

After Midnight

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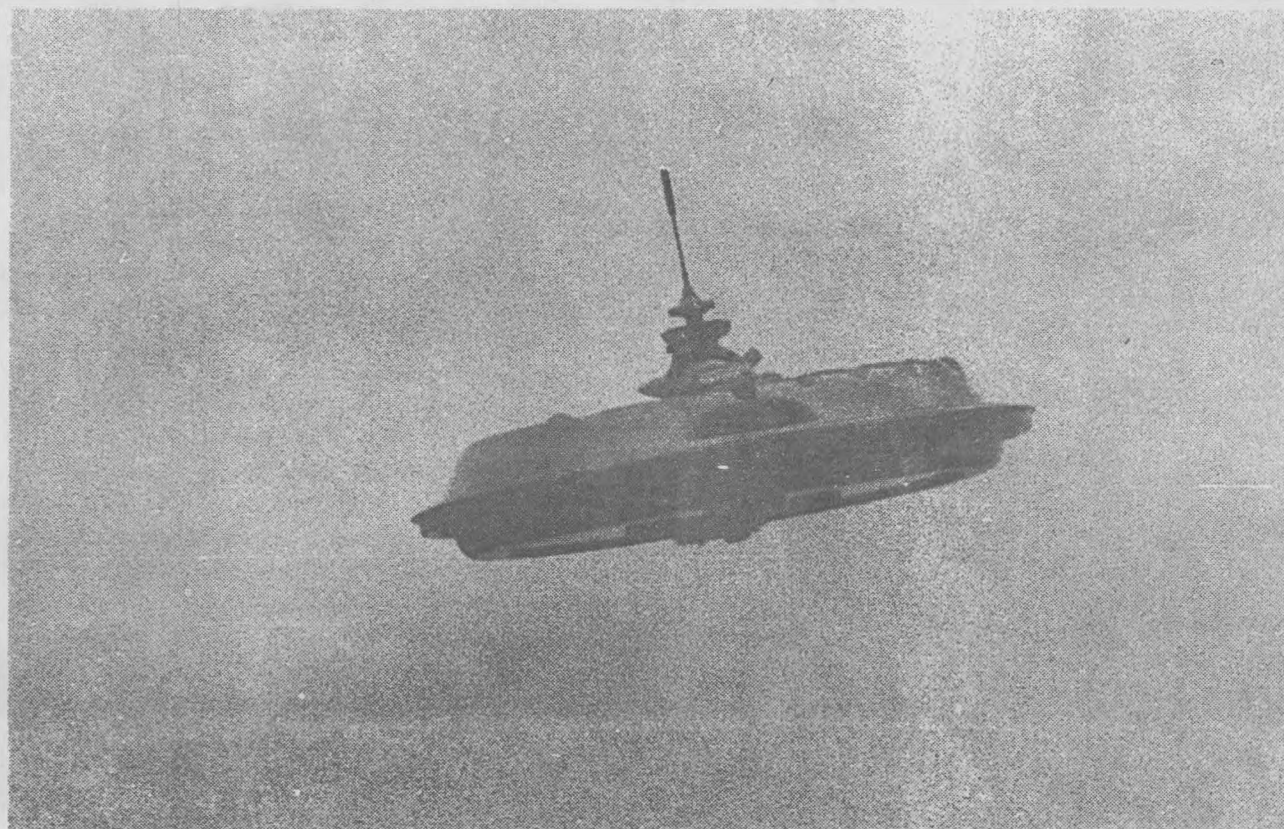
Your crystal ball into the world of the supernatural!

Fictional and Satirical.

For use with Palladium Books' adventure supplement, *Boxed Nightmares*.

Not to be sold separately. October 31, 1990

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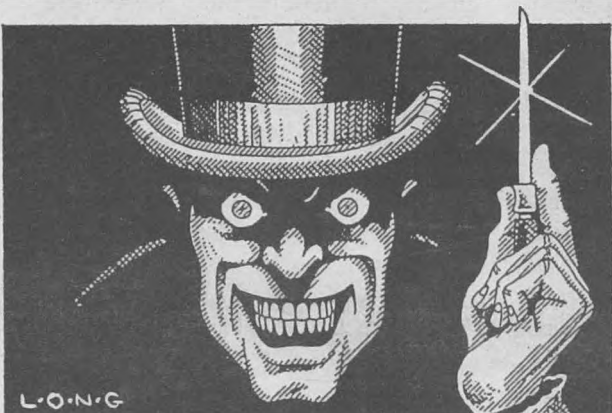


Sensational UFO photos inside!

Monsters	\$11.95
Murder	Cat. No. 701
Mayhem	0916211-41-X
Magic	



Plantation owner offers
a Million Bucks if
you can rid him
of demons!



JACK THE RIPPER IN POLICE CUSTODY

Doctors are baffled.

Crazed chromosomes turn housewife into daddy!

A supplement for
Beyond the Supernatural™
BOXED NIGHTMARES

Julie Star's horoscope — inside —

This Tabloid is ALL Bunk!

By Kevin Siembieda
RPG Designer

That's right, this tabloid is all a bunch of hooley! Not a word in it is true, except for the Palladium Books advertisements.

We just don't want any confusion. *After Midnight*™ is not a real supermarket tabloid, but a *spoof* designed to imitate this type of news(?)paper. It is designed to tie-in to the *fictional* role-playing adventures and characters found in *Boxed Nightmares*™ and to give our readers a few laughs. It is not to be reproduced or sold separately!

Devil's Triangle Boggles the Mind!

Skipper buried at sea is found alive — three days later!

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

Marcus Beaumont was the skipper of the small fishing vessel, a 30 footer named SugarBea, when he died suddenly at the home of his loving wife Kathy, when his peptic ulcer finally gave way. He was fifty years old and in his will, his last request was to be buried at sea in the waters which have supported his family for three generations. When they carried out his last request, little did they know that he would be found three days later in the Bermuda Triangle, returned once more to the land of the living!

"It's a miracle, it really is!" said the shocked Mrs. Beaumont when the U.S. Coast Guard vessel Perilous pulled into the dock at Montigo Bay, where just days before there three children, Jon, Carl and little Clare, saw their father's loyal crew preform last rites before sailing off to deposit their Captain into the briny deep.

"He had wanted to be buried off the keys" said the first mate Yves Dubois, who greeted his once-dead Captain with a warm and teary welcome. "But, we were afraid he might wash up on shore, so we dropped him in the Devil's Triangle. It's really him and it looks like I still have a job."

In an exclusive interview with Capt. Beaumont, the weary and tired man who cheated death told his story:

The idea for the tabloid gimmick came from long time Palladium freelancer and pal, Matthew Balent. It just struck Matt out of the blue while waiting in front of a Milwaukee restaurant two years ago.

"Hey, guys," he blurted, "how about doing a fictional newspaper like the supermarket tabloids and make it part of a game or supplement?!"

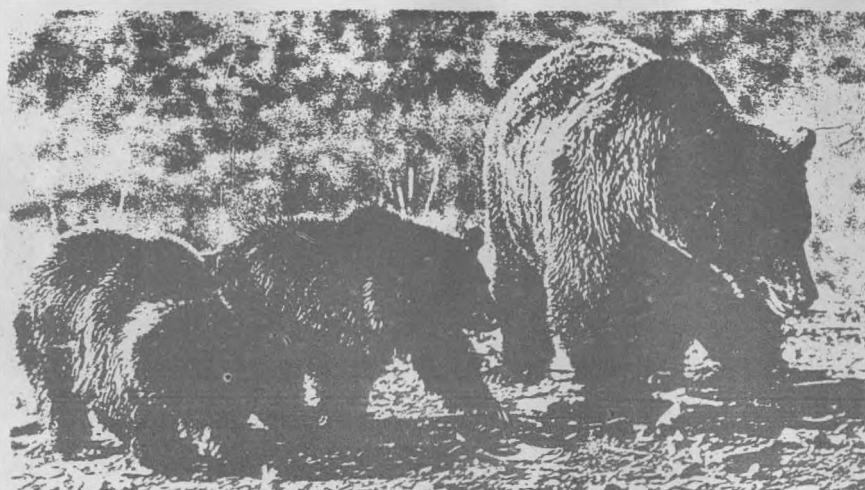
Was it a psychic flash? Perhaps, but regardless of the source of the inspiration, Palladium's publisher and staff instantly loved the idea and here it is. Fun, ain't it?

"I was at home, in so much pain I couldn't eat. My stomach was killing me, so I had my wife Bea call Dr. Abrams." The very man who declared him dead and signed the death certificate. "The wait was a long one and I guess I fainted. When I woke up, I was in another world. I could see this world, but it was like an isle in a ghostly sea all around me."

"But I knew that I didn't belong there at all. I was on some old ship with sails and everything. It was made out of bones and filled with skulls. I was afraid and I knew somehow that I was the only thing alive. Rather than look around the phantom ship, I dove into the waves. When I came up it was daylight again and I saw a ship, so I waved like mad. I was lucky they saw me."

When asked if he would dare to venture into the sea, knowing that the Death Ship was perhaps waiting for him, the brave Capt. simply shrugged his shoulders. "If you don't mind, I'd like to get back home to my family. I've had a rough day."

When Mrs. Beaumont was asked what she thought about her man's return from the grave, she said, "Only God knows. He's a good man and I'm glad he's alive."



Zoo Keeper Torn to Pieces by Ape!

By Harold Manning
Staff Writer

A mysterious creature escaped from its shoddy wood confinement and tore assistant zoo director Dr. Carl Mavek limb from limb in a fit of rage.

"It's a tragedy beyond belief," said Dr. Lynn Chuan Lee, Mavek's chief assistant and head of the ape exhibit at the zoo. "Doctor Mavek was a top professional. He will be deeply missed."

When asked about the circumstances of Dr. Mavek's death, Ms. Lee reported that zoo officials and authorities were currently conducting an investigation into the matter and had no information at this time.

Doctor Lee denied that an ape from the zoo could be responsible for Dr. Mavek's grisly death. "As most people know, a chimpanzee or orangutan is capable of tearing an arm out its socket if provoked, but I have never seen anything as terrible as this. One of our apes could not be responsible." Dr. Lee then excused herself and retreated to the lavatory to be sick.

Further investigation showed that none of the apes had been formally released to Dr. Mavek's custody, nor were any of the creatures missing nor blood splattered.

A zoo cover-up? No, reports one source who wishes to remain anonymous for fear of losing his job. According to this source, the entire zoo staff is shook up and mystified by the horrible event. "No animals were released. They were all locked up tight for the night. The staff is very fastidious about that sort of thing. Besides, from what I hear, no ape is capable of that kind of damage, only a baboon might, and this zoo does not have any baboons. We're all mystified."

But another source had this to say, "No, there's not the kind of cover-up you're thinking of. But there is a cover-up."

It seems that an old colleague of Dr. Mavek's had discovered some sort of new species of ape in Tasmania. "This large shipping crate had arrived that afternoon. Actually, it was two crates, a conventional wood crate, marked fragile, encased in a cage-like crate with metal bars and padlocked."

Inside was a new species of ape from Down Under. "This would be a landmark find. You know, there are no apes in that part of the world. This would be history making," said our source. "The doctor was extremely excited and sent the staff home early."

The zoo employee went on to say that parts of the wooden crate looked as if the crate had been chewed away. "From inside the crate you could see these red eyes in the darkness, but that was all."

"I was glad Dr. Mavek sent us home," said another employee. "The animal inside thrashed around so much that I thought it was going to roll the crate over."

Despite these accounts, zoo officials and police had no comment about the alleged crate or the animal inside.

"What scares me," said our source, "is that whatever it was inside that box, it got away. I know because we've all been instructed to keep an eye out for an unusual animal that may be on the grounds. It's loose out there. Somewhere on the zoo grounds or maybe even in the city by now."

Said one, "Without a doubt, whatever was in that crate killed Dr. Mavek, but nobody in authority is talking. I guess we really won't find out what this is all about until somebody else is hurt or killed."

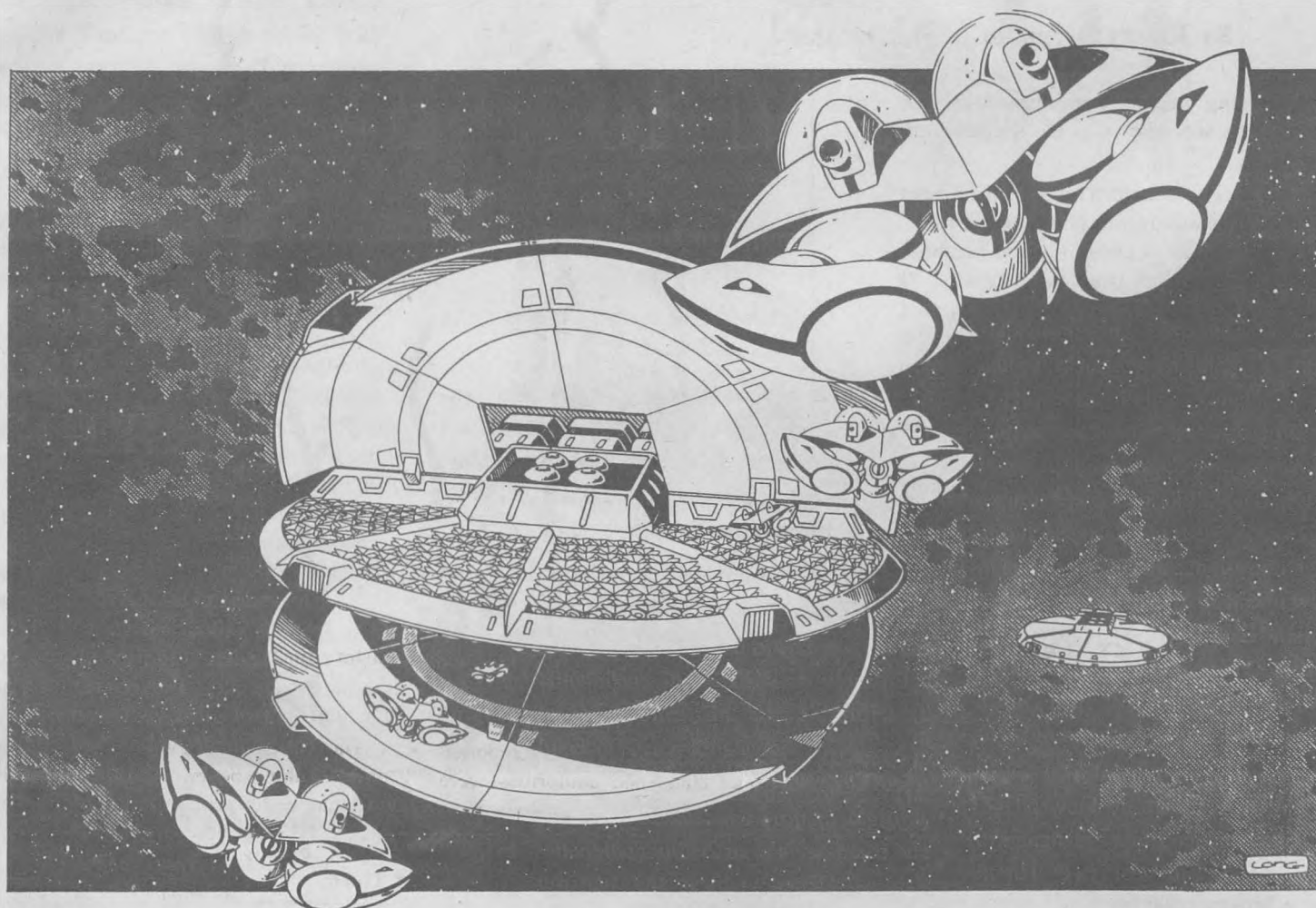
"It's a man-eater," warned another. "When a predator, like a tiger, has tasted blood, human blood, it must be hunted down and slain before it kills again. Whatever it is, we know that it is devilishly powerful and clever, I'd say."

Game Master's Note: This article ties into the adventure *The Box*.

3,000 Year Old Mystic Chinese Bowl Found

Said to give strange powers to any who eat from it!

By Alex Martin
Special Assignment Writer



No, dear reader, this incredible find was not made by the Chinese, but by a Cleveland, Ohio housewife while digging in her rose garden! Mrs. Jill Spatz was planting a new rose bush when it happened. "One of my old bushes had died, so I decided to replace it. I don't know why, but something told me to dig the hole a little deeper. I was scooping the last bit of dirt out when my hand touched the rim of the bowl." The Spatz's decided to contact a local University.

"Unbelievable" was the first word out of the mouth of Dr. Anyar Punjid when he first saw the bowl. "It is some incredible coincidence that I am among only a handful of scholars that know what this bowl is. And to find it in America, I am truly confounded."

The bowl itself appears to be shaped like an ordinary cereal bowl, and is colored a flat dark red. There are no markings on the outside. The secret is on the inside of the bowl. What Dr. Punjid describes as "ancient mystic symbols" appear to be written, in gold, across the inside of the bowl. When asked what the symbols mean, Dr. Punjid replied, "The symbols are for a magic that pre-dates contemporary Chinese magic lore. If one eats from this bowl, anything you desire will eventually come to pass. But beware those with weak and unfocused minds, for the bowl can cause misfortune in the opposite extreme. Whether or not this is actually true, none can say, but the bowl is a priceless artifact nonetheless." However, Dr. Punjid later indicated that there was some controversy among his colleagues about how much to offer the Spatz's for the bowl, and a few even questioned its authenticity. Regardless, Dr. Punjid knows it is real and expects a recent grant application for acquisition financing to go through soon.

But will the Spatz's part with the "priceless" bowl? "Well, I can't rightly say," said Ernie Spatz. "My wife doesn't really care because she says we should give it to science. So she left it up to me to decide. But, I gotta tell you. Right after she found that thing, heck, I just thought it was some old novelty bowl. I cleaned it out and gave it to our dog, Fred, to eat from. Tried to convince him to try a plastic bowl, but wouldn't eat nothin' I put in it. Just wants that old Chinese bowl. As a matter of fact, ever since we gave it to him, he's been acting more and more like he's got a mind of his own," Ernie chuckles. "I just don't know what's gotten into that dog."

What indeed.

Robotech™: The New Generation

Available on video tape from Palladium Books®

At last, you can see the incredible REF Cyclone, Alpha, and Beta Fighters in dynamic action against the insidious Invid!

This is the first time the **Robotech™: The New Generation** (a.k.a. Mospeada or Invid Invasion) has been made available on VHS video tape in North America.

The *New Generation* portion of the **Robotech™** television series is second only to *Macross* in popularity. Yet most fans have never seen it.

Why? Well, it simply seemed to get less TV air time than the famous *Macross* segments. Many syndicated stations opted to repeat the popular *Macross* episodes rather than the entire series, never realizing how many fans longed to see the *New Generation*. Likewise, the *New Generation/Invids* has never been available on video tape. Until now that is.

Palladium Books® proudly presents
ROBOTECH™: The New Generation
on VHS video tape.

The past unavailability of the *New Generation* (Invid) was a tragedy, because it offers spectacular, dynamic and colorful animation, as well as great combat scenes, a swift moving story, and the famous REF mecha, including the Cyclones, Alphas, Betas, and Shadow Fighters.

The story is a gripping one of survival and courage, as a half dozen young freedom fighters battle their way across the American continent, fighting against staggering odds. Ultimately, their valiant efforts rekindle humankind's spirit and ends in the climactic battle at *Reflex Point* (and it is a climax that's as exciting as one can get).

The first *New Generation/Invids* video tape presents the first three episodes, *The Invid Invasion*, *The Lost City*, and *Lonely Soldier Boy*. Witness the swift and terrible invasion of the Invid, the arrival of *Scott Bernard* and

the destruction of the second REF assault fleet. Scott immediately meets the wilderness scout, *Rand*, and the two embark on adventure. By the end of the third episode, our cast of heroes is complete, *Scott Bernard*, *Rand*, *Rook*, *Lunk*, *Annie*, and the infamous *Lancer* (a.k.a. *Yellow Dancer*).

Robotech™ fans take note!

- All 25 episodes will be presented in their original, televised form. Uncut and unedited!
- There will be eight tapes in the video tape series. Three complete episodes will be presented on each tape (only number seven will contain four episodes).
- Running time approximately 76 minutes.
- Sorry, VHS Only!
- Glorious Color!
- Unrated. Does contain violence (it is a war story).
- Suggested retail price is \$29.95.
- Available in hobby stores and comic book shops everywhere. Or directly from Palladium Books® by mail at \$24.95 plus \$5.00 for first class postage and protective bubble envelope and handling.
- The first Robotech™: New Generation video tape should be in the stores mid October. Features an original cover by artist Kevin Long.
- The second tape will be available in December. A new tape will be released approximately every two or three months thereafter.

Palladium Books® 5926 Lonyo Detroit, MI 48210

Palladium Books®,
your Robotech™ connection!

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Monster Trashes Drug House!

Hoax, Say Police

By Ronny Bergman Staff writer

The police report that a battle between rival drug gangs left nine drug dealers laying in pools of their own blood. The neighbors tell a different story. One of demonic creatures prowling the streets.

"I know what I seen that night," persists 22 year old Walter Johnson Jr., the only eyewitness to the siege on the known drug den. "Like I tol' the police. I seen four brothers runnin' from the house, but I think they was runnin' for their lives."

What they were running from, according to Wally Johnson, was an avenging hunchbacked demon that towered 8 or 9 feet tall, possessed a gaping maw of huge teeth and had a lizard's head. "What I remember most was this giant mouth filled wit' teeth and this big lizard's head. I was terrified," confesses Wally.

However, the police have dismissed Mr. Johnson's report as the drug induced delusions of a junky. Wally had this to say, "I resent that, man. Okay, maybe I do use drugs from time to time, but I wasn't stoned, man. I know what I saw and it weren't no human and it weren't no hallucination!"

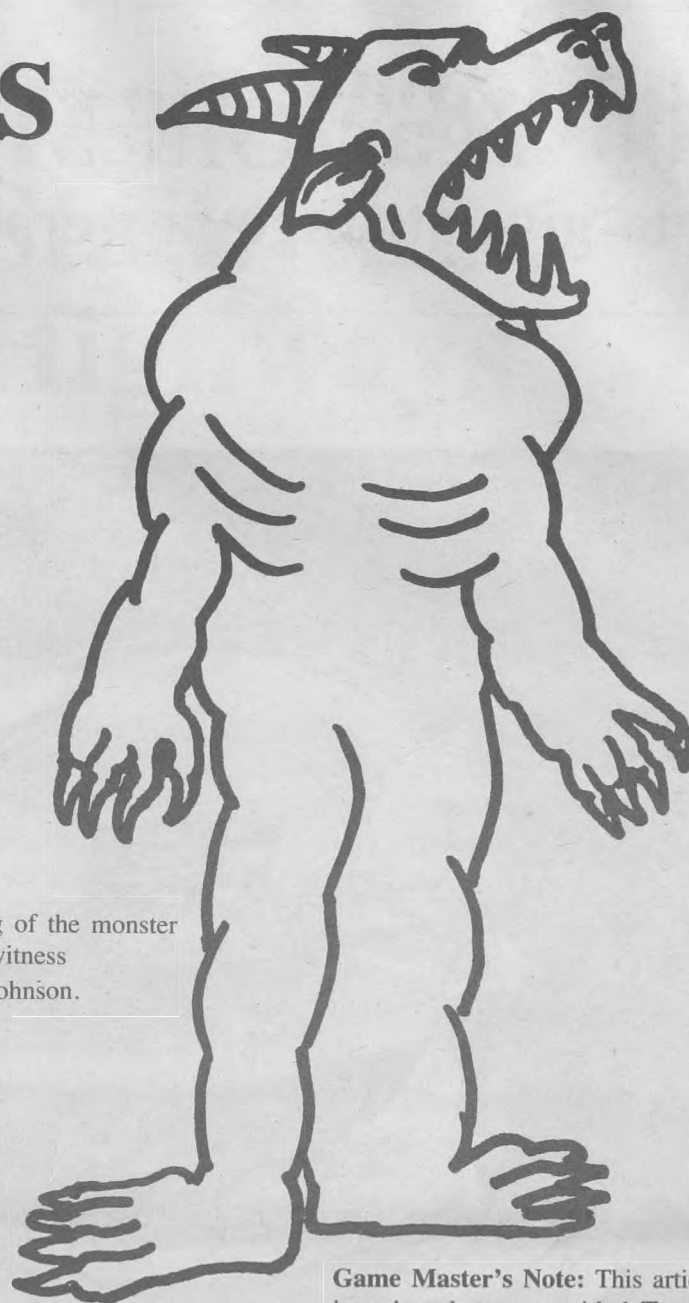
But the people of the neighborhood agree with Wally. They believe that an

avenging demon was responsible for what is now known as the Kennelworth Massacre.

"My gate was torn right off the hinges and little Maxie was pretty near killed," reported Mrs. Lewis, 73, and neighbor across the alley from the massacre. "I was staying away from windows, so I didn't see nothing. But a minute or two after the shooting, I heard a big crash and somebody screaming." The screams were from poor Wally Johnson as he confronted the monster.

"My Maxie was barking and barking the whole time. Then I heard a noise like something tearing my fence apart and Maxie was going crazy. I grabbed my late husband's shotgun and went to the back door. To my horror, Maxie was sprawled on the garden, laying in my petunias. My back gate was torn off the hinges and thrown into the neighbor's yard. The front gate was practically knocked off its hinges too." Both gates were locked, shut with heavy chain and a padlock.

Maxie, Mrs. Lewis' pit bull, suffered a broken collarbone and minor lacerations. "The vet said it looked like somebody had hit my baby with a club or



Drawing of the monster by eyewitness Wally Johnson.

Game Master's Note: This article ties into the adventure entitled **Trouble in Old Town.**

two-by-four. He's lucky to be alive."

Other neighbors reported seeing the monster's giant footprints in the back yard of the drug den before police rubbed them out with their boots. All describe the tracks as over a foot long and lizard-like. The police insist the tracks are a hoax inspired by the report of the monster, but the neighbors say otherwise.

"Them track are exactly where I seen that thing land when it leaped off the porch," recounts Wally Johnson.

The neighbor who first discovered the tracks had this to say, "They looked too real to be fake. No kid could've made them."

Another angry neighbor had this to say, "I seen them tracks and they was real. I bin huntin' all my life an' I kin tell a real track when I see one. Besides, if they weren't real, why did the police take pictures of 'em and a plaster cast too? But what makes me maddest is that they rubbed 'em out and pretended they was just a prank by some kids. They should be protectin' us. There's a damn monster on the loose. I just hope it stays eating drug dealers an' don't turn to eat honest folk."



Photograph of monster's footprint taken by a neighbor.



Your female co-worker may be a space alien!



By Sam Bieda
Freelance Writer

You and thousands of other people, around the world, share your work place with women who are really space aliens. But fear not, there are ways to identify these Femme Fatale's from another planet.

1) Wide eyes and silly expressions are a dead giveaway. The space aliens do not understand human emotions and exhibit odd behavior that includes exaggerated smiles, silly grins, and eyes wide.

2) Space aliens also sing strange and silly songs, like "He's a Circus Man," at the oddest times. To make matters worse, they are notoriously bad singers and tone deaf.

3) The alien women always have short hair, which is often dyed or streaked strange colors.

4) The outer space women often wear large and unusual earrings. They don't quite understand the concept of wearing jewelry and tend to wear huge and unusual earrings along with gaudy,

mismatched necklaces, bracelets, rings, and pins. They may even clip items such as clothespins to their ears and nose.

5) Space aliens are often obsessed with cleanliness and can be found emptying wastebaskets and scrubbing sinks a dozen times a day.

6) Space alien women have a poor fashion sense and wear odd clothes. They will wear bright and garish colors, outdated fashions and even men's clothes. Scientists believe they have little understanding of Earth fashions and are color blind.

7) Big, wide feet are a common trait. Space alien women tend to wear sandals and even slippers to work.

8) Extraterrestrial women have weak bladders and will have to relieve themselves often from as little as one cup of coffee or a glass of water. Consequently, they tend to drink small amounts of fluids and spend much time in the lavatory.

9) Do not understand soap operas. The space creatures do not understand complex human emotions and are easily confused by soap opera characters. However, they love to watch the news, news magazines, and talk shows.

10) Strange eating habits is another sure-fire sign. Peanut butter and pickle sandwiches, ketchup and sardine ice cream sundaes, etc., will indicate something odd.

Experts believe that space aliens have planted these human looking females to spy on us. They have elected to use women, because in this male dominated society, they are more likely to go un-

noticed. Also men are more likely to trust a woman than another man and may become romantically involved with the space spy, providing them with indepth knowledge of Earth people.

Experts are quick to point out that a woman would have to exhibit virtually all of these peculiarities to be suspected as an alien spy. Even then, the lady might just be a bit eccentric.

Jack the Ripper Captured by British Bobby!

By Ann Appleton

An alert Bobby saved a lady of the night from the assault of a madman who claims to be Jack the Ripper.

"The man is obviously off his rocker," reported one witness. "He couldn't be more than forty. The Ripper would have to be a hundred and forty. But this poor chap kept screaming and howling that he was the Ripper and had work to finish."

Witnesses say that the man was dressed in turn of the century clothes, carried

a cane and a doctor's bag filled with period surgical equipment. "Took six men to drag him down. Fought like a demon," said one.

All attempts to identify the man have failed. Police have placed the 40 year old under guard in an institution for observation and mental examination. Rumors have it that a psychic will be called in to help identify the *Jack Doe*.

Game Master's Note: This article ties into the adventure *A Slip in Time*.

HOROSCOPE

By Julie Star  Your Psychic Connection

ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Aries is bold, energetic, creative, but sometimes too outspoken. You have great aspirations and possess the energy and tenacity to attain your dreams.

This week, I sense there will be a dramatic improvement in your love life. Go for it. However, I also see you spending at least \$11.95 on a favorite leisure activity that might keep you at home.

BEWARE! If you are not careful you could become a well-known role-playing game designer, or worse yet, an RPG publisher. If this happens, you are doomed to a life of never-ending deadlines, 80 hour work weeks, exhausting contract negotiations, distributors who won't pay on time, adoring fans, fame, and vast wealth.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Aries men often have one big eyebrow. I say this can be icky and you should shave the middle of your forehead. But then an aries male will be too stubborn to take this advice and probably thinks one ram's horn shaped eyebrow looks distinctive.

TAURUS

Apr. 20-May 20

Taurus are fiercely loyal and loving people, but sometimes their stubbornness makes people want to take a crowbar to their head.

This week, I see continuing change and improvement in achieving your goals. You are in a fun-loving mood that will last the week. Loved ones will play a part in your merriment.

BEWARE! If you let your selfishness run wild, you will find yourself alone and hoarding worthless assets. The burden will consume your time and is beyond restoration.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Arizona is nice this time of year. Enjoy yourself and spend some time with a loved one. Comic book publishing can be frustrating.

GEMINI

May 21-June 20

The Gemini individual is one of the most creative and intelligent signs in the zodiac and are capable of great things with seemingly little effort (as long as they don't lose interest or get too frustrated).

This week, I see a new addition to the family. Yes, you or your sibling will have twins; boys, I think. Meanwhile, your quest to find special gifts for others will continue to be successful. Your boss thinks you are doing a fine job and advancement is inevitable.

BEWARE! The twins will steal away more of your time and family relations may become stressful.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: You should be concentrating on the creative; writing adventures for role-playing games or computers for a well known manufacturer. Then relax, playing games or watching old movies you've never seen.

CANCER

June 21-July 22

The Cancer sign is filled with good humor (though often peculiar), imagination, romance, lofty dreams, and a thousand moods; one for every occasion.

This week, I see continuing plans for career advancement and a dramatic move.

BEWARE! I sense an embarrassing incident at a restaurant, like your false teeth popping out and skittering across the floor or knocking a glass of wine into the lap of that dream date you've longed for.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Stop being sorry for yourself and move ahead with your life. You've got the talent, use it. And be careful at that restaurant.

LEO

July 23-Aug. 22

Leo is flamboyant, charming, romantic, dynamic, entertaining, and usually a bit self centered.

This week, I see romance and frolic. Shine your attentions on that special someone. Or have a rip-snorting time with a bunch of friends.

BEWARE! Don't be to egotistical and possessive.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: A nice, quiet evening with 10 or 20 friends playing a new RPG supplement or a great new game, like RIFTS, would make for a fun-filled night.

VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Virgo tends to be the quiet loner, but still waters run deep and virg is intelligent, studious, hard working, smiling, and generally, honest and sincere.

It's time to make decisions and move a head with gusto. The time to act has never been better. Try that new super deluxe sandwich at your favorite restaurant, ask that girl out, start a new job, or become an airline pilot!

BEWARE! If you are afraid of heights, forget about that airline pilot job. Your terrible jokes could get you strangled one day.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Don't let things get you down. Stay happy. Stay tough. The best thing you can do is to get a great job at an airline, or with computers, or part time at a warehouse.

LIBRA

Sept. 23-Oct. 22

The libra is usually imaginative, creative, intelligent, talkative, and the life of the party.

I sense big trouble if you persist in foolishness and deception; it's time to wake up and smell reality.

For others, I see continuing prosperity, good business moves, and fun times in the months ahead. In fact, I see several fun-filled trips in your future. Family problems will resolve themselves in a wonderful way, far beyond your expectations.

BEWARE! Whatever you do, do NOT get hooked up with an aries who has dreams of big business. If you do, you might get stuck as the vice president of major role-playing game company, have to put in hideously long hours of work, and put up with a grumpy publisher when things aren't going smoothly.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Ford Probes are nice, although not quite the batmobile. The Toyota sport cars are nice too. Enjoy your trips, you've earned them. Don't deceive yourself.

SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

The arachnid of the zodiac is self-reliant, cunning, intelligent, outspoken, and dynamic.

I sense great romance, but slow down.

The solution to disturbing financial matters will come to a fruitful end.

BEWARE! A grey haired stranger will influence your week in some way.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: You should stay home one night with a good book. Maybe something with a horror theme. Oh, see the movie Arachnophobia, you'll like it.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

The sagittarius person is lively, friendly, good humored, hates to sit still, and tends to say whatever is on his/her mind.

I sense a trip in your future and a fun time with friends and family. Enjoy the sights and sounds and fun; you deserve it.

I also sense tension at the work place. Hang loose, it's not your fault and things will resolve themselves. Money continues to roll in.

BEWARE! Falling boxes of books can be hazardous to your health. Stay off wet grass.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Don't rush into an idea too quickly. Think everything through before you act. Remember, you have people who sincerely care about you. Hang loose.

CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Cappy is an excellent planner, quite meticulous, clever, careful, and romantic.

I see continued advancement in the work place, although romance may be temporarily stalled. Just be patient.

BEWARE! Don't eat any turnips for the next two weeks. Don't ask me why, just do it.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: It is time to implement that big plan of yours.

AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 19

This is the curious explorer of the zodiac who is interested in everything, at least for a moment. This individual is sensitive, intelligent, independent, and clever, yet always a dreamer, with high ideals and great plans. Loves to travel.

I see you settling down and getting much needed work done. This is good, because you planned and worked so hard to achieve your position. I also see great financial success, if not recognition.

Wait! I also sense days of playing Acquire, movie going, and silliness in the months ahead.

BEWARE! Deadline blues are hovering above your shoulder. Don't procrastinate or your publishers will not be happy. BUT, if you work too hard, you might become a famous role-playing game artist or worse yet, a renowned RPG designer/writer. You might even do *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle*® books!!

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Keep that house, apartment or room clean. Hard work will make those dreams you dream come true. And try to save a dollar.

PISCES

Feb. 20-Mar. 20

This sign is generally a boiling river of ideas, creativity, and romance hidden under deceptively quiet surface water.

I sense good things in the next week. Perseverance will pay off. A loved one makes a suggestion for a delightful evening

BEWARE! If you're not careful you could become a writer of comic books; something you will undoubtedly enjoy,

but the pay isn't very good. Don't get complacent. Keep on striving.

A TIP FROM THE STAR: Plant corn early.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY!

Congratulations, birthday boys and girls, I sense a day of high spirits, entertainment, romance, and good fun. You may speak to somebody who you haven't seen in a while and romance may take off at lightning speed.

Doctor invents liquid air

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

"What we really need is a few good men!" said Dr. Issac Honieger, an oceanographer with the Ernst Kruger Institute for Oceanic Research in Coral Gables, Florida. Believe it or not, the good doctor has developed a liquid he's called "Aqua-Lox" to be used for deep-sea divers. "We've taken this out of the science-fair project stage and want to do testing to market the stuff.

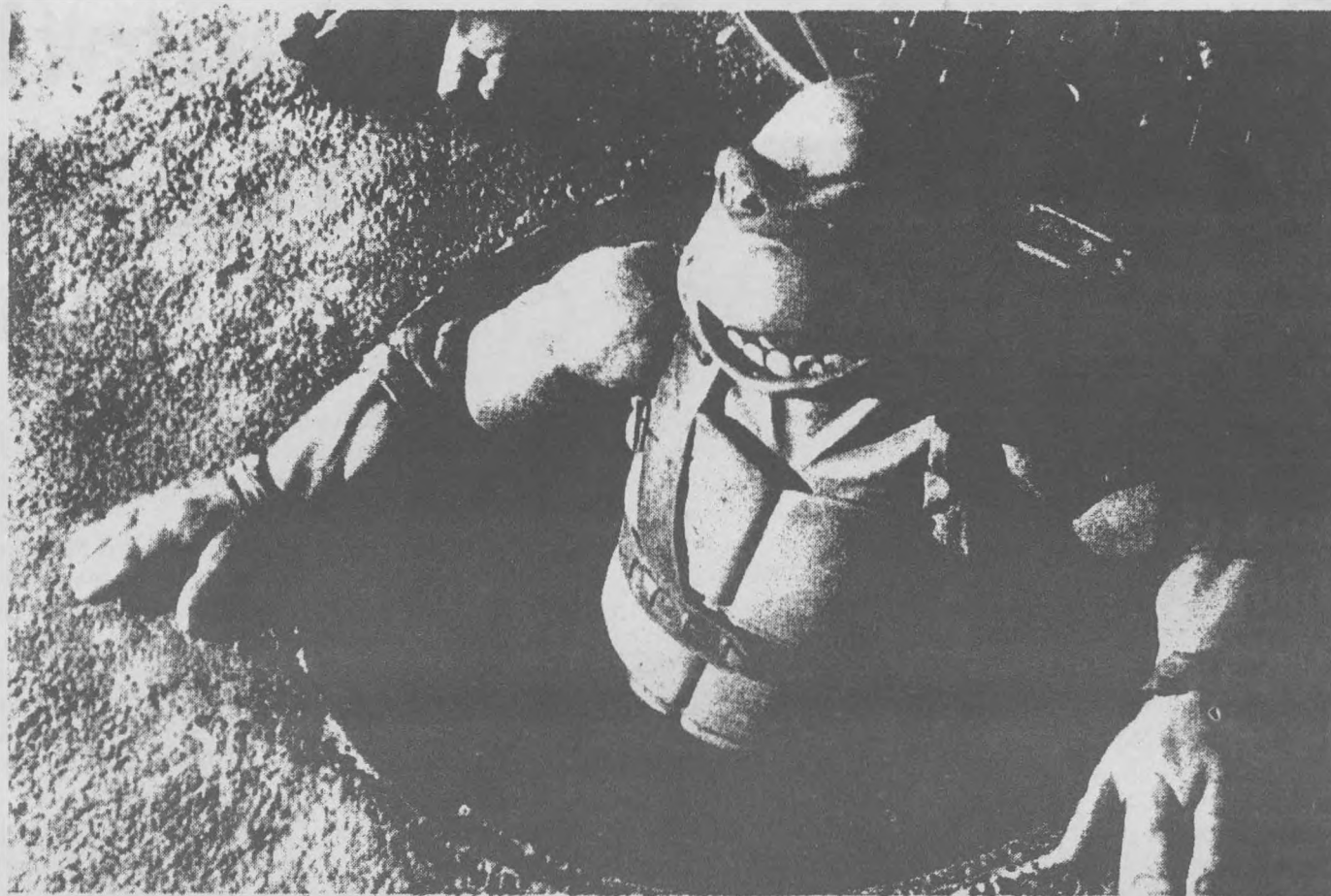
The "project" he's referring to is the water-breathing solution commonly used with rodents. Little creatures are usually put in clear plastic cages where they actually breathe a liquid which allows air to pass through!

"If this Aqua-Lox stuff is any good it'll revolutionize diving" says Col. Thomas Prins, an invited observer for the U.S. Navy during testing. "A major problem in deep-sea diving is the bends. Little compressed bubbles of air in the circulatory system. If a man can breathe a liquid, it could mean greater depths and longer down-time."

To that thought Dr. Honeger was in full agreement, still bubbling at the chance to test his latest invention. "Of course none of this is new, but I've also developed a system for extraction and saturation which I believe won't be too discomforting."

And there's the rub! While the idea has been around for a long time, a method of switching between breathing air and breathing liquid has always caused problems in the past. The key was finding a way of doing it that wouldn't irritate all those sensitive membranes in the lungs. Well, Dr. Honieger thinks he's found the answer, which is sitting at the patent board in Washington. But in the meantime, there's that first step.

"This sort of thing has to be voluntary" said the chisel-jaws young doctor with an anticipatory air "Maybe I'll try it myself, but you know what they say about doctors who operate on themselves ..."



The creatures that make their homes in our cities' sewers are NOT the lovable, mutant, heroes in the

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles movies and cartoons.

MONSTERS LIVE UNDER OUR CITIES — IN THE SEWERS

By Raven Davenport

Investigative Reporter

Hell hounds have been reported to stalk New York city sewers.

Demonic lizard men and mutant animals in the salt mines of Detroit.

Giant Alligator in Cincinnati sewer system.

Ghosts roam D.C. subway.

Our cities are being invaded by mutants and monsters that live in the sewers, subways, basements, and abandoned buildings of our cities. Unless we do something soon, our cities may truly become "concrete jungles," where humans are stalked by monstrous predators.

I have seen too many cases where unbelievable mutations and supernatural monsters have made homes in the subterranean networks that honeycomb under our feet. These creatures' prey? Household pets and humans themselves. Yes, humans.

The authorities either dismiss the idea of monster predators or are able to conceal these creatures' attacks, because the typical victim is the bum, prostitute, or runaway. Think about it, there are over 80,000 runaways every year in the US alone. How many have been devoured by creatures of the night?

When will our police force, government, and military admit that we are not alone? The famed parapsychologist, Victor Lazlo, tried to warn people, and they began to listen, so Victor Lazlo had to be silenced. One night, alone on an Indian mound in Ohio, Victor Lazlo disappeared. Those who know are convinced that Lazlo was slain by one of the monsters he tried to protect others from.

Here are some tips to keep you out of the clutches of inhuman fiends:

1. Do not let your children play in or near sewers.
2. Avoid the subway after midnight. Likewise, do not travel a subway that is deserted.
3. Stay away from abandoned buildings day and night. Whatever you do, do NOT enter one alone to investigate strange noises.
4. Report strange sounds and vandalism to the authorities. Build a paper record of the strange occurrences you witness.
5. Most supernatural creatures are nocturnal.
6. Many supernatural creatures are fearful or vulnerable to fire. In some cases, even bright light will frighten them away.
7. Religious symbols, like the crucifix, do NOT hold most monsters at bay.

This is only a sure-fire deterrent against vampires.

8. If you are aware of a reoccurring menace or strange happenings keep a written record with dates and times. Photographs will be helpful but don't take chances. Then contact the After Midnight™ Monster hotline and we will try to help you or put you in touch with somebody who can help.

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South American plantation owner offers a COOL MILLION to anybody who can rid him of demons!

That's right, you can earn a million bucks if you can get rid of pesky demons and evil spirits that plague a Colombian plantation.

"I need help and I'm willing to pay big," pleads a wealthy plantation owner. "I know this will sound like silly superstition to the Western World, but my plantation is under siege by magic and evil spirits."

Francisco Martines Ortega insists that a cult of fanatics are using black magic and demonic forces to destroy his plantation and any who dare to work for him. So far, damage has been restricted to crops, farming equipment, and property. It is the psychological impact on his work force that is the most detrimental. Workers are afraid for their lives and are easily spooked. About a dozen a week quit for fear that they will become the next target of the supernatural assault. "I'm the only means of income for many of these people. Without my plantation, hundreds of families may starve."

Ortega is not the only one who believes his estate is under the curse of

evil. Virtually all his workers agree that supernatural forces stalk the land, killing and frightening the people who need the work.

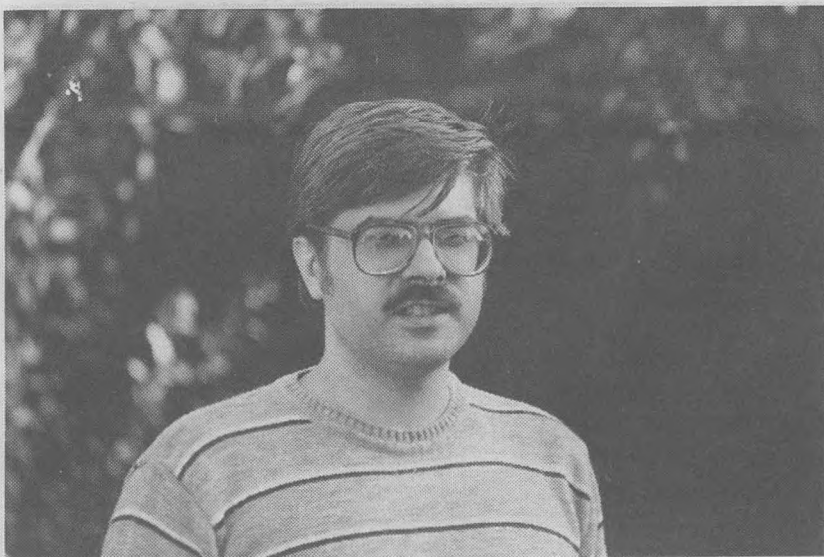
"I don't know why this is happening to us. I have not done anything to hurt anybody." But at least one field laborer disagrees. "Senor Ortega is good man, but he has taken the people's love and respect away from powerful shaman. Shaman is jealous and sends evil spirits to punish all who would work for Senor Ortega. Very bad for everybody."

Out of desperation, Mr. Ortega has offered one million American dollars to any person or persons who can rid him of his supernatural woes. In addition to

the million bucks, Mr. Ortega will pay all travelling and living expenses for the ghoulish busters, as well as provide them with all reasonable equipment and manpower. Accommodations are at his lavish plantation estate, complete with swimming pool, satellite television, servants and private French chef.

"The authorities have washed their hands of this matter, I must do what I can on my own. I just hope that somebody will answer my plea and help us, before someone is seriously hurt."

Game Master's Note: This article ties into the adventure *South American Skullduggery*.



This man gave birth to a 7 lb baby girl!

Crazy Chromosomes Change Coquette to Charlie!

By Garr Wood
Freelance Writer

Ellen Green was a typical home-town girl who married her childhood sweetheart. She was a happy housewife, gave birth to a normal baby girl, and looked forward to a simple life as a housewife. But then her chromosomes went wacky and she became a man!

Doctors were baffled! Test showed that she didn't have hormone treatments or sex-change surgery of any kind. Her

body just changed, and she was stuck with being a guy for the very first time.

"I don't know what caused it, but I'd do anything to find out why it happened," she said in her full beard and flannel shirt. "What hurts is that all my neighbors know me from my high school days. They think I wanted this, can you imagine that?"

A natural red-head, Ellen explained how the change occurred over a period of a year. The doctors were at a loss to explain it, especially when the anatomical changes were complete. A long, exhaustive series of tests confirmed that her XY chromosomes had converted completely. She was now a man, in every way!

"Maybe it had something to do with radiation, that or the city water supply. They tell me that toxic waste could do it."

\$140 Million Dollars in Gems Stolen by Flying Thief!

"The perpetrator magically flew up to the 39th floor window, blew out the glass, walked in, waved his hand, the safe opened, he took what he wanted and flew away," was the official statement of one investigator at the scene.

The man responsible for the claim said, "The case was quite mystifying. To break the tension, I made a joke. My mistake was saying anything in front of newsmen." That particular investigator was removed from the case the evening his statement made the news.

Inspector La Blanc denies that there has been other mystifying burglaries, cit-

ing the fact that the rich are always targets for thieves. As for the statement made by one of his fellow investigators regarding magic and a flying man, he said, "The press has had a party with that statement. It is most absurd and embarrassing. The man was making a joke. A joke in poor taste and the tabloids have taken it and blown it out of proportion."

The authorities insist that the daring theft was an inside job. Yet, despite a seven month long investigation, there are no suspects.

Game Master's Note: This article ties to the adventure entitled *It must be Magic*.

Stunning UFO Photos on pages 10 and 11.



Man Scared to Death on Vacation

By Harold Manning
Staff Writer

78 year old Vito Angelosanti was having a rip-snorting time on the Riviera when he was scared to death by a spectral hit-man in his posche hotel suite.

Vito, a wealthy businessman long believed to have mob connections in the United States and Europe, had retired from the family business four years ago. But had recently talked about stepping out of retirement to take control of the business once again. However, one day Vito was playing tennis and courting babes a quarter his age, and the next day he was dead.

The half dozen people who found the body reported that the room looked like the old man had gone berserk. Furniture was broken and overturned. A bottle of rare champagne laid spilt at his bedside. Bullet holes riddled one wall. Clutched in Vito's death grip was his favorite pistol. His face transfixed in horror.

"We heard shooting and screaming and came running to Mr. Angelosanti's aid, only the door was locked." Two of the men frantically kicked the door down, but it was too late. Vito was dead.

"His face looked as if he has seen the devil himself," said one witness. "I never saw anything so horrible. The old man's face was distorted in terror, his mouth open as if screaming, even in death."

Despite the damage and apparent violence, the door was locked from the inside and there was no sign of forced entry or of an assailant. After a thorough investigation, the police and hotel management issued a statement that good old Vito died of natural causes. The coroner's report noted that Mr. Angelosanti had a massive stroke and brain hemorrhage. The damage to the room was caused by the death throes of a man who did not want to give up life easily.

However, one of the bodyguards said the old man was murdered. "I seen the room. Mr. Angelosanti was fighting for his life. The bullet hole groupings on the wall are too orderly. He weren't shooting wildly to get somebody's attention, he was shooting at somebody or something."

The bodyguard said that Vito had been afraid that he was being stalked by a demon or spirit sent to assassinate him, but had stopped such crazy talk after a week of vacationing in the sun.

"The boss was as strong as an ox. Maybe he died of a brain hemorrhage, but it was caused by something that scared him to death."

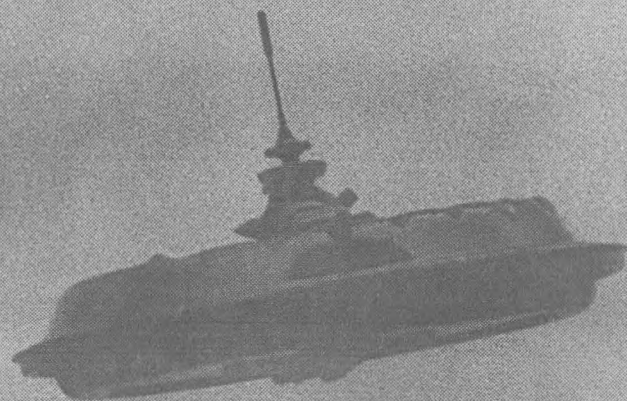
Game Master's Note: This article ties to the adventure entitled *It must be Magic*. This is the handiwork of arcanist assassin, Deni Charboneau.



Common Brown Bat. *Eptesicus fuscus bernardinus*. (V. B. Scheffer)

DRAMATIC EVIDENCE THAT FLYING SAUCERS ARE REAL!

By Ronny Bergman
Staff Writer



A UFO buzzed a Detroit office for an unbelievable two minutes, apparently having engine trouble.

That's the claim of Detroit artist Kevin Long, who photographed the alien starship as it teetered overhead just outside his office, on Sept 25.

The artist was returning to the office after a day of shooting reference photos when his co-worker pointed skyward to the saucer-shaped spacecraft.

"As luck would have it, I still had some unused film in my camera and was able to take several photographs of the UFO as it hovered near the office," Mr. Long told newsmen.

"The UFO kept teetering back and forth. It would tilt one direction and fly a little higher, then tilt the other way and drop down a hundred feet. The vessel definitely seemed to have trouble maintaining altitude," reported Alex Marciniszyn, the other witness to this nerve-wracking experience.

"Its herky-jerky movements gave us both the impression that the UFO was going to fall out of the sky at any moment. At one point it almost plunged into the office, but regained control and sped out of sight."

UFO experts throughout the country have spent weeks scrutinizing the photo-

graphs. After computer analysis, experts are agreed that the photos are not a composite or a hoax and that they represent conclusive proof that Earth is being visited by extra-terrestrials.

"I'm convinced," said one expert. "These photographs are genuine. At first we suspected that they could be fakes. After all, both Kevin and Alex work for a publisher of science fiction and fantasy books. But the evidence is undeniable."

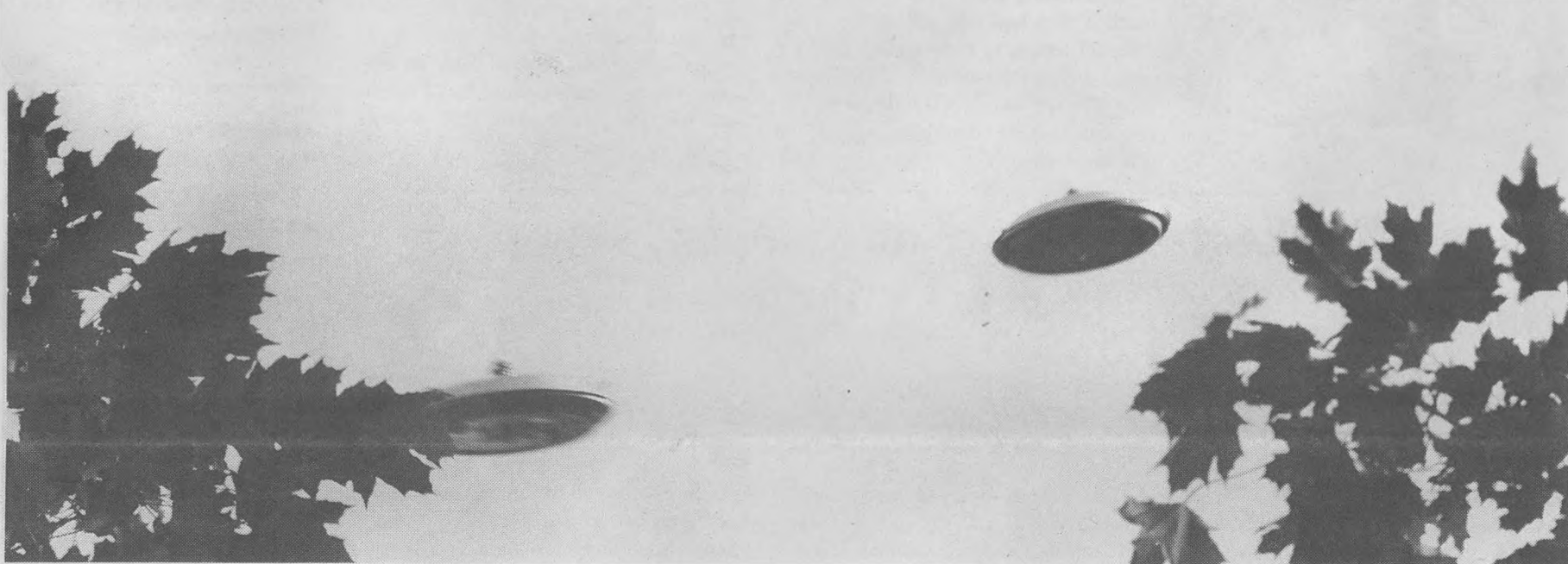
"Of course, they are genuine," said Mr. Long. "I would never subject myself to such publicity and potential for ridicule if I didn't know what we saw was real."

Mr. Marciniszyn shares these senti-

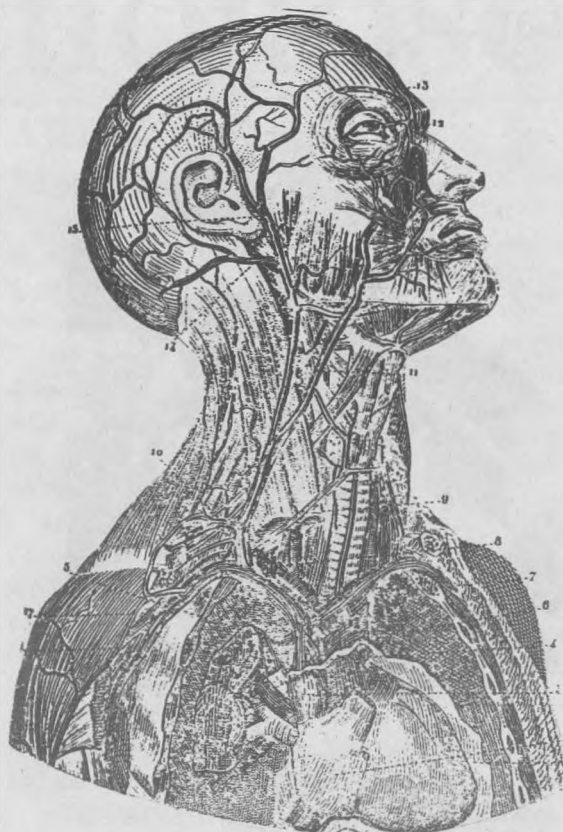
ments, "What would such a hoax do for us anyway? Why would two respected and top professionals, like us, do something so irresponsible as a UFO hoax? It really hurts me to hear talk of a hoax. Somebody even made a fake UFO out of a plastic microwave dish, glued on some parts from an airplane model kit, spray painted it silver, and hid it in the bushes near the office to discredit us. Fortunately, Kev's photographs were able to withstand study by the experts."

The photographs have been sent to both the United States Air Force and the President. White House officials refuse to comment on the pictures.

Detroit artist snapped these pics of a flying saucer



Sensational UFO photos



Dump Caffeine ... if you're a psychic!

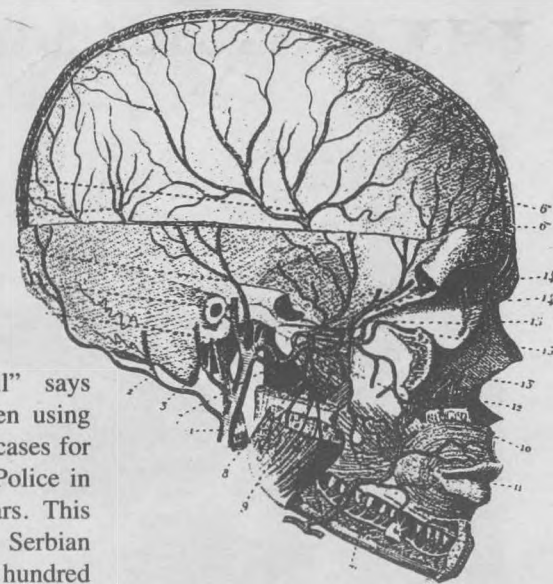
Drug blocks vital energy waves.

"I didn't believe it at first" says Dr. Howard Bailey of Nova Scotia, Canada who heads the department of psychic research at the prestigious Maumarche University. He and his staff were shocked to learn one day that their psychics, who had done so well in earlier test, were now flunking out.

"Something had to be done, so I asked each if they had changed their routine. We did testing in the morning, and the only difference was they were having that first cup of coffee a little earlier. So we tested another control group, and got the same results!"

"I'm not surprised at all" says Madame Chernia who has been using her psychic powers to unravel cases for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Montreal for the last four years. This sinister looking, black-haired Serbian beauty has been called into one hundred and fifty three cases and has, through her knowledge of the unknown, obtained clues in eighty five of them.

"This is, how you say, a secret plot by South America to rob the U.S. of valuable psychic power. That is why they sell so much coffee, and I might add with the support of the U.S. government."



When asked who could benefit from the dampening the psychic resources of a country, she said with a grin "I think I have said enough already."

Game Master's Note: This article ties into the adventure *The Box*.

Tiny devils with pointy tails and ears are killing sheep by the hundreds in Tasmania.

"Poppycock," fumes authorities in the little town of ComeBack, Tasmania. The goblins or demons of Tasmanian legend are said to come out of the outback and eat their fill of livestock every 75 years or so, and then disappear for another 75 years. The last reports of such an occurrence were in 1917, when over 300 sheep were accredited to have been eaten by the hungry little demons.

Descriptions of the demons indicate that they stand a petite four feet tall, buck naked, with large, pointy ears, devil's tail, and huge, slaving maw.

Most locals give little credit to the stories of demons that return every 75 years to loot the land. They believe that the culprit is a wild dog gone mad, or a pack of wild dogs, and say that the numbers of livestock killings are vastly exaggerated.

"They wouldn't be saying such things if it were their livestock being butchered," says our source. "My granddaddy told us children tales of these devil-critters. We always thought they were stories to scare us kids. Now we know better."

"Couldn't take the pressure any longer" says psychiatrist as teen genius cracks up; now a babbling booby.

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

He was the apple of his mother's eye, but poor Charles Damilier of Winston, South Carolina went to the funny farm after a psychotic episode.

Just twelve years old, Charlie was working on his doctoral thesis in Biology at the Hazelwood University for Gifted Youth, when he lost his marbles and began hopping up and down and salivating like an animal.

"It was the books that did it" said Charlie's father, Walter, a hardware salesman in Ingham County. "I told him not to read books, but he never listened to what I say. Now look at him. Don't

even know us any more. I told 'em."

The university officials were shocked. "I don't want to place blame on anyone" said Dr. Gertrude Stublen, department head for the college, who has twenty students below the average college entry level working on various projects. "But my counselors tell me that his home environment was not ideal. He was a sensitive child, but not the least bit stable. What has happened is both regrettable and tragic. Nothing he was working on was the least bit dangerous."

County detectives refuse to comment on cases in progress but thus far, no charges have been filed and there's no evidence of wrong-doing.

"The mind is a funny thing" said psychotherapist Edward Brown, who has been working in an effort to help poor Charles regain his sanity at the

Beaumont Mental Facility in Winston. "Like all mental patients, a good deal of his therapy is geared to finding the cause. We've run the whole gauntlet of tests on him and couldn't find anything physical. There was no gradual behavior change prior to his collapse, so there must have been some deep-seated pressure building in the young man for some time."

When asked what could have pushed a budding genius over the edge, Brown adjusted his glasses and shrugged. "If I knew that, perhaps we could have reached him sooner. But I certainly hope we can help him."

Real Tasmanian Devils devour herds of sheep!

Julie Star's Psychic Connection

Dear Julie, I visit my grandmother's grave every Sunday. Recently, my pet dog barks and growls at the same area whenever I visit the cemetery. Could this mean something? Is it my grandmother? Confused in Texas.

Dear Confused, Dogs are especially aware of the supernatural. I think that if it was a friendly spirit, your pet would wag its tail and show affection. The growling says to me, that this spirit is a dangerous one. It is not your grand-

mother. I suggest you do not visit the cemetery for a month. I know your grandmother will understand. When you do return, do not go alone, take a friend or your protective pet with you. Write to me again if this continues.

Dear Julie, I'm getting on in years and want to know if I'm going to spend the rest of my days a spinster. I want to get married, but can't seem to find that mister right. Could you tell me what you see in my stars? I was born at 8:43 am,

July 23, 1959. Sincerely, Lost Cause.

Dear Lost Cause, I see rockets and fireworks in your future. This will be the great romance you have always dreamed of. It will be worth the wait.

Dear Julie, My Younger brother thinks he is in mental contact with space aliens. I think he's wacky. Could you tell him that there are no such things as space aliens? I know he would believe you. Wacko's Concerned Sister.

Dear Concerned, You should not call your brother a wacko. There are many forces at work in our cosmos that human-kind is only now beginning to understand. There are thousands of people like your brother who claim to communicate with extra-terrestrials. There is certainly enough evidence to support the notion that there are other life forms in the universe and your brother may be a mental pen-pal with one.

UFO zaps movie cast!

Alien vessel vaporized Sci-Fi set.

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

"It came out of the sky! It was horrible!" says famed movie maker Rodger Flynn as he was in the second week of production on his film tentatively called "The Augmenter."

Eight of the film crew were injured on the Bujo Desert, California set, including Lisa Dallas and Taylor Lawton, two of the film's stars.

"It was early morning and we were drinking coffee, sitting around while the camera crew was setting up the shot on the desert floor when this yellow disk came out of the sky, I told everyone to run. It was chaos after that, just screams and running." No one was seriously injured, but much of the post-production work, which included several cameras and a crane, were wrecked beyond repair.

"Sounds like a career move to me, and you can quote me on that!" said noted film critic Ira Hern as he sat down with his cigar in mouth and tossed aside the photos of the attack. "Flynn's not much of a movie maker. I mean he does have a following, but the man is a consummate promoter. this looks like a fake to me."

We asked Mr. Hern, who has a feature movie column in the California Egocentric, to describe the high-points of Mr. Flynn's career in greater detail. "His best films are of course "Prince Acturus" and "Space Race," but that was a few years back. All I can say is the guy's had a tough life."

"Believe you me, I hope I never go through something like that again!" says cameraman Duncan Ives, a long time associate with the Matrix Films company, who escaped from the attack with a broken hand.

"I couldn't really get away when it came down, so I tried to point the camera at it."

Ives was a photographer for InterPress during the war, and that training served him in good stead during the crisis. "This hugh yellow hockey puck was shooting out these feet ... well, arm-like legs, only it moved like a jack-hammer. One came right toward me so I jumped. Everything exploded around me. When I got out of the sand and turned around, it was zooming up into the sky. I hate to say this, but I was glad to see it go."



Pink is the safest color to wear while jogging.

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

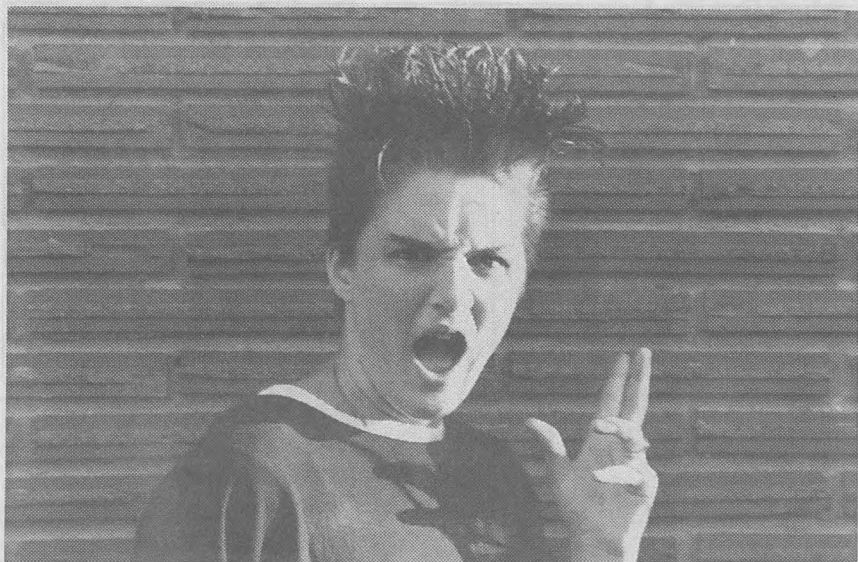
Good news for joggers everywhere! A recent scientific survey has found that joggers wearing pink are less likely to be injured.

Dr. Robert Montgomery of Western University in Utah has compiled a sample of a thousand weekly health nuts, to be published in the Scientific Journal.

"Frankly, the results are quite surprising" he said in an interview in his university office on campus "I would have thought that the color a jogger wears would have no relation to the number of traffic accidents. But the numbers don't lie."

Of the thousand runners sampled in the state of Utah over the past year, seventy-six of them have had some type of traffic related injury. None of the thirteen percent that were injured wore the color pink. Of the thousand runners, a mixed group of joggers who ran a minimum of ten hours a week, one hundred and twelve wore pink running suits. "We didn't tamper with the sample group at all. We didn't tell them what to wear or what we were looking for." confirmed the doc when we asked about the possibility of steering the results "We just had our people check what they were wearing before they went out." Of the total injured, six were serious and two were fatalities, but that was well within the statistical average.

When asked about the effects of color on driver perception, thought to be the main cause of vehicles bumping into pedestrians, Montgomery offered few clues as to actual cause. "We've known for a long time that the color green is the most sensitive color to our eyes" he offered as he guided us through his lab of complicated optical equipment. "That's why fire trucks, which were once red, are now painted green. But the color pink should have no particular importance. We have recently completed and compiled a region wide sampling, results of which were impressive enough that I feel we must get the word out. With more heads working on it, maybe we'll figure out what's going on."



FASHION EXPERTS SAY ... OUR BUTTS ARE GETTING BIGGER!

By Brian Garwood
Staff Writer

If your cloths are getting a little tight in the seat, maybe it's not what you're eating! At least, that's what the spokesman of the nation's textile industry, Ralph Bellamy of Cedar Falls, California said to explain the bulging protifs in his annual report.

"I know it sounds funny" said the pugnacious businessman with a jovial grin "But nation-wide, the patterns on which our clothes are laid out have had to be "let out" a little more than usual." Not that he's complaining about the increase in material orders. "What's a square inch here or there between friends!" he said with a wink and an elbow "Heck, we should all go out and buy new clothes!"

The trend hasn't gone unnoticed by fashion designers either. "At first, I thought all the girls were just eating on the side" said internationally acclaimed Rodney Tosh in his Beverly Hills mansion in between shows, "But the poor things were underweight, so I don't know what's causing it."

When we interviewed him he was preparing for another showing in Europe in the spring. "Personally, I think it's rather attractive. It's the cut of the dresses and how they hang that's really important, that and the texture and quality of the material. I'm curious to see if it's just an American thing while I'm away. I'll keep my eye on the subject."

The obvious answer would be that we Americans were just eating more. Not so says noted economist Bradley Lochinski at the Livermore Institute, an economic watchdog of U.S. trends. "No, consumer goods actually went down during that period. On the whole, our consumption of food has not gone up, but the textile industry has been doing well."

When we asked if he could find a connection between the two, he lit his pipe once more and answered in a cloud of smoke. "It's foolish to draw a correlation between the two on such slim evidence. But then in the past, People who traded stocks by using sunspot activity as a barometer did quite well. If you pardon my saying, we'll get to the bottom of the situation."

Crazed Killers Stalk the Highways of Maine!

By Raven Davenport
Investigative Reporter

A serial killer, known as **The Hitchhiker of Death**, continues to wreak terror in the small town of Doverton, Maine. The grisly murderer has already claimed *ten victims!* Police are baffled.

The murders are especially unique and frightening in that it is now apparent that a *group* of killers are at work. Perhaps a cult of devil worshippers! Two of the Hitchhikers of Death have been killed by local police. But now a third Hitchhiker of Death kills again.

The inhabitants of the town of Doverton, located near the strip of highway where the murders have taken place, are terrified. One resident stated, "Tourists avoid us now for fear of this maniac. I can't blame them. And you don't see women or children on the street at night. I don't know what we're going to do."

Another citizen was furious, "The police have to do something and do it soon. It's obviously a cult of devil worshippers are hiding out in the woods. Probably at the old Indian burial ground. I understand the police have the area

staked-out and suspect a motorcycle gang that has been camping there."

However, Police Chief Daniel J. Turner denies that this is the diabolical work of blood crazed cultists. "We have explored every possibility and every lead at our disposal, but there is no evidence of any so-called cult activity or magic."

When asked to explain how it was that there were apparently three murderers killing as the Hitchhiker of Death, Chief Turner had, "No comment." He then refused to speak any further on any aspect of the investigation.

The word on the street is that a cult of maniacs are conducting demonic human sacrifices and discarding the bodies along the highway in a blatant act of defiance. Indeed, the police are completely baffled, their hands tied, while the fanatics continue their killing spree unchecked.

Raven Davenport will continue his weekly report from Doverton as more develops.

Game Master Note: This article ties into the Hitchhiker of Death adventure.

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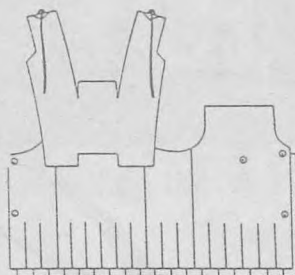
Greek Linen Cuirass —c. 500 B.C.-200 A.D.

Hoplite warrior putting on multi-layered linen cuirass.

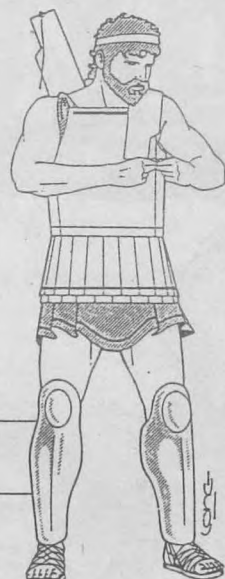
The cuirass was made of many layers of linen glued together about 1/2 centimeter thick.

Also known as "still shirt." Very resilient. Its advantages were its light weight, flexibility and cheapness to produce.

Linen types of armour very similar to this were used by Greek and Romans till about 500 A.D. It was eventually replaced by chain mail.



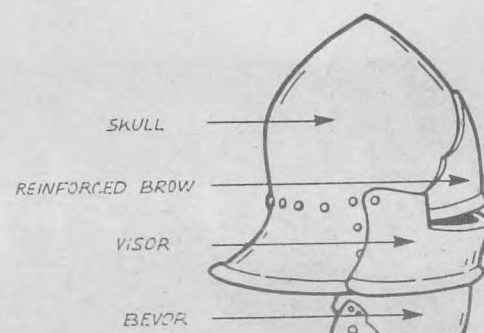
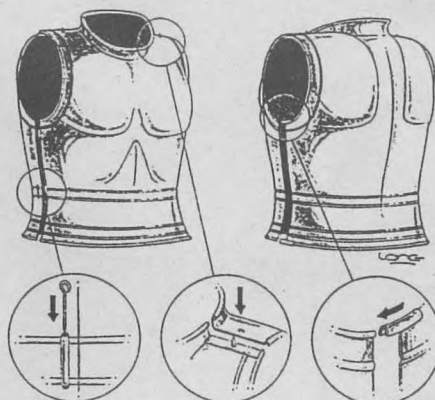
Armour Value
Equal to Soft Leather
Cut RF: 2
Chop RF: 1
Thrust RF: 1
Impact RF: 1
Mass Total: 2kg



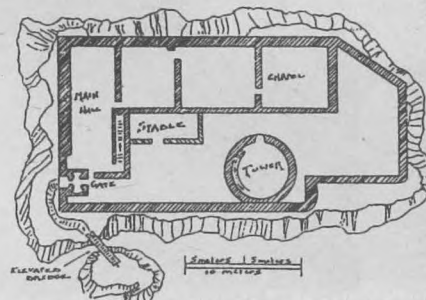
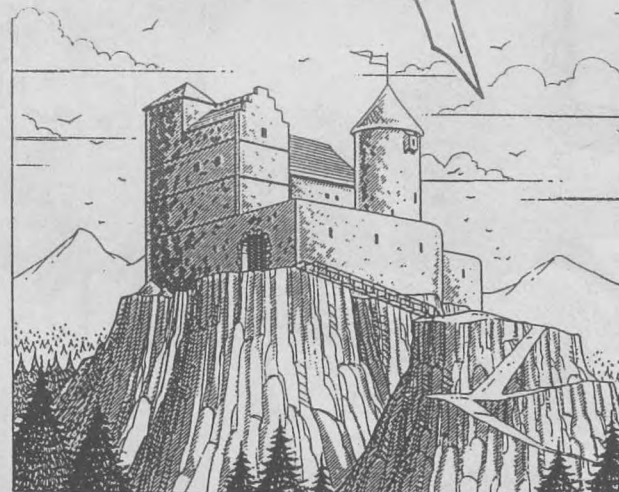
Greek Bell Cuirass and Joining Methods 525 B.C.-500 A.D.

The famous Bell Cuirass was made of bronze which is much softer than steel or iron.

Armour Value
Bronze Plating
Cut RF: 7
Chop RF: 7
Thrust RF: 7
Impact RF: 1
Mass Total: 18kg



Detail of 15th Century Armour Heaume



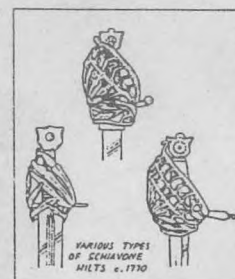
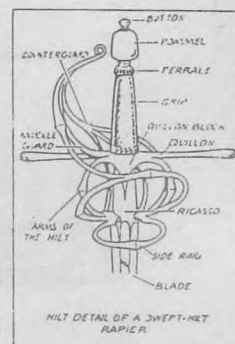
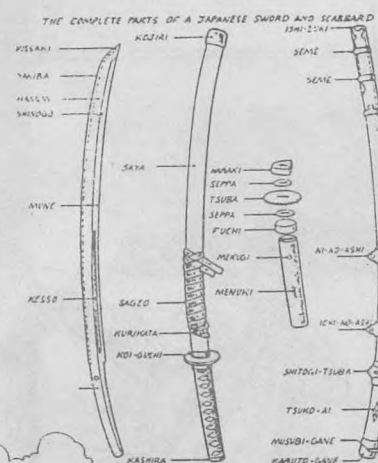
Karlstein

THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN TERRAIN MADE THE USE OF SELF-ANCHORING POSSIBLE AGAINST THIS CASTLE.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE WALLS AND TOWER DID NOT HAVE TO BE AS HEAVILY FORTIFIED AS THE MOUNTAIN CASTLE.

• WALL RATING: 1

KARLSTEIN bei REICHENHALL
• GERMANY.



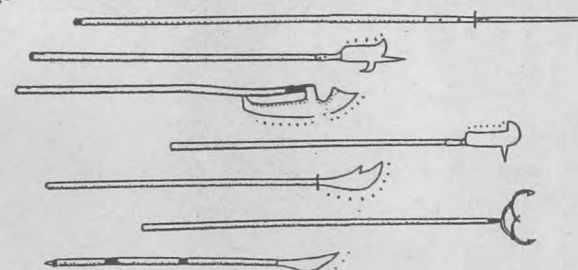
More than any other weapon, the sword has been granted a special status in many cultures throughout the ages. In Christian Europe during the Middle Ages, the cross-shaped form of the sword became a symbol of the church, the crusaders, and the cult of chivalry. In Japan the veneration of the sword was at the core of the Bushido code of the Samurai. Today the sword remains a symbol of rank, strength and nobility.

Another distinction bestowed upon swords by many peoples is the name. The significance of the sword's name cannot be underestimated. They represented the spirit, soul, and personality of the arm and its importance to the wielder.

The portion of the sword not included in the blade; this is the crossbar, grip, guard, handle, pommel, quillon, etc. The portion of the hilt which is mounted perpendicularly to the blade to protect the hand. The portion of the sword which is held. This is usually an outgrowth of the crossbar and may be designed to protect a portion of or the entire hand.

Handle: The portion of the hilt which is attached to the blade. Similar to the grip.
Pommel: The knob which is attached to the end of the hilt; opposite of point. Usually serves as a counter weight to the blade.
Quillon: One side of the crossbar; the arm of the crossbar.
Tang: That portion of the blade which fits into the handle.

Polearms



Compendium of Weapons, Armour & Castles

To get a fair *overview* of the world's ancient arms and armour would require poring through a dozen or more books. Furthermore, there were few books that dared to offer a comparative study of weapons versus weapons of other time periods and geographic locales. This was fine for scholars, but tended to scare away the more casual reader. For them this was all too overwhelming.

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