

South Molton, England

As soon as Mike Williams saw the mutilated, bloodless carcass of one of his sheep, he knew it had been killed by something extraordinary.

The throat had been torn apart, the left ear was missing, and it looked as if it had been thrown around like a rag doll. Most of the blood had been sucked from the body.

"The face and neck were striped off," said Williams. "I showed it to my father, and neither of us had seen anything killed that way. You've got to see it to believe it."

The killing was so quick that the animal did not struggle and so quiet that nearby sheep were undisturbed.

This was just one of hundreds of sheep killed in exactly the same way since 1983 on the edge of Exmoor, a rugged, desolate area 200

miles west of London that is dotted with isolated villages and solitary farms.

The first rash of killings prompted a near panic. Hunters, supersleuths and even the British marines searched the 260-square-mile moor for what has become known as "The Beast of Exmoor."

"Nobody knew what we were up against," said Nigel Brierly, a retired local resident who recently wrote "They Stalk By Night," a book about the beast.

"One chap had a butterfly net, and another who was good at catching stray dogs came up from Plymouth ... (and) trailed a large piece of meat around the moor," Brierly said.

But their efforts were useless, and the killings have continued, about 50 a year by Brierly's estimate.

At first, speculation focused on

an oversized dog. But paw prints near the bodies, the beast's ability to leap from extreme heights and its screeching cry led Brierly and others to suspect that it is a puma or mountain lion.

"I heard it twice," said Williams, who has been farming in the area since the late 1950s. "It sounds like a woman screaming. It makes your hair stand up."

Familiar Sound

The high-pitched cry has become a familiar sound to many local residents, and several say they have seen the elusive beast.

Rod Brammer claims to have spotted the creature near his house early one morning. In one bounding leap it jumped from the woods onto the road and then to the opposite side.

"It was half and again as big as an Alsatian, long and low, and what struck me was the thickness of the bone in its leg. It was hefty and had a dusky fawn color," said Brammer, who runs a local riflery school.

"I've lived in the country all my life. I'm not a pseudo country person, and I know what animals look like. This was, as far as I'm concerned, a mountain lion or puma."

Puma Theory

Brierly also claims to have seen the creature, and much of his book is devoted to the theory that the "Beast of Exmoor" is one or several pumas.

"I have every reason to believe they are pumas," he said.

Although they are not indigenous to Britain, Brierly believes that pumas, whose natural habitat stretches from northwestern Canada to South America, could have been released from private menageries several years ago and have been breeding in the British countryside ever since.

But Doug Richardson, head keeper and cat specialist at the London Zoo, is skeptical. "It's possible, but I've yet to see any hard evidence that it is a puma," he said.

He dismissed the numerous sightings, saying that most people, unless their eyes are trained, cannot identify well-known, big-cat species.

"They can never get it right," he said. "Pumas do have a high-pitched cry, but so do domestic cats, and foxes also make bizarre noises."

Lack of Blood

For Richardson, the lack of blood was the most convincing argument against the puma theory because sucking blood is not one of its behavioral traits.

He said the paw prints, some of which show claws, are also inconsistent with pumas because big cats retract their claws.

Brierly remains firm in his belief, but even he admits, "Until one is actually caught, we won't be able to be sure."

GASTON GAZETTE, Gastonia, NC - May 6, 1990 CR: G. Fawcett

Christ's image seen in many places

THE RECENT flurry of coverage on the robed "sky figure" photograph recently taken by a Ranlo woman during Hurricane Hugo sent me through my filing cabinets and this is what I came up with: Such events are commonplace in recorded history.

Such wonders have become articles of faith and have affected thousands.

White-robed figures were seen in the skies over Fredericksburg, Va., in September 1881. A face in a flower garden was photographed in Seattle on July 15, 1920. Another was captured on film before a plane crash.

An image of Christ on a stop sign amazed a crowd in New Orleans before 1950. An image of Christ taken during bombing raids over Korea in the 50s



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and published in Time magazine was later proven to be a hoax.

At Alvin, Texas, a picture of Christ was photographed on a landscape painting over a church altar on Easter Sunday 1973. A photo of Jesus on a screen door was taken in late June, 1969 at Port Neches, Texas.

A FACE of Christ appeared on a

photograph of a lace veil at a church altar at Casseinau De Guera, France, on Good Friday 1974. An image of Christ was found inside a split log at New Bedford, Mass. in 1974.

A face of Christ appeared on a mission school wall in Holman, N.M., in 1975. Another alleged face of Christ appeared on an altar cloth at the Trinity Episcopal Church at Shamokin, Pa. on April 7, 1972.

Christ's face appeared in a vision on a bush in Cherryville in July 1977. An image of Christ on a flour tortilla was photographed at Lake Arthur, N.M., in October 1978.

Another image of Christ was found in the wreckage of a truck photographed in Buchannon, W. Va., on July 27, 1982.

Many saw a face of Christ on tree foliage in Holden, W. Va., in 1982.

A Christ-like face appeared on a hospital door photograph in 1983 at Jasper, Ala., during the month of April.

An image of Christ appeared on a church wall and was photographed in Ciminna, Sicily, in 1983.

ALL OF these events with current worldwide happenings continue to remind us that He will be coming again in the clouds with power and glory.

Such is still the message for "believers and skeptics" alike.

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