

UFO

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PORTRAITS OF 2008

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UFO sightings

Keeping an eye on the sky

It was an orb — massive, fiery and eerily silent. As he gazed at the heavens at sunset on Jan. 8, Lee Roy Gaitan (above) could not believe his eyes.

The Erath County constable, a career law enforcement officer, stared at the object for about two seconds before it vanished. Just like that. Was it just his imagination?

But a few minutes later, there was a new sighting — a series of about nine bright, flashing, strobing white lights, moving around like a bouncy ball. The lights set off toward the northeast sky at what Gaitan remembers as "a blazing speed." Out of sight but not out of mind.

Then he heard the unmistakable roar of military jets.

At first, Gaitan kept the mysterious experience to himself. But in the days to come, when dozens of residents in Stephenville and Dublin started reporting similar sightings, he came forward.

They were all convinced they had seen a UFO. Gaitan wasn't ready to go there yet.

Officials for the Air Force Reserve initially said that no jets were in the area, but two weeks after the first encounter, they changed their story and said 10 F-16s had been

training in the skies above Stephenville that winter evening. But Gaitan and others knew what they saw with their own eyes, and it wasn't like any jet fighter they had ever seen.

Stephenville began making headlines around the world. It became an epicenter of UFO sightings.

Gaitan says he doesn't know what to make of the Air Force's flip-flop. He and his neighbors would be satisfied if officials confided that it was a secret project they could not talk about because of national security.

"Just to have some kind of closing, just put our minds at ease," he said.

Instead, there have been more sightings — as recently as Nov. 18 — and silence from the Air Force.

And Gaitan, who says he has talked to respected people in the community, has had to come to grips with the notion of what if.

"It's really opened up my mind that there may be the possibility that it wasn't military . . . that it could be something from somewhere else," he says. "The universe is huge."

— Heather Svokos

January

UFO sightings

The year started off with an out-of-this-world experience that had television crews and UFO enthusiasts scurrying to Erath County in search of a unique story.

The story took off after the E-T reported what four area residents claimed to see in the skies over Selden. Before we knew it, similar reports began pouring in and the frenzy began. From CNN to media outlets in Scotland, Tokyo, and Canada, the little sighting that was turned into the biggest story of the year.

News media from across the nation descended upon the county with cameras and notepads in hand to interview witnesses. The story made international news and gave a zap to the business industry that took full advantage of the hoopla. Can anyone say, "Na-nu, na-nu?"

Empire-Tribune

Stephenville, TX 12-31-08

October

February

History Channel visits the 'Ville

Following January's sightings, cast and crew from The History Channel's UFO Hunters came to town. They interviewed witnesses, gathered data and performed experiments in an attempt to get to the bottom of the numerous UFO sightings reported in and around Erath County. The episode, and many other documentaries on the phenomena, aired on various channels throughout the year.

More sightings in Erath County

For the second time in 2008, dozens of people claimed to see unexplainable lights hovering in and speeding across the skies above Erath County. Again, media attention shifted to Stephenville looking to get the bottom of the UFO sightings.

2008

Peculiar Craft Over Stephenville Leaves Witnesses Stunned

The Clifton Record
Clifton, TX 12-3-2008

BY ANGELLA JOINER
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

STEPHENVILLE — What in the world continues to fly in the skies over Stephenville? Some say it's better termed as "out of this world."

Upon the heels of multiple sightings in the area on Oct 23, last Tuesday, Nov. 18 proved just as noteworthy for local residents. Michael Corn, 27, and former member of the United States Army assigned to a Patriot Missile Unit from 2003 to 2006, saw something for which he has no explanation.

Corn said while at home at the intersection of Hwy 377 Business and U.S. Hwy 281, friends called him outside at approximately 7:15 p.m. As he looked toward the small town of Dublin in the southwest sky he saw what appeared to be a brightly lit hovering object. "It looked really close to Stephenville like it was almost over the courthouse," Corn said. He said the lights pulsed in a right to left direction.

Corn estimated the lights might have been as large as a quarter held between the thumb and forefinger at arms length. He described the lights as an amber or orange color.

"I could see the bottom of the object from the illumination of those lights and the city lights,"

Corn said. "The bottom (of the craft) looked smooth. There is no way you could be outside and look up in the sky and not notice this thing. It was just weird."

Corn said he observed the object for about 15 seconds and then suddenly it disappeared without making a sound like it had never been there.

"It just vanished," he said.

When questioned about the possibility of the craft perhaps being an experimental project of the military, he said, "I know that we couldn't make it. I don't believe it's ours. I got the impression that it has technology that we are not capable of understanding."

Corn said he is familiar with all types of aircraft because of his experience in the Army and he grew up near DFW airport.

"It was very unnerving - you can't come up with a reasonable explanation for what it was," Corn said.

Corn's girlfriend, Ashley Couch, also observed the object.

"It reminded me of a carousel lying over on its side," Couch said. "I don't think a quarter would have covered up the lights. I think they were larger than that."

Another observer a short distance away at the intersection of U.S. Hwy 281 and North Loop 377 said she could not explain what she had seen at the same time of

7:15 p.m. For the sake of anonymity the 20 year old will be called "Leslie."

Leslie was traveling north on Loop 377 when her boyfriend called her attention to the vehicle just ahead that seemed to be strangely illuminated.

"He asked me if I saw those weird lights," Leslie said. "But, I hadn't noticed anything."

She said they pulled into the Shell station at the intersection to gas up for a trip to Granbury.

When they exited their vehicle, a man pulled in at the gas pumps and asked if they had seen the weird lights.

"He said he was a pilot and after my boyfriend had just asked me about lights so that got my attention," Leslie said.

Entering back into traffic on the loop headed north is when they both saw an object.

"It was coming down at a slight angle - slowly - it had a bright big light, a steady light and a blinking light," she said, "for a total of three."

"One was red and maybe that was the one that was blinking...I'm not sure," Leslie said. The couple was so mesmerized they slowed down to almost a stop in the road.

"It pivoted to our left side, maybe 50 yards away and 75 yards up in the air," she said. "It

looked almost like it was hovering. The lights were so bright it was hard to see the shape, but the bottom looked a silver gray color."

Leslie said they passed the object and she looked back to see if it was going to land at the nearby local airport, Clark Field. But, she was unable to see it.

"We turned around and went back to the Shell station," she said. "There we saw it again, but this time it was on our right moving left across in front of us. It turned again and looked like it was about to stop and went back the other way. It went back in the direction from which it had come."

Leslie said it could not have been a plane and at first she was wondering if the object was about to land on the highway.

"It looked like if it were going to land it was going to land on the highway," Leslie said. "The lights were so bright it was almost hard to look at it. I think it might have been blimp shaped and about the size of two school buses. It was hard to tell."

Leslie said what she and her boyfriend witnessed was not normal.

"When I think of something unidentified I don't think of little green men," she said. She said

she feels the object could be something being tested by the military.

"We were a little bit frightened," Leslie said. "Until you see something like that you don't really understand. I've made fun of people for seeing stuff like that and now I saw it."

Leslie said she's heard others commenting on what they saw that will not come forward.

"So many people won't tell what they've seen around here because they think people are going to think they're crazy," she said.

Area law enforcement officers said about 10 calls were received during the time of this sighting reporting a craft and/or lights. While some may have seen flares, one officer said not all of the calls were related to flares dropped in the Brownwood Military Operating Area just prior to 7 p.m.

Idaho woman holds UFO meeting

Brandy Slagle
Staff reporter

People don't tell Joy French they think she's crazy. At least not very often, or directly to her face.

But she admits to seeing plenty of concerned looks when she starts talking about a potential UFO citing that took place in the early 1980s while she was living near Lake Merwin.

Not that she lets skeptics stop her. According to the Coeur d'Alene, ID, resident "people with closed minds never learn anything."

French, 84, will host a meeting for those who want to share their extraterrestrial experiences Sat., Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m., at Rocky's Pizza, 1901 W. Main St., Battle Ground. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. The meeting is open to those who believe they have had an encounter with aliens or people who are open to listening.

In the early 1980s, French lived in a trailer at the Lake Merwin Campers Hideaway. A friend, Don McMann, had contacted her on a CB radio to invite her to watch a movie at his place down by the lake. French prepared to step out into the heavy darkness that night.

After that, she draws a blank. She doesn't remember greeting McMann or watching a movie.

The next thing she remembers is being a passenger in her 1966 Cadillac and looking over to see McMann behind the wheel.

Suddenly, she said, a bright light grew overhead. The entire

sky was, she said, unexpectedly as light day. McMann didn't seem to notice. Her car engine stalled, and he got out to look under the hood.

"I didn't get out of the car," she said. "I didn't know why he didn't seem to notice the light."

McMann, got back inside as the light faded away and the engine sputtered back to life. The next thing she knew it was morning. French called McMann on the CB and they met at the facilities' community kitchen. She remembers sitting by the fireplace and pondering what happened, finally suggesting it may have been a UFO.

McMann agreed that may have been the case, but the two decided not to mention it to the other campers. McMann died in 1998.

"We thought people would laugh us right out of the place," she said. "They probably would have thought we were smoking pot or something."

French is not sure what happened during her lost time, but thinks it is possible her memory of the incident was erased by extraterrestrials.

"Some day I will have to get hypnotized to try and figure out what happened," she said.

In recent years, French finally discussed the experience with an old friend, only to discover that her friend had also witnessed a UFO on a huckleberry picking trip. French said the incident had been reported to the sheriff's department and passed on to other government authorities who advised her friend not to talk about it.



JOY FRENCH

Fueled by the news, French decided to seek out people who also had similar experiences. "People shouldn't be afraid to open up and talk about it," she said. "Most people are worried about looking ridiculous or crazy if they do. But I think that if enough people start talking about it, then national security will open up and talk to us about it."

French said she believes the government covers up extraterrestrial encounters when they should be sharing the information with public.

In the past few years, she has hosted community meetings wherever she could rent a room and gather a crowd. She has heard there have been many sightings in this area, especially

around Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens.

"Nobody has ever come after me for talking," she said. "I'm not worried about it. I'm 84, and I plan on going out with a bang."

Those who cannot attend the meeting, but would like to contact French can call (208) 755-8942.

Battle Ground, WA
(Clark, Co.)
The Reflector
(Cir. W. 1,000)

OCT 29 2008

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

Flying object has Tok all abuzz

By RENA DELBRIDGE
rdelbridge@newsminer.com

Was it a meteor falling from space?

Officials think that might be what residents saw shooting through the Alaska sky near Tok on Monday afternoon.

A tremendous explosion, like a sonic boom, drew some people outside, where they watched irregular contrails scribe a path in a clear sky.

INSIDE

Scientists link meteors to quick cooling of Earth about 13,000 years ago. **Page A7**

At her home four miles west of Tok, Kathy Olding was loading a large sled with firewood to haul to her house when she was startled by an explosion. Peering out from the tarp-covered wood pile, she saw even her imperturbable Chesapeake Bay retriever, Journey, was on edge, ears cocked.

"I could kind of hear it still rumbling, like thunder," she recalled. "I thought, what in the world?"

Turning her eyes to the sky, Olding saw the oddest contrail.

"It was just like somebody took a pen and made a white cloud that went up and down and up and down and squiggly," she said, describing the pattern.

Others called 911.

Please see OBJECT, Page A5

OBJECT: A meteor, a military experiment ... or the unexplained?

Continued from Page A1

Alaska State Troopers dispatcher Diane Kendall fielded several calls starting about 3:30 p.m. Most reported a loud explosion.

One caller, an adult, told Kendall an 11-year-old witnessed the entire spectacle outside.

"He said it was like a big fireball that exploded, with smoke everywhere," Kendall relayed. "The kid said, 'I think it was a meteor,' and I went, right. The Martians have landed. But then I got three other calls, boom, boom, boom. I was pretty shocked."

People reported hearing and feeling an explosion in the air, but no one called in about debris falling from the sky, said Sgt. Freddie Wells, the state trooper on duty at the time.

Responding to the reports, he went out and caught a glimpse as well.

"It seemed to appear like smoke, or a dust cloud," he said.

Fearing some sort of airplane disaster, Wells had his dispatcher call the Federal Aviation Administration in Fairbanks.

"The FAA did confirm that it was a meteor," Wells said.

Kendall called the FAA in Fairbanks. Kendall confirmed she was told that the flying object was a meteor, and that others reported seeing a similar phenomenon from the Parks Highway.

But the FAA has no official information on a meteor, said Claudia Hoversten, acting administrator for the Alaskan region.

However, inquiries and calls concerning unidentified flying objects are not all that unusual, she said. The FAA refers many callers to the National UFO Reporting Center near Seattle, she added.

John Chappelow is a post-doctorate researcher at the Arctic Super-Computing Center at University of Alaska Fairbanks. He said the object could have been a meteor, but the sonic boom-type sound is atypical.

"That's a very rare event," he noted. "It's hard to say. It could have been a sonic boom. I wouldn't rule out a meteor."

He also noted that bright meteors and fireballs are not too unusual to see. Sounds, however, would be delayed reaching people's ears, maybe by as long as 30 seconds. Objects from space have to be quite large in order to cause sounds such as people around Tok described a rare event but not unknown. A

meteor generating a sonic boom-type noise would have been at least the size of a basketball, he suggested.

Others in Tok also heard the blast. Several of Olding's friends, including one person in Chicken, compared stories.

Some residents would like an official word on what they witnessed. Rumors abounded for a few days, ranging from the results of a secret military test gone haywire to a satellite explosion or even visitors from space.

"This is highly unusual for many, many Tokites to have heard this explosion," Olding wrote in an e-mail. "Does ANYONE know what it was? We are all dying to know."

News that the mysterious incident was likely a meteor was somewhat reassuring, laying to rest Martian theories.

"We're looking for UFOs around here," Sgt. Wells joked.

Chappelow said nearly all meteors that leave visible trails in the atmosphere are no bigger than a BB, and most are as tiny as a grain of sand. The brightness comes from the speed meteors travel into the Earth's atmosphere.

Contact staff writer Rena Delbridge at 459-7518

WPVI-TV (Online)
Philadelphia, PA
November 18, 2008

By Walter Perez

UFO Sightings Over Bucks County

LANGHORNE, Pa. - November 18, 2008- (WPVI) -- A conference planned for Bucks County is truly "out of this world!"

It comes in response to numerous reports of strange lights, high in the sky.

What were those things people saw hovering over the Sesame Place Amusement Park in Langhorne?

How about those boomerang shaped aircraft in the skies above Oxford Valley Mall?

There've been dozens of reports of UFO sightings in Bucks County over the past few months.

In fact, Action News was able to find an eyewitness.

"It was the most bizarre looking thing, we both said 'What is that?'" said Susan Prager of Yardley, Pa. "We couldn't figure it out. We kept looking at it and looking at it. It definitely was a UFO."

This burst in unexplained sightings has prompted the Pennsylvania Mutual UFO Network, better known as MUFON, to hold it's next Alien Hunter Conference at Bucks County Community College.

MUFON's Pennsylvania Branch Director, John Ventre, says having the meeting here is a no-brainer.

He sent us a release from his home near Pittsburgh saying, in part, "Over

the Summer of 2008, we had 138 UFO sightings from Pittsburgh to Philly. Normally we would have 36 over a four month period. The Philly-Bucks County area had 77 of the 138.

Even Derrick Pitts, Chief Astronomer at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia admits... He wants to believe.

But...

"In the case of alien spacecraft, we have no hard evidence whatsoever about the existence of either alien spacecraft of aliens themselves," Pitts said.

That MUFON meeting will be held January 24th. Topics will include alien abductions, eyewitness accounts and the, quote, "alien hybrid program."

Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks, AK 1-2-09

Tok flying 2165 object gets attention of UFO center

By RENA DELBRIDGE
rdelbridge@newsminer.com

A mysterious object in the sky that rattled Tok and perked ears with a sonic boom-type sound Dec. 29 was seen by others as far away as Healy.

While officials said the object was likely a meteor, at least one Alaskan reported the sight to the National Unidentified Flying Object Reporting Center in Washington state, and others recounted similar odd-objects-in-the-sky stories from years gone by.

Several people in Tok reported the mysterious noise shortly after 3 p.m. Dec. 29. The state troopers also fielded a call, and chalked the incident up as a meteor following confirmation with the Federal Aviation Administration in Fairbanks.

Since then, others have reported seeing a bright object on a northeastern trajectory around the same time, but from distant locations.

Tony Mueller of Healy was driving southbound near milepost 262 of the Parks Highway when a bright light seemed to explode.

"I was amazed that it was so bright in the daylight," he wrote in an e-mail.

The light display happened so fast, he couldn't pinpoint a location.

"It just came out of nowhere, quite amazing," he wrote.

Others revealed on the News-Miner Web site that they'd witnessed a bright, flaring light around the same time — one from the Elliott Highway 15 miles northwest of Fairbanks, and one from about three miles north of Healy.

Please see OBJECT, Page A5

OBJECT: The truth is out there

Continued from Page A1

A Delta Junction man was snow-shoeing about 30 miles northwest of Tok when an erratic vapor trail traced several loops through the sky, according to a report he filed with the National UFO Reporting Center. As he watched, face turned skyward, an echoing boom resounded. Figuring a rocket or jet had twisted out of control, he rushed home and called for his wife to witness the vapor trail, which was slowly dissipating but still visible, according to the report.

Center director Peter Davenport has studied UFOs — or, ufology — for 14 years. While it's difficult to speculate on the Alaska phenomenon without having witnessed the event himself, Davenport confirmed that objects flown by intelligent life from outer space are not out of the realm of possibility.

"I can't say that a genuine UFO never forms a contrail or some kind of trail behind it," Davenport said. "From my experience, it is a very rare occurrence."

But spotting UFOs is not all that rare, he said, pointing to around 59,000 reports stored on the center's Web site.

"We are being visited by UFOs certainly on a weekly basis, and probably more on a daily basis," he said. Most alarming is the possibility an alien presence is already on Earth, influencing events here, he said.

Davenport issued a plea for witnesses to record their recollections by logging onto the center's Web site at www.nuforc.org. The more reports, the better for his ongoing studies, and already too few of those who see a UFO are willing to speak out, he said.

"The trick to my kind of investigation is finding the witnesses," Davenport said. He estimates that one of 10,000 Americans who see such a sight actually report it.

"It is very distressing," he noted. "People think UFOs are unusual. I counter by saying there is nothing more unusual than the human being and human behavior. Human beings are vastly more bizarre than aliens or UFOs could ever be."

Tony Delia isn't prepared to say he saw a UFO about 11 years ago. Just the same, he's certain the objects that lit up the sky about 50 miles south of Tok were neither meteors nor stray satellites.

He was washing dishes a few nights before Christmas in the village of Mentasta when his daughter, then 5, ran outside to tape a snowflake decoration to his truck. Moments later, she called out for her dad.

"She pointed up in the sky, and we saw these huge balls of fire, different colors," he described.

Around 20 people living in the village stepped outdoors, lifting their faces to the brilliantly lit Alaska night sky. Eight or nine objects of varied size and color dipped over the mountains to the northeast, hovering over the mountainside, changing formation, colors and sizes before their eyes.

"The whole village was out looking," Delia reflected. "I've never seen anything like it. I've seen meteors. I've seen satellites. I don't want to say I've seen UFOs, because I don't know. There's something out there we don't know, we can't explain."

Contact staff writer Rena Delbridge at 459-7518.

Saturday, January 31, 2009 2:16:45 PM

Did UFO Attend Obama's Inauguration Ceremony? Watch Video

January 26, 2009

Robert Paul Reyes

"A UFO dropped in on Barack Obama's inauguration ceremony, it was claimed last night.

News footage captured a shadowy object flashing across the sky before the new President's speech.

The high-speed object appears to streak behind the Washington Monument and then disappear into the clouds.

The CNN clip, featuring veteran US broadcaster Wolf Blitzer, has attracted thousands of hits on video-sharing website YouTube."

The Sun/EMILY SMITH

I take all reports of UFO sightings with a grain of salt, if intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe they would pay no more attention to us than we would pay to ants under our feet.

The chance that we would encounter an alien race that's just a few hundred years more technologically advanced than us is almost zero. If there is intelligent life out there they could very well be millions or billions years ahead of us, and it's doubtful that we would even recognize them as sentient life forms if they stood (hovered?) right next to us.

But if aliens are interested in someone in our little blue planet, it would be Barack Obama. The 44th president of the United States is the most popular and powerful person in the world. Obama has instilled hope and optimism in Americans, and he has elevated the consciousness of everyone in the world with access to a TV or a computer.

If a joker claimed that a UFO hovered over Bush as he delivered a speech, everyone would exclaim: Yeah, right! But maybe, just maybe even extraterrestrial beings are enthralled with Obama.

Watch the video and make up your own mind:

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/article2167191.ece>

HURON DAILY TRIBUNE
Bad Axe, MI
October 31, 2008

By Traci L. Weisenbach

50 years ago, 'Little Blue Man' shook up Elkton



ELKTON — Picture it — you're driving along a country road on a Thursday night in the early spring, and out of nowhere, something strange appears from the darkness alongside the road. An illuminated, bluish figure moving very quickly, perhaps even dancing.

Then, in the blink of an eye, it's gone.

You try to make sense of it, but your mind can't quite wrap around it. You've heard stories of UFO sightings, but...no...it can't be...an alien?

What would you do? Do you keep your eerie experience to yourself, not wanting to appear like you're in need of a straitjacket? Or do you tell others, as perhaps others have witnessed the same spooky sight?

While this scenario may sound like something from a science fiction show, it actually happened in Elkton in 1958. Once the mystery was solved, news of the "Little Blue Man" stretched across the globe, along with a photo of the "alien" and two policemen. Fifty years later, people still talk about this famous caper, and a local corn maze celebrates this tale that's almost too "out of this world" to be true.

The prank

The zany tale starts with three young men who had just returned home from serving in the military, one of those men being Don Weiss.

"We were 22 or 23 years old, and we were looking for work," Weiss said. "We had a little extra time on our hands."

Weiss said he and the other two gentlemen — LeRoy Schultz and Jerry Sprague — were best of friends and spent a lot of time together. They were known for being jokesters in town. Using this sense of humor, the trio devised the ultimate prank.

"There was starting to be flying saucer stories, and the idea came from that," Weiss said. "We wanted to take this idea a little further."

They decided it would be fun to have one of them dress as an alien and go out at night to surprise people. In a garage, they devised a costume, which included long underwear, Weiss's high school football helmet, Styrofoam attached to the helmet, large gloves, German combat boots with metal soles, a bedsheet with two holes cut out for the eyes and a button sewed on for the mouth, and blinking lights on the helmet and Styrofoam.

"They didn't have blinking (Christmas) lights back then, so we had to make the lights blink ourselves," Weiss said. "We had a battery pack attached to the costume."

The entire costume was spraypainted blue.

"The paint glowed a bit in the light, which added to the effect," Weiss said.

He said there was a song on the radio at the time called "Little Blue Man" by Betty Johnson, which inspired the blue color of their "alien" creation.

On one Thursday night in the early spring of 1958, the trio debuted their prank. Because the long underwear would fit only him, Sprague became the "alien."

During the trio's nighttime jaunts, Sprague would hide in the trunk of "the getaway car," and Schultz would drive out to a country road and Weiss would

let Sprague out. Sprague would run along a fence line or alongside a ditch bank so people could see him. After traveling a short distance on foot, Sprague would hop back into the car's trunk. Weiss said he was in charge of helping Sprague get in and out of the trunk.

"Jerry never jumped out in front of cars," Weiss said.

Because they didn't want to make themselves too easy of a target, the three friends only embarked on their capers on Thursday nights.

"We wanted to let people see (Jerry), and then we'd sit back and wait to see if people talked about it," Weiss said.

He said it took three or four Thursday trips before they started hearing chatter about it.

"Then, people's imaginations started taking over," Weiss said.

He said some accounts had "the blue man" measuring 10 feet high while others said it was just two feet high. Another report indicated someone spotted him sitting atop a telephone pole.

"My favorite was an account that said 'It ran faster than any human,'" Weiss said with a chuckle.

Most of the time, the trio would do their pranks in the Elkton area. The farthest they traveled was the intersection of Filion Road and M-53, Weiss said.

The trio embarked on eight to 10 jaunts and no one suspected them as the culprits. Reports hadn't been made to the police until one night in April 1958, when Weiss, Sprague and Schultz involved a school bus in their prank.

"We were sitting at The Bean Pot in Bad Axe when we saw a bus of Elkton Junior High students drive by," Weiss said. "The students had been to a rollerskating party."

Because the costume was in the car, the three friends decided to drive ahead of the bus a few miles so Sprague could put on his "blue man" show.

"That's when all heck broke loose," Weiss said.

The next day, six police cars sat at the Elkton school. Someone had called the police.

"There was a little panic," Weiss said about what he and his friends felt as they saw the police cars. "I guess the school kids (on the bus) were genuinely scared and parents were concerned."

Weiss said he and his friends kept everything about "the blue man" a secret until one day, Sprague told a friend in Kinde and that person told other people.

"We knew it was just a matter of time before the police found out it was us," Weiss said.

One night in Elkton, then-Michigan State Trooper William Collins was patrolling and the three pranksters approached him.

"We said, 'I hear that you're looking for us,'" Weiss said.

Collins took Weiss, Sprague and Schultz to the Huron County Sheriff's Office, where they were questioned by then-Sheriff Merritt McBride and then-Prosecuting Attorney James Umphrey. Weiss said he and his friends weren't too concerned about getting into serious trouble, as no one had been hurt in the pranks.

"They thought it was hilarious," Weiss said of McBride and Umphrey. "They wanted to carry it further. They proposed that we walk around the radio station to see what would happen."

Weiss said they didn't go to the radio station. He and his friends received a warning to never do the "blue man" prank again.

"We were told 'Take your underwear and go home,'" Weiss said.

Other than Weiss's football helmet, which still has a bit of blue paint on it and is on display at Weiss's barbershop in downtown Elkton, Weiss isn't sure what became of the costume. He said one of the German combat boots, which belonged to his brother, Harvey, is missing.

As for Schultz, Weiss said he moved away from the Thumb about 40 years ago. Sprague, who went on to own Elkton Roofing and Siding Co., died in 2006.

"He became very quiet in his later years," Weiss said, noting Sprague didn't really talk much about the "Little Blue Man."

Weiss summarizes the "Little Blue Man" as "a Halloween prank and it wasn't Halloween."

The aftermath

A photo of Sprague in the costume flanked by Collins and then-Huron County Deputy Sheriff Robert Quinn was taken by Bob Barrett of the Huron News, which is now the Huron Daily Tribune. That photo and the accompanying story took the rural, innocent prank and turned it into an international story. Soon after the photo and story appeared in the Huron News, other Michigan newspapers picked up the story. The Associated Press also picked up the story, and it ended up in "Stars and Stripes," the military newspaper, Weiss said.

"We got calls from TV stations around the country," he added.

Perhaps the most exciting mention of the "blue man" was in the May 1958 issue of Life Magazine.

In 1994, a local film and video production student decided to produce a documentary on the "Little Blue Man" for his senior thesis at Grand Valley State University. His name is Dan Depner.

"Blue Man was on my brain 24 hours a day," he said.

The 32-minute movie, called "Huron County Blues," includes interviews — both phone and face-to-face — of those who were involved in the prank, including Weiss, and some eyewitnesses to the "Little Blue Man," including Al Hanson.

"I saw the 'Blue Man' three times," Hanson told the Huron Daily Tribune for this story. "The first time, it was quite a shock."

He said the first time he spotted the "Blue Man," he was driving to Elkton with his then-girlfriend Joan Bittner, who now is his wife.

"We were near the railroad tracks outside of Elkton by the golf course, and all of a sudden, here's this little blue guy walking along by the ditch, all these lights blinking," he said. "It scared the hell out of me at first. Joan and I looked at each other and she said, 'Did you see what I saw?' I said, 'Yes, but I'm not going to turn around.'"

Hanson said he told Joan Bittner's father, Herb, about the eerie sight, along with other people.

"They just laughed. They didn't believe me," he said.

Hanson said after seeing the "Blue Man" three times, he figured it was a prank, but he didn't know who the pranksters could be. He said when he found out who they were, he wasn't surprised.

"They were clowns, always joking around," he said of Weiss, Sprague and Schultz. "They were all good guys. They didn't want to hurt anybody."

Hanson said seeing the "Blue Man" was "an exciting experience."

For the movie, Depner obtained the actual police report given to the Michigan State Police after the school bus incident. Elkton High School teachers Ed Wichert and John Hamilton had filed the report. The two had been chaperones on the skating

Once the report was filed, Collins and Quinn were assigned to the case. More people started coming forth to admit they had caught a glimpse of the "blue man," according to Depner's movie.

The movie won first place in the 1994 Grand Rapids Film and Video Festival.

Depner is known not only for this movie, but for his corn maze on Griggs Road east of Caseville, which has become a very popular spot for both local and out-of-area tourists. This year, the maze has an alien theme, and Depner claims "friendly aliens" created the design. The giant alien maze is 8 1/2 acres and includes an "Alien Trivia" game. One of the questions is, "Who was the alien who invaded Huron County in 1958?"

"Few visitors know the story of the 'Blue Man,'" Depner said. "This question stumps the best of them!"

The "Little Blue Man" legend lives on

Time doesn't seem to lessen people's interest in the "Little Blue Man" story, Depner said.

"The more time that passes, the more popular this story seems to be," he said. "Many of the individuals involved are no longer with us; therefore, the documentary has turned into a collector's piece."

Depner called the "Little Blue Man" a "fantastic prank" that was well thought out.

"The timing of the prank couldn't have been better," he said, referring to people's sightings of UFOs.

Weiss said people are still curious about the "Little Blue Man." "Not a month goes by that someone doesn't mention it," he said.

Weiss said today, if three friends wanted to try to pull off such a prank, he wouldn't necessarily discourage them.

"I'd say do your thing, as long as no one gets hurt," he said. "We need more humor in our lives. Everyone is so serious these days."

Depner agreed.

"If this (prank) was to happen today, I don't think it would be nearly as effective," he said. "I'm sure the perpetrators would be finding themselves in hot water."

MOUNT PLEASANT JOURNAL

Date: Thursday, December 04, 2008
Location: WESTMORELAND CITY, PA

Bright lights? Jupiter and Venus!

Well-known UFO researcher Stan Gordon has been receiving numerous reports of two bright lights in the sky from across Pennsylvania during the past week. Observers have been reporting the two bright light sources on clear nights, and in a south-southwest direction after sunset, during early evening hours. "These sightings all appear to be the planets Jupiter and Venus in close proximity to each other," noted Gordon, adding that the Moon, Venus and Jupiter are all in close conjunction this week. "In addition to the observations of Venus and Jupiter, I have been receiving other more unusual UFO reports in recent weeks," Gordon added. "UFO activity has been active all year across the Keystone State."

Express-Time

Date: Friday, December 12, 2008
Location: EASTON, PA

LEHIGHVALLEYLIVE



UFO OR MYLAR BALLOON?

A reader submitted photos of an alleged UFO over Phillipsburg. Nick Falsone isn't so sure the object is extraterrestrial. Read about his theories in his Bedlam in Bethlehem blog at lehighvalleylive.com

2105 Another unexplained sighting in Stephenville

By Angela Joiner

Special to the Reporter-News

What in the world continues to fly in the skies over Stephenville? Or maybe it's out of this world.

On the heels of multiple UFO sightings in the area on Oct. 23, Tuesday proved just as noteworthy for

local residents.

Michael Corn, 27, a former member of the Army assigned to a Patriot Missile unit, said while at his home at 7:15 p.m. at the intersection of Highway 377 Business and U.S. Highway 281, friends called him outside.

He saw what appeared to be a brightly lit object in the sky.

"It looked really close to Stephenville, like it was almost over the courthouse," Corn said.

He said the amber/orange lights pulsed in a right-to-left direction.

"I could see the bottom of the object from the illumination of those lights and the city lights," Corn said. "The bottom (of the object) looked

smooth.

"There is no way you could be outside and look up in the sky and not notice this thing. It was just weird."

Corn said he observed the object for about 15 seconds, and then it disappeared without a sound.

"It just vanished," he said.

When questioned about the

When questioned about the possibility of the object being an experimental military project, he said: "I know that we couldn't make it. I don't believe it's ours. I got the impression that it has technology that we are not capable of understanding."

Corn said he is familiar with all types of aircraft because of his experience in the Army and his childhood near the Dallas-Fort Worth airport.

"It was very unnerving — you can't come up with a reasonable explanation for what it was," Corn said.

Corn's girlfriend, Ashley Couch, also saw the object.

"It reminded me of a carousel lying over on its side," Couch said.

Another observer at U.S. Highway 281 and North Loop 377 said she could not explain what she saw.

The 20-year-old woman, who asked not to be identified, was traveling north on Loop 377 when her boyfriend called her attention to the vehicle just ahead that seemed to be strangely illuminated.

"He asked me if I saw those weird lights," she said. "But I hadn't noticed anything."

She said they pulled into a gas station at the intersection.

When they exited their vehicle, a man pulled in and asked if they had seen the lights.

"He said he was a pilot, and after my boyfriend had just asked me about lights so that got my attention," the woman said.

Entering back into traffic headed north, they both saw an object.

"It was coming down at a slight angle — slowly — it had a bright, big light, a steady light and a blinking light," she said, "for a total of three.

"One was red, and maybe that was the one that was blinking ... I'm not sure."

The couple was so mesmerized they slowed down to almost a stop in the road.

"It pivoted to our left side, maybe 50 yards away and 75 yards up in the air," she said. "It looked almost like it was hovering. The lights were so bright it was hard to see the shape."

The woman said they passed the object, and she looked back to see if it was going to land at the airport, Clark Field. But she was unable to see it.

"We turned around and went back" to the gas station, she said. "There we saw it again, but this time it was on our right moving left across in front of us," she said. "It turned again and looked like it was about to stop, and went back the other way."

"The lights were so bright it was almost hard to look at it. I think it might have been blimp-shaped and about the size of two school buses. It was hard to tell."

Area law enforcement officers said about 10 calls were received reporting a craft or lights.

While some of the callers may have seen flares, one officer said not all of the calls were related to flares dropped in the Brownwood Military Operating Area just before 7 p.m.

Abilene Reporter-News

ABILENE, TX

Circ. D. 31,035

November 21 2008

Fowler, CO

UFO reported in Colorado

By Dan Cunningham

GateHouse News Service

Wed Jan 07, 2009, 09:56 AM MST

Las Animas, Colo. -

The town of Las Animas is buzzing about a UFO sighting around Christmas.

One of the witnesses has gone on the record to talk about it, but another prefers to remain unnamed.

Mark Lucero, 22, of Las Animas said he was standing outside a convenience store about 8:30 p.m. one evening during Christmas week. While he chatted with a companion, he saw a large, shiny object in his peripheral vision.

When he turned to look at it, he was stunned.

"It looked like a silver basketball, but a lot bigger. It was above the tree right here," he said, pointing to a tree directly across the street from the convenience store. "Then it took off west and was gone."

Lucero said the object had remained motionless in one spot until he looked up.

"I know it was not a moving object. Then it took off pretty damn fast," Lucero said.

He said he believes the tree branches were being used by the object for cover, "like we were not supposed to see it."

The second eyewitness said in a separate interview that he saw the object in his peripheral vision, too, and it suddenly took off when Lucero turned his head to look at it.

As the second man turned to look at the object, it seemed to curve back and down and then suddenly shot off to the left and disappeared after cross a few degrees of arc in the sky.

He said the object had a "transparent look around it, like a mirage in the desert." He described the color as like a shiny silver car.

"It definitely was not a meteor," he said.

He said it also was not a bat or bird flying in the night sky.

While it was gray, it had a glow around it. He described it as looking like gasses were coming off of it.

"I used to live by the airport in Denver. I have seen plane lights where they become stationary and then move. This was different," he said.

The second man said that since their sighting, another couple has told them they saw something similar east of Las Animas.

Lucero drew a picture of the UFO, describing it as perfectly round, and it seemed to have three small holes on the edge, spaced like a triangle. He said there was no trail behind the object, but there was a glow around the edge of it.

Lucero also said his girlfriend saw something similar a few weeks ago while headed out of town, and she took a picture of it with her cell phone.

Bent County Democrat

2105

Discovery Channel's UFO documentary focuses on Bucks County sightings

Tomorrow night at 9, the Discovery Channel will be premiering a new documentary series, "UFOs Over Earth - The Bucks County Flap." What should make it especially interesting for readers of this newspaper is that the nationally broadcast program focuses exclusively on recent alleged sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) right here in Bucks County.

For those few still-uninformed individuals, UFOs are those mysterious lights and sometimes huge solid objects that are said to hover overhead with no rational explanation. Their sizes may vary from that of a small pie plate to something larger than a football field. They are also reported to appear in several shapes; the most common being circular (disk-like), tubular (cigar-shaped), and V-shaped (like a boomerang). They're also commonly referred to as "flying saucers."

According to John Ventre, the Pennsylvania State Director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), there have been 138 documented cases of UFO sightings in Pennsylvania during the past summer, with 77 of them reported from Bucks County. MUFON is an international civilian organization that investigates and attempts to scientifically discover what these UFOs actually are and where they originate.

On a Saturday afternoon and evening in early August, I spent a number of hours with Ventre; with local MUFON field representative Bob Gardner; and with Bob Wise, the producer of the Discovery Channel documentary, as they interviewed and taped accounts of a number of local residents who claim to have seen UFOs. While some of the stories seemed (at least to

me) a little "far out," a couple of them had a ring of truth and objectivity that I felt warranted further investigation.

Last Wednesday evening, I had the opportunity to screen an advanced copy of Wise's finished product.

While the new documentary describes the alleged sightings of six Bucks County individuals, it primarily focuses on the accounts of two of them, Cliff (last name withheld), a retired contractor who reported twice seeing a huge silent aircraft over his Doylestown home in July, and Denise Lynch Murter, a housewife who described several UFO visits to the back yard of her Village of Pennbrook apartment between April and July. Cliff described a very large object that appeared to have six UFOs docked together forming a hexagon. He reported that when lightning flashed, he was able to see through the seams and saw the entire object.

Gardner explained that in an attempt to verify Cliff's story, a few days later he visited the Philly airport tower and was shown radar that confirmed that a large unidentified object had appeared in the area of Cliff's home at the time of the alleged sighting. He explained that according to FAA personnel, the unidentified object did not have a transponder (a radio beam that helps air traffic controllers identify the aircraft and its location), and that after circling Doylestown, it headed north and disappeared off the radar screen.

In a phone call to the airport tower on Thursday, I spoke to an FAA representative who confirmed Gardner's account. While acknowledging that the object was unidentified and did

circle Doylestown, she pointed out that radar is capable of picking up numerous unidentified objects — occasionally even large vehicles. Yet, she remembered that the object in question was moving at a high rate of speed — even for an aircraft — and stressed that while there are some aircraft that fly without transponders, it would be quite unusual for any of them to be flying without one at 3 or 4 a.m. This was especially true since the object in question was so close to a protected air space area which requires a transponder.

The other key witness Murter insists that she saw a strange object hovering over the trees in her back yard on 5 different occasions between April and July. She says that all of the incidents occurred between 1 and 4 a.m. and that several times the object sprinkled a sparkling metallic substance on one of her trees, and then drew it back up. When I asked her if the sprinkled substance looked like "Disney Dust," (the shimmering snowflake-like material that drops from magic wands in Disney cartoons) she laughed and said, "Yes, exactly"

In late July, MUFON investigators took leaf and soil samples from Murter's tree and from another tree a block away. Three independent laboratories examined the samples with mixed results. One lab insisted that the leaves from her tree had been subjected to high heat or radiation and had very high levels of boron and magnesium, yet it was not found in the soil or the tree sample located a block away. Another lab disagreed with those findings.

In early August, Murter e-mailed me photos of what she described as lights hovering

over her tree. In the documentary, the photos are shown undergoing careful scrutiny and analysis.

The conclusions on the leaf analysis and the photos are still pending.

While there are those who ridicule UFO sightings as figments of an individual's imagination, weather aberrations, or simply hoaxes, there are many (including hundreds of military and airline pilots and even three former U.S. presidents) who insist they have seen them. One president, Jimmy Carter, filed a report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), claiming that along with a dozen other friends, he had seen an unidentified flying object in October 1969. After the sighting, he vowed that never again would he ridicule anyone who claimed to have seen a UFO.

While I've no real way of knowing what it is these people are seeing (or think they're seeing) based on conversations and extensive interviews I've had with many of them over the past several months, I'm forced to agree with President Carter.

Jerry Jonas' column appears in the Life Section every Sunday.

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Sunday Dispatch

151st Year. No. 7,872.

24d.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1952.

Radio Page 8.

What Intruded Into 'Exercise Mainbrace'?

'SAUCER' CHASED RAF

JET PLANE Say 6 Airmen

NOT Smoke-Ring Or Weather

Balloon, Says Pilot

S.D. 21 SEP 1952

By Sunday Dispatch Reporter

SERIOUS investigation was being made last night by the R.A.F. into the mystery of a silvery-white object that chased a Meteor jet-plane over Yorkshire during "Exercise Mainbrace."

It was seen by two R.A.F. officers and three aircrew as they stood near Coastal Command Shackleton Squadron H.Q. at Topcliffe.

They had just landed after a flight and were watching a Meteor coming in to land at the neighbouring Dishforth R.A.F. station.

One of them, Flight Lieut. John W. Kilburn, 31, of Egremont, Cumberland, then spotted "something different from anything I have ever seen in 3,700 hours flying in a variety of conditions."

He told me last night: "It was 10.53 a.m. on Friday. The Meteor was coming down from about 5,000ft. The sky was clear. There was sunshine and unlimited visibility."

"The Meteor was crossing from East to West when I noticed the white object in the sky."

"This object was silver and circular in shape, about 10,000ft. up some five miles astern of the aircraft. It appeared to be travelling at a lower speed than the Meteor but was on the same course."

"I said: 'What the hell's that?' and the chaps looked to where I was pointing. Somebody shouted that it might be the engine cowling of the Meteor falling out of the sky. Then we thought it might be a parachute."

"But as we watched the disc maintained a slow forward speed for a few seconds before starting to descend."

Cont.

Pendulum Swing

"While descending it was swinging in a pendulum fashion from left to right."

"As the Meteor turned to start its landing run the object appeared to be following it. But after a few seconds it stopped its descent and hung in the air rotating as if on its own axis."

"Then it accelerated at an incredible speed to the west, turned south-east and then disappeared."

"It is difficult to estimate the object's speed. The incident happened within a matter of 15 to 20 seconds."

It Flashed

"During the few seconds that it was rotating we could see it flashing in the sunshine. It appeared to be about the size of a Vampire jet aircraft at a similar height."

"We are all convinced that it was some solid object. We realised very quickly that it could not be a broken cowling or a parachute."

"There was not the slightest possibility that the object we saw was a smoke ring, or was caused by vapour trail from the Meteor or from any jet aircraft. We have, of course, seen this, and we are all quite certain that what we saw was not caused by vapour or by smoke."

"We are also quite certain that it was not a weather observation balloon. The speed at which it moved away discounts this altogether."

"It was not a small object which appeared bigger in the conditions of light. Our combined opinion is that it was about the size of a Vampire jet—and that it was something we had never seen before in a long experience of air observation."

Flight Lieutenant Marian Cybulski, 34, who was in a Polish squadron during the war and has flown 2,000 hours, said:

"I agree with everything that Flight Lieutenant Kilburn says about this mysterious object. There may be Flying Saucers and there may not be. But this was something I have never seen before."

'Sort Of Halo'

Master Signaller Albert W. Thomson, 29, of Abbey-road, Barrow-in-Furness, who has been with the R.A.F. for 14½ years, said: "I saw just the same. It was there in the air, a round shape which hung for a few seconds. What it was I simply don't know."

Sergt. Flight Engineer Thomas B. Dewys, 20, of Bedworth, Warwickshire, also saw the object.

L.A.C. George Grime, 22, of Salford, said: "I saw a sort of halo shining on the centre of the object. It appeared to be going round and to shine as it turned. It was a solid object with no marks on it."

A sixth flyer who saw the incident, Flight Lieutenant R. M. Paris, of Brighton, was on a flying exercise yesterday and could not give a personal account.



Here are five of the R.A.F. men who saw the Flying Saucer. Left to right standing: L.A.C. Grime, Sgt. T. B. Dewys, Master Sigs. A. E. Thompson, Flight-Lieut. M. Cybulski, Flight-Lieut. J. W. Kilburn.

Continued →

FROM THE ARCHIVES

NOW IT'S FLYING TRIANGLE

Strange Object Seen in La Crescenta Skies

Look out! Here come the flying triangles.

Mrs. Ruby Lytle telephoned the Sheriff's Montrose Station excitedly yesterday and said she saw one when she looked from her kitchen window at 2522 Montrose Ave., La Crescenta.

The thing was flying north at a slow speed.

"It's light-colored and has a gondola-shaped body attached," she told Sgt. P. C. Newman. "It's between 5000 and 10,000 feet up and I know it isn't a kite or a weather balloon or a plane because I'm familiar with all those."

The triangle was about the size of a large plane, Mrs. Lytle said, but she didn't notice any "space men" aboard. There was no sound of any engine.

From Salem, O., came dispatches describing how former Crown Prince Otto of Austria

told a Town Hall audience he thinks the flying saucers seen over the United States are Russian map recording devices.

CAFE ALL SET FOR FLYING SAUCER PILOTS

A Beverly Hills cafe owner yesterday seized on the most recent flying saucer report as a laugh-getter for patrons of his establishment at Santa Monica and Beverly Blvds.

A knee-high table, complete with miniature chairs and place settings, bore a neatly lettered card that read:

"Reserved for Flying Saucer Pilots—23 inches tall or under."

Two Women Report UFO In Windsor

The Associated Press

WINDSOR — What's bigger and wider than a 747, is v-shaped and full of lights, emits a steady hum that sounds like a train and flies at about 4,000 feet?

Linda Kingsbury, 33, and Lucy Slothower, 29, would love to find out.

They saw such an object for more than five minutes starting at 7:23 Wednesday night after they walked out of a grocery store.

"I noticed one star that seemed to be moving and it kept coming right at us," said Ms. Slothower.

She said the object flew right over their heads.

"It was an enormous craft, shaped like a triangle with a grid system in between, and lights outlining the structure," she said.

The two women, both employees at Vermont Public Radio, reported the sightings to UFO centers around the country. They said one of the centers, in Seattle, Wash., said there had been other reports of the sighting.

Ms. Slothower said the craft was so quiet and "subtle" she doubts it would have been seen "by anyone driving down the road."

The two women drew pictures of their sighting and said officials from the UFO sighting center plan to view them.

FREE PRESS, Burlington, VT — April 17, 1981
CR: P. Bartholomew via W. Thompson

Triangle That Flies Sighted Along Shore

New Saucer Twist:

'Flying Triangle' Seen in State

CROMWELL (Special) — Richard Ireton has decided that seeing triangles isn't so square.

Ireton, who lives at 34 Grove Rd. here, said Friday he, his wife and neighbors all saw "flying triangles" two weeks ago. He said he didn't report his findings at first for fear of being "ridiculed."

Now, he says, he's going to ignore opinion and stand by his facts. His detailed descriptions of what he saw and how he saw it testify to his work as a machinist.

Eerie: No Noise

Ireton said that about 11:30 p.m. Sept. 2 he and his wife were driving on Rt. 1 in Westbrook. After crossing a bridge, he noticed "an aircraft about to crash."

He stopped the car to watch the object, which he and his wife saw "veer to the south toward the shore." They drove to the beach. There they saw the object again, going "about the speed of a Piper Cub plane."

The eeriest part of the whole thing he said, was that the flying object made no sound.

'Terrific Speed'

The object went toward Cornfield Point where it hovered in the air, going first back and forth horizontally and then up and down, Ireton said. It then flew back past him toward the public beach at Westbrook.

Ireton returned to his car and drove to the public beach. There he said, he saw it go up and off

at an angle "at a terrific rate of speed" toward Long Island Sound — but with no sound of its own.

He said the object had, at two points of the triangle, white lights, at the third point, a blue light. In its center was a revolving red light, Ireton said.

He said the object seemed to fly in an "upright position," with the blue-lighted point on top. He said it was about the size of a jet fighter plane.

After it zoomed away to a great height, he said, it looked like a bright star.

Back Again

The next night, Sept. 3, he was at his father's cottage on Chalker Beach when the object was seen again by the Iretons, the people in the next cottage and their grandson. It was seen about 9:30 p.m., hovered over the water for a while, then went up very fast and stayed in one spot.

Ireton watched the object with binoculars for half an hour. Then

he became cold, he said, and went into the cottage. Several people in this area told him they saw the same thing at the same times, he said.

Finally feeling his experiences weren't incredible, he reported the sightings to the State Police. They said other sightings were reported, but had no advisory on what the object might be.

'No Bug'

No neophyte plane spotter — he's an Air Force veteran — Ireton said no one seemed much interested in his report.

"I'm no bug on this thing," he said. "I hesitated for a long time and didn't want to report it because I know these things are laughed at." I laugh at them myself. But I saw this thing, close

See TRIANGLE, Page 2

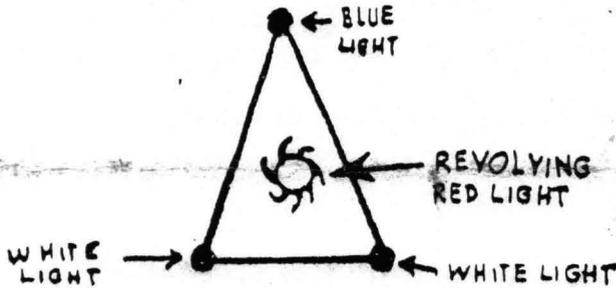
Triangle

(Continued from Page 1)
up, with binoculars. It kept bothering me and I had to report it."

Since reporting it, he said, he's heard nothing from the authorities.

"I don't even think they made a note of it," he said. "Maybe I should have called the Air Force."

A Los Angeles, Calif., policeman reported seeing "a flying triangle" there Thursday morn-



CROMWELL Sept. 17 — Richard Ireton has come up with a new flying saucer angle — a triangle that flies. He reports having seen a flying triangle in the shoreline area two weeks ago.

Ireton, who lives at 34 Grove road, here, said he and his wife first noticed it about 11:30 p.m. while they were driving on Rt. 1 in Westbrook.

It was hovering 80 feet or so above the cottages along the oceanfront. When it moved — noiselessly and lightning fast — it traveled in the direction of its apex when going upward and in the direction of its sides when moving sideways. In other words, the view of the moving triangle was the same as that of an equilateral or scalene triangle as it would appear drawn in two dimensions on a sheet of paper.

Ireton, a machinist, is an Air Force veteran. He said the mysterious object appeared to be about the size of a fighter aircraft or possibly a bit bigger. At two points of the triangle were white lights, and at the apex a blue light shone. In the middle of the solid figure, a red light flashed much like the light atop a police cruiser.

Anticipating ridicule and disbelief, Ireton withheld reporting the strange sight for a fortnight. But he got such a good look at it that his curiosity eventually got the better of him and he notified State Police.

"I don't want the publicity," he says. "I'm just dying to know what it was that I saw. I incline to the belief that it is a new type of aircraft the government is testing."

Ireton's father and several neighbors at the shore also reported seeing the object, though not at so close a distance.

"One minute it was hovering over the beach and the next moment it had zoomed up so high it appeared to be one of the stars," said he. "And it never made a sound."

Ireton had the object in his binoculars for a good half hour. "It was weird," he says. "I don't mind telling you my wife was scared."

He has heard nothing from official sources as to what the object was. State Police indicated they had received reports of other sightings, he said.

Hartford, Connecticut
The Hartford Courant
17 September 60



British News Clippings are courtesy of TIMOTHY GOOD
Spanish Translations courtesy JANE THOMAS GUMA

Wandsworth Guardian
London, England 10-23-08



Visitors: An artist's impression of UFOs over Wandsworth Common West Side

THEY'RE HERE

Strange lights reported from across the borough

Strange lights spotted in the sky over Wandsworth Common and Balham convinced residents UFOs had visited the brighter borough.

Residents living in different parts of the borough contacted the police and the Wandsworth Guardian claiming to have witnessed a strange series of lights.

Red and white lights zipping through the sky between 10pm and midnight last Monday, October 13, had residents in the Wandsworth Common and Balham areas in a spin.

Brian Sliman, of Thurleigh Road, was walking past his window when he saw the unusual phenomena.

He said: "Where I live in Balham, I have a perfect view of the flight path

by **JAMIE HENDERSON**

jhenderson@london.newsquest.co.uk

from Heathrow. I'm quite used to aircraft and chinook helicopters flying past but these lights looked like they were actually being launched from Heathrow.

"They were white and red in colour with a blueish trail, and formed a triangle shape when they flew past my window. I couldn't believe my eyes so I called my nephew, who is 22, into the room and he saw exactly the same as I did.

"I can't tell you how relieved I am that other people have called this in as well, I was considering going to see a psychiatrist."

Wandsworth Common resident, Lee Foskett, said: "At about 10.30pm

on Monday night, I looked out of my kitchen window and saw this red ball, which looked like a star. It stood still and then slowly started moving, all of a sudden another one appeared from behind the building opposite my flat.

"They just sat there until another one came along that was higher than the other two, making a triangular shape. I called my daughter who thought it was very strange and was quite scared."

In recent years, sightings of this kind have been dismissed as Chinese lanterns but UFO expert and former Ministry of Defence employee, Nick Pope, is not entirely convinced by this theory.

He said: "Chinese lanterns are almost exclusively red and orange and

drift on the wind. The colours mentioned are slightly unusual, particularly the blue trail. But, if the reports witnessed a perfect triangular shape, then it raises the possibility of it being genuine.

"However, it could also be atmospheric plasma or a meteorological phenomena."

A Wandsworth police spokesman said: "On Monday evening we had five calls, from three people, all saying they saw the same thing - a red light moving like a boomerang. The calls were all from the SW12, SW17 and SW18 areas."

Have you witnessed anything similar to this? Have got a great local picture?

Share it at yourlocalguardian.co.uk/news/pictures

Was strange object seen by town mayor a UFO?

2374

By Kate Forrester
kate.forrester@nwn.co.uk



■ Bemused: Terry Renshaw.

A TOWN mayor is seeking witnesses after spotting a mysterious object in the sky.

Flint mayor Terry Renshaw was making lunch at his home in Bagillt at about 1.30pm on Saturday, when he noticed a strange pipe-like object flying through the air.

"I thought at first that it was a plane trailing a big streamer behind it, but then I realised it was something else," he said.

"It looked like a big, flexible aluminium pipe and it was travelling very fast, with no sound.

"I took a picture of it on my camera and carried on watching

'It was travelling very fast with no sound'

it for a bit and then it disappeared, behind what I thought was a cloud, but there were no clouds.

"I then looked at the picture on my camera but there was nothing there - just a clear blue sky."

However, the sighting is not the first unusual object to be spotted in Flintshire's skies in

recent months. During the Christmas and new year period, dozens of residents reported seeing a series of strange orange lights travelling quickly across the sky.

So far, no-one has been able to offer a concrete explanation as to exactly what these objects were.

Following this latest sighting, Cllr Renshaw is looking for anyone in the area who may have noticed something similar.

He said: "I have contacted the UFO Society to see if it has received any similar reports, but I have not heard anything from them yet.

"I would be really interested to know if anyone in Flintshire spotted the same thing."

● Have you noticed any strange objects in the sky? Let us know at www.eveningleader.co.uk.

**Chester Evening Leader
England 10-2-08**

UFO mystery

A GOVERNMENT file revealing a UFO sighting over Haslingden has been released by the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

A dog walker is said to have spotted an object shrouded in mist over Eskitt Quarry on 12 January 1989. He reported a rainbow effect of blue, green, yellow and white lights around the object, half a mile from where he was standing.

The object was then said to have shot off at an angle at 'a million miles an hour', making no noise.

An MoD squadron leader said the witness was a regular correspondent on UFO matters. But, the report went on, the man subsequently accepted that his call would be treated as a UFO report.

**Rossendale Free Press
England 10-3-08**

The truth is out there (sort of)

2374

By DANIEL BINNS

dbinns@londoni.newsquest.co.uk

UFO watchers in Wanstead and Woodford have demanded the Government be more open with them following the release of secret files from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) this week.

The documents, which feature tales of a near-miss between a plane landing at Heathrow and an apparent unidentified craft, along with sightings from the MoD's own headquarters, are the latest in a series of declassified documents being released over the next four years.

But residents who have spotted strange sights in the skies over Redbridge have said the Government is being irresponsible by only drip-feeding the documents over time.

Paint shop worker Bradley Gross, of Baddow Close in Woodford Green, was one of several witnesses who saw a mysterious grey object over Charlie Brown's roundabout in June.

He said: "They should be making all this public. I reckon the Government is hiding something from us all. Why should they keep it secret? I don't think it would scare people because we've been hearing about UFOs for so many years.



Bradley Gross and partner Cheri, who spotted an apparent UFO earlier this year over Woodford Green (EL8613-2)

"It's not just our country it's going on all over the world. Some people, like my brothers, take the mick out of me for it but so many people believe in it."

Roy Lake, from the London UFO Studies Group, said: "It's so typical of the Government, we hear about things which have happened 20 years ago, when it's too late.

"It's fascinating stuff. Some of reports are a lot of rubbish but then a lot of them are also quite interesting.

"If something happens today the public need to know about it today for the sake of national secu-

rity. It's about time that people took this subject more seriously."

Earlier releases from the MoD have revealed reports from a man who spotted two "giant sparklers" hovering in the skies of Woodford Green back in February 2001, and two boys who were left "terrified" after seeing some strange lights over the streets of Wanstead.

To see the newly released documents visit: ufos.nationalarchives.gov.uk

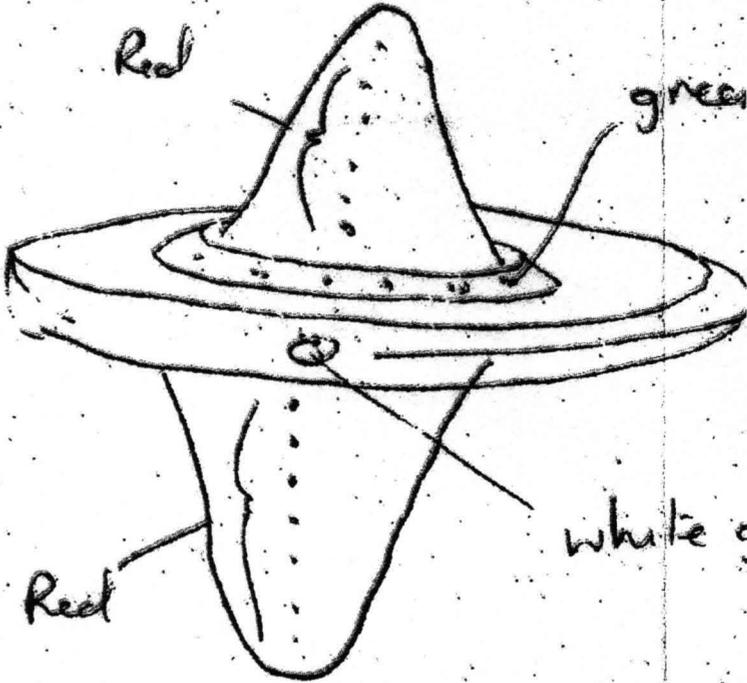
● Have you spotted anything strange in the skies above Wanstead and Woodford? If so, call Daniel Binns on 0208 498 3437

**Wanstead & Woodford Guardian
England 10-23-08**

Did UFOs visit our skies?

MOD records reveal strange local sightings

Hemsworth & South Elmsall Express
England 10-23-08



THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE: Hemsworth proved to be a hotspot for UFO sightings in a recently released Ministry of Defence report. This is just one of the crafts sketched after a close encounter in the town.

HEMSWORTH has had several close encounters with UFOs, according to newly released Ministry of Defence files.

In a report made to the MOD, an unnamed resident spotted a craft flying over the town at about 8.50pm on Friday, March 25, 1988.

This picture was sketched after the sighting.

In a statement, the resident said: "I looked up in the direction of Hemsworth High School and saw a brilliant white light in the sky.

"I noticed the light appeared to be attached to the base of a round object which was just visible below the level of the clouds.

"The object appeared to make no noise at all and the light did not throw a beam in any direction. It disappeared in the direction of Hemsworth High School. I observed the object for approximately eight minutes.

"I have never seen anything like it before, or since, and was very frightened."

Just the day before a Hemsworth taxi driver said he had spotted a UFO at 11.50pm.

His statement said he saw the craft while travelling down Brierley Road towards Great Houghton, Barnsley, on his way to collect a passenger.

He said: "As I looked in my

by Lisa O'Brien
lisa.obrien@jpress.co.uk

wing mirror a bright light caught my eye. I noticed a very bright white and green light.

"I turned off my engine and switched off my lights. By this time it was virtually level with me. I got out of my car. What I saw was about 800 yards away from me travelling in the direction of Thurnscoe.

"I made a diagram on a piece of scrap paper. The craft was a silver grey metallic colour and was in my sight for about 10 minutes before fading away. I could hear a very slight low-toned humming, which faded as the craft passed over me.

"The next day I was back at my taxi base in Hemsworth. I went out to my car and a bright white and green light caught my eye again. I watched it for two or three minutes as it grew larger."

He described the craft as a spinning top that was three times the size of a hot air balloon.

What do you think?

Write to Express,
23 Barnsley Road,
South Elmsall or
e-mail
rebeccawhittington
@ywnq.co.uk



White lights at night give couple a fright

Eerie phenomenon leaves partners completely baffled

A COUPLE have been left baffled after seeing mysterious lights in the night skies over Burton and South Derbyshire.

Mac McCree, 59 and partner Lesley Gaunt, 55, first experienced the eerie phenomenon while at their home in Woodland Road, Stanton, on Monday shortly before 10pm.

"My missus had gone out for a cigarette while I was watching the telly," said Mr McCree.

"She said 'Mac, come and have a look at this' and at first I thought it was someone shining my torch.

"We saw two lights — it was a dullish white circular glow — one of them was sort of hovering over Winshill or Newton Solney and the other one appeared to be over

by TIM FLETCHER
NEWS REPORTER

Bretby or Newhall — they were scorching across the sky.

"I thought at first it had to be something going on at Donington, but the speed of them was unbelievable. We've watched planes going into East Midlands Airport at 200mph but that's nothing compared to the speeds these we're going at.

"Me and my missus thought we were seeing things — I thought 'I don't believe this is happening'.

The phenomenon re-appeared on Tuesday night at around the same time, prompting a call to Burton police, who told him the lights originated from the town's Statutes Fair. However, Mr McCree is sceptical.

"I don't see how the lights could have come from the

Statutes — for one thing they were at the other side of town from there," he said.

"Also, if it had been some kind of laser or searchlight you would have seen the beams going up and there was none.

"People might think I'm making it up but I'm not that kind of person. I went and asked my next door neighbour to come and look at it to make sure we weren't dreaming."

Neither Staffordshire Police nor Derbyshire Police had any record of further reports of the strange lights, while the Met Office was equally in the dark when contacted by The Mail.

● Have you seen strange lights in the sky or can you explain this phenomenon? Contact us by emailing tim.fletcher@burtonmail.co.uk or telephoning 01283 524859.

Burton Mail
England 10-10-08

Odd, intriguing and alarming UFO files released

2374
US pilot was ordered to fire missiles at blip on screen

MoD makes papers public after enthusiasts' pleas

Ian Sample
Science correspondent

On a cloudy night in Kent, Milton Torres, a US air force fighter pilot based at RAF Manston, was scrambled to intercept a UFO. Ordered to go full throttle towards East Anglia, within minutes he was 15 miles from a mysterious blip that looked as big as a B-52 bomber on his screen. He was ordered to fire a full salvo of 24 missiles, but before he could, the object vanished.

Details about the incident, on May 20, 1957, appear among 19 files released by the Ministry of Defence and newly revealed by the National Archives. It is the second tranche of UFO files to be made public since a handful were released in May.

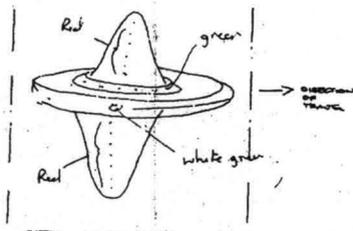
The reports range from the bizarre to the intriguing. There is the Alitalia pilot who shouted to his co-pilot to "look out" as a brown, missile-shaped object shot past the cockpit, and a sketchy self-portrait of a pointy-eared woman in a gown, who told the MoD she had crashlanded on Earth during the second world war, having left her home planet of warrior women.

The MoD released the files, covering 1986 to 1992, after a flood of requests from enthusiasts and conspiracy theorists who are convinced the truth is out there.

Details of the East Anglia event only emerged after Torres, who was warned never to mention it, did discuss it with a military historian at a reunion at RAF



This eyewitness sketch, below, released by the National Archives, hints at a close encounter of a kind depicted by Steven Spielberg, above Photograph: Kobal



Manston in 1988. The MoD, whose policy until 1967 was to destroy UFO files every five years, had no data on the event.

An account from Torres, now 77 and living in Florida, describes his anxiety at failing to fire after struggling to read codes on a scrap of paper in the cockpit of his F-86D plane. "It was totally black and the lights were down for night flying. I used my flashlight, still trying to fly and watch my radar. To put it quite candidly, I felt very much like a one-legged man in an ass-kicking contest," he said.

David Clarke, a UFO expert at Sheffield Hallam University, said: "If the UFO had turned out to be a civil aircraft that had

strayed off its course, it could have been a major international incident, and yet it's been airbrushed out of history."

He believed the pilot was a guinea pig in a test of the Palladium system, developed by the US to make "phantom" aircraft appear on Soviet radars.

Another incident in Britain, in April 1991, recorded a captain of an Alitalia airliner, flying at an altitude of more than four miles on route to Heathrow from Milan, seeing a missile-like object. At first this was labelled "cruise missile?" but it was quickly found not to be a military weapon. There were a number of similar

'In one MoD report a woman said she had come from a planet of warrior women'

sightings within the next six months. Four passengers on a Dan Air Boeing 737 spotted a "wingless projectile" flying under their plane.

Other papers reveal the MoD's sensitivity to military helicopters taking pictures of crop circles, which they feared would undermine the line that the government had no interest in the phenomenon.

Documents also relate how a Tina Turner concert triggered a spate of UFO sightings in London in 1989, and how one person was "contacted by aliens" descended from "legendary feathered serpents from ancient Peru".

Clarke said the papers showed the government could not conceal anything and that people were not going to find "that elusive bit of evidence that proves we're being visited by aliens".

Government files record incidents above Oxfordshire

MoD documents reveal sightings of UFOs locally

2374

By **CHRIS KEARNEY**

ckearney@oxfordtimes.co.uk

UFOs were spotted eight times in Oxfordshire over a six-year period, Government documents have revealed.

According to documents released this week, strange craft, shafts of light and other unexplained objects were sighted on numerous occasions over the county between 1986 and 1992.

Those reporting sightings included a constable based at Oxford's St Aldate's police station.

The sightings came to light after previously classified files were released to the National Archives by the Ministry of Defence.

UFO expert Michael Soper, from Marston, is a spokesman for the Contact International UFO

A glowing craft similar in shape to the plane flown by the Wright brothers, was seen flying over Henley. A white globe of light was coming from it

research group. He said: "The information contained in the files is great as it allows us to fill in the gaps in our own data."

The Government files report that in September 1986, an object with bright green lights was spotted through a telescope, hovering over Banbury Technical College.

A year later, the files record that a couple spotted a large crescent-shaped craft which was "full of light" as they drove from Rollright

to Hook Norton at 8pm, and while returning home three hours later.

The next month, a man called police after seeing a triangular-shaped object from his back garden in Banbury.

In November, four people, including a police constable, saw a globe of light flying over Oxford.

In February 1988, an object with white, green and red lights was spotted moving in circles over Sandford-on-Thames.

That June, a man recorded a large oval surrounded by a ring of lights over Abingdon Marina.

In February 1990, a light was seen flying around over Didcot.

That December, a glowing craft similar in shape to the plane flown by the Wright brothers, was seen flying over Henley. A white globe of light was coming from the craft.

● For more information about local UFO sightings, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/ufos

Oxford Times
Oxford, England 10-24-08

UFOs mystery deepens

Beacon
Monmouthshire, England 10-29-08

2374
REMEMBER The Beacon story of a couple of weeks ago about a reader seeing UFOs over the dual carriageway at Monmouth?

We said the likelihood of anyone seeing a UFO must be millions to one. Yet a Beacon reader claimed that he had, on three separate occasions, spotted UFOs over Monmouth.

Not surprisingly, the man, who asked not to be named, told us "I had not seen anything like this before, now I have seen UFOs on three occasions".

The reader brought with him a rough sketch of two of the mysterious space craft over the dual carriageway.

"I know people will be sceptical, but I definitely saw these flying objects" added the man.

We said we would like to hear from any other Beacon readers who might also have

had an out of this world experience.

Well, it seems other readers have also had their own experiences of UFOs.

We had a call on Monday from a reader, who described his own unique experience.

"I was driving along

the dual carriageway close to Whitchurch, towards Monmouth, when I saw an orange light in the sky" said the man. "It was almost 11.30pm and I had a friend in the car with me.

"The light was directly above us and

other motorists were slowing down to see what it was" he said.

"It was definitely not a plane or a helicopter. We are both sensible people and we know what we saw.

"I have never seen anything like that in the past, but it was

very strange indeed".

The reader said the mysterious object was still hovering above the dual carriageway as he drove away.

"I wonder what the other drivers thought it was" he said. "It was hovering about fifty feet above the ground".

Classified film of an alien being

Leicester Mercury
England 10-13-08

2374
REPORTS of unidentified flying objects are guaranteed to stir a reaction.

Reader Harold Varnam, of Countesthorpe, wrote in response to a Mercury feature on UFOs to say: "Although I personally cannot claim any kind of encounter of the third kind, I came across a place in south-eastern New Mexico where the entire population earns its living from a so-called alien visitation.

"The township of Roswell was the scene of probably the most famous alien encounter in history.

"In July 1947, a mysterious craft crashed on Foster's Farm.

"This incident has been the hotly-debated subject of countless newspaper articles, books and films ever since.

"While serving on a Nato attachment to the US Fifth Army, we were shown classified film taken at the time of the Roswell crash that purported to show that one of the alien creatures survived the impact and lived for several hours afterwards.

BIZARRE

"As far as I know, this classified film footage has never been officially released for public viewing.

"Since that time, Roswell has become the holy grail for UFO fanatics. It annually stages a UFO festival that attracts more than 50,000 visitors from all over the world.

"Being situated in the middle of the New Mexico desert makes the place even more bizarre, but it is sure worth a visit.

"The town is now known as Earth Station Roswell and is a multi-million-dollar resort featuring a spaceship-shaped hotel, a themed spa, a sci-fi theatre, shops, restaurants, concert arena and tropical garden.

"They also have a mock space station that boasts out-of-this-world technology left by the visiting aliens, backed up by a spectacular light show.

"Whether you believe in aliens or not, the enterprising citizens of Roswell have certainly turned it to their advantage."

GREAT BARR OBSERVER

Bitterscote, Tamworth,
Staffordshire, England
November 28, 2008

UFO near-miss for cop chopper

An unidentified flying object was involved in a near-miss incident with a police helicopter above a Sandwell beauty spot earlier this year.

The UK Airprox Board (UKAB) released details last week of an incident on May 2, when a West Midlands police helicopter narrowly avoided a collision with a UFO above Sandwell Valley Country Park.

The EC-135 Eurocopter pilot spotted an object with two blue/green lights some 100 metres away before he swerved to avoid contact at around 9.50pm.

The lights, according to all three on board the helicopter, then appeared to circle them, flew north, then back before finally flying off.

The pilot believed the intent was either 'sinister or just someone messing around' and thought the lights came from a radio-controlled fixed wing aircraft which was 'purposefully flown around them'.

The crew used a thermal camera but failed to identify any signs of radio-controlled activity.

'Flashing' from rotor blades was discounted by the pilot, as were internal reflections from the canopy, checked on a later flight.

A spokesperson for West Midlands Police confirmed the pilot reported the incident and said: "As far as they were concerned, nothing was picked up on Birmingham Airport radar and the object was probably a radio-controlled model aircraft.

"The helicopter was conducting a

search at the time and was flying at low level."

UKAB, jointly funded by the Civil Aviation Authority and the Ministry of Defence, investigated the incident but ruled out the mystery object being a model aircraft, as the incident occurred at 1,500 feet and at night.

A laser light show was discounted due to a lack of cloud base for lights to reflect on, as was the possibility of gliders, kites and balloons due to the light and clear weather conditions.

Manny Williamson, Development Officer for the British Model Flying Association, who spoke with UKAB at the time of the investigation told the Observer: "At that time of night if you couldn't see a model aircraft, you couldn't fly it.

"To fly an aircraft at that height would be almost impossible. The maximum would be a couple of hundred feet and the lighting would need to be good. There is no way it could have been a model aircraft."

Military flights were also ruled out due to the non-appearance on radar. A spokesperson for the MOD said: "The MOD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity.

"Unless there is evidence of a potential threat there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported."

After a thorough investigation, UKAB could not identify source of the flying lights.

The UKAB report said: "Although the possibility of a civilian clandestine flight by a microlight or similar aircraft could not be ruled out, it is thought unlikely that any pilot engaged on illegal airborne activity would orbit what could probably be identified as a police helicopter.

"Regrettably therefore, despite extensive tracing, the source of the lights could not be identified."

2 3 7 4 UFOs DISARMED 10 OF MY NUKES

Air Force man's close encounter

By KEVIN JENKINSON

A FORMER nuclear missile officer for the US Air Force will today give his shocking account of UFOs disabling 10 nukes on his watch.

Retired Missile Combat Crew Commander Robert Salas will speak at the International UFO Conference in Carrick on Shannon, Co Leitrim.

Mr Salas first revealed his amazing story in 2001. He said he would testify before the US Congress under oath and has since attended various UFO and paranormal conferences worldwide.

Carl Nally of UFO and Paranormal Research Ireland said: "This is a truly amazing story from a former US Air Force officer who risked a lot to start talking about his experience."

At today's conference, Salas will recount what happened to him on

the morning of March 16, 1967.

He was on duty at an underground missile launch control facility in Montana when he got a call from a security guard reporting UFOs in the sky outside.

The guard said the "lights" flew over the base a few times, but Salas thought he was joking.

However, the guard soon rang again in an agitated state saying that guards had their guns drawn at a red saucer-shaped orb at the gates of the facility.

Signal

Salas was waking his commander when 10 missiles suddenly went from "alert" to "no-go" status, which meant they could no longer be launched.

"Our missiles shut down," Salas said. "The problem was not lack of power — some signal had been sent to the missiles which caused them to go off alert."

Salas says he was told similar incidents had occurred at other bases.

Delegates at today's conference will also see startling UFO footage taken by a senior garda in Co Meath last month — as revealed exclusively in yesterday's Star.



CONFERENCE: Robert Salas

Independent
England 10-20-08

Times
England 10-20-08

Irish Daily Star
Ireland 9-27-08

Passenger jet's near-miss with UFO above Kent

2374

By Sam Marsden

A PASSENGER JET coming in to land at Heathrow Airport in 1991 had a near miss with an unidentified flying object, according to newly-released Ministry of Defence files. The Alitalia captain was so concerned that he shouted "look out" to his co-pilot after seeing a brown, missile-shaped object shoot past the airliner.

The mysterious incident near Lydd in Kent was investigated by the Civil Aviation Authority and the military. Having determined that the object was not a missile, weather balloon or space rocket, the Ministry of Defence closed the inquiry and left the matter unsolved.

The unexplained close encounter is one of many recounted in military UFO documents made available online today by the National Archives. The 19 files, covering sightings from 1986 to 1992, include a US Air Force pilot's account of being ordered to shoot down a UFO that appeared on his radar as he flew over East Anglia. They also reveal that the MoD told Army and Navy helicopter pilots not to photograph crop circles for fear of undermining the official line that it did not investigate unexplained phenomena, and a letter from a woman claiming to be from the

Sirius system who said her spacecraft, containing two "Spectrans" with "Mr Spock ears", crashed in Britain during the Second World War.

Perhaps the most intriguing episode is the near-miss involving the Alitalia jet at about 8pm on 21 April, 1991. The McDonnell Douglas MD80 was en route from Milan to Heathrow at 22,000ft with 57 people on board when the pilot, Achille Zaghetti, saw a strange object 1,000ft above him. He reported: "At once I said, 'Look out, look out' to my co-pilot, who looked out and saw what I had seen. As soon as the object crossed us I asked to the area control centre (ACC) operator if he saw something on his screen and he answered 'I see an unknown target, 10 nautical miles behind you'."

Radar images showing the UFO were initially labelled "cruise missile?" but it was quickly established that it was not a military weapon. By 2 July, the MoD had concluded that the object did not come from Army firing ranges in the Lydd area and there was no known "space-related activity" that night.

An unnamed Whitehall official wrote: "It is our intention to treat this sighting like any other UFO. We will not be undertaking any further investigation."

The files can be accessed at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ufo/

2374 Close encounter: the airman who tried to shoot down a UFO

Michael Evans Defence Editor

The order came straight out of the Cold War manual: "Arm all weapons and fire on sight." For Lieutenant Milton Torres, an American jet fighter pilot based in Britain, it was the first and last time that he had received such a chilling instruction.

As soon as he scrambled his Sabre jet from RAF Manston in Kent and headed eastwards, he saw the blip on his radar, indicating the presence of an aircraft the size of a B52 about 15 miles away, and he prepared to close in for the kill with a salvo of rockets. But the "aircraft", judged to be hostile and probably Russian, simply vanished. The blip on the radar disappeared.

The 24-year-old American pilot's extraordinary experience on the night

of May 20, 1957, which he was officially ordered never to reveal to anyone, has come to light after the declassification of another batch of Ministry of Defence files relating to reported incidents of unidentified flying objects appearing in British airspace — in this case the only known example of a jet fighter pilot being ordered to shoot down a UFO.

Mr Torres, now 77 and a retired professor of civil engineering living in Miami, told *The Times* that the day after he was scrambled from RAF Manston he received a visit from an American in a trenchcoat who waved a National Security Agency identity card at him and warned him that, if he ever revealed what had happened, he would never fly again.

He took the warning to heart and said nothing until 1988 when, through a solicitor with an interest in ufology, he sent the Ministry of Defence a report giving a full account of the incident. Today his narrative is released by the National Archives.

"I shall never forget it, and for the last 50 years I have been waiting for an explanation, but I've never had one. On that night I was ordered to open fire even before I had taken off. That had never happened before," Mr



In 1957 Milton Torres was ordered to say nothing about his fruitless mission

Torres said. "I was ready to hit the target with all 24 rockets: it would have been like buckshot out of a shotgun. I asked for authentication of the order to fire and I received it."

Neither Lieutenant Torres nor his wingman, flying another Sabre behind him, actually saw what was making the strong blip on their radars. In the years since he has become more convinced that the object, travelling at speed and performing manoeuvres beyond the capability of any known aircraft at that time, was an alien UFO.

The airman climbed to 32,000ft and then flattened out, travelling at Mach 0.92, about as fast as the F86D Sabre could go. "The blip was burning a hole in the radar with its incredible intensi-

ty. It was similar to a blip I had received from B52s and seemed to be a magnet of light. It had the proportions of a flying aircraft carrier," he wrote.

The only possible explanation, according to David Clarke, a UFO expert and lecturer in journalism at Sheffield Hallam University, is that in the 1960s it emerged that the CIA had been engaged in a secret project code-named Palladium, in which advanced equipment was used to create simulated radar blips close to Soviet airspace.

Dr Clarke said that he thought it was linked to clandestine flights over the Soviet Union of the American U2 spy plane. "But this doesn't explain why Milton Torres was scrambled and ordered to open fire," he said.



The Daily Mail (Online)
London, England
November 21, 2008

By David Wilkes

Helicopter in dramatic near-miss with 'sinister' UFO 1,500ft above Birmingham

It was a cloudless night and the police helicopter was carrying out surveillance over Birmingham when the attention suddenly switched from ground to sky.

Beside it was a small aircraft beaming out continuous blue-green lights.

It came within almost 300ft, forcing the pilot to swerve out of its path, and appeared to circle the helicopter in a cheeky gesture before flying off.

Initially the pilot and two police observers dismissed the near miss at 1,500ft as a close encounter with a model plane.

But despite searching the area with a thermal camera, the pilot was unable to find any signs of radio-controlled activity.

The British Model Flying Association also dismissed this possibility, saying the mystery object was flying too high to be a miniature craft, while gliders, kites, balloons and a laser light show were further excluded from the possibilities.

All of which leads UFO experts to believe that alien forces were at work.

Details of the incident, which happened at about 9.50pm on May 2, were revealed yesterday in a document compiled by experts from

the Airprox Board, which records near misses and reports them to the military and air traffic control units.

The report describes the strange other aircraft only as 'small and probably non-metallic' and its intent as possibly 'sinister'.

It adds that the pilot informed radar operators but they saw nothing on their equipment.

He told the Airprox Board that he thought 'the intent may either have been sinister or just someone messing around'.

Yesterday a West Midlands Police spokesman attempted to play down the incident, saying: 'As far as the pilot and the crew were concerned, nothing was picked up on Birmingham Airport radar and the object was probably a radio-controlled model aircraft.'

'The helicopter was conducting a search at the time and was flying slowly at low level.'

But Nick Pope, who worked for the Ministry of Defence's UFO desk and is nicknamed the British Fox Mulder after the science-fiction character in *The X-Files*, favours a less complacent approach.

'A helicopter was nearly blown out of the sky,' he said. 'This is a very disturbing incident which needs to be thoroughly investigated by the MoD and the Civil Aviation Authority as well as other near misses.'

'The conclusion on the report is unsatisfactory especially when this aircraft came within seconds of a collision.'

'It is a very interesting case especially when you look at the eyewitnesses. They are credible and reliable sources who have experience in night-time flying.'

'This sighting clearly illustrates that whatever one believes about UFOs, this incident raises important air safety issues and should be taken seriously.'

Romford Recorder
England 10-31-08

Night I spotted a UFO!

AFTER years of keeping silent on his UFO theories for fear of being perceived a "loony", a former councillor has finally come forward about his strange encounter in 1994.

Martin Sinclair, 55, from Hornchurch, who was a Conservative councillor for Hylands ward between 1983 and 1986, this week recounted seeing a mysterious orange hovering space craft over Romford.

Prompted to come forward after reading the Recorder's report on Ministry of Defence archives on UFO sightings last week, Martin said: "I didn't want to say anything at the time because I didn't want to appear as a loony."

"But now they've released those files, there's some positive proof. I kept quiet for 14 years, but when I read the article it all came back to me."

Martin claims he was attending a meeting at Dukes Hall, in Maygreen Crescent, Hornchurch, one evening when he and two other men went outside to have a cigarette. Looking towards Romford town centre he saw an aircraft hovering.

He said: "There were a load of aircraft windows in a row. I couldn't see what shape it was."

"It appeared to be hovering over the town centre, but it could have been further away. The windows were like an orange-yellow colour."

"We were just in disbelief. It certainly was not an aeroplane. I do believe it was an alien ship."

'My terrifying brush with a UFO as it circled my car near the barracks'

A MOTHER has told the Journal of the terrifying moment a UFO circled her car as she drove by the Prince William of Gloucester Barracks.

Margaret Avis was driving from Grantham to Bourne at around 8.05pm on Thursday, October 14, when she saw flashes in the sky after turning towards Corby Glen.

Margaret said: "Before I reached the first village, I noticed a mysterious object in the sky to my right hand side, that shone two bright white lights and one red light. I could describe it as oval in shape."

"The red light was flashing. I slowed down to try and get a better view of the object and lost sight of it for a short while."

"It then reappeared ahead of me and it appeared to be circling the car."

"I lost sight once again, and when it reappeared it was higher in the sky and had two white

'I'VE SEEN LOADS OF THEM - IN GERMANY'

● Following last week's UFO sightings, ex-pat Leanne Cobain got in touch from her home in Germany. She said: "I live on a military housing estate in Bielefeld and have seen similar lights on two occasions. Once in March, my husband, my son and two friends saw them. There were three of them close together

for some time then they just vanished. It was weird.

"The second time was October 10 - but this time there were more. They were bright orange and again they moved around at different speeds, then eventually vanished the same as before. Very strange indeed and we were a bit nervous too."

remained high in the sky until I reached Stamford Hill, where I saw it for the last time."

When she got home Margaret told her daughter and partner about her near-miss but they both laughed.

However, Margaret was a little shaken by the incident.

She said: "I wanted to stop the car but I was too scared to."

"It was certainly something I

"Most of the people I tell are convinced it was an aeroplane from RAF Cottesmore. If this is true, then it was a strange one."

● Have you seen strange lights in the sky? Have you had a close encounter? Have you been abducted and subjected to bizarre and humiliating experiments? E-mail us at comment@granthamjournal.co.uk

● Latest sightings:

Grantham Journal
England 10-24-08

LO HABRIA RETRATADO CON UNA
NOTEBOOK

¿Un turista fotografió a un OVNI en Entre Ríos?



Ovni

Un turista aseguró haber fotografiado sobre la cúpula de una iglesia un Objeto Volador No Identificado (OVNI), que segundos después desapareció, mientras visitaba la ciudad entrerriana de Concordia.

El episodio es el segundo de la mismas características ocurrido en territorio entrerriano en la misma semana, cuando un hombre también captó un objeto extraño en el momento en el que tomaba la fotografía de su hija adolescente.

La última imagen fue tomada el mediodía del viernes, en el marco de una jornada soleada, con una computadora notebook que tiene incorporada una cámara fotográfica, desde el centro de la Plaza 25 de Mayo, de Concordia, la segunda en importancia de la provincia.

En la captura, que fue difundida por el diario local El Heraldo, se ve un objeto grisáceo entre las dos "puntas" de la Catedral San Antonio de Padua, que se ubica frente a la plaza principal de esa ciudad situada al noreste del territorio entrerriano.

Asimismo, en otra fotografía captada segundos después, el objeto ya no aparece en la imagen, lo que fue interpretado por el autor como un indicio de que se movía a gran velocidad.

La simultaneidad de ambas fotografías se ve reforzada por el reloj que se ubica en una de las torres de la Catedral, ya que en ambas imágenes las agujas marcan el mismo minuto, las 11:45 de la mañana.

Si bien en Concordia no se había difundido un fenómeno semejante, en la cercana ciudad uruguaya de Salto, los lugareños hablan de la existencia de un "Ovniódromo", por los constantes reportes sobre apariciones de objetos desconocidos en el cielo.

En tanto, el episodio ocurrido en Paraná se produjo el 21 de octubre pasado cuando un hombre llamado Miguel Angel Osuna tomaba fotografías de su hija de 15 años en el Parque Urquiza, de la ciudad de Paraná.

Cuando el hombre llevó el archivo de la imagen de una casa de fotografía para ampliarla, el empleado del local notó la presencia de un objeto alargado que parecía moverse velozmente.

HE MAY HAVE SNAPPED IT WITH A
NOTEBOOK

DID A TOURIST PHOTOGRAPH A UFO IN ENTRE RIOS?

While visiting the city of Concordia in Entre Ríos, a tourist allegedly snapped a UFO above the cupola of a church, that disappeared a few seconds later. The episode is the second of its kind this week in Entre Ríos, when a man also captured a strange object while he was photographing his teenage daughter.

The latter image was taken last Friday at noontime, a sunny day, in Concordia in the center of the Plaza 25 de Mayo, the second most important square of the province, with the camera incorporated to a notebook.

The photo, which was published in the local El Heraldo newspaper, shows a grayish object in between the two "points" of the San Antonio de Padua Cathedral which is located by the main square in that city, northeast of the Entre Rios province.

Also, on another photo snapped seconds later, the object does no longer appear in the image, which was interpreted by the author as an indication that it was moving at high speed.

The simultaneity of both pictures is reinforced by the clock in one of the Cathedral's towers, because in both images the hands show the same minute, 11.45 am.

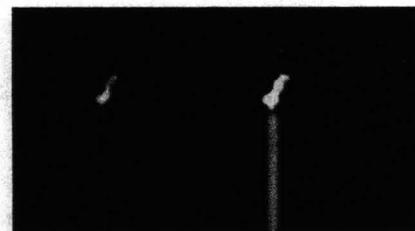
Although no similar phenomenon had been made public in Concordia before, in the nearby Uruguayan city of Salto the locals speak of the existence of a "UFOdrome", because of the constant reports of unknown objects in the sky.

Meanwhile, the episode that happened in Paraná (also in Entre Ríos province-Tr.) took place last October 21st when a man by the name of Miguel Angel Osuna was taking pictures of his 15 year old daughter in the Parque Urquiza, in the city of Paraná.

When the man took the saved image to a photo store to have it enlarged, the employee noticed an elongated object that seemed to move at great speed.

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma

Extraño avistamiento de OVNI en Inglaterra



La filmación fue capturada con un celular por Shellie Williams, 20, y su mamá Betty, 53, quienes aseguran haber visto cómo un rayo de luz roja disparaba hacia el suelo

Las misteriosas imágenes fueron filmadas desde una embarcación en la ciudad portuaria de Bristol, Inglaterra.

La filmación fue capturada con un celular por Shellie Williams, 20, y su mamá Betty, 53, quienes aseguran haber visto cómo un rayo de luz roja disparaba hacia el suelo, según lo publica el portal digital TheSun.com.

Sin embargo, el control del tráfico aéreo del Aeropuerto Internacional de Bristol dijo que no había informes de esta "actividad inusual".

La Policía de la zona también aseguró que no habían recibido ningún reporte que indicara alguna presencia extraña.

Por su parte, Tony Jefferies, un vecino de la zona, dijo que había visto algo similar hacía un par de semanas.

Strange UFO sighting in England

The filming was captured with a cell phone by Shellie Williams, 20, and her mother Betty, 53, who claim having seen how a ray of red light shot to the ground.

The mysterious images were filmed from a boat in the port city of Bristol, England.

The film was captured with a cell by Shellie Williams, 20, and her mother Betty, 53, who claim having seen how a ray of red light shot to the ground, as published by the digital portal *The Sun.com*.

However, the Bristol International Airport air traffic control said they had no reports about this "unusual activity".

The local police also claims they had received no report to indicate some strange presence.

On the other hand, Tony Jefferies, a local resident, said he had seen something similar a couple of weeks ago.

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma



mcdowellnews.com



THE MCDOWELL NEWS (Online)
Marion, NC
November 5, 2008

By Mike Conley

Were screams in the night really Bigfoot?

As a kid growing up in the 1970s, I enjoyed watching the classic documentaries about Bigfoot that were produced in those days.

I would never miss a late night TV showing of "The Legend of Boggy Creek," even though it scared me at the time. I can't forget going to the House Theater to catch the docudrama "Sasquatch" back in 1977.

For the past week, I have had the opportunity to once again enjoy one of the best Bigfoot movies of them all: "The Mysterious Monsters." Hosted by Peter Graves, this 1976 movie takes a look at both the Loch Ness Monster and Bigfoot mysteries. It also contains some of the most vivid and scary recreations of Bigfoot sightings. You can check this movie out on YouTube, even though you have to watch it in 10 parts.

They certainly don't make documentaries like those anymore. And that is a shame because today we seem to hear about more Bigfoot encounters than ever.

The Web site for the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization (BFRO) contains a tale about something that happened this summer. The BFRO's Web site is a place where folks can post their sightings anonymously.

In his report, a man talks about a camping and fly-fishing trip he took in the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado in June of this year. The man states that he had been camping, hiking and fishing in this area for about six years. He was also very familiar with all the sounds the various animals make in Colorado's forests and mountains. He had only one companion on this weekend camping trip, his Labrador retriever.

"The second evening, I had cooked dinner and taken the Lab out for a last evening walk around the meadows," the man wrote in his report. "It had been a good day of fishing and we were both tired. We went to bed in the tent just at dark. It was a night of an almost full moon. We both fell asleep quickly."

A bit later, the man was awakened by something outside his tent. At first, he thought it was a deer.

"After about 10 minutes from out of nowhere, I heard this unreal, LOUD, clear, resonant, scream/screech/howl/roar type sound from not too far away," he wrote in his report. "It sounded maybe 300 to 400 yards away and like it might have been just across the canyon on the mountainside. It was like no sound I have ever heard in my life."

He describes it as a "fairly high-pitched" sound and was not like the screams of wild cats.

"It seemed to be two parts screaming howl and one part roar, as it had that deep quality but was still high-pitched," he wrote. "I sat there for a minute stunned, and then realized what it must be."

The man wrote that he had previously read accounts on the BFRO's Web site from folks who reportedly heard the screams of a Bigfoot. What he heard that night matched their descriptions.

"The sound seemed to be coming directly toward me, like it might have been screaming at or towards me or this meadow area where people sometimes camp," he wrote in his report. "It felt territorial, aggressive, even a little threatening. Even though I had a (.357-caliber Magnum) loaded with hot hollow points and a strong flashlight, the prospect of encountering some big, hairy 'man-thing' outside my tent in the middle of the night, in the middle of nowhere, and alone, was a little more than I wanted to deal with."

The man got his dog into the truck and he drove away from there as fast as he could, with his .357 in his lap. He drove that night looking for a place to stay.

"I have lived and backpacked extensively in Montana and in the Canadian Rockies and dealt with the reality of grizzly bears with no real problem," he wrote. "But this noise and the creature that most likely made it really freaked me out."

He spent the rest of the night in his truck. At daybreak, he went back to his campsite.

"I did not find any tracks in the greater area in which I was camping as it was mostly grass, although I did walk around and search for a bit," he wrote. "Now I am paranoid and worry that I might not be doing any more backpacking in this beautiful and remote area for fear of running into one of these spooky creatures, especially at night."

EPPING FOREST
WALTHAM FOREST
WANSTEAD & WOODFORD

Guardian

EPPING FOREST GUARDIAN
Epping, Essex, England
November 17, 2008

By Charlie Campbell

REDBRIDGE: 'Bigfoot' spotted again

MORE people have come forward claiming to have seen a Bigfoot-like creature in the Wanstead and Woodford area.

Last week we revealed how fitness instructor Michael Kent saw a peculiar-looking Bigfoot-like animal emerge from trees near the Hollow Ponds area of Epping Forest, on the border between Wanstead and Leytonstone.

And now pensioner Irene Dainty, of Love Lane in Woodford Bridge, claims she was left shaking after she came face to face with a hairy creature which surprised her in her street.

Mrs Dainty told the Guardian she was "absolutely convinced" that what she saw was not human, or a normal species of animal life.

She said: "I had just come out of my flat and just as I had turned the corner I saw this hairy thing come out of nowhere. I really don't want to see it again.

"It was about 4ft tall and with really big feet and looked straight at me with animal eyes. Then it leaped straight over the wall with no trouble at all and went off into the garden of the Three Jolly Wheelers pub.

"I was so terrified that I went around to my neighbour's house and told her what happened. She couldn't believe it and asked me if I had been drinking, but I said of course I hadn't - it was only about 3pm."

Park officials have poured scorn on the so-called witness claims and are adamant there are no strange creatures roaming in Epping Forest.

Orelia Vaivadaite works at the Three Jolly Wheelers Pub in Chigwell Road, but said she had not seen anything odd in her back garden.

She added: "The manager who lives upstairs may have seen it, but he has recently resigned. He didn't mention anything to me though."

Pondering the Bigfoot news

2165



Gentileza Maxi Jonas (Mdz online)



PEARSON
OUTDOORS

JIM
PEARSON

They found a dead Bigfoot down in Georgia and Bob Hieronymus has a new nickname. You no doubt read about those two cops finding Bigfoot dead—dead as a campaign promise. Maybe you saw those guys on TV. They claimed dead Bigfoot's entrails were hanging out, and while they got the corpse out of the woods, several other bigfoots trailed along watching them. The entrails were given a DNA test, I'm told, and the results showed they were 'possum guts. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

You may also remember that last year I told you about Bob. He's the guy that Roger Patterson dressed in an ape costume and filmed near Bluff Creek, Calif. in October of '67. I still see those pictures on TV or in magazines regularly. Bigfoot strolls along and looks back over his shoulder once at the camera.

Enter Tom Biscardi. Tom lives in Texas somewhere, and he found out about those three articles I wrote. He called me wanting Bob's telephone number—that is, if Bob would talk with him. Bob said "sure," so I gave Tom the number and he along with three other guys showed up in Wiley City to talk. They drove a pickup truck towing a small trailer with "Searching for Bigfoot" painted on both of them.

Bigfoot has a peculiar gait in that Roger Patterson film.

"Peculiar" may be the wrong word, but "different" certainly isn't. In that

film, Bigfoot walked just like Bob still does, and after Tom saw Bob walking, he admitted Bob was the guy inside the costume.

While he visited Bob in Wiley City, Tom went down the street to interview Bob Gimlin. He, along with Hieronymus and Patterson, were there in California where the filming was done. Gimlin wouldn't talk with him. Shortly after that, the dead Bigfoot showed up in Georgia.

After the Georgia thing was exposed as a hoax and the two cops lost their jobs, Bob called Tom to find out his reaction. Tom was angry. He had paid \$50,000 for the rights to that story. Maybe the deal included Bigfoot's body. I'm not sure. Plus, Tom spent another \$20,000 taking his film crew to Georgia twice.

Tom is still a believer, I guess. Seven thousand bigfoots are supposed to be wandering around the U. S. and a woman in upstate New York says one regularly comes by, gets in her pigpen and eats the hogfeed.

Bob wondered why she didn't shoot the thing or at least go outside and get a photo. Dumb question! The creature terrifies her. Another woman hailing from down south somewhere claims Bigfoot regularly comes to her door mooching garlic. He rubs it on himself and that keeps away flies and other biting insects.

I wish I could see Bigfoot like other people do. Just imagine, seven thousand of them wandering around out there, and I've never seen one. Seven thousand is four times the population of my hometown and I see Oro-

ville people wandering around. Sometimes they're not even in the state of Washington. They wander around a lot, and so does Bigfoot, evidently. So why can I never see a Bigfoot? I've even wandered around northern California some, a couple of times very near Happy Camp.

Tom wanted Bob to accompany him down to Happy Camp, but Bob didn't think that was a good idea. You see, Happy Camp has set itself up as the Bigfoot capital of the U.S. They show people that film of Bob Hieronymus in the monkey suit.

Bob's reaction to Tom's idea? "Are you crazy!" Those people in Happy Camp are making a living off Bigfoot, and along comes a guy from Wiley City claiming to be the real California Bigfoot, the guy in the monkey suit, the guy who walks just like Bigfoot, the guy who never collected the thousand bucks he was supposed to be paid, the guy who kept quiet about the hoax for 30 years, the guy who... Oh, you get the picture.

Like I said, Bob Hieronymus has a new nickname and it isn't flattering. The guys who have coffee at Willy D's café in Wiley City gave Bob the nickname. They could have dubbed him "Butch," or "Duke," or "Cowboy" or any number of more appropriate and flattering nicknames, but no. When Bob comes in the café door bent on joining them for his morning's ration of caffeine, the boys around the table say, "Here comes 'Ol Possum Guts."

Bob doesn't mind 'cause he's not excitable. You can call him nearly anything and not get a rise out of him, but don't ever call him a liar when he tells you he was the guy in the monkey suit. Now that makes him mad.

24 hours • Monday, November 10, 2008

Ogopogo still a mystery

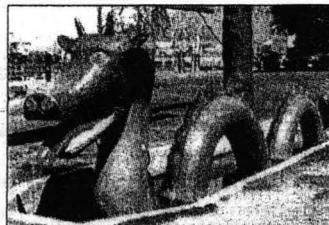
High-tech gear failed to solve the age-old mystery of Ogopogo.

An expedition equipped with infrared thermal imaging equipment, sonar and hydrophones combed British Columbia's Okanagan Lake last week in search of the elusive creature, but came up empty.

The search was part of the History Channel's *Monster Quest*, a television program that examines monster sightings around the world.

And while there was no sign of Ogopogo, crews did find something fishy in the lake's underwater caves.

"There was a specimen of some kind down there," says Bill Steciuk, a Kelowna man who helped organize the expedition. "It was pretty small, probably only about six to



SUN MEDIA FILE

MONSTER QUEST: A statue of the elusive Ogopogo in Kelowna, B.C.

eight inches long, with some kind of fluky tail on it."

Divers brought it to the surface, and its DNA will be analyzed for the TV program by the Biodiversity Institute in Guelph, Ont.

The *Monster Quest* episode on the Ogopogo is expected to air early next year.

— THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Little monster" found in Península de Valdés

They say it's a cyclops lamb that suffered a strange mutation because it has the fur of a feline. It showed up dead in the natural reserve in Chubut and field workers believe it could be the mythical "chupacabras". See the creature.

The Península de Valdés mythology saw a decisive episode yesterday. A local neighbor went out to hunt the unknown "chupacabras" and found this one-eyed creature that looks like a lamb but the fur is that of a feline, to judge by its appearance, said today the news website Mdz online.

Several fishermen from northeast Chubut had reported attacks from the "chupacabras", a strange being that allegedly feeds on the blood of cows, goats, lambs and even horses. And, they add, when it's hungry it's even capable of attacking a human being. This was never proven.

The animal was found dead yesterday morning in a ranch in the Península de Valdés. Roberto Gómez, a field worker from Puerto Madryn found it. The man said that he immediately "dissected" it to avoid it decomposing and took it into town to show it like a real trophy. As they were saying, they had finally caught the "chupacabras".

Translation: Jane Thomas Guma



Gentileza Maxi Jonas (Mdz online)