

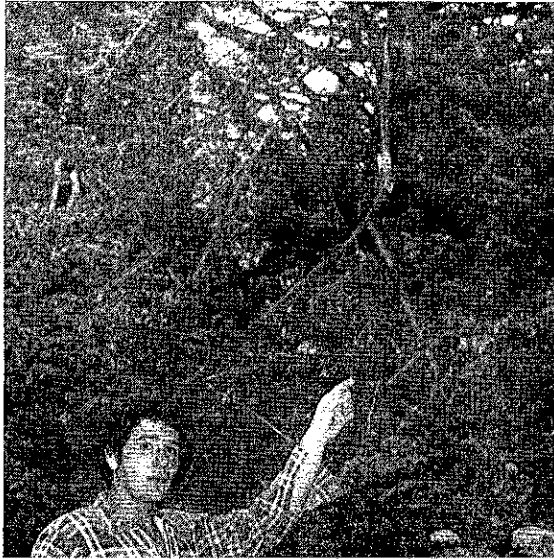
# the apro bulletin

VOL. 28, NO. 10

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

APRIL 1980

## STRANGE DAMAGE IN AUSTRALIA



*Daryl Browne points to the shattered branches where he saw the "UFO"*

### CALIFORNIA ABDUCTION?

On November 26, 1972, Judy Kendall and her two sisters left Bedoga Bay at 5:30 p.m. expecting to reach their parents' home in Woodland at 8:30. They did not arrive until 12:30 and could not explain the four missing hours.

Two and a half years ago, after sighting a UFO in Yolo County, Kendall's curiosity about the four missing hours was rekindled. She ultimately agreed to undergo hypnotic regression and relived the alleged ordeal exactly five years to the day after the incident.

Kendall says she has tapes of the hypnotic session which reveal that she was swooped out of her car, taken aboard a craft and given an examination by aliens. She went on to describe three types of aliens that she encountered. There was one very pretty black-haired woman who looked very human, another group of aliens who wore skin-tight gray suits, had pale white skin and wore oxygen-like masks, and a third alien that she called the "witch doctor".

The "witch doctor" was between 6 and 7 feet tall with a bulbous-type head. His eyes were huge and gelatin-looking with elongated, red pupils. He had thin, transparent white skin with red veins showing through and slits in the side of his head where ears would normally be.

She said the aliens did not speak to one another but she said

*(See Abduction—Page Two)*

The February 18, 1980 issue of the Adelaide News featured a photo of stable hand Daryl Browne alongside a pine tree which had been shattered by some sort of impact. The tree, approximately seventy feet tall, had massive damage in an area approximately thirty-five feet off the ground.

Browne claimed he had seen an eight meter (about twenty-four to twenty-five feet) long yellow half moon-shaped object over the tree the night before the smashed tree was found.

The tree appeared to have been struck by a large car, except for the height of the damage, and the force of the impact loosened the tree's roots and twisted the trunk around almost full circle, and branches the size of average pine tree trunks were bent like match sticks. There were several deep gouges in the trunk.

There were no burn marks on the tree or on the ground and no hint of wreckage or other residue.

At the time he sighted the yellow object, Browne was inside the ranch house watching television when two big and normally fierce guard dogs - one a champion Great Dane began baying and howling in fear. He said they sounded strange - like coyotes howling at the moon.

Then, Browne said, he heard the loud crash and the sound of the tree splitting and ran out to investigate, but could see nothing. He then walked down the driveway toward the cracking and crashing sounds and when he got under the tree he looked up.

It was then he saw a big, yellow cylinder ("sort of half-moon-shaped on the bottom") about eight to nine meters long (24 or 25 feet). He shone his flashlight on it in order to get a good look. He had two children with him and got them back into the house so as not to frighten them.

When he arrived back in the house, Mr. Browne called the police but when he looked back outside the object was not to be seen.

A Mr. Colin Norris of Australian UFO Research arrived on the scene later and tested for radiation with a geiger counter but it registered nothing unusual. But he claimed when he tested for infra red heat his machine "ran off it's scale". The latter has not been confirmed however.

*(See photo at left)*

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## ABDUCTION

(Continued from Page One)

she had the feeling they were communicating telepathically. The witch doctor only communicated with her once saying, "It will be O.K."

While the aliens were examining her, they extracted some fluid from her side which she could not identify. She said that during hypnosis she had a sharp pain in the same side.

Kendall said she was then scooted bodily and expertly back into her car by the beings "as if they do that sort of thing a lot." Her sisters appeared soon after and they continued on their way as if nothing had happened, except that they felt a floating feeling. The two sisters have not undergone hypnosis.

At a recent UFO symposium in San Francisco, Kendall said she met four other "close encounters" subjects who had also waited exactly 5 years to undergo hypnosis. She also said that one woman described the aliens and examination room exactly as she had.

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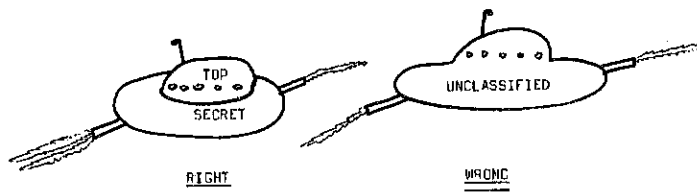
# WHAT'S A DRAWING LIKE THAT DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

by  
 Robert Barrow

A recent excavation of my old files unearthed something of perhaps curious historical value, probably unmentioned in previous UFO literature.

During the summer of 1968, I was undergoing Air Force basic training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio. In addition to the usual rigors, our squadron was required to attend classes on USAF procedures and customs.

One day, we were instructed to complete, in class, a manual and test on Air Force security. Working diligently from page to page of the booklet, dated 1 January 1968 and entitled "Air Force Standard Communications Security Education Program (Transmission Security)," I at last reached page 56--where I suddenly encountered a strange sight indeed. Under the heading, "Proper communications Security Procedures," was a drawing which depicted two unmistakably saucer-shaped craft, *armed and firing* no less. Below the drawing a caption read: "Information concerning radically new and extremely important weapons or equipment should be classified Top Secret." To drive the point home, words appeared on the drawing to show the "right" and "wrong" way to designate a classification.



Because Project Bluebook and all of its absurdities were still forging full and farcical speed ahead in 1968, I found the fact that a saucer-shaped craft would be illustrated for classroom instruction rather humorous, and, when no instructors were looking (those guys do tend to get upset when they notice you doing something out of the norm), I pulled out a small notebook I always carried and jotted down exact notes and a copy of the drawing. It is from those tiny pages, which have been tucked in my files for years, that I offer the above information (the manuals were not allowed out of the classrooms). Did the UFO-like drawings somehow have a bearing on USAF UFO files

or experimental "UFO mimic" craft, or were they merely somebody's idea of a joke? I'm not much of an artist, but the accompanying depiction approximates what made my eyes "bug out" on that humid summer's day in 1968 in, of all places, an Air Force classroom.

You figure it out.

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## ALIEN HONEYCOMB

(Conclusion)

"The gorgeously, hectically-colored wreckage retrieved from Greenbank promises to yield up scientific secrets that should be shared by all mankind."

The authors have made quite a number of extraordinary claims, which should ensure the book's popularity, however the rules of science are clear: extraordinary claims demand extraordinary proof. The obvious question we must ask of this book is whether the authors have fulfilled this criteria. On scientific grounds, the answer would appear to be no.

However, the authors have provided an interesting catch—a veritable Catch 22. They believe they have the evidence to substantiate the claim that the "alien honeycomb" they have in their possession is "wreckage" from a UFO.

The book does not provide this evidence, despite what the authors state, although a case by implication is presented. In fact only the real nature of the fragments in their possession, being confirmed as "exotic" and qualified by detailed scientific analysis would substantiate the claim.

No such analyses are forthcoming in the book. "Commentaries of eminent scientists" are referred to, however these turn out to be only transcripts of observations about the fragments made by anonymous scientists. They are at best subjective comments determined by observation and handling of the fragments and are not based on any hard analyses.

The book, the authors say, "summates the research project in the United States, which shows that the wreckage contains 'unknowns'", however this comment seems to be only based on the following spartan quote from "Don", an engineer and "expert . . . in aeronautics" (who it turns out originally prompted the author's investigations and search for the fragments):

"We're in no doubt it's not from an aircraft, rocket or satellite. We have done some preliminary testing and there are definitely some unknowns." (pg. 135)

The authors tell us nothing more substantial about the fragments and instead apparently the resolution of the nature of the fragments is outside the scope of the book and left to an appeal to the United Nations to intervene.

Messrs. Pinkney and Ryzman state in a letter to Dr.

Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General to the U.N.:

"We, two Australian citizens, hold material that could be the key, and the beginning of the unlocking of the door, to the mystery of the UFO.

"This material was retrieved from a UFO explosion over Greenbank, In Queensland, Australia. It was not the first UFO explosion to have occurred in the world. Nor was Greenbank the first landing site of a UFO."

"We have sent a part of this material to the United States, where scientists have already deemed it "un-identifiable" . . . We ask you, on behalf of the United Nations, to establish a committee to investigate UFOs, and to give this duly-appointed body our material to work on."

". . . We can come forward, at your request, with actual physical evidence in support of the existence of the UFO."

Now Messrs. Pinkney and Ryzman, may have genuine UFO fragments; however, unless the United Nations takes up their request for analyses (which based on previous experience, may prove unlikely) or the authors decide to have the analyses done in more lowly circles (for example, I have offered to Mr. Pinkney, to have open analyses done of the fragments, by qualified analysts, however he has declined, stating he believes the United Nations will undertake the analyses) the matter will remain a point of controversy.

For the moment, without detailed quantitative and qualitative analytical results, we must depend on the case presented in "Alien Honeycomb." Let us now examine the authors' documentation for the UFO subject in general and the "first solid evidence of UFOs" in particular.

The search for the "alien honeycomb" is drawn against a background of the authors' vision of the UFO evidence, namely the landing reports in particular, and the two events in the Australian region, that have captured worldwide headlines recently—the disappearance of pilot Frederick Valentich over Bass Strait<sup>1</sup> and the UFO radar-visual TV film controversy over New Zealand.

While the authors seem to recognise that much of the evidence they present is anecdotal (pg. 51), they overstate the validity of much of their "evidence". For example, they claim that "thousands of (UFO) rings . . . now scar the fields of Australia" (pg. 19); however, the truth of the matter is that the evidence for UFO landings and physical traces revolves around a much small data base (albeit extraordinary). In a recent Australian study of some 237 such cases, I found that only 33 events constituted possible evidence for a physical trace with a strong UFO correlation. From 1,477 trace cases gleaned from 59 countries, Ted Phillips, a U.S. specialist in physical evidence for UFOs, could only find 68 reports that appeared to offer a high level of strangeness.

A number of errors appears in the text<sup>2</sup>, along with apparent incorrect assumptions<sup>3</sup>. For example, the

description of a UFO landing at Orange, NSW, during 1977, is almost unrecognisable to one of the investigators involved in the cases (pg. 36, barring the unlikely possibility the authors are referring to another case at Orange during 1977, hitherto unknown to the UFO research community). Along with a PhD consultant scientist and a clinical psychologist, I investigated this case a few days after it happened. I found the authors' description a total distortion. In a reference to 2 alleged "UFO crashes", one of them located in Nowra, during 1976, the authors state that both "accidents were probably kept quiet by "military intervention"" (pg. 49). However (barring the remote possibility that the authors are privy to information unknown to the research community) the seeming truth of the matter is vastly different. The reference to a "UFO crash" in the Nowra area, appears to have originated from a total media distortion of mundane events that took place during the night of May 24th, 1976<sup>4</sup>. Unfortunately as a result of uncritical writers, the so-called "Nowra UFO crash" (aka "the Robertson UFO crash") has percolated into UFO lore. The need for caution and thorough research is self evident.

The authors' account of how they came upon the Greenbank fragments is certainly quite interesting. I'm sure Jung himself would have been amazed by the both fortunate and synchronous coincidence of one of the authors—Ryzman—going to Brisbane in search of the fragments, finding one lead evaporate (pg. 54), only to bump into a hitherto unknown woman on a Surfers Paradise beach, who possessed one of the fragments and who in turn lead them to the Greenbank fragments (Chp. 9)!

Speaking of the circumstances of the discovery of the Greenbank fragments, the direct evidence for them being of a UFO origin, is absent. The UFO sighting by Mrs. Jean Fraser took place in November, 1966. About a week passed before "a classic saucer nest" was discovered ostensibly where the UFO apparently came down. It wasn't until early in 1968, that fragments of the "alien honeycomb" began being found on the vast timber holding. The authors have not told us whether the locations of the fragments bore any patterned trajectory with the 1966 "landing" (Chp.14). Accordingly the onus is on the authors to provide a much better case for the possible UFO origin of the Greenbank fragments.

R.V. Jones in his excellent book, "Most Secret War" (Coronet, 1979, pgs. 639-642), gives us a lesson which may or may not be relevant here. During the Swedish "ghost-rocket" flap of 1945-46, Jones, then Director of British Scientific Intelligence, stated:

"Since there had been allegedly hundreds of ("ghost-rocket") sorties, there ought to be at least several crashed bombs already in Sweden, and yet nobody had ever picked up a fragment. I therefore said that I would not accept the theory that the apparitions were flying bombs from Russia until someone brought a piece into my office . . ."

It turned out that the Swedes had several pieces of a "bomb".

"When I asked whether it had actually crashed, the answer was that it had not, but that various pieces had fallen off it."

These fragments were forwarded to British Intelligence. Among them was "a lump 2 to 3 inches across that was hard, shiny, grey and porous." Although Jones knew what it was, he sent it to the Chemical Analysis Section at Farnborough. Many people in intelligence believed in the reality of the Russian flying bombs, and jumped upon the resultant analyses of one of the fragments: ". . . one of the lumps consists of more than 98 percent of an unknown element!"

Jones got in contact with the head of chemistry at Farnborough, who confirmed the startling result. "I then asked him whether he had taken a good look at the lump, and whether it had not struck him as being remarkably like an ordinary piece of coke. There was a gasp from the other end of the telephone as the penny dropped. No one had stopped to look at the material, in an effort to get the analysis made quickly, and they failed to test for carbon. The other lumps had similarly innocent explanations."

The reverse seems apparent with the Greenbank fragments. The authors have given us, perhaps, some aesthetically pleasing descriptions of some curious material and no hard data. I hope that their appeal to the United Nations to intervene, and undertake analyses is based on better quality of evidence and documentation, than has been presented in the book, "Alien Honeycomb".

Over to you, Messrs. Pinkney and Ryzman.

#### Notes:

1: Although it is expressed in somewhat more muted terms in "Alien Honeycomb" (Chp. 11, Appendix: "The Ides of October" and pg. 167), John Pinkney has been quoted elsewhere ("People", June 5, 1980, pgs. 12-13) as suggesting that Bass Strait may be Australia's "Bermuda Triangle", and could be an underwater hide-out for UFOs. Such strained speculation is largely based on the record of disappearances over Bass Strait and while this record is unusual, the paucity of evidence hardly justifies such an exotic suggestion. (I tried to put this evidence into a reasonable perspective in my 3 part report—"Vanished?"—carried in the "Australian UFO Researcher" [1979]). By implication the manifold photos taken on the same day as the disappearance of Valentich are offered as evidence for this scenario. They are supported by a GSW computer study, however the techniques and the GSW conclusions are subject to some considerable criticism and are a matter of some controversy. The authors of "Alien Honeycomb" would have done well to have intoned a note of caution about the Manifold photo results ex GSW on this basis. Their conclusions require considerable qualification when an appreciation of the limitations of the computer technique are

considered.

2: It would prove tedious to draw attention to all the errors I have found; however a few are noted:

Australia's first UFO investigation group was founded a few years earlier than stated by the authors and not by Pinkney & Norris. This distinction goes to Edgar Jarrold and his Australian Flying Saucer Bureau, out of which the UFO Investigation Centre appeared in 1955. (pg.19).

The RAAF did not investigate the Bungawalban trace and therefore could not supply any conclusions (pg. 38). Thermoluminescence is, contrary to the authors' assurances, not being used widely by UFO researchers, even though it would be remarkable if it was (pg. 155).

3: Ibid. 2

The mere presence of unusual marks on the ground and the suggestion of UFO activity in the immediate area, does not constitute strong evidence for a UFO landing (Chp. 5)

Scully's "crashed flying saucer yarns" have been reasonably proven to be a little suspect, despite Stringfield's suggestions to the contrary (pg. 49).

Details are known about the 1944 Beaufort bomber incident and they originate from a member of the crew, so the authors' suggestions re the prevention of release of information are not well founded (pg. 150).

4: The events of the night of May 24th, 1976, are well known. The re-entry of rocket debris, local bush fires in the Robertson area (north of Nowra), a red glow on the ground and alleged burn marks on the ground came together to provide a completely spurious account of a UFO crash. The farmer on the property where the burn marks were found tried to link the find with the glow he had observed: however, UFOIC (now UFO Research (NSW) investigators were able to confirm that the "burn marks" were in fact nothing more than fungi, the spores of which can sometimes give the impression of ash. The red glow was observed in a completely different direction to the "burn marks".

The Australian Centre for UFO Studies and the Australian Physical Evidence Study Group can be contacted through P.O. Box 546, GOSFORD, NSW, 2250, Australia.

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## SPANISH UFO IN 1863

*By Richard W. Heiden  
Field Investigator*

The official publication of the Spanish Government *La Gaceta de Madrid*, published in its August 14, 1863, edition, an interesting little item that translates in its entirety as follows:

"The night before last a luminous body that appeared toward the East was observed on the horizon,

and it was at first thought that it must be a comet. It was reddish in color, and on the upper part an appendage or halo that undoubtedly must be a fire was noted. It remained a long time, but then it began to move rapidly in different directions, now horizontally, now rising or falling."

The article as reprinted in the Madrid *ABC* newspaper of February 3, 1974. Courtesy of Pedro Redon, editor of the Spanish UFO magazine *Stendek*.

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## MULTI-WITNESS CALIFORNIA SIGHTING

As Jeannie Echenique, a staff reporter for the Lodi News-Sentinel, pulled into her driveway about 6 p.m. she noticed 2 large bright amber lights in the sky. After parking her car, she went into the front yard where she noticed that one of the bright spots was higher in the sky than the other. She heard no accompanying engine noise. After going into the house to get her mother, she returned 5 minutes later to discover the lights had disappeared.

She forgot about the sighting until a call came from the News-Sentinel from Charlotte Bowers. Bowers reported that she and her husband had seen two "golden or amber" colored lights on the same day at the same time. They saw a third light join the first two and could see a "hemisphere, like a bubble, 50 to 75 feet wide" above the third one.

Mr. Bowers said that the lights moved in a northerly direction "perhaps at the speed of an aircraft—or a little slower at about 300 miles per hour". He estimated the altitude of one at 5,000 feet and the other at 10,000 feet. The third object was at only about 1,500 feet and Bowers thought it was going to rendezvous with the other two lights, but it didn't. "It passed them, did a hairpin turn and followed the other two a little behind", he said. He described the hemisphere over the third light like a gigantic bubble with a greyish appearance. When the objects passed overhead, Bowers said there was "complete silence".

The Bowers did not watch the objects until they disappeared, but said when they drove off the lights were moving towards Sacramento.

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## ANOTHER TIME-LAPSE CASE

February 11, 1980 — Council Bluffs, Iowa. Seven women were driving north on county road G66 after a bridge game which broke up about 11:30 p.m. Six were in a car driven by Marilyn Anderson and the other woman, who had a shorter drive home, followed alone in her car.

Anderson and her passengers spotted lights in the sky about 200 to 300 feet in the air to their left. They were described as 3 or 4 square white lights and a flashing red light. When Anderson stopped the car to get out for a better look the object sped away. She ran back to the following car to ask her friend if she had seen it and the women asked, "Seen what?" The women then continued on their way home.

The woman alone in her car remembers glancing at her watch as she passed the Beverly Manor subdivision. It was 11:40 p.m. As she came to a stop sign, the car stalled and her lights and radio went off. She got out to investigate but saw headlights coming and decided to try and re-start the car. It started right away and she turned toward her subdivision. She drove a quarter of a mile and the car stalled again.

As she opened the car door she spotted a bright orange light in a cornfield about 300 yards away. She jumped into the car and locked the door. At this point her recollection is fuzzy. She recalls turning the key and the car started and she sped into her subdivision without slowing down.

She ran into her house and looked out the window and could see a glow but not the light itself. She then went into the bathroom and was horrified when she looked in the mirror. "My face and hands were pink, like the color of a healed scar, and my face was blotchy." She also had a temperature of 102 and was nauseous and sweating.

She called her sister who urged her to go to a doctor but she decided to lie down and wait until morning. She couldn't sleep, and by 4 a.m. the redness and blotches began to disappear. They were gone by 4:20 a.m.

The woman had no explanation for one thing—the time that elapsed. It is normally less than a 5 minute drive from the point where she checked her watch at 11:40 p.m. She checked her watch again when she called her sister and it was 12:12 a.m. Thirty two minutes had passed.

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## PRESS REPORTS

by Joe & Doris Graziano

FAIRFIELD, NEBRASKA, Two unidentified persons spotted a round, thin object about 10:25 p.m. on December 3, 1979 while driving on highway 78 west of Fairfield. Both saw the object hovering above the trees about 3 or 4 blocks from where they were. It was described as 20 to 30 feet in diameter, metallic gray in color with larger red lights and smaller white lights in an irregular pattern which blinked in no set manner. The driver of the car saw grating on the underneath portion of the UFO. It hovered approximately 40 to 50 feet above the ground and no sound or odor was detected by the witnesses.

An officer from the Clay County Sheriff's Office interviewed the witnesses minutes after the sighting. He separated the two persons and asked for individual descriptions as well as sketches of the objects. Both were very distraught and shaken by their experience, but their reports and drawings were remarkably similar.

Jimmy Walker and several occupants of two cars who had pulled off the road into his service station observed a strange flight of lights headed south over route 29 about 7 p.m. on December 8, in MADISON COUNTY, VIRGINIA. They were white lights, one above the other, and appeared to be attached to 10 objects flying in 2 rows. Walker said they were a little distance apart, about the height that helicopters go by, but no one heard any sound from them.

Madison County Sheriff's Department dispatcher, Henry

Tanner, reported that calls poured in from the town of Madison and the northern part of the county and southern end of Culpeper county. "They said the lights were too close together to be airplanes and they weren't making a bit of noise", said Tanner.

The towers at Charlottesville-Albemarle airport reported several calls. Tower operator Dusty Hamilton was on duty when 8 single-engine PA38 Tomahawk airplanes landed about 6:15 p.m. There should have been nothing unusual about their formation or altitude and "they would definitely be making some noise if there were that many up there", the operator said.

WEST MILFORD, NEW JERSEY. Eight people claim to have seen 4 or 5 red lights traveling slowly at low altitude in a diamond-shaped or circular pattern on December 9. Three Riverdale men, Thomas Fox, Steve Gosses and Officer John Schaub, initially spotted 4 lights which were eventually joined by a fifth. Most of the witnesses felt that the lights moved too slowly to have been conventional aircraft.

Another set of witnesses who reported the sighting later maintained that the lights were definitely white, not red or yellow. Linda Unger of Highview Estates, who watched the lights with her family and some neighbors, described 4 or 5 white lights in a diamond-shaped pattern. The lights moved into a circular, rotating shape where they remained for a time before they eventually resumed the diamond shape. Unger compared the size of the lights to those of a street light but was uncertain about the actual size or altitude.

An unidentified neighbor who said he had served in Vietnam was convinced that the lights came from helicopters flying in formation. The man said that he definitely heard the characteristic chopping sound of helicopter blades, but Unger said she heard no helicopter noise.

A 200 to 300 foot object was seen high in the sky about 6 or 7 miles north of BANKS IDAHO by the Knapke family—Les, Priscilla and children Cathy and Sabina on December 13, 1979. Priscilla said there were 2 diamond shaped lights, side by side, in the center of the object. The lights were flashing like a police car's but faster.

They watched the object going east for 10 to 12 minutes. "We stopped the car and about 5 seconds later it made a fast shoot across the sky and was gone", Priscilla said. She added that they all complained of a pain in their shoulders and that her and Les' arms felt numb.

MOLALLA OREGON, late December, 1979. Five bright, diamond-shaped, silvery-colored objects flying approximately 200 feet above the ground in a westerly direction were spotted by an unidentified woman near Mulino. She claimed that the car ahead of her also stopped to watch the objects.

No report of the sighting was received by local authorities, but such activities have been reported in the area in the past. A Molalla man reported he and his father-in-law viewed a domed object emitting a greenish light hovering 50 feet over railroad tracks several years ago. Within the past three years a similar object was spotted flying near Molalla and also over Canby.

Dempsey Miller was driving south on Battlefield Blvd. in CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA on January 10, 1980 when a large round, saucer-shaped object hovered above his car at treetop level. He said a circle of bright, off-white lights on the bottom were too blinding to see any detail, but described the object as gray or silver with red, green and blue lights around the edge. Dempsey also said the object was "roaring loud" and "it was large enough for a station wagon to go up inside".

More than a dozen people say they saw a bright light or heard a loud noise in the area about the same time that Miller reported seeing the object. Several of the residents of the area described a loud noise like a low-flying jet about 7 p.m. the same night.

An object 4 or 5 times brighter than a star with small pinpricks of colored lights was reported hovering in the sky four days earlier. Officer B.F. Kornegay, Jr. was sent to investigate these reports about 7 p.m. January 6th. Officer Kornegay did not see the object when he arrived in the area, but did see what he described as "a large white light, larger than stars, moving off at an angle south".

Virginia Beach has also had reports of flashes of light, loud explosions and blue balls of light during the last week of December.

Harry Kochman of WILLIAMSTOWN, NEW JERSEY, spotted a bright, greenish-blue glow in the sky while driving home at 5:45 p.m. on January 9, 1970. "At first I thought it was an airplane but then, upon further investigation, it appeared to be 2 or 3 feet long, flying quite low toward Atlantic City. It had what appeared to be white sparks shooting from its tail. I saw a couple of airplanes flying in the area and it appeared to have no relationship to any normal aircraft", Kochman said.

The object was also sighted by a banker and two airplane pilots at about the same time. Both pilots reported a "comet-like" streak in the sky west of Atlantic City. A spokesman for the FAA office in New York reported that they had reports from the two pilots but, "there wasn't anything spotted on our radar at that time". A NORAD spokesman said that radar operated by the defense center indicated that "no man-made object entered the area at that time".

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## ANATOMY OF A UFO WINDOW

*By P. Wayne Laporte*

On June 7th, 1979, Mrs. Delores Lavelle, Trends Editor with the Monroe, N. C. Enquirer Journal became one of many to experience a UFO sighting along a stretch of US74 in Indian Trail, N.C. Mrs. Lavelle described her encounter in the June 8th edition of the Journal. Reprinted below is her article.

### UFOs DEFY ALL LOGIC THIS WRITER COULD SUMMON

*By Dolores Lavelle, Trends Editor*

I tried to explain what I saw by every bit of logic I could summon, but it defied them all. I have to believe what my husband, my son and I saw

Wednesday night was a UFO.

It didn't fit the performance of a plane. It wasn't a radio tower. I never saw a helicopter move that fast, and to have two of them operating in the country at 10:45 p.m., was almost impossible. So I have to join the legions of believers, or rather, non-doubters.

We were returning Wednesday night after dinner in Charlotte with our daughter. When we were between the Stallings traffic signal and the one at the Indian Trail crossing on US 74, I noticed an orange-red light that came from behind us, on the right side, moving very fast and high.

As it curved toward the highway, I saw a small green light, stationary over the highway ahead. The red light approached the green and, as they met, the red dropped straight down toward the ground, while the green remained stationary.

My first thought, as my husband exclaimed, "What the hell was that?" was that two planes had collided. Then I realized we would have heard the crash. And the red light had not hit the ground, but was instead shooting up, very fast, back toward the green light.

### JUST HUNG THERE

They hung there together, the red on the right, the green on the left, at times with the red seeming to move between the green and us, obliterating it.

My next thought was that it was a tower light and a helicopter, though it moved too fast for a copter. The fact that they stayed stationary, above the highway was the unanswerable factor.

As we proceeded down the road, we eventually passed under them. My son and I watched as we pulled ahead, and they remained in the same spot, over the highway, not moving, until we lost sight of them behind trees and turns in the road.

I contacted Wayne La Porte, after a half day of kidding from fellow newspeople, and told him what we had seen. LaPorte is the UFO investigator for this area.

He said the area where we saw the lights was along the fault they know exists, a geological condition that seems consistent with such sightings. ENQUIRER JOURNAL, Monroe, NC - June 8, 1979.

Mrs. Lavelle's encounter occurred only 1000 feet from where I live. This particular locale is where many local residents and passersby have seen mysterious lights and objects suddenly appear, vanish, or momentarily hover.

I moved to the Indian Trail area in 1972. My interest in UFOs began in October, 1974 when several neighbors told me they had just seen three spherical lights pass low over the housing development and vanish at the same point over a field in back of my house. Later, in 1976, I began actively investigating UFO sightings in the Charlotte and Indian Trail area. I was surprised to learn that numerous people here had seen a lot of strange things. Besides UFOs, many had seen sudden flashes of lights, spook lights, jack-o-lanterns (roaming spook lights), glows on the ground, bigfoot creatures, occupants, Men-in-Black, black panthers, unusual cloud formations, mystery aircraft and helicopters, and out-of-place animals such as baboons. In January of '77, the phenomenon became very real to me when I experienced the first of several encounters.

I was returning home from work. It was around 6 p.m. While waiting for traffic to clear in the oncoming lane, I noticed a white light approaching low in the sky directly ahead. As I turned into the housing development, the white light flared to a brilliant golden-yellow. Immediately, I turned the car around and returned to the highway. The oncoming light had vanished. Then, I drove to a neighbor's house to discuss a few things not related to UFOs. After about

30 minutes I left and drove over to my house. While walking up the walk, I felt as if someone was staring at me. Turning around I saw a glaring ball of white light the apparent size of a quarter at arm's length. From the orb's center flowed crimson streamers in a radial pattern. The spherical light was hovering motionlessly and not making a sound. After viewing it for about 45 seconds, I turned and went inside to get a witness. Moments later I returned with my then seven year old son. Now, the spheroid was a cherry-red. And, it appeared to be translucent as if you could reach through it. As we watched, the light seemed to shrink into nothingness.

The unusual light was also observed by a neighbor's pre-teen son. This allowed a distance triangulation to be made. Trigonometry calculations indicated the light was about 17 feet in diameter and hovered some 700 feet above at an altitude of 130 feet. Oddly, the orb vanished at the same spot the three white spheroids disappeared in 1974.

Since then I've seen the lights on several occasions. My wife and several neighbors have also seen the mystery lights several times. Generally, the lights are white, yellow, gold, green, or a mixture of colors - particularly crimson and white. Sometimes the lights have a darker colored outer border. They come and go to these spots in back of the house from all radial directions. Usually they come swiftly and silently - like a "thief in the night". Offhand, the lights appear to be a form of ball lightning except they are generally large in size and usually seen in clear weather.

What intrigued me the most is that many UFO encounters, be they sightings of NLS or craft-like UFOs, occurred repeatedly in certain specific places. Somewhere I had read where UFOs had an affinity for geological fault lines. Supposedly, alien crews were flying along the faults studying the earth's crust and observing earthquakes.

A review of geological records and maps brought forth many interesting facts. North Carolina is a heavily faulted area. It is a moderately seismic active state. And, it was a major world producer of gold prior to the 1849 California gold rush. I also learned that a geological fault - the Gold Hill Fault - runs through the Indian trail area. And, the field in back of my house is located exactly on the fault line. Furthermore, there were numerous gold mines in Charlotte and Indian Trail. Those in the Indian Trail area are strewn out along the fault. There are six located in back of and around the housing development in which I live. Lavelle's sighting occurred exactly over the Secret and Smart mines. My personal sighting of the crimson-white spheroid occurred over the Sam Phifer and Sam Hill mines. This knowledge inspired me to review my case files and make the following statistical tabulation.

Of 29 nocturnal light cases reported to me between 1974 and 1979, 19 occurred over gold mines along the Gold Hill Fault, 5 occurred over gold mines in the Charlotte area, and 5 were seen in non-gold mine

areas. Of the 24 sighted over gold mines, 21 were seen to affect a change in travel mode (suddenly vanish, appear, change direction, or hover momentarily). The other three were seen scooting about. Of 43 craft type UFOs reported in the same period, 10 were encountered at the Gold Hill Fault gold mines, 19 were sighted over gold mines in Charlotte, and 14 were seen flying about in non-gold mine areas. Now, of the 29 sightings of craft-like UFOs at gold mine sites, 23 were seen to make a change in travel mode (suddenly vanish, appear, turn, or hover momentarily).

The statistics are interesting, but not all inclusive regarding the seismic connection. There are other factors such as population density, the fact that my house - "a UFO reporting center" - is located on the fault near old gold mines, distribution of sub-stations and broadcasting towers, and railroad tracks that may interplay to distort a positive correlation of UFO sightings with gold mines. It may even be that a combination of factors are responsible for repeat sightings in any one area. Still, I'm personally convinced, after seeing both NLS and spaceship types over the gold mines, that there is definitely a seismic connection. However, I suspect it is the quartz rather than the gold that the UFOs have an affinity for.

As any gold prospector knows, gold is generally found near or in quartz veins. As any mineralogist knows, quartz and other crystalline rock when compressed, generates an electrical charge. An industrial application of this principle is the quartz cigarette lighter. A quartz crystal is compressed which creates an electrical spark. The spark in turn, ignites the gas in the lighter. It is this principle that may be responsible for what seismologists call "quake lights".

For centuries, people have reported seeing unusual luminous phenomenon prior, during, and after earthquakes. For example, Pliny the Roman historian wrote about survivors seeing "flaming shields" in the night skies during the massive quake which toppled the huge Colossus of Rhodes in 224 BC. During the 1965-67 Matsushiro earthquake swarm in Japan, Yutaka Yasui collected the only known photographs of earthquake lights. Out of 35 reported sightings, Yasui related that 18 couldn't be explained by known lights.

*TO BE CONCLUDED  
IN THE NEXT ISSUE*

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**PLEASE!**

**Send address changes.  
Our office files by  
Zip Code. We do need  
both old & new Zip Code.**