

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

January 1, 1947 - December 31, 1959

(Material received too late to be included in the original editions or in the supplements)

By

Loren E. Gross

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Fremont CA

"UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse."

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

Material under consideration for any revision
of the original UFO history volume covering
this time period.

1947 pp.1-11.

1948 pp.11-13.

1949 pp.13-23.

1950 pp.21-40.

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1957 pp.100-104.

1958 p.104.

1959 p.104-109.

1947

June? 1947. Hot Springs,
South Dakota.
(no time)

Black Hills Ordinance Depot. (See clipping)

June 1947. Fort Collins, Colorado. (no time)

Eight silver discs.

Letter to the Air Force:

"I am a retired officer of the AUS, have keen eyesight, having qualified as expert machine gunner, expert rifleman, and expert with a pistol during my nine year tour of Army duty. The balance of the family at that time consisted of my wife and three children aged about 13, 10, and 6 years of age. I was 37 years of age at this time.

"None of us had ever heard of 'flying saucers' and this sighting occurred at about the time of the first sighting by the salesman Mr. Arnold in Utah (sic).

"The five of us were about to enter a small grocery at the corner of Vine and Shield Streets, Fort Collins, Colorado, on a clear sunny day in June 1947. My oldest boy remarked, 'What are those things flying up there?' We all looked up and what we saw we have all agreed later to be exact [-ly as stated below]:

"Eight silver discs moving on a southward course toward Denver. They seemed to follow each other in a 'follow the leader' way as if attached by some means and would flash like bright aluminum when they reflected in the sunlight. These objects were definitely round. When we first sighted them they appeared to be almost directly overhead. I called for my friend, R.W. Luhman, to hurry outside to see these objects. By the time he could manage to come around the counter and come outside, they had disappeared to the south. They were moving faster than some fast jet planes I have observed lately. They made no noise, no vapor trail or smoke observed. By saying they seemed to follow the leader, I mean as they traveled each object would take the place of the object immediately in front of itself, giving the appearance of a zig-zag movement but still on a straight course. Their elevation could not be determined as we do not know their size, however they seemed to be at about the same as most airline planes, which I would say from five to ten thousand feet. No detail could be observed except that they appear round, flattish, and flashed bright like aluminum as they reflected in the sun. We had an opportunity to observe them for a distance of about four or five miles, as this grocery is located

'Saucers' Also Lurk In Skies Over Oil Areas

By LEONARD INSKIP

Springs Woman Saw Saucers

About 10 mysterious objects 'came down, stayed for some time and one by one took to the air in formation,' a Hot Springs woman reports. "They disappeared at terrific speed," she adds.

The landing was near the Black Hills Ordinance Depot, Igloo, "before the general excitement in 1947," according to this source. Many employees at the depot witnessed the event, she said, but the crafts landed too far away to approach.

The Hot Springs woman mentioned the event in a letter reporting a more recent sighting the evening of July 28 when three employees of the depot saw one of the saucer-shaped disks.

• PRESS CLIPPINGS •

220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
Tel. CHelsea 3-8860

Cir. (D 20,516) (S 19,358)

This Clipping From

Rapid City, South Dakota
Journal.
6 August 52.

on the edge of town [...and] our view not obstructed by close trees or buildings. From the time we first observed them until they disappeared must not have been over one minute.

"The sky to the west to our recollection was cloudless." (See drawing on page 3 by Allison showing manner of movement and type of formation) (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Headquarters, United States Air Force, Washington, D.C. From: James D. Allison, 209 West Lake Street, Fort Collins, Colorado. Date: 18 June 52. Photocopy in author's files.

2 June. Waverly, Iowa. (1:30 p.m.)

Inverted saucer-shaped disc. (See clipping)

The expression "flying saucer."

Another look at the origin of the expression "flying saucer" is provided by *East Oregonian* reporter Nolan Skiff:

"When was the term 'flying saucer' first used?

"That question has been asked many times of Kenneth Arnold of Boise who first saw the mysterious disks on a flight near Yakima June 24, 1947, and whose story was first printed in the *East Oregonian* the next day.

"In the Pendleton 25th? [number not clear] anniversary edition the *East Oregonian* issued Oct. 25? [number not clear] a story appeared telling of the first news of the saucers printed in a double column story written by myself and then later given to the Associated Press and the world in more complete form by Bill Bequette, who was *East Oregonian* news [? Not clear] and AP correspondent at that time.

"Arnold saw this story and dropped in Wednesday of this week to comment on it, and also mentioned what he remembered as the origin of the term 'flying saucer.'

"As he remembers it, he said Bequette asked him the night of June 25 at the Pendleton hotel during an interview what the flight of the strange objects reminded him of. Arnold said he replied that the flight was like skipping a saucer across a body of water and that Bequette then labeled them 'flying saucers.'

"Actually, I discovered by checking back to my original notes of June 25 late morn-

July 10 1947
COURIER, WATERLOO, IOWA

Flying Saucer Is Seen at Waverly

(Courier Special Service)

Waverly, Ia.—Two masons espied one of the elusive saucer-shaped objects while they were at work in northwest Waverly and are the first Bremer county residents that have seen any of the mysterious airborne discs.

John J. Laube said Wednesday that when he first saw it June 2 at 1:30 p. m. that it looked like an inverted saucer-shaped disc of brilliant metal, apparently just a few feet above the top of the 180-foot elevator at the Waverly Sugar Manufacturing plant.

He watched it for approximately five minutes before it was obscured by trees near the residence where he was doing cement work.

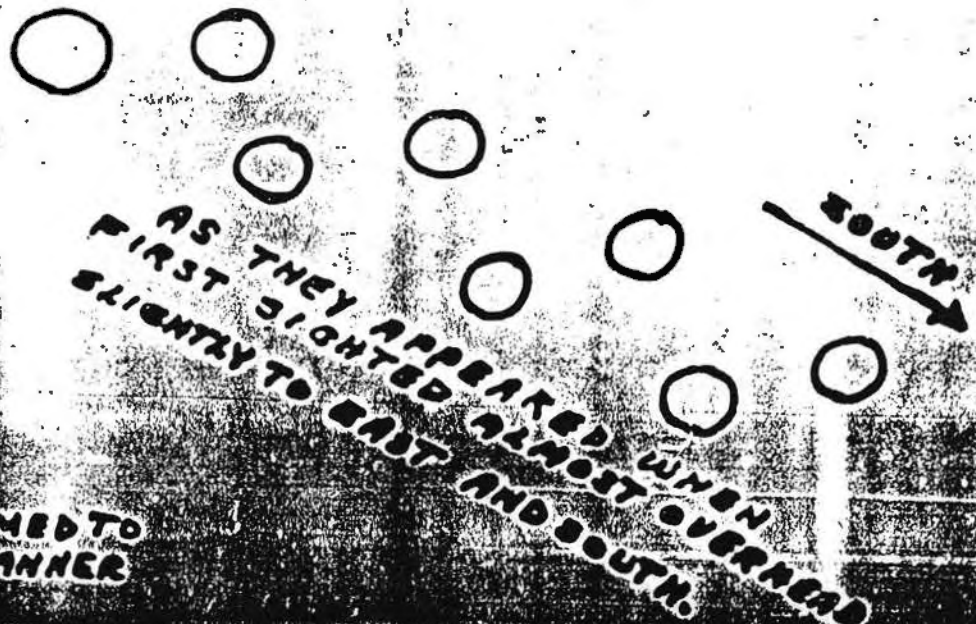
The time it took for it to move from his sight led him to think that it was probably much farther away and higher than it appeared to be.

Just before it disappeared from sight he called his co-worker, Fred Platte, who also caught a glimpse of it.

When Laube told one or two acquaintances about it they scoffed and so he had told no one else but his immediate family, one of whom revealed the incident. At the time Laube saw the disc, he had heard little about them and "didn't take much stock in what he had read or heard" until he happened to look up from his work and actually see one.

Unlike some reports, he said that he heard no noise emanating from it.

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ing interview with Arnold, that he described the objects at that time as 'nine saucer-like shiny objects' and that my initial story that same day also referred to them as 'saucer like' ring [?] [referring?] to objects, the AP probably headed its wire stories 'flying saucers,' and that term quickly reflected in the subsequent stories.

"Bequette may have referred to them as 'flying saucers' in one of his stories to the AP but there is no record that he used that term in his follow up stories.

"My guess is that the AP probably originated the term because of the original and continued use of the term 'saucer like' in referring to the objects. The AP probably headed its wire stories 'flying saucers' and that term quickly reflected in the subsequent stories [Skiff repeats himself here. See paragraph above]

"Unfortunately, I did not save any copy from the AP teletype machines in those first two days of the fantastic story, so have no way of proving my point. But I'm sure if Bequette had originated the term he would have included it in his Jan. 26 [Not sure what Skiff is talking about here. The photocopying I'm working with is not the best but it seems Skiff is referring to "January 26." It could be Bequette wrote an article about the Arnold story on January 26, 1955] story and it wasn't there.

"One of the reasons Arnold dropped in to tell me his version of the origin of 'flying saucer' was because he did not want credit given to him, as he said it didn't belong there. Recently the CBS in New York referred to him as also originating the term 'flying saucer' and he did not want to take credit for the term.

"However, since he first told me they were 'saucer-like,' I feel that actually the real credit for coining the phrase belongs to Arnold, even though he seeks to disclaim it. He at least provided the 'saucer-like' term from which 'flying saucer' developed." (xx.)

(xx.) Skiff, Nolan. "End of the Week." Pendleton, Oregon. *East Oregonian*. 12 November 55.

(Maybe too much is being said about this "saucer term" topic—L.E. Gross)

11 June. Coshocton, Ohio. (9:30-11:00 p.m.)

Strange gray-colored, cloud-like object.

Our source states:

"A Coshocton county family may have been the first persons to witness a 'flying saucer.' It was learned today when it was reported to *The Tribune* that such a phenomenon was witnessed on the night of June 11.

"Four members of the Otto Scheetz family who live on the Mound-New Bedford road, three blocks north of Keene, saw the strange gray-colored, cloud-like object but did not report it until now for they were afraid no one would believe them.

"Described as approximately 18 inches in diameter, the object was said to be an odd shape like a small cloud with a tail. It would reportedly travel at alternating fast and slow speeds in an oblong circle, making a whistling sound when it picked up speed.

"Arthur Scheetz allegedly spotted the object first about 9:30 on the night of June 11 and it continued, the family said, in its circle until 11 p.m.

"Passing over electric wires near the house, the object caused a 'tingling' noise, they said." (xx.)

(xx.) Coshocton, Ohio. *The Tribune*. 10 July 47.

24 June. Joliet, Illinois. (about 1:00? p.m.)

"Being towed?"

A press report said:

"A railroad engineer reported Friday he had seen a group of fast-flying disks in the sky near here Tuesday—the same day an Idaho businessman reported having sighted a similar phenomenon over western Washington.

"Charles Kastl, of Joliet, an engineer for the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern railroad for 38 years said he saw the disks about 1:00 p.m., Central Standard Time Tuesday while he was driving to work.

" 'There were about nine of them in formation—flat circular objects—going faster than any airplane I ever saw,' Kastl said. 'They appeared to be very high, flying south, and weaving slightly in flight, and every now and then one would reflect the sun in a brilliant flash.

" 'I got the impression that they were somehow being towed although I could see nothing ahead of them. They were in sight about 25 seconds and then a building obstructed my view.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Dixon, Illinois. *Evening Telegraph*. 28 June 47.

Latter part of June. Tulsa, Oklahoma. (morning)

Rolling over and over.

Columnist Bill Hoge wrote:

"We were standing on our front porch one morning in the latter part of June of 1947, and we noticed five objects close together high in the air to the north. At that time we hadn't yet heard of the flying saucers. These objects appeared to be round and disc-shaped. Some of them were silver-colored and others of a reddish or copper color. They were in motion and seemed to be rolling over and over but stayed in a cluster together.

"We watched them for quite some time but thought little about it. Our first thought was that some boys had shot a skyrocket which had released these disc-shaped objects.

"A few days later the newspapers were full of stories about people who had observed the same objects. We didn't tell anyone except our wife as we thought people might laugh at us. Finally we heard another man tell about seeing the same things at the same time and then we mentioned it to a few but we were still careful not to tell very many people. Probably lots of people here saw them and were just like we were about telling about it." (xx.)

(xx.) Hoge, Bill. "Oologah Oozings" Tulsa, Oklahoma. *World*. 3 August 52.

July ? 1947. Newberg, Oregon. (about 2:30 p.m.)

"They twisted and turned in a graceful motion."

A letter to the military stated:

"After reading the recent article in Life, June 9, 1952, I feel that this information I have might be useful in your investigation of the much-heralded 'flying saucers.'

"In July, 1947, I was living in Newberg, Oregon. One day I and three other men were remodeling a house in the town. About 2:30 in the afternoon, we stopped for a rest period. I happened to look west toward the coast range. In a blue, cloudless sky, I saw three aluminum-colored, disc-shaped objects maneuvering in close formation as though they were dodging one another. I called the attention of the three other men to the sight. We stood there for fully thirty seconds observing their strange behavior, then, almost immediately they disappeared.

"I would estimate that their height was about five times that of the coast range, and from the distance I was from them they were about the size of an ordinary tea saucer. Their appearance was like two saucers that had been placed face to face. From the edge, the appearance was cigar-shaped, and from the face it was perfectly round. Due to their maneuvering, I was able to see both views. The action of these objects was similar to the action of a flat can cover if you sailed it into the air. They twisted and turned in a graceful motion, meanwhile maintaining their close formation. Then, as I stated before, they disappeared completely.

"I hope that this information will be of value to you." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: U.S. Army Air Force, Wilbur Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. From: Carl Tnielman, 1559 Jermain Drive, Toledo, 6, Ohio. (no date) Photocopy in author's files.

4 July 47. Port Huron, Michigan. (around 10:30 p.m.)

"They frightened my little girl and gave me a creepy feeling"

According to our source:

"Mrs. John R. Warner of Port Huron, Mich., across the St. Clair river from from Sarnia, Ont., says she and most of her neighbors saw the discs last night around 10:30 p.m.

"I saw them all right," Mrs. Warner says. "They were about 12 to 15 inches in diameter. They looked as though they were made of polished metal and were flat and circular. They seemed to dart about. Sometimes they would seem to stand still, and then would dart away very fast. They kept disappearing as though they were darting in and out of clouds [Maybe they were turning edgewise?]."

"Mrs. Warner says the discs were about five miles away when she saw them, but the sky was bright and she could see them plainly. 'They were far, far too big to be insects and they certainly weren't fireworks,' Mrs. Warner says. 'They frightened my little girl and they gave me a creepy feeling [Even at a distance of five miles?].'" (xx.)

(xx.) Toronto, Ontario, Canada. *Toronto Star*. 5 July 47.

4 July. Binghamton, New York.

Tourists from the Moon?

A letter to the editor said:

"It is my assumption that those super airplanes or flying pie pans seen scudding over the mountains at 1,000 miles an hour were sky tourists from a distant satellite or planet. Possibly the Moon or Mars was running a sightseeing expedition of the solar system. [Signed:] J.C." (xx.)

(xx.) Binghamton, New York. *The Binghamton Press*. 4 July 47.

5 July. "Delusions, Atomic War Scare." (See headline on page 8)

6 July. Freeport, Illinois. (about 3:30 p.m.)

Our source states:

"Elmer H. Schirmer, a Freeport insurance man, reported today that he and his wife watched a flying disc float through the skies yesterday for ten minutes.

"The disc, he said, was flying from south to north at about 400 feet. It was not bright and silvery and flying on end as in other reports, he said, but was dark and moving in a horizontal position. It frequently passed through clouds formations in the overcast sky, Schirmer said.

"Schirmer said they noticed the disc while motoring north of Freeport at about 3:30 p.m. (CDT). It passed out of sight after about ten minutes, he said." (xx.)

(xx.) Freeport, Ill., July 7—(AP)

5-6? "Over the weekend." July. Grand Rapids, Michigan. (no time) (See clipping)

7 July. Peoria, Illinois. (no time)

Illinois flap:

"On July 7 Harry L. Spooner caught a glimpse of a red-dish disc about two feet in diameter giving off a ringing noise." (xx.)

(xx.) "Midwest Organization Reports. Aerial Phenomenon Club of Central Illinois." *Skylook*. #19. June 1969.

Traverse City, Mi

Record Eagle

July 8 1947

MICHIGAN FOLKS DISCERN DISCS

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., July 8. —(UP)—Willard Fisk today revealed some of the more intimate details of the mysterious flying saucers—one of which he said he saw at close range over the weekend.

Fisk reported he saw a saucer zig-zag across Pond Lake, dipping at one time to within 20 feet of the water. He said the disc, "a brilliant, dark-red object about eight inches in diameter, moved noiselessly through the air and flashed on and off like a light."

More than 30 other persons also reported seeing the discs in western Michigan.

FLYING SAUCERS SAID 'DELUSION BRED BY ATOMIC WAR SCARE

Mystery Discs 'Sighted'
by Persons in All Areas;
Army Begins Investigation

Typical 1947 scarehead.

(no page number available)

7 July. Peoria, Illinois. (no time)

A second report:

"Shortly thereafter, Michael Boyer and his wife watched a silvery disc which tilted slightly and then followed a straight course." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

7 July. Peoria, Illinois. (no time)

A third report:

"Within an hour of the Boyer sighting, Forrest L. Huggenbotham, a Caterpillar Tractor Company employee, saw between 25 and 30 motionless discs in a straight line over his East Peoria home." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

7 July. Bradford, Pennsylvania. (8:50 p.m.)

He heard it "zip."

A press report states:

"Bradford last night joined the long list of areas in the United States reporting appearances of the mysterious 'flying saucer.'

"George Zenner, 20, Jerome Ave., reported last night that he saw an object resembling a 'flying saucer' while walking home at 8:50 o'clock.

"He said he was walking up East Main St., from East Bradford and was between Fisher and Oxford Streets when he saw the object flying through the sky at a height of about two telephone poles.

"Zenner described the object as 'about the size of a dinner plate, pretty flat and shiny.' He said it was traveling in a spinning motion.

"Zenner said it did not make any noise and the flat side of it was toward the ground. He said he heard it 'zip' and go off in the direction of the Dresser plant and then shoot off toward the Bolivar Run area.

"Zenner said he had been an observer with the U.S. Army during World War Two." (xx.)

(xx.) Bradford, Pennsylvania. *Era*. 8 July 47.

8 July. Harrisburg, Illinois. (10:40 a.m.)

"What is that going through the air?" (See clipping on page 10)

Harrisburg Il Daily Register July 8 1947

Dewey Dallas Family Reports Seeing 'Flying Saucer'

Dallasania Family Claims Observed Object In Air This Morning

Dewey Dallas, his wife and grandson saw a silver saucer flying through the air at 10:40 a. m. today, Mr. Dallas reported excitedly at The Daily Register office.

Mr. Dallas, who resides seven miles west of Harrisburg in Dallasania community, said he saw an aluminum colored object sailing north-eastward at a terrific speed as he was driving on the blacktop road connecting Carrier Mills and Route 13.

Mr. Dallas said he couldn't estimate the height of the sailing saucer as he didn't know the size of the object.

"I couldn't see a thing on it," he declared. "It was just aluminum, flat and round."

Mrs. Dallas said "It was just as plain as it could be."

And Dewey Robert Dallas, five-year-old grandson, substantiated what they said. He saw it, too.

"I hesitated about coming up to the Register office to tell you about it because I knew some people would laugh," Mr. Dallas said. "I always thought they were the bunk but they're not."

"I always thought it was just a lot of talk about these flying saucers," Mr. Dallas declared, "but they're a fact. I saw one myself and my wife and grandson saw it, too."

He declared they were driving home from Carrier Mills and were about a mile from Route 13 when Mrs. Dallas looked up, saw an object, and asked him: "What is that going through the air?" Flat and Round

"I looked up, too, and there was a bright, aluminum object that looked about the size of a dishpan travelling northeast at a terrific speed. It was going so fast that we saw it for less than a minute."

10 July. ABC program about "Flying Saucers."

A Glens Falls, New York, newspaper proudly announced local participation in a nationally broadcast program:

"Radio station WOLN, Glens Falls, member of the American Broadcasting Company network, will originate a brief portion of a nationwide 'flying saucers' broadcast from 10:18 to 10:30 tonight. Walter Kiernan, ABC news commentator in New York, will interview people in all parts of the country who have reported seeing the 'flying saucers,' which have mystified the nation, and other phenomena. Louis G.B. Stobbina, deputy county treasurer of Warren County, will be on the program, through WOLN, to tell briefly about the fiery object he saw in the sky north of Glens Falls on June 27, and which officials of the American Meteor Society now believe to have been a fireball, a type of meteor." (xx.)

(xx.) Glens Falls, New York. *Post-Star*. 10 July 47.

(Comment on the ABC program: With the huge number of fascinating sightings of "hard" objects in formation and performing amazing maneuvers, why produce a national program that includes a report about a "UFO" with such strong meteor characteristics? In any case, if a tape of the program is found in storage, it would still have historical value—L.E. Gross.)

23 December. Rep. Ellsworth and "Russian rocket tests."

(This account has more detail than the account in the monograph *UFOs: A History 1947*, page 76) (See clipping)

1948.

7 January. Trotwood, Ohio. (10:15 p.m.)

Cigar-shaped object.

A letter to the local newspaper stated:

"On January 7, 1948, at 10:15 p.m. I sighted a cigar-shaped object proceeding in an easterly direction over Trotwood, Ohio.

"Since I did not know the true altitude of the object and could not determine its size by comparison with anything else, I cannot state the speed at which it was traveling other than to say it was tremendous, as the object passed from horizon to horizon in a very short time.

"The rocket, or whatever it was, accelerated and decelerated several times. At its low speed, a reddish orange flame of about the length of the rocket extended from the rear of the rocket.

"As the object accelerated the exhaust flame became a very brilliant greenish white, much like a magnesium flare, and at its greatest was about three times the length of the body or fuselage of the object.

"I do not know what I saw, but as an Air Force aerial observer of the last war who flew entirely at night, I do know that it was not a meteor, nor a star, nor any aircraft such as we had at that time, but it was an aircraft, of that I am certain." (xx.)

(xx.) Lt. Harold E. McDowell,
Ft. Bliss, Texas. Columbus,
Ohio. *Star*. 28 June 52.

27 April. Frankfurt, Germany.

Troops alerted. (See clipping)

U. S. Troops 'Alerted' For Flying Discs

Frankfurt, Germany, April 26. (AP) —American troops in Germany have been ordered to report it immediately if they see any "unconventional aircraft"—like the "flying discs" which alarmed the U. S. a few months ago. Army officers said, however, the orders were routine instructions from the army department for all troops at home and abroad. "No flying discs or anything like them have been reported over here and we have no reason to expect any," one officer said.

Link Flying Saucer With Russian Tests

WASHINGTON, AP—Rep. Ellsworth (R-Ore) revived reports Monday that last summer's "flying saucer" epidemic may have stemmed from Russian rocket experiments.

Claiming that he has received reliable information concerning the development of high velocity missiles by soviet scientists, the Oregon lawmaker added in a statement.

"Strangely enough, this development might be the solution of the now almost forgotten mystery of the flying saucers."

He said the Russians are reported to have a rocket of amazing speed and "almost limitless range" propelled by a series of explosions occurring several seconds apart.

"Each successive explosion shoots the missile forward at increased speed," Ellsworth said. "Apparently the charges are packed separately and are held apart by metal discs. As each charge is fired, the metal disc is discharged as an empty cartridge shell is ejected from an automatic rifle. The discs are made of thin metal and possibly disintegrate in the air not long after they are discharged."

Ellsworth suggested that American scientists might have been working on some similar device, but he held it more likely that any discs actually seen had come from Russian military proving grounds.

Portland Me
Press-Herald
April 27, 1948

Council Bluffs, Ia
Nawpawzi
Dec 23 1947



WHAT WAS IT? That's what these three men, a pilot and two control tower operators, were wondering after a "flying disk" was seen in the skies over Fargo Friday night. H. E. Johnson, left, a controller; Lt. George Gorman, center, a P-51 pilot with the air national guard here who chased the "thing," and Lloyd D. Jensen, another controller, are looking in the direction the object was seen from the tower. (Fargo Forum Photo)

Wright Field Officers Probe 'Disk' Report

A group of air force officers from Wright-Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, flew to Fargo Sunday to investigate reports that a pilot here had staged a dogfight with a "flying disk" object Friday night.

They conferred with Maj. Donald C. Jones, commanding officer of the 178th fighter squadron, North Dakota air national guard. They left today in an air force B-25.

Lt. George Gorman, the P-51 pilot, had reported the strange object.

The visiting officers, termed by Dayton field headquarters as "one of its investigating teams" assigned to probe "aerial phenomena," left instructions here that no information was to be released.

Speculation continued as to the nature of the object, witnessed by two airport control tower operators and two other persons flying in a small plane.

1 October. Fargo, North Dakota.

(See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1948*, pp.56,59-60,63.)

The Gorman-UFO chase case. Gorman, Johnson, and Jensen, all asserted the UFO moved much faster than the P-51, making the official balloon explanation impossible.

Picture and story from the Fargo, North Dakota, *Forum*. Date: 4 October 48.

30 November. Project SIGN Interim Report.

"Estimate of the Situation?"

The mystery document known to the UFO community as the "interplanetary estimate of the situation" was passed up the Air Force chain of command during the summer of 1948. The top secret document was knocked down only at the very top, General Vandenberg's desk, since the lack of physical evidence doomed official acceptance of the estimate. It has been said all copies of the document were burned. The rejection of the ET hypothesis by Vandenberg occurred on August 5th, according to one source, but apparently it lived on until the latter part of the year. On the 30th of November Project SIGN issued an Interim Report that still carried the interplanetary suggestion. This Interim Report, along with the original estimate, must have ended up in the furnace. The full Interim Report is not available but we do know that it consisted of an evaluation of 172 "incidents." The only part known in detail is perhaps the most intriguing, the conclusions:

- "a. A sufficient number of observations from reliable witnesses (where reliability has been determined by FBI or OSI investigations) establishes the physical presence of unidentified objects as a reality.
- b. The preponderance of evidence indicates that there is no other recourse than to presume that those objects are man-made, guided and controlled.
- c. The further possibility exists that the unidentified flying objects are interplanetary spaceships." (xx.)

(xx.) Dow, Richard B. REPORT BY DR. R. B. DOW, BUREAU OF ORDNANCE (RE9A3) EVALUATING THE SUBJECT OF FLYING DISCS. Navy Department, Bureau of Ordnance. 16 February 1949. p.4. (Document supplied by Jan Aldrich)

While Vandenberg may have refused to indorse the drastic ET theory, it is evident the Intelligence experts that drew up the SIGN Interim Report conclusions were convinced something "real" and "controlled" was being seen. Vandenberg's decision would not have changed that. Proof is the release of Air Intelligence Division Study No. 203 on December 10 just ten days after the SIGN report. If something was invading American skies, and it was not ET visitations, then a foreign nation was the number one suspect. AIDS 203 addressed that possibility. We have copies of AIDS 203 that are declassified. (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1948*, pages 95-103)

1949.

25 January. Chief of Naval Operations.

Late in January the November 10th Project SIGN Interim Report reached the Chief of Naval Operations. The SIGN Interim Report, which included 172 case histories, was forwarded to Dr. Richard B. Dow of the Bureau of Ordnance for evaluation. A clue why this was done [Jan Aldrich wonders why AIDS 203 wasn't sent instead] could be the mention that some "correspondence" was forwarded along with the Interim Report.* It might be inquiries were being made within the Navy chain of command.

* Note the language in the first paragraph of Dr. Dow's report.

16 February. Dr. Dow's evaluation. (See pages 15-18)

Dr. Dow's opinion of "saucer sightings" was certainly different from those of the experts that produced AIDS 203! According to Dr. Dow, the case histories were "unrelated statistically." Also, reported "objects" seen flying in V-formation, making tight circles, fast glides, and performing dipping and oscillation motions at great speed, were birds, Ferruginous Hawks to be exact. Other reports he explained as jet exhausts and various "atmospheric phenomena." Only in a very few cases did he admit there was something worth investigating, and that a little more questioning would surely determine a prosaic cause.

13 March. Remember the flying saucers? (See clipping)

30 March. Sioux City, Iowa. (no time) (See clipping)

Coshington Oh

Tribune

March 31 1950

14 Iowans Report Flying Saucers; One Stationary

SIoux CITY, Ia.—(UP)—Fourteen Iowans, including five national guardsmen and a weather observer, today joined the swelling ranks of the I've-Seen-a-Flying-Saucer club.

Leo Jeske, employe of the U. S. weather bureau, said he saw a strange object yesterday and at first thought it merely was a weather balloon.

"Then I decided it wasn't," he said.

Jeske said the object remained stationary at an altitude of 10,000 to 12,000 feet for a while, then flashed out of sight.

The national guardsmen at the Sioux City air base said they saw a white, round "something" apparently following an airplane.

Portland Me

Sunday Telegram

March 13, 1949

Looking Ahead

By World Staff Of Associated Press

Washington, March 12.—Remember the flying saucers?

For what it may be worth—the Armed Services won't talk about them any more. Any information on investigations of reports concerning them is now "classified," along with information on atomic bombs and guided missiles.

Few here know what to make of this— if anything—and they, of course, won't talk. Some well-connected persons have concluded, although without any real information, that it's just possible something entirely new in aerial locomotion may have been developed in either this or some other country.

Leroy Wagner said "the disc seemed to hover about 300 feet above the plane," but air base officials were unable to contact the plane by radio to find out if the pilot saw the object.

Other persons who saw "it" described it as a "shiny, pencil-shaped" aircraft which swung back and forth over Sioux City.

U. S. air force officials repeatedly have denied any knowledge of the saucers and have reported that thorough investigations have failed to turn up any proof that they exist.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
 BUREAU OF ORDNANCE

16 February 1949

REPORT BY DR. R. B. DOW, BUREAU OF ORDNANCE (RE9A3) EVALUATING THE SUBJECT
 OF FLYING DISCS

1. Chief of Naval Operations letter, serial 00195, dated 25 Jan. 1949, forwarding correspondence and case histories on the subject of flying discs requested an evaluation of the material. The writer has made a preliminary study of each of the 172 incidents comprising the case histories on the subject, and submits the following comments and conclusions.
2. From the standpoint of a broad general conclusion it can be stated that the 172 incidents were unrelated statistically. In a few instances independent observers, approximately at the same location or at locations separated geographically, allegedly viewed similar objects at about the same time, but the data are not numerous or complete enough to permit a significant correlation of physical facts. These particular cases, nevertheless, were reviewed in some detail by the writer from the standpoint of searching for some reasonable explanation.
3. Incidents #1 through #16, reported in the correspondence as being observed around 4 July 1947, pertain to events which occurred in California, Oregon, Idaho and Washington. The observations were made during daylight for the most part. All reports agreed, with one exception, that the shiny or silver objects emitted no noise or appreciable evidence of exhaust trails. There was general agreement that the objects were disc-like or spherical, but one observer (incident #12) said the objects were "like a flight of geese". There was little agreement as to the nature of the maneuvers of the objects in flight, some reporting straightline flight, others seeing wobbling or oscillating motions, and still others mentioning variable or loose formations. Incident #10 was the only one in this group of 16 that was viewed from an airplane, the others being viewed from the ground where the observers estimated the altitudes to be anywhere from 8000 to 40,000 feet. The writer inquired of Mr. DuMont of the Wildlife Survey of the Department of the Interior as to the possibility of a reasonable type of bird having its habitat in this region. Mr. DuMont referred to the Ferruginous Hawk (also known as the California Squirrel Hawk or Rough-Legged Hawk) as a possibility. It is a large western bird with a conspicuous white breast and tail; it is high flying in open regions, often soaring sharply and flies frequently in a V pattern. Some of the "tight-circles" observed, as well as fast glides at a rather low level, are characteristic of this bird which circles over carrion or sweeps down to pick up squirrels or rabbits in desert country. Although the bird has been widely observed, it is relatively scarce and not well-known. It appears, therefore, that incidents #1 to #16 might well be explained in this way for two reasons: first, none of the observers were likely to be familiar with bird life and secondly, estimates of shape, speed and altitude of flying objects are very unreliable from the ground, as is readily admitted by aviators. Significant, also, are the observations recorded in items #10 and #5. Item #10 reported observations made by United Air Line pilots from a plane which followed 9 of the objects for some 45 miles over

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Boise, Idaho. The silhouettes were reviewed against a sunset, at no stated distance, moving in a "loose formation". In incident #5 a policeman feeding pigeons in Portland, Oregon, noticed that they became excited and flew away before he became aware of 5 discs dipping up and down in oscillating motion at great speed. This is an often observed behavior in smaller birds when hawks or eagles are flying by, even at seemingly high levels when they are barely visible.

4. A different kind of object was reported in many of the other incidents; namely, a vari-shaped mass of yellow-orange or bluish-white fire, which in some cases traveled at terrific speeds and in others appeared to be stationary for periods exceeding an hour. Obviously, a variety of astronomical or atmospheric phenomena offer, in the absence of confirmed evidence, possibilities for speculation. On the other hand, the possibility of the existence of a exhaust jet from a vehicle cannot be ignored. In most cases, these incidents were so indefinite and the reports so fragmentary as to merit little serious consideration, in the opinion of the writer. In other incidents a probable explanation was found. For example, on 16 February 1948, three incidents (#101, 102 and 103) reported a luminous object in Kansas and Utah which may have been a natural meteor; meteorites were recovered near Morcatur, Kansas. Several events were reported by trained Air Force personnel on 7 January 1948 (incidents 30 - 33 F) as occurring at Fort Knox, Kentucky and Columbus, Ohio. At the former location (Goetz Field) several National Guard 1-51 planes attempted to close in on the object and the flight leader who pursued the object the closest was killed on crashing to the ground. Reports were made by the Commanding Officer and other personnel involved. Although some discrepancies appear in the accounts, it appears fairly certain that all saw a very bright, luminous object, frequently changing in color, at about 210° or WSW from 1420 - 1600. Drs. Clemenz and Willard of the Naval Observatory were called by the writer to determine if the body might have been the planet Venus. This appears to be likely in that at that time the sun set at about 1649 and Venus continued to be brilliant to the view until approximately 2 hours after that time. To the ground observers the object appeared to be practically stationary, but to the flight leader the speed appeared to vary from one-half to one times his plane speed (360 m.p.h.). It is believed that the latter suffered an optical illusion, possibly through relative motion of the clouds, in regard to the speed of the object in respect to his own. It appears reasonable to believe that he crashed because of loss of control at 30,000 feet brought about by the decrease of oxygen. Similar illusions of this kind are known and will be discussed further in paragraph 7.

5. Incident #73 relates to the observation of Pan American Airways pilots on 4 August 1947 to the effect that a large cylindrical object (length of a P-40) of bright orange hue, but with no gaseous trail, was seen traveling at about 150 m.p.h. for about 30 sec., some mile away from their plane. There were scattered clouds but the visibility was 10 miles at the time of observation (1600). The location between Everett and Bedford, Massachusetts raises the possibility of a ship-launched plane from the nearby Atlantic Ocean. The authenticity of the observation rests on the veracity of the pilots; it seems unusual that there were no confirming reports concerning such a large object over a heavily populated section of the country at that time of day. Technically, the vague description does not support the belief that it was a powered plane or missile. The lack of

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exhaust trail or jet weighs heavily against a powered missile of conventional type; likewise, one cannot reasonably feel that a nuclear source of energy may have been responsible, since the object was too small and showed no evidence of advanced engineering design. The writer believes, however, that this incident should be further investigated for more details.

6. Three independent aircraft (commercial) reported unusual events seen at about 0245 on 24 July 1943 (incidents #144, #144a and #144b). Two of these seen to have been natural meteors (#144a and b). Incident #144 was reported to have been a large cigar-shaped body (100 ft. long and twice the diameter of a B-29) with a fluorescent glow underneath and a red-orange exhaust trail. The pilot thought he saw (visibility excellent) a jet-type aircraft with two decks with windows, but the only other observer, a passenger, saw only a streak of light. As this incident was observed in the general locality of the other two, it may be suspected that this case may also be an observation of a (same) meteor colored by the pilot's imagination who saw the object for only 10 sec. The fact that the pilot felt no prop wash or rough air indicates that this might also indicate the passage of an incandescent body. It would appear, nevertheless, worth the while to attempt to question the pilot further on his observation.

7. In reference to paragraph 4, attention is called to the fairly common mistake of observing the planet Venus to be a moving target at low altitude. It has been reported that in February 1945, shortly before the invasion of Iwo Jima, that the U.S.S. ITM YORK fired at Venus continually between 1100 and 1400 under the mistaken belief that the object was an enemy target. The day was sunny with a clear sky. A similar incident was reported on three occasions aboard the U.S.S. SHAW in the South Pacific. The fallacy is only realized, apparently, when a sight is taken and checked for Venus. The observed effect of apparent color change of the object (incident #33c) is interesting but characteristically seen when the planet is viewed for a considerable length of time under changing atmospheric conditions. A turbojet engine viewed from the rear shows a varying color exhaust as the altitude increases; at 25,000 ft. the flame in the combustor is orange-yellow, at 35,000 ft. yellow with noticeable blue, and at 47,000 ft. almost entirely blue and flickering. This progression of color change was not observed during the incident in question, and moreover, it would not have been possible for a turbo-jet plane to remain in the observed position for about one and one-half hours. These facts appear to rule out a jet-propelled object. It should also be mentioned that many mysterious, bright masses in the sky at night can be caused by reflection (over an extraordinary distance) and refraction phenomena, as well as static electricity discharges which often take fantastic shapes (St. Elmos fire around planes).

8. In conclusion, a preliminary study of the 172 subject incidents has indicated that practically all of the reported observations can be explained by natural causes acting at random. There have been no material data or scientific evidence to prove that the various phenomena happened other than at random; until such is collected, there is no basis for suspecting or imagining man-made machines of mysterious characteristics. The reports of airplane pilots, incidents #73 and #144, alleging to see strange aircraft do not appear to be reliable, in the opinion of the writer. The described characteristics of the strange craft certainly do not represent sound or reasonable engineering features, but the statements of the

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pilots cannot be described without further investigation. Further questioning of the pilots in these two cases would appear to be desirable. In reference to natural events happening at random, it is quite likely that a similar set of 172 incidents could be collected from happenings of the past or from those that will happen any time in the future, provided that one solicited the testimony of unskilled observers who consciously or unconsciously permitted a certain amount of emotional color to influence their reports. The forwarding correspondence includes a Project "Sign" Interim Report of 30 November 1943. On the basis of the above discussion the writer does not concur with the conclusions of the Sign Report, particularly in respect to:

- a. "A sufficient number of observations from reliable witnesses (whose reliability has been determined by FBI or OSI investigations) establishes the physical presence of unidentified objects as a reality."
- b. "the preponderance of evidence indicates that there is no other recourse than to presume that these objects are man-made, guided and controlled."
- c. "The further possibility exists that the unidentified flying objects are inter-planetary spaceships."

The writer not only does not concur with these conclusions but fails to understand the justification for them on the basis of the evidence given in the 172 subject incidents.

RICHARD B. DOW

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June 1949. The *Infantry Journal* comments.

The editors of the *Infantry Journal*, a semi-official publication of the U.S. Army, read the newspapers and they had some questions. Their first question is most interesting and we would like to know the answer: "First we question the Air Force's assumption of the mission of investigating the saucers. Did they get the mission cleared with the JCS [Joint Chiefs of Staff] before starting out?" (See the editorial "The Implication of Flying Saucers." below)

The Implication of Flying Saucers

For the top mystery of the spring we suggest the re-emergence of speculation about flying saucers. None have been seen recently so far as we are aware, but one national magazine came out with a story purporting to tell what the Air Force knows and doesn't know about the flying discs. And a Dayton, Ohio, newspaper carried a lengthy story on them which, it said, was based on unpublished reports assembled at Wright Air Force Base.

The best conclusion seems to be that the Air Force doesn't regard the flying saucers as a joke but doesn't think they are a cause for alarm either.

The statement isn't very satisfying and seems to suggest that the Air Force has some theories that it isn't talking about. Up to now we had considered flying saucers in the same category as the Loch Ness monster, Kilroy and Elmer of American Legion parade fame. But now we see that we have been facetious about a phenomenon that must be taken seriously.

Therefore, we have a few observations to make on flying discs and the Air Force's investigation of them.

First we question the Air Force's assumption of the mission of investigating the saucers. Did they get the mission cleared with the JCS before starting out?

Should the Air Force be permitted to continue its investigations? After all it has lost one pilot and airplane in

chasing the mystery disc, a rather costly sum to be paid for the meager information it has accumulated. Why shouldn't the investigation be a function of the artillery's guided missile battalions? Equipped as they are with sound ranging devices and missiles that fly much faster than sound, it would seem logical for the guided missile people to look into the mystery. We would feel much safer with the artillery in charge. They have a tradition for unimaginative, feet-on-the-ground thinking and wouldn't be inclined to pursue a flying fantasy merely for the sake of publicity. Not that we think the Air Force would either, but there are those who think it would, which has the same result.

Those cynics see a mystery as great as the saucers in the fact that the Air Force chose this time to reveal its continuing interest in a phenomenon that hadn't been in the newspapers for months. They belong to that school of cynics who believe that a great deal of news is "planted" by those who want publicity or by devious schemers who shift emphasis elsewhere to avoid publicity. What's the Air Force up to, they ask. Does it want a hundred million dollars or so to set up a FSIC (Flying Saucer Investigative Committee) or is it trying to take the heat off of criticism of the B-36?

We heard it theorized that the flying saucers may be

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flying fish, equipped with a reverse of the schnorkel which permits them to stay out of water for long periods of time. The man who suggested the theory held that the Navy has a perfect right to enter the investigation.

There was also the suggestion that the Atomic Energy Commission be asked to explode one of its bombs at say 40,000 feet. It has tried 'em on the level and under water and from other unspecified positions so why not explode one from seven and one-half miles up? It might blow all the flying saucers right out of existence. But before the AEC does it both the Air Force and the Navy ought to

be informed so they can get all their around-the-world, across-the-continent, and endurance flyers out of the air. The upper reaches of the sky have been filled with so many GI airplanes in recent months that it's hard to understand how the guided missile people find room to pop off even a WAC corporal.

It is quite apparent, of course, that we don't know what we are talking about. But to paraphrase the Air Force we are inclined to suggest that while we don't consider all the recent publicity hullabaloo over flying saucers as a joke, we don't know what else to make of it.

(xx.)

(xx.) Editorials. *Infantry Journal*. June 1949. pp.43-44.

1949? Joseph Kaplan and the "green fireballs."

Here is what Joel Carpenter has to say:

"Sears [Dr. William Sears, aerodynamicist and member of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board] told me that Von Karman, while publicly joking about the Green Fireballs, took them seriously enough to form an ad-hoc subcommittee of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board to look into the problem. The members were Joseph Kaplan and Father James Macelwane, a Jesuit priest and geophysicist (and USAFSAB member).

"Sears told me that Kaplan and Macelwane concluded that the Green Fireballs seen at Kirtland, Manzano, Los Alamos, Hanford and elsewhere were 'real, probably manmade, possibly Soviet.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Joel Carpenter. E-Mail message. "Re: New Kirtland Dir 1957." Date: 6/19/02 6:49:52 AM.

3 July. Offshore at the western end of Lake Erie. (about 3:00 p.m.)

"Highly polished metallic disc?"

Letter to CSI Los Angeles:

"On July 3, 1949 at approximately 3:00 p.m. I was aboard a 26 foot cruiser anchored about one mile off shore at the western end of Lake Erie opposite a place known as Sterling State Park.

"There was an unusually clear atmosphere for this locality that day. A large gas storage tank was visible in Toledo, Ohio, more than 20 miles distant from our location. There was a cloudless sky, very rare for this locality even in summer.

"My attention was drawn skyward by the antics of two AT6 training planes maneuvering directly overhead. Upon looking up I saw both AT6 planes and was attracted by a circular object far above which was moving rapidly in the opposite direction. This was a startling thing and in the time I composed myself this disc-shaped object had already traveled to a point about 15 degrees from [the] vertical. From this point I counted seconds as photographers do, namely, one hundred one, etc. I had counted 11 such units when it became no longer visible, fading out of sight about 25 degrees above the horizon...

"This object had the appearance of a highly polished metallic disc and traveled at such a speed that all comparisons with jet aircraft, balloons or other airborne things are nullified. While I could only guess at its height, which must have been tremendous, I have no alternative but to think that this discs' diameter must have exceeded 250 feet. Basing this conjecture on the speed, length of time visible, and its vanishing so far above the horizon together with the visibility of that Toledo gas tank." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: CSI, P.O. Box 1971. Main Post Office. Los Angeles, California.
From: Don W. Swartz, 639 Michigan Avenue, Monroe, Michigan. Date: 15

May 52. Photocopy in author's files.

? 14 July. Leelanau, Michigan. (no time)

"Tipped and tilted their way across the sky." (See clipping)

Truck Driver Describes Flying Saucers Seen in Mid-Afternoon

Flying saucers are back in the news and Frank Hanes of Shinnick Circle, local truck driver has a restaurant owner of Amesville, to corroborate his story they saw two strange objects in the sky Wednesday afternoon in southeastern Ohio.

Hanes is emphatic in declaring the two objects he saw were not meteors or similar astral phenomena. It was in bright sunshine and at 2:30 p. m. He described the articles as "clam shaped", round and higher in the middle. Hanes said one side, apparently the top was gleaming

brightly, as if reflecting sunlight while the other was a dull gray.

Hanes said he was driving his truck between Sharpsburg and Amesville when he noticed the first article. Stopping the truck he left the cab and watched the two "things" as A. E. Quinn of Amesville also stopped his truck and watched.

The pair watched the two articles almost three minutes. Hanes said they appeared to hover in the air, between 1,000 and 1500 feet above a valley between two hills. He said they appeared to maneuver in many angles with a foggy mist around them and said they suddenly disappeared at terrific speed.

Hanes said he and Quinn listened for the sound of a motor or jet but heard nothing and there was no trail of smoke near the articles. He described them appearing individually and said the two did not follow the same pattern of flight. Hanes at first hesitated to tell of his experience fearful he may be revealing some top flight secret aerial experiment and said he himself could hardly believe his own eyes.

Amesville Oh
Times-Recorder
Oct 28 1949

Traverse City Mi
Record Eagle
July 14 1949

Sky Saucers Over Leelanau

Those flying saucers, which have had Americans in every section of the nation in a tizzy during the past year, are back again.

Nan Helm, Record-Eagle correspondent for the Glen Lake region, reported today that a string of flying saucers were seen recently in this area.

Mrs. Anita Tracy, Mrs. Gladys Van Leuven and Mrs. Lear saw the saucers from a window of the Lear chicken dinner restaurant, located on the road to Honor not far from Empire, according to the report.

The trio watched them for 15 minutes as the saucers "tipped and tilted their way across the sky." According to the witnesses, the saucers were large, round, and of a brilliant silver color, and showed a dark side as they turned.

As requested in a recent article on flying saucers which appeared in a national magazine, the ladies are going to write a report to a research department which is compiling data on all reports concerning flying saucer activities in the U. S.

21 October. Flying discs in Rumania?
(See clipping)

26 October. Between Sharpsburg and
Amesville, Ohio. (2:30 p.m.)

"Clam-shaped objects with a foggy mist
around them." (See clipping)

1950

• The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Truman Will Stand By Brannan Farm Program

by Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—President Truman ~~exception of Australia's Herbert Evatt~~. . . The American embassy has cabled the state department that flying discs have now been seen in the sky over Rumania. It is not known whether they are secret Russian rockets or just someone's imagination. U. S. agents are checking.

Sedalia Mo
Democrat
Oct 21 1949

1950 (no exact date) Near Mansfield, Ohio. (10:00 p.m.)

A detective with the Mansfield police department encounters a thing.

After reading a UFO article in the April 1952 issue of *Life Magazine*, Mansfield detective John Steel wrote a letter to the Air Force describing his experience:

"In concurrence with implied request incorporated in...[the article] to report to your office any unidentified aircraft sighted in the sky, I respectfully submit the following for your consideration.

"Approximately two years ago, my wife and I attended an outdoor theatre situated about four miles northeast of Mansfield, Ohio, on State Route #42. We entered this theatre after the show had started and consequently left before the last show was out. As we were driving out of the theatre, in a southwest direction to the highway, my wife pointed out the right front window of the car, and called my attention to two large red lights in the sky and remarked that she had never noticed any radio tower in that particular location before. I looked to where she directed and noticed what appeared to be red lights, such as are installed atop radio towers and other high installations. I realized that the lights were evidently out of place because when we passed this area on our way to the theatre, there was no installation in that locality. I told my wife to watch the lights until I got out onto the highway, and at the same time I looked at my watch and noted that the time was exactly 2200 hours.

"As I turned right onto the highway and headed for Mansfield, I noticed that the lights were to the left of the highway. I drove approximately four-tenths of a mile and as I approached these lights, my wife and I saw what appeared to be a large spot light, about the size of the lens on anti-aircraft lights, flash on with the beam directed at the ground, directly under the lights above. This beam was visible for only the fraction of a second, and the light was intense and about the same color as bright daylight on a clear sunny day, with the sun directly overhead. There was absolutely no sign of reflection or refraction from this light [?], and the stubbled [Probably a farmer's plot cleared of vegetation] field was revealed completely, without shadow, within the scope of the light.

"I immediately stopped my car and got out and walked to the rear of the car in order to get a better view of whatever the object of our curiosity might be, and by being away from the light of my headlights I was able to make out a shape in the sky. The night was clear and a certain amount of natural light existed, and I saw what appeared to be the hull or bottom of the cabin of a large blimp. The reason for this association is that I have seen them on numerous occasions at night over Mansfield, as they came in from Akron, Ohio. This hull or craft was a dark gray in color, and I am positive that there was no blimp or gas bag above what appeared to be the hull. This craft, as nearly as I could...[not clear—estimate?] was about one hundred feet off of the ground and possibly seventy yards to one hundred yards to the left of the highway, directly over a stubble field. At this time, I noticed that the red lights mentioned above looked exactly like the tail lights on the new Cadillac automobiles, and these lights were situated at either the stem or stern of the craft.

"This craft was entirely motionless and silent. At this time, there was absolutely

no other vehicles on the highway, and I could see and hear perfectly. As I was standing there trying to figure the thing out, the craft suddenly took off in a southeast direction, at an unheard of rate of speed. There was no acceleration. It was a case of full speed from a dead stop. I watched the craft from the time it started up, until it disappeared over the horizon, approximately eight to ten miles away, and the lapsed time was not more than three seconds by my watch. I also noticed that there was absolutely no exhaust flash nor any sound, from this craft.

"May I state that my reason for being so sure of the above, is that in combat overseas during World War II, it was my duty over a period of months to report the direction, approximate height, speed and type of aircraft flying over our area, wherever we may be.

"After the craft had gone out of sight, I immediately drove to the Mansfield Airport, base of the 164th Fighter Squadron, Ohio National Guard, where I contacted one Major Line [Line? Not clear] and related the above to him. The Major took some notes and listened to my account of the incident and stated that he would take care of it. I assumed that to date, no consideration was due my account, but since reading the above [*Life*] captioned article, I feel it my duty to make sure that you have been advised of the above.

"In conclusion, may I again state that the above is submitted for your consideration, and I stand ready to be of any service possible." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Commanding Officer, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. From: John E. Steel, Detective Bureau, Police Department, Mansfield, Ohio. Date: 7 April 52. Photocopy in author's files. This, I believe, was from the "Letters to the Air Force" collection. My papers are in a bit of a mess—L.E. Gross.

1950. No exact date. Somewhere in Nevada. (night?)

"Believe me, it was weird."

In an article about flying saucers published in 1952, a woman recalled an incident that took place two years before while driving through the State of Nevada.. A Mrs. Grace Morgan of Route 3, Austin, Minnesota, related the details which were published by the Austin *Herald*:

"A 'flying saucer' or something followed the car she was driving for half an hour. "Mrs. Morgan was doing the driving and her husband was asleep in the house trailer behind.

" 'It was about the size of a basketball,' she said, and looked like a misty sort of light. It had a three-foot tail and would disappear when it got to the radiator. It would come up beside the car on the driver's side.'

"Mrs. Morgan wasn't alone in her experience either. Other people saw it, according to radio reports the next day.

" 'Believe me, it was weird,' she said.

"She told her husband about it the next day and he asked her why she let him sleep through it.

" 'I told him I was Afraid to stop the car to wake him up,' she said." (xx.)

(xx.) Austin, Minnesota. *Herald*. 17 September 52.

January 1950. *Current Events*.

A 100-foot long "sky monster with two rows of windows" zoomed by an Eastern Airline passenger plane piloted by Chiles and Whitted the night of July 24, 1948. Only one passenger was awake, a Mr. C. L. Mckelvie, who saw a bright streak of light.

A little known fact was that Mr. Mckelvie was the managing editor of *Current Events*, the national school newspaper used in classrooms across America. The January 23-27, 1950, issue of the paper included an article on Flying Saucers with artwork that did not favor the U.S. Air Force's "play things down" attitude, as for the text, the treatment of the subject was even-handed and not the "lets-not-scare-the-kids-or-upset-the-parents" type of writing you might expect. It would seem Mckelvie had something to do with that. (xx.) (See page 25)

(xx.) "Flying Saucers." *Current Events*. Week of January 23-27, 1950. Volume XLIX, Number 17, pp.135-136.

10 February. "Mobilize against cold war hysteria." (See clipping on page 26)

March. The flap in Mexico. (See article on pages 27-28)

There were various references to UFO activity south of the border at this time. The one English language treatment with some substance is Lowell Harmer's "Report to the Editor." (xx.)

(xx.) Harmer, Lowell. "Report to the Editor." *True*. June 1950. pp.10-12.

The impression one receives from Harmer's account is that some big Sky Hook balloons drifted down from the U.S., however, there were impressive UFO reports in Arizona and New Mexico (Farmington, etc.) during this period, so perhaps a complete investigation of the Spanish press would yield incidents of higher strangeness.

23? March. Laguna Beach, California. (no time)

According to our source:

"Those flying saucers have been spotted again—this time along the California coast.

"Dudley Gourley, 26, an Army aircraft observer for nearly three years, said he saw eight saucers moving slowly out to sea as he drove past El Moro Bay on the coast highway.

"I saw eight things of an elliptical shape, about 100 feet in diameter, at 2,000 feet. I counted them three more times. They were moving slowly out to sea."

"Gourley said he was aware the Air Force has said repeatedly it could not substantiate any of the saucer reports.

"I was an air observer for 11 months during the war and a sea-coast air observer for 18 months. Let the air force laugh that off," he said." (xx.)

(xx.) Oxnard, California. *Press-Courier*. 23 March 50.

Flying Saucers

IS SOMETHING queer going on in the sky over our Earth? Are beings from another world trying to figure out this world?

The U. S. Air Force says, "Non-sense." After two years, it has ended "Project Flying Saucer." In those two years, a special team of experts, with help from university professors, checked up on 375 reports of strange sights in the sky.

These sights included round, saucer-like disks and huge cigar-shaped planes without wings. The Air Force decided that people only thought they saw these things—or saw balloons, birds, meteors, or the planet Venus.

Try telling that to Donald E. Keyhoe. He will merely laugh at you. Dozens of persons who read his story in a recent issue of *True Magazine* will laugh, too. They are convinced that there must be something—and it isn't spots before the eyes!

Laugh These Off!

The first "flying saucer" report came in June, 1947. A pilot flying a private plane high over Washington State said he saw nine saucer-shaped disks. They flew extremely fast, in a wavy line, about 25 miles away. Each seemed as large as an airplane.

His story started a flock of other stories. For a time, it seemed that everybody in the United States was seeing saucers. The reports were

sifted. Experts found many lies, mistakes, or optical illusions. But some reports—then and later—could not be laughed off so easily. They came from trained commercial or air force pilots, astronomers, weather observers, and other sane, sober, respected Americans.

On January 7, 1948, a round object, about 250 feet across, was seen flying over Madisonville, Ky. A few minutes later, the flying disk was spotted near Fort Knox. Captain Mantell, former army flyer and partner in a GI flying school, started to chase it. The disk flew higher, increasing its speed. Finally, it reached the thin upper air where there is little oxygen. Did Captain Mantell "black out" for lack of oxygen? Did he collide with the disk? Was he attacked? At any rate, his plane crashed and he was killed.

On October 1 of that same year, Lieutenant Gorman, a National Guard pilot, got into a "dog-fight" with a mysterious round light. It was night. Gorman was ready to land at Fargo Airport, in North Dakota. He thought the light was the taillight of another plane. He checked with the airport and found it wasn't. Then he gave chase. The light dodged, darted, finally made a sharp right turn. It came straight at

Gorman's craft. He lost his nerve and dived. The light finally shot up into the air and got away.

Your C. E. Was There!

These and other reports of flying disks have never been explained to the satisfaction of Mr. Keyhoe and others. In addition, they point to stories of huge wingless planes, shaped like cigars or rockets, unlike anything we have on Earth.

On July 24, 1948, an Eastern Airlines plane was on its way through Alabama, going toward Atlanta, Georgia. It was about two o'clock in the morning. Suddenly, the two pilots (both wartime flyers) saw a brilliant object speeding toward them. They swerved sharply to avoid it. As it dashed by, some 700 feet away, they got a good look at it.

The "thing" was about 100 feet long and twice the diameter of a B-29. It had no wings or fins. There were two rows of windows. A brilliant white light came from them. A dark blue glow covered the body of the craft. From the tail came a trail of orange-red flame. The nose was long and pointed, like a radar pole.

The startled pilots went back into the cabin to find out if anyone else had seen this sight. Most passengers were asleep. But one, who was wide awake, had seen a bright streak of light flash past his window. He was C. L. McKelvie, managing editor of your *CURRENT EVENTS*!

(Continued on next page)

Our artist uses his imagination to show you a wingless plane and flying saucers.



Wylie Says Science Can Allay Hysteria

✦ ✦ ✦
Astronomer's Idea for Educational
Program Gets National Attention

*Iowa City Ia
Press Citizen
Feb 10 1950*

University of Iowa Astronomer C. C. Wylie's proposal that scientific fact be mobilized against certain types of cold war hysteria is continuing to receive national attention.

Professor Wylie is interested in arraying fact against such notions as "flying saucers," which he believes unnecessarily aggravate the American people's fears of invasion or attack by hostile powers.

The latest mention of the Iowa

Citizen's proposal was a mention of it Thursday night on a network news roundup.

Professor Wylie's plan is regarded as significant in connection with the government's three-fold defense plan, which includes psychological preparation of all the people.

The professor advocates aligning Americans trained in the physical sciences into an educational program that would prepare them for natural phenomena and other conditions that seem to be dangers but which aren't.

His ideas also have been featured in a magazine article and in a series of tape recordings for a broadcasting system.

Professor Wylie said he has demonstrated to friends here how sunlight reflected from airplane windows under the right conditions virtually can cause the flying craft to disappear, making them seem to be silvery, round spots or "flying saucers."

One of his students is a former member of a flying squadron which during World War II once took off to "shoot down the planet Venus" during a daylight hour.

Such mistakes and alarms as this could be prevented, Professor Wylie said, by disseminating the knowledge that the planet at times can be seen in the daylight.

Professor, Wylie, like Dr. Donald Menzel, was a staunch critic of saucer reports.

"LOS PLATIVOLOS"

Report to the Editor

Flying Saucers have been more clearly observed over Mexico than elsewhere. A TRUE report on the facts.

Mexico City, March 27, 1950

At noon, August 27, 1949, the crew and passengers of an Aerovias Reforma commercial plane saw a Flying Saucer over the port of Yavaros in the Mexican state of Sonora, south of Arizona. Pilot Francisco Lopez Urrutia reported to the Secretary of Communications and to the National Defense Administration of Mexico that the disk-shaped object appeared to be about 16 feet in diameter. He said that it was made of gleaming metal and was followed by a tail of fire some 100 feet long. It was traveling from southeast to northwest.

I am the correspondent in Mexico for Quick Magazine and I included the story in my news letter that week, as it was the first instance I knew of Saucers being reported over Mexico.

At that time, Mexicans had a cynical attitude and attributed reports of Saucers in the U. S. to "Yanqui" hysterics. They just took the term Flying Saucers into their language as *platillos voladores*. But when the three-week wave of Saucers that I am reporting in this article hit the republic last month from the Rio Grande to the Guatemala line, Mexicans took a more sober view and dignified the Saucers with a newly coined Spanish word. They became *Plativolos*.

The next word of Mexican Saucers appeared in the Mexico City newspaper *Excelsior* of February 27, 1950. Frightened villagers of Paso Hondo near the Guatemala line had rushed into near-by Comitán, in the state of Chiapas, and told of a flight of spiral cones which had raced south over their town. The villagers said the formation kicked out red-yellow sparks, left trails of white smoke and sounded like boiling teakettles.

Early this March, the Saucers stepped up their tempo over Mexico. Mexico City dailies quoted two air-line pilots who spotted a Saucer traveling at "incredible speed" near Ometepe, Guerrero. Then twenty military and civil-aeronautics personnel said they watched a pale-cream Saucer hover stationary over the airport of Chihuahua for three minutes. They reported that the Saucer raced off toward the northeast when fighter planes were sent aloft. The director of the airport was called to Mexico City to make a confidential report to the director of civil aeronautics. His report has not yet been released to the press.

On March 8, the *Plativolos* moved onto the front pages of Mexico's great dailies and stayed there. *Excelsior* headlined: ALL DURANGO SAW THE FLYING SAUCER. ENORMOUS COMMOTION IN THAT CITY OVER THE STRANGE SHIP. Durango is one of Mexico's largest cities and is the capital of Durango state. The report said that practically the entire population, including lawyers, doctors, engineers, teachers, students, and businessmen, watched the Saucer from the streets and plazas of the city. Professor Maria Luisa Badilla of Durango College suspended classes so her students could watch the phenomenon. The newspaper listed dozens of names of those who watched the Saucer from 11 a. m. to 12 noon. Many agreed that the object remained at a great height "as if the occupants were observing all the characteristics of the town and the reaction of the inhabitants." Eyewitnesses reported that it appeared to be about "the size of a round pocket mirror." Those who used telescopes and binoculars declared that it seemed to be of some shiny aluminumlike metal.

The same day, Mexico City dailies told of a group of hunters who returned to Guadalajara, Jalisco, and reported a Saucer which they had seen at 10 p. m. on March 6. They had observed a disklike object which flashed through the sky over the Cerro del Cuatro at a "fantastic velocity."

Next day, March 9, the Saucer again visited Durango at noon. This time its movements and appearance were carefully checked by a scientist. E. Nuncio, professor of astronomy in the technical school of Durango, studied the Saucer through a telescope and other instruments. Afterwards he gave his data to the press. Nuncio said that the Saucer maintained 40,000 feet altitude. It was shaped somewhat like a child's top, and had fracture bands around it where its material was joined together. The tip or point of the top was red, and was tilted down and toward the east. Its altitude over the horizon was 53 degrees 20 minutes and its position was southeast. While Nuncio checked, the Saucer moved toward the east 3 degrees in each five minutes until it was out of sight. He pointed out that Venus and other heavenly bodies move to the west.

The same day, a disk-shaped object hovered over Mazatlan, Sinaloa, from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. Mexican Naval Commander Manuel Maliachi reported that he watched it through a spyglass and thought it was made of aluminum. He said it hovered for hours, then disappeared toward the northeast.

On March 10, the Mexican press front-paged that the wandering Saucer visited Pachuca, Hidalgo. This is a large mining town 55 miles north of Mexico City. At 1 p. m., hundreds of Pachucans reported seeing a white ball, which rotated in its axis, move slowly across the sky and disappear in a bank of clouds. They said that it stopped still several times during its passage.

The same day, a Saucer reappeared over Mazatlan, and the citizens of Irapuato, Guanajuato, reported an automobile-hub-cap-shaped object over their city at 11:45 a. m.

Then, on March 11, the Mexico City Excelsior scooped the republic with the most authoritative story on the controversy thus far. Their eight-column front-page headline was: **THE OBSERVATORY OF TONANTZINTLA PHOTOGRAPHED A STRANGE OBJECT.** Below was a long, sober article signed by Luis Enrique Erro, director of Tonantzintla, the largest astrophysical observatory in the nation, which is located 80 miles east of the capital. Director Erro started his article with, "An exceptional object crossed space through the field of the Schmidt telescope of Tonantzintla on March 2. From that day until today, we have wondered what it could have been. We do not know." Erro's article told how staff astronomers Luis Munch and Professor Lauro Herrera were photographing the midnight sky when the mysterious thing crossed the field of vision and left its track as a wide, white, diagonal band on the photographic plate. Munch was using a red filter and the sky wanderer photographed strongly red. The director said, "It could not have been a passing airplane. It could not have been carelessness in the operation of the camera." He pointed out that one of the astronomers saw the brilliant object with his naked eye, and the other watched its trajectory through the finding telescope.

Erro's report was cautiously phrased and too long to give in detail here. He minimized the possibility that the thing could have been any of various known astronomic objects such as meteors, and then he mentioned Flying Saucers. The astronomer pointed out that with present-day knowledge of physics, there might be strange missiles, guided from afar, "which are unknown to us but might very well be the secret of modern armies."

On March 11, a further rash of Saucers was reported. The crew of a Compañía Transportes cargo plane described an object which they saw while flying at 11,000 feet from Guerrero to Puebla. They said it was a reddish disk, 2 meters (about 6½ feet) in diameter, which passed 2,000 feet above them. It was moving at 400 m.p.h. [Continued on page 12]

[Continued from page 11]
south toward Juchitan. A passenger, government attorney Francisco Castro Rayon, confirmed the report of the crew.

On that day, also, the astronomical observatory at Culiacan watched a disk-like object through the telescope, and in Tampico, Tamaulipas, amateur astronomer Gonzalo Ibanez reported watching a Saucer through his telescope at 9 p. m. in the direction of the Great Bear constellation. It moved toward the southeast at a great velocity.

During the afternoon, traffic in Monterrey, Mexico's third city, was disrupted for two hours while hundreds of citizens watched an object in the sky which was shaped "like a tennis racket without a handle." The reports said that the object remained stationary at times and darted about at others.

Next day, March 12, the Saucers moved in on Mexico's great capital city. The English-language Mexico City Herald headlined: **Four Flying Saucers Circle Over Capital.** The feature article began: "Mexico City yesterday got its first view of the Flying Saucers. It was a good long look. Four of the mysterious visitors hovered over the Central Airport while several hundred . . . looked on. Most of them agreed as to the phenomenon's appearance as disks of white metal, resembling aluminum." The Herald included many eyewitness accounts including that of J. de la Vega, a veteran employee of the airport commander's office, who said that he saw "all four" of the Flying Saucers. De la Vega said that meteorologists, with weather-balloon tracking instruments, calculated the altitude of the disks at 35,000 to 40,000 feet. "They seemed about the size of a silver peso," De la Vega said.

I talked with Salvador Arreguin, aviation editor of Prensa Grafica, who photographed one of the strange objects through the meteorologists' theodolite at the airport. "It looked like a tiny, white, shiny globe when I looked at it through the theodolite," Arreguin said, "but when the film was developed, only the crescent part lighted by the sun, appeared. In reality, it was round."

The Saucers over the airport were a four-day wonder to the Mexico City dailies. Hundreds of tourists and airport officials described the Saucers, which reappeared on March 13, 14, and 16.

It was on this last day, the 16th, that I obtained my most authoritative description. Carl Kupfer, Mexico City bureau chief for the International News Service, watched one of the objects with his naked eye and through a telescopic lens for several minutes. Carl is an experienced newspaperman and foreign correspondent. This trained observer had been frankly skeptical of the Saucers, until midday on the 16th. A unit from Columbia Pictures is filming *The Brave Bulls* on location here. Unitman Homer Davies had invited Kupfer to the airport with the promise that if a Saucer appeared, sound engineer Lodge Cunningham would shoot color pictures of it with a 16-mm. movie camera equipped with a 102-mm. telescopic lens.

I saw Carl Kupfer in the afternoon when he returned to his office to file his eyewitness wire-service story. He was a skeptic no longer. Here is the story he told me:

"Homer and I arrived at the airport shortly after noon. Within a few minutes of our arrival, several members of the tower crew told us they saw a Saucer hovering over the city to the southwest of the airport. Then we found Lodge Cunningham. I looked through his telescopic lenses and saw an object in almost the center of the field. It appeared to have a diameter of about three millimeters and was of a white-silvery color. It was shaped rather like a pingpong ball with an elongated tail below. To obviate the possibility that it was a refracted image in the lens, the camera and lens were both turned on the tripod, and the object changed position in the field. Also, several people around us saw it with the naked eye."

I asked Carl if the object was moving or stationary.

"Both," he exclaimed. "At first it was stationary in the field of vision, then it began to move across the scope from eight to two-o'clock position. Its movement was erratic, and it took just five minutes to move across the scope. It stopped and started. At times, it had a vertical movement. It was impossible to see any markings, and consequently I can not guess what it was."

I asked Kupfer if he could have seen a planet or a balloon.

"It is highly improbable that it could have been either," he replied. "The erratic movement would obviate the planet hypothesis. The strong wind which was blowing would have made a balloon move much faster than the object we observed."

Kupfer appeared somewhat shaken up by his experience.

Cunningham shot fifty feet of color film and gave it to Kupfer to send to the New York office of International News Photos for processing. (Word came back sometime later that despite painstaking developing and enlarging, no image of the object that had been photographed could be discerned on the film.)

The next morning I talked with Homer Davies, and he corroborated Kupfer's story exactly.

"I am convinced," he said, "that the usual planet and balloon arguments cannot apply to what we saw yesterday over the airport. It was something strange. I can't explain it."—Lowell Harmer

(This dispatch is most interesting if considered in connection with a statement by Senator Clinton Anderson of New Mexico made at about the same time. Said Senator Anderson, as reported by Robert S. Allen: "I believe something big is underway. There is too much going on in those large research centers in my state to pooh-pooh the numerous eyewitness stories of Flying Saucers and other mysterious devices roaring over the countryside. Also, those official denials are nothing new. They are both proper and to be expected."—The Editor.)

1 April. The Cologne, Germany, *Neue Illustrierte*.

Achim Martin has provided a hard to find photocopy of the German newspaper *Neue Illustrierte*, which has the "Silverman" April Fool article. (See article on pages 30-31) (See note below from Martin)

Dear Mr. Gross,
enclosed the article about "Silverman".
In the following issue dated 5th April 1950 it was mentioned, that it was a April Hoax.
The "Silverman" photographed was an artiste of a ice-skater group called "The Lidstones".
Unfortunately, no names of any editors has been mentioned, so that I don't know exactly how the photo has been produced. After these long years it is very improbable, that any parties concerned does living today.

best
Achim Martin

(See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1950 April-July*, page 1. Also, see *Supplemental Notes 1950 April-July*, pp.4,56-63)

2 April. El Dorado County, California. (no time)

Zoomed upwards.

A brief news item tells us:

"Joe Sperinde, rancher near Pilot Hill, saw a number of them Sunday in the sky south easterly from his ranch. He said some of them seemed at times just to putter along, then suddenly change direction and zoom off or upwards out of sight. He wasn't able to count them." (xx.)

(xx.) Placerville, California. *Mountain Democrat*. 6 April 50.

2 April. Near Shingle Springs, California. (no time)

Another brief news item states:

"...Mrs. Phil Froast and Mrs. Ruth Prior, driving along Highway 50 near Shingle Springs Sunday, noticed persons along the way peering upward, so looked up themselves and saw 13 of them, described by Mrs. Prior as slightly heart-shaped, silvery and in flights. Two formations of four each, a formation of three and two single 'saucers' in close proximity were described." (xx.)

(xx.) Placerville, California. *Mountain Democrat*. 6 April 50.

6 April. Ecuador. (See untranslated clipping)

Excelsior
Mexico City, Mexico
April 7 1950

Observan un Platillo Volador en Ecuador

QUITO, Ecuador, abril 6. (INS) "Ultimas Noticias", publica un despacho de su corresponsal en Cuenca, quien informa que un "platillo volador" fué observado en la región, a las dos de la tarde de hoy, por "millares de personas".

Agrega el corresponsal que el fenómeno había sido observado anteriormente en la población de Glorón, donde el misterioso aparato produjo mucho pánico.

A las tres menos 25 minutos de la tarde, el "disco derivó con rumbo sur, describiendo amplias parábolas".

que el "platillo" brillaba con intenso resplendor y que de ningún modo podía ser confundido con un planeta o un cometa.



21. März 1950, 21.45 Uhr, über dem berühmten Monumental im Arizona, USA: Die erste Aufnahme einer „fliegenden Untertasse“. Seit Wochen jagten amerikanische Düsenflugzeuge diese geheimnisvollen Himmelskörper. Einige fotografische Aufnahmen gelangen, aber sie zeigten nur die Lichtbahn der „Untertasse“ als weißes Band am nächtlichen Himmel. Diese Apparate vermögen plötzlich ihre Richtung zu verändern, sie steigen auf und weichen

aus, wenn ihnen ein anderer Himmelskörper begegnet. Im Augenblick der Richtungsänderung, die die „Tasse“ gleichsam in der Luft stillstand, „schob“ der Flaksergeant D. Ussel (13. Airborne Division) mit seiner Fernkamera nach dem fliegenden Projektil. Sekunden später, von Luftwaffen Flakraketen getroffen, zerplatzte die seltsame Scheibe in einem merkwürdigen Superfeuerwerk. Eine zwanzig silberglänzende Kapseln fielen in einem heftigen Sprühregen zur Erde.



22.10 Uhr, Meldung aus dem „Tal des Todes“: Beobachten gespenstische Formationen! Nur noch von 150 km von der Auswurfstelle des Himmelskörpers war die gesamte Bevölkerung alarmiert. Nur ein einziger Bericht gelangte an das Krisenministerium. Er lautete: Sahen zunächst blickturalde Lichter



22.10 Uhr, Meldung aus dem „Tal des Todes“: Beobachtet gegen 11.30 Uhr von 150 km von der Absturzstelle des Himmelskörpers war die gesamte Bevölkerung alarmiert. Nur ein einziger Bericht gelangte an das Kriegsministerium. Er lautete: „Sahen zunächst blickverwirrend, später dann deutlich Gestalten, die sich schelabar-rattos bewegten und merkwürdig unabsehbar dahlingsen, wie Taucher unter Wasser. Die Erscheinung hielt sich nicht. Die Gestalten löschten sich selbst aus durch einen Trick.“



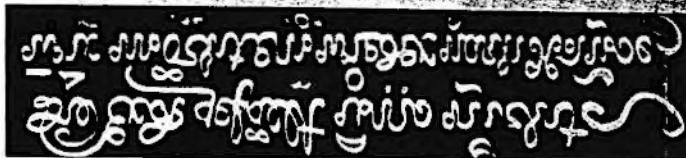
Als die silberne Kapsel zerplatzte: Der erste Mars-Mensch „gelangen“! Der Augenzeuge G-Man aus Phoenix-Arizona, McKerens, berichtet: „Ich war mit der Größe des Augenblicks bewußt: Zum erstenmal seit Bestehen des Menschengeschlechtes sah ein Erdbewohner einen Gast aus dem Weltraum! Aber ich war gleichzeitig erschüttert. Dieser Aluminium-Mensch schien von einer ungeheuren Verzweiflung erfüllt. Sein Körper trug einen glänzenden Überzug aus Metall-Folie. Die Sternwarte in Phoenix vermutet: Ziemlich gegenläufige Beobachtung.“

Die ersten
authentischen Bilder:

DER MARS- MENSCH!

Ein Sonderbericht aus der
Wüste Arizona

Welt-Copyright N



Die Wissenschaft vor neuen Rätseln: Die „Mars“-Schrift. Ent-Ciffrierer und Kode-Erfinder: Was ist ein Werk, um festzustellen, ob es sich um ein reguläres Abc oder gar um eine Spiegelschrift handelt.



Die große Überraschung: Nur 70 cm hoch... ist der Mars-Mensch. Er wurde in eine Spezial-Unterdruck-Kammer überführt. Das War-Department teilte ausdrücklich mit: Es steht in keiner Weise fest, ob das Heimatgestirn dieser Menschen der Mars ist. Fest steht nur, daß sie planetarischer Herkunft sind, also von einem anderen Planeten unseres Sonnensystems oder eines Nachbarsternes stammen. „Unsere Bilder“, fährt das Kriegsministerium fort, „sind die einzigen echten Aufnahmen, wir warnen vor billigen Fälschungen, die zurzeit sogar in der Weltpresse Eingang fanden.“

10.10.1938

6 April. Buffalo, New York. (night)

A press report states:

"Two Erie Railroad switchmen claim they saw one. One of those flying saucers. Jack Regan, 43, and Francis Fitzgerald, 41, telephoned a local newspaper office Tuesday night and said they were at work in the rail yards when they saw 'it.'

"'It went right over the railroad tracks,' said Regan. 'This isn't funny any more. There was fire coming from it, all around and around. Somebody ought to do something about this...'" (xx.)

(xx.) Pittsfield, Maine. *Berkshire Eagle*. 6 April 50.

4 May. Wild story from Ecuador. (See clipping)



BILL NELSON, 326 Bryant St., a student of Spanish at the Berlitz School, sends us a translation of a flying disc story to top all flying disc stories from La Hora, a responsible newspaper published in Quito, Ecuador. Almost incredible, the account tells of a fighting two-foot-tall figure driving the disc—a figure encased in clothes of armor or metallic cloth. Nelson sent along a clipping with his translation.

La Hora claims that a small flying disc crashed on the Laredo, Texas, Airport April 16th, mortally injuring its diminutive pilot. The story asserted that federal authorities at Laredo prevented general publication of the crash.

A director of civil aviation at Laredo is quoted as saying: "For several days the discs have been seen on both sides of the Rio Bravo. Before crashing, the disc deliberately buzzed the field at several thousand miles an hour. Then it circled the field six or seven times, each time more slowly, finally diving into the field, to narrowly miss the largest hangar.

"Following the crash, airport personnel and firemen are reported to have hurried to the scene of the wreck. From the crushed disc, measuring only a couple of yards across, they pulled the pilot, a figure not more than two feet tall. . .

"Local firemen administered oxygen and the tiny man revived suddenly and started fighting. Leaping to his feet, the paper reports, the tiny

figure jumped upwards and struck National Guard Sgt. Joe Jenn in the face, felling him. As the others drew back, the tiny man gasped for breath and fell unconscious, apparently unable to breathe our air.

"Oxygen was again administered and the visitor again came to fighting, displaying a strength that made it impossible for the guardsmen and firemen to hold him. Within seconds, he again lapsed into unconsciousness.

"Three more time they revived him only to have him fight free of the mask and restraining hands and pass out. Further attempts to revive him were without avail."

One of the police officials was quoted as saying that several men were momentarily stunned by some sort of a ray pistol at their first approach to the craft and it was taken from him when they pulled him from the wreck. It was reported that the little man weighed about 300 pounds, despite his small size and was wearing a helmet equipped with an antenna.

The disc, made of an unidentified metal, was apparently a one-man flyer. The interior of the tiny cabin or control cockpit housed only a few pieces of equipment, the paper said, adding that it was probably "their" equivalent of radio and radar.

As to means of propulsion, it was reported a series of jet openings, possibly rockets, rimmed the thin edge of the aircraft. Although La Hora did not reproduce a photograph, it reported a U. S. newspaper has a very clear picture and added for the benefit of its readers that the story was either of paramount importance or a gigantic hoax perpetrated by the other newspapers.

According to La Hora, the remains of the flyer as well as the body of the pilot were gathered up by guardsmen and police under the direction of a member of the FBI and flown to Washington.

Probably a Buffalo, New York newspaper
Year not known but the clipping was found
among 1950 material

5 August. The Canadian ship *Marcala*. (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1950 August-December*, pages 1-3)

A Wilmington, Delaware, newspaper adds some detail. The ship was from Nova Scotia, making it a Canadian vessel. The *Maracala* left Nova Scotia with a cargo of barytes and put into the Wilmington Marine Terminal after the UFO sighting. The sighting took place about 100 miles west of Five Fathom Bank Light Vessel [A ship anchored at sea to aid navigation], off the

mouth of the Delaware Bay. The Captain name was Nils Lewring and the Third Mate Osle Parson. (xx.)

(xx.) Wilmington, Delaware. *Journal-Every Evening*. 7 August 50.

14 August. Farnborough (Royal Aircraft Test Center), England. (morning)

Impressive sighting, impressive witnesses.

A story about test pilot Stan Hubbards:

"The events began on the morning of 14 August 1950, 'a lovely Hampshire summer day, warm, dry, and clear,' as Hubbard recalled. As he left the base office and walked along the airfield toward his quarters his attention was attracted by a 'strange distant humming sound' from the direction of Basingstoke. The test pilot, who was wearing sunglasses, stopped to look skywards." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.87.

Hubbards continues the story in his own words:

"The noise grew more distinct and more intense and I clearly remember pausing and turning in mid-stride to see what it could possibly be. To say that I was astonished is a profound understatement. Coming directly towards the airfield was an object entirely unlike anything I had ever seen before. Edge on, it appeared to be something like a discus we used to hurl on sports day at school, and as it came closer I could see that it was indeed very similar in shape.

"Initially it seemed that its angular altitude and attitude, above the horizon, were enough to indicate that it was well airborne...but its lack of identifying features made it difficult to classify or easily estimate either its size or distance away. It was coming straight towards me and was holding a straight course. But it was rocking laterally, gently from side to side, about 20 degrees or so...while steadily maintaining its heading. The sound emanating from this strange object increased markedly as it got closer, to a heavy, dominant humming with an associated subdued crackling-hissing sound, which reminded me strongly of the ambient noise inside a large active electrical power generating station. As the object came closer, its overall shape, more closely now resembling a sports discus, could be clearly detailed and its general outer surface could be seen to have a satiny shimmering mother-of-pearl sort of finish. As it rocked laterally back and forth I was reminded of the opposing segments of reflected light that rotate back and forth that one sees when a shiny aluminium pan lid is tilted back and forth to reflect ambient light... This object came very close, quickly passing directly overhead, and the first impressions of colour and surface finish were strongly reinforced. The exterior was almost entirely featureless except that the periphery was edged by a band of a darker colour with indistinct markings of some sort, which kept changing in appearance, but from which emanated strange bluish flickering of points of light, very much like the

little blue plumes of flame from a gas ring on a cooking stove, but turned upside down. I also got the impression that either the main body or the peripheral rim was rotating. It also seemed quite clear that the sibilant cracking-hissing sound came from this circle of flicking light; there appeared to be a definite connection and most remarkably there was a concurrent smell of ozone, that normally is associated with heavy electrical discharges, and again like the odor inside a power station.

"As the object was coming closer and then went overhead I tried to estimate its size, altitude and speed, but with the absence of any readily identifiable feature it was difficult to gauge these factors with any confidence. Taking the angle of the object above the horizon when I first observed it as a datum from which to get some idea of its height and distance away, and then connecting this with the impression as it passed overhead, I guessed that its height above the ground when first seen was probably between 700 and 1,000 feet and since it certainly seemed to maintain altitude throughout the period of my observation, I guessed that it would have travelled until it went out of sight, it must have been travelling very fast, perhaps as high as 500 to 900 knots, but there was no sense whatsoever of air disturbance due to its passing." (xx.)

(xx.) Wing Commander S.J. Hubbard, personal communication between Clarke/Roberts and Hubbard, 2 July 2001. Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002, pp.87-88.

"Did you see that awful thing?"

Clarke and Roberts, interviewing Hubbard in 2001, tells us:

"As the saucer disappeared into the distance Hubbard recalled hearing 'screaming and shouting' from the flight dispatches office nearby. A dispatcher came running towards him in a hysterical state, shouting, 'Stan, did you see that awful thing?' She was comforted by another airman but was 'extremely upset, almost irrational.'

"Soon afterwards, when Hubbard was interrogated by Scientific Intelligence officers from London, he asked whether they had spoken to the dispatcher, but they refused to answer and merely posed another question." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.89.

"Do not discuss matters with anyone."

Clarke and Roberts tells us what Hubbard remembers about the interrogation which: "...lasted two hours and ended with an order from the leader of the team 'not to discuss the matter with anyone, including my boss, and that I would be hearing from them,'" (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

15 August. Britain's "Flying Saucer Working Party."

According to authors David Clarke and Andy Roberts:

"The first mention of the Flying Saucer Working Party appears in a 'Top Secret' minute of a meeting held on 15 August 1950 in the Metropole Building, Northumberland Avenue, London. Chaired by Hugo Young, Deputy Director of Intelligence, it was attended by representatives of the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS). The technical intelligence branch of the Air Ministry was represented by Wing Commander Myles Formby, who would become a central figure in the Flying Saucer Working Party." (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. pp.77-78.

The Working Party's duty was to examine British flying saucer reports since it was felt it would be a mistake to dismiss such incidents outright. The group was also empowered to conduct interviews in the field and communicate with American Intelligence services.

15 August. The Montana UFO film case. (See the monograph *UFOs: A history 1950 August-December*, pages 6, 19, 27-31, 52. Also: *UFOs: A History 1950 August-December, Supplemental Notes*, pages 10-11)

A nagging question about this case (At least for me—L. E. Gross) was the apparent lack of attention given to Miss Virginia Raunig, the other witness to the passage of the UFOs over the city of Great Falls. The impression is that she was standing right next to Mr. Mariana. Why wasn't she really grilled about what she saw that day? Were the two objects photographed aircraft?

Tom Tulien tracked her down decades later. Her married name is Mrs. Robert Woods. She recalled the incident but refused an interview on the grounds she only got a brief glimpse of the objects before they went behind the GM elevators. She described herself as "quite young" at the time so the event had little significance to her, hence an interview would produce nothing worth while. (xx.)

(xx.) E-Mail message from "Tom [SHG] Virginia Raunig 5/11/02 PST."

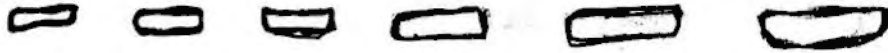
21 August. Shreveport, Louisiana. (about 9:45 a.m.)

Major Covert, Liaison Officer for Army Field Forces.

In a letter, a UFO experienced is related:

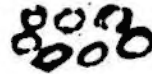
About 9:45 on Monday morning, August 21, 1950, Connie Chodister was driving his new Ford station wagon east on the Merritt Parkway. Sitting beside him was Major Covert, Liaison Officer for Army Field Forces at Sperry Gyroscope Company and I was sitting directly behind Chodister. It was a cloudless day right after a big

storm. Way down ahead of us we saw a string of smoke puffs in a straight line looking like this:



"[The puffs]...circled way back over Long Island. As we watched we saw new smoke puffs let out but could not see any plane and I said, 'they are probably having a radar test at Mitchell Field and are paying [sic] out that smoke so as to know where to focus.' As we watched the puffs, we saw whatever was making them head around parallel with the Merritt Parkway and the we saw what looked like a bunch of black mosquitoes. As we drove toward them at 55 mph they were coming towards us. Soon we saw there were seven objects and merely thought they were smoke-writing planes. Viewed through the front windshield they began to look oval sidewise and both Chodister and Covert said they didn't look like planes they'd seen. I watched them continuously for about three minutes in all and as they went by 'our beam' I saw seven completely distinct circular objects, slightly ovaled in the direction they were travelling. We all agreed that they had a black outer ring and the center was very white. The outer dark ring could have been the exhaust of ram jet helicopter blades. There was no sign of landing gear, wings, control surfaces of any kind. We watched smoke signals paid out every so often from one or the other. They kept good formation, not 'V' but close together, moving relative position slightly as they went along. They looked in size like a one inch circle drawn on a pure white ceiling with a clear blue sky background on the outside of them. The inside circle was as white as the smoke they let out—same as any smoke-writing planes. Thier proportions were like this:

(xx.)



- (xx.) Letter: To: Harrold [Harold Fulton of New Zealand?]. From: H.M. Dinkins, Jr. William M. Barrett, Inc., Giddens-Lane Building, Shreveport 4, Louisiana.
Date: 16 October 50. Photocopy in author's files. (Not sure, but this letter may have been in APRO files. I don't recall—L. E. Gross)

5 September. Farnborough (Royal Aircraft Test Center), England. (afternoon)

Test pilot Stan Hubbard, who had been one of the witnesses to the passage of a UFO over Farnborough back on August 14th, had second experience on September 5th. Authors Clarke and Roberts wrote about Hubbard's second sighting:

"On the afternoon of 5 September he [Hubbard] was standing with five other airmen on the watch-tower at Farnborough awaiting the arrival of Hawker's chief test pilot, 'Wimpy' Wade, who was to be the star of the forthcoming air display [air show]. Suddenly, and at the same moment, they all saw a strange object appear in the direction of Guildford and Farnham. The official report described it as 'a flat disc, light pearl grey in colour [and] about the size of a shirt button' [at arm's length?] They observed it follow [ing] a rectangular flight path, consisting in succession of a 'falling leaf another horizontal stretch, and so on; finally it 'dived to the horizon at great speed.'" (xx.)

- (xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*, Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.90.

Hubbard remarked about the effect the appearance of the UFO had on the people watching:

"Pandemonium! Orders being shouted—'Get a camera,' 'Get binoculars,' etc. The performance of the object was quite different from that formerly seen. From a ...fluttering, as though bordering on instability, in a hovering mode, the object would swoop off in a slight dive at incredibly high speed and in quite stable flight, then stop abruptly and go into another fluttering hover mode. This performance was repeated many times, frequently with some change of height and it appeared that all this was taking place some eight to ten miles south of us over the Farnham area. We watched these performances for over ten minutes, during which time the gathering had swelled to at least a dozen people, not one of whom had a camera...but the display had a most notable effect on my companions and, in fact, truly made my day." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Another of the witnesses, Wing Commander Frank Jolliffe, offered his comments:

"We all saw this twinkling silver object at the same instant and, as it tumbled earthwards, we were shocked to suppose it could be a cowling or some part of an aircraft that had failed in flight. Indeed, we were about to run to Air Traffic Control and have them raise a general alarm, when the object changed direction very sharply and shot skywards at very high speed. The height of the sighting was hard to assess, as was the distance...but the fact that it was there cannot be in doubt." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, pp.90-91.

Clarke and Roberts learned from Jolliffe some details of the interrogations subsequent to the sighting. According to Jolliffe, the sighting:

"...was reported to Farnborough's chief test pilot, who notified the MoD in London. Soon the team from Scientific Intelligence was travelling to Farnborough again [Having done so two weeks before to ask questions about the September 5th case]

"Jolliffe recalls how the six witnesses were all quizzed separately by 'a suit' [A man in civilian clothes] who introduced himself as a serving RAF technical officer employed in the Scientific Intelligence branch of MoD (RAF). This was Wing Commander Myles Formby, of the Flying Saucer Working Party. 'He told us that his role was to gather information and fully examine all 'UFO' sightings and he added that the Department had never had a more reliable and authentic sighting than ours,' Jolliffe said." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.91.

A problem.

According to Clarke and Roberts, Jolliffe told them:

"He had no doubts or reservations about our evidence and said that the follow-up action would be to cover the whole sector east of Farnborough bounded by the angle of the first and last sightings to discover if there were other witnesses to this phenomena. He was optimistic that there would be. Unfortunately, he reported to our chief test pilot weeks later that this was not the case." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.91.

"Oh my goodness, not you again!"

Here is Hubbard's interview experience as explained by Clark and Roberts:

"When the Scientific Intelligence team arrived to interview Hubbard, the leader exclaimed; 'Oh my goodness, not you again!' The interview followed the same pattern as before, but was shorter, as the team said they had to catch a plane to Brazil to interrogate flying saucer watchers there!" (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

The official explanation for both the August 14th and September 5th incidents, as suggested by the Scientific Intelligence team, was "mistaken identifications" of prosaic stimuli. The SI got away with it by never revealing the so-called solution to the witnesses, who, of course, had high opinions of their professional abilities. Only 50 years later when declassified files became available, did Hubbard and Jolliffe learn of the SI team's judgement. Here is Hubbard's reaction:

"I find it quite strange that so much information that we thought critically relevant at the time was not only not included but misrepresented and taken completely out of context, resulting in flawed conclusions. I am not normally given to being suspicious, but I think that perhaps this was deliberate official policy." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.93.

Clarke and Roberts also got a reaction from Jolliffe:

"The conclusions reached in the MoD reports are ludicrous. What we saw and explained clearly was an object not of aircraft shape, travelling at a speed not achievable by anything flying at the time and altering direction not in curved, sweeping maneuvers but by acute angular changes. It was not 'some quite normal aircraft'—it was not an aircraft, as we know it, at all. Wing Commander Hubbard's previous [On August 14th] sighting had no influence on any of our opinions." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

9 October. Williamstown, Vermont.
(night)

Roads clogged with 100 automobiles.
(See clipping)

Newport RI
Daily News
Oct. 10, 1950

BRIGHT OBJECTS IN SKY

Vermonters Report They May
Have Seen "Flying Saucers"

WILLIAMSTOWN Vt Oct 10 (AP)
—Take your pick!

Some observers reported two bright objects swinging in the sky Monday night appeared to be "flying saucers."

Others thought they were reflections of airport searchlights in low-hanging clouds.

A radio executive's report of the phenomena clogged roads leading to the William Flynn farm with approximately 100 automobiles.

Bob Bannon, program director of Station WSKI, Barre, broadcast the report after a member of the Flynn household telephoned him that eight members of the family were watching the objects.

Flynn described the objects as about two feet in diameter, cylindrical, with bright areas at each end. They swung back and forth about a mile in the air.

Bannon quoted Harry Martin, a World War 2 weather observer, as saying he and friends saw the objects rise suddenly once at "terrific speed."

16 October. Nashua, New Hampshire. (about 3:00 p.m.)

"Cruising crockery?"

UFOs producing smoke reminds one of the case on August 21st.

"At long last, cruising crockery has been sighted over Nashua—and flying in sets—too.

"Two groups of round, greyish objects 'the size of a person's head' and trailing thin lines of smoke were reported flying in formation high over Crown Hill shortly 3 o'clock Monday afternoon.

"The first report of 'flying saucers' over Nashua was made to the *Telegraph* newsroom by Mrs. Harriet Robbins, 39 Gillis Street who said she was telephoning in front of window at her home when she noticed what she at first thought was a moving thin cloud formation.

"When she saw the pencil-thin 'cloud' appeared to be preceded by a roundish, gray object she shouted 'flying saucers' into the phone, told her friend the approximate position, and ran outdoors to get a better look. There, she reported, four of the objects were flying abreast apparently from the direction of Ayer, Massachusetts, toward Grenier field.



We would like to know—you probably would, too! If saucers need insulating—we can insulate them.

You see, we make and sell "The PLUS Insulation"—ULTRALITE. Wherever thermal or acoustical insulation is used—ULTRALITE is different—and better, too!

ULTRALITE'S a fine glass fiber, continuous blanket heat and noise stopper that withstands the rigors of rough handling, pops easily into place, and recovers to full size and thickness, if compressed, in the "wink of an eye". You get paid-for thickness with lower applied cost.

So, if you're the builder who has us all in the air—or if you just make down-to-earth products that require better insulation, write for details and a sample. Better yet, our research engineers will be glad to make a free analysis of your product's insulation requirements. No obligation, of course.



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"She reported the objects were traveling 'right along' but nothing as fast as jet planes as they took some time to disappear from sight.

"Before returning to the house she spied a second group of five round objects, in the same formation, apparently traveling from Grenier toward Ayer, she reported." (xx.)

(xx.) Nashua, New Hampshire. *Telegraph*. October 50.

1951

1951 (no exact date) Lockport, New York. (no time)

Smoke rings.

For what it's worth, here is a letter to CSI Los Angeles:

"About a year ago I was looking out the window of my home when I saw a strange craft in the sky, about one mile away and approximately 2500 feet high. It looked like the fuselage of a B-29 stripped of any appendages and tapering to a round small tail section. From this tail small white smoke rings were blowing out every second and spaced about 10 or 20 feet apart and yet the ship itself was absolutely motionless. The body of the ship seemed built of aluminum sections and the sun reflected off it's bottom so brightly that I don't know whether or not there were any windows.

"I called my wife, a physician, to see this strange craft and we agreed that this time the Air Force really had something. Since reading the article in the April 7th [1952] *Life Magazine* we are wondering if you could shed any light on what we actually saw.

"Suddenly an enormous white smoke ring blew out of the ship with great speed and we laughed as probably anyone looking would have called it a flying saucer. However the ship itself still did not move. Eventually it slowly turned and headed for Buffalo, New York, with not a motor or propeller visible." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Edward J. Sullivan, President, Civilian Saucer Investigations.
From: Richmond Moyer, D. D. S., 37 East Avenue, Lockport, New York.
13 May 52. Photocopy in author's files.

1951 Ray Palmer.

A nice little bio of Ray Palmer, an early figure of the saucer scene, was published in a Wisconsin newspaper. (See page 41)

8 January. Sir H. Spencer Jones, Astronomer Royal.

Flying saucers are just a "myth." (See page 42)

Amherst Publisher Deals With Reality of Uncertain Things

BY DICK McDANIEL
Post-Crescent Staff Writer

AMHERST — Sometimes the line between fact and fiction is thin, but it is always interesting, or, at least, that is the premise of Raymond A. Palmer, who has built a publishing business here on happenings in the uncertain.

Palmer runs Amherst Press and publishes the magazines "Flying Saucers," "Search," "The Hidden World" and is launching a new quarterly, "Inspired Novels."

"Flying Saucers" deals with the material in the label. "Search" contains stories of unusual phenomena in scientific or spiritual realms and "The Hidden World" deals with the theory that the earth is honeycombed with caverns and people living there—fantasy treated factually.

New Quarterly
"Inspired Novels" will contain stories with a spiritual association. It presently contains Marie Corell's "Romance of Two Worlds," which deals with her predictions of electricity and electronics although the book was written in the 1870s.

Palmer, who was an editor with Ziff-Davis Publishing Co. from 1938 to 1949, explains most of the stories are written by his readers.

"Ordinary people have something to say and want to see it in print, anything from a dream come true to psychic phenomena," he says.

The Palmer story itself, is of interest. "I was unlucky enough to sell my first story when I was in high school," he recalled.

Suffered Fall

He started as a sheet metal worker in Milwaukee, but this career ended in a fall from a three-story roof. He struck and broke a two-by-four on a scaffold and landed on a pile of sand.

This mishap, however, proved the launching pad for his present career as he was confined for five years in a Milwaukee hospital.

The fall, plus the fact that he was run over by a truck when he was 7 years old, deprived him of



Raymond Palmer of Amherst examines the first pages of his new quarterly publication, "Inspired Novels." He also publishes "Flying Saucers," "The Hidden World" and "Search." They all deal with the uncertain.

physical strength, but opened the ground to help him separate facts from fantasy.

Recovering at the hospital, Palmer recalls reading between four and five books a day, delivered to the invalid department by the Milwaukee Public Library.

After tiring of novels, he started reading astrology and chemistry, physics and other science textbooks, which provided back-

Appleton, Wisconsin
Post-Crescent.
25 November 51.

received a work by Richard Shaver about the underground caverns and people living beneath the surface of the earth. "This increased the circulation of one magazine by 50,000 copies and gave Palmer the idea of entering the publishing business."

Palmer claims he predicted flying saucers four years before Kenneth Arnold, Boise, Idaho, reported his sightings.

Saucer News

The publisher's interest in flying saucers grew as newspapers reported more sightings until he launched the "Flying Saucer" magazine.

He claims that the government is trying to cover up any and all of its discoveries and "That is why I print everything I can about them."

He has been accused by the Air Force of perpetuating a hoax.

"I know flying saucers exist but I don't know what they are," he said. "Neither does the Air Force know what they are," he added.

Amherst in 1950

Palmer came to Amherst in 1950. He bought a 123-acre home with an old mill pond, which is his private lake. During the summer he opens the bathing beach to the Red Cross for swimming lessons.

He and his family, consisting of two high school aged daughters, wife and 11-year-old son, three dogs and "about 18 rabbits."

His publications reach all of the states and 21 foreign countries. He has readers in Moscow, Japan, Australia and Europe, even in the Antarctic.

His printing is done in the old grade school, where he employs three men. Some of his work is done at home.

Bristol Evening Post Monday 8th Jan 1951

OUR PAGE TWO FEATURE

You never know what tomorrow may bring!

"Natural Causes" the Likely Explanation

FLYING SAUCERS ARE JUST A "MYTH"

THE reports of mysterious saucer-like objects having been seen in the sky first began to appear about the midsummer of 1947, and have become rather numerous during the intervening three years or so. The first reports came from Idaho and seem to have spread outwards from there. Flying saucers have since been reported from many different parts of the United States, where they have created much interest and some alarm. With few exceptions they do not appear to have been seen in other parts of the world.

The descriptions of the objects became more varied as the accounts accumulated. It is quite clear that they cannot all relate to the same type of object or phenomenon. It seems to have become common in the United States to call anything seen in the sky which is at all out of the ordinary a flying saucer.

The first reports described flat saucer-like objects; others have referred to them as being heart-shaped, or as having a tail-fin. A frequent type of object is described as a giant cigar-shaped

wingless torpedo, with windows and force-cabin, bright with a weird mysterious light. Others are balloon-like objects.

Then it is said that bright white globes have been seen, which are about a foot or so in diameter; they would seem to be of a ghost-like nature, because they can collide with, and even apparently pass through, an aeroplane without producing any effect.

THE reports are noticeably discordant in their reference to the size and the speed of these objects. In size they are said to range from a few feet to about a thousand feet, and their speeds are variously reported as being from 200 to 18,000 miles per hour.

One report of a flying saucer said that it went from horizon to horizon in three seconds!

Particularly remarkable is the rapidity with which they can carry out evolutions, rush round in circles, suddenly hop upwards for thousands of feet, or dart down to the earth, nor is there any evidence that they have ever been seen to start from the ground. They disappear either into the sky or westwards over the ocean. These statements in themselves suffice to cast grave suspicion on the objective nature of the reports.

Though there can be no doubt that something lies at the basis of the reports, I have grave misgivings about the accuracy of the descriptions.

By

Sir H. Spencer Jones

the Astronomer Royal, since 1933, whose published works include "Worlds Without End" and "Life On Other Worlds."



IT is difficult for an untrained observer to describe in an accurate and reliable way something that is outside his experience. Particularly when the occurrence is of a fleeting or transient nature. And it is strange how, when one or two persons have reported seeing something unusual, many others will see—or imagine that they see—the same thing.

The reports of the Loch Ness monster provide an excellent example. There was no monster at all. The appearance was due to a meteorological phenomenon associated with the local topography, which developed under the appropriate conditions. But how detailed and objective, how almost convincing, were those reports!

As an illustration of the general unreliability of evidence I may refer to the many statements of thunderbolts having been seen to fall when a building has been struck by lightning. Yet there is no such thing as a thunderbolt.

THE only hope of getting to the bottom of the flying-saucer mystery would be to track down each report to the person with whom it originated, and to subject to a rigid cross-examination. That is unfortunately not possible. In December 1949 the U.S. Air Force issued a statement that all the reports received had been investigated, and had been disposed of as having natural causes. That statement should dispose of the widespread belief that there is something mysterious to be explained.

If flying saucers really existed, what might they be? It was suggested that they were U.S. secret weapons, pilotless planes, or guided missiles in course of trial; that has been officially denied.

Then it was suggested that they were launched by an unfriendly Power. This explanation can certainly be discarded for no such Power would disclose its own secret weapons in advance to a possible enemy. Furthermore, if they are material objects of terrestrial origin, something must sometimes go wrong, and some would come crashing down.

Those who accept the reports literally, have, therefore, had to adopt the most improbable of explanations—that they have been launched from another planet. As it is agreed that Mars is the only planet on which any sort of life can conceivably exist, it has been suggested that they have come from Mars.

WHY, then, were no flying saucers seen before the midsummer of 1947? The advocates of their Martian origin attempt to account for this by pointing out that this date followed shortly after the explosions of atomic bombs over Japan and the later experimental explosions at Bikini.

At about that time there occurred the most intense sunspot activity for more than a century; what is more natural than to assert that the atom bombs caused the sunspots? There can, of course, be no connection, but our pseudo-scientists do not bother themselves about explaining how an effect is related to its supposed cause. These people suggest that the Martians have noticed that some-

thing unusual is taking place and have realised that we here on Earth are to blame. So they have sent these objects, with observers, to have a close look at us, and to find out what we are up to. Their purpose is friendly, but there is no guarantee for the future if we persist in our evil ways.

THE reported manoeuvres of flying saucers involve accelerations so great that no human beings could stand them. This difficulty is avoided by supposing that the Martians are large insects—super-bees about two inches in length, bees having the most highly developed social organisation known to us. As the flying saucers are completely silent, they must be propelled by the use of some sort of super-energy unknown to us.

The Martian insects must be extremely competent engineers; large plants would be needed to construct these objects, capable of such great speeds and so perfect in construction that no mishap ever befalls them.

There is much of a still more fantastic nature that has been written about them. I have, perhaps given enough to indicate the absurdity of the whole thing. We know enough about the conditions on Mars to be certain that no animal life can exist on it; there can be only the most primitive type of vegetation.

WHAT, then, are flying saucers? In my opinion we must look for a natural explanation.

Some of the observations almost certainly relate to meteorological balloons, which are sent up for measuring the strength of the wind at different heights. Some may relate to meteors or to trains of fire-balls.

Reflections of sunlight from, or shadows thrown by, aircraft could explain some of the reports.

There was one occasion during the war when fighters were sent up to shoot down an object which proved to be the planet Venus!

For the most part the accounts are so vague and unsatisfactory that they are not deserving of much credibility. Natural causes will, I feel certain, account for everything when really reliable descriptions are available. Flying saucers, as such, are in fact a myth.

3 February. Independence, Iowa. (about 7:00 p.m.)

"Never heard of a meteor changing its course."

According to our source:

"A strange and eerie green light was seen descending toward the earth about 7 o'clock Saturday night. The big mystery is: What was it? County residents who saw the almost blinding green light were told later that the phenomenon was a meteor cast off from the heavens and earthward-bound.

"One local resident who saw the flash of light, Bud Rosenstiel, said he saw the green object drifting slowly to the earth. He thought possibly it was a flare dropped from an airplane whose pilot was in trouble. En route to Oelwein, he stopped his car and listened for the sound of a plane motor. He heard nothing and looked up into the sky again. Suddenly the sky seemed to be lighted up by a brilliant green flash and the object streaked northward and out of sight.

"He said he had never heard of a meteor changing its course and shooting upward as the 'green flash' did Saturday night. It appeared to him that it was something man-made." (xx.)

(xx.) Independence, Iowa. *Bulletin-Journal*. 9 February 51.

26 March. Terre Haute, Indiana. (4:45 p.m.)

"As round as any dishpan you ever saw."

(See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1951*, page 24)

(The clipping shown here replaces the less detailed account in the monograph)

June. Near Dayton, Ohio. (10:00 p.m.)

Wright-Patterson big shot sees UFO.

A letter to Ed Sullivan's CSI group reads:

"I read with interest of your investigations of 'saucers' in week's *Life* magazine. I saw such an object myself. Following are details.

"Time: 10:00 p.m. - June 1951.

"Place: Indian Ripple Road-2 to 3 miles southeast of Dayton, Ohio.

"Description: While driving west I suddenly became aware of a large blue-white light moving parallel to me. It

"Flying Saucer" Sighted By Cox Field Manager

The manager of a Terre Haute airport and another licensed pilot said today the "flying saucer" they sighted at 4:45 o'clock Monday afternoon "was not a balloon or an ordinary jet plane."

"I was always sceptical of 'saucer' reports until we saw this," said John Marcotte, head of Central Aviation Sales, which leases the airport.

Marcotte and Fred Miller, another local licensed pilot, said the speed of the object was "fantastic," that it disappeared at about a 45-degree angle as it passed north over the city and from these observations must have been traveling at near 10,000 feet altitude.

Here is Marcotte's story:

"We were sitting in the restaurant at the field, watching a B-25 moving to the southwest at about 1,000 feet. Above it we sighted this round, flat object.

"It was almost overhead. We dashed outside and saw it only a few seconds."

"We checked later with a pilot who came in from Rockford and learned that wind aloft was from the northwest, so it couldn't have been a balloon. It wasn't an ordinary jet because we have seen lots

of them. At that altitude they appear to be moving very slowly.

"If it had been under 10,000 feet we could have identified it."

Miller said the object was: "as round as any dishpan you ever saw."

"It was kind of silver in color and was shiny, but it wasn't glare reflected from the sun because the angle was wrong. We heard no sound from it, but the drone from the B-25 may have drowned it out. If it had been a jet we could have heard the rumble. If we guessed the altitude correctly it was a mighty big object. Altogether, we saw it about 20 to 25 seconds. There was no vapor trail, he reported.

Two other persons who joined the two pilots in watching the flying saucer were Mrs. Lucille Little, manager of the restaurant, and Robert B. Abolt, a bus driver for Terre Haute City Lines, Inc.

Terre Haute, Indiana
Terre Haute Tribune.
27 March 51.

was parallel and to the left at 30 to 45 degrees of elevation. I can best describe it as being similar to the flame trail from a rocket power plant. It was a clearly defined outline similar to a stubby cigar. It was much brighter at the leading end and gradually dimmer toward the trailing end. After 10 to 15 seconds, it made approximately a right angle turn, became circular and even-colored, and rapidly disappeared. I detected no trace of yellow, orange, red, or purple in the color. The speed was faster than an airplane—slower than a meteor.

"I had not been drinking, I do not drink. Also, my girl friend was with me and saw it too.

"I am a Civilian Contracting Officer for the Air Force. I have seen color movies of various rocket tests. At the time of my sighting I was Chief of the Special Projects Unit, Development Branch, Procurement Division, AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Edward J. Sullivan, President, Civilian Saucer Investigations.
From: R. C. Hemmer, 644 Bowen Street, Dayton 10, Ohio. Date: 18 April 52. Photocopy in author's files.

June 1951. British DSI/JTIC Report No.7.

According to authors Clarke and Roberts:

"In June 1951 the committee produced its final report at a joint meeting of DSI/JTIC. In attendance was a senior scientists from the [United States] CIA's Office of Scientific Intelligence, Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell. The Flying Saucer Working Party's conclusions were set out in a six-page document, DSI/JTIC Report No. 7, with the security grade 'Secret/Discreet,' one level below the highest security grade of 'Top Secret.' Its title, 'Unidentified Flying Objects,' reflected the American influence, as did its methodology, conclusions and recommendations.

"The report produced by the Working Party was the last of seven completed by the joint DSI/JTIC working parties. The previous six were all concerned with Soviet technical developments...

"Copies of the report were circulated within the MoD and to intelligence agencies in the USA and Canada." (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.80.

Conclusions:

"The final report submitted to the DSI and CIA admits that the team had not attempted any form of systematic investigation of all the evidence presented, but could not see any reason why simple explanations could not be found for the majority of sightings." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.85.

1 June. Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. (3:15 p.m.)

A picture of a UFO? (See clipping)

26 June. British Working party dissolved.

According to Clarke and Roberts:

"G. Turney of the DSI, who chaired the meeting at which Report No.7 was presented to the DSI and CIA, said that it 'should be regarded as a final report...and in view of the conclusions reached...[the Working Part] should now be dissolved.'

"Significantly, in view of the CIA presence at the meeting, Turney went on to add, 'Following the lead given by the Americans on this subject, the Report should...have as little publicity as possible and outside circulation should be confined to one copy to Sir Henry Tizard. On 26 June 1951 a copy of Report No.7 was forwarded by Dr. Bertie Blount to Tizard. 'This is the report on 'Flying Saucers' for which you asked,' he wrote, 'I hope that it will serve its purpose.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.96.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A SCIENCE fiction magazine, intent upon discovering whether New Yorkers are as alert and observant as they're cracked up to be, sent a stooge parading through the streets recently as a "man from Mars." His face was painted green, he wore a bright silver helmet that mounted a miniature gun on top, and he had a big flying saucer insignia on his chest.

Only eight people in two miles stopped to ask who he was. When he replied, "I'm from Mars," seven said, "Oh" and passed on. The eighth persisted, "What are you advertising?"



This Clipping From
LA SALLE, ILL.
NEWS-TRIBUNE

JUL 30 1952

Photographer Got Picture of Saucer

CULVER CITY, CALIF. -- (UP) -- Alan Dumas, a former air force photographer, said today that while stationed at Scott Field, Ill., a year ago he took a picture of a "flying saucer" that looked like "two straw hats pasted together brim to brim."

Dumas disclosed that he took the picture June 1, 1951, at 3:15 p.m. He said the object zoomed out of the north, did a flip above the airport and sped off to the east.

Dumas, a former Pfc, said the flight from horizon to horizon lasted "no more than 20 seconds." He said the object also was seen by airmen in the field's control tower.

He happened to be aboard a plane in flight with a camera when the object crossed the sky, and got a quick shot of it.

The sighting was reported to intelligence at Scott air force base, he said, but was explained as possibly a "weather balloon or a conventional jet plane."

30 June. "Man from Mars" visits New York City (See clipping)

Traverse City, Mi
Record Eagle
June 30 1951

4 July. Yuma County, Arizona. (about 4:00 p.m.)

Several portholes.

According to our source:

"A very sincere friend who is well known as the "Desert Traveler" saw a flying saucer on July 4, 1951. He was in the Plomora Mountains of Yuma County, Arizona, to take pictures of the Big Horn Sheep that live there.

"He had climbed to the highest peak of the mountain range and was watching a band of Big Horn Sheep that had been to Dripping Springs nearby for water and shade. They were returning to the high country to feed and bed down for the night.

"About 4 p.m. as my friend sat under an overhanging ledge of rock, facing the east, he was startled by a loud noise directly overhead. He saw a disk-shaped object, not more than 50 feet above him, traveling at terrific speed.

"It was shiny and almost flat, with an edge perhaps two feet thick. As it passed my friend saw a tub-like affair with several portholes or windows, almost six by eight feet in size, and not revolving. The saucer itself was about 20 feet in diameter.

"The saucer went in the direction of Dripping Springs and seemed to hover there for a short time. Then it accelerated and disappeared.

"The "Desert Traveler" told me he would have made a report of the incident at the time but thought people would not believe him. He has given me permission to send this account of the saucer." (xx.)

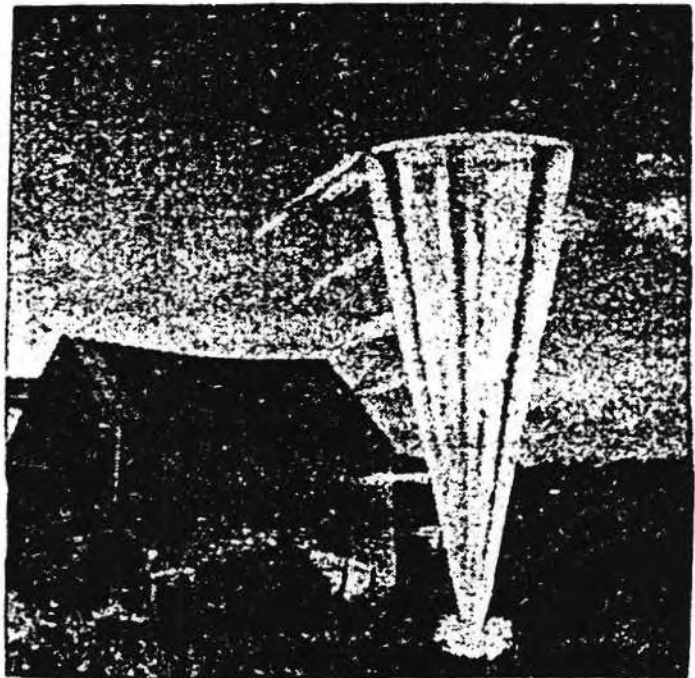
(xx.) Edna A. Ward, Los Angeles,
California. *Fate*. July 1954.
(no page number available)

Last week in August. Rowley,
Massachusetts.
(10:00 p.m.)

Shaft of light extending from a 50-foot disc.

Our source states:

"Hazel Bradstreet was on her way home from the center of town. The time 10 PM. Along the road to the house she lives in, are two or three open fields with a house and barn separating them. The barn is an important factor, as it the means of determining the size of the object. As she came to the beginning of This half-mile-long section, a bright



A FLYING SAUCER as reconstructed by Charlie Hyde in the same picture that Mrs. Hazel Bradstreet of Rowley claims to have seen it. A number of Lynn residents have also reported seeing "saucers," according to the accompanying article.

light attracted her attention. It was a shaft of light extending down from a large glowing 50-foot disc, that was silently sailing through the air at an altitude of 150 feet. The light, 'about the brightness of an electric bulb,' was shaped like an ice cream cone, its point sweeping along the ground. The top, brighter than the tapered shaft of light it threw down, was nearly flat.

"The saucer followed a course parallel to the road, but had a slight wobbling motion, not unlike a scaled [?] pie-plate. According to Mrs. Bradstreet, it took approximately two minutes to traverse the half-mile distance, and coming to the pastures' end, it swept up and over the bordering trees, continuing upwards until it disappeared from sight.

"As it neared the trees, she was joined by her daughters, Betty and Mona, who saw it finish its flight. It passed within 100 yards of Mrs. Bradstreet." (xx.)

(xx.) Lynn, Massachusetts. *Item.* 11 September 52.

? October, 1951. New Castle County Air Base, Delaware.

Missing UFO file?

In the early 1950s the New Castle County Air Base in Delaware was a key installation for jet operations. By 1957 the Air force announced its military interceptors based at the field would be moved elsewhere. A reporter for the local paper, David D. Preston, wrote three long articles recalling the activities at New Castle the over years. Originally a big WWII military airdrome, the War Assets Administration turned the surplus property over to the county in May of 1949, but the Pentagon reactivated the facility with the advent of the Korean war.

Preston noted how the enlisted men had held an annual Christmas party for crippled children and donated their time and talents to various other projects that benefited the community.

In his articles, Preston also listed the different base commanders and units that been assigned to New Castle from 1950 to 1957. For some odd reason, New Castles' participation in the famous July 1952 Washington D.C. UFO flap was not mentioned!

In any case, the subject of "mystery objects" did appear in the first of Preston's three articles:

"Early in 1951, the 113th Fighter Interceptor Wing of the District of Columbia National Guard was federalized, and assigned to the New Castle County Airport, and the Air Force was in full-time business at the base.

"Col. Laidler M. McCall of Washington was the first commander, and was succeeded for a time by Lt. Col. J. Rose Adams, Jr. of Wilmington.

"On June 14, 1951, the Second Tow Target Squadron as assigned there, and the training facilities at the base increased considerably.

"At about that time, Col. Melvin C. Garlow, an old-time air mail pilot who spent his younger years navigating by railroad tracks, was assigned as base commander, also briefly, and became the author of the remark, in an interview, that 'a jet is an old man's airplane.'

"In October, 1951, Col. George R. Greene, Jr., now a brigadier general, took over, and for the next few months, under this colorful energetic officer the base was transformed from a loose-joined growing-pains operation to a well-oiled jet interceptor base.

"It was during Colonel Greene's administration that the base got its first national notice when four veteran jet pilots, not normally subject to hallucinations, reported that they had sighted and chased an 'unidentified flying object,' which with great speed eluded them and vanished almost straight upwards.

"They made their report at Westover Hills where they put in after chasing the object, and the public information officer there put out their story. By the next day, no one in the Air Force could remember anything about such a release, the pilots in question were incommunicado for several days, and soon transferred elsewhere.

"Early in 1952, the wing's...[rest of article not pertinent]" (xx.)

- (xx.) Preston, David D. "Removal of Air Force Jet Operation Ends Colorful Period in Area History." Wilmington, Delaware. *Journal-Every Evening*. 22 October 57. (No such case found in BLUE BOOK files)

1952

21 February. Congress, Korea, and UFOs.

A press report states:

"Flying saucers—Congressmen turned their backs on the latest 'flying saucer' report from Korea. A member of the house armed services committee suggested that the air force investigate the reports and said 'we wouldn't touch it with a 10-foot pole.' A spokesman for the senate armed services committee echoed this sentiment by saying: 'Don't ask us to take a stand on flying saucers in election year.'" (xx.)

- (xx.) Traverse City, Michigan. *Record Eagle*. 21 February 52.

17 April. Air Defense Command.

"Special Alert."

A press report states:

"All agencies of the nation's military establishment were placed on special readiness yesterday because of a 'pattern of unknowns which appeared potentially dangerous,' the Air Defense Command said today.

"In a statement issued through the Eastern Defense Command headquarters at Stewart Field, the Air Defense Command said: 'Our detection system developed a pattern of unknowns in both the Northeast and Northwest which appeared potentially dangerous. We alerted all agencies of the national military establishment until the unknowns were identified, after which the period of special readiness was called off.

" 'It would be an error to say that such an alert is not unusual. However, it is the function that the Air Defense Command was organized to perform.

"The Air Defense Command declined to elaborate upon its statement or situation which caused the 'period of special readiness.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Newburgh, N.Y. April 18. (AP)

27 April. Chloride, New Mexico. (2:30 a.m. M.S.T.)

Zig-zag course.

In a letter to George Fawcett, the following story was told:

"I do have knowledge of one report which has never been published and which might interest you. The observer was a Mr. Raymond Schmidt, Chloride, New Mexico. Chloride is a small and largely abandoned mining town in the foothills of the Black Mountains at an elevation of about 6,500 feet. Mr. Schmidt has a good knowledge of the sky and possesses one of the largest telescopes in New Mexico. The observation in question was made by chance on April 27, 1952 at 2:30 a.m., MST. being awakened and looking out of the east window of his cabin toward the constellation Cygnus, Mr. Schmidt saw a pale green light about half the diameter of the moon. It approached him rapidly—he emphasizes that he means precisely that—and in half a second it had increased in angular diameter to two full moons. It was now seen to be composed of six or more lights appearing completely detached from each other. The lights now suddenly took off on a zigzag course to the southwest and covered 20 or 30 degrees of sky in half a second or less. There was no noise or change in color. As regards the lack of noise, it should be pointed out that in the small village of Chloride all artificial sounds would be absent at the morning hour of this observation." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: George D. Fawcett, Spray, North Carolina. From: Walter H. Haas, Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, 1203 North Alameda Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico. Date: 18 November 52. Photocopy in author's files.

29 April. Air Force Special Study Group.

"The Air Force cannot assume that flying saucers are of non-terrestrial origin, and hence, they could be Soviet." (Military statement classified SECRET)

Once again, it must be pointed out declassified documents show that the military's real thoughts about the flying saucer problem were not reflected in public information releases. (See pages 50-55. Document provided by Jan Aldrich)

1 May. Lt. Col. Sterling, Special Projects Officer.

"It is hoped that some much needed light can be shed on the vexing 'flying saucer' problem."

A letter to Col. Burgess of the Air Defense Command. (See pages 56-57)

SECURITY INFORMATION

AFM-X(SG)

29 Apr 1952

29 Apr 52

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To justify a request for temporary duty for Lt. Col. Sterling, Chief, Special Study Group, and Dr. Possony, Air Intelligence Specialist, GS-15, in Europe for a period of approximately five weeks commencing 15 May 1952.

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. The effectiveness of the USAF is dependent upon proper anticipation of future enemy weapons programs. At present, the USAF has a development program ranging from jet bombers via sub-sonic and super-sonic guided missiles to the Atlas ballistic missile. There is, however, no tenable and convincing estimate of future Russian delivery systems, particularly those missiles of super-sonic speed. Moreover, current estimates do not reflect the possibility that the Russians may have overtaken the U.S. in advanced guided missile research and development. Further, estimates do not devote proper attention to the historical fact that technology presently is under the impact of a very considerable acceleration. This upswing of progress tends to telescope technological accomplishments into far shorter periods than required for accomplishments of analogous magnitude at an earlier time.

3. The Special Study Group has undertaken a comprehensive study of Russian capabilities in the field of advanced aerial delivery systems. This study is expected to determine the nature of such systems, their strategic implications, and probable time tables as to development and operational availability. As an important side product, it is hoped that some much needed light can be shed on the vexing "flying saucer" problem.

4. According to present plans, the study consists of the following broad categories: Advanced jet bombers of conventional configuration; ballistic and glide type missiles, as well as manned aircraft of unconventional design; orbital missile (including the Sanger global range bombing system) and orbital bombing platforms, and flying saucers.

5. In connection with flying saucers, the Group is attempting to develop a proper framework for fruitful analysis. The Air Force cannot assume that flying saucers are of terrestrial origin, and hence, they could be Soviet.

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[REDACTED]
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6. Two examples are given to support this hypothesis: A U.S. Naval officer, tracking by means of a theodolite, ascribed to a saucer an altitude of 56 miles, a horizontal velocity of about 8,000 meters (5 miles) per second and a climb of 4,400 meters (2.7 miles) per second. It frequently has been stated that such velocities cannot be produced on earth. Such a statement is correct insofar as our present engineering skills go, but it appears incorrect with respect to theoretical knowledge. There are several propulsion methods by which, provided the engineering problems are solved, such speeds could be attained. For example, beryllium oxidized by ozone, liquid hydrogen enriched by stable hydrogen atoms, a gas consisting of pure hydrogen atoms, and ionized substances are possible fuels for ultra high-speed engines. The fact must be stressed that the speed recorded by the theodolite is slightly higher than the speed required for the escape from the gravitational pull of the earth.

7. In addition, discussion with astronomers have produced an argument which seems to exclude extra-terrestrial origin of the saucer. An object travelling at the speed of light and coming from outside our planetary system would be ascertained by the "astronomical patrol" (daily photographs of the skies) at least four years in advance. According to the astronomers, there is no possibility of failure.

8. If the objects were from either Mars or Venus, our two next neighbors, the maximum theoretical speed would be 13,250 miles/second, or a travel time of less than an hour from the planet to the earth. Such speeds probably are impossible over "short distances", and would require such hard braking that the objects still would be sighted. Rather than flying directly to the earth, it is likely that a missile from an adjacent planet would assume an orbital path before entering the earth's atmosphere. Thus, there would be a high degree of probability that the missile would be located. Last but not least, the inhabitants of the space missile undoubtedly would have acquired the capability to fly to the earth long before they were able to reach the above "fantastic speeds. It therefore, would be logical to assume that some contacts previously would have been made.

9. Calculations have been made on the basis of a speed of 6 to 13 miles/second, in which case a trip from either Mars or Venus would take from one to five months. If so, the ships probably would be observed. On the basis of present theoretical knowledge, then, it is estimated that the first trips from earth to Mars and Venus would require 266 and 146 days, respectively. Since spaceships would possess considerable albedo (reflectivity), the possibility of extra-terrestrial visitors escaping astronomical detection is highly doubtful.

10. The working hypothesis that the saucers are of Soviet origin

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[REDACTED]

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has not been adopted to preclude other assumptions. There is need for formulating all hypotheses which could be used as basis of proper intelligence programs. To date, the Special Study Group has uncovered several significant leads. These leads, coupled with the data of the Air Technical Intelligence Center concerning Soviet progress in the design of missile engines, definitely underscore the immediate requirement for a thorough investigation of Russian capabilities in this field.

11. These leads include:

a. The world-renowned Russian scientist, Constantine E. Tsiolkovski, undertook initial investigations in the field of high altitude and interplanetary flying and correctly anticipated the need for rocket propulsion.

b. Under Tsiolkovski's influence, the Soviets in April 1924, founded an organization for the development of rockets, and concurrently, a society for interplanetary travel. These organizations were attached to the then Military Air Academy and included a committee charged with the study of the military implications of these matters. In 1928, it was decided to publish a 12-volume encyclopedia dealing with rocketry and interplanetary problems. This encyclopedia has not yet been found in the Library of Congress. Also in 1928, the first experimental flights were scheduled. Nothing is known to have been published about the results.

c. About the same time, Tsiolkovski evinced a strong interest in circular, hyperbolic, and spherical airframes. The Germans were so impressed with this development that they initiated wind tunnel tests in the early thirties. These experiments influenced the development of some of their tail-less designs.

d. In the United States, a patent for a flying saucer with a circular fixed wing was taken out on 22 March 1932.

e. The saucer sightings in the U.S. tend to cluster around key development stations such as atomic plants, guided missile experimental areas, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. It must be remembered that the first sightings were made over Scandinavia, and in the U.S., over the Northwest. This would be in line with a hypothetical range extension from Soviet bases.

f. There is a Wringer report that a circular object somewhat resembling a flying saucer was sighted in the general vicinity of [REDACTED]

g. The Russian magazine RED FLEET, on 12 October 1951, announced that the Soviet Union is planning to build a "moon rocket", with a weight

[REDACTED]

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of 1,000 tons, a length of 195 feet, and a total of 20 engines. Such a rocket would require a thrust of about 2,500 tons in order to be operational. Thus, these data are not in contradiction with our intelligence concerning a Soviet 125 ton thrust engine (20 times 125 equals 2500 tons). If on the other hand, 1,000 tons represent empty weight, the total weight would be about 8,000 tons, and thus be somewhat larger than the missile which, according to Dr. Von Braun, the German rocket scientist, would be required for the establishment of an orbit. If so, the required thrust would be about 16,000 tons. It would follow that the required engine would require a thrust of 800 tons.

h. While it is difficult to believe that the U.S. and its Allies would not have received information about a Soviet flying saucer program, it must be kept in mind 1) that information has not been screened as to possible component analysis, and 2) [REDACTED]

It

is emphasized that the German Peenemunde program had reached advanced development with the A-9 missile which, with the A-10, was a two-stage development rocket with an anticipated range of 3100 miles, and a velocity of 9100 feet per second. Peenemunde had projected an A-11 missile (three stages with 1,700 tons base thrust) and an A-12, which was to be a satellite missile.

12. At present, in Europe, and to a far lesser extent, in America, a very vigorous scientific literature dealing with advanced flying techniques is developing. A great deal of theoretical work is devoted to the finding of new sources of energy. In this connection, it is well worth remembering that the world's only solar power institute is at Tashkent, USSR. This institute operates with a high degree of security, as do, incidentally, Russian efforts in the field of cosmic rays.

13. In the past, major contributions in the development of rockets have been made by Germans. Once again, in their rocket and interplanetary societies, the Germans are concerned with future guided missiles and advanced delivery systems as end products of studies involving research into orbital and inter-stellar devices. The European theoretical work is making very rapid progress, and is strongly reminiscent of the period before World War II, which culminated in the development of atomic power. Not the least significant aspect is that theories have arisen which challenge some of the accepted dogmas of modern physics, e.g., that velocity of light is the greatest speed which ever can be reached. Of greatest importance to the Air Force are the attempts to reformulate the theory of gravitation.

[REDACTED]
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14. The theoretical work discussed above has been organized in various European societies and is documented in special scientific magazines of high caliber. The pertinent societies in this field have been holding national and international congresses, and have initiated an international federation. It is interesting to note that the chief French organizer and promoter of the international rocket-interplanetary federation idea is a Russian born Frenchman, who, according to some reports, may be working closely with the Soviets. There are other cases, especially among British scientists, of crypto-Communists being active in this field. Indications are, therefore, that the Soviets may have established an arrangement which will permit them to obtain information, as well as to pervert thinking in this field. Such actions would be in accordance with the established Soviet technique of "legal" espionage.

15. Nothing in this argument is designed to brush over the improbability that the Russians have reached such a considerable lead over the U.S. In order to fly saucers over the U.S., the Soviets would have to be at least 20 years ahead of us. They would have attained such superiority by keeping a large-scale development in complete isolation, even during the past war. While the Special Study Group feels that the above analysis has narrowed the problem, there is no solution yet and of course, the saucers still may prove to be natural phenomena. It is felt, however, that investigation along the suggested lines will contribute considerably to the knowledge of the long-range Soviet strategic missile program.

16. The above summary, extensive though it is, does not purport to present a complete or integrated picture. It is designed merely to suggest the complexity of the problem. The Special Study Group feels that at this stage its work could be greatly enhanced if contacts could be made with members of those scientific circles in Europe which have and are making substantial contributions in the field of aeronautics.*

17. Discussions with European scientists would be supplemented by first-hand talks with Winger and ATLO personnel, as well as with Air Attaches and the British Joint Intelligence Bureau. Moreover,

*This idea was discussed with Col. Frank Dunn, Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, who agrees that such contacts would be extremely timely and useful. The Special Study Group also discussed the merit of such a proposal with Professor C.J. Pearce, ATIC's chief scientific advisor in Europe, during his recent visit to the U.S. Professor Pearce believes that a systematic survey of this entire field is imperative. He has stated that he would be able to secure the necessary contacts.

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attempts will be made to determine the status of reported European sightings. As a result, it may be possible to determine whether the present fact-finding saucer project, which is operating throughout the U.S., should be expanded to other countries.

CONCLUSIONS:

18. The work of the Special Study Group in the field of advanced delivery system has reached a point where further progress undoubtedly would be greatly increased by a carefully planned program of contacts in Europe.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

19. That Lt. Col. Sterling and Dr. Fossony be authorized to travel to Western Europe for a period of approximately five weeks. Specific authority is requested to visit at least the following organizations:

Hqs. USAFE, Wiesbaden, Germany
Air Section, USFA, Salzburg, Austria
Allied Air Forces, Central Europe, Fontainebleau, France
Commander Southern Forces, NATO, Naples, Italy
Joint Intelligence Bureau, London, United Kingdom

COORDINATION:

AFOIN-X(SG), Ext. 76674 *es.*
AFOIN-3, Gen. Garland, Ext. 52542 *Garland*
AFOIN-X, Col. Kieling, Ext. 54738 *Kieling*

SECURITY INFORMATION

AFOIN-SSG

LtColSterling, #76674

w/1 May 52

AUTH CS, USAF

1 May 52

2 MAY 1952

Col. W. Burgess
Headquarters, Air Defense Command
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Dear Col. Burgess:

I wish to express my appreciation for your recent letter requesting my assignment to your staff as Special Projects Officer. I am extremely interested in Air Defense problems, and have discussed possible assignment to ADC with General Garland. We shall be unable to get a suitable replacement to serve as Chairman, Special Study Group, until approximately 15 August 1952. General Garland has agreed to release me at that time.

By 15 August 1952, Dr. Posseny and I expect to complete a project dealing with possible advanced aerial delivery systems and related problems involving air defense. Briefly, the project is as follows:

a. The effectiveness of the USAF, particularly in Air Defense, is dependent upon proper anticipation of future enemy weapons programs. At present, the USAF has a development program ranging from jet bombers via sub-sonic and super-sonic guided missiles to the Atlas ballistic missile.

b. The Special Study Group has undertaken a comprehensive study of Soviet capabilities in the field of advanced aerial delivery systems. This study is expected to determine the possible nature of such systems, their strategic implications, and probable timetables as to development and operational availability. As an important side product, it is hoped that some much needed light can be shed on the vexing "flying saucer" problem.

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given to H/R
1 May 52

[REDACTED]
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c. According to present plans, the study will consist of the following broad categories: Advanced jet bombers of conventional configuration; ballistic and glide type missiles, as well as manned aircraft of unconventional design; orbital missiles (including the Sanger global range bombing system) and orbital bombing platforms, and flying saucers.

[REDACTED]

I sincerely hope that you will be able to hold the position of Special Projects Officer open until my release on or about 15 August 1952. There is some possibility, however, that Personnel will frown on the 21 assignment because of my eligibility for overseas assignment. It is hoped that we shall be able to overcome that obstacle when the time comes.

Sincerely,

EDWIN L. STERLING
Lt. Col., USAF

No M/R necessary.

[REDACTED]
SECURITY INFORMATION

7? May. Ft. Bliss, Texas. (about 6:15 p.m.)

Circled the summit of the mountain.

According to a story in a Columbus newspaper:

"About May 7, 1952, at about 6:15 p.m. a ball of fire came from a southerly direction and passed low over Ft. Bliss. It then circled the summit of Franklin Mountain adjacent to the fort and disappeared into Mexico again.

"I did not observe this object but several of my friends here did and I can vouch for their veracity." (xx.)

(xx.) Lt. Harold E. McDowell, A.A. and G.M. Br. T.A.S. No.5, Ft. Bliss, Texas. Columbus, Ohio. *Columbus Star*. 28 June 52.

10 May. Ft. Bliss, Texas. (2:15 p.m.)

Hovering disc-like object.

Another story in the same newspaper tells us: "...on May 10, 1952, at 2:15 p.m., Warrant Officer Charles Vimmerstedt and myself observed a disc-like object hovering high over Ft. Bliss for about two minutes. It then vanished, in what direction we couldn't tell." (xx.)

(xx.) Lt. Harold E. McDowell, A.A. and G.M. Br. T.A.S. No.5, Ft. Bliss, Texas. Columbus, Ohio. *Columbus Star*. 28 June 1952.

20 May. Houston, Texas. (10:10 p.m.)

"That's sliding along pretty fast. A jet's speed is 600 mph."

A report in a Houston paper said:

"Was a flying saucer over Houston last night? Two veteran Air Force pilots saw an eerie, orange-colored object in the southeast skies and one of them thinks it was one of those aerial phenomena which have had scientists baffled for two years.

" 'It was moving faster than a jet plane,' said Capt. J. E. Spurgin, 31-year-old Ellington Air Force Base officer who lives at 2118 Telephone [Street?].

" 'That's sliding along pretty fast. A jet's speed is 600 mph.'

"Capt. Spurgin said he was standing in the front yard of Capt. Billy W. Stephan's home at 7416 Stanwick in Greenway Park Addition about two miles north of Municipal Airport at 10:10 p.m.

" 'We had just finished taking some sights on stars as part of our work at Ellington Field navigation school,' Capt. Spurgin said.

" 'We saw the object about 30 or 35 degrees above the horizon in the southeast. It moved directly overhead in a northwesterly direction and disappeared in the north.

" 'We watched it about a minute. It didn't make any noise.

" 'It looked to me like what people say is a flying saucer. But I couldn't be sure.'

"He said in 10 years of flying he's seen plenty of planes and it was not an aircraft. Neither was it a comet, because it had no tail nor a star and it moved too fast, Capt. Spurgin said.

"Capt. Stephan's wife said her husband called her outside to watch the strange object.

"I got an awfully peculiar sensation watching it," Mrs. Stephan said.

"She said her husband plans to report the object to Air Force authorities."

(xx.)

(xx.) Houston, Texas. *Press*. 21 May 52.

25 May. American Folklore (Or why I have doubts about 1890s airship reports—L.E. Gross)
(See clipping below)

This Clipping From
LOS ANGELES, CAL.
TIMES

MAY 25 1954

UCLA PARLEY

Sky Saucers Made Part of Folklore

You may never see a flying saucer—nor even a purple cow, but they are now a part of folklore.

Like the Loch Ness monster, pseudoscience is ever with us. It played an important role in western folklore. And men, seeking to preserve these things, recalled them yesterday at the California Folklore Conference, UCLA.

A rich source of flavorful scientific fancies are the early newspaper files of the State, declared Henry Winfield Splitter of Venice.

Tell of Monsters

They tell of strange animals or plants, or monsters being found—and like the flying saucers, reputable witnesses are cited as having seen them.

"Remarkable showers are eluted," said Splitter, "of mud it may be, of fish, or even of macerated flesh."

The news files disclosed tales told of a miniature mountain being found—all of soap. A mine of molasses and a chicken-soup well aroused comment, the researcher said.

'Death Valley Dinosaur'

He found stories of magnetic caves that snatch picks from the hands of unwary explorers, bottomless lakes being discovered, of a live dinosaur grazing mildly on sagebrush—in Death Valley in 1892.

"Who are we," Splitter asked, "to shrug off these marvels lightly?"

The very existence of the dinosaur in Death Valley in 1892 is verified in a report from a representative of the Royal Academy of Sciences, London, he points out. The scientist happened to be in the area on a geological investigation . . .

Truth? Fiction?

Cowboys to Scene

Later news stories told of cowboys riding up from Daggett, equipped with stout rifles, intent on lassoing the monster.

A year earlier, the papers reported, a pair of pterodactyls, an ancient fossil bird with jaws toothed like a saw, were seen in flight over Fresno, said Splitter.

A biology teacher in Selma observed the flight and brought in a footprint of the bird "impressed plainly upon a segment of half-dried mud."

And there was the winged alligator of Tombstone, Ariz., seen by two ranchers, with a wing spread of 160 feet—a head 8 feet long and a giant tail.

Imagination? Potent brew?

Gain in Retelling

The stories remain, are often retold. They gain in the telling, to be sure, but researchers agree there may be present a germ of truth—perhaps.

The tales of "science" range from fish flowing from artesian wells of scalding water somewhere in Plumas County; of marvelous and hitherto unknown plants being found when Temple St. was graded in 1876; of spirit faces appearing mysteriously upon window panes of a dentist's office in Santa Ana . . . "Pseudo-science" . . . is not folk humor," says Splitter. "It is not blind credulity. It is the groping of more or less untutored minds toward the truth of life, toward the gradual understanding of its still unfathomed mysteries."

Dr. Arlt Presides

Dr. Gustave D. Arlt, associate dean of the graduate division at UCLA, presided.

In an earlier address, Dr. James N. Tidwell, professor of English at San Diego State College, discussed the use of card-playing terms in politics—from the New Deal, which he traced to the Jackson era, to other poker phrases which have become part of our political language: stand pat, square deal, poker cabinet.

7 June. Alliance, Ohio. (between 11:00 and 11:15 p.m. EDT)

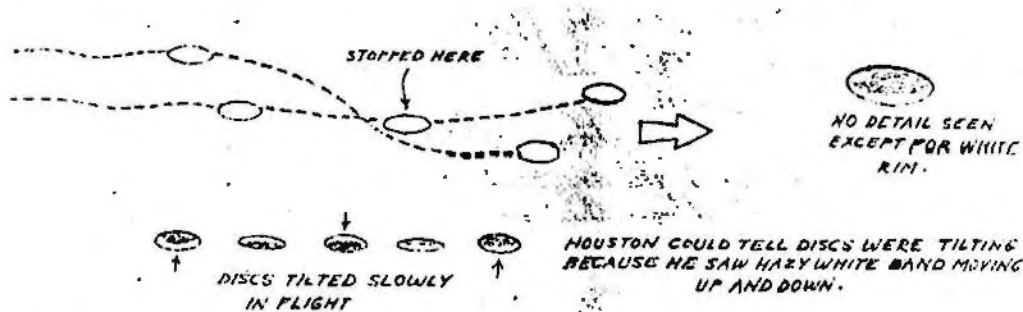
Tilted in a wobbling flight.

A letter to Coral Lorenzen said:

"[The sighting]...took place in Alliance, Ohio, on June 7, 1952, between 11 and 11:15 P.M. (EDT). Bill Houston, who lives just five houses up the street, and two of his friends were the observers. Bill is interested in astronomy and the saucers and has a Skyscope like mine. I did not know of his sighting until almost a year later. He kept a detailed description in his diary.

"Houston and his two pals were walking along a path by the lake at the Alliance Country Club. There was a clear, moonlit (full moon) sky. All at once they saw two (solid) discs in the eastern sky, moving north to south. The objects, each pale green in color with a hazy white rim, slowly tilted in a wobbling flight. One stopped several seconds, as if to let others catch up, then resumed flight. The saucers disappeared behind treetops in the foreground." (xx.) (See drawing below)

(xx.) Letter: To: Coral Lorenzen. From: Walter N. Webb, 2820 West Seneca Avenue, Alliance, Ohio. 15 October 54. Photocopy in author's files.



8 June. Ogden, Utah. (evening)

Discs with silver edges.

The local paper printed:

"A belated report also came from Lewis B. West, 516 6th Street.

"He said he and his brother, Grant West, on June 8 in the evening watched 'two gray metallic discs with silver edges' on the western horizon.

" 'They seemed to hover over the mountains, then would dart away and back at terrific speed.'

"West said he didn't immediately report his observations because he feared ridicule, but after reading so many saucer reports in the papers decided to call *The Standard-Examiner*." (xx.)

(xx.) Ogden, Utah. *Standard-Examiner*. 29 July 52.

21 June. Goose Air Base, Labrador, Canada. (no time)

Military records state:

"...on 21 June, another unidentified aerial object was sighted at Goose Air Base by an officer of the 373rd, Major Port. The object, described as disk-shaped, was traveling at a very slow rate of speed. No sound was audible as it gradually gained altitude. It was first observed at an altitude of about 1,000 feet moving from north to south. The object appeared white in color, and the light seemed to radiate from it. The object was visually observed for about five minutes." (xx.)

(xx.) *History of the Northeast Air Command*. 1 January 1952 – 30 June 1952. RCS 1-AF-D2A. Prepared by the Historical Branch of the Air Adjutant General's Office. Captain Daniel D. Brown, Historian. pp.141-142. Photocopy in author's files.

26 June. Padloping Island, Canada. (no time) (Padloping is off the coast of the much larger Baffin Island, just above the Arctic Circle)

Weather observers observe UFO.

Military records state:

"The weather station at Padloping Island, 67 degrees, 30 minutes North, 62 degrees, 44 minutes West, reported on 26 June the sighting of an unconventional flying object. The object was first noticed when it entered a weather observer's field of vision as he was tracking a pibal balloon with a theodolite (a telescopic instrument used to measure horizontal and vertical angles). The object was silver and of peculiar shape; it was alternately described as elliptically-shaped, pear-shaped and oblong and flat. The object was seen by three members of the weather station and viewed through the theodolite for approximately five minutes." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.142.

11 July. Blackwell, Oklahoma. (no time)

"Almost faster than the human eye can follow."

A press account tells us:

"A flying silver-colored object with speed and maneuverability 'greater than any plane' was described by Guy Willard, Virgil Dunkin and Alfred Lutz, employees of Cities Service Gas Co., as moving around in the sky above Blackwell on July 11 almost faster than the human eye could follow. All the men agreed that there was no smoke, noise or vapor trail observed and said that the object was disc-shaped, encircled by a dark ring." (xx.)

(xx.) Tulsa, Oklahoma. *World*. 15 August 52.

12 July. Winona, Illinois. (Almost dusk)

A local paper published:

"A Manhattan man who recently went east on his vacation, included a look at a flying saucer among the many points of interest he visted.

"Percy De Puy, 1725 Leavenworth, was visiting his son, a Winona, Ill., veterinarian, while he was vaccinating calves on a farm about 100 miles from Chicago. It was almost dusk when they looked up to see what De Puy described as 'a big yellow ball of fire' coming towards them from the east.

"De Puy said the yellow ball seemed to go straight up into the air when it got overhead.

"It happened July 12, just a little more than a week before the Air Force first reported sighting unknown objects on radar." (xx.)

(xx.) Manhattan, Kansas. *Chronicle*. 29 July 52.

14 July. Near Crookston, Minnesota. (about 11:30 a.m.)

Moved with tremendous speed.

The *Crookston Times* reported:

"Mr. and Mrs. [M.J.] Long say they do not know what they saw, either. The couple was fishing with Mr. and Mrs. John Croy of East Grand Forks on Union lake, when they heard the noise of a heavy aircraft and spotted a shiny silver object some 20,000 feet in the air, they said.

"They paid little attention to it, until one of the party saw an airplane approaching from the northeast.

" 'We knew then the noise we had heard was from the plane,' Long said. 'We watched the saucer, or whatever it was, until it suddenly took off and moved with tremendous speed over the horizon.'

"Long believed the object 'must have been moving thousands of miles an hour' judging by its speed in relation with that of a fighter plane which passed over shortly after. The party noticed two more of the objects together until they suddenly disappeared.

"The objects were sighted about 11:30 a.m. July 14. 'We were all wearing dark glasses, or we would probably not have seen them at all,' Long said. He estimated the objects were the 'size of a dishpan.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Crookston, Minnesota. *Times*. 23 July 52.

14 July. Indio, California. (about 2:40 p.m.)

"Their speed was such they were gone in a flash."

Yet another press story:

"A Civil Defense ground observer sighted two round disks in the sky near two six-engine bombers July 14, an official report released today said.

"Col. O.S. Dresher, Riverside County Coordinator of Civil Defense, said the objects were seen about 2:40 p.m. by Mrs. Pauline Watts, supervisor of the Indio observation post.

" 'At first I thought they were targets for the bombers,' Mrs. Watts said in her report, a copy of which was given to the Air Force. 'Then I could see they were too large for targets.

" 'These two round disks were stationary in the air. They were metallic and shiny, much brighter than any plane I have seen so far. They looked to be about a third as large as the bomber, if they were at the same height.

" 'As soon as the bomber to the north of me got fairly close to them, they took off in a straight up direction, not together, but as two individual units. They gained altitude and disappeared into the east. Their speed was such that when they did move they were gone in a flash.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Eureka, California. *Eureka Humbolt Times*. 3 August 52.

16 July. Boothbay, Maine. (about 3:30 a.m.)

Suspended over an island.

According to our source:

"A couple residing in Boothbay, on a hill overlooking the Damariscotta River, told the *Register* that they observed, about 3:30 a.m. July 16, a glowing orange-colored aerial object, shaped like a crescent, suspended over an island approximately a quarter of a mile from their home.

"They watched the 'saucer' for about fifteen minutes, when it slowly turned and took on the shape of a mammoth coffee or tea cup, in which flames, not unlike those of the aurora borealis, glowed and flickered.

"The 'lights' gradually faded out, but the faint orange glow remained in the sky for another ten minutes before vanishing completely." (xx.)

(xx.) Boothbay Harbor, Maine. *Register*. 25 July 52.

18 July. Great Bend, Pennsylvania. (about 3:20 a.m.)

"Upside down saucer."

A press report states:

"A Great Bend, Pennsylvania, woman said last night she had a two or three look at what appeared to be a glowing 'upside down saucer' in the sky about 3:20 a.m. yesterday.

"Mrs. Arthur Winn of Hays St., said she arose to attend her husband who is ill when she noticed the object coming from the south. Mrs. Winn said she looked at it for about a minute, and then called her husband. Together they viewed it from the front porch for another minute.

"Mrs. Winn said the object came to a standstill before it began moving 'very slowly' in a northeast direction. The couple agreed that the object's appearance was similar to

the 'flying saucers,' which are now being reported 'seen' in many parts of the country." (xx.)

(xx.) Binghampton, New York. *Sun.* 19 July 52.

20 July. Wichita Falls, Texas. (about 3:30 p.m.)

"Black circle."

The local paper reported:

"Two flying objects, both with strange characteristics, have been spotted during the past few days by J. H. Gill, who lives on a farm about 11 miles north of Wichita Falls on Farm Highway 1177.

"Last Sunday, Gill was in a field near his house when he saw an object, which he described as a 'black circle,' flying across the sky with about the speed of a jet airplane.

"He said the 'circle' flew in a straight course toward the Northwest for a short time and then came to a complete stop, hovering in the sky for about five minutes. Then it flipped over and headed toward the west, he said. This was about 3:30 p.m.

"Gill told his wife, but did not report the incident to anyone else. The next day he said he heard a report of a pilot seeing a 'flying saucer' near Amarillo." (xx.)

(xx.) Wichita Falls, Texas. *Times.* 27 July 52.

22 July. Newport, Rhode Island. (between 2:25 a.m. to 3:25 a.m.)

Egg-shaped and gray-colored. (See clipping)

26 July. Titusville, Pennsylvania. (noon?)

A short news story said:

"Thirty laborers of the Struthers Wells corporation laid aside their lunches today to watch what they called a flying saucer perform in the sky over Titusville.

"The men estimated the object—described as a thin silver disc—was flying between 15,000 and 20,000 feet high.

"John Austen, of Titusville, one of the laborers, said:

" 'I never believed in flying saucers before but I never want to see one like this again.'

"Members of the group said the disc appeared north of Titusville and was visible for about 15 minutes.

" 'First it moved to the west, then to the south and then it seemed to stand still for awhile,' one observer said.

Newport RI

Daily News

July 22 1952

Flying Saucers Reported By Newport Observers

Two flying saucers were seen between 2:25 and 3:25 this morning by two 15-year old spotters on duty at the Airplane Spotting Station on the Armed Services YMCA. Robert DeCosta, of 26 Walnut St., and Gerry Fill of 68 Sims St., reported both flying objects into the New Haven Filter Station, where much interest was expressed in the report.

The objects were both eggshaped and of a gray color, with a luminous glow about them. One was flying low at a fairly slow speed, the second high at a tremendous speed. They followed the slower one as it travelled a straight path out of sight. The second they could only follow about two or three seconds because of its speed.

"The men said the disc finally moved away toward the north." (xx.)

(xx.) Potstown, Pennsylvania. *Mercury*. 26 July 52.

28 July. Comment on the July Washington D.C. reports.

700 feet.

A wire story datelined Washington stated:

"The nature of the electronic signals recorded by the radarscope ruled out the possibility of any meteorological disturbance, the Civil Aeronautics Authorities said.

"The movement of the objects was reported as horizontal although some pilots reported vertical movement as well. Conflicting reports were turned in on the altitude of the objects, although most of the reports listed 700 feet above sea level as the height of the flights." (xx.)

(xx.) Jerusalem, Israel. *Jerusalem Post*. 29 July 52.

28 July. Winston Churchill's UFO memo. (See page 66) (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1952 July 21st-July 31st, Supplemental Notes*, page 67)

What did Churchill know?

Clarke and Roberts wrote that the Prime Minister was assured that flying saucers were nothing to worry about:

"Flying saucers had been the subject of a 'full Intelligence study' conducted by the MoD in 1951, which had concluded that all reports could be accounted for by mistaken identity, delusions and hoaxes. The British study had drawn heavily upon the negative findings of the US Project Grudge in 1949 when reaching these conclusions and, the Air Minister wrote, 'Nothing has happened since 1951 to make the Air Staff change their opinion, and, to judge from recent Press statements, the same is true in America. Churchill's senior scientific advisor, Lord Cherwell, said he had seen the Secretary of State's minute and 'agreed entirely with his conclusions.'

"If the Air Ministry's response to Churchill was accurate, the subject was deemed to be of so little importance that knowledge of the USAF's policy on UFOs was being judged from press statements rather than direct intelligence contacts. Those who promote the idea of a cover up by the British government have claimed that Churchill was misinformed about the true findings of the US and British studies. In reality, Churchill was provided with what his advisors believed was the best answer available at the time. He was not, of course, made aware of contradictory evidence, such as the testimony of the RAF's own test pilots, which had been carefully hidden within the MoD's secret report." (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.104.

Subject File B.7.6.8.52

Defence (Research)

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MINUTE

SERIAL No. M.412/52

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AIR

LORD CHITWELL

What does all this stuff about flying
saucers amount to? What can it mean? What
is the truth Let me have a report at your
convenience.

W.S.C.

28 July 1952

30 July. Anaheim, California. (6:00 p.m.)

Oval, lighted, able to hover.

The Anaheim *Bulletin* reported:

"The *Bulletin* contacted two persons who spotted them over the City of Anaheim the night of Wednesday, July 30. Other people who had been reported to have seen the Things, flatly denied it.

"Both reports jibe with the general information available on the saucers. They were described as oval, lighted, able to hover and extremely fast.

"Mrs. Ida Fisher, 316 West Chartres Street, spotted one that Wednesday evening about 6 p.m. She got what must be the first view from directly underneath the saucer.

"Mrs. Fisher stepped out to her back porch to look at the gathering clouds, hoping for rain to relieve the heat. Looking directly upward, she spotted what appeared to be an aluminum dishpan between two clouds.

"Mrs. Fisher said that around the bottom sides of the Thing was a ring of something having the 'appearance' of cotton candy you buy at a circus.' This ring was revolving 'very fast,' and though the solid body of the object seemed to be still, she thought it must have been revolving also.

"It hovered, there for a few minutes, she said, and then disappeared behind a cloud." (xx.)

(xx.) Anaheim, California. *Bulletin*. 8 August 52.

30 July. Anaheim, California. (9:00 p.m.)

Take off, circle, hover.

The Anaheim *Bulletin* reported:

"Miss Emma Wisser, 537 Grove Ave., said she and her sister, Alice, spotted three [UFOS], apparently over Anaheim. They called their sister, Mrs. Mary Schneider, 314 West Chartres. Mrs. Schneider, close to the center of the city and the glare of the lights, said she could see nothing.

"Miss Wisser, who is employed as a librarian in Anaheim, said she saw the Things about 9 p.m. They hovered over the city for about 15 minutes and then left. During the time they were over the city, Miss Wisser said, one or two would leave the group, 'and take off in a big circle and then come back to the group and hover for a while.'

"Miss Wisser said that while standing still, the saucers wobbled and that the bottom side appeared lighted and the top dark. She said they appeared to be of a flat, oval shape, 'like a disc.'

Redland's Co.
Daily Facts
July 31, 1952

Gen. Vandenberg Scoffs At Flying Saucer Reports

SEATTLE (UP) —Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg, Air Force chief of staff, says there is no such thing as a flying saucer and believes the present wave of objects in the sky are the result of "double vision."

"I don't believe there are flying saucers," he told Boeing Airplane Co. officials yesterday. "However, there apparently are physical phenomena which make people think they have seen them."

"Miss Wisser said that the light was yellow in color and that the objects were 'extremely fast when they went off in the circle.' They left separately, she said." (xx.)

(xx.) Anaheim, California. *Bulletin*. 8 August 52.

30 July. Near Dallas, Texas. (about 7:18 a.m.)

"It zoomed right over the highway."

According to our source:

"...two Fort Worth men reported seeing...[a] 'saucer' Thursday while driving along Highway 183 about five miles from Dallas.

"The two Fort Worth men who spotted a 'saucer' are Joseph R. Manthely and Ray Noble. They said they spotted a silver disk 'that looked to be about 20 feet in circumference' while driving from Fort Worth about 7:18 a.m. Thursday.

" 'The sun hit it as it zoomed right over the highway,' Mr. Manthely said. 'It seemed to be doing about 300 miles per hour and was about 3,000 feet high.'

"Mr. Noble, who has a private pilot's license, declared he was sure it wasn't a plane.

"The men said they watched the object 'for about a minute' before it sped off to the north." (xx.)

(xx.) Dallas, Texas. *Times-Herald*. 1 August 52.

5 August. Dr. Edward C. Creutz.

Our source states: "Dr. Edward C. Creutz, director of the Carnegie Tech Nuclear Research Center said 'flying saucers were secret man-made weapons.' But most other scientists here disagreed, insisting the saucers were neither weapons nor man-made." (xx.)

(xx.) Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. *Post-Gazette*. 5 August 52.

5 August. Dr. Harlow Shapley.

Our source states:

"This is one of our days for being skeptical, scornful, maybe a bit scampish about flying saucers. For the record we will state there is no such thing as a flying saucer. Our authority of the moment is Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard Observatory. This astronomer says it all boils down to cases of (a) hallucinations or (b) mistaken identity.

"Dr. Shapley's remarks, which were detailed, all dealt with what can happen to the human imagination on a hot summer night, with or without optical illusions or ra-



1953 photo

Dr. Edward C. Creutz

dar scopes to complicate matters. Pilots can often be foolish like anyone else, says he."

(xx.) Frederick, Maryland. *News*. 5 August 52.

7 August. Dr. Roy K. Marshall.

The editor of the *Waukesha Freeman* wrote:

"...[we go] along with Dr. Roy K. Marshall, the guy who does those 'scientific' commercials for the Ford Motor company's TV program.

"On the TV program, 'Who Said That?' Monday night, the good doctor wryly observed that no one whose profession it is to watch the skies—people like astronomers and meteorologists—has ever seen a flying saucer. He considers that quite a coincidence.

"So do we [It would be, if it was true—L. E. Gross]" (xx.)

(xx.) Waukesha, Wisconsin. *Freeman*. 7 August 52.

14 August. Maryland-Pennsylvania area.

Area alert.

An AP dispatch informed the nation:

"The Baltimore filter center tonight confirmed reports of an alert in the Maryland-Pennsylvania area for unidentified flying objects.

"At Hagerstown, Md., Edgar King, local civil defense director, said spotters were alerted by the filter center in Baltimore at 2:10 p.m. EDT.

"King said spotters were told a group of unidentified flying objects had been reported 20 miles northeast of Harrisburg, Pa., and were believe to be heading toward Hagerstown.

"The Hagerstown civil defense crew reported several hours later that nothing had been seen.

"Officers at the Baltimore filter center first denied they had alerted Hagerstown, but later admitted putting out the call at the request of the civil defense organization at Harrisburg." (xx.)

(xx.) Bradford, Pennsylvania. *Era*. 14 August 52.

3/4th week of August 1952. Tucumcari, New Mexico. (about 3:00 p.m.)

Like a soup bowl, slightly tipped.

The witness is said to be a 67-year-old retired Emeritus Professor from Hofstra, University, Long Island, New York. The story:

"During the 3-4th week in August I found myself in Tucumcari, New Mexico. I recall stopping for a late lunch in a restaurant located as I recall, near a railroad station. It was a bright sunny day, with low humidity and blue sky—about 3 p.m. While having lunch, someone entered the restaurant and announced, 'Hey everybody, there's a flying saucer outside!' I recall rushing out—along with others. I glanced about and there was a group of 15-20 people some of whom were pointing upwards. Following their lead I looked upwards and received a profound shock:

"There in the midst of this crystal clear blue sky, about 50 to 60 degrees above the horizon was a silver-white disk, clearly defined and motionless. There were no fuzzy edges, no blurring of the object. It was there. And it was beautiful, a gleaming, metallic disk gleaming like platinum—brighter than aluminum, and motionless. It looked like a shining hole carved out of blue sky!

"Groping for some unit of measurement I held some coins at arms length—the disk thus appeared to be between the size of a dime and a nickel held in this manner. For me the shock was profound—to get some impact of its effect on me, try to visualize stepping out one evening and glancing upward to see two moons in the sky! My mind told me that this thing was a machine of bright metal, high in the sky and was motionless (I had been a weather technician, had launched and tracked weather balloons, recorded data, prepared reports, etc. and nothing resembled what I was viewing.)

"After 5-10 minutes (approximately) the restaurant owner passed around a pair of binoculars. When my turn came I viewed the object for 2-3 minutes. Through the glasses the object that appeared flat to the naked eye showed indication of body; that is, like a soup bowl slightly tipped. The rim facing west was tinted red. Glancing at the western portion of the sky (the sun was in that quadrant) I noted a bank of clouds tinted red—and being reflected off of the western facing rim of the disk. Nothing else showed itself: no windows, ports, etc.

"I made the decision not to move until this thing did so if I had to remain there all night! I lined it up with a telephone pole to have a line of sight, sat down and waited. After 5-10 minutes I suddenly became aware that the 'thing' was getting smaller. People shouted 'Look at it go!' Since there was no lateral movement it was apparently going straight up at unbelievable speed! I counted from one to six (4 seconds?) by which time it was a pin-head of light (clearly defined if you were following it) and then it was gone.

"How can I adequately summarize the impact of this event? Here was an object that defied all the laws of physics (and my practical experience as a weather technician). A material object with a disk shape hung motionless in the sky. How high? I don't know but my impression was that it was very high up. How large? I don't know, but my impression was of a beautiful shining metallic disk, brighter than aluminum. And when it finally moved it seemed to go straight up at incredible speed like a light being suddenly pulled directly away from your eyes. It moved without a sound; without a sonic boom; without a vapor trail. (A balloon losing gas would come down!)

"My mind and my emotions told me that I had seen a machine unlike anything I had ever known or experienced, and while I was not frightened I very definitely was awed." (xx.)

- (xx.) Taylor, Herb. "Two 1952 Sighting Reports." *Ohio UFO Notebook*. #23. Year 2002. pp.30-31. The name of the witness has been withheld. Information on the case, according to Mr. Taylor, was obtained by a long phone call, a signed questionnaire, and personal letter.

September?, 1952. The RAF visits the U.S.

According to Clarke and Roberts:

"Contacts with the Americans continued and in 1952 [Wing Commander Myles] Formby travelled to the Pentagon for three weeks to work closely alongside his opposite number at USAF Intelligence, Colonel William O. Farrior, who worked in the same section as Major Dewey Fournet. This contact dated back to 1948, when Farrior had supplied Formby with information on the U.S. investigations during his posting as a technical specialist in London.

"These informal exchanges were referred to by the USAF's Ed Ruppelt, who described a visit to the USAF's Air Technical Intelligence Center in 1952 by two RAF officers, one of whom was Wing Commander Formby [Ruppelt mentions no names]. Ruppelt said they were in America 'on a classified mission' concerning UFOs. According to Ruppelt, the two men told him the sightings during Exercise Mainbrace 'caused the RAF to officially recognize the UFO.'" (xx.) (xx.)

- (xx.) Ruppelt, Edward J. *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*. Garden City, New York, 1956. p.130. (Revised edition)
- (xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.112.

Ruppelt gives no date as to the visit of the RAF officers, neither does Clarke and Roberts. The NATO operation MAINBRACE was conducted in September with the most impressive UFO incident taking place on the 19th. Therefore, we assume the RAF people were in the U.S. in late September. Since September was in the wake of the big Washington D.C. UFO flap, it makes sense the British would like to someone on scene to learn what they could.

Most interesting was the information obtained by author Jenny Randles who learned that the Chief Air Ministry Scientist [One assumes such a person would have the highest security clearances] Sir Robert Coburn, arrived in Washington after the big UFO flap and found out that the U.S. government was puzzled by the reports even though it wouldn't say so publicly. (xx.)

- (xx.) Randles, Jenny. *Danger UFO! in the Air*. Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.: New York, N.Y., 1998. p.39.

21 October. RAF airbase, Little Rissington, Gloucestershire, England. (afternoon)

"What's that!"

Flight lieutenant Michael Swiney was an instructor at the RAF Central Flying School at Little Rissington. On the afternoon of October 21st his assignment was to make training flight in a

two-man Meteor VII jet with a student pilot named David Crofts. The mission was to conduct a high-level navigation exercise.

After take off with Crofts at the controls, Swiney directed his pupil to gain altitude. Overhead was a cloud layer at about 10,000 feet. Passing through the overcast, the Meteor jet emerged into the clear and immediately encountered three "things." Directly ahead was a trio of circular shapes, with two of them in a horizontal position and the third tilted to one side. Swiney's instant impression was that his plane was about to plow through some parachute jumpers and that Crofts had yet to spot them. Swiney grabbed plane's controls. Crofts, unaware of any danger, exclaimed: "What on Earth is going on!" Swiney pointed out the "chutes" as he put the fighter in a sharp turn. Crofts, astonished, said: "What's that!"

The "things" were some distance away and moving slowly. Round in shape as seen from below, the "things" took on a definite "flat plate" appearance when the jet approached their elevation and something of a profile could be seen. The air was clear and the "flat plates" plainly visible. The UFOs were smooth-surfaced, off-white in color, and had a fuzzy glow coming from the edges. In short, they were like nothing Swiney had ever observed in his entire career.

Contacting Rissington tower on the radio, Swiney explained the situation and was asked to close with the UFOs. With power at the maximum, Swiney put the Meteor jet on an intercept course towards one of the "plates" that was on a level keel. At top speed, Mach .8, closure was swift. In no time the "plate" filled half the plane's windscreen, but the jet would not get any nearer. The "plate" flipped over to a vertical position and vaulted upward out of sight.

On the ground, the GCI radar site at Rudloe Manor in Wilshire had both Swiney's aircraft and the UFO on its scopes. The UFO was tracked as it left the area and its speed was calculated to be 1,000 mph. A couple of interceptors on standby at a RAF base in Sussex were ordered aloft to pursue but they had no chance of catching the intruder as it zoomed out over the Atlantic.

Left behind, Swiney scanned the sky for the other UFOs, but they, apparently, had also made a quick departure.

It was an unsettling experience. Swiney returned to base and was said to be pale-faced when he reported in. Debriefing officers had both Swiney and Crofts write down a detailed account of their sighting and then they obtained GCI radar logs. The file was sent to the MoD intelligence branch DDI. In keeping with the usual British treatment of UFO cases, Swiney was not informed of any official evaluation of the incident.

Swiney was an outstanding pilot who eventually achieved the rank of air commodore. In due time he received a posting to the MoD. Curious about the fate of his UFO report, many years later Swiney sought to locate the 1952 paperwork in spite of the standard practice (many people are not sure of that assertion) of the MoD to destroy old records after five years. The file did exist as of the mid-1970s. The MoD produced it for Swiney's inspection. No doubt his rank and position played a role in its "discovery." (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. pp.98-102.

18 December. Dr. R.V. Jones and the "correction of public opinion."

As wartime chief of the British Air Ministry's Scientific Intelligence, Dr. R.V. Jones was familiar with the "Foo Fighter" mystery in 1945. Later he also studied the "Ghost Rocket"

reports that came out of Sweden in 1946. In neither case was any physical evidence obtained. Dr. Jones knew that hard evidence was essential when dealing with a controversial data and that "flying saucers" were proving to be just as elusive as the Foo Fighters and Ghost Rockets. Fear about the Russian threat in 1952, he assumed, was generating mass delusions. He said that if there was any official secrecy about the UFO subject, it was to avoid being inundated by low-grade reports.

In September 1952 Dr. Jones was appointed director of Scientific Intelligence by Winston Churchill. Dr. Jones felt that: "...creation of the correction of public opinion is a part of his responsibilities." (See American CIA document on page 74)

1953

1953. RAF airbase, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. (noon?)

"Bloody hell! It's a flying saucer"

A Mr. Clive Thomas discloses a personal encounter:

"In 1953 I was engaged in airframe maintenance at No. 4 Flying Training School servicing Harrard aircraft on E & F flights. I had joined the RAF in 1947, and in '53 was stationed at RAF Heaby, near Bulawayo, Souther Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe)

"It was normal practice to observe the sky for returning aircraft so we could ready the ground for dispersal. I first saw this object at low altitude in the west, approximately one to two miles away from the airfield at lunchtime, the precise date I can't recall. It made a sharp left turn reflecting sunlight. I said to colleagues around me 'It looks like we have a plane coming in.'

"As it came toward the airfield, I looked at it closely through my binoculars, but couldn't identify it. As it approached, I remember shouting out something like 'It has no tail! It must be a delta, but what's it doing here?' As the object drew closer, its shape had an elliptical outline, so I assumed it had to be a balloon, but soon changed my opinion when it altered course to the northeast at a speed of at least 100 mph. I knew there was hardly any wind, so dismissed the notion it was a balloon.

"Then this thing came right up to our control tower and hovered at a height of only 200 feet, and because it was slightly tilted, we could see its upper surface. There were only two others with me in the tower at the time, and we used a few choice words which I had better not repeat here, but I definitely recall saying 'Bloody hell! It's a flying saucer!' The saucer was dull gray in color, and had a central dome on top. We all saw it quite clearly, including a blackened window of some sort. Its size was roughly 30 feet in diameter. None of us thought to sound an alert, or reach for a telephone, we were literally mesmerized by the thing.

"After it had hovered for no more than ten seconds, the saucer began to wobble like a 'spinning top' after one revolution, then it suddenly climbed with really fantastic acceleration and disappeared at extreme altitude. The airfield was surrounded by flat bush and farmland, and the weather conditions were perfect at the time. I can recall we had lots of clear blue sky, only masked by the occasional puffy white cloud.

~~SECRET~~
Security Information

18 December 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: British Activity in the field of "Unidentified Flying Objects"

1. On 15 December, the recently arrived messenger from [redacted] reported the following. He had talked with [redacted]

2. The British have had a standing committee created about sixteen months ago on flying saucers. Presumably this is now under Dr. Jones through inheritance. The RAF are action people. The group has concluded that the observations are not enemy aircraft and that none have been over [redacted]

3. The activity has been quiet and normal up to about ten to twelve days ago, at which time the Yorkshire incident took place. In some RAF field, there was some sort of demonstration to which high officials of the RAF in London had been invited. During the show, a "perfect flying saucer" was seen by these officials as well as RAF pilots. So many people saw it that many articles appeared in the public press. This is disturbing to Jones because he realizes that the creation of the correction of public opinion is a part of his responsibilities.

4. [redacted] reminded us of the Swedish incident (presumably he refers to the one in 1946), and reminds us of a paper on the origin of meteorites published in the French Academy of Sciences between 1760 and 1780 by Chladni.

5. The traveler told [redacted] of our interest at this time, mentioned the film which had been taken by the Naval non-commissioned officer ([redacted] incident). It is possible that [redacted] will write asking for a copy of the film or further on the same subject.

[redacted]
H. MARSHALL CHADWELL
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Distribution:

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JUL 2001

RELEASE IN PART
EXEMPTIONS:
DATE: JUN 2001

(b)(1)
(b)(3)
(S)

~~SECRET~~
Security Information

35

"After the incident, I reported the incident to the first senior rank I came across, who just happened to be an obstinate sergeant who bluntly refused to listen. None of us pursued the matter further, but plenty of others on the base saw the object as far as I'm concerned, this was a UFO." (xx.)

(xx.) Thomas, Clive. "Overseas RAF Base 'buzzed' by UFO." *The Unopened Files*. Quest Publications International, Otley, England. No.1. 1996. p.64.

21 January. Palms, Michigan. (about 7:00 p.m.)

Flying 'Juke Box.'

According to an AP dispatch:

"A mysterious object that glowed in the sky 'like a juke box' was described today by four farmers who live near the village of Palms, north of here.

"Three of the farmers said they sighted the colorful object separately and all gave details with obvious reluctance. They said they were afraid they'd sound silly.

"The first sighting was made last Wednesday night by Erwin Geeck as he was going to a barn about 7 p.m. to do chores. He said the object hovered in the air for about 20 minutes before disappearing." (xx.)

(xx.) Sandusky, Michigan. January 28. (AP)

25 January. Near Minden City, Michigan. (about 8:00 p.m.)

Flying "Juke Box" again.

According to same AP dispatch:

"Sunday night Michael Lawler and Carl Kohler saw it while driving to Minden City. The time was about 8 p.m. They said they saw the 'mysterious sky object' about 900 feet ahead of them. They followed it in their car for a mile and then it disappeared.

"Lawler described the sight as 'a mysterious glowing sphere.' He said it was hovering near the tree tops, changing colors from red to green to white and 'glowing like a juke box.'

"The two men watched it descend gradually and then vanish. Thinking it was a plane in distress, they called state police and Monday morning searched the area thoroughly for signs of a wreck but found none." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

"First month or two." 1953. Northeast coast of Honshu, Japan. (early morning)

"Two rows of lights."

An account told to Dr. James McDonald in 1969 after giving a talk at the Officer Club at the Point Mugu Naval Air Station, California:

"Perhaps even more interesting was another Navy sighting which Capt. Andrews [Thomas Andrews, Vice-Commander of the Pacific Missile Range] then proceeded to call to my attention. He gave me the name and telephone number of a retired Naval aviator, Capt. Robert J. Wooten, now Executive Vice-President of International Nu-tronics in Los Altos, California. I contacted Wooten last night and talked with him for half an hour. It has interesting resemblance, in a few respects, to the very significant 1957 RB-47 incident reported in the Condon Report...

"The Wooten sighting occurred during the Korean War, while he was a pilot of a P2V in support of the Seventh Fleet. He tried to fit one thing and another together to pin the date down, and decided that it had to be in the first month or two of 1953. They did 12-hour surveillance flights out of Atsugi, Japan, over the Sea of Japan. It was at night, in the early morning hours, and they had been relieved of their 12-hour watch by another Neptune and were heading back to base from the Wonsan area to Atsugi. He said they had just cleared the northwest coast of Honshu, had climbed to 9,500 feet to clear the main range on Honshu, when surface radar informed them that a bogey was in their area. They rearmed guns, but saw nothing. Capt. Wooten said he had just given the order to the ten-man crew of the P2V to secure ammunition when, all of a sudden, his co-pilot started pounding him on the knee; he looked over and said the co-pilot's mouth was moving but nothing was coming out, clearly alarmed. The co-pilot, pointing out the port side of the windscreen, drew Capt. Wooten's attention to two rows of lights on an object off their port [side]. Almost as soon as they started excitedly discussing it, the radar man, who was on search still, reported that he held an unknown at 14 miles range on that bearing. Wooten gave the order to rearm the guns, and they proceeded on course, closing with the object. Wooten said that, as nearly as he could tell throughout the entire ten minutes that they had this object in sight and on radar, all the apparent motion was due to their aircraft, as if the unknown were stationary.

"The two rows of lights were horizontal, he estimates about ten or twelve lights in each row, and the lower row was offset by one light from the upper row. It was a dark night, they were below an overcast and above an undercast, and there was no illumination other than these rows of lights on the unknown. He said they never saw

(Sorry about the gap. Nothing was omitted—L.E. Gross)

a distinct shape. It was on their port beam at a radar-indicated range of seven miles, at closest approach, and then continued to pass aft as they went on course. They evidently elected not to try to close with the object. They saw it until it was on their port quarter, and then suddenly the lights all blinked out and, in the same instant, the radar man said he lost target. (I pointed out to Capt. Wooten, to his considerable interest, that essentially similar phenomena had cropped up in a number of other cases), including the Texas RB-47 case.)

"He passed the word to all crew members that they should not discuss it further until they had landed, and, on getting back to Atsugi, had them all write independent accounts which, he said, stood in general agreement. This information was passed up through channels, and he feels sure that it would be in Project Bluebook files. I looked through the Project Bluebook Status Reports (NICAP edition) for that period. There are many illusions to a lot of unknowns in the Korea-Japan area in early 1953, but none that sounds like this case." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Mr. James Hughes – Code 412, Office of Naval Research, Room 4105, Main Navy [?], Washington, D.C., 20360. From: James E. McDonald. Date: 20 February 69. Papers of Dr. James McDonald, University of Arizona Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. Special Collections Divison. Photocopy In author's files.

Summer of 1953. North Atlantic. (no time)

1,500 mph, 80,000 feet?

According to authors Clarke and Roberts:

"When in the summer of 1953 unidentified blips were tracked by radar high over the north Atlantic, they quickly attracted the attention of experts at the [British] Air Ministry. Fighter Plotter J.W. Foulds recalled how the tracks he saw at RAF Bawburgh were moving at speeds of up to 1,500 mph at heights in excess of 80,000 feet. They re-appeared at least twice in the days that followed. Soon afterwards a group of dark-suited 'men from the Ministry' arrived and a film camera was set up to record any further incidents. Mr. Foulds said: 'We were advised not to talk about it and many weeks later we learned indirectly that it had been decided that what we had witnessed were test firings of Russian missiles from beyond the Arctic Circle.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited: London, England, 2002. p.128.

December 1953. "First formal report procedure."

The British were more skeptical than the Americans when it came to UFOs. Authors Clarke and Roberts state that the first formal UFO report procedure for radar sites and fighter units was not introduced until December 1953.

While doubts about UFOs being solid objects of unknown origin were entertained by men at the top like Dr. R.V. Jones (for good reason in their way of thinking), like their counterparts

in the U.S. such doubts had be backed by good follow up investigations. That was rarely the case. The report procedure issued in Britain at this time asked for all reports from the military and civilian sources to be sent to DDI (Tech) at the Air Ministry.

Some restrictions were placed on the data however:

"The public attach more credence to reports by Royal Air Force personnel than to those by members of the public. It is essential that the information should be examined at the Air Ministry and that its release should be controlled officially. All reports are, therefore, to be classified 'Restricted' and personnel are warned that they are not to communicate to anyone other than official persons any information about phenomena they have observed, unless officially authorized to do so." (xx.)

(xx.) AIR 20/9994. Clarke, David and Andy Roberts. *Out of the Shadows*. Judy Piatkus Limited, London, England, 2002. p.120.

20 December. Near Blackwood, New Jersey. (no time)

"Size of a house."

An Atlantic City paper published:

"A silvery, circular, shiny flying saucer was sighted by a Ventnor couple while driving on the Black Horse Pike about 20 miles from Philadelphia.

"Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Platt, of 7309 Ventnor Avenue, spotted the object about 10 miles from Blackwood last December 20th while on their way to Philadelphia. The glowing disc was motionless. Hovering overhead like a helicopter for a few minutes and then zoomed off into the western skies so fast, it was impossible to follow.

"This is the story told by Platt and his wife, Minnie, who own a candy and cigar store in Ventnor. Platt, a former newspaperman himself, having worked in the circulation department of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for 20 years, said the object couldn't have been anything but a so-called flying saucer. In his own words, Platt described the experience. 'We were driving along that Sunday, about 15 miles per hour. About eight or 10 miles outside of Blackwood on the Black Horse Pike, I happened to look out the window and saw this large circular object glistening in the sky. It wasn't as high as a plane, and it gave off a silvery beam, but not so blinding as the sun. It was completely circular, but that all I could make out.

" 'I said to wife, 'look, do you see what I see?' She did. We watched it for a few seconds, and then without a sound or a trail, it zoomed out of sight into the west so fast that it was unable to follow with the naked eye.'

"Although it was difficult to judge the size or height, Mr. Platt estimated the disc to be about 200 feet high and about the size of an average house. In his and his wife's minds, there is no doubt that it was a flying saucer. He emphatically stated it couldn't have been an airplane, balloon, or the sun. Regardless of the kidding and ridicule of their friends, the Platts firmly stick to their convictions that the object was of the saucer variety.

"Contrary to the *Reporter* belief that saucers are space ships from another planet, Platt believes they are a secret air ship of our government, and that the Air Force is testing

them throughout the nation and the rest of the world. He feels that when the government is ready it will announce to the world the secret of the flying saucers." (xx.)

(xx.) Atlantic City, New Jersey. *Reporter*. 19 February 54.

1954

25 March. 10 miles seaward from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. (no time)

"Performed aerial stunts in a guided missile alley."

A news story tells us:

"A veteran Marine pilot-observer reported Saturday the flying saucer he spotted along a guided missile alley off the Florida east coast Thursday appeared to perform aerial stunts.

"Capt. Dan C. Holland, holder of multiple decorations for combat duty in World War II and Korea, said he had always scoffed at persons who claimed to see flying saucers, but has no idea what he saw.

"Holland, 33, [of] Kosciusko, Mississippi, reported sighting the 'round unidentified object' 10 miles seaward from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, some distance below the Air Force Banana River guided missile launching site.

"He said 'it seemed descending vertically and then came to a rest in midair about 3,000 feet above us,' after he first spotted it 7,000 feet away, and then it suddenly zoomed away before other observers could see it." (xx.)

(xx.) Oxnard, California. *Press-Courier*. 29 Marc 54.

23 April. "What's new in Washington?"

United Press Staff correspondent Harmon W. Nichols reporting from the nation's capital posed the question: "What's New In Washington?" Apparently not much, but he did say: "A Pentagon source reports that about one third of the letters it gets about flying saucers quote the Book of Revelations in the Bible." (xx.)

(xx.) Ames, Iowa. *Daily Tribune*. 23 April 54.

18 June. Near Fort Rousset, French Equatorial Africa. (dinner time?)

Roman Catholic apostolic vicar observes "mystery globe." (See clipping)

Bishop Sees Flying Saucer

BRAZZAVILLE, French Equatorial Africa, July 8. (AP).—Msgr. Emile Verhille, the Roman Catholic apostolic vicar of Fort Rousset in the French Middle Congo territory, saw a flying saucer for over 15 minutes during a pastoral tour through the bush country of his vicariat.

In a letter which reports the sighting to the editor of the Catholic newspaper *La Semaine de L'Aef*, Msgr. Verhille expresses doubts as to "whether my story will be of any interest to you!"

In fact, it is the first time a saucer was narrowly observed through field glasses. The saucer appeared while the bishop was having dinner at the mission of Leketi to the north of Fort Rousset.

The houseboy came in first and said a plane was going over the mission.

Since Leketi is not on a regularly flown route, the bishop and his companions went out to have a look. Then they saw a tall luminous globe coming in swiftly from the north, but stopping suddenly in midair and quivering. The object then bounced up and down, but did not move horizontally. The bishop went back into the house and fetched his field glasses. One of the missionaries stopped the power generator of the mission to find out whether the noise of the plane, as reported by the houseboy, was still there. There was no noise at all. "Most probably," the bishop writes, "the noise and the globe were not connected and a plane may have flown over Leketi and disappeared without our seeing it."

Looking through his field glasses, Msgr. Verhille saw what he describes as follows: "Through the glasses I clearly saw that the globe was not luminous everywhere. In the center there was a darker mass and from it rays of different lengths were shooting out. Everybody observed the phenomenon easily. It lasted for over 15 minutes, which seemed very long to us. No star, no meteor, no plane behaves like the luminous globe." Finally, the bishop concludes his letter, the object moved swiftly away to the north following a horizontal path.

There have been other saucer sightings in the Middle Congo area at about the same time, notably at Kelle, a diamond mining camp 30 miles from Leketi. But the observations weren't as detailed as those made by Msgr. Verhille.

The clipping about the Bishop in Africa on page 79 has additional detail on the case. Another version can be found on page 25 of the monograph *UFOs: A History 1954 June-August*.

3 July. Berlin, Germany. (between 10:00 and 11:00 p.m.)

Wedge formations. (See clipping)

8 July. Wigan, England. (9:25 p.m.)

British astronomer braves ridicule.

According to an article in the press by reporter George Eglin:

"On the evening of Thursday, July 8, 1954, Mr. Harold Hill, who is an amateur member of the British Astronomical Association, went out to the observatory at his home in Orrell-road, Abbey-lakes, near Wigan.

"The time: 9:25 p.m.

"His intention: to close the dome of his observatory for the night.

"It was usual for Mr. Hill that he should scan the skies as he walked down his garden. But what was not usual was the object he saw in the southern skies. It was so unusual that it sent him running for his wife and a pair of binoculars.

"And what he saw through the binoculars was so startling that he tore a small telescope in his observatory from its mounting in his almost frantic anxiety to focus his big 12-inch telescope on the object.

"Mr. Hill at first thought he had seen a super-nova—a temporary star that suddenly flames into brilliance and then dies away. But the object was not a super-nova. Mr. Hill believes not that he saw—a flying saucer!

"That is what he told me when I talked to him in the course of an investigation into the post-war flying saucer story that took me to Wigan, to other cities, to the Air Ministry in London, and through masses of reports, many of them unpublished which have been compiled in this and other countries by official and unofficial organizations.

"But first of all let quote some passages of Mr. Hill's report to the British Astronomical Society.

"The strange "star" expanded into a small bright metallic-looking globe.

"What was seen was as amazing as it was unexpected. There was a principal bright silvery object of undeterminate shape, accompanied to the left by a cluster of what appeared to be minute stars of different degrees of brightness.

"The cluster numbered from 15 to 20, although it was very difficult to estimate their precise number because they constantly changed their positions. The whole scene gave the impression of being one of great activity. It was utterly unlike anything I had previously observed in the heavens!

"Clouds again intervened for a short time and, on clearing another surprise

Egyptian Gazette
July 4 1954

'Glowing discs' over Berlin

Berlin, July 3.

THE Independent Berlin newspaper "Kurier" claimed today that "flying saucers" had been seen over Berlin regularly in recent weeks.

They had always appeared between 10 and 11 p.m. at a great height, flying very fast in wedge formations, usually of three, and performing rapid angular turns. They appeared as glowing discs.

Radar station

The "Kurier" said first reports from two amateur astronomers on May 15 had since been confirmed by about 300 widely dispersed and independent eyewitnesses.

The "Kurier" claimed the United States Air Force here was building a new radar transmitter to observe the "U.F.O." (unidentified flying objects).

A United States Air Force spokesman said he knew nothing about this. A radar installation was being built, but not to watch for "flying saucers," he said. — Reuter.

was in store, now there were two bright objects close together—the cluster of small objects having completely disappeared!

“ ‘My attention was riveted on the two bright objects, which showed sensible motion in the field. They were gradually separating and not only appeared to be gyrating and flashing but exhibited a slow pendulum movement about each other in a manner rather like dancing partners—a truly astounding sight.

“ ‘The impression given was that the phenomenon was at a tremendous height, probably in the upper reaches of the stratosphere or even beyond, because the smaller star-like objects of the cluster had shown no sensible size, even with a power of 50.

“ ‘The two principal members defied description: they flashed as they gyrated, as though metallic surfaces were reflecting the rays of the sun. Probably the closest analogy to what was seen is to be found in the flashing of the facets of a diamond as it is turned in strong light...I think it must have been a huge craft of some sort.’”

(xx.)

(xx.) Eglin, George. “Flying Saucers: Here are the facts.” Cairo, Egypt. *The Egyptian Gazette*. 2 November 54.

23 July. Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. (night)

Air Force radar station.

Here is a short comment:

“They’re here again, those flying saucers. Radio Station WBRE reported last night it had received calls every day this week from persons reporting they saw mysterious objects in the sky. A news reporter for the radio station said some of the objects were reported in the area of the U.S. Air Force station at Red Rock, Pennsylvania.” (xx.)

(xx.) Bridgeport, Connecticut. *Telegram*. 24 July 54.

Summer 1954. Champion, Ohio. (late afternoon or early evening)

Like two inverted plates.

Letter to the UFO publication *Ohio UFO Notebook*:

“In the late summer of 1954, I was just four years old but I still remember what I had saw on a summer evening at my Aunt and Uncle’s house outside of Warren, Ohio in a small town named Champion, Ohio. Nineteen-fifty-four was the year my mom and dad, along with my aunt and uncle, decided to sell out and move our families to Florida to live.

“Through most of the summer we all would meet at one of our houses for dinner and then the adults would sit around the dinner table and talk about this big move to Florida. It was at one of these meetings after dinner when the children were playing

and the parents were planning out the Florida move that I saw something that late afternoon to early evening. My cousin John who is two years older than me were cracking nuts of some kind with a hammer outside behind his family's house on a picnic table when from the west at just above tree top level came a craft moving very slowly at one or two mph, stopping over a field just above the trees in the neighbors back yard to the north. It was 40 to 60 feet in diameter, silver like two inverted plates to make a saucer shape. It made no sound but underneath of the bottom edge was a yellow/green area of lights or some whirling system that moved slowly clockwise spinning. The craft itself did not spin but just hovered there.

"I was just 60 yards from it. My cousin John yelled that he was going to get his dad and ran into the house. After a minute this craft moved north very slowly at tree top level until it was out of sight. John came back without any parents but by then the craft had left.

"Back in the 1950's the Warren, Ohio area had many very large steel plants. A few of these large plants were a few miles away from my aunt and uncle's house."
(xx.)

(xx.) Nydegger, Richard. "What I Saw in 1954." *Ohio UFO Newsletter*. Published by the Mutual UFO Network of Ohio, Inc., Columbus, Ohio. Summer 2003. #25. pp.17-18.

Summer 1954. Timaru, New Zealand. (5:50 p.m.)

"Wonderful lights beneath the dome."

Sighting report to Harold Fulton, New Zealand UFOlogist:

"Two years ago I lived in a suburb of Timaru. The back of the house faced the sea which was one-half mile from us. The time was 5:50 p.m. on a clear summer evening, no clouds whatsoever. The sun was high but well to the back of the house. I stress this because the sun could not have caused any reflection on the binoculars.

"My young son, 12 years old, came to me and said "Do you want to see a flying saucer?" I picked up [my] binoculars and rushed to the back door and saw the saucer hovering over our garage for at least 3 seconds. I had a perfect view and saw a silver-white circular shape. What impressed me most was the wonderful lights beneath the dome. First a beautiful blue, then brilliant red, and then orange. Then it tapered off to a pale yellow, then white, like smoke or vapour. My mother and father-in-law both saw it with me.

"While we watched, the dome seemed to revolve from east to west slowly.

"It [the saucer] rose very high and disappeared over the sea northwards.

"I saw it again a few nights later as I had kept a watch for it. It was travelling from the south to the north very fast. I rang the aerodrome and they said there were no planes over Timaru at that time.

"Postscript: There was no noise whatsoever." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Harold Fulton. From: L. Fox, M.O.W. Glenarey, New Zealand.
Date: 5 September 56. Murray Bott files.

28 August. The Russian theory refuses to die. SAC asks for disk-like aircraft info. (See below and on page 84)



HEADQUARTERS STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND
OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Classification _____
Auth: CG SAC
Date: 28 AUG 1954 Initials: *CG*

DINC

28 AUG 1954

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Request for Intelligence Information

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio

1. Request this headquarters be furnished all information pertaining to flying saucers that the following individuals from the following countries have produced:

a. France: COMTE

b. Germany: KLEIN, SCHRIEVER, HABERKHOHL, MEITHE

2. Further request a summary of information of knowledge Russia has pertaining to flying saucers. Information to include persons believed to be working on saucer projects, research and development, trends and/or techniques.

3. In reply reference SAC D/I Control No. 117.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Roy L. DeLoe
ROY L. DELOE
Major, USAF
Air Force Systems Division
Directorate of Intelligence

cc: USAF

AF033352

754-12574

Classification Information pertains to 05 APR 1978
UNCLASSIFIED
Authority of: AF 5 E
Date: 11/15/13

AF FORM 112
APPROVED 1 JUL 54

SECRET

OC-112		SUBJECT NO ATL-532-22-54		(CLASS. BY) H.F. 234/52	
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT					
SUBJECT (Unclassified) Flying Saucers					
DATE OF REPORT 21 September 1954		DATE OF INFORMATION 1945 - 1954		FROM OFFICE AFDIN-ATIAA, R-2 USAF	
PREPARED BY JOSEPH A. CALVECK, 1st Lt, USAF		SOURCE ATIAA-2		EVALUATION B-2	
SUMMARY: (Leave center summary of report. Use published in final one-paragraph paragraph. Use numbers of report in AF Form 112-Part 11.)					
Referencing SAC D/I Control No. 117, request for intelligence information, this office answers as follows: - Coanda, Klein, Schriever, Hebermehl and Meithe are not known to have produced any significant information pertaining to flying saucers. It is very possible that positions formerly held by these men or past work has led popular writers to speculate freely on connection between them and the flying saucers which have received wide publicity. - Soviet interest in the flying saucer phenomenon is considered to be still academic as in other countries. No specific Soviet flying saucer projects are known.					
PREPARED BY: Joseph A. Calveck, 1st Lt, USAF ATTI Specialist, Aircraft					
APPROVED BY: John A. O'Hare JOHN A. O'HARE, Colonel, USAF Deputy Commander Air Technical Intelligence Center					
LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES 9/54 131.3 V 2-01-2065					
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117 Ltr to SAC D/I, dtd 28 Aug 54 Subj: Req for Intell Info SAC D/I Control No. 117					
10-117-101					
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NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF 1917, AS AMENDED. IT IS TRANSMITTED TO YOU UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, AND IT IS NOT TO BE DISCLOSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN AUTHORIZED PERSONS, TO ANY OTHER PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

10-117-101

10-117-101

APR 1978

AC 3/7

10-117-101

22 September. Navarre, Ohio. (about 10:15 p.m.)

News item in the local press:

"The 'flying saucer' story was back in the news today, this time from a Navarre man home on leave from the Navy.

"Edward Sago, 21, of the Navy's air arm, told Stark County deputy sheriffs that he saw the strange object in the sky last night near his Navarre home.

"He said he has seen practically every type of aircraft but the one last night was unlike anything he has 'run across' as a Navy airman.

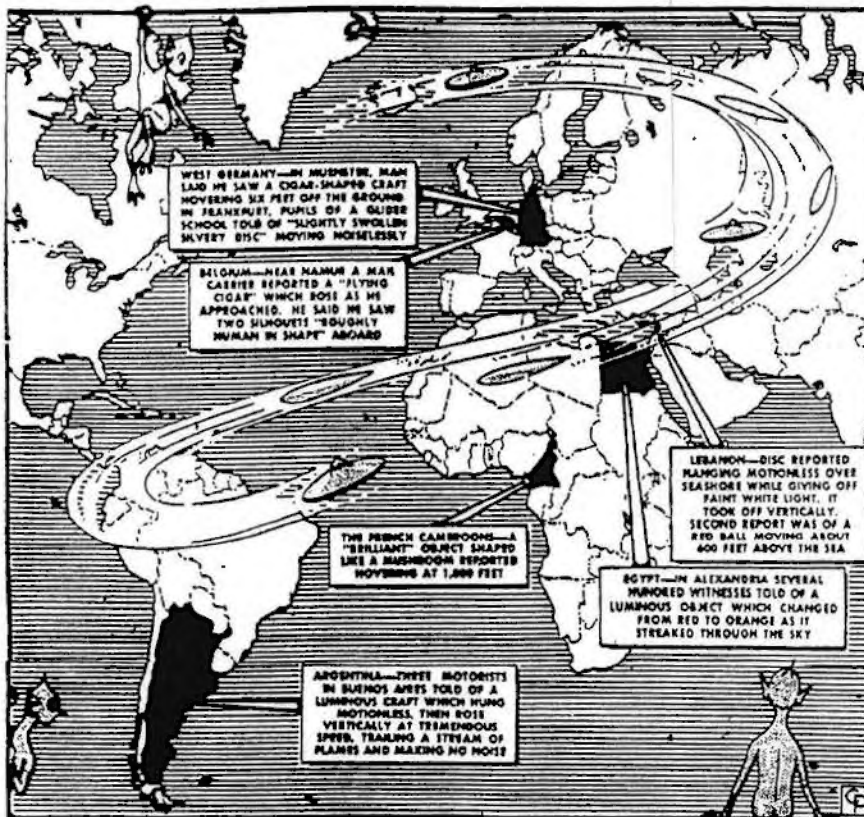
"Sago relates that he and his father and brother were at home talking about 10:15 p.m. when their attention was drawn to an object in the sky, appearing round in shape and radiating a white light.

"The object, he said, appeared at times to be moving at a high speed, then to be standing still.

"As they stood and watched, Sags said, a plane flew by and the light of the saucer-like object went out. When the plane passed, the light of the mysterious object reappeared, he stated." (xx.)

(xx.) Alliance, Ohio. *The Alliance Review*. 23 September 54.

WOW! FLYING SAUCERS ARE FLYING EVERYWHERE!



MAP LOCATES the "flying saucer" reports which poured into news offices recently, all in a 24-hour period. Strangely, even weirdly, they're all from outside the U.S. The question is, are they "something" or is it just a fever that spread from the "flying saucer" epidemic that hit America.

Traverse City, MI
Record Eagle
Oct 16 1954

1 November. Torquay, England. (night)

Yellow-orange balls.

A press report states:

"Mr. J. Branson, of Torquay, claimed today that he saw 15 mysterious flying objects several miles out at a considerable height over the English Channel last night.

" 'I never believed in flying saucers, but seeing is certainly believing,' he said.

" 'They were an orange-yellow color—like balls of fire. I saw them go into a cluster and climbed rapidly out of sight.'

" 'He said a friend, Mr. W. Cox, saw them with him.' (xx.)

(xx.) Cairo, Egypt. *Egyptian Gazette*. 3 November 54. (Reuter)

? November. Dhubi, India. (night)

She saw it—she fainted.

The press account said:

"Meanwhile, reports from Calcutta say that flying saucers—reported from all over France last month—appear to be moving East.

"According to reports from Assam, several people spotted an object like an illuminated dinner plate with a long, fiery tail zooming across the skies last night.

"One woman said she saw the saucer land in a field near the town of Dhubri. She watched it take off again—then fainted.

"Local police were said to be backing up the reports." (xx.)

(xx.) Cairo, Egypt. *Egyptian Gazette*. 3 November 54. (Reuter)

2/11 November. Holloman and Alamogordo, New Mexico. (no time)

Circling firing sites.

Coral Lorenzen, writing to Donald Keyhoe, revealed:

"There were UFOs over Holloman and Alamogordo on November 2, 11 and we had two sightings at the base two days apart. Both were circling firing sites, and took place last week. One I heard on the squawk box from the mission control set-up and the other was told to me by an officer who is a good friend of ours. He and his men saw the thing alternately circling two firing sites, about five miles from their launching site.

"I've found through discreet listening and little questioning that most of the Air Force (especially officer personnel) manpower takes a very dim view of Air Force statements and explanations in reference to UFOs." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Donald Keyhoe. From: Coral Lorenzen, International Director, Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, 519 New York Street, Alamogordo, New Mexico. Date: No exact date. (November?) Photocopy in author's files.

2 November. Alamogordo, New Mexico. (6:00 p.m.)

Hovering over Alamogordo.

There is a note written in long hand in APRO files that seems to correlate with the information in the letter to Keyhoe:

"Man watches 'second moon' at 12 o'clock [straight up] for 45 seconds—hovering over city. Time: about 6 p.m. Wife first saw it, watched it for 45 seconds, went to get neighbor, also called to husband. At end of 60 second observation, object which was the shape and color of the moon, same apparent size, with trailing edge and bluish halo, took off to northeast, gone in a few seconds at a terrific rate of speed.

"Identity of man not disclosed by request—however the Director can vouch for his honesty and integrity." (xx.)

(xx.) "USA Alamogordo N. Mex. 54-11-2" APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

13 November. Wairimu Bay, New Zealand. (evening)

"I have never seen a meteor with windows in it!"

A report to CSI New Zealand:

"Mr. Ray T. Craig, who is the Auckland City Housing Officer, had a close-up view of what may have been a space ship. It was on November 13, 1954, on the day of the Parliamentary Election when he and his party set out on a week's holiday to Coromandel, at a place called Wairimu Bay. In the evening, following an invitation from their host and hostess, the party set off for the pictures in the township in their host's car, and as they arrived very early they were all sitting relaxed in the car on the opposite side of the road from the picture theatre, whilst their host, who was the driver of the car, was talking to a friend from his position in the right hand front seat.

"The evening was clear and visibility excellent after a beautiful sunny day with very little cloud. Mr. Woods, who was sitting in the rear seat on the left called out, 'Look at the meteor!' There, sailing quietly across the line of vision between the picture theatre and the Post Office, was a brightly lit flying object not very high, maybe approximately 2,000 feet up, and proceeding in a westerly direction at roughly the speed of a normal aeroplane, say 200 miles per hour.

"Four of the six in the car saw the machine, two in the front seat and two in the rear. The driver who was engrossed in conversation did not see it, neither did Mrs. Craig who was in the centre of the rear seat, and whose view was obstructed by her husband on her right. Mr. Craig said that at first it looked like a very large and brilliantly lit railway carriage floating in the air, and he said, 'That is no meteor, I have never seen a meteor with windows in it!' Thinking the whole thing might be a reflection on the inside of the car's

windows from a lighted vehicle on the left side of the car, he quickly opened the right side rear door and was then able to get a clear and unobstructed view of the object. It was cigar-shaped with the rear end elongated and the front end stubbed off short.

"The whole thing appeared very large with straight sided windows or ports all along its side, these windows having perfectly shaped semi-circular tops and bottoms. Ports were also in the elongated rear end. Each window was brilliantly lit from inside, and was about the colour of the old incandescent gas mantle when alight. At the top and bottom on the windows and also between them, the fuselage was bright silver, and this portion appeared to be rough as though covered with what appeared to be drops standing out like roughcast.

"The front end, from the foremost lighted window to the extreme front, was not lighted at all, but appeared as a large unlighted shadow against the sky. On thinking over the whole sighting, which of course only lasted about eight seconds, Mr. Craig thinks that as the fuselage portion appeared bright and the part between the windows silvery, while the bow end was in darkness, the fuselage was probably translucent and the bow was probably cut off from the body by an internal bulkhead.

"The amazing part of the whole affair is that there was no sound. There appeared to be no wings, tail or fins, of any description, and as far as could be judged, any great streamlining. Yet later in the evening it was seen by the son and daughter of a friend of Mr. Craig's when it was described as absolutely streaking across the sky to the north of the Auckland harbour. This visitor was seen in the Waikato, over Chelsen and Whangarei on the same night, and the sighting in the Waikato was reported in the *Auckland Star*. It was seen by Mrs. Boyce at Orakei, Auckland, almost over the house at even closer quarters [!?] than the sighting described by Mr. Craig.

"A few more points were elucidated in conversation with Mr. Craig by our [CSI] interviewer. After the sighting Mr. Craig said to the others in the car, 'We won't see anything like this again so we better talk it over and agree upon a description and make a sketch. As he is accustomed to drawing he made the sketch himself [sketch not reproduced in the CSI journal]. Asked how big he thought it was, he said it was hard to estimate the size with any accuracy, but there were a few pointers that helped in judging. For example, there is a low hill behind the picture theatre at Coromandel, and it was above and behind this hill, and comparing its position with the hill, he was able to put the distance as half a mile and the height at 2,000 feet. For anything even at that distance to give the impression of being huge it must have been fairly big.

"Then again he was able to get an idea of the probable size of the windows from the following. Later in Auckland he noticed some windows of similar shape in a building, and about the same apparent size to the eye. As he knew these particular windows to be about 20 feet high, and the spaceship's windows were seen from farther off, they must have been more than 20 feet high, and the length of the ship compared with the height of the windows might have been anything from 200 to 400 feet. If that were so it may have been as big as a large steamer...

"The date being 13th November, it should be realized that his [Craig's] was a daylight sighting. At that time of the year, only five weeks to the longest day, there is still a good light at 7:40 p.m." (xx.)

(xx.) *Civilian Saucer Investigation (N.Z.) Official Quarterly Journal*. Vol. 3, No. 4. March-June 1956. p.3.

1955

1 February. Near Willcox, Arizona. (8:55 p.m.)

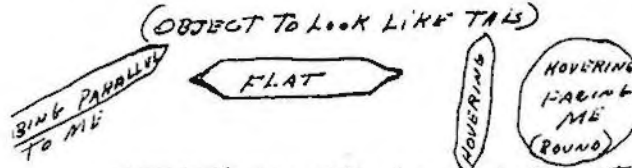
Like two pie tins placed together.

It was a clear, bright, moon lit night, when Capt. Delwyn F. Ritzdorf spotted his UFO. He was flying in the right hand seat as an instructor pilot in a B-25. With him were two student pilots from the 3501st Student Squadron based at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, Richard B. Short and Frederick W. Miller, Jr. At 8:55 the evening of February 1st Ritzdorf's B-25 was near Willcox, Arizona, about 30 miles east of Cochise radio on Green 5 Airway. He turned to talk to one of the student pilots and noticed something in the sky. A sharply outlined object giving off the colors red, blue, and white appeared to be pacing the B-25 at the same altitude [15,000 feet]. At arm's length it was the size of a baseball. The object moved parallel for five minutes and during this time it became apparent the UFO was slowly gaining altitude. Eventually it disappeared in the east. A drawing of the object including remarks by Ritzdorf is reproduced below.

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

MATERIAL — PHOSPHORUS METAL BASIC MAYBE ALUMINUM.
 SIZE — 120 TO 130 FT ACROSS
 SHAPE — DISK SHAPE — SOMETHING THAT WOULD LOOK ROUND WHEN COMING TOWARD YOU GIVING OFF A BRIGHT SURFACE AND WOULD DIM DOWN A LITTLE WHEN TRAVELING PARALLEL TO YOU BECAUSE OF SMALLER SURFACE POINTED TOWARD YOU.

(OBJECT TO LOOK LIKE THIS)



OBJECT WOULD LOOK LIKE TWO PIE TINS PLACED TOGETHER AT THE RIMS. IT WOULD BE ROUND AND FLAT.

- (xx.) Teletype message. From: COMDR MARCH FLT SV CEN MARCH AFB CALIF.
 To: JEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO. 2 February 55. Photocopy in author's files.

14 February. Moscow, Russia. (no time)

According to our source:

"On 14 February 55 official news about sky phenomena came to the West for the first time, as it seems, but was shortly thereafter interrupted unexplainably. It stated that several people in Moscow from various locations had observed a cigar-shaped craft at great altitude. It hovered and then disappeared. Soviet press warned about imagination and assured that this phenomena, as well as others, are scientifically explainable as atmospheric conditions. (Agence France-Presse)

"According to a later Reuters report from Moscow the people's belief in space traveling beings from another world had to be squashed by no less an authority than E. Krinov, secretary of the commission for meteorite research, who called the reports lies (Feuille d'Avis de Lausanne 28 May 55)." (xx.)

(xx.) *Weltraumbote* (German UFO publication) No.7. June 1956.

March 1955. Novokuznetsk, Russia. (11:00 p.m.)

Three strange pancake "clouds."

A Russian Air Force reserve officer states:

"Going into the reserve in 1955 I worked as an aviation technician in the 164th aviation detachment in the Abagyr airport, city of Novokuznetsk...[words missing], Kemerovskaya oblast. Sometime in March 1955, I received leave. I traveled to Gornaya Shariya to the Temar-Tau mine (Kemerovskaya oblast, Kuzedeyevskiy rayon) to see once again the place where I spent my youth. Going out on the taiga to hunt early in the morning, I climbed on one of the hills about 1.5 – 3 kilometers from the mine and observed a very strange phenomenon. The air currents could not break up three strange pancake clouds. I am familiar with aerodynamics and I just simply didn't understand it when these clouds did not change their shape; moreover, they kept together and departed approximately at an altitude of 1,000-1,200 meters in the direction of [word illegible] station and Tashtagol station. It was approximately 2300 hours local time." (xx.)

(xx.) Zigel, Felix Y. *UFO Sightings over USSR – 1968*. Vol. I. JUSA-CISAAF TR 93-01. January 1993. U.S. edition Copyright 1993 LDA Press, Los Altos, California. Edited by R.F. Haines. p.93.

13 March. (no city named) Queensland, Australia. (about 11:30 p.m.)

"Orange ice-cream cone."

Our source states:

"On the night of 13th March (1955), my young niece was staying with me. About 11:30 I looked outside and saw an orange object, hanging in the sky above the horizon. I called my niece to come quickly; before she did so it disappeared, but returned. It was orange coloured, about three times as large as the evening star. The shape was like an ice-cream cone. Now the peculiar and eerie thing was that although the object itself looked very far away, the ring around it seemed to be close to us. We were standing at our back door when we saw it. The house is not very high.

"Inside the ring was a blue-grey sort of vapour, or haze. We felt we could have put our hands out and touched it. When we first saw this object it was still, but then it started to hover up and down and from side to side, then it would spin, sending out greenish-orange glows, and as it spun, a little tail kept shooting out of the small end. We

were terribly excited and wished someone else could have seen it. We estimated the time we watched was 10 minutes." (xx.)

(xx.) *Australian Saucer Record*. Vol. 1, No.2. Second Quarter, 1955. p.7.

22 April. Near Tintinara, Australia. (7:45 a.m.)

Chased a UFO.

Another report from Australia:

"At 7:45 a.m. on 22/4/55 the observer was driving toward Melbourne with two companions, a few miles from Tintinara, in the outback of S. E. South Australia. Glancing to his right, he saw an object in the sky, about 5 degrees above the horizon, an estimated quarter mile away. He stopped and got out to watch the object, which came towards him, losing height, and crossed the road about 100 yards behind the car. At this point it was at an altitude of about 35 degrees and the observer estimated its diameter to be about 30 feet. After passing behind the car, at an estimated speed of 15 m.p.h., it turned and began to move towards the East, roughly parallel to the road. When it was about 500 yards away the observer started the car and began to follow it. It accelerated considerably; he reached 70 m.p.h. and followed for 15-20 miles, but was unable to catch up with it. At about 8:05 a.m. he stopped to check one of the tyres, and when he continued the object was almost out of sight. When last seen it was at an altitude of about 45 degrees and climbing rapidly.

"He had a good view of it when it was close to the car, and he described it as a silvery sphere like aluminum, about 10 feet in diameter, surrounded by a fat flange about 30 feet in overall diameter. This flange was a bright deep red. The object moved smoothly and silently, with the flange horizontal; it did not tilt or bank. He saw no markings, portholes or other features. The outline was clear and sharp, and the object appeared real and solid. The sun was shining at the beginning of the sighting, but clouds gathered towards the end. The other two people in the car also saw the saucer but were not available for interview at the time of going to press." (xx.)

(xx.) *Australian Saucer Record*. Vol. 1, No. 2. Second Quarter, 1955. p.8.

14 July. Otter Tail lake, Minnesota. (7:48 p.m.)

It just stood still. (See clipping on page 92)

22 July. Cincinnati, Ohio. (about 5:30 p.m.)

Shower of death. Disturbing grotesquerie. (See clipping on pages 93-94)

WOW, HERE'S A FLYING SAUCER STORY FROM OTTER TAIL LAKE

The Wadena Pioneer Journal has a story of a flying saucer that appeared at Otter Tail Lake a few weeks ago. While the paper fails to give the names of the parties who saw it, or to tell what brand of liquor, if any, they were drinking, the story may be worth reading. Here it is:

"With the thought of being ridiculed by friends, and accused of suffering from hallucination, a summer resident at Otter Tail lake and his guest have kept silent on a story which may or may not have importance. The story, loaded with interest, is released by the parties this week, with the understanding names be withheld.

The story started out, "I'm just as sure it was a flying saucer, as I am sitting here in your office." With this, they tell of the following incident:

While the resident and his guest were returning to the cottage from a fishing trip on Otter Tail lake, their attention, for some unknown reason, was attracted skyward, and they sighted a brilliant object suspended in the sky. As they came along in the boat, they continued to watch the object, and jokingly remarked, "They

won't believe us, but we can say that on this night, at 12 minutes to eight, July 14—and—sighted their first flying saucer" and continuing in the lighter vein wondered if they would have their names in the second book when it was written on flying saucers.

About 15 minutes later when they docked their boat, the object was still visible, but had moved to a different quadrant. Calling to his family, the resident told one of his children to get his binoculars, as he wanted to get a better look at it. The entire group watched it for another possible 15 or 20 minutes.

In explaining the object, they state it appeared to be somewhat like an elongated balloon, squashed together, and seemed to be standing perpendicular. When it was first sighted, it was about 75 or 80 degrees to the east, and later moved into a south quadrant.

"Whatever it was, it wasn't affected by wind currents, for clouds moved around it, and there was no drift to it—it just stood still," said one of the men.

With the aid of the binoculars they could make out what appeared to be a row of windows, or portholes along the side of the ob-

ject something like a train coach. On what they thought was the underside, was a "V" which appeared to run from about the center off to the front. "It was whiteish" is the way the color was explained, "maybe something like aluminum in the bright evening sun, but it was so bright it was hard to tell. It just looked 'whiteish' is the best way to explain it."

The object was estimated to have been at a height of about 25,000 feet as near as they could determine from the cloud structure, and it appeared to be about "half the size of the moon."

When the object started its departure, they said it moved from the south slightly to the east, against the direction in which the clouds were moving, and then in a sort of sweeping arc started its perpendicular climb and disappeared into the south, passing through two thin layers of clouds.

Said one: "I have never discounted the possibility of flying saucers, but I was always in hopes I could see one to verify it in my own mind—and now I can," and then went on, "I can't help but feel it was somebody up there making an observation, for it stayed there so long."

Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Daily Journal

20 August 55.

Cloud Brings Death

To Healthy Young Peach Tree Overnight — Red Shower Withers Grass, Burns Man

WHAT WAS it that fell out of the sky to kill the little peach tree Edward Mootz had so carefully nurtured in his side yard?

That problem has Mr. Mootz, who owns a handsome estate just off Sycamore Street Hill, tossing in his sleep these hot, humid nights.

It all started early in the evening on July 22. It was a hot day and Mr. Mootz had waited for the cool of the early evening to mow his terraced lawn at 440 Boal St. He estimated that the time must have been 5:30 and 6:30 p. m.

Mr. Mootz first noticed that something unnatural was occurring when he was down on knees near the peach tree. "All of a sudden," he recalled, "a peculiar liquid substance, dark red in color and feeling somewhat oily, began pelting me and the tree. It was almost like being caught in a shower."

"I LOOKED up and hanging directly over me about 1000 feet in the air was the strangest cloud I had ever seen. It wasn't a big cloud but it certainly did have odd colors. It was dark green, red and pink. The red in it matched the color of the substance which hit me and the tree. I could see that whatever it was that was raining down on me was coming from that cloud."

"I watched the cloud for a minute trying to figure it out and then my bare arms and hands where the drops had hit me began to burn. They really hurt, too. It felt like I had put turpentine on an open cut. I ran for the house and washed it off real good with strong soap and hot water."

Concerned only with washing off the burning drops, Mr. Mootz didn't even wonder how the tree might have fared. But the next morning when he stepped out in his yard he was stunned. The tree had died overnight.

The day before it had been a healthy young tree over six feet tall. Mr. Mootz estimated that it had a "good peck" of young peaches on it. Still green, the peaches were about the size of a chicken egg.

OVERNIGHT most of its leaves had turned brown and fallen off. The healthy young peaches had shriveled up to the size of the stones inside of them. The twigs and limbs were brown and brittle as if the tree had frozen to its roots. The main trunk of the tree had shriveled also and had become so hard that Mr. Mootz had difficulty driving a nail in it.

On the side of the tree which bore the brunt of the miasmatic shower, the leaves not only died but fell completely off. They died just as completely on the other side but they remained attached to the twigs.

The grass was killed where the drops sifted down through the tree to the ground.

Mr. Mootz has been growing shrubs and bushes and trees for many years but he contends that he has never seen a plant die so fast. "I've seen plenty of them killed by insects, disease and poor care," he explained, "but it takes a while for them to die. I never heard of anything that could kill a plant within 12 hours."

NO ONE can tell him that his peach tree died of anything other than that strange, red shower. Whatever it was," he contends, "it killed my tree. Some of my friends have suggested that an airplane dropped jet fuel on my tree. But it wasn't that. There wasn't an airplane in the sky. I know. I looked for one. Furthermore, that cloud was the only cloud in the sky."

Mr. Mootz also puts no stock in the theory that the cloud was produced by some chemical plant and drifted over his yard to drop its red death. "I've lived here for 15 years," he said, "and it's never happened before. I've never even seen a cloud like that before and I'm 59 years old now. Besides, I don't think I live near enough to any kind of plant that might produce such a cloud for it to drift over my land."

Mr. Mootz believes that the most ridiculous theory yet advanced is that a flying saucer was hidden in the cloud. "That's silly," he said. "That cloud wasn't big enough to hide a flying saucer if there are such things. Besides, it wasn't controlled. I watched it for a long time from the house and it was drifting with the wind. I watched it until it drifted out of my sight over toward Eden Park. No, it definitely wasn't controlled."

HE DOESN'T know how or why, but Mr. Mootz believes that the cloud somehow is connected with the atomic bomb tests which were conducted in Nevada some time ago.

"You hear a lot of talk about fall-out," he said. "Maybe this was part of it. That's the only thing I can think of. But I do know one thing. Whatever that stuff was, someone should put it on the market as a weed killer. Those weeds under that little peach tree died just as fast as the tree and the grass did."

Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Enquirer.

28 August 55.

Were the anti-saucer remarks fictitious?

Page 2—Section 3

Sunday, August 28, 1955

THE ENQUIRER



Edward Mootz examines the shriveled branches of his little peach tree after a mysterious shower killed it in a matter of hours.—Enquirer (Kain) Photo.

Since this sighting occurred on UFOlogist Leonard Stringfield's home turf, he sought to interview Mr. Mootz in person:

"I [Stringfield] learned of the incident a couple of weeks later and made an appointment with Mootz for an interview. It was Sunday afternoon when Dell and I drove over, and we found Mootz middle-aged, friendly and chatty. Carefully he recounted the details of the incident, gave me samples of the mummified peach and twigs, showed me the many white pinprick scars on his arm 'where the substance burnt in...' (xx.)

(xx.) Stringfield, Leonard H. *Saucer Post...3-0 Blue*. Publication of Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects: Cincinnati, Ohio, October 1957. p.60.

Most important was the assertion by Mootz that what he saw was not a cloud, but an object, moreover the object was controlled. It was an object like: "...a pear standing on end, bulbous side upward, with a metallic fin appended to the rear." (xx.) The "red rain came from an open-

(xx.) Ibid.

ning in the bottom of the object." (xx.)

(xx.) "Notes on the Mootz incident. Phone conversation 8/25/56 at LS's." Photocopy in author's files. I think I copied this note from the APRO files film—L.E. Gross

The newspaper account, that stated in no uncertain terms Mootz had viewed a "drifting cloud", was in error (It seems strange the paper would be so wrong unless Mootz was pulling Stringfield's leg. Ice cream cone-shaped UFOs have been reported, a shape which compares somewhat with the "bulbous" description, but the "metallic fin" detail is suspicious. Another scenario is that the authorities had a version of the event to their liking published in the press to throw off curious people like Stringfield. The picture of Mootz and the dead tree in the *Enquirer* was taken "several weeks" after July 22th (mid-August?). (xx.) The date of the

(xx.) Ibid.

newspaper article is the 28th of August 1955. Authorities, therefore had about two weeks at least to learn about "dead tree" story and take action. The phone call note is dated a year later, August 25, 1956. When Stringfield checked Mootz's yard the tree was gone. Mootz explained that the:

"...authorities, three men, had already visited him, right after [late July?] the incident and had taken away the tree and all its dead fruit. Mootz would not identify the authorities, except to say they were dressed in plain clothes, and courteous. Said Mootz: 'They promised a report of their analysis within six weeks,' but when I checked a year later, the report had not arrived." (xx.)

(xx.) Stringfield, Leonard H. *Saucer Post...3-0 Blue*. p.60.

Stringfield wrote:

"In every respect Mootz was cooperative. I took 8 mm. Movies of the vacant area where the tree had stood and of Mootz standing near it, and later had him draw for my files impressionistic sketches of the UFO he had seen [Unfortunately no such sketch is available]. Indeed, on paper it was strikingly different from the usual discoid UFO shape.

"I lost no time in getting the 'pruned' peaches, twigs and other chunks of root I dug up into the hands of a friend of mine who offered to take them to the Physics Laboratory at Villas Madonna College in Covington, Kentucky. There elaborate tests were made, one which involved a comparison of seeds, the Mootz specimen and another provided by the lab which had been allowed to dry out sufficiently. Under controlled conditions, only the lab seed sprouted normally. The Mootz specimen proved to be completely dehydrated!" (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, pp.60-61.

The note on the Mootz case. (See below)

notes on the Mootz incident:

Not a cloud as paper reports; pear shaped with perfect contours - point (rounded point) to bottom - about 5:30 p.m. July 22. Definitely controlled in spite of account in paper.

Photographer came by several weeks later, saw the shriveled tree, took picture next, some men from _____ Labs came and took the tree away. He can't say any more about it.

Red vein came from opening in the bottom of object.

Moving slowly + steadily to NE.

phone conversation 8/25/56 at LS.

19 August. Near Oxford, Nebraska. (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 July-September 15th. Supplemental Notes*, pp.17-18. The footnote is wrong. The correct source of this story is: Omaha, Nebraska. *Omaha World-Herald*. 24 April 66.)

21 August. Hopkinsville, Kentucky case. (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 July-September 15th*, pp.54, 84. Also: the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 July-September 15th. Supplemental Notes*, pp.18-36.)
(See clipping)

HERALD-LEADER, Lexington, KY - Jan. 7, 2003 CR: J. Slone

Decades-old claims of alien sightings persist

FILM CREW INTERESTED IN STORY DATING TO 1955

By Michelle Carlton
KENTUCKY NEW ERA

PRINCETON — Geraldine Hawkins was only 7 or 8 years old the first time she heard the story of the Kelly green men.

Although her father, Elmer "Lucky" Sutton, said he was one of the people who witnessed the alien invasion on Aug. 21, 1955, he didn't talk to Hawkins about it until the late 1960s when two writers contacted him for an interview.

"This was the first I'd ever heard of it," Hawkins said. "I remember it was a man and woman that came to the house. I had never heard anything about it. I remember sitting on the floor with my legs crossed listening to this story. It terrified me."

The local legend recently attracted the attention of an independent production company in Glendale, Calif.

A film crew from Barcon Productions came to Hopkinsville to research the incident. Barcon has been recording witnesses' accounts for a film titled *Monsters of the UFO* to be released next summer.

The sighting occurred at Kelly, a small town on U.S. 41 about 8 miles

north of Hopkinsville. "Lucky" Sutton and several family members said a spaceship landed near the house that evening. It was carrying about a dozen little space creatures, they said.

"Lucky" Sutton and other family members said they had a gunbattle with the creatures that lasted for hours.

Most of the Sutton family members who said they fought the aliens off with shotguns are dead.

However, Hawkins and her younger brother, Elmer Sutton Jr., of Trigg County, said their father, who died in 1995, shared his experience with them.

"He talked to me about it because I was one of the last ones to leave home," Elmer Sutton said. "I prodded him about it a lot. If I'd catch him in the right mood, he'd sit down and talk for hours about it."

According to the family, a visitor to the Sutton house, Billy Ray Taylor of Pennsylvania, had been in the backyard getting water from the well. He noticed a light streak across the sky and descend into the trees along a ravine about a quarter of a mile away.

A while later, "Lucky" Sutton's mother, Glennie Lankford, saw a creature with long arms and talon-like hands raised in the air approaching the back of the house.

"(Dad) said they appeared to have a human shape, but with some modifications that made them different," Sutton said. "He called them little green men.



MICHELLE CARLTON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geraldine Hawkins and Elmer Sutton Jr. say their father told them he saw aliens.

He called them green, but said they actually weren't green. He said they were silver, but they had a greenish silver glow to them. He said they were about 3-foot tall.

"Their arms were double the length of humans' and had pointed ears. He said the eyes were in the same place as

humans', but were more of an almond shape. The eyes had a luminous glow. He said they really didn't walk, just skimmed on top of ground, but moved their legs."

"Lucky" Sutton and Taylor each fired several shots at the aliens, they later reported to police. The siege continued through the night, the story goes. None of the bullets seemed to affect the creatures.

"He told me he didn't know what in the world they had in mind, but he wasn't going to stand around to find out," Sutton said.

The Suttons, Taylor, Lankford and a few children in the house that night said they piled into two cars and headed for the police station in Hopkinsville.

City, county and state police, along with military personnel from then-Camp Campbell, flocked to the Kelly homestead and stayed until about 2 a.m. They searched the house, the yard, surrounding fields and a wooded area, but reportedly found nothing.

The family claimed the creatures returned again about 3 a.m. and stayed until morning.

Contrary to speculation by some, Hawkins insists that her father and other family members were not drinking alcohol that night, nor did they fabricate the story.

"I could always tell when my dad was pulling my leg or not. He wasn't pulling a fast one," Sutton said.

"I could always tell when my dad was pulling my leg or not. He wasn't pulling a fast one."

Elmer Sutton Jr.

son of Kelly man who said extra-terrestrials invaded his back yard

9 September. Portland, Indiana. (9:00 a.m.)

Too fast to be a balloon.

According to a press report:

"There was another report of a saucer-like object which was sighted by two men on South Shank Street here on Friday morning.

"Kenneth Hall said that he and Max Aker saw a round and black object hover above the earth at an altitude which they guessed at between 5,000 and 6,000 feet.

"He said that the object hovered for about 30 seconds, made a circle, then zooming eastward for about a half-mile. There it paused again, made another circle, and then continued its journey eastward.

"The object was sighted by the two at about 9 a.m., Hall said. It appeared about the size of a basketball from the ground, which would make it perhaps 20 feet in diameter if it was a mile up in the air.

"There were no distinguishing markings on the object, the two men said. They discounted the theory that it was a balloon, such as is used by the Air Force for weather observation.

" 'It went too fast, to be a balloon,' said Hall, a four year veteran of the U.S. Air Force who also reported sighting a similar object in Arizona three years ago.

"Portland Police said that they had no reports of any one else seeing the phenomenon and there were no other reports reaching the *Commercial Review*." (xx.)

(xx.) Portland, Indiana. *The Commercial Review*. 16 September 55.

1956

30 April- 4 May? White Sands, New Mexico. (daytime)

"Like a shiny aluminum ball."

Captain Thomas Andrews, Vice-Commander of the Pacific Missile Range, while attending a talk by Dr. James McDonald at the Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, California, told the Arizona professor about a UFO sighting he had in 1956. Some 200 other Navy officers also viewed the object:

"In the spring of 1956, he [Andrews] was up at White Sands for some demonstration firings, along with the other 200 officers. It was sometime in the week of April 30- May 4, 1956. (After the talk, he kindly phoned from his office to give that date-bracket based on the certificate he got from the short course.)

"Just after an Aerobee launch had malfunctioned, all hands were looking up, someone spotted the UFO, and soon all 200 officers, plus White Sands range personnel, were intently observing the object.

"Capt. Andrews said it was about one-fourth the angular diameter of the moon, round in apparent cross-section during most of the observation, and metallic in appearance 'like a shiny aluminum ball.' It was stationary, as nearly as they could see, and soon a number of persons had stuck twigs in telephone poles to line up with crossbars to cross-check the lack of motion, confirming it. Although it remained without any perceptible motion for a time that Andrews said extended ultimately to about four or five hours, at one phase in the first hour or so that they were watching it rather carefully, it changed planform from round to cigar-shaped for about a 20 minute period. He said it was as if it were a disc and tipped on edge, so that they saw its cross-section for 20 minutes, although that was merely a way of confirming the described shape-change. He said that, when the group was back in buses and heading down to Ft. Bliss, they periodically craned their necks to look out of the bus windows

and, as nearly as they could tell, the object hadn't changed its relative position in the sky for about four or five hours.

"Its large perceptible angular diameter and lack of motion completely rule out Venus, a fireball, or any such celestial object. The shape-change, in his opinion and mine, rules out anything like a balloon, as does the lack of motion for a great length of time. I asked him if radar or optical-tracking was employed, and he said that all of their questions on that point never met with any clear-cut answers, so he does not know." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Mr. James Hughes - Code 412, Office of Naval Research, Room 4105, Main Navy (?) Washington, D.C., 20360. From: Dr. James McDonald. Date: 20 February 69. Photocopy in author's files.

20 May. Columbia, Tennessee. (11:15Z)

Somewhat flat and round.

An Air Force Air Intelligence Information Report states:

"At 2315Z 20 May 56, Columbia, Tennessee GOC Post (CF35B) reported sighting four or more unknown flying objects four or five miles ESE of post between two banks of clouds on a generally clear and sunny day. Objects described as somewhat flat and round and reflecting or flashing light. Generally hovering but also moving up and down and sideways at times. Altitude estimated 20-30,000 feet. Objects in view about three or four minutes and claimed to definitely not to be conventional or known aircraft by three teenage and one adult GOC volunteer.

"Report immediately reported by AF instructor on duty to TWIGG and OAK HILL radar sites. TWIGG assumed control since it had a jet in the area but disclaimed any radar sightings in vicinity of Columbia, Tennessee." (xx.)

(xx.) Air Intelligence Information Report, by Captain Joseph J. Turecky. Det #6, 4717th Ground Observer Squadron, Nashville, Tennessee. Date of report: 13 June 56.

18 June. Between Santana do Jacare and Campo Belo, Minas Gerais, Brazil. (2:00 p.m.)

Hovering luminous disk.

Our source states:

"On June 18, 1956, between Santana do Jacare and Campo Belo in the state of Minas Gerais, when the station-wagon driven by its owner Otavio Rodrigues, carrying four passengers arrived at a place named Carrinhos, the passenger Jose Ribeiro de Barros looked upward and saw a hovering luminous disk, the size of a common oxcart wheel (about a yard in diameter). Immediately he called the attention of other passengers who also saw the body starting to move. It was 2:00

p.m., clear sky and the body showed a light like an electric welder.” (xx.)

(xx.) *The Flying Saucer*. Flying Disks Research Center, Sao Paulo, Brazil. August 1956, No. 1. p.11.

14 November. Near Mobile, Alabama. The Hull/McIntosh airliner case.

(See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1956 November-December*, pp.19-21)

Dr. James McDonald makes the following contribution:

“When I interviewed McIntosh recently, the feature of the incident that remained most vivid in his mind were the intense brilliance of the erratically darting white light and especially the extraordinary acceleration with which it climbed out to the south over the Gulf. His remark to me was that it ‘moved faster than anything we’d ever seen.’ He was emphatic in asserting that its departure speed exceeded any known aircraft flying then or now [1969].” (xx.)

(xx.) *UFOs and the Condon Report*. James E. McDonald, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, The University of Arizona. (Material prepared for the Medical Students Colloquium, University of Arizona College of Medicine, January 30, 1969) p.8.

1957

15 April. Newcastle, England. (9:50 p.m.)

“It looked just like the flying saucers they show you.”

An English paper printed:

“A flying saucer was reported seen over Newcastle at 9:50 last night.

“Twenty-two-year-old Miss Maria Mallick, of 166 Rye Hill, Newcastle, claims to have seen it.

“Miss Mallick told an *Evening Chronicle* reporter that she was sitting at home watching television. There were other people in the room with her, but she was the only one who sat facing the window.

“She says she saw the saucer—‘it looked just like the flying saucers they show you’—coming low from behind her house and swooping up high as it went along.

“It was brightly lit, and it was the lights on the saucer which first caught her attention.

“She said that no one else in the room saw it, as the others were facing the other way.

“No other reports of the saucer have been reported.” (xx.)

(xx.) Newcastle, England. *Evening Chronicle*. 16? April 57.

1 November. Krugersdorp, South Africa. (11:00 p.m. - Noon)

"We can only assume some physical phenomena for which we have no explanation." (See clipping.)

Rand Daily Mail
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1957.

CROWD SEES "STRANGE OBJECTS" IN THE SKY

Plane and radar search made over the Rand

"R.D.M." STAFF REPORTER

SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE Sabre jet fighters stood by at Waterkloof Air Station, near Pretoria, yesterday afternoon after people throughout the Reef, Johannesburg and Pretoria had seen two strange objects hovering over the area.

Between 11 a.m. and noon a Sabre, on a training flight over the Reef, was diverted to search south-east of Krugersdorp for the objects. When the aircraft had climbed to its maximum height of more than 45,000 feet, observers on the ground said that one of the objects was then several thousand feet higher than the jet.

Air Force radar equipment was also used to try to trace the object, but found nothing.

Among the people who saw the object was Major G. Ogilvie-Watson, officer-commanding an A.C.F. squadron at Pretoria. He saw a bright, stationary object in the sky to the south-east of the Rand, and advised Waterkloof Air Station.

More than 50 workers in the Lulpaardsvlei mine office near Krugersdorp watched one of the objects hanging motionless in the air at a great height to the south-east from 9.15 a.m. until after noon.

Calls from people in Johannesburg and neighbouring areas who claimed to have seen the object in the same position jammed the "Rand Daily Mail" telephone switchboard.

Jet's search

A Krugersdorp watcher, Mr. N. R. du Chenne, a mine official, directed the jet towards the object through a "Rand Daily Mail" reporter in telephonic communication with the Waterkloof control tower, which, in turn, was in touch by radio with the pilot of the aircraft.

This telephonic link-up — from Krugersdorp to the "Rand Daily Mail" office in Johannesburg on to Waterkloof — enabled the pilot of the jet to approach in the direction of the object until it reached its maximum altitude of 45,000 feet.

At 12.15 p.m. ca. "Rand Daily Mail" reporter and photographer, who were outside the new South Rand Hospital, saw the Sabre jet sweep overhead before returning to Waterkloof and, seconds later, they noticed two motionless objects hanging in the sky to the south-east.

Disc-shaped

The objects, which were disc-shaped and reflected the sun's rays from silver-like surfaces, seemed to float slightly before one suddenly sped off southwards. After a while it stopped again.

The other remained stationary for about 15 minutes, and then sped off towards Germiston. Then the first followed it, and they both disappeared.

Because of the glare in the sky the photographer was unable to take a picture of the objects.

Several other people saw the objects with the two newspapermen.

Later, an Air Force Intelligence officer in Pretoria said: "As the air investigation and the radar sweeps revealed nothing, we can only assume that the objects were some form of physical phenomena for which we have no explanation."

*Johannesburg SA
Rand Daily Mail
Nov 4, 1957*

"STRANGE OBJECTS"

THOSE "strange objects" in the sky for which a S.A.A.F. Sabre jet fighter spent most of Friday morning searching have been sighted again — and again over Krugersdorp.

The first to see the object was a student — "please don't publish my name or I shall never have any peace at varsity," — who was studying in his garden in Krugersdorp.

He looked up and the shining object was right above him, hovering high in the sky. Then it suddenly shot off at a high speed.

"It looked like a meteorological balloon. But I made inquiries and was told that no balloons were lofted yesterday," he said.

4 November. Krugersdorp, South Africa. (daytime?)

"Please don't publish my name." (See clipping)

5 November. Coalbrook, Northern Free State, Africa. (7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.?) (See clipping)

6 November. Near Grapevine, Texas. (10:50 p.m. and 11:10 p.m.)

"Appeared to have three or four square windows."

Yet another Levelland type sighting:

"A mysterious object—Whatnik, flying saucer, or whatever you might call it—has now been reported in the Fort Worth area.

"A man who identified himself as Bernard Womack phoned Grapevine police late Wednesday, claiming that he and his wife had seen a 'lighted object' east of there off Highway 114 about 10:50 p.m.

"About 11:10 p.m. another man Grapevine police identified only as a Farmersville minister also reported seeing a lighted object on the ground in the same area.

"The object, the minister said, appeared to have three or four windows and a flashing light.

"Tarrant County Sheriff's Dispatcher Al Reynolds said description of the object sounded like that of a helicopter. In Dallas, Sheriff Bill Decker said he was very skeptical about the reports.

"Grapevine police, accompanied by Womack, were investigating the scene of the sighting early Thursday." (xx.)

(xx.) Fort Worth, Texas. *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.
7 November 57.

8 November. Near Marion, Alabama. (about 11:15 p.m.) (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1957 November 7th - 12th*, p.65. The account below has more detail)

According to a press account:

"A round silver object as large as several cars—'30 or 40 feet across—was reported parked off a South Alabama highway last night.

"An Army sergeant called *The Post-Herald* from Marion to report that he had just seen the object off the right of way along Highway 5 near Marion Institute south of Marion.

"Sgt. B.B. Smith said he was driving into Marion when he saw the object between the road and a field at about 11:15 p.m.

"I'm 40 years old, and I know what I see," said Sgt. Smith.

"He said his car engine became overheated just before he noticed the thing.

Johannesburg SA
Rand Daily Mail
Nov 6, 1957

Searchlight on mystery object

"R.D.M." Staff Reporter

AN enormous cylindrical object, which was seen by hundreds of people in the Northern Free State and Southern Transvaal yesterday, was tracked by searchlights from the South African Air Force station at Dunnottar last night.

Officials at the Dunnottar Air Station refused to comment, but watchers as far afield as Boksburg saw the searchlight pick out the mysterious object, which was half-hidden by high cloud at the time.

About 50 people in the little Free State town of Coalbrook watched the object for more than two hours yesterday afternoon.

DISAPPEARED

Using a telescope fitted to his theodolite, Mr. Don Roden, a constructional engineer, succeeded in focusing on the object.

He watched it hanging almost motionless in the sky; saw it change from a cylindrical to a spherical shape—before it gradually rose into the sky and disappeared.

Between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. last night people telephoned the "Rand Daily Mail" from Johannesburg, Boksburg and Florida to say that they had observed a large cylindrical object moving slowly across the sky.

FLARED UP

Two "Rand Daily Mail" reporters investigated one of the sightings reported from Boksburg. With Mr. and Mrs. Martin Grobler and Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Helberg, of Vogelfontein, Boksburg, both reporters saw an illuminated object, about the size of the moon, appear briefly from behind high cloud.

The object flared up for about ten seconds and then withdrew behind the cloud again. At that time the moon was behind the observers.

"But he passed beyond it to the first house where he stopped to use the telephone.

"Numerous strange lights have been reported over Alabama but last night's was the first report of a parked object." (xx.)

(xx.) Birmingham, Alabama. *The Post-Herald*. 9 November 57.

9 November. S.A.A.F. probes reports. (See clipping)

Price 3d. Rand Amity Mail
(4d. in S.W. Africa, Portuguese East Africa)

JOHANNESBURG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1957

Those "Things" you see in the heavens

S.A.A.F. PROBES REPORTS OF "STRANGE" SKY OBJECTS

A matter of defence, says spokesman

"R.O.M." STAFF REPORTER

ALL the so-called "strange objects" seen in the sky in the last few weeks have come under thorough investigation by the authorities.

This was stated yesterday by Major R. V. Lamb, Intelligence Staff Officer, at a Press conference at the Air Chief of Staff Headquarters in Pretoria. A satisfactory explanation had been found for most of the objects reported by witnesses, he added.

By far the greatest bulk of "sightings" reported in the past have proved on investigation, to have been caused by some natural phenomena.

Most of the recent sightings proved to be either the sunlight gleaming on the body of the recently-arrived Comet aircraft in flight, balloons with radar reflection screens attached to them and sent up by the Weather Bureau, or distortions caused by the beams of Air Force searchlights reflecting against clouds or densities of air masses.

Even the planet, Venus, which is now close to the earth and which can be seen in daylight with the naked eye has been listed as "strange" by many people.

Air Force task

It was a task of the Air Force to investigate reports of unidentified objects seen in the sky over South Africa. This was a matter of defence routine and fell within the Union's zone of responsibility. All the recent spate of reported sightings were carefully investigated, said Major Lamb.

When necessary, the Weather Bureau, the observatories and even the Council for Scientific

and Industrial Research were asked for their aid in the identifying of the objects and seeking an explanation for them.

Some persons, said Mr. Lamb, were reluctant to give information, for fear of being ridiculed. He emphasised that the Air Force wanted to know of the reports. It treated all information as confidential and followed it closely with investigation.

He warned hoaxers, however, not to give false reports.

More seen

In East London yesterday it was reported that two strange objects were seen over the city in the early morning, reports S.A.P.A. Watchers said that the first looked like a star and the second like a red ball.

The "luminous starlike object" was seen high in the sky, moving very fast in the direction of Kidd's Beach.

25 November. Gulf of Mexico. (night)

Stars on radar? (See clipping)

Pensacola Ft
Journal

Nov 26, 1957

Flying Objects Reportedly Seen Near Hurlburt

EGLIN AFB, Nov. 25—Crewmen of a B66 jet bomber reportedly saw three unidentified flying objects in the Gulf of Mexico south of Hurlburt Field Monday night.

Capt. W. L. Sheppard of Eglin reported the crew saw the objects about 10 p.m. upon return from a training mission to Atlanta. Sheppard cautioned that they might have been stars. However the objects reportedly were seen on Eglin radar.

1958

No data.

1959

13 August. Half way between Roswell and Corona, New Mexico. (daytime?)

UFOs affect compass. (See notes by Dr. James McDonald. pp.104-109)

August 13, 1959, UFO Sighting by Jack H. Goldsberry

Present Address: 4337 Silva Street, Antioch, California, 94509
 Home Phone: AC 415, 757-6876
 Auto Parts Store Phone: 757-8000

Introduction:

This case was reported in the *UFO Investigator*, Vol. 3, No. 1, March-April 1965, page 5. The information contained therein was provided by Paul Cerny. At that time, Goldsberry (hereafter identified as JHG) did not wish his name revealed.

However, he recently has become the owner of an Antioch auto parts store and no longer feels the same reluctance to come forward that he felt when employed by a tool company. Paul Cerny sent me the present address and telephone number of JHG and a letter dated January 17, and the present interview was done on the evening of Saturday, January 20, 1968.

Interviewing done by phone by J. E. McDonald from Tucson

I got him by phone on Saturday afternoon at the store, but it was difficult for him to speak there, and he urged me to call back Saturday evening. In that initial conversation, however, he emphasized that he was no longer at all concerned about keeping his sighting quiet. In the evening interview, he took a somewhat different position and indicated that he would just as soon not have undue publicity about it. For instance, he suggested that he would just as soon not have the tool company (AMCO) hear about it even now. It was not made clear to me why he changed from his initial open emphasis on readiness to testify, etc., to the subsequent partially reserved position. Perhaps he had simply reconsidered the hazards of publicity about UFO sightings.

JHG was quite emphatic about many of the details of the sighting, without appearing to exaggerate. He occasionally lapses into a somewhat glib "fly-boy" phraseology, but would become more serious each time he returned to the parts of the sighting that seemed to have left the strongest impressions on him.

Some Background Points on JHG

He indicated that he had studied mechanical engineering at Kansas University and at Southern California and indicated that

he had a B.S. from K.U. He had served in the Navy during World War II, but not as a Navy pilot, as indicated in the 1965 report. He was a crewman in a PBV. He emphasized that, in that line of duty, he had frequently seen fighter planes circling the slow PBVs and had a good deal of familiarity with the typical changes of relative apparent angular velocity, as seen from the plane being circled. That bore on the main sighting event because the UFOs behaved quite differently, as we will emphasize below.

In 1959, he was using his own personal Cessna 170 in flying for his employer. He indicated that he knew most of the terrain in that area, the mountains and all the airways features. AT that time, his home was in Lubbock, Texas. He estimated for me that he must have had around 4,500 - 5,000 flying hours in 1959; he accumulated a final total of 6,000 hours before selling his plane when he came out to California. He does not fly now.

We discussed several technical details (such as the nature of a Magnesyn compass) and JHG seemed rather knowledgeable in such areas. He was aware, for example, that a "fantastically large" magnetic field would be required to produce the effects that he reportedly observed.

I asked him if he was quite certain of the date, and he stated that, when he originally talked with Cerny, he had gone through all of his company records to match up the event with the particular company business he was transacting at the time. He feels that he pinned that date down accurately. His flight route that day was supposed to be from Hobbs, New Mexico, to Farmington, New Mexico. He had not planned to let down at Albuquerque until the incident occurred.

Events Leading Up to the Beginning of the UFO Observation

He was flying at around 8,000 to 8,500 ft altitude on a heading which he thought was probably correctly given in the original account (313 degrees). He emphasized the unusual clarity of the atmosphere on that afternoon (exact time uncertain). He could see mountain peaks familiar to him in Mexico, perhaps 150 miles away, and could also see known mountain peaks in southern Colorado. He emphasized that this was, in a sense, an adverse factor in the sighting, because very clear atmospheres often make it rather difficult to judge distances, above all when one is not dealing with objects of known size.

He was somewhat more than halfway from Roswell to Corona, both of which localities have VOR equipment. Roswell VOR had voice, but Corona had no voice. He remarked that the radio antenna on his Cessna 170 gave better reception to the rear than to the front, but this appears to have no evident relation to the events.

He pointed out that, when flying alone like that, it is frequently possible to doze a bit and that he was half dozing at the time (that may not be a completely correct interpretation of what he intended; in any event, the emphasis was that he had not been paying extremely close attention at the precise moment that the incident began.). However, as soon as it began, he had to check his bearings and mentioned that he noticed a familiar mountain range near which he had been flying, and it had not changed relative location.

What first caught his attention and brought him to an alert state was a chance observation that his compass was about 90 degrees off the appropriate heading that he had established when he started dozing along. This woke him up fast. He looked at the mountain range for reference, realized that he hadn't really changed true compass heading, and just then noticed the three UFOs. At that moment, they lay about 30 degrees aft of the bow, on his starboard side.

Description of UFOs

There were three objects, flying in eschelon, low in front, high in back. The 1965 report states that they were shaped like "two bowls face-to-face" (bi-convex), but JHG was emphatic in saying to me that he did not see such a shape. Rather the only outline that was ever presented to him during the entire observation was essentially circular, possibly somewhat elongated in a horizontal sense. He said that the only way they might have been lens-like in shape would be if they were moving along like a wheel and always presenting their circular outline to him.

He stated that he is color-blind but makes fairly good color estimates most of the time. To him, they appeared as dark gray with no highlights nor any perceptible glow. He compared the appearance to anodized aluminum or dark cast iron.

One point that he went into detail about concerned the slight diffuseness of the edges. He did not want to describe the edges as "fuzzy" nor as "shimmering", but emphasized that they were not crisp, sharp edges. He preferred to speak in terms of "velvet" and suggested that one try to visualize velvet with 6-inch-long hairs that were wiggling all the time. This feature bothered him noticeably, and he took some pains to attempt to describe it and was still not satisfied with his description when we finally dropped the point.

The 1965 report speaks of the objects leaving a "short, wispy trail" and we went over that. He said it was not a contrail nor a smoke trail, but rather resembled the refractive shimmering (my terms, JEM) of the hot gasses emanating from a jet engine exhaust. He was not able to give a precise description of it, but felt that the comparison with the appearance of the jet exhaust came closest. He estimated very roughly that each one of the objects had such a "trail" extending about 1 diameter aft.

No markings or ports or any protuberances were observed. I went over with him the matter of angular diameter, and he estimated, by trail and error while on the phone with me, that they must have subtended an angle ~~###~~ about equivalent to an orange at arm's length (i.e., around 5 degrees). I was unsuccessful in trying to get him to compare that with the moon.

As to size, the nearest he would guess was that they might have been between 10 and 20 ft, whereas in the 1965 report a figure of 8 ft had been suggested, "but they could have been considerably larger." He put their distance from his plane at perhaps 100 yds, not likely to be (certainly not) over 500 yds, and he really preferred an upper limit of about 200 yds. But he emphasized that the distance estimate was rough because he did not know their size and because the high visibility denied him the visual clues of a day of greater opacity. (Note that an object of 10-ft diameter

at 100 yards would subtend an angle of about 2 degrees. On the other hand, accepting his "orange at arm's length" estimate and combining it with an estimated range of 100 yds gives a diameter of around 30 ft. My own opinion would be that none of these angular or distance estimates is very precise and that attempts to select from among these various possibilities is pointless now.)

WHEN

UFO Maneuvers

When he first noted the three objects, after being brought out of his "doze" by virtue of the compass discrepancy, the objects lay 30 degrees to the right of his flight path and were heading to his rear. They passed around his tail and showed up a moment later on his port side, circled in front of him across his nose, back around the starboard side around the tail, forward again crossing the nose a second time, and made one more full circle in that manner, finally passing on his starboard side and going out of sight behind his tail.

He emphasized that he was "amazed" at one important feature of this circling maneuver: it was done at apparently constant relative angular velocity (my own terms for what he described). JHG interjected side comments at that point about the way the ordinary circling operation appears, and this was when we went back to his wartime PBY experience. A fighter flying at constant air speed around a slow PBY, say, appears to be going at extremely high speed when it is moving in direction opposite to the PBY, whereas when it is overtaking on the other half of its orbit, it appears to be going much slower relative to the PBY. This was not at all what he saw, JHG stressed. Instead, the objects went round and round him without any apparent change of speed in a coordinate system fixed in his own aircraft (my terms). It was very clear from his comments that this puzzled him very much at the very time that it was occurring because of his previous flight experience.

He mentioned that the echelon formation was preserved rather precisely, except for occasional vertical motions of the middle object.

After the objects had circled three times and passed after him, he never saw them again. However, as will be made clear in the next section, he inferred that they must have stayed behind him for an estimated 10 or so seconds because the Magnesyn compass pointed directly aft for about that period of time before relaxing back to its proper orientation.

I asked him if he considered turning his plane around and looking for them, and he replied that he was so frightened that he didn't give that a thought. He stated that, at the time, his proximity to Holloman AFB and White Sands led him to the snap judgment that he must have become involved in operations of some secret military aircraft, and he was afraid that he might be in trouble. By "trouble", I gathered that he did not mean any kind of legal trouble, but rather that there were hazards involved in the situation. He stated that he sincerely believed that his Cessna 170 did not depart from its initial heading by more than a few degrees throughout the whole incident because when the compass returned to normal it was right on the heading which he had set up when he started dozing along.

I tried to get him to estimate the duration of the sighting, but he was reluctant to do so. He thought it might have been

on the general order of a minute or so, but would not stick with any one figure because the recollection was vague.

Anomalous Compass Behavior

JHG had two compasses in the Cessna, a Magnesyn and a standard compass. The sensing element of the Magnesyn was located near the tail. He gave me a very brief description of the operating principle of the Magnesyn, but I shall not repeat it here. The standard compass involves a kerosene-floated needle, speaking roughly.

During the circling maneuvers, the Magnesyn compass tracked faithfully all of the time as the objects orbited. The north-pointing end of the Magnesyn was always pointing to the objects. The standard compass, by contrast, could not be readily observed because of the froth in the kerosene, stirred up by the highly agitated behavior of the magnet. The standard compass may have been tracking, but JHG certainly had no basis for concluding this because of the difficulty or seeing through the foam.

I failed to ask him if the Magnesyn pointer was fluctuating about its average rotational motion.

As mentioned above, when the objects completed the third circle, the Magnesyn pointed aft and stayed in an aft-pointing direction for what he estimated to be around 10 seconds, then "the magnetic field lost its grip" and the Magnesyn drifted back around to its original undisturbed heading.

Miscellaneous Points About the Sighting

He estimated the spacing between the three objects to be about 2 diameters.

I tried to get him to guess the air speed of the objects. He was originally reluctant to make a guess, but felt that the figure of something like 200 mph might make sense. He thought he was cruising along at about 135 mph (about 10 miles better than the nominal cruise for the Cessna 170 because of certain features of his plane). He was emphatic in saying that he felt the UFOs were moving at a speed well below jet speed. Note that in the 1965 report the speed is put at about 250 mph, in reasonable accord with the present estimate, but note that the distance and sizes are uncertain, and they enter into his subjective estimate of the air speed as the objects orbited him.

(xx.)

(xx.) Papers of Dr. James McDonald, University of Arizona Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. Special Collections Division.

? December 1959. Cocoa?, Florida. (shortly after 11:00 p.m.)

UFOs escort rocket?

A newspaper account states:

"Omar Bowley, 85, of Cocoa, worked as a blockhouse and pad inspector for Northrop, mainly during Snark rocket tests. But most notable among his memories is what happened over a 10 minute span shortly after 11 p.m. in December 1959.

"Off duty, having pulled over in his car to watch a late night launch not far from pads 3 and 4, Bowley watched as three glowing objects—with edges slanted like pie plates and if you turned one upside down on top of the other—descended upon the launch area from the north.

" 'They were in a triangle formation, one in the lead, two in back,' Bowley says. 'They were off-white in color, I guess, and absolutely noiseless. It was astounding. When the rocket launched, the first one turned over on its side in a vertical position and followed it, then the second vehicle followed, then the third in single file. One was near the front, another was near the middle, and the other was near the back end. They all went out of sight together.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Melbourne, Florida. *Florida Today*. 6 July 97.

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Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1958 October. Privately published. (1999) 95 pages.

Change to a larger format: 8X11 inches (letter size paper)

Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1958 November-December. Privately published. (1999) 67 pages.

Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1959 January-March. Privately published. (1999) 100 pages.

Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1959 April-June. Privately published. (1999) 78 pages.

Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1959 July-September. Privately published. (2001) 92 pages.

Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1959 October-December. Privately published. (2000) 72 pages. End of series.

---Original goal achieved of writing a history of the UFO mystery from 1896-1959.

However, so much outstanding material accumulated it was decided to publish more material in the form of "Supplemental Notes." To save time no attempt was made to incorporate the data into existing monographs. No footnote numbers were assigned in the supplements although symbols to allow for their eventual insertion are placed in the text (Sample: (xx.) instead of (23.) Reference information immediately follows the data quoted or discussed.

Supplemental Notes: 1947 January 1st-June 23rd. Privately published. (2000) 39 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1947 June 24th-July 6th. Privately published. (2000) 64 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1947 July 7th-July 10th. Privately published. (2000) 65 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1947 July 11th-July 31st. Privately published. (2000) 51 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1947 August 1st-December 31st. Privately published. (2000) 79 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1948 Privately published. (2000) 100 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1949 January-June. Privately published. (2000) 96 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1949 July-December. Privately published. (2000) 69 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1950 January-March. Privately published. (2000) 56 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1950 April-July. Privately published. (2000) 71 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1950 August-December. Privately published. (2000) 69 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1951 Privately published. (2000) 65 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 January-May. Privately published. (2001) 85 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 June-July 20th. Privately published. (2001) 78 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 July 21st-July 31st. Privately published. (2001) 123 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 August. Privately published. (2002) 160 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 September-October. Privately published. (2002) 68 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1952 November-December. Privately published. (2002) 32 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1953 January-February. Privately published. (2002) 43 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1953 March-July. Privately published. (2002) 52 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1953 August-December. Privately published. (2002) 51 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1954 January-May. Privately published. (2002) 50 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1954 June-August. Privately published. (2002) 47 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1954 September. Privately published. (2002) 26 pages.

Supplement Notes: 1954 October. Privately published. (2002) 97 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1954 November-December. Privately published. (2002) 83 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1955 January-June. Privately published. (2002) 60 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1955 July-September 15th. Privately published. (2002) 44 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1955 September 16th-December 31st. Privately published. (2002) 37 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1956 January-April. Privately published. (2002) 35 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1956 May-July. Privately published. (2003) 57 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1956 August. Privately published. (2003) 45 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1956 September-October. Privately published. (2003) 53 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1956 November-December. Privately published. (2003) 42 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 January-March 22th. Privately published. (2003) 9 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 March 23rd -May 25th. Privately published. (2003) 32 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 May 24th -July 31st. Privately published. (2003) 19 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 August-September. Privately published. (2003) 28 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 October 1st -November 2nd. Privately published. (2003) 28 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 November 3rd -November 5th. Privately published. (2003) 10 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 November 6th. Privately published. (2003) 8 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 November 7th -November 12th. Privately published. (2003) 15 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1957 November 13th -December 31st. Privately published. (2003) 15 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1958. Privately published. (2003) 39 pages.

Supplemental Notes: 1959. Privately published. (2003) 19 pages.

Supplemental Notes: January 1, 1947-December 31, 1959. (Material received too late to be included in the original editions or in the supplements) Privately published. (2003) 109 pages.