

# NATIONAL ENQUIRER

LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY WEEKLY PAPER IN AMERICA

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By MALCOLM BALFOUR

An unidentified flying object sighted in South Africa was not only seen up close by several people — including two police officers — but it was shot at by the policemen. A farmer who also shot at the UFO claims to have hit it.

The mayor of the town of Fort Beaufort, South Africa, P.J. Labuschagne, declares there is no possibility of error about the sighting. "After all, our police station commander was on the spot and saw it himself," he said. "There was definitely something there."

"We could see it clearly," said station commander Pieter Van Rensburg. "It was a round gray object about 6 feet in diameter that lit up in colors — red, whitish yellow and green."

Police cordoned off the area where it was seen and have taken photos of strange, round imprints in the earth where it is believed to have landed.

This reporter was sent by The ENQUIRER to the farm of Bernadus Smit, about 9 miles from Fort Beaufort, where the first sighting was made. Although the farm has been officially closed off, Smit opened his doors to us because "you came all the way over from America."

Smit, a rugged, 185-pound six-footer, told me that last June 26 a worker on the farm, Jan Boer, reported that he and several others had seen "a huge ball of fire" in a heavily wooded area.

"I told the fellows they were imagining things. Just as I said that, this thing appeared, level with the treetops, less than 45 feet away.

"It was shaped like a barrel. There were flames shooting out all around it, and they kept changing color, from red to yellow and sometimes green. I was really scared, and I'm not one to scare easily. It looked dangerous.

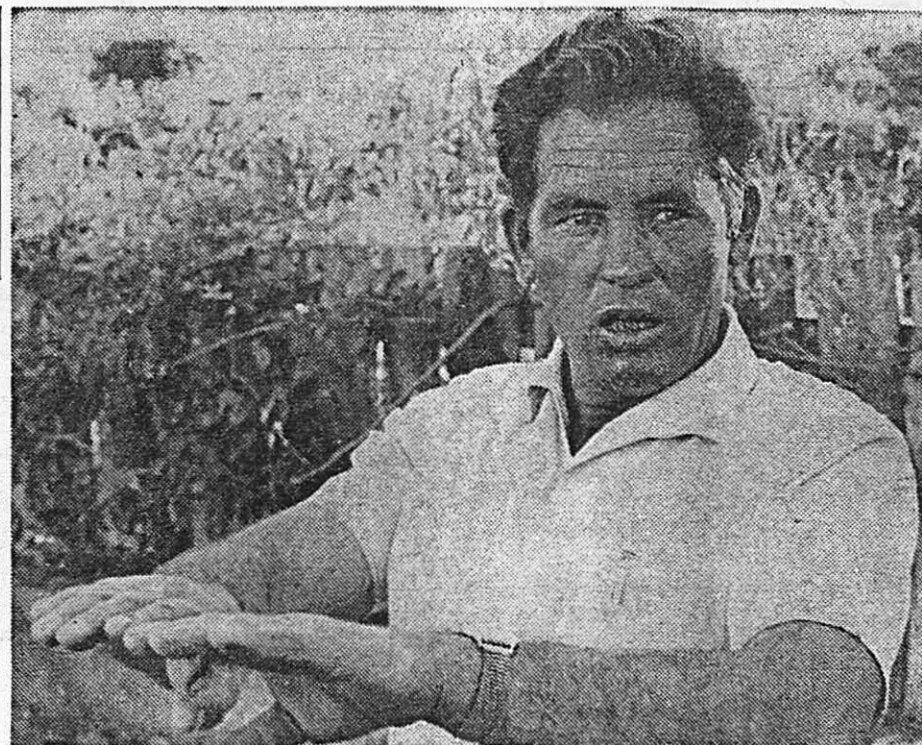
"I ran home for my rifle and called



**POLICEMAN**  
Pieter Van Rensburg



**FARM WORKER**  
Jan Boer



**UFO SIGHTER:** Farmer Bernadus Smit shows how the flaming flying object appeared level with the treetops.

## Police and Farmer Shoot at 'Terrifying' UFO—45 Feet Away

the police. When I returned, I pumped about 10 shots into it and I am sure I hit a kind of bright star on one side of it. The reason I know I hit the star with my second shot is because we all heard this thud and a farm worker yelled 'You've got it — you've got it.'

"When the two police officers arrived they fired at it, too. It was a frightening thing, but it never retaliated or tried to attack us. When we shouted at it, it moved off at a terrific pace, through the trees, without burning them.

"One of the workers, Jumloet Abovo, pointed at some strange marks in the ground. It looked as if three legs had landed there, and as if the legs had been hollow."

Officer Van Rensburg told me: "Although Sergeant (P.C.) Kitching fired

at the object too, the shots seemed to have no effect."

Smit said Abovo reported seeing the thing the whole night through.

"The object stayed in the vicinity for more than a week, and several townspeople from Fort Beaufort saw it," Smit added. "An uncle of mine saw it in the same spot I did."

Two weeks after the first sighting, a South African Airways flight captain radioed the Durban Airport control tower that a strange object was flying close to his Boeing 727 airliner.

Flight Captain Chester Chandler, 36,

told me: "As we were descending toward the airport on July 10 at 9:50 p.m., going about 300 miles an hour, this bright object flew close to us and kept pace with us right outside our cabin, a few hundred yards away.

"When we got down to about 9,000 feet, it veered off suddenly to the southwest, at terrific speed. My senior flight officer, Graham Smith, and our flight engineer, G. Koekemoer, saw it with me."

The shape of the object was "indistinct," Chandler said, but similar to that shot at in Fort Beaufort.

## Rabbit Meat a Solution to World Hunger, Says Expert

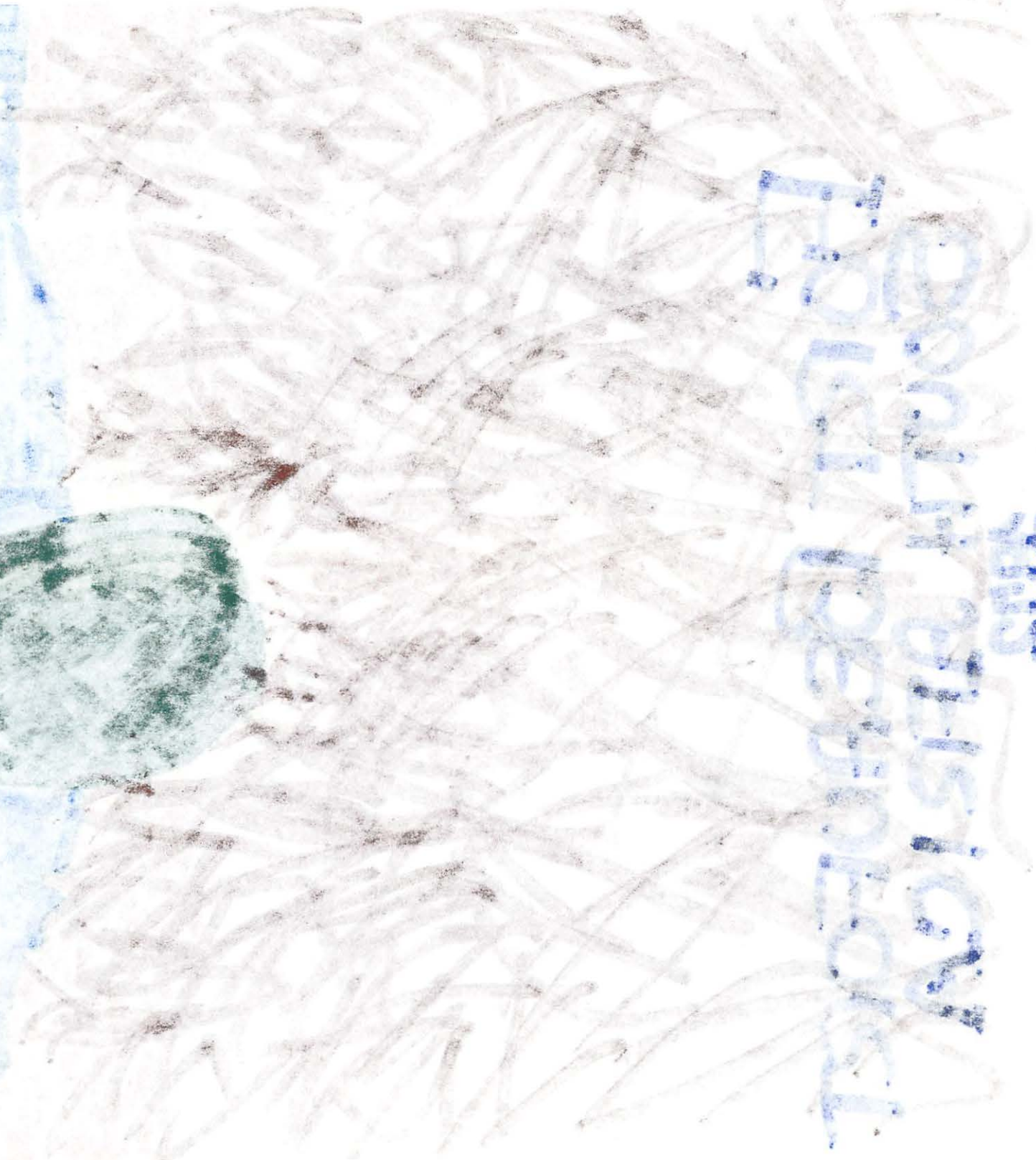
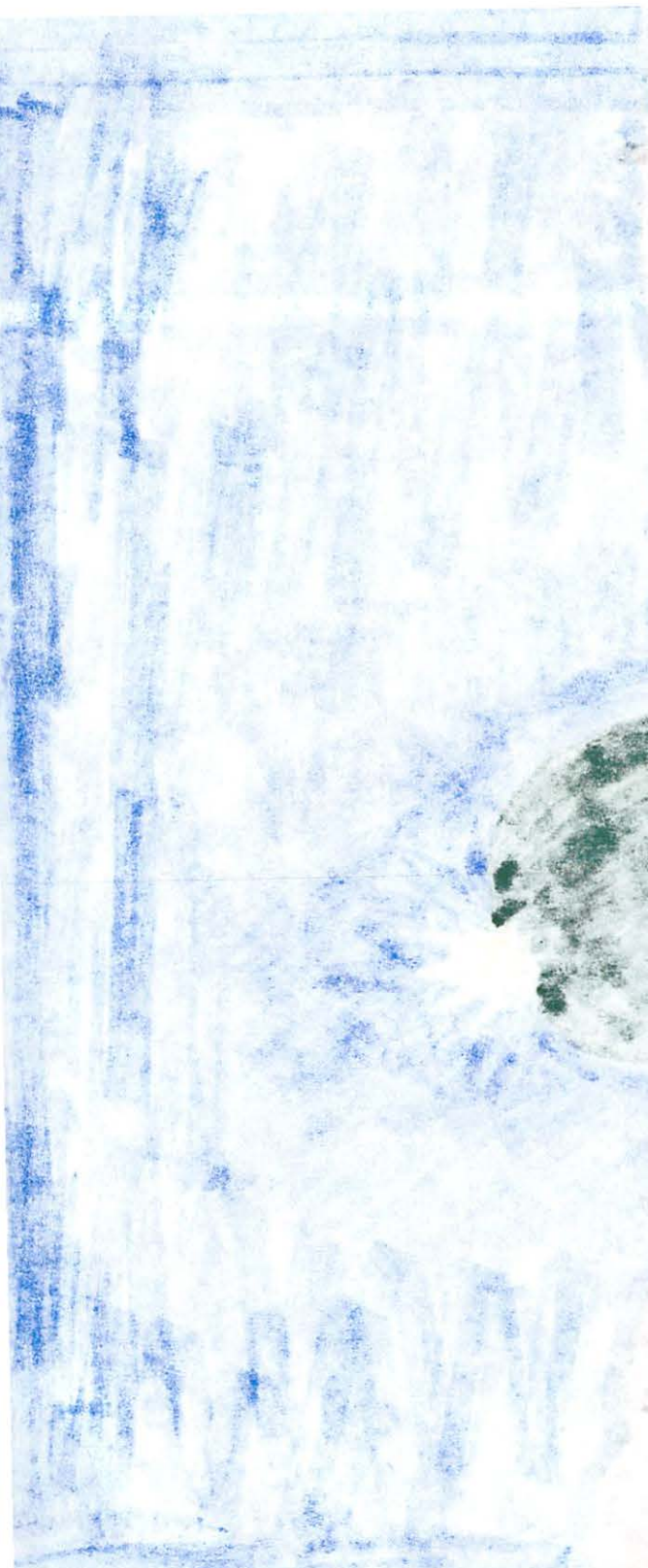
Much of the hunger and malnutrition in developing nations around the world can be conquered by the meek little rabbit, says a leading authority on nutrition. "Rabbits have been overlooked as a major source





FORT BERTHOFF  
SOUTH AFRICA





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