

UFO's and I

1988 is sure starting off to be a remarkable year. Whitley Strieber's Communion is slated to be turned into a movie. The Man Alive UFO special was replayed in December of 1987, and was again one of the highest-rated episodes ever. And there was a remarkable trio of sightings in Australia in January so far this year. Of course, Australia or New Zealand always do that each year about this time.

As fate would have it, my name appeared in OMNI in both the December, 1987, and the January, 1988, issues. The first was in an aside concerning the statistical findings of Michael Persinger, in which I pointed out that Garbage In equals Garbage Out, the old computing axiom. The second instalment was an interview with Jerome Clark, in which I described several doctoral theses written on the subject of UFOs. I also commented on my decision to not accept an offer from some professors at the University of Manitoba that I produce a thesis of my own on UFOs or a related topic. I did write a postgraduate paper for a geophysics professor, who suggested the idea first, but I never got any farther than finding people willing to sit on an advisory committee. Later, and as recently as last year, I did develop a thesis topic on a different subject, namely Nuclear Arms Verification in Space, and was working with an advisory committee. However, the effort stalled, like the first, because I simply cannot afford to register at this time. Without a decent amount of savings, I simply cannot quit my present job to attend university again. And even if I did, there were no assurances from anyone that I could find a good-paying job once I completed the postgraduate degree(s). Hence, until I get enough money or some sort of grant, I remain an "independent researcher", working in a library and writing for a newspaper to make ends meet.

A relatively minor error with the OMNI article caused a bit of a stir on campus. I recall getting called by a proofreader, who read the article to me over the phone from New York. It was fine, but I told the woman that I was no longer with the Geophysics Department, and could she simply say that I was "with the University of Manitoba"? She said she would amend the copy. She didn't.

I'm having nearly the same success with newspapers. I now review books for the Winnipeg Free Press, and one review was a triple-header, on Communion, Intruders and UFOs: 1947-1987. Most readers will be familiar with the first two, but the third is an edited compilation by Hilary Evans and John Spencer. With about as much competence as expected, the paper mixed up the publishing information for the book, and the review itself contained several typos. However, the message was clear: all three are books both reading, and I hope they stimulated many people to pick up a copy. Both Communion and Intruders are out in paperback, and Avon Books even was giving out buttons with a picture of Strieber's alien on them.

In the International UFO Reporter, Volume 12, Number 5, 1987, Jenny Randles describes her contact with Ralph Noyes, a "source" in the RAF and the British Ministry of Defence. Noyes later retired and wrote a science fiction novel, "loosely based" on his experiences with UFO reports. Jenny found that the novel included too many thinly-disguised facts to be merely a work of fiction, and suggested that Noyes knows much more than he's telling. Well, I was in a

small suburban library in January, getting ready to teach a class in science fiction, when I realised I had several minutes to spare before the class began. I wandered over to the "new book" shelf, and Noyes' book: "A Secret Property" was the first book I saw. It's quite strange to read, and does contain characters that seem very familiar. In fact, one fellow is named Conrad Friedman, and is a bit of a thorn in the side of those covering up some sightings.

And speaking of nobody in particular, Stanton Friedman came into Winnipeg again at the end of January. This time, the University seemed to forget all about inviting him to speak, and I found myself putting up posters and calling the media myself. The result was that he did five or six good interviews and three public lectures in two days. In addition to his UFO talks, he spoke twice on Food Irradiation, getting a sparse crowd at the University. This was surprising, since the topic is feverishly debated in the media these months.

During his evening lecture on UFOs, he showed slides of the infamous MJ-12 documents. The attentive, 300+ audience included Simone Simosko and her family, members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, including Gord Mathews, Paul Hammer, Grant Cameron, Myra Banman (Rutkowski-to-be) and myself. No one from the media or the Planetarium UFO "Centre" were in attendance. During the slides, I pointed out an interesting observation to Grant, who later discussed the fact with me at length. (As readers of SGJ may know, Grant is one of Canada's foremost UFO document experts.) We realized that the MJ-12 documents have holes punched along their left sides, as if for a three-ring binder. This simple point has never been brought up in any of the discussions I have seen on the subject, yet is quite fascinating. The MJ-12 documents have the punched holes, as if they have been stored for a long time in a closed binder. It would make sense that if the documents really are "1 of 1", then their storage in a binder does support their veracity. Also, would someone faking the documents know enough to put the holes in? Stanton told us later that initial inquiries have suggested that the placing of unique documents in binders is practiced in official files. Another interesting point is that the documents showed no wear around the edges of the holes. Have you ever seen a perfectly round binder hole? My experience is such that these occur only in the center of binders. I suggested that perhaps enhancement of the holes in the photos might reveal some wear. Alternatively, the MJ-12 papers might be in the center of a large binder of similar documents. If the documents were faked, why would one bother to punch holes in the paper, if not to match the storage of similar documents? A curious detail, that may be very relevant, or a red herring.

A few more books worth noting. Night Siege, written by Allen Hynek, Philip Imbrogno and Bob Pratt, is now out, detailing sightings in upstate New York over the past five years. Not a bad work, but it pays little more than lip service to the very negative articles that appeared, for example, in the New York Times, explaining many of the reports. Pratt writes with his National Enquirer style, with Imbrogno giving the details of many investigations. Time/Life Books has published The UFO Phenomenon as part of its Mysteries of the Unknown Series. They had contacted me some time ago regarding photos of UFOs and IFOs, and I had complied by sending over a dozen. They sent all of them back, and didn't use any of them, but I still got a complimentary copy, though I am uncredited in the book. Timothy Good's Above Top Secret has been out in England for several months, though no bookstore in Winnipeg has yet heard of it. Grant Cameron has received a copy on loan from a library in the USA, and has given me a mixed review. I'm told that my FSR articles on the Michalak case are discussed in the text, so I'm anxious to see how they were used in the context of government cover-up.

Speaking of the Michalak case, his son works for the local media, and I have met with him a few times over the past months. He read the manuscript of an article I wrote detailing my impressions of the case, twenty years after the fact. I'm highly critical of the way the case was handled by CAPRO at the time, and I have found that investigators failed to interview many key witnesses. The article will appear in IUR soon, probably before you read this, under a title which suggests the case was "bungled". While it is true that I did use that word in the article, its harshness has already been pointed out to me in complaints by some of those involved. I won't point any fingers at this late date, especially since most of the questions raised by the case cannot be answered now, but I will say that I have presented the facts as I have received them, and cannot be held responsible if some of it looks bad for other people. Call me "Slap" Rutkowski.

Another book to watch out for, again from Hilary Evans and John Spencer, is "From Flying Saucers to UFOs", due to be published by MacDonal & Co. in England in the Spring of 1988. Yet another book is in the works, and I am a contributor to both.

John Robert Colombo, trivia compiler and publisher of collections of facts and stories about everything from Canadian quotations to the Wendigo, is coming out with a book on Canadian Mysteries this Spring. I provided him with information about some entries, but his work is largely a collection of material by other writers, as usual. It will be interesting to see what he has to say about Canada's best-known UFOs, ghosts and monsters, and who gave him the stories.

UFOZINES AND FANZINES RECEIVED

NYFORVARV 1986; AFU Newsletter, P.O. Box 11027 S-600 11 Norrkoping, Sweden, #28,29; SAF Bulletin, Box 2238 S-171 02 Solna, Sweden, V.19, #5; UFO Rivista di Informazione Ufologica, CISU Corso Vittorio Emanuele 108, 10121 Torino, Italia, V.1, #1,2; Ufologia, Clypeus Box 604, 10100 Torino, Italia, #15,16; John Musgrave Mailings #557-632; UFO Newsclipping Service, Lucius Farish, Rte. 1, Box 220, Plumerville, AK, 72127, #208,212,216; UFO Belgium, Koning Albertstraat 40, 3500 Hasselt, 1986,1987,1988 no.1; Free Speech, P.O. Box 220, Clifford, Ontario, NOG 1MO, #7-12; MLR, 79 Karma Road, Unionville, ON L3R 4S8, #1; JRASC #597-607 & suppl; Winnicentrics, 1986-1987; Novoid, 1118 College Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W2; Space Wastrel, P.O. Box 545, South Perth, W. Australia 6151, V.2 #2,3,4; Got It, Thanks!, 642 Ingersoll St., Wpg R3G 2J4, #1 A Man and His Mimeo, 1118 College Dr., Saskatoon, #1; I'm Not Boring You Am I?, Postal Station South Edmonton, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 5G5, P.O. Box 4655, #3,4,5,6; Neogenesis, Box 4071, Edmonton, AB, T6E 4S8, V.1, #1; All of the Above, 6-3957 Bond St., Burnaby, BC V5H 1E7, #1; The Blotter, 233 Woodbine Ave., Toronto, M4L 3P3, #6; MINICON 22 mailings, P.O. Box 8297, Lake Street Station, Minneapolis, MN 55408; Neology P.O. Box 4071, PSSE, Edmonton, T6E 4S8; Back in Time, Postfach 1524, D-2070 Ahrensburg, Germany, #6; Computer UFO Newsletter, via Matteotti 85, L-22072 Cermante (Como) Italy, V.1, #3; Pursuit, P.O. Box 265, Little Silver, NJ, 07739-0265, V.19, #3; UFO Potpourri, P.O. Box 58485, Houston, TX, 77258-8485, #306-312; Tone, 1821 Prince of Wales Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K2C 1P2; V.1, #8; Cambridge UFO Research Group, Bonnie Wheeler, 170 Strathcona St., Cambridge, ON N3C 1R4, #24,25,26,27; CENAP Report, Eisenacher Weg 16, 6800 Mannheim 31, Germany, #141; Massachusetts MUFON Newsletter, 43 Harrison St., Reading, MA 01867, #34-45//Orbiter #1,2; and yes, I have tried to read each of them....

The Swamp Gas Journal is published at irregular intervals by Ufology Research of Manitoba (UFOROM). The editor and author of most contributions is Chris Rutkowski. However, discussions with and assistance from the following individuals is greatly appreciated: Vladimir Simosko, Gord Mathews, Roy Bauer, Stanton Friedman, Myra Banman, Grant Cameron, Guy Westcott, Michelle Baert and Lisa Gohl.

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Основана в мае 1925 г. • № 34 (18238) • Воскресенье, 10 февраля 1985 г. • Выходит ежедневно, кроме понедельника • Цена 3 коп.

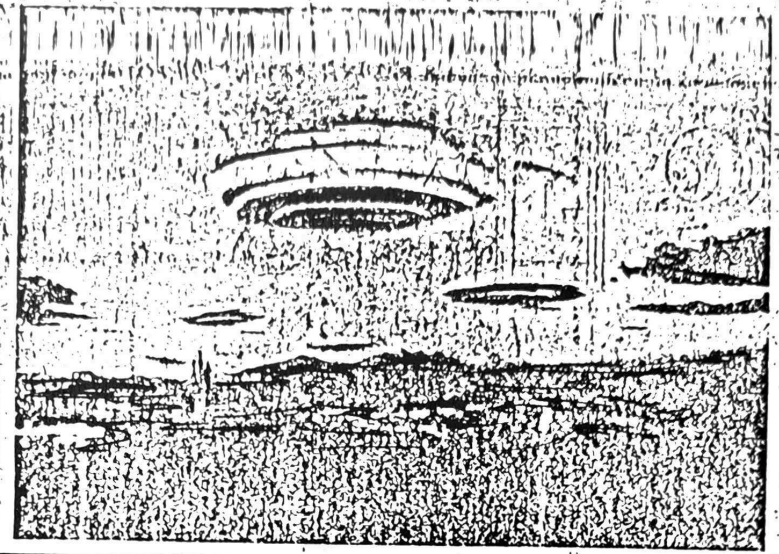
ОКНО В ПРИРОДУ

Летающие тарелки... пожалуйста!

Природа с седых времен поражает воображение человека. Затменные лунны и солнце, кометы, радуги, смерчи, шоровые молнии, полярные сияния, миражи, огни Эльма... Сколько суеверия, страха, предположений вызывали они у людей. Сегодня, в век компьютеров, спутников, ядерных реакторов, телевидения, чем может поразить природу воображение человека?

Любителям всего необычного, не привычного стоит внимательно рассмотреть фотографию... Ну как не подумать о том, что вот они, пришельцы других миров, явились и опустились на отходящую ко сну Землю. Однако эти летающие тарелки — всего лишь скопления облаков. Правда, необычные, нечто возникающие над землей. Они относятся к типу облаков «стоячей волны». Эта абсолютно подлинная фотография, воспроизведенная в последнем номере журнала «Курьер ЮНЕСКО», сделана в Бразилии в 1969 году.

В. ПЕСКОВ.



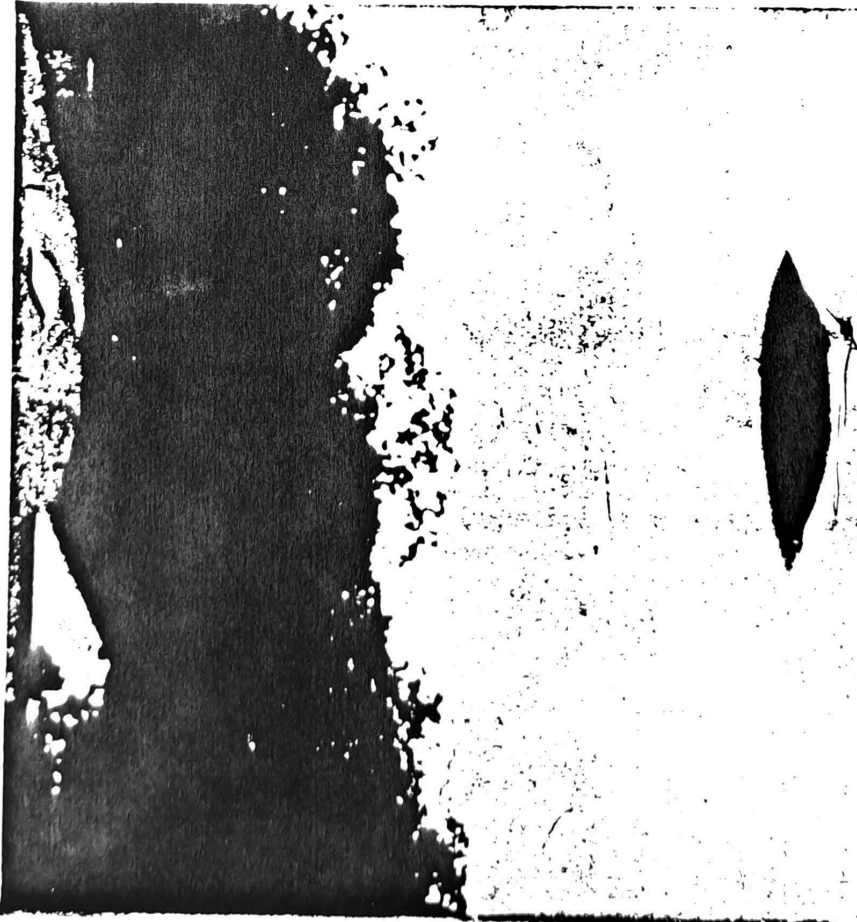
иссы в 114 городов

CHRIS: I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE HELL THE ABOVE IS ABOUT, BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED.

The richest coffee in the world.



We know why they're here.



RECENT LOCAL SIGHTINGS OF UFOS

Miami, Manitoba December 12, 1986 1:20 AM

A man was travelling near the town when he saw a "parade" of objects proceed across the sky from the West. A white globe of light with an orange "tail" was followed by three red lights with similar "tails", then two more lights followed after them as well. This sighting lasted approximately 5 minutes.

Lorette, Manitoba January 15, 1987 2:35 AM

A man was travelling towards Lorette, and noticed a bright light in the East, about 2 miles ahead of him. He eventually caught up with the object, and travelled side-by-side with it less than 300 feet away from his car. It was "cross-shaped", appearing to be a fuselage with winglike protuberances on either side. The object approached to within 100 feet, but at this point, they were nearing town, and it veered away. The witness drove through the town to his home, and from his driveway watched as the object hovered over some houses and moved to a position directly above his car. When it moved away, he dashed to "safety" in his house.

Lorette, Manitoba January 29, 1987 2:30 AM

A man was driving near Lorette, and saw a brightly-lighted object approximately 2 miles away. He stopped his car, and signalled with his headlights, and the object appeared to respond by moving slightly in his direction.

Lorette, Manitoba February 2, 1987 2:30 AM

A lone witness observed an "upside-down, crescent-shaped object", with flames "shooting out" of its underside. It was glowing white, with a yellow halo around its edges. It moved swiftly away when the witness tried to telephone a friend to alert him of the object's presence.

Great Falls, Manitoba January 30, 1987 12:15 AM

A woman was walking her dog near a highway, when she saw a group of four green lights moving towards her position, travelling along the road. As it reached her position, it suddenly veered away, across a field. She observed no "body" to the object, which was lost to sight in the distance after a few minutes.

near Thunder Bay, Ontario May 17, 1987 7:23 PM

The pilot and crew of a commercial aircraft observed on radar a large object which moved at a great speed. Its size was calculated to be greater than a 747, and it appeared to travel at over 5200 km per hour. It was calculated to be about 80 km away, and was not observed visually. The target was not confirmed on any other radar; the pilot has 21 years of flying experience, and has never had a similar experience.

Bereton Lake, Manitoba June 16, 1987 12:40 AM

A mother and her son observed an unusual object moving slowly from the East to the Southwest across the lake. It was a round, red light, with two smaller lights on each side.

Winnipeg, Manitoba July 10, 1987 5:15 AM

A "high-pitched whine" was heard by several residents. No object was seen.

Carberry Junction, Manitoba July 13, 1987 11:40 PM

A priest was travelling west on the Trans-Canada Highway when he saw what he thought was "an emergency vehicle" turn onto the road in front of him. It was "about the size of a van", but had no headlights or brakelights. Its lighting consisted only of three sets of inverted U-shaped strings of red lights at its front, middle and rear. When he moved almost alongside the object, within 5 feet, the lights went out, and the object totally disappeared.

Bereton Lake, Manitoba August 12, 1987 12:15 AM

A man was driving along a highway and passed a group of red and blue lights off the side of the highway in the bush. He stopped and backed up until he was alongside the lights, which were partly hidden by the trees. The lights were extinguished after a few minutes. Later, he returned during the day, but could not see any evidence of houses, huts, roads, tractors, etc.

Riverton, Manitoba August 31, 1987

A young couple were caught in the bright glow of a UFO seemingly floating above them. Their car was bathed in an orange glow, and they were very frightened by their experience.

Anola, Manitoba Summer, 1987 11:00 PM

A man was driving between Anola and Winnipeg, and noticed two objects "hovering" in the sky". Neither object moved during the observation.

Ashern, Manitoba September 4, 1987 11:30 PM

A woman was driving near Ashern when she saw a "mysterious sphere" slowly rising from behind a group of trees. The orange object had six V-shaped lights hanging down from it. After about one minute of observation while the object "hovered", flames shot out from one of the protuberances.

Bismarck, North Dakota December 4, 1987 6:40 PM

A man observed a "burger-box-shaped" object apparently hovering over some power lines about 1/4 mile distant. It had red and green blinking lights, and appeared to be about the size of an automobile. It moved away during the observation to a greater distance in a very short period of time, then disappeared from view.

Summary:

861212.1	0120	local	Miami, MB	NL	Possible Astron/Aircraft
870115.1	0235	local	Lorette, MB	CEL	Unknown
870129.1	0230	local	Lorette, MB	NL	Possible Aircraft
870130.1	0015	local	Great Falls, MB	CEL	Possible Automobile/Truck
870202.1	0230	local	Lorette, MB	ND	Possible Astronomical
870517.1	1923	local	Thunder Bay, ON	RD	Unknown
870616.1	0040	local	Bereton Lake, MB	NL	Possible Aircraft
870710.1	0515	local	Winnipeg, MB	UEX	Insufficient Information
870713.1	2340	local	Carberry Junction, MB	CEL	Unknown
870812.1	0015	local	Bereton Lake, MB	NL	Possible Off-Road Vehicles
870831.1			Riverton, MB	CEL	Insufficient Information
879999.1	2300	local	Anola, MB		Probable Astronomical
870904.1	2330	local	Ashern, MB	CEL	Insufficient Information
871204.1	1840	local	Bismarck, ND	ND	Unknown

Breakdown:

Probable Explanations:	1	
Possible Explanations:	6	
Insufficient Informations:	3	
Unknowns:	4	
Total Cases:	14	(Dec.86/Dec.87)

Editorial

Acknowledge Rural Concerns

The Electoral Boundaries Commission headed by The Honorable Alfred M. Monnin will be holding hearings this week seeking response from the public on proposed Electoral Boundaries changes across this province.

In Northern Manitoba, the Commission proposes reducing the number of constituencies from five to four.

Brandon will retain its two seats, and Winnipeg will have 31 seats having an average population of 19,179.

Meanwhile rural Manitobans will see significant changes, with 30 electoral divisions proposed by the Commission each with an average population of 18,399.

In its deliberation the Commission is not only governed by reference to population statistics, but also by the following factors:

- (a) Community or diversity of interests.
- (b) Communications.
- (c) Physical features.
- (d) Existing boundaries of rural municipalities.

As in so many instances, rural Manitobans and their interests are not being properly represented in these hearings. The Union of Manitoba Municipalities will be protesting that there is no rural representation on this Commission, as they well should be.

The first change proposed for Macdonald, now Morris, took in a larger area of what one would consider a normal trading area within the constituency boundary. The recent change, looping south to include the Town of Morris, fails to acknowledge the normal trading area.

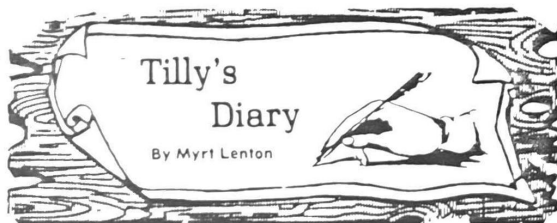
By excluding residents of the RM of Grey, the Commission is ignoring the school division ties, and hospital services provided by Carman which extends considerably north of Elm Creek in the RM of Grey. This we might suggest fails to maintain the community as is called for within the guidelines of the Commission.

Further, under Communications, it would be expected that an attempt would be made to retain a specific trade area within the boundaries. Why extend Morris beyond the Red River to the east? Why not use the river as the border?

Further, advertisements advising of the changes only appeared in the daily press. When more than 70 per cent of rural Manitobans are not reached by that media. They ignored the grass roots media, the community press.

There are concerns outside the perimeter of Metro Winnipeg that our politicians fail to address.

H.E.B.



Dear Diary:

I can't believe it, I've picked up a new addiction and I'm not really an addictive type. I don't think. You have all heard of the new social group identified as mall crawlers. It seems there is a whole segment of society that is addicted to spending hour after hour strolling through shopping malls. The mall crawlers come in all sizes and shapes and in all age groups. Their social life is closely related to moving around a mall. It is a place for socialising and results in some sort of identity. Most of the crawlers do very little shopping but they always appear to be

keeping company with an avid garage sale crawler. This gal has had me in and out of more yards than I care to divulge. She is truly professional. She actually has the garage sale sites all posted on the dash of her car. She goes about it in a systematic fashion. When she says let's go garage sale hopping, that's exactly what she means. The hopping might take you in the radius of 120 miles before you are done and "that is a small run" according to her.

She is a garage sale hawk. She swoops in and picks her prey. She

non-profit items. I don't want to believe her but then I'm the novice at this whole thing.

Have to admit some of her enthusiasm is rubbing off on me. I actually bought and resold a funny little dish and made \$1.50. My next venture wasn't quite as successful. I bought a pull toy and tried to up the value by \$2 but the look of longing in the little gal's eyes prompted me to give it to her. That's supposedly a no, no. My knowledgeable friend claims, "You are far better to charge for it, then they will value it. Give it to them and they feel they have got nothing." Can that be right? Hope not.

There has been so much garage sale flurry around here that even Farm Boss got caught up in it and came along to one. He bought a riding mower for \$50. Took it once around the yard and it blew up. But that's not all that blew up; the husband of the garage sale holder phoned him in a hot rage. It seems he had just bought the mower for \$150 to use for parts. It was a



Stephenfield Lake



View from the Editor's Chair

Now what would Tom Selleck Productions, a Los Angeles movie production firm be phoning myself at Carman, Manitoba for? Well, it relates to some news stories carried in the *Leader* some 10 years ago, stories about UFO sightings in the area, that became so numerous *The Leader* dubbed the UFO as "Charlie Red Star".

Penny Rolf, producer for the firm phoned here recently enquiring about the people who had made the sightings. As this writer was one of those involved in confirming a sighting that was captured on a CKY television camera, she wanted more details. Further, she enquired as to the health of those named in the articles who had made the sightings. The question was passed off lightly, but a letter this week from Grant Cameron, who studies UFO sightings and lives in Winnipeg, referred to an article published in the official UFO publication the *MUFON*, written by a Norman, who

and Psychology professor in the United States, which attempts to connect UFO sightings as earthquake-related illuminous phenomena and cancer.

These illuminous phenomena, he suggests, precede earthquakes in the regions where the sightings occur. He also suggests the incidence of cancer, such as brain tumours, and leukemia in children increases in areas where UFO activities are found.

Now we know why Penny Rolf asked how our health was, when she phoned here recently!

Maybe someone should check the health of the professor, as there can be no connection between UFO sightings here in good old Manitoba and earthquake fault lines on this prairie plain.

We are pleased to report that Kerry McIntyre looked in good health when he was home this summer; Ted Storey, Bob and Elaine Diemert, and the Lehmans seem to

keeps busy now selecting numbers for his numbers group, and Diemert is finishing rebuilding a World War II P-40 fighter plane, while this writer is still seeking out people who continue seeing UFO objects in this part of the country.

Even Ed Barker, who has recorded the Charlie Red Star sightings in the Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg concurs that there can be no connection to UFO sightings in Carman and an earthquake fault.

He, along with others in the area will be watching a television show October 14 entitled "The UFO Cover-up", in which Dr. Persinger will act as chief UFO skeptic.

One wonders how this professor can tie Carman into the earthquake fault.

The only thing in this region connected with UFO sightings has been the field of radiation found on the ground following reported sightings.

As far as electromagnetic fields are concerned, they are found along the power line routes carrying hydroelectric power from Manitoba Hydro electric generating stations in northern Manitoba south to Manitoba and the USA. Maybe the professor should do research connected with hydro transmission lines, and forget his earthquake fault lines!

UFOs puzzle experts

No explanation found for Winnipeg sightings

By RENE POLLETT
Sun Staff Writer

Astronomers and UFO experts are still trying to explain the large boomerang and ball-shaped objects some Winnipeggers claim to have seen flying over the city last Monday night.

Since an account of the UFO sightings appeared in *The Sun*, two more people have reported seeing a boomerang-shaped object in the sky the same day

and another man claims to have had a similar sighting two days later.

Ed Barker, Manitoba Planetarium producer and director of the Manitoba Centre for UFO Studies, said three members of a Winnipeg family visiting the Fort Whyte Nature Centre were walking back to their car when they spotted the object hovering in the distance over the city.

"They saw a boomerang-shaped ob-

ject at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon on Monday," Barker said.

"The two adults saw it, but not wanting to frighten the child, the mother took the child into the car. The father continued watching it."

What the couple saw was large, Barker said.

"They had no idea how far away it was. It seemed fairly close — somewhere over the city, looking northeast."

Another man reported seeing a boomerang-shaped object hovering over Centennial Park Wednesday night, Barker said.

"He was a shift worker getting off work. He saw a boomerang. It had a shiny quality to it and as he got closer, he could hear a high whining noise."

"Then as he got close, it started to move. Then it just shot away. He heard a boom, like a sonic boom."

Barker said the incidents are being investigated — he's checked the flight paths of planes flying in and out of Winnipeg Monday night.

Rough drawings

"There were a couple of aircraft flying around the city, but not in the same direction, so they're still unknowns."

"One was a small Cessna, a private plane. He (C.B. Weselak, who reported the first sighting) wouldn't have seen it unless it banked around and flew south."

And he said the description of colors Weselak gave is similar to those given by other people — a light, bright yellow-orange.

Barker is now waiting for rough drawings of the objects and to hear from more people to confirm the sightings.

Chris Rutkowski, president of the Royal Astronomical Society, is also investigating the incidents.

"At this point I'm not saying what he (Weselak) saw was airplanes, but it's a possibility and we're still looking into it," Rutkowski said.

But he added sightings of boomerang-shaped objects in the sky are not uncommon.

"There was a sighting near Libau five or six years ago when some hunters out in a marsh saw an inverted V."

"That was seen by them before the sun went down."

"The object was totally black and passed right over them. It was definitely not a plane, so the boomerang or V-shape is not unknown."

And about 2-1/2 months ago there was a similar sighting, he said.



RIDING THE WIND

Photo by JACK SIMPSON

George Reznik, looking like a character from a *Mad Max* film, whips across the Polo Park shopping mall parking lot on a sail skateboard yesterday. He and a buddy were able to ride the wind briefly before security asked them to leave.

Roblin, Manitoba

CE3 299999.1

1929

3 AM

[Story related by Mrs. B on 9 October, 1989, as a result of the appearance of Chris Rutkowski on the Peter Warren Radio show]

A farmer was harvesting (stiking) his crops on his acreage about 11 miles E. of Roblin, Manitoba. He went out to his fields at about 3 AM, and was confronted by two "aluminum figures". The "little men" were smaller than humans, and were dressed in a shiny, metallic material. The creatures did not walk, but seemed to "hop" or "skip". They circled around the farmer, and seemed intent on preventing him from finishing the harvest.

Frustrated, the man went back to his farmhouse, and told his wife to look out over the fields to see if the creatures would show up again. He went out to the field, and the creatures reappeared. They tried to "chase him away" from the harvesting machines. They drove him back to the farmhouse, and were clearly visible to the farmer's wife as well. They did not come very close to the house, however.

This apparently happened at least one other time, and the couple woke their children to watch as well, though they were too young to remember much of the incident at the time.

The story was related by one of the children, as both parents are now deceased. This person was convinced that her parents were sincere and they were not the type to make up stories. It was noted that this happened well before UFOs became popular.

A "double ring" was found in a field near the town, and assumed to have been caused by a UFO.

The ring was found early in the Spring (?), and was investigated locally, especially by the local newspaper editor and staff. However, the ring was not brought to the attention of UFOROM or the Planetarium until the fall. A caller to the Planetarium told of the ring, and a few calls were apparently made. It was not until a CBC producer for the program "Switchback" called the Planetarium and wanted something interesting to film that a trip by any investigator was arranged.

The ring was examined by a Planetarium producer on October 10, 1989, while being filmed by the CBC TV camera crew. Samples were reportedly taken, along with measurements.

According to unofficial reports, there are "divots" around the outside of the ring, and a stone "in the dead center". The ring is approximately 20 feet across, and shows many signs of disruption by curiosity-seekers. The site has been marked off by a makeshift fence and a trail to the site is marked by plastic ribbons.

UFOROM is awaiting a formal report from the Planetarium, but may launch its own investigation as well.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

CE4 871299.1
December, 1987

Mr. N

On the Sunday before Christmas, 1987, Mr. N was alone in his house in Transcona during the evening. His roommate had travelled out of town that weekend, and Mr. N went to bed to get an early night's rest.

He remembers waking up screaming after a particularly vivid "dream" that seemed "real". In the dream, three small beings with slanted eyes were standing by his bed, and another was waiting at his bedroom door. The creatures were 3 or 4 feet tall. He does not remember any more details.

He had a friend who was a UFO investigator and an amateur hypnotist. This friend attempted to hypnotize Mr. N and regress him, but was unable to do so.

The most unusual element of the story (that may or may not be related) is his description of an injury to his hand about 12 years ago (1977). He had hurt his hand at work, and a friend recommended that he go to a Sports Medicine Clinic. He did, and after he had an x-ray, the examining doctor asked him about a piece of metal that was embedded in his hand, behind his thumb. He has no idea how it might have got there, nor any previous injury in that area of his body.

After his unusual dream, and following his reading of books about abductions, Mr. N decided to have the metal object removed. In 1988, he underwent a minor operation, and the metal object was removed. He still has it in his possession. The object is 3/16" in diameter, and appears like a chip of bone. However, it is strongly attracted to a magnet. It has an "arrowhead" feature upon its surface.

Mr. N admits to have read several books and articles about UFOs and abductions before his "dream". He does not wish any publicity, and is hesitant about further investigation. He will, however, submit the metallic fragment for tests, if required. His friend, the alleged UFO investigator, is not known to any UFOROM associate.

Mr. N is 51 years old and appeared sincere while relating his experiences.

UFOROM investigation pending; 10 October, 1989

14120 SW 97th Place
Tigard, OR 97224
9/29/89

Dear Chris:

Some time has passed since I last wrote. I am finally free of the Yakima manuscript and can write. As you may remember, I wrote a lengthy history and analysis of the Yakima UFO sightings. About a year ago (time flies!) I sent the manuscript to Mark Rodeghier. This spring he provided a critique of the mss. from himself and another reviewer. The upshot was CUFOS would be interested in publishing it, if changes were made. I have made many of those changes, and shipped the new mss. to Mark (actually a not so new mss., but considerably streamlined).

So...now I can relax, until I restoke the fires soon for the continuing push on BOL research.

While working on the mss., I actually broke down and called Persinger--no, not because I "bought" his TST explanation of UFOs, but I wanted a copy of all TST and related papers since I needed a complete, accurate bibliography of his work since I do test the TST in the mss.

Well, this galvanized Persinger to heights of excitement. He actually called me the following night and spoke for 1 hour and 40 minutes. I learned that he does not have a UFO library, and he is still working full bore on the TST with Derr. The latest is that Derr believes that underground water put under pressure somehow elicits the electromagnetic radiation required for the "luminosities." Derr is following this line of inquiry based on what he feels is strong evidence of the theory due to the activities of the Department of Energy in the 1960s when it pumped radioactive waste water into the earth near Denver...millions of gallons per month. He has worked with Persinger to correlate the appearance of "UFOs" in ever-diminishing radii as the pressure built and was released until it caused a quake that finally shook the area (if I understand the explanation).

Now Persinger is all hot to show that UFOs appeared in some region around Attica, New York (?) years ago because a similar scenario ensued there. He mentioned seeing color prints of lights leaving Lake Ontario, but he can't track down the witness. I did come across something on this, and would like to dig through my files to find the name for you--if you remember something similar. This is not to necessarily steer Persinger to the witness, but more for my own interest. All I have is that an aerodynamic engineer living near Lake Ontario saw and photographed the lights. They apparently were ENTERING and LEAVING the lake. Are you interested in trying to find him? I tried through the Cambridge (?) UFO Investigating Group (a female heads it), but she failed to find a phone number.

Anyway, Persinger is now trying to further test Derr's mechanical model using some data from Attica, New York. Sorry I can't be more definitive; I was more amazed during my conversation with Persinger about his near total belief in this theory than in all the complexities of his research. I did chastize him a few times about the tendency of his theory to encompass all UFO phenomena. I don't believe Persinger has actually read any important cases, but if you read his papers you will note that the contents of the reports aren't important; only the space and time data points are.

He spoke glowingly about his ongoing experiments of "zapping" normal people with electromagnetic fields in his lab and the reported results: the sense of the "presence" of

people in the room by the subjects; sounds; disorientation; etc. He never mentioned any result akin to an abduction, however.

Persinger strikes me as a guy who has a personal dislike for accounts that grate against his view of reality. I do not understand why he is so relentless in proving the TST, except that when I told him that if he proved that many or most NLs were natural in origin, he would have accomplished something significant, he beamed (I "heard" his beaming over the phone!). I reminded him, however, that the TST couldn't explain "spacecraft," but he had nothing much to say on that, if I recall. Now, this is interesting...he compared himself and me to Kepler and Tycho Brahe (if I got it right). Seems Brahe labored for years, making meticulous measurements, which Kepler later used to prove what?--the orbits of planets--or did Kepler set the groundwork for fact that the sun is at the center of our solar system?

Well, it is clear that Persinger cannot "prove" the TST without data, but I am not enthusiastic about providing him such data. First, I would get no thanks, and second, I would get no credit, and third, I am still having difficulties with the TST when the orange BOLs always seem to go hand in hand with "exotic" cases, Bigfoot, even mutilations in the same area. Also, his real lack of interest in the UFO literature is appalling. He is a strange person, me-thinks; I am puzzled by his--as I said--single-minded drive to explain away all UFOs.

Oh, yes, he mentioned your name during our "chat"...something to the effect that "my good friend Chris Rutkowski can't seem to understand that".... by "that" he meant strain hundreds of miles from a UFO display can still cause UFOs; as you know, quakes almost 800 miles from Winnipeg somehow were symptoms of regional strain, and thus strain was the cause of the mid 1970 flap in your area. Oh well...

Anyhow, it was an enlightening conversation as to who Persinger is, but my impression is that Persinger is an island mostly unto himself who realizes he needs good UFO data, but must rely upon "nice" people like me. Well, I have no intention of getting terribly close to Persinger; I will keep an open mind on his work, but I will not join his "team." One bright spot: He did invite me to provide any technical criticisms of the TST model. Well, if CUFOS publishes the Yakima study, he will have criticisms a-plenty.

Oh yes, he also said he and his co-workers are meticulously finding latitude and longitudes of all UFOs in his UFOCAT listing. Since Derr believes that UFOs diminish in numbers as they "radiate" out from the epicenter, Persinger wants to look at that aspect, so spatial relationships are critical. And if you do not know, he has explained all of Harley Rutledge's observations as caused by tectonic strain and the "stranger" cases as essentially the result of Rutledge "seeing things."

I could go on, but you get the idea.

How are things on your end? Have you come across any orange BOL cases or photos? As I said, I will push forward with the research; I have not discounted a tectonic connection to SOME UFOs, and even some BOLs, but more importantly I am interested in demonstrating the reality of this particular type of UFO. Any reports of "machine-like underground sounds" popping up in your area? Are you interested in trying to find the aerodynamic engineer who I mentioned earlier.

I want to thank you for the reports you sent me in early summer. I apologize for not acknowledging these months ago, but I got caught up in the Yakima manuscript.

I hope you have a moment to write. Sounds like your summer was going to be busy. Did you ever finish your paper on TST and cancer epidemiology?

Well, I must close. It is getting late.

Thanks again for your support; and I enjoy hearing from someone who THINKS in the ufology field.

Sincerely,



Greg Long

CRITICAL COMMENTS ABOUT 'EARTH LIGHTS' AND THE TST

by Chris A. Rutkowski

The papers presented by Paul Devereux and Michael Persinger clearly indicate some of the problems in the formulation of a natural and terrestrial explanation for UFOs. To some, the TST is appealing because of its attempt to explain UFO reports without resorting to the extraterrestrial hypothesis. In fact, both Persinger and Devereux suggest that it is the predisposition of most researchers in favour of the ETH that hinders the acceptance of the TST as a viable explanation for the phenomenon.

This contention is patently false. Attacking "non-believers" is hardly a rational and scientific approach to a solution. Researchers such as myself, who do not adhere to only one particular theory to encompass all UFO reports, are not convinced by the pro-TST arguments because of inherent flaws in the design of the theory itself. Both Persinger and Devereux seem to generally ignore criticisms of the TST by a host of researchers that include Greg Long, Stuart Campbell, Stanton Friedman, Claude Mauge, Thomas Bullard, Grant Cameron and Marc Del Bigio, though Persinger at least offers lip-service to Long, Del Bigio and myself.

What are the basic flaws in the TST and Earth Lights Theory? The one that comes immediately to mind is the fact that if skeptics such as Philip Klass and Robert Sheaffer are to be believed, then **all** UFO sightings have prosaic explanations, **without** invoking any kind of new theory of 'Earth energy'. Persinger's reams of statistical correlations between UFOs and seismic events are therefore totally meaningless, and the issue is dead. Incredibly, Persinger hedges his bets by suggesting that such a result is still in keeping with the TST by allowing human perceptions to be affected by seismic strain energy, and causing people to misidentify conventional objects!

This leads to another problem with the TST that is more firmly rooted in the philosophy of science. Theorists such as Kuhn and Popper have argued convincingly that astrology is not a science because it fails several criteria, among which is the test of **falsifiability**. Basically, the test requires that a situation be envisioned in which the TST would be either supported or not supported, depending on the outcome. In the case of astrology, it is easy to see that since astrology is not a predictive practice, it fails the test. Furthermore, any criticism of an apparent failure of astrology can be qualified by an astrological practitioner as explainable given additional elaborate modifications to astrological theory (i.e. if my horoscope was wrong today, there is some astrological reason for its error).

As formulated, the TST fails the test of falsifiability. Both Greg Long and myself have tried to suggest a situation that would be suitable for using in such a test. If the TST could pass such a test, then valuable support for the theory would be obtained. It seems logical, for example, that if seismic energy is related to UFO reports, a seismically-inactive area would have few UFOs. The Province of Manitoba, in Canada, has over 700 UFO reports recorded in the UFOROM database, yet has never had any recorded earthquakes within its boundaries. Neighbouring Saskatchewan, which has had an occasional tremour associated with mining operations, has only a handful of UFO reports on record. Nevertheless, in a TST paper by Michael Persinger, he related the Manitoba UFO reports to few minor tremours in southern Minnesota, over 700 kilometres away from the UFOs correlated! The

argument for this relationship offered by Persinger and John Derr, a geophysicist and an authority on earthquake lights, is that the underlying rock strata somehow channel the seismic energy to the areas where the UFOs are eventually observed. The important thing to note here is that there is presently **no understood physical mechanism** that could account for such an explanation. As TST proponents correctly point out, it has been established that electrical energy is sometimes detected as precursory to an earthquake, and also that earthquake lights are an accepted but poorly-understood phenomenon also related to rock failure. However, this is a long, long way from proving that UFOs are the result of seismic energy release.

The TST neatly explains **all** aspects of the UFO phenomenon. (This in itself should raise a red flag.) Were ground traces left by the alleged UFO? The TST explains this by EM effects upon the environment. Did the witness report seeing entities? The TST explains this by EM stimulation of the temporal lobe resulting in a form of hallucination. Were animals disturbed during the sighting? Animals, as you know, are sensitive to seismic precursors. Was an abduction experience reported and were physiological effects noted? EM effects again. TST proponents have gone even further, by linking poltergeist reports, religious experiences and even cancer among ufologists and UFO witnesses to seismic energy. And yet critics of the TST are accused of not being objective with regard to the theory as presented to date.

The statistical studies which TST proponents use to 'prove' their case are also unconvincing. In the first place, correlations do not in any way prove a cause and effect, something hammered home to students of statistics in introductory College courses. Secondly, the correlations presented for the TST are post-hoc. That is, data is gathered before a test of such data is formulated. This is described in statistical literature as "optimizing on chance", a problem that often negates complex studies in many scientific fields. In general, a null hypothesis must be stated in advance of any collection of data for a correlation to be considered valid. The data itself is a problem, since unfiltered, raw UFO sightings are used as correlates. In early TST studies, entries in Saunders' UFOCAT were used, despite warnings from Allan Hendry that UFOCAT could **never** be used in statistical studies because of flaws in its design. This is obvious, since raw UFO data contains **at least** 90% misidentifications, and some researchers (even pro-UFO ones!) put this majority as high as 99%. Persinger has maintained that the correlations are still valid, though, because the misidentifieds are "random noise" that do not affect the result. It is more likely that the statistical results themselves are a result of problems in design.

This is not to say that TST proponents are deliberately misrepresenting the issue. It simply shows how tenuous the support for the TST really is, despite the reams of articles published about it to date. Both Greg Long and I agree that 'Earth Lights' probably do account for some small fraction of recorded UFO reports. I would further agree with both Persinger and Devereux that their theories deserve a great deal of attention from the scientific community as well as UFO researchers in general. The TST is a legitimate explanation for some UFO reports; what is at issue here is the actual percentage of the total that are explainable with the TST. I feel that the two gentlemen deserve a lot of credit for expounding the 'Earth Lights' concept. Ufologists should be allowed the privilege of "agreeing to disagree" about the matter, however, without accusations one way or another about a lack of open-mindedness.

