

Sacramento River Fishermen have Close Encounter

by

Paul Cerny, Western Regional Director

Close Encounter  
with very excited  
Animals and  
Newspaper

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They had arrived for fishing about nine o'clock. In the quiet, warm night the brothers were standing facing one another talking and keeping an eye on their lines in the light of the lantern. The location is only about four miles airline from the September 1976 outstanding detailed sighting reported by Bill Pecha of Colusa and eight other local witnesses. Colusa, a small farming community of about 3,500 people, is about 100 miles north of Sacramento.

Reuben was suddenly startled to see bright lights turn on behind Carlos and just over a large heavy stand of riverbank trees, about 700-800 feet away. He called Carlos' attention to the lights. Carlos, whose home was in Colusa, (Reuben lived in San Jose) was familiar with the Pecha sighting in 1976. Carlos exclaimed, "My God, it's a UFO!" Reuben said, "Turn the light out." Both scrambled to extinguish the Coleman lantern. Carlos quickly located his heavy duty "flashlight" lantern and checked for his hand gun which he always carried when fishing at night, for protection.

The bright, white lights just stayed where they were, hovering silently about 50 to 100 feet over the trees. Reuben admits to being a natural clock-watcher. When something unusual happens, he automatically makes a note of the time on his watch. When the lights suddenly appeared, he noted the time, 1:08 a.m. By Reuben's timing, the lights remained hovering in the same spot for about six minutes.

When the lights first turned on in their direction, they were quite blinding



# JFO Sighting At Long Beach

Ellen Gauthler  
and  
Ken Deats  
Staff Writers

Business was slow at Ed and Kay Critzer's Market in St. James last Tuesday evening so that Kay Critzer could close early. At approximately 8:30 p.m. she closed the doors to the market and got in her green Grand Prix and headed for the winding wooded road to her home in Long Beach.

It was an unusually hot night for May and her husband and she were up with the conditioning on. A few minutes home she noticed a bright yellow and white object hovering 20 to 30 feet in the air above her house.

She couldn't tell anyone about it until Thursday night, two days after the sighting and following an strange occurrence, she said. Mrs. Critzer told her husband what she had seen. He was on Long Beach Road when she noticed at tree level this bright oval object was bright yellow in color and reminded me of a sun," she recalled while sitting in her car.

Mrs. Critzer said the object had orange lights all around its perimeter. "These lights flashed," she said. "The lights said that the objects that have been reported by people seeing objects in the sky - lights stopping, lights changing, electrical systems going awry - did not occur that evening."

She said it probably followed her for a mile and then I stopped. I had never seen anything like that before. It wasn't a car or an airplane. I was off on Flagg Harbor Road which is not the usual road home," she recalled.

She said she saw tire marks when I turned. My only

thought at that time was to get away," Mrs. Critzer said.

Both Ed and Kay Critzer appear to be normal stable people, not given to flights of fantasy. They have owned Ed and Kay's Market for the past two years where they both work seven days a week. Their neighbors describe them as practical hardworking people.

"I have never been interested in reading about this kind of thing before. I am not now," Mrs. Critzer said.

Neither of the Critzers have seen "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" saying they don't have time to see movies or to watch much television.

Thursday night after the couple returned home from work Mrs. Critzer heard a "strange whirling sound." "The dogs in the neighborhood who are usually quiet were going wild. Not just barking but howling and moaning," she said.

The noise continued intermittently every 15 to 20 minutes from approximately 10:30 p.m. until daybreak. According to her account which was substantiated by her husband, Ed, the noise was a humming that alternated pitch. "It was a high pitch and then low pitch," Ed Critzer said.

He had been awakened around 4:30 in the morning by the noise. "I have only 70 percent hearing so if I sleep on one side I don't hear things well," he said.

Neither of the Critzers went outside to investigate. "I don't know why we didn't go out and look around," he said. "That was the logical thing to do but we just looked out the window and didn't see anything. Then I went back to bed." Mrs. Critzer stayed awake all night.

The Long Beach area is located within five miles of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power plant. Many reported UFO sightings have been near high tension power lines where it is believed, by people who support the theory of extraterrestrial visitors, that the airships drop down to recharge their energy supplies.

Mrs. Critzer reported that the lights at their house flickered on and off a lot on Tuesday night and again on Thursday. She said this has happened before but usually it has been when there was a high wind or electrical storm in the area. Tuesday and Thursday the weather was clear.

Mr. Critzer's 80-year old mother also heard the "eery, whirling noise" Thursday. She said it was like nothing she had ever heard in her life time.

"My mother is a student of the Bible," Ed Critzer said. "and the Bible speaks of these things."

Mrs. Critzer's brother is with Army intelligence she reported. "I called him and he said that it was quite possible that I had seen a UFO," she said. "He said that there have been numerous sightings near nuclear power plants," Mrs. Critzer said.

"I wouldn't drive away from it again," Kay Critzer said. "I would stop the car and turn out the lights and watch. I'm curious about them now," she said.

The Critzer's next door neighbor Donna Kline said she didn't hear anything unusual last week. "I've just moved in and haven't been here long enough to know an unusual sound if I heard one, I guess," Ms. Kline said.

She did recall that one night the dogs in the neighborhood were barking but couldn't remember which night it was.

Francis Watts, who lives up the street from the Critzers, was working in her garden on Monday. "My husband and I were probably asleep at the time the Critzers heard the noise. We didn't hear anything. I wish I had. I vaguely remember feeling something strange was happening one evening but now I can't remember what caused the feeling," Mrs. Watts said.

Susan Miernicki, who lives on the beach, said she didn't hear anything last week.

Joyce and Jim Kennedy, who also live on the beach,

heard dogs barking a lot on Tuesday night and again in the early morning hours Friday.

Tuesday night their neighbors were out of town and Joyce and Jim were keeping an eye on their house. "Their dog started to whine and kept it up for at least 45 minutes which is unusual," Joyce Kennedy said. "We were just about to call the police because we thought someone might have been breaking in the house when he stopped."

Around 5 a.m. Friday morning the Kennedys heard the neighbors dog howling and whining again. "The seagulls were carrying on a lot too. My husband asked me if I heard that noise and I said I heard something but we went back to sleep," Joyce Kennedy said.

Randy and Sara Butler were away from home most of Thursday and arrived back around 9 p.m. that night. They said they did not hear any strange noises and that their dog, "Bruiser" was a little restless but "we assumed it was because we had been gone all day," Mr. Butler said.

The Butlers, along with several other neighbors, said that there are times when steam is released at the Calvert Cliffs plant. "This usually goes on for 5 to 10 minutes and then stops," Mrs. Butler said. The descriptions of the steam release did not coincide with the sound reported by the Critzers.

A spokesman for the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company reported that one of the reactors is presently shut down for refueling so it is unlikely that steam would have been released from the plant intermittently all night the evening of May 10.



Kay Critzer, seated with her husband, Ed, describes the shape of the bright orange-yellow object she sighted near Long Beach Road. (staff photo by Ken Deats)



to the two brothers whose eyes had long become used to the darkness even though there was about a two-thirds moon that night. The lights beamed outward toward them for about 600 feet, similar to car headlights, but much larger. They angled slightly downward and were spaced far apart on the flat, blunt front end of the strange craft.

As the UFO started to slowly move toward them, both were very apprehensive and Carlos was on the verge of panic. He hastily told Reuben that he thought they might be picked up, as he had read about it somewhere. With that, Reuben, who had wanted to stay to see what the craft was going to do, was ready to get out of there too, as Carlos suggested. They scampered part way up the gradual sloping river bank and hid themselves in some heavy brush, still watching the slowly approaching lights intently.

Strangely enough they were quite aware of nearby animals, frogs and crickets, making a lot of exciteable racket, especially a flock of peacocks across the river at a nearby ranch. Usually animal and insect life quiets down to a standstill at a close approach. Reuben was even aware of his fishpole bobbing erratically from the bass biting his bait.

A similar reaction comes to mind that occurred during the 1960's Exeter, N.M. case when the horses in a nearby barn were wildly kicking their stalls trying to get out.

The huge ship passed slowly overhead at only about 100 feet above them. They felt no unusual effects of any kind. They managed to study it intently, observing its shape and light configurations. They did detect a very pronounced, steady, noticeable humming sound similar to electric motors, but really different from anything they could compare to with which they were familiar.

As it passed directly overhead very slowly, Carlos got up enough nerve to shine his powerful battery powered lantern on its underside. The lantern beam revealed a smooth, metallic surface similar to aluminum. A row of underside lights



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They had arrived for fishing about nine o'clock. In the quiet, warm night the brothers were standing facing one another talking and keeping an eye on their lines in the light of the lantern. The location is only about four miles airline from the September 1976 outstanding detailed sighting reported by Bill Pecha of Colusa and eight other local witnesses. Colusa, a small farming community of about 3,500 people, is about 100 miles north of Sacramento.

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along the leading front blunt edge of the object extended in a straight line from headlight to headlight. These were red, blue, and green in color. A large single red light was located at the center-rear edge, as if a single tail light. They estimated the UFO as being about 60 feet across and perhaps slightly longer than wide. Its overall shape was like a large man's shoe heel with the flat edge at the front, moving in that direction. No depth or thickness could be speculated due to this underside view, and at a distance, the "piercing" bright headlights obscured any estimation of thickness that could be determined.

As it slowly passed over them, they scampered up the rest of the river bank to the top of the levee and watched the strange aerial vehicle gradually disappear behind a heavy grove of trees, its humming motors never changing pitch.

They watched for a few minutes to see if it might return, but it did not. After discussing the startling events for a few minutes and since it seemed to have left the area, they decided to go back to their fishing. Carlos remarked that what he had heard, particularly about Bill Pecha's Colusa sighting, and what he had read, that this startling experience certainly made a believer out of him!

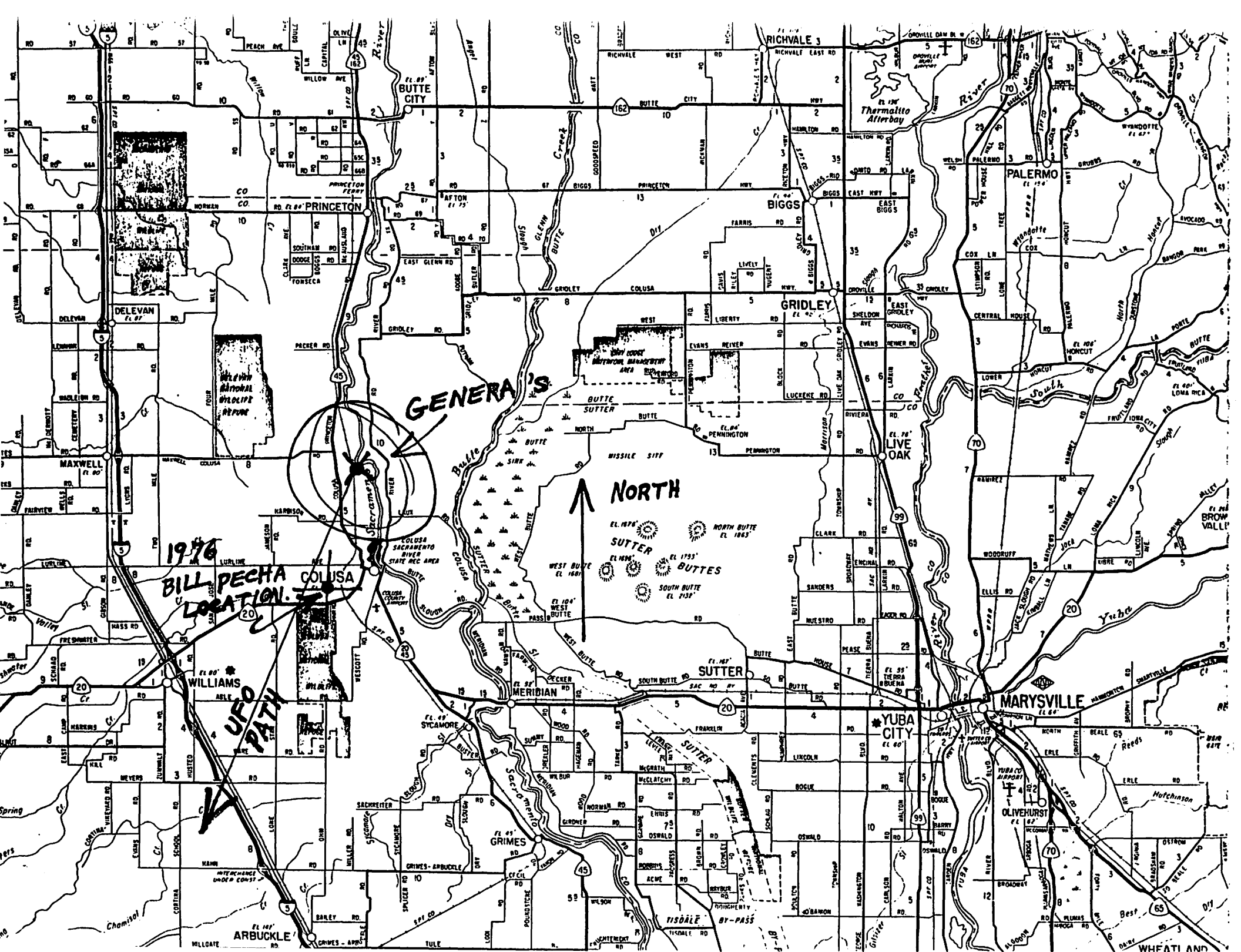
About a half hour later they noticed what they thought may have been the same craft off to the west of them, heading in a northerly direction at a much faster speed.

They continued to fish until about 5:00 a.m., then broke camp and drove into Colusa. They arrived at the County Sheriff's office about 6:00 a.m. and made a report to the Sheriff's personnel, who took only a brief account of the incident. At about 10:00 a.m., Carlos called Beale A.F.B. near Marysville, California. This base is an operational location for the U-2 and SR-71 reconnaissance aircraft of the U.S.A.F. Beale personnel were seemingly uninterested in the report as well.

After the experience Carlos had a headache for almost a week before it eventually went away. Reuben had nightmares for more than a week. Both brothers



had high school educations and Reuben had two years of college. Carlos feared if he went out to the river the following night, he would encounter the UFO again. He did not go.



1978  
BILL PECHA COLUSA  
LOCATION

UFO  
PATH

GENERAL'S

NORTH

SUTTER  
ELIM  
NORTH BUTTE  
SOUTH BUTTE

MARYSVILLE

YUBA CITY

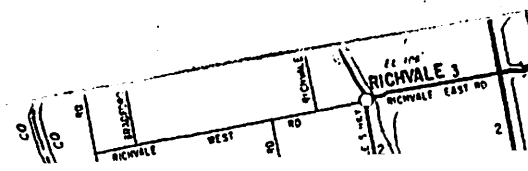
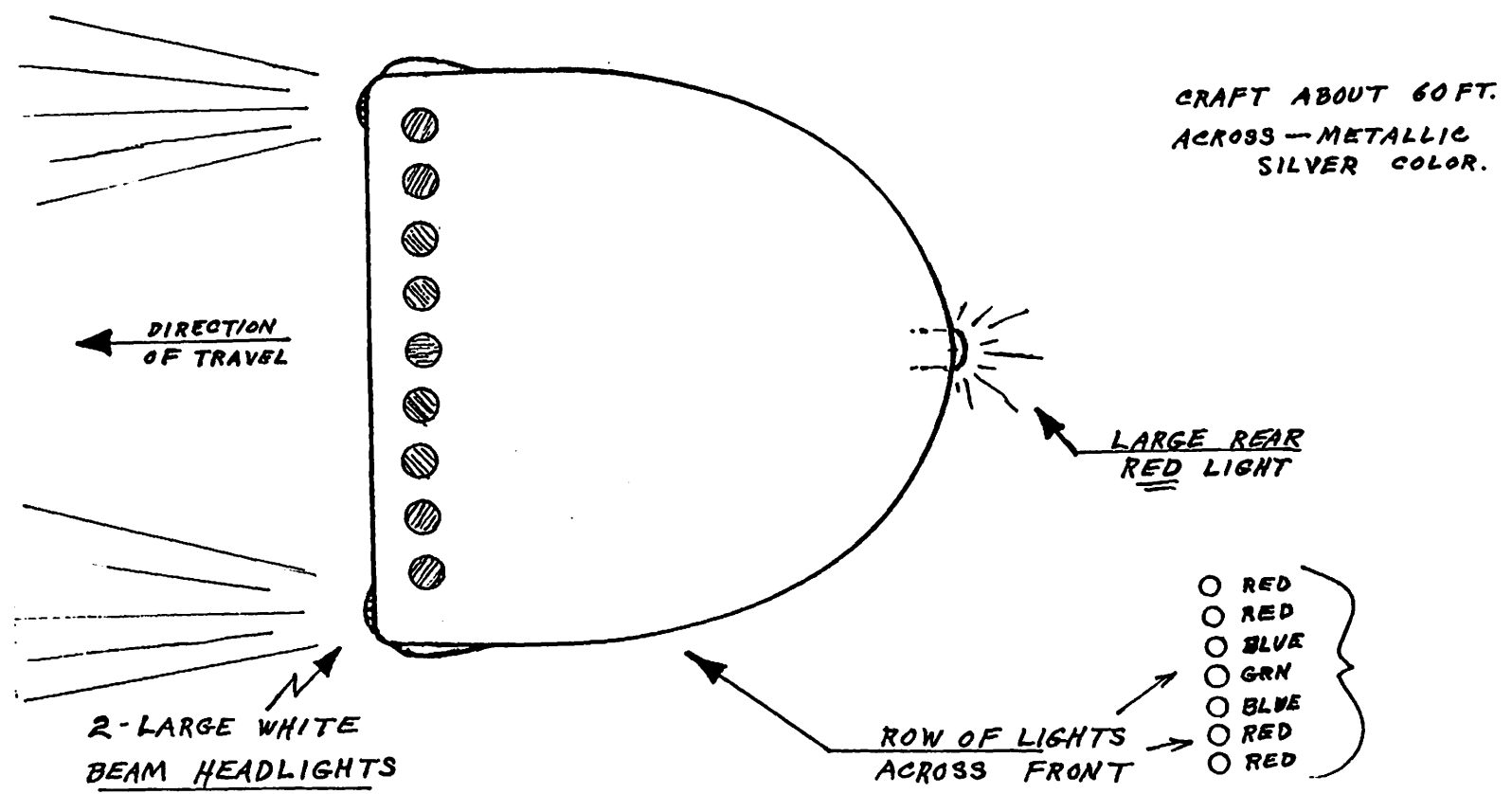
GRIMES

OLIVEHURST

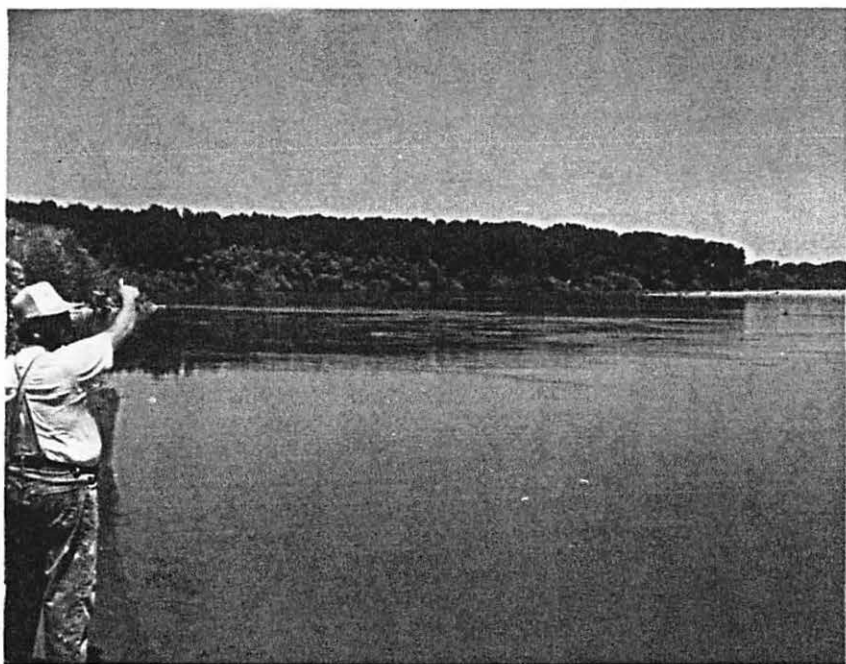
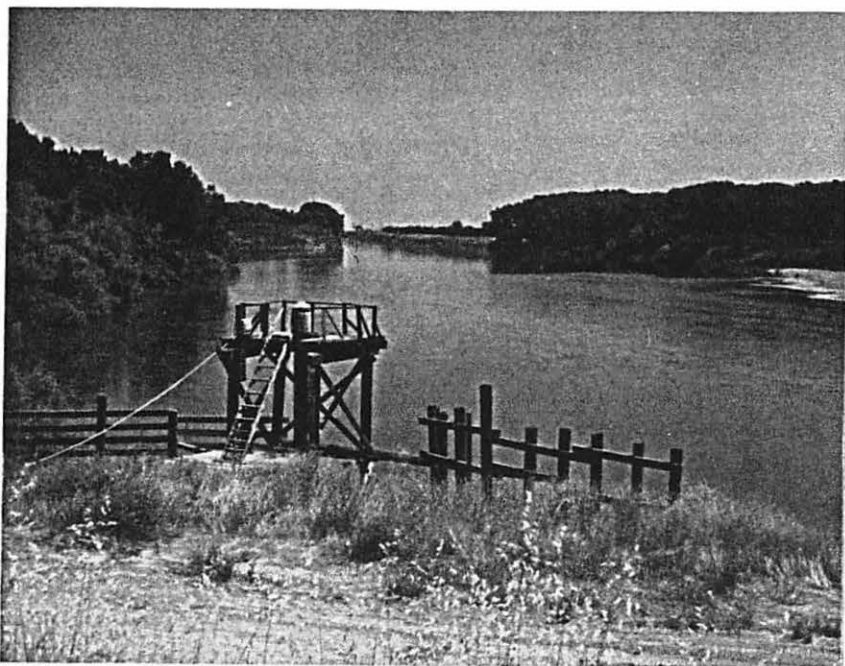
ARBUCKLE

WHEATLAND

UFO - BOTTOM VIEW







Irrigation pump closer to the trees and looking east around the first bend from sighting spot on river bank.

Carlos looking north from spot where they were fishing to grove of river trees over which UFO hovered before approaching.

Trees average 100 ft or more high.



*Similar  
object*

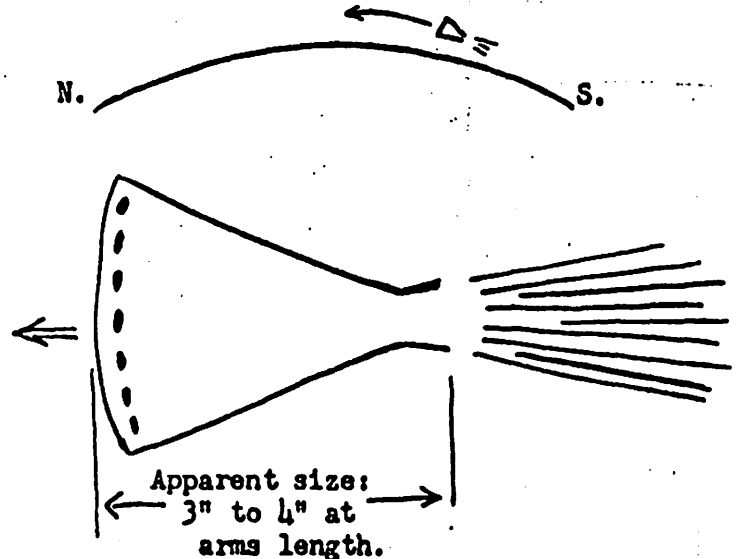
This is Newsnote No. 9 - for release

FEB 25, 1964

CONNECTICUT LEGISLATOR SIGHTS STRANGE AERIAL OBJECT

Mr. L.B. Martin, of East Hartland, Conn., a member of the State Legislature for the past 5 terms, has given NICAP\*CONN details of a strange aerial object which he observed last fall. The following description is taken directly from Mr. Martin's report:

"On Oct. 4, 1963, at approximately 1 PM in East Hartland, Conn., I observed through the windshield of my car, as I went over a knoll, what appeared to me to be a capsule travelling at a terrific rate of speed...I stopped the car to watch it. This object had the exact shape of a capsule, such as flown by Col. Glenn - the sky was powder blue and cloudless. The object was silvery, and the details extremely sharp. I could see a band of small black dots that were near the flat surface. Behind it and projected from the center of the tail, appeared a comet in reverse. There was no vapor stream in the air. This flare-out seemed to be three-quarters the size of the object and it went along with it, not leaving a trail. Absolutely no noise was heard."



To date, NICAP\*CONN has been unable to ascertain if anyone else saw this object or to determine what it was that Mr. Martin saw. The illustration shown above is based on a sketch drawn by Mr. Martin.

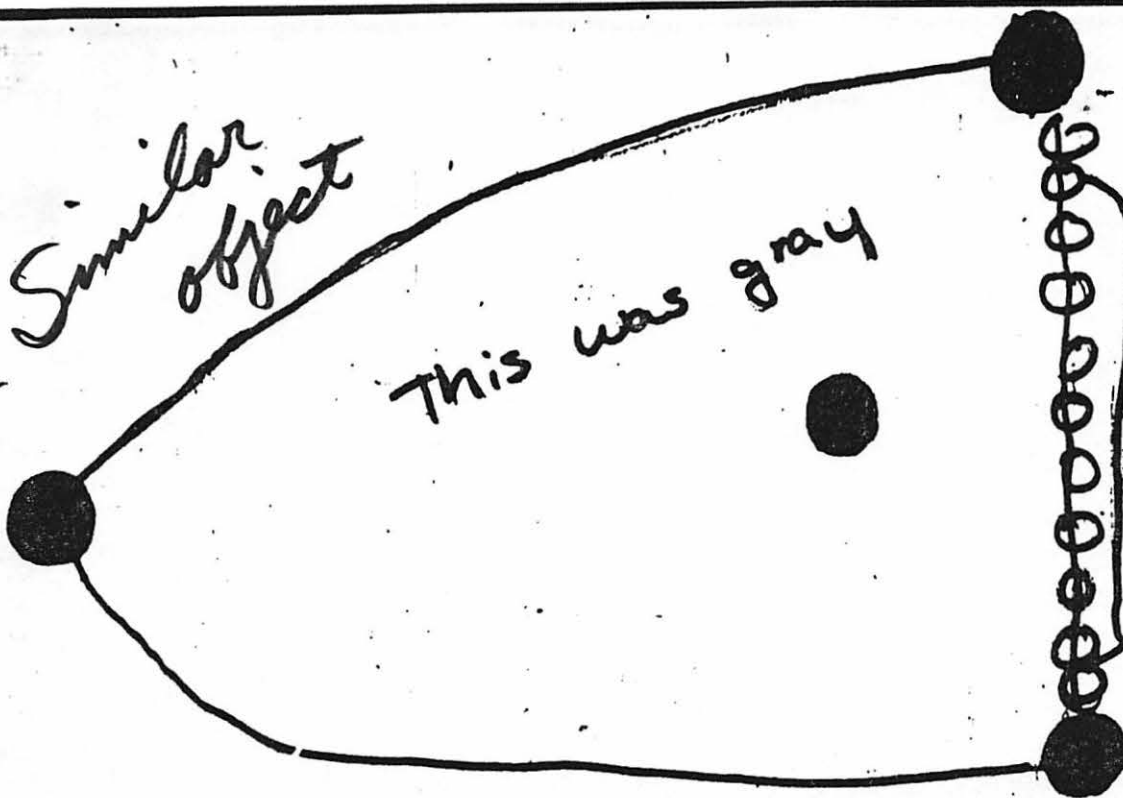
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"Perfectly ridiculous, unspeakably anthropomorphic, hopelessly vain are those who believe that we are something special and superior in the universe of more than 100,000 million billion stars." - Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director emeritus of Harvard Observatory.

THIS UFO NEWSNOTE IS DRAWN FROM MATERIAL COMPILED BY THE NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA (NICAP). FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, WRITE TO -  
NICAP 1536 CONNECTICUT AVENUE N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C.  
OR TO NICAP'S CONNECTICUT AFFILIATE -  
NICAP-CONN 9 HIRAM LANE, BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Similar  
object

This was gray



UFO Sketch by Dawn Tongish, near Herndon, Nebr., August 2, 1979.

(Courtesy: Gazette)

Page 4

JAN 1980

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

Residents in the Oberlin-Herndon area of Nebraska observed a UFO beginning at about 11:15 p.m., August 2, according to the August 7, 1979, edition of the McCook, Nebr., *Gazette*.

Mrs. Denis Tongish and her daughter, Dawn, were riding bicycles near their farm 2.5 miles southeast of Herndon when they spotted "a strange light to the south." It appeared to be hovering over some grain bins.

Denis Tongish, his son, and another daughter were not watching the object, which looked like it was 500-800 feet above the bins. The family heard "the sound of a motor" as the UFO moved off.

The object "was three-sided with red lights at each corner and one in the middle." There were additional red and white lights. The UFO "was a dull metal" and "at least 50 feet long." (See sketch, page 3).

Meanwhile, Cliff Sattler, driving on U.S. 36 near Herndon, also saw the mysterious craft with his wife, son, and son's friend. It had white and yellow lights. The UFO headed north and "suddenly just disappeared."

Mrs. Arlo Wurm, her son and daughter, were heading home near Oberlin when they noticed the object "very low to the ground." It "appeared to stop above their feedlot."

The UFO had a cone at the front and a black object behind that was "about the size of a football field." There were numerous lights on the object.

Other area witnesses also reported seeing the craft.

#### ANIMAL MUTILATIONS -- 1979

Overall, it's not a pretty picture. The phenomenon involves the grotesque mutilations of thousands of animals in the U.S., Canada, and several foreign countries. Most of the victims have been cattle, but the afflicted also include horses, dogs, cats, poultry, and other animals. Even bestiality has been reported in several cases.

The news media has been reporting the bizarre phenomenon for about the last five years, but there is evidence such incidents have been occurring worldwide for more than



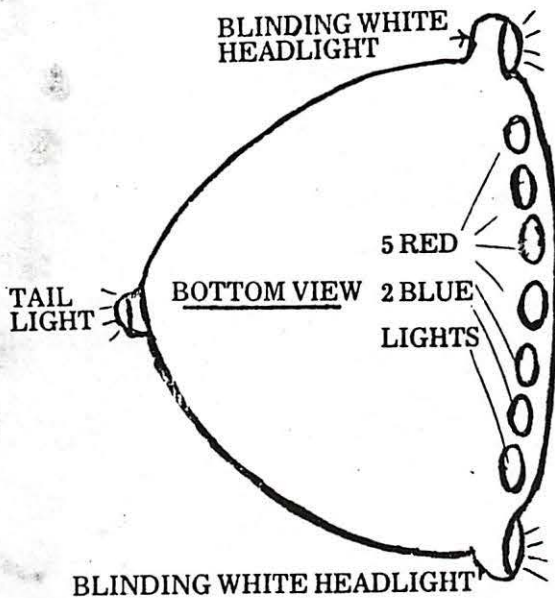
1979

MAY 26

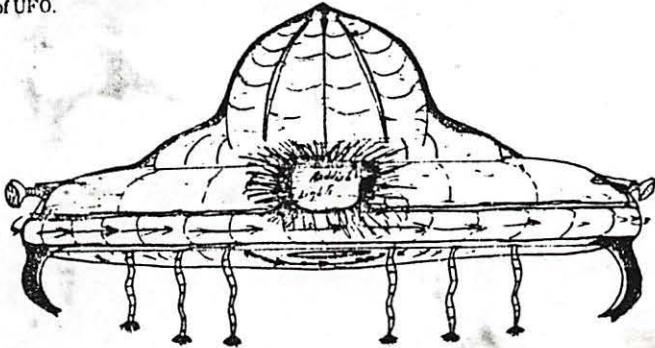
CALIF.

SUN HERALD, Colusa, CA - May 29, 1979

# UFO Sighted Near Colusa?



The drawing shown above is how Carlos and Ruben Genera described the UFO they sighted over the Sacramento River early Saturday morning. Unlike the Pecha drawing below, the Genera brothers were unable to see the top of the UFO. The drawing shows only the bottom of the UFO as they saw it from their boat. The fat portion is the front of UFO.



The last UFO sighted over Colusa was Sept. 13, 1976 by Bill Pecha, Jr. who drew the description of what he saw in the drawing shown above.

A silver-colored, bullet-shaped unidentified flying object with a pair of intensely brilliant beams of light was reported hovering over the Sacramento River north of Colusa early Saturday morning.

Carlos Genera and his brother, Ruben, told the Sun-Herald they saw the object while sturgeon fishing about five miles upstream from town.

They said it was about two city blocks away from their boat when they first saw it at an altitude they estimated to be about 1,000 feet. They spotted the object at about 12:15 a.m.

"It came out of nowhere and stayed at one point two of three minutes," Ruben said. "Then it came over our heads and headed west toward the foothills," Carlos added.

Carlos said the UFO emitted "a nice steady hum like a big electric generator." Ruben described the sound as being "like a big vacuum." "After it left, we could still hear the hum for about 50 minutes," Ruben added.

Carlos explained that when the object first appeared, they couldn't make out the shape because of the bright lights, one on each side, that were shining directly at them.

But when it came over them they saw it was formed like the head of a bullet, with the blunt end that fits into the cartridge casing being the front.

Carlos said there was one bright light beam on each side and another at the tail end. Also, he said, they could see several lighted portholes underneath at the front end.

The object the Genera brothers described differed considerably from the UFO Bill Pecha, Jr., reported seeing just west of Colusa the night of Sept. 10, 1976. That UFO was saucer-shaped with a dome and tentacles hanging from its underside.

Over the years, other UFOs have also been reported in the vicinity of the Sutter Buttes.

Ruben said the object they observed created a considerable stir among animals along the river and at nearby farms. "Everything started getting excited all at once. There was a big commotion right away."

He related that they could hear roosters crowing, ducks quacking and geese honking even though it was just after midnight. Also, the bullfrogs were provoked into croaking loudly, evidently in protest of being disturbed.

The incident lasted about six minutes, all told. "It was scary and it was exiting—everything all at once," Carlos declared. "You would never believe it until you've actually seen it," Ruben added.

Carlos said he and his brother continued fishing until about 5 a.m. then came in and went to the sheriff's office to report what they had seen and to find out whether anyone else had observed the object.

Another UFO was being reported sighted over the Philippines.

An Unidentified Flying Object, flashing a rainbow of colors, was seen over a southeastern city on the main Philippine island of Luzon last week, according to published reports Sunday.

The newspaper Daily Bulletin said residents of Legazpi, 220 miles southeast of Manila, rushed out of their homes to view the object and were "enthralled" at the colors it flashed before it headed east.

Last Sunday, an American scientist claimed he and hundreds of villagers saw a UFO land in the southern Philippines at the country's highest mountain peak.

There were other reports of similar sightings in the Philippines in recent weeks. The military authorities have ordered an investigation but so far have not announced any findings.

The UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash. said they had no further reports on the Colusa sighting by the Genera brothers.

However, according to a spokesman from the Reporting Center, this does not mean that other persons did not see the same UFO.

The spokesman said to often people fail to report UFO sightings because they fear they'll be ridiculed.

The Center did not receive any other reports of UFO sightings in the United States during the three-day holiday.

When the Sun-Herald attempted to contact the California UFO Sighting Center in San Francisco and found the phone was no longer in service and there was no new number.

If this is true then the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle is the only reporting center in the United States.

Persons wishing to contact the UFO Reporting Center may do so by phoning 1-206-722-3000 or write: Phenomena Research, P.O. Box 1897, Seattle, Washington, 98111.