

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

1947 July 11th – July 31st

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

By

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“UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse.”

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

“Supplemental Notes” consist of material under consideration for any revision of the original UFO history volume covering this time period.

11 July. Longview, Washington. (about 6:30 p.m.)

Two groups of discs.

A professor James McNab and his wife watched what they said were two groups of discs in the sky over Longview, Washington, the afternoon of July 11th. A press report elaborates:

"They [the discs] appeared to be perfectly round, shiny objects, twelve to fifteen in each group, moving within their own group, but the two groups never intermingling. The discs gave off bright flashes when they turned, catching the sun's reflection. The two groups were traveling fast at a high altitude in the same general direction. Mrs. McNab called to her next door neighbor who came out and witnessed the strange phenomenon along with her and her son and daughter." (xx.)

(xx.) McMinnville, Oregon. *Telephone-Register*. 17 July 47.

11 July. A letter arrives at a Chinese newspaper.

"Flying plates?"

If "flying saucers" were some social phenomenon, China would seem to be an unlikely country to suffer from "disc delusions," but apparently Western news services were able to reach many people in the major cities and contaminate them with "Arnold hysteria."

It should also be noted that this part of the world was a sensitive one for American foreign policy with the Communists fighting the Nationalists for control, to say nothing of the strong Soviet military presence in Siberia and North Korea.

In the U.S. the Russian theory to explain the saucers was still under serious consideration so its no wonder the U.S. consulate in Mukden collected and forwarded a sighting report. This particular incident was suppose to have taken place on July 10th but with so many of Mao Tse-Tung's agents infiltrating Kuomintang territory the possibility of a hoax being spread by a Communist dis-information teams could not be ruled out.

FLYING PLATES SEEN OVER MUKDEN?

US Consulate - Mukden
#30 7-12-47

Chung Yang Jih Pao (KMT organ)
July 12, 1947

Local:- This newspaper received a letter yesterday from two employees of the Anshan Steel Company, Yen Chin-po and Chang Ching-yin (residing in Kang Ning Chieh, Ho Ping Chu), stating that they saw over 100 white circles emitting a gleam like burning phosphorus and speeding in the sky over Mukden from the east to west faster than airplanes in rapid succession at 10.30-11.30 p.m. on July 10.

"We were wondering whether those were the 'flying plates' mystifying the world at present. Please find that out from the scientists," says the letter.

Enquiries subsequently made by this newspaper at the Pelling Air Force Station failed to confirm the phenomenon as related in the letter.

"Help! The Martians are coming!"

Southern Kansas excited:

"Thousands of 'flying saucers' went sailing over Southern Kansas today [July 10th] creating much excitement in Wichita and other cities.

"Ray Dumont, president of the National Baseball congress. Loosed a flood of silvery discs from a low-flying plane as a promotion plan for the state semi-pro tournament which opens Friday.

"The discs bore no identifying marks as Pilot Larry Stanley hurled them from the plane over Wichita, Hutchinson, Arkansas City, Wellington, Newton, El Dorado, Winfield, Augusta and McPherson.

"In Wichita alone thousands of telephone calls flooded the police switchboard as people who had seen the 'flying saucers' asked protection from 'an invasion from Mars.'

"Chief of Police George Shepherd became so infuriated—he collared Dumont and threatened him with arrest. But he couldn't find a law in the statute books that applied to Dumont's stunt." (xx.)

(xx.) Wichita, Kans. 10 July 47. (INS)

"The Flying Saucers And U.S. Wits."

In an editorial, Herman Oleake explained how things had changed since the 1938 Orson Wells radio "War of the Worlds" broadcast:

"In any crisis which suddenly confronts us, there is always the saving grace of American wit and humor. After a few days of the mysterious 'flying saucers' and gleaming 'discs' hurtling through the skies, it became difficult to distinguish what might have been real, though bizarre discs, and what obviously were the hoaxes of pranksters.

"Atomic energy is real enough. What marvels it may yet produce cannot be predicted in full. We are just in the very dawn of the atomic age. But for fifty years the comic sections of the papers, the scientific magazines, and other publications have been filled with the adventures interplanetary 'space' ships, powered by atomic energy, and the imaginative variations of this theme have been voluminous. With the touching off of the atomic bomb, all that had once seemed fantasy became shockingly real.

"When you consider the constant bombardment of the propagandists that we must make the United Nations work or risk atomic annihilation, and the recent barrage of horrendous stories about germ warfare, it is not surprising that a widespread suppressed hysteria prevailed, that may have been released by the reports of the mysterious 'saucer' phenomena.

"We all know enough to know that such reports could be real. Nothing seems so fantastic as to be incredible, now that we have unlocked the basic energy of the universe. Let us keep our feet on the ground, as long as it lasts.

"When the new telescope is installed on the West Coast with its 200-inch lens, our knowledge of the universe will be tremendously increased. That, rather than the two wars, may prove to be the greatest event of this or even many recent

centuries. Dr. Lyman Spitzer, Jr., associate professor of Astrophysics at Yale University gives the following picture in *The New York Times* of what may be in store for the present or future generations:

"Dr. Spitzer thinks it more likely that men will set foot on the planet Mars before they land on the moon, because Mars has an atmosphere and the moon had none. On Mars a space ship could glide gently to the surface.

"That there may be intelligent life on Mars is probable to some astronomers, says Dr. Spitzer [The idea that Mars had life was making a come back at this time]. Assuming that life on Mars developed earlier than it did on earth, the Martians may have been civilized for millions of years, as compared with our thousands. 'In such a case, Martian scientific knowledge, and Martian understanding of nature would, of course, be enormously greater than ours,' Dr. Spitzer concludes. In fact, men from Mars may have already visited the earth. 'Unless they had spent some time in a large city or had landed sufficiently recently to be photographed,' he said, 'we would have no record of their having been here. Any few men who had seen them would probably not be believed by anyone else.'

"The above may be depended upon as conservative, rather than mere fantasia, as you choose." (xx.)

(xx.) Oleake, Herman Everett. Editorial: "The Flying Saucers And U.S. Wits." Parkersburg, West Virginia. *The News*. 11 July 1947. p.6.

11 July. Yuma, Arizona. (2:30 a.m.)

Social psychological delusion infects family dog.

The local newspaper printed:

"Another story of 'flying saucers' was added to the long list today. Mrs. Anna Potts, 248 46th avenue, Yuma, told the *Daily Sun* that she saw one at 2:30 a.m. yesterday.

"The barking of her dog, she said, woke her and caused her to go outside.

" 'It came swooping down over the housetops and the telephone wires,' she said, 'and at first I thought it was a bird.'

"But when the object, which was traveling at high speed, got closer she saw that it was not a bird but 'some round, flat, white colored object that was spinning.'

"She followed it for about five seconds until it disappeared over the housetops, she said. It made no noise, Mrs. Potts added.

" 'I never believed the story about the saucers before,' she admitted; thinking that people who told them just wanted their name in the paper.

" 'But I'm convinced now, I believe I saw one of those things, whatever they are,' she said." (xx.)

(xx.) Yuma, Arizona. *The Yuma Sun & Arizona Sentinel*. 12 July 47. p.3.

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1947

Hangar Jest At Gallatin Field Burned Up Wires

A hangar jest, rising from friendly competition in story telling, got out of bounds Monday and literally had set the nation on fire about the flying saucers.

First report of the story to top all sky yo-yo yarns leaked out of the hangar Sunday night and was printed in Monday morning's daily newspaper reaching Bozeman from Butte.

Still not realizing the incendiary nature of their realistic account of the encounter with yo-yo's, and the account of one disc's disintegration in the prop wash, the fliers Monday morning gave a *Courier* reporter an account in full of the weird experience the pilot and his photographer had at over 30,000 feet elevation.

The *Courier* story was relayed to the United Press in Helena, and long-distance calls confirmed the fact that the yarn got three-inch headlines in Monday afternoon's Los Angeles newspapers.

The originators of the tallest tall disc story are employees of the Fairchild Photogrammetric Engineers, aerial mapping service. They had completed a photographic mission and while resting over a cold soft drink in a hangar at Gallatin field members of the Fairchild crew and local operators were trying to outdo one another on a yo-yo story.

This story gained in proportions and fantasy as it was passed from pilots and mechanics and back to pilots and mechanics and all of the participants were thoroughly aware that the conversation was merely "idle conversation" and that there was no adherence to the truth. Apparently part of this non-sensical conversation was overheard by other parties and was relayed through swift communications to the nation.

Bantering at the hangar was wholly and unconsciously transmitted to another person or persons who wanted to believe the yarn, one of the fabricators said.

11 July. Disc disintegration hoax explained.
(See clipping left)

11 July. 26 miles from Grants Pass, Oregon.
(shortly after 6 p.m.) (See clipping below)

Grants Pass, Oregon
Daily Courier
12 July 47

Williams Man Reports Flight Of 'Saucers'

Flying discs finally have reached Josephine county, according to a report given The *Daily Courier* this morning by Don Gray, of Williams. Four of them, he said, flying in fairly close diamond formation headed directly into Grayback mountain about two miles from the Gray home and about 26 miles from Grants Pass shortly after 6 p.m. Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Gray, Don's parents, his sister, Elnora and his sister-in-law, Helen Gray, all witnessed the apparent crash of the four mysterious objects, he said.

"They glistened in the sun and teetered something like a leaf until they finally disappeared in the trees of a canyon," Don said. They could not have cleared the mountain. They were moving at about the speed of an ordinary airplane. They were two miles away but they seemed quite small. They came from the north."

North Bay, Ontario
Daily Nugget
 11 July 47. p.3.

"Flying Saucers" Now Reported All Over World

London, July 11—(Reute Ps)—
 "Flying saucers," which have been
 puzzling citizens of 41 states and of
 Canada since last month, now have
 made a complete tour of the world
 according to messages received
 here.

These mysterious flying discs
 were reported today from Japan
 and yesterday from Chile, Holland,
 Britain and Northern Ireland. A
 police officer in Southern Japan
 said today he saw some brilliant
 objects last Wednesday flying over
 Kagoshima Bay in a wave-like man-
 ner. An official of Kidoshima
 weather bureau said that the
 "saucers" might have been balloons
 released by the bureau.

An air mechanic of Santiago Air-
 port, Chile, also said he saw "fly-
 ing discs," which were flat and
 oval.

Following these reports the scien-
 tific department of the Del Salto
 observatory near Santiago announ-
 ced that it had recorded the pre-
 sence of "strange objects" in the
 sky May 19, which moved slowly
 producing at intervals discharges of
 whitish smoke.

The announcement added that
 this strange meteor remained a cer-
 tain time and then crossed the
 horizon at a considerable speed.

"Flying saucers with holes in the
 middle," were reported by two girls
 to have been seen yesterday flying
 over Birmingham, England, and two
 people near Rochester, in Southern
 England, also reported seeing the
 discs.

W. A. Nesbitt of Belfast disclo-
 sed yesterday that Tuesday evening
 he sighted a dozen rapidly moving
 round white objects which trailed
 "a whispy grey cloud."

11 July. Saucer phenomenon spreads.
 (See clipping left)

11 July. Boca Grande, Florida. (6:00 p.m.)

"Wobbling visitors."

According to a press account:

"Three flying discs, about five feet in
 diameter and traveling at high speed were
 reported to have been seen yesterday at 6
 p.m. over the center of Boca Grande. The
 wobbling visitors were observed by Ashby
 Whitehead of Asheville, N.C., and two
 other persons whose names he did not
 know. Mr. Whitehead said the objects were
 flying too fast to make out any details but
 appeared to be trailed by silver streaks and
 were heading north. He declared they came
 so close to the ground that one nearly struck
 a pine tree. A humming noise, he said, ap-
 peared to come from the objects." (xx.)

(xx.) Fort Myers, Florida. *Myers News-
 Press*. 12 July 47.

11 July. Southeast of The Dalles, Oregon.
 (daytime?)

The local newspaper published:

"Seeing is believing?"

" 'Seeing is believing,' wrote George R.
 Harth, who likes to fly model airplanes and
 go aloft in big ones too, in a note to *The
 Optimist* in which he described a flying disc
 he had seen July 11 while combining in a
 wheat field on his ranch southeast of The
 Dalles.

"Harth wrote that he and his header ten-
 der, Jim Shaw, saw 'for sure' a disc, from
 8,000 to 12,000 feet high and traveling much
 faster than any pursuit plane 'I have ever
 seen.'

"The object appeared to be oval in shape,

dark colored, and moved in a straight line in the direction of Mount Hood, apparently at around 1,000 miles an hour. It was half-way across the sky when the men first saw it and was out of sight in from 30 to 40 seconds.

"Harth added that from 'now on' he will carry field glasses should he chance to see another disc.

"Again on the following morning, Shaw saw a similar object. This time he was with Bill Schunke, another hand at the Harth Brothers ranch, and saw the strange objects at about 8:00 a.m. traveling from northeast to southwest across the sky in the Wrentham area." (xx.)

(xx.) The Dalles, Oregon. *Optimist*. 18 July 47.

12 July. "What's your answer to that General Spaatz?"

A letter to the editor put General Spaatz on the spot:

"If Gen. Spaatz, commandant of the Army Air Forces, knows nothing about these flying saucers, as he stoutly avers, it is high time that he make every effort to find out about them. Is our national safety to be so lightly disregarded?

"Only a short time ago a large amount of time was consumed and huge sums of money spent by Congress to fix the blame for the gross negligence at Pearl Harbor. What are the officials who are charged with our national safety waiting for this time—a repeat performance?" (xx.)

(xx.) Dallas, Texas. "Letters to the Editor." *Morning News*. 12 July 47.

12 July. Grand Forks, North Dakota. (afternoon)

Objects seemed to revolve.

A press account states:

"Mr. and Mrs. E.O. Borchers of Grand Forks said they also saw some silver discs flying high in the air Saturday afternoon. The objects seemed to revolve with one side apparently brighter than the other, Mrs. Borchers said. While [her husband]...indicated he saw between 12 and 15 saucers moving very swiftly eastward." (xx.)

(xx.) Valley City, North Dakota. *Times-Record*. 15 July 47.

12 July. Between Elba and Albion, Idaho. (evening)

"Was it a disc?"

An item in the local paper said:

"Mrs. Glen Taylor and her four daughters, Glennette, Donna, Vera and Gleta, were driving home Saturday evening, July 12 when they noticed a 'dark object' in

the sky, traveling in a straight course above the East mountain.

"As it was almost dusk, they took it to be a small airplane, at first. However, as it came nearer, they saw there were no wings and no noise, or sound, whatever.

"The object came from the south and traveled directly north and appeared to land on the point of the North mountain west of the highway, between Elba and Albion.

"Visibility being poor at that time of day, they said it may have gone on over the mountain. However they do know definitely it was not a 'bird or an airplane.' (xx.)

(xx.) Burley, Idaho. *Bulletin* 22 July 47.

12 July. Houston, Texas. (about 9:00 p.m.)

Dipped and soared.

According to a local press report:

"A silvery disc, which sometimes looked 'like a ball of fire,' bounced around and circled over the Kashmere Gardens section about 10 minutes Saturday night, according to reports.

"Mrs. Lillie Mae Black, 4902 Wayne, said that about 9 p.m. she and several of the people in the neighborhood saw the disc dip and soar and circle at a high rate of speed, then disappear.

"Her father, C.L. Amerson, same address, was one of the spectators of the heavenly display of crockery, as was L.M. Harrell, a dredge engineer for liaden Company.

" 'I know it wasn't caused by a searchlight playing on the clouds,' Harold said. 'I've seen several of the flying discs while on ships in Galveston Bay this past week.'

"The Weather Bureau said that this flying disc might be ball lightning resulting from electrical storms conditions Saturday night in the Gulf Coast." (xx.)

(xx.) Houston, Texas. *Chronicle*. 13 July 47.

12 July. Over Utah Lake, Utah. (about 2:30 p.m.)

Like two saucers face-to-face.

In a private letter a man named Earl described his encountered with a half dozen or so objects in the air over Utah Lake. Earl worked at the Plutorum Recycle Test Reactor at Kennewick, Washington.

On July 12, 1947 Earl was piloting a small private plane:

"Beulah, Ron and I were flying from Las Vegas, Nevada to Salt Lake and while over Utah Lake saw the six or eight objects coming towards us and slightly to our right. They were at the same altitude as we. I didn't notice them until we

were practically to them. As they passed I banked the plane sharply and flew after them for a few minutes during which time they left us as if we were standing still.

"Size is difficult to estimate in the air but I would guess they were not over six feet in diameter. They were silver-white, oval top and bottom much like two saucers face to face. They were closely spaced. They fluttered as a group for a second or two and then stabilized for a second or two, alternately between these two modes."
(xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Frank. From: Earl. Kennewick, Washington. (no date)
Coral Lorenzen's APRO files. Microfilm of APRO files in the author's collection. "Frank" is Frank B. Salisbury, a biologist who later wrote the book *The Utah UFO Display* (The Devin-Adair Company: Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 1974). "Earl" was Earl Page, Salisbury's wife's uncle. Salisbury includes the report in his book in the Preface (page xvii) and repeats the same information but adds, without going into detail: "The Pages experienced an overwhelming emotional reaction to this completely strange experience."

12 July. Kenneth Arnold: "Would tell his story again."

Reporters kept after Arnold. On the 12th this was published:

"Kenneth Arnold, his eyes red from long hours of squinting toward the horizon in vain hopes of seeing more 'flying saucers' so he can get a picture 'to shove down the throats of those stiff-necked doubters,' sticks to his story.

"And he'd tell the story again if he had the whole thing to do over.

" 'Despite the notoriety,' he said, 'I'd tell the story again if I had it to do over.

" 'If there's anything like that over our country I think it should be known. It be reported if anyone sees it.'

"The Boise Idaho, businessman flyer, whose story of nine mysterious objects—big as four engined airplanes—whizzing along 1200 miles an hour captured a nation's imagination, said he's more positive now than ever 'something mighty strange is going on in this country.'

"And he's convinced the army could give the answer if it would.

" 'If even one percent of the reports are accurate there's still something very unusual going on.'

"He said he might doubt himself but that the reports of discs by a United Air Lines crew—Capt. E.J. Smith, the pilot Ralph Stevens, and stewardess Marty Morrow—were unquestionable.

"The objects they reported seeing on a Boise to Portland flight answered the descriptions of the strange aircraft he observed June 25 flying between Mt. Adams and Mt. Rainier in the Cascade mountains of southwestern Washington, Arnold said.

"The 32-year-old one time North Dakota all state high school football player doubted the mysterious objects were from other countries, but thought it more likely they were guided missiles being tested by the army,

" 'If the army doesn't know what they are—and I know this sounds screwy!

—they must be something from some other planet.’

“At first many people regarded Arnold’s story as a kind of Buck Rogers pipe dream, he said, but most of them have come to believe him now.

“‘Those that know me—my wife, my friends and my business associates—never doubted my story.’ He said, then admitted, somewhat sheepishly:

“‘But my mother, who lives in Albany, Ore., was somewhat flabbergasted at first.’

“Arnold, who played football at University of Minnesota but didn’t graduate, said he first told his story to the *East Oregonian* because he wanted to find out what he had seen and not because he wanted publicity. The furore of that story, which he hadn’t thought of publishing, leaves him a little dazed.

“‘People are a little nuts...women’s hats named “flying saucers”...signs of the world coming to an end...!’ ‘Huh,’ he snorted, ‘they haven’t anything to do with religion.’

“Apparently people are trying to laugh the whole thing off. And maybe that’s a good thing because perhaps if they knew how serious it might be things wouldn’t be so nice.’

“Hundreds of people from throughout the United States and Canada have written Arnold. Some obviously are from crackpots but all expressed belief in his story, he said. Many offered explanations of what the strange objects might be.

“A University of Tennessee student warned him not to photograph the objects because they were of a Buck Rogers type plane. The writer said he had seen one rotting in a south seas island jungle.

“A number of letters suggested that the mystery aircraft were piloted by former residents of the ‘lost continent.’

“A woman, who said she recently had buried a ‘dear friend,’ wrote:

“‘I was sitting in my chair and fell asleep. Then something strange awoke me. I turned and there in the door was the strangest white disc. I never had seen anything like that before.

“‘Do you suppose that is what you could have seen?’” (xx.)

(xx.) Pendleton, Oregon. *East Oregonian*. 12 July 47.

12 July. Stirrings of the occult proponents.

In a letter to the editor, a reader wrote:

“The appearances of the flying discs at this time was foretold by the late Madame Elena Petrovna Blavatsky in the first edition of her ‘Secret Doctrine,’ page 583.

“As set forth therein, beings on a higher plane of existence are thereby to establish friendly communication with our race. New and startling phenomena of a nature undreamed of by man will also shortly be manifested.

[Signed] BELIEVER.” (xx.)

(xx.) Detroit, Michigan. *Detroit News*. 12 July 47.

12 July. Winchester, Idaho. (about 9:00 p.m.)

"Whirled around, shot upward." (See page 12)

12 July. Telenews Theaters feature the saucer mystery.

At this time there were small movie theaters in major American cities that featured nothing but fast action newsreels showing news highlights of the week. Television put them out of business. (See page 12)

12 July. Brazil, Indiana. (daytime)

"Like a wheel rolling through the air." (See page 12)

12 July. On Larch mountain, Washington. (daytime)

A formation of nine oval objects. (See page 12)

12 July. Publicity agents strive to utilize the idea. (See page 13)

12 July. Rigby, Idaho. (about 4:25 p.m.)

Flying in formation. (See page 14)

12 July. Don't laugh at saucer stories. "Washington Calling." (See page 14)

12 July. Grand Forks, North Dakota. (between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.)

Multiple sightings. (See page 14)

12 July. High Point, North Carolina. (7:20 p.m.)

Editor of aviation magazine encounters a "thing"

According to a press report:

"The first flying saucer seen in this area was reported tonight to be a huge red object traveling at a rapid rate of speed by two veteran flyers of High Point.

"Ed Lewis, editor of *Southern Wings*, an aviation magazine, and Dick Mil-saps, a member of the staff of the publication, sighted the flying 'ball of fire' about ten miles south of High Point this afternoon.

"The two men stated they were flying into High Point at an altitude of approximately 1,000 feet when they noticed a glare to the left of their plane. Glancing to their side they said they saw a huge object, round on top with a large black band through the center, flying in a northerly direction at a rapid rate of speed.

" "The bottom part of the object was revolving, and periodical bursts of

MAYBE THEY'RE FLYING SAUCERS



Winchester Group Sees 'Flying Saucers' Here

News of "flying saucers," the mysterious objects which baffled the nation during the past week, hit closer to home today with the report that two of the flashing "discs" had been seen in the skies over Winchester Saturday night.

Mrs. A. W. Willis and members of her family reported having seen the "saucers" or "discs" in the west around 9 p. m. Mrs. Willis said that the group had just returned home from Richmond and were out in the yard when the saucers were seen.

Mrs. Willis said the two objects traveling west and a beam of light seemed to be trailing each. She said the objects seemed to whirl around, shoot up into the sky and then return to their original starting place, lengthening out as they shot upward. They traveled at a terrific rate of speed and did not throw off much light, she said.

Explanations of the phenomenon ranged from the theory that they were radio controlled missiles sent aloft by U. S. military scientists to the suggestion that they might be merely sun light reflected on wing tanks of jet-propelled planes.

Those who saw the "saucers" were Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Willis, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Willis, Jerry Timmons, Johnny Clear and Virginia Supeck.

Winchester, Indiana
News.
14 July 47

Portland
Oregon Journal
July 12, 1947

'Flying Saucer' Department

PORTLAND—To the Editor: I was over in Washington prospecting on the upper Little Washougal on Larch mountain, and was standing still when I saw a flash on a bright object travelling southeast over the Cascade range at high speed, some 20 miles east of where I was standing. I carry a high power telescope. With it I picked up a formation of nine oval objects which seemed to have a racking movement with a smooth under-surface, but the upper part was rough, but highly polished surface. It seemed to me that the objects had a jet extension in the tail end, but I did not see any smoke or hear any noise. I thought they were silent jets because they varied in their speed.

MELVIN JOHNSON.

Brazil Woman Sees Flying Saucer Rolling Through The Air

One of the mysterious "flying saucers" has finally passed over Brazil, according to one resident.

Mrs. William Harley, Sr., of 322 North Hoosier Street, wife of Patrolman "Bill" Harley, declared this morning that she saw a strange object like a wheel rolling through the air from east to west just north of her home.

Mrs. Harley said the contraption appeared to be about two feet across and 12 inches thick, taper-

ing to thin edge. She says it shone like silver and was so bright with the sun shining on it that it hurt your eyes when you looked at it.

Mrs. Harley said there seemed to be a bright glare around the disk.

Instead of sailing through the skies flat like a plane Mrs. Harley said it rolled over and over like a wheel and travelled at high speed. Mrs. Harley insists that this was no hallucination and she is confident she saw such a contraption rolling through the skies this morning.

Cleveland
Press
July 12, 1947
Telenews Trails
Flying Saucers.

Telenews trailer cameras whirl over the country, on the trail of flying saucers, show edgy citizens peering skyward from their windows and Air Corps planes cruising the "disc-areas" while pilots try to look grim about their business.

While not too concerned over reports of aerial plates, the Army is serious; has been carefully investigating all "alarm" zones.

"New Trains For Old?" current March of Time, asks "Can the railroads survive?" then answers itself by presenting Robert R. Young, former member of the New York

Brazil(In)Times July 12 1947

The Japanese report of saucers," as relayed by I came from the Kagoshima area in Southern Kyushu. ever, an official at the Kag Weather Bureau said weath loons had been released.

But Guy Caught Up With Her Down Mexico Way!



Glamorous Shirley
and Her Amorous
Guy Will Set Your
Heart Awhirl!

E·X·T·R·A!

Special This Is
America Show!

"I AM

Δη

ALCOHOLIC

The Story Of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMUS

Honeymoon

3 DAYS STARTING
SUNDAY!



TODAY!

Charles Starrett • Smiley
SOUTH OF CUSHOUM

Hickory (NC) D. Rec.

*Discs Fly Here;
Strictly a Gag*

Thousands of flying discs covered Eureka skies yesterday.

But it was strictly a gag.

The discs turned out to be paper plates painted with aluminum paint, dropped from an airplane.

First of the plates was picked up on California street. The inscription read:

"What is a Huckster. See the answer in 'The Hucksters.' Clark Gable, Deborah Kerr, Eureka theatre, July 20."

Others read the same.

Eureka-Humboldt

Times (Ca)

Jul 11, 1947'

FREE FREE

CLARK EVANS DOES IT AGAIN!

A BRAND NEW PONTIAC

to anyone finding and bringing to this business

A FLYING DISC

that is subsequently identified by the FBI as one of the Flying Discs .

AND IN THE MEANTIME

if your car needs repairs before you start your search, bring it in for a tune-up or a free check-up.

We have 10 Courteous People to serve you.

Clark Evans Pontiac

1017-MAIN

PHONE 563

FLYING SAUCER SPECIALS

- '40 STUDEBAKER Commander Sedan \$1767
- '38 FORD Pickup Truck \$1547
- '38 BUICK Sport Sedan \$1677
- '41 BUICK Streamlin Coupe \$1527
- '39 DODGE 1-Door Sedan \$1737
- '44 WILLYS Universal Jeep \$1067
- '41 CHEVROLET Club Coupe \$1087
- '42 FORD Super De Luxe Coupe \$1097
- '42 DE SOTO 1-Door Sedan \$1077
- MOST CARS HAVE RADIOS AND HEATERS.
- IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
- '48 OLDSMOBILE Sedan \$1297
- NO TRADE NECESSARY
- '48 CADILLAC Coupe \$1497
- CARS TO CHOOSE FROM
- MOSTLY ONE OWNER CARS

"OUR CUSTOMERS RECOMMEND US"

WALTER E. SCHOTT CO.

HIGBY, JEFFERSON COUNTY, IDAHO, THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1947 Star

Flying Discs Were Viewed West of Rigby Saturday

Mrs. William Olsen informed The Star Saturday afternoon by telephone at 4:25 o'clock, that she, her husband and daughter Joyce had just viewed a "flying disc" from their home, 1 mile west of Rigby. They had just returned home from a trip to Glacier National Park and Cardston, Canada, when their attention was directed by a whirring sound as if by a plane in the air. No plane was cited, but Mr. Olsen almost immediately saw the nine "flying discs" appearing to the northwest. The other members of the family then viewed the discs and binoculars which were in the car were then brought into use.

Mrs. Olsen stated that they appeared very bright in the cloudless and windless sky, reflecting almost as much light as one would get from sunlight hitting the nickel plating on an oncoming car. She stated that it was easy to focus the discs through the binoculars, and that they appeared darker through the glasses.

They were described by the viewers as being disc-like in shape, flying in formation, two sets of 3s, then 2 and followed by a lone disc. Mr. Olsen, who has had more than a year and a half of flying, stated that it would be hard to estimate their height, but

would judge them to have been 10,000 to 15,000 feet from the ground.

Their flight was described as uneven—up and down like a porpoise in the water. The flight was viewed for at least three minutes, Mrs. Olsen stated, disappearing to the northeast, and seemed to rise in elevation as they disappeared. They stated that they believed the objects to be quite large, owing to the ease with which they were focused through the binoculars. Their brilliance to the naked eye seemed to focus around the edge of the objects.

Mr. Olsen stated that the objects were definitely not planes.

Soon after their disappearance a two-motored plane was viewed high in the sky east of Rigby going north, following somewhat the path of the discs described by the Olsens.

The discs were reported seen by persons on the Carlson farm about the same time.

Mrs. Olsen stated that on the trip to Canada and return the sky had been skeptically viewed by the party with the idea of watching for any stray discs which might appear. When they viewed the flying mysteries in the sky from their own door yard on their immediate return, their surprise was almost beyond description.

At Last! Saucers Over City

Grand Forks' civic pride has been saved! A flying saucer has at last been fit to fly over the city.

For the past few days, city fathers have been anxiously scanning the sky for traces of the soaring discs and were beginning to wonder if there was something wrong with this area.

Mrs. Bert Nordby, 418 Skidmore ave., saved the day when she reported seeing a white, silvery object, resembling a flying saucer, flying over Grand Forks Saturday sometime between 3 and 4 p. m.

A customer at the Nordby Upholstering shop spotted the object and called Mrs. Nordby and a number of other customers out of the shop to look at it.

The disc was flying very fast, had a silvery appearance and seemed to revolve over and over as it sped through the air, Mrs. Nordby said. It was seen by the group at a very high altitude and seemed to be about the size of a piece of ordinary letter-size paper, she reported.

Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Borchers, 630 1/2 N. Sixth st., said they saw some silver discs very high in the air Saturday afternoon. The objects seemed to revolve, Mrs. Borchers explained, with one side apparently brighter than the other. Borchers said he saw between 12 and 15 of the saucers which were moving east.

The city's claim to "saucer" distinction was further strengthened when Theresa Nikle, 15, 1423 Seventh ave. N., and Pauline Litzinger, 8, 1947 Seventh ave. N., reportedly saw a small, white disc high in the sky while swimming at Riverside park pool Saturday morning.

The girls said they were only able to get a glance at the object because it was traveling at such a high rate of speed, but both reported it was shaped like a saucer.

GRAND FORKS (ND) HERALD — Morning — July 15, 1947—11

Washington Calling

Congress Hostile To Marshall Plan



A Weekly Size-Up by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

Flying Discs Again

DON'T LAUGH too hard at those flying-disc stories. There's considerable evidence of organized Army campaign to make you laugh. And not all that's known on them has been printed. Remember bubble-gum joke about atom bomb.

Houston (Tx)
Press
July 12 1947

fire came from underneath as if from some sort of exhaust,' Lewis said. This was at 7:20 yesterday (Saturday) afternoon.

"Lewis said when he noticed the object he swung his small, two-place plane to the left in the direction of the 'thing' but that before he had traveled far in that direction, the object passed him and disappeared in a northern direction. The path it was traveling, he said, indicated that it was headed in the direction of Winston-Salem on a route leading between High Point and Thomasville, he said." (xx.)

(xx.) Wilmington, North Carolina. *Morning Star*. 13 July 47.

12 July. Wilmington, North Carolina. (about 1:40 p.m.)

Another Wilmington report:

"Another flying saucer zoomed across the sky south of Wilmington yesterday.

"Two local residents told of seeing an object that traveled with such a bright light that it 'hurt my eyes' as related by a husband and wife.

"The couple were Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Hamilton, 609 Castle street, who said they viewed the saucer for a 'few seconds' as they peered out of a second story window at their home at the height of a rain storm at approximately 1:40 p.m.

"The object was about three-quarters the size the moon appears,' Mrs. Hamilton related. 'It was traveling west and just before it seemed to disappear into a cloud, it turned sideways and you could see that it had a spinning motion.'

"The couple discounted a theory advanced by attaches at Bluethenthal airport that the object might have been a PT-13 silver colored training ship. Employees at the field said at that time such planes were in the air, same with landing lights on.

"The Hamiltons said they saw a plane at the time, but the ship was flying in the opposite direction.

"What we saw couldn't have been a plane,' they agreed. "It was like nothing that we have ever seen and was much larger than any plane.'

"The saucer, according to the Hamiltons, was running at terrific speed about parallel with the horizon but not high in the sky.

"The light from it was red, said Mrs. Hamilton and 'as my eyes are not so strong it hurt them to look at it.'

"The couple said the saucer appeared 'heavy and ponderous' and it 'glowed' and seemed to be 'lurching.' After it turned side sideways, they added, 'you could see the bright red light.'

"Officials at Bluethenthal airport and Peiffer Field said that pilots in the air at the time when questioned, declared they had not witnessed the objects." (xx.)

(xx.) Wilmington, North Carolina. *Morning Star*. 13 July 47.

12 July. Elizabeth, New Jersey. (4:50 p.m.)

"I've taken a lot of kidding."

The vast majority of 1947 flying saucer reports are brief in the extreme. Its hard for skeptics and believers alike to understand what occurred so a judgement can be made. Often very little is known about the witness(es) or the circumstances. One example of one of the better news stories was the experience of Patrolman Frederick Schlauch. One weakness of his report, however, is the lack of a definitive affirmation of the objects' disc shape so we can do away with a balloon explanation, yet officer Schlauch did use the word "disc," said the things were "not completely round," as well as saying the objects were "slightly cocked." Also, Schlauch seems to be intelligent enough to tell the objects were moving too fast for a wind-driven balloon. He estimated 400 mph. (I also found it interesting what he said about teenage witnesses—L. E. Gross). Here is the press account:

"Patrolman Frederick Schlauch of Elizabeth, N.J., was one of the first persons in the East to see shiny unidentified objects flying through the sky, so last week we went out to Elizabeth to get his story and, see how he'd fared after his publicity.

"We caught Officer Schlauch just as he was returning from a drive with his wife and little boy. A stocky bald-headed man at 33, about 5 feet 8 with quick dark eyes, he seemed a little shy about discussing the matter of sky-born objects.

" 'I've taken a lot of kidding,' he said. You know how cops are. They were asking me if I'd been drinking cheap whisky. Another one says, 'I get spots before my eyes, too, when I lean over.' Most said, seeing things, eh?"

"As Schlauch related these things a hurt look came into his eyes. Later, we learned that he is one of the quietest and most reliable men on the Elizabeth police force.

"Intensely interested in machines, he received a degree in electrical engineering in 1935 at the Newark College of engineering. But when he was ready to go to work, the depression was on and he took a civil service exam and was offered a job on the police force. These days his mechanical bents have been expressed in fixing his car, repairing the plumbing and doing odd jobs around the house.

"After we'd convinced Schlauch that we had an open mind on the existence of the flying discs, he relaxed and told us his story.

"Last Saturday afternoon Schlauch was of duty and had taken his Pontiac sedan over to the Speedway Service Station on Route 25 and Gibbons Court, Elizabeth, to adjust the brakes. The manager of the station is a friend of his and often lets him use the station's tools.

"At 10 minutes of five, he had finished the brakes. He was lying on his back. He reached up and gripped the rear bumper of his car with both hands in order to pull himself out from under the car. As he did so, he looked into the sky and...

" 'I saw two discs moving horizontally through the air in a northeasterly direction say about 400 miles an hour. They didn't seem to be completely round. They were very glossy, very shiny.

" 'They were slightly cocked and were flying the same distance apart.

The best way I can describe them is to say that they looked the same as if you spun the chromium hub cap of a car through the air. You could see the reflection of the sun on them.

“ ‘Apparently I’m the only one who saw them in daylight. I notice from the papers that everyone else saw them at night.

“ ‘I guess I saw them flying for about a minute. Then, they disappeared behind a high cloud layer. I said to myself, ‘There’s those flying saucers.’

“ ‘Now I’d only read the headlines about the saucers but I didn’t give it any thought because it didn’t interest me. I had a faint idea that people were seeing things.’

“Patrolman Schlauch didn’t say anything about the flying saucers until the next day when he went on duty with Joseph McDonald, his partner in a radio car. After McDonald had heard the story, he said, ‘Why don’t you tell O’Hara?’ (James O’Hara is the police reporter for the *Elizabeth Journal*.)

“ ‘No,’ Schlauch said, ‘I don’t want any publicity. People will think I’m crazy or something.’

“McDonald told O’Hara who came immediately into the radio room at police headquarters and asked Schlauch for the story.

“ ‘I told him what I’d seen but some of the papers said I was changing a tire. I was adjusting my brakes.’

“For the next few days, Schlauch took a lot of gentle ribbing. Reporters from other New Jersey papers and from the New York papers began looking him up. He is shy, reserved man and it made him unhappy.

“ ‘You know,’ he said, suddenly. ‘I wish some 14- or 15-year-old boy would happen to see some of these flying discs. In police work, we know that the most detailed and accurate testimony on, say, automobile accidents comes from 14- or 15-year-old kids. They don’t miss anything. It would be interesting to hear what a kid like that would say if he saw one.’

“We asked him if he thought the whole thing could not have been a rumor and if...but he interrupted.

“ ‘I doubt if all the reports are the result of the power of suggestion. They come from so many types and characters and temperaments—from housewives to ministers to doctors to aviators to police officers—in 30 states.’

“What then, was his explanation?

“ ‘I think,’ he said smiling earnestly, ‘that it’s one great big publicity stunt. I think they’re going to discover that some company has been sending up these things and then when they got everybody turning their eyes to the skies, it will come out. They’ll see a sign for some soft drink or something.’” (xx.)

(xx.) New York, N.Y. *Nature New Magazine* (New York PM daily) 13 July 47.

13 July. Gresham, Oregon. (between 6 and 7 p.m.)

According to the *Gresham Outlook* two sightings were made on the 13th:

"Mr. Gool, his wife and mother, Mrs. James Holbrook, of Salt Lake City, sighted an object while they were riding in a car on Troutdale road. Mrs. Gool saw the disc first and Mr. Gool immediately stopped the car.

" 'The disc looked to be made of aluminum about four times the size of a car wheel, but thin like a silver dollar,' said Mr. Gool. 'It sailed along swooping and turning over and over like a spinning pie pan thrown into the air. Not very fast, sort of slow and easy. Must have been traveling around 200-300 miles an hour. Not too high—just around 2,500 feet—it is pretty hard to judge. We saw the disc turn south and then lost sight of it.' (xx.)

(xx.) Gresham, Oregon. *Gresham Outlook*. 17 July 47.

13 July. Gresham, Oregon. (6:06 p.m.)

This is the second Gresham sighting for the 13th:

"Mr. [Peter] Lenard said he was lying on the lawn of his home on Cleveland avenue northeast of Section Line road at 6:06 p.m. when he first caught a glimpse of four discs flying northward. He called to his wife and Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Hleers? [letters not clear], his daughter and son-in-law, of Portland.

" 'The sun's rays glittering on what appeared to be aluminum first caught my eye,' explained Mr. Lenard. 'There were four discs and they were flying in a formation and changed leaders with one dropping back and another taking over. They were going straight north over the aluminum plant faster than any airplane that I have seen. The discs were flying at an altitude of 6,000 or 7,000 feet and appeared to be about the size of a car wheel.' (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

13 July. Ponca City, Oklahoma. (9:30 and 10:30 a.m.)

Birds or saucer squadrons.

The local newspaper published:

"Ponca Citians were still rubbing their eyes and scanning the heavens to day. A stream of 'flying saucers' that wheeled and dipped across Ponca City skies at The Sunday school hour yesterday were seen by at least 20 persons. And the reluctance of some of those 20 to admit they had seen the discs lead this reporter to believe there were many other residents who saw them but haven't told anyone about it.

"Ray Potts and Arthur W. Letzring got the best view of the 35 to 45 or more silvery-colored 'discs' that 'flew right down Eighth street' and disappeared into the north. Their's appeared at 10:30 a.m. however, and discs had been reported as early as 9:30 a.m. by the Ben L. Edwards family and a little later by Mr. and Mrs. Ross Taiclet and family.

"Letzring, 400 North Eighth street, a former pilot, counted 31 'saucers' that

he first thought were seagulls.

“‘They had a bright side that flashed in the sun, but as they wheeled over and over on their way toward the north they exposed a dull side the color of dull aluminum,’ Letzring said. The discs were traveling along at a brisk speed of 75 to 80 miles a hour, about 1,000 feet high and were clearly discernable he reported.

“Letzring said the sky was bright with no haze except for a small cloud that the discs cut through without deviating from their path.

“‘When they went through that cloud,’ he said ‘that eliminated any possibility they might be fowl, for birds don’t fly through clouds.’

“In the group with Letzring were Mr. and Mrs. Potts and their daughters, Ramona, 21, Lela Ann, 16, and son, John 12, all of 407 North Eighth street; Potts’ sister-in-law, Mrs. Lela Bertram and son, Billy Bertram, 12, of Wichita; and Peggy Shannon and Dorothy Jean Sinclair, both of 419 North Eighth street.

“Potts was first to spot the saucers in his neighborhood and quickly summoned others to have proof of what he had seen.

“‘There were about four dozen of them and they were in two different groups,’ Potts said. ‘They were flying in sort of a formation—all together. Every once in a while one would break away, but it would quickly rejoin the others.’

“The Edwards family, 1200 South Ninth street, found it almost impos-... [rest of clipping missing].” (xx.)

(xx.) Ponca City, Oklahoma. *The News*. (Not sure of exact name of paper) 14 July 47.

13 July. Capt. E.J. Smith reiterates his July 5th report.

The Aviation editor of Portland *Oregonian*, Leverett Richards, approached Capt. Smith to get the pilot’s latest opinion on the July 5th sighting and the saucer subject in general. Richards wrote:

“Captain Smith is now convinced that they [the saucers] are remotely controlled devices of some sort and that the army or navy will reveal their true nature in due time.

“‘I have no idea of the over all shape of the objects,’ he said as he passed through Portland Friday night. ‘We saw only a cross-section’ view as they skimmed ahead of us. We could only see that they were flat on the bottom and had some shape on top, which might have been any kind of hatch, dome or extrusion. We were never close enough to see.

“‘They did not bank or turn or maneuver like aircraft, but held a straight and steady course. At times they appeared to grow larger as if slowing up or coming toward us, but always held their northwest course ahead of us approximately into the setting sun. They emitted no exhaust or vapor trail.

“‘We saw them plainly, however, squinted at them intently over a period of about 15 minutes. I don’t know what they were. But I know they were not conventional aircraft. They were not clouds. They were not reflections or mirages.’

“Capt. Smith revealed that after he notified the Boise radio range station of the objects—which he carefully avoids calling ‘discs’ or ‘saucers’—the Boise operator notified Capt. Emory Culbertson of Portland, captain of a United Airliner eastbound on the same

day at the same time and in the same area.

"Captain Culbertson maintained a watch throughout the same 15 minutes while the airliners met and passed. But neither Culbertson nor his crew saw any such object in the evening sky, which was clear and cloudless.

"Captain Smith said that Culbertson, looking east, would have had the light behind him, and being 1,000 feet higher than Smith's C-3 might have missed them.

"Unfavorable light conditions also might have accounted for the fact that no one in the populous Boise-Payette valley along the airway Smith was flying reported seeing the objects that night of July 5.

"Smith said he had no reason to credit the aerial objects he saw with any speed approaching 1,200 miles [mph], as calculated by [Kenneth] Arnold.

"The objects finally disappeared straight ahead. I would not say they put on a burst of speed and drew away. They just disappeared." (xx.)

(xx.) Portland, Oregon. *Oregonian*. 13 July 47.

13 July. Topeka, Kansas. (about 10:30 and 11:00 p.m.)

"Wants confirmation." (See clipping on page 21)

13 July. New Cumberland, West Virginia. (about 9:30 p.m.)

Finally appeared over New Cumberland. (See clipping on page 21)

13 July. Baker, Oregon. (evening)

"2 planes follow discs?" (See clipping on page 21)

13 July. Sian, China. (11:00 a.m.)

China again. The U.S. consulate forwards more "saucer news." (See below)

"FLYING PLATE" SEEN OVER SIAN "

U.S. Consulate - Mukden
#31 7-17-47

Chung Su Jih Pao (NECC organ)
July 14, 1947

Sian, July 13 (Central):- Members of the local Fire Brigade reported that at 11 o'clock this morning they saw something round emitting a glittering light 3,000 meters high in the sky over the city. This something ascended gradually for 15 minutes and then sped towards the southeast. It is construed that this might be the "flying plate" so much talked about at present.

Radar Umbrella.

Nationally syndicated columnists Joseph and Stewart Alsop suggest a good reason why the U.S. military would "play down" the flying saucer issue publicly. It wasn't the ETH theory. (See clipping on page 22)

Topeka (ks) State
July 18, 1947

Sees Flying Disc, Wants Confirmation

VOX POP:

As I was sitting on my porch, alone and without anything to read, I became an eyewitness to that so-called flying disc. This is true and I will make an affidavit, if it becomes necessary.

I was facing the west when I saw this disc approaching from the northwest. It came over my house and made a half circle and came up over the No. 3 Fire station. But in the meantime, while it was making this circle, one came from the southwest and another from the southeast, making three discs. Now the three all met over No. 3 Fire station, and when they met they went into formation—just as army planes do, and traveled west at a very high rate of speed for about the length of the station, and then disappeared without a sound of any description.

This is sent in to see how many, if any, saw this besides myself. This was about 10:30 and 11 p. m., Sunday, July 13.

J. H. GLASFORD
No. 1 Pleasant Place

'Flying Saucers' Finally Got Here

Sighted Here And Over Ches-
ter On Sunday Evening

At 9:30 O'clock

Thought for a while those mysterious "flying saucers" were passing us up, but they finally made their appearance over New Cumberland at about 9:30 Sunday evening. They were sighted by Mr. and Mrs. William Gilmer, Sr. and their grand daughter, Loretta Gilmer, as they sat on their front porch on Ridge Avenue.

Mr. Gilmer stated he saw the objects, as they were facing east from their porch, that they were traveling in a southern direction. They were white-bright, disc shaped, there being four or five of them, and appeared to be about 2 by 4 feet in size. They were high in the sky and appeared about fifteen seconds apart. Mr. Gilmer stated.

E. G. Jackson, Chester Insurance agent, also reported seeing the mysterious "saucers" from his front porch, at about the same time Sunday evening, and also stated they were traveling in a south-eastern direction. Most Liverpool residents also reported seeing the bright objects at the same time.

While the so-called "saucers" have been reported seen in Pittsburgh and many parts of Ohio, this is the first reported appearance over this place.

New Cumberland,
West Virginia.
Hancock County
Courier. 17 July 47.

07/16/47 - OREGON JOURNAL

ANOTHER DISC?

Flight Seen As 2 Planes Follow Path

BAKER, July 16. Although previous report of isolated observations have been made, this area had its first serious report of a "flying disc" Sunday night when four persons on the Meadowbrook Dairy farm in the Wingville section said they observed such an object for 15 minutes in a flight from east to west, disappearing over the Elkhorn mountains.

With neither wings nor tail it traveled in a dipping motion, displaying a glistening side when it dipped, otherwise a dark appearance. First observed by Kenneth Irby and watched by four persons including Walter Irby who has had experience in the recent war, the object was larger than two planes which they said were "following" it. One of the planes was yellow, the other dark, neither being army types, the Irbys said. One followed the object out of sight, although the other plane reappeared later to the north.

The party had just finished evening milking and said they observed the objects clearly for many minutes.

Flying Disk Scare Emphasizes Need for Vast Radar Umbrella

Effective Warning System, Especially in Arctic, Held Essential to Detect New Supersonic Weapons; Soviet Experiments Cited

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON, July 12.—The flying saucers have served at least to pound one lesson home. That is that the United States has developed no effective warning system against surprise attack in this age of the new and terrible weapons. For if such a system had been in existence, the military authorities could instantly have ended speculation. They could have given those assurances which an effective warning system would instantly provide: "We know all that passes through the American air. You saw sunlight on the wings of high-flying aircraft—or you saw nothing—or you saw a meteor in the night sky." No such assurances were forthcoming. We do not have an effective warning system. We are not prepared for the worst.

Adequate defensive preparation for an all too possible worst will mean, in the opinions of those charged with planning for national security in this era of the atom bomb and the guided missile, two things. First, it will mean a radar umbrella extending over the whole continental United States, to give instant warning of any object which passed through the air over America. The incidental benefits of such an umbrella will be considerable; for example, it will undoubtedly serve to decrease air accidents. But its real purpose will be to flash in a moment to all defense headquarters news of the direction and weight of any enemy attack.

Will Be Expensive

Such a system will be expensive. But the second prerequisite of an effective warning system will be more so. For advance warning bases, pushed out beyond the borders of the country, will also be necessary, to provide those extra minutes or seconds for the launching of the American defensive counter-attack. To meet this dire

necessity, very little has been done. The chain of joint American-Canadian warning stations and air bases projected along the Arctic frontier is still in the dream stage. One such base, at Churchill, on Hudson's Bay, does exist, for preliminary testing purposes. But its value even as a test base is doubtful. For it is the northern terminus of a Canadian railroad, whereas the Arctic bases, on the other hand, must of necessity be utterly isolated by endless miles of Arctic waste. They must be so planned that the technicians who man them will be able to support life in sub-zero isolation for long periods at a time, and so that these men can be supplied not only with the means of life, but with the necessary equipment, when and where needed.

Moreover, such bases, each in itself a major project, must be spaced at 200-mile intervals across the Arctic frontier. For the outer limit of radar range is 100 miles, and any gap might render the whole system valueless. Present estimates indicate that such an advance warning system will require an initial investment of at least a billion and a quarter dollars.

Yet, unless the nightmare of surprise attack conjured up by the flying saucer scare is to become hard reality, or unless a really secure world settlement is unexpectedly achieved, the money must be spent. The reason is simple. Very long-range supersonic aircraft and guided missiles have yet to be built, either by ourselves, by the Russians or by any one else. Yet such weapons

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

Flying Disk Is Defense Warning

(Continued from page one)

usually acknowledged to be, and therefore, unless a world settlement, certainly built within a few years. Moreover, intelligence reports make it clear that the Soviets are making an all-out attack, not on the atomic problem, but on the whole vast mysterious area of the guided missile. In this effort, the Soviets are being aided by no less than 7,000 hired German scientists. Indeed, under Soviet supervision, the German scientists continued to manufacture the V-2s, the first successful supersonic missiles, in the eastern zone of Germany for some time after the war. One achievement of this continued experimentation was the A-9 rocket, designed first at Peenemünde during the furor in Sweden some months ago.

The chief characteristic of the A-9 rocket is that it is equipped, not with fins, like the V-2, but with wings. Thus, whereas the V-2 descended almost straight down, at enormous speed, the A-9's wings ease it into a long glide when it reaches the denser atmosphere near the earth. Thus

the range is extended by more than 300 miles. Moreover, slowed by its wings, it becomes fleetingly visible at the correct angle of vision. The rockets were timed to disintegrate in the air before contact, but small parts of the weapon were discovered on the Swedish ground. And it is established beyond doubt that this achievement of the German-Soviet collaboration was responsible for the Swedish mystery.

The A-9 is one measure of Soviet success in their all-out effort. Yet not only has lack of funds prevented even the first steps toward an adequate American defensive warning system from being taken, but the American guided missiles program, which would provide the necessary counter-attack, is also limping. Plans for a great supersonic wind tunnel, the real essential for the program, are still on the drawing board. And the tunnel, if it is ever to be built, will cost upwards of two billion dollars, this when the Congress is intent on tax cuts and economy. Yet surely it is increasingly clear that in the world of today there are things worse than heavy taxes.

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New York
Herald Tribune
13 July 47.

A story in a Montgomery, Alabama, newspaper published a similar assertion days later:

“Washington correspondents report that those who are charged with the defense of the country are thinking hard upon the fact that Flying Saucers eloquently proclaim that the U.S. has no effective warning system against surprise aerial attack.” (xx.)

(xx.) Montgomery, Alabama. *The Montgomery Advertiser*. 15 July 47.

14 July. Unofficial Army opinion split?

The Gannett News Service distributed this news story on July 14th:

“Washington—with ‘flying saucer’ reports on the wane, a verbal battle over the mysterious missiles continues unabated in the Pentagon Building.

“Officially the War Department position is that any such projectiles—real or otherwise—are not Army missiles. The tendency is to discount them as a ‘hoax.’

“But unofficially, opinion in the Pentagon Building—headquarters of the War Department—is divided.

“Officers, not familiar with all phases of the Army research program debate the subject between themselves in terms ranging from comic to serious.

“Some say too many credible witnesses claim to have seen the So-called ‘flying saucers.’

“Others say they have been cosmic phenomena, but do not fit the description of any known or probable supersonic missiles.

“Air Force Headquarters, which now monitors research and development phases of all War Department guided missiles, says development of new-type projectiles has been abandoned.

“Instead, efforts are being concentrated on ‘upper air research,’ to ‘probe’ for yet unknown characteristics of the ionosphere which may effect the flight control of rockets and the like.

“That leaves the ‘practical’ phase of the program pretty much where it left off with the war’s end.

“The ‘proven’ weapons are the same developed in the last war—the German buzz-bomb, the V-2 rocket, the American ‘WAC Corporal,’ the ‘Gapa’ and their companions.

“An AAF spokesman said: ‘Certainly no order has gone out from this headquarters to scout for flying saucers. We don’t intend to make any patrol flights.’” (xx.)

(xx.) Albany, New York. *The Knickerbocker News*. The Gannett News Service. 14 July 47

14 July. Just south of Idaho Falls, Idaho. (7:20 p.m.)

Disc puts on a show.

Here is the press account:

"Idaho Falls, shy on 'flying discs' since the epidemic of seeing things started, finally ...[rated? Not clear] this week when W.O. Cotton, widely known Idaho Falls businessman and reclamation authority, saw one.

"He didn't see it in Idaho Falls. Monday evening, while he was inspecting crops on his farm south of the city, one of the dipsy-doo flying gadgets put on a show for him.

"Mr. Cotton's description of the incident varied little from previous reports. The hour was 7:20; the sky was clear and bright; the 'flying saucer' turned and twisted through an irregular course overhead and finally left Mr. Cotton's vicinity, headed in the direction of Shelley.

"'It wasn't very big,' Mr. Cotton said. He estimated the object to be flying at a comparatively low elevation and its speed was not excessive, 'probably not not greater than the speed of a plane,' he said.

"Oddly, when the disc made a turn, it was invisible for a brief interval and Mr. Cotton said he thought that occurred when the disc was turned with an edge toward him.

"Particular marked, he said, was the noise which the disc made. It was

clearly audible, he reported, and entirely distinct from sounds from planes. Two planes actually flew over the same even while Mr. Cotton was watching the gyrations of the disc but he had no way of knowing whether the pilots saw the strange object sharing the skyways with them.

"Mr. Cotton said he was alone in the field during the entire time that the disc was in view. No one in that immediate vicinity saw the disc, so far as Mr. Cotton knows.

"'But it should have been visible in Shelley,' he said.

"At scoffers, he pointed an accusing finger.

"'I didn't expect to be believed,' he said, but I know what I saw and that's it.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Idaho Falls, Idaho. *Commones* [not sure of name] 18 July 47.

14 July. Near North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. (daytime?)

According to a newspaper story:

"A flying saucer has been seen over Wilkes—

*Kinston NC
Daily Free Press
July 15, 1947*

**Flying Saucer Hoax
Causes Mild Panic
Radio Listeners**

Raleigh, July 15.—(U.P.)—Carl Goerch, local radio commentator and magazine publisher who excited a wide area with a wild "Orson Welles" broadcast of men from Mars in flying saucers, admitted Monday that he underestimated the gullibility of his radio audience.

Telephone calls from several states jammed radio station WPTF's switchboard after the broadcast Sunday night. The control tower at Raleigh-Durham airport was unable to handle plane traffic because of calls after Goerch dramatically spun his yarn.

Goerch, also an amateur aviator, told of meeting a flying saucer in the air near Benson, and finding it contained a crew of movie-struck men from Mars with bulging green eyes and yellow skin. He told of talking with them by holding up signs in his cockpit while they did the same.

Goerch admitted he erred in not branding the story as a phony but said he thought it was so wild no one would believe it.

"R.B. Laxton, Boomer citizen who is employed at a store here, reported today that he saw one of the mysterious flying disks today at his home 10 miles southwest of here.

"Laxton said that he first heard a buzzing noise and that he looked into the sky and saw a disk which he thought to be about 5,000 feet up and which was traveling at a great rate of Speed.

"The noise, Laxton said, was a continuous blast or buzzing and was heard by a number of other people in the community." (xx.)

(xx.) Greensboro, North Carolina. *Daily News*. 15 July 47.

15 July. Tucumcari, New Mexico. (between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m.)

It wobbled across the sky.

Press report:

"The most authentic-sounding saucer story coming from Tucumcari, New Mex., was reported Wednesday by Mr. and Mrs. Ward Williams, both of whom claimed that they and their 12-year-old son Bobbie and his grandmother had seen a luminous, saucer-shaped, object on edge wobble southward across the sky at fast clip for just a few seconds between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. Tuesday. Ward Williams is well known here and the grandmother Mrs. Winnie Williams, a former resident, is a sister of Mrs. Ira Foster.

"The object was seen by all four persons from the Williams' back porch at 621 S. Jackson St., Tucumcari. The parents also reported that Bobbie saw what he described as a similar object, also southbound in the sky, on the evening of June 25. When both sons wouldn't stop talking about what they had seen, Williams said, the parents figured it was past bedtime for the two and promptly dispatched them to bed.

"As told by Mr. and Mrs. Williams, the object seen Tuesday night was too dull to have been a shooting star although it showed up plainly in the clouds which covered most of the sky that evening. Besides that, it wobbled across the sky, describing a course somewhat like the wobbling of a coin when rolled on edge.

"They could not estimate its speed since they had no way of judging its height or size or the definite direction, all of which fit into the picture when estimating the speed of a plane or any airborne object. But they did state that it traveled south and a bit toward the east 'fast.'

"The saucer-like, luminous object had no sparkle and left no trail of light." (xx.)

(xx.) Ladoga, Indiana. *Leader*. 18 July 47.

mid July. Tianjin, China. (midnight)

Squat-shaped, grey, luminous.

A Chinese news clip states:

"...six people in Tianjin saw a strange object flying in the sky. An Italian citizen living in Shanghai, while looking far into the distance through his window at midnight, suddenly saw that a white object was flying over his house as fast as an airplane. It was squat-shaped, grey and luminescent. Fifteen minutes later, two more flying discs appeared, but disappeared very quickly." (xx.)

(xx.) Tianjin, China. *Tianjin Daily*. 7 November 80. Translation by Gao Yulong and Tu Zhiqiu.

15 July. "More saucers." (See clipping)

16 July. American consulate reports.
(See below and on pages 27
and 28)

*Chinese Press
Review
American Consulate
Peiping*

*North China Daily News
Shanghai
16 July 1947
pg 2*

MORE "FLYING SAUCERS"

Peiping, July 15.—UP.—The Chinese press is having a field day in reporting the appearance of "flying saucers" all over the place.

The latest report said two "flying saucers" chased each other in the skies above Tientsin after nightfall yesterday. It said the saucers, emitting bluish white light, were so high that they seemed to be only eight inches in diameter.

POLITICAL NEWS:

Ping Ming Jih Pao (Gen. Fu Tso-yi), Peiping
16 July 1947

Chinese Scientists Not Taking Interests in "Flying Saucers"

The reported appearance of "flying saucers" over South American cities has incited acute international interest. Following later reports claiming the presence of more discs throughout the United States, similar reports are starting pouring in from Shanghai, Tsingtao and Mukden. Local physical and atomic circles, however, remain uninterested.

A researcher of the Physics Department of the Academia Sinica interviewed by your reporter said that he would rather not venture a guess until verification and laboratory findings by scientists having access to the "saucers" are available. He said that the discs might be the products of "curiosity" and "illusion", pointing out the letter reportedly written by an American magician to President Truman giving the origin of the mysterious objects as his magic.

It is learned that the Physical Conference on July 14 did not make any mention of the "saucer" mystery. Most scientists and professors are not taking any interest in the matter. (Abridged translation)

U.S. Consulate
Shanghai

The "Flying Saucer" Terror
(Short Comment)

399
16 Jul 47

Ta Kung Pao (Independent, Political Science Group), Shanghai
July 14, 1947

For the past ten days, people on both sides of the Pacific have been frightened by this mysterious "aerial weapon". The question as to whether there actually are such "flying saucers" is good material for the yellow journalists, but what we are interested in is the psychology of the people of certain countries as symbolized by this matter. Any serious-minded person feels that the atomic bomb is already a sufficiently great threat. However, those who have a liking for excitement, not content with the present chaotic conditions in the world, have created this unnecessary terror. Undoubtedly, what the "flying saucer" tends to make one think of subconsciously is that it is now possible for the Soviet Union to attack the United States, thus suddenly causing fear and confusion to a society which has just become stabilized after reconversion. The only thing we can do is to advise the general public to keep calm. There are few nations willing to open fire again lightly after eight years of war. The power to make the decision as to whether the United States should go to war or not does not lie with ~~Redist Russia~~ and even the U.S. Congress has to refer this matter to the 140 million Americans. And it is a very obvious fact that the Soviet Union is unwilling and unable to wage war again.

Just let the "flying saucer", which is said to be made up of four pieces of metal and to be without any wings, fly. Those who like stability and progress had better keep calm, stick to their posts, and devote themselves to the task of laying their own brick in building up history. (Summary)

Chinese Press Review

American Consulate
Peiping

Ching Shih Jih Pao (KMT CC Clique), Peiping
16 July 1947

U.S. Consulate
Peiping

Social Unrest As Seen from the Rumors About "Flying Saucers"

Are there actually "flying saucers"? What are they? These are all things of uncertainty. Even if there were really such things as flying saucers, we can

hardly imagine why should they suddenly take appearance simultaneously in America and China. Moreover, we would doubt the meaning of such a maneuver should the flying of such saucers be directed by certain people. Apparently the stories of these flying saucers must be misinformed rumors, even though they may have certain grounds to support them. The following two instances may substantiate our judgment:

(1) A Central News dispatch of July 13, carried on local newspapers the other day stated that a flying disc with radiating beams ascended into the sky in Sian and stayed there for fifteen minutes. But a dispatch from the same source dated July 15 stated that the said disc was ascertained to be a light balloon sent into the sky by a meteorologic corps. (2) A North China News Agency report of day before yesterday stated that a large disc booming with brilliant rays was found hanging in the sky for two hours over the Summer Palace in Peiping. The truth of this story was later refuted by Mayor Ho Ssu-yuan who was there on that particular afternoon.

Although we may not be able to liken all the reports about flying saucers to the above-mentioned reports in Sian and Peiping, we would like to venture to say
No. 389 - 3 - 16 July 1947

that backgrounds of all those reports of flying saucers would probably be the same. An analysis of the psychology of the people in believing such rumors will find that the restless sentiment of the people is entirely responsible for giving vent very easily to speculations of secret weapon warfare. Such restless sentiment of the people, which was given birth by social unrest, will further promote social unrest and international crisis if allowed to develop further. (Summary)

16 July. Salem, Oregon. (1:15 p.m.)

Brisk 30 degree turn

A local reporter submitted this story:

"Leo Brockway, manager of the local Sears Roebuck store's boys department, reported Wednesday afternoon sighting one of the mystery flying discs cruising over Salem in a southerly direction at about 4,000 feet altitude and at about 350 miles per hour.

"Brockway first sighted the disc as he was topping the South Liberty street hill at 1:15 p.m., and stopped his car to better observe the flying object. He said that the disc was flying on a true course and reflected the sun's rays brilliantly, as does a mirror. After flying south the disc made a brisk 30 degree turn and headed in a southeast direction. As it made the turn it became grey in color since it wasn't directly reflecting the sun's glare.

"Brockway, an army medic stationed at airfields during the war, said that the object definitely wasn't a weather balloon or other meteorological device and that he was positive it wasn't an airplane." (xx.)

(xx.) Salem, Oregon. *The Statesman*. 17 July 47.

16 July. Mountain Home, Idaho. (about 4:15 p.m.)

Circled for 15 minutes.

According to a newspaper report:

"Steve Brosnahan and Beanie Field have been added to the list of local people who have seen the flying saucers, according to Mrs. Field, who called the *News* Wednesday evening.

"Steve and Beanie were out on the Grand View road just about straight across from the air base when they first saw the disc about a mile away. They stopped and watched it as it drew nearer to them. According to Beanie the disc got within about a quarter mile of them and was at an altitude of between two and three thousand feet.

"The disc circled around in that territory and the men watched it for about 15 minutes. According to Mr. Field it was a brownish-grey hue on one side and such a bright silver that it hurt the eyes on the other side.

"The disc was seen about 4:15 Wednesday afternoon while the men were testing a car on the Grand View road. It looked to be about three feet in diameter at the closest distance, Mr. Field said." (xx.)

(xx.) Mountain Home, Idaho. *The Mountain Home News*. 17 July 47.

? July. Courtanany, British Columbia, Canada.
(daytime?) (See clipping right)

17 July. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. (5:45 p.m.)

"Dropped out of the stratosphere."

According to the *Daily Oklahoman*:

"Latest report on flying saucers came from Mrs. Rhayma Swanson, 3304 N Harvey parkway.

"She said that she was in the club room at her home waiting for one of her favorite radio programs to start, when a brilliant object, about the size of the bottom of a wash tub, 'dropped out of the stratosphere.' Time: 5:45 p.m.

"The object, flying at an amazing speed, she said, dipped out of a cloud in the south, and then went back into the cloud just as a conventional type plane flew past.

"Mrs. Swanson, who has just returned to

*Courtanany BC
Comox District Free
Press
July 17, 1947*

Correspondence

"SIGNS AND WONDERS"?

Editor, Free Press, Sir—One day early last week I noticed from the Dyke a strange thing hanging low on the horizon, apparently standing on its edge, like a conjuror's plate, looking the same size as the moon looks, with a two-inch rim of light or almost translucent whiteness, the middle being a creamy grey and very slightly rounded, like a soup-plate, or as if a balloon were compressed at the sides. I had heard nothing then of the now famous "saucers", wheeling through the sky; but I nearly wrote to the Press then.

This object, unlike the "saucers" except in shape, hung absolutely motionless exactly above the airport, while clouds passed it both behind and in front. I watched it for some time, then left to do my chores, and when I returned it was gone.

D. M. G. D. KYNERSLEY
The River-Edge,
The Dyke.

Oklahoma City from Minnesota where there is a great deal of talk about flying discs, said she had been skeptical before. Now she is sold.

“‘It was just as brilliant as it could be. And those planes could never have caught it,’ she said.” (xx.)

(xx.) Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. *Daily Oklahoman*. 18 July 47.

17 July. Fort Collins, Colorado. (daytime?)

“Flying much too fast for aircraft known to man.”

In a letter to UFO researcher Robert Gribble, a Mr. James Allison wrote:

“...in 1947 (July 17th) our entire family sighted eight shining silvery discs flying from their position when first sighted in northwestern edge of Fort Collins to out of sight on a direct north to south flight. These objects were flying at tremendous speed and they appeared just like any conventional airliner of silver color might appear except that these craft (or whatever they were) were perfectly round and flying much too fast for aircraft known to man. To demonstrate their speed, I called to a service station at which we had stopped for my friend (the operator) to hurry out to see these ‘things.’ By the time he got around a counter and joined us, they had disappeared to the south. We heard no noise, saw no lights, vapor trails, etc—just moving silver-colored objects speeding by. Our then, 14 year-old-son saw them first. No one else in Fort Collins reported the sighting. We made a lengthy report to the Air Force who were making investigations at that time.

“I might add that it was impossible to gauge their size, not knowing their height from the earth. I might also add that as a former Army officer, I had received training in aircraft observation and anti-aircraft firing. Our entire family then five, all possessed 20/20 vision. If one thing we are well convinced; these UFO’s were not conventional aircraft.” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Robert Gribble. From: James D. Allison. 20 November 62. Robert Gribble files. Photocopy in the author’s collection.

17 July. Kenneth Arnold and atomic power.

A newspaper reported on the 17th:

“‘Flying discs’ may be propelled by atomic power, Kenneth Arnold suggested at a citizen’s meeting at Vert auditorium last night.

“Mr. Arnold, Boise, Idaho, flyer, who skyrocketed to international fame a few weeks ago, when he reported seeing discs hurtling across the horizon added, ‘Any object traveling at that speed (1382.40 mph) would run into a wall of air molecules which would make flight impossible. That wall of atmosphere would have to be destroyed to clear a path for the plane.’

“A cyclotronic device mounted in the nose of a disc could destroy the atoms in its path and perhaps use their energy as fuel, he theorized.

"Although he was the first to report the phenomenon to the public, Mr. Arnold said he was not the first to see them. He asserted army intelligence knew of their presence several months ago..."

"In describing the discs, Arnold maintained that they aren't circular. The ones he saw were semi-circular with a shallow V-shaped trailing edge. He described them as tapering to a flat edge, being thickest at the center and having no visible propeller or cockpit. They are believed to be larger than a four-engined plane.

"Army intelligence bureau, under orders from Washington, D.C., questioned him for six hours in Boise last weekend.

"Although Mr. Arnold never has made a prediction as to what the strange objects were he saw, he doesn't entirely disbelieve the theory that they are interplanetary space ships.

"But he does believe the answer will be known within a year." (xx.)

(xx.) Pendleton, Oregon. *East Oregonian*. 17 July 47. p.1.

18? July. Near Goldfield, Nevada. (daytime?)

"Spun rapidly, raced off." (See clipping below)

18 July. Arlee, Montana. (10:30 p.m.)

"Hovered, darted off." (See clipping right)

News + Beechey Bulletin

GOLDFIELD, NEVADA

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1947

Goldfield Gets in the Act; Disc Spotted Here

The flying disc epidemic has about run its course, but before being written into history a brief word should be inserted that at least one of the mysterious saucers was reported seen near Goldfield. The observer was George Maroney who said:

"I was working on the power line out at the mine when my attention was attracted to an unfamiliar round object at considerable height which seemed to be revolving slowly. Suddenly, it began to spin rapidly and raced off out of sight beyond Columbia mountain."

Missoula MT
Sentinel
July 21, 1947

Flying Saucers Seen at Arlee

A couple of flying saucers played "hide and seek" in a cloud bank for a half hour Friday night near Arlee, Roger Morin reported Monday.

He said he and Mrs. Morin watched them "put on a good display" north of their home for a half hour before "completely disappearing" at 10:30 o'clock.

Mr. Morin said one and at times both of the discs would hang motionless in the center of the cloud for about ten minutes at a time, "alternately dimming and brightening and then suddenly darting to the west, only to slide back to the east in a rainbow-like curve. Then they would slip as quickly back into the center of the cloud."

18 July. Balearce, Argentina. (6:06 a.m.)

Multiple objects.

The Argentine newspaper *Standard* informed its readers:

"Residents of the locality of Balcarce are convinced that yesterday morning they saw more than a hundred flying saucers pass over their heads.

"According to reports received from Balcarce quite a number of people saw the phenomenon and they are convinced that whatever it was that they saw, corresponds to the description of the flying saucers seen in other parts of the world.

"For the past two days it had been raining hard in Balcarce and the rain has been accompanied by strong winds. Yesterday morning at 6:06 the 'comisario' of the local police station was called to the door of the building by a policeman who was on duty there. The policeman said he wanted his superior officer to look at a strange luminous object in the sky. The 'comisario' saw this strange object become larger as it passed overhead and then disappear in an easterly direction. While they were talking about it they suddenly saw some others going from north to south. By this time all the personnel of the police station was out in the street and quite a number of neighbors were also watching the discs.

"About 100 of these objects passed overhead. They appeared to be circular in form and gave off a reddish light. Sometimes they wavered in the air as if their speed was being held back by the wind and rain." (xx.)

(xx.) Buenos Aires, Argentina. *Standard*. 19 July 47.

20 July. Estacion Rocha, Argentina. (6:00 p.m.)

"Only 20 meters from the ground."

Another report from Argentina:

"The latest reports of 'flying saucers' comes from Olavarria where the whole family of a farmer saw one on Sunday afternoon. According to their statements they were sitting outside their house in Estacion Rocha and at 18 o'clock they saw a strange object in the sky. This came down quite low and at one time was only 20 meters from the ground. It was whirling at a great speed and threw off a blue light. Eventually the 'flying saucer' disappeared in a southerly direction." (xx.)

(xx.) Buenos Aires, Argentina. *Standard*. 23 July 47.

20 July. Singapore. (6:45 p.m.)

Another Asian report:

"It's happened at last. Singapore saw its first 'flying saucer' on Sunday.

"Regimental Sergeant Major T.J. Needham (R.E. Troops, Ayer Raja Road) writes to the Free Press:—"It was seen at approximately 6:45 on Sunday night. The saucer appeared to me to be flying with a spiral motion and with slight dips. This appeared to give it a floating appearance.

" "On seeing this, I called out R.Q.M.S. Crump R.E. who for some moments

could not make it out. I kept pointing; then all of a sudden he shouted out 'I see it.' of course, all this took place in a matter of a few seconds when it passed out of sight: 'The saucer did not impress me greatly with its speed, as our jet planes which have flown across the camp appeared to be much faster. This was no hallucination, as it was seen by two of us.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Singapore. *Straits Times*. 23 July 47.

20 July. Nanking, China. (evening)

More saucer news from a U.S. Consulate, this time in Kuming. (See below)

*US Consulate Kuming China
July 22, 1947*

"FLYING SAUCER" DISCOVERED IN NANKING

Central Daily News

The "flying saucer" was seen in Nanking in the evening of July 20. The Air Defense Headquarters in Nanking also received reports from its three observatories, stating that such a thing was seen in the same evening. The Headquarters is now collecting related materials to make a careful investigation.

"FLYING SAUCERS" SAID SEEN IN NANKING

*US Consulate Mukden
#38 7-22-47*

Peace Daily (Ministry of National Defense Organ), Mukden
Jul. 22, 1947

Nanking, Jul. 21 - Nine "Flying Saucers" were seen in Nanking last mid-night.

21 July. Boise, Idaho. (10:15 a.m.)

"Flying faster than any airplane I've ever seen."

The Idaho Statesman printed:

"'Flying discs' speculation was revived Monday in Boise by the report of an experienced airman, James E. Petteway, who told *The Statesman* he saw one of the objects about 10:15 a.m. as he was nearing his office in the Idaho building.

"Petteway was a pilot with the Royal Canadian air force in World War II. He was certain he could not have mistaken an airplane for the oval object he saw for 'it was big enough so that I would have heard the roar of its motors.'

" 'This thing had no tail,' he said, 'and was flying faster than any airplane I've ever seen—I should judge about 600 miles an hour. It appeared to be at about 7,000 altitude, traveling north-northeast.'

"The object was as bright as 'newly polished silver,' Petteway said, '—bright enough to attract my attention to the sky while I was walking along minding my own business.'

"When he attempted to follow its flight further from the vantage point of his office, it had disappeared from view, he said.

"Petteway was reluctant to permit his experience to be publicized unless some other witnesses corroborated his description. None had at a late hour Monday night, but Petteway said he was certain he had not been 'indulging in hallucinations.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Boise, Idaho. *The Idaho Statesman*. 22 July 47.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, PARIS, TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1947

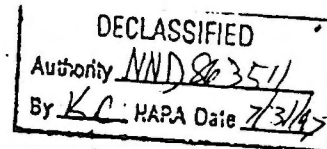


22 July. The famous "La" flying discs recovery case.

J. Edgar Hoover complained the Air Force wouldn't let the Bureau examine the object. (See below) (xx.)

(xx.) Decimal File 000.9 Flying Discs. (File #2) Box 1 Entry 213A National Archives.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

22 July 47
Lt Col. Garrett/rm/1,544

PROBLEM:

1. To secure report from A-2, Barksdale Field, on flying saucer supposedly turned over to them 7 July by a resident of Shreveport.

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. On 7 July the New Orleans Field Office of the FBI wired its Washington Headquarters that a resident of Shreveport had found a flying disc in the street and turned it over to A-2, Barksdale Field.
3. On 10 July Maj Carlan, US Branch of ID advised LtCol Garrett that FBI stated the incident was a hoax.
4. Today Maj. Carlan requested we wire Barksdale to give us a report on what occurred in this instance. Report is for Gen. Chamberlain who has expressed an interest in the incident.

ACTION:

5. Dispatch of attached TWX to Commanding General, Air Training Command, Barksdale Field.

COORDINATION:

6. Ma. Carlan, US Br., ID, Ext. 4165

000.9 Flying Discs

#585

24 July. The famous "La" flying disc recovery case. FBI document "insisting on full access to discs recovered." (See below)

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD

DATE: 7/24/47

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: FLYING DISCS

Reference is made to my memorandum to you in the above captioned matter dated July 10, 1947, indicating that Brigadier General George F. Schulgen of the Army Air Corps Intelligence had requested that the Bureau cooperate with the Army Air Corps Intelligence in connection with the above captioned matter. The Director noted on the referenced memorandum, "I would do it but before agreeing to it we must insist upon full access to discs recovered. For instance in the La. case the Army grabbed it and would not let us have it for cursory examination."

This is to advise that Special Agent [redacted] has recontacted General Schulgen and advised him in connection with the Director's notation. General Schulgen indicated to Mr. [redacted] that he desired to assure Mr. Hoover of complete cooperation in this matter and stated that he would issue instructions to the field directing that all cooperation be furnished to the FBI and that all discs recovered be made available for the examination by the FBI Agents. General Schulgen pointed out to Mr. [redacted] that he will from time to time make the results of the studies of his scientists available to the Bureau for the assistance of the FBI Field Offices. General Schulgen indicated to Mr. [redacted] that there has been a decrease in the reported sightings of the discs which might be because of the fact that it has lost much of its publicity value. He indicated, however, that he believed it necessary to follow this matter through to determine as near as possible if discs were in fact seen and to determine their origin.

General Schulgen inquired of Mr. [redacted] the method by which the Bureau would make the information obtained from the Bureau's inquiries, known to the Air Corps, in the Field as well as at the War Department level. Mr. [redacted] pointed out to General Schulgen that the best procedure appeared to be through the regular established channels. It was pointed out to General Schulgen that the Bureau Field Offices maintain close liaison with the Intelligence Divisions of the various Armies as well as close liaison with the Intelligence Division of the War Department. General Schulgen indicated that he would be satisfied to receive information through this means.

General Schulgen indicated to Mr. [redacted] that he believed that there was a possibility that this entire matter might have been started by subversive individuals for the purpose of creating a mass hysteria. He suggested that the Bureau keep this in mind in any interviews conducted regarding reported sightings. General Schulgen stated to Mr. [redacted] that he would make available to the Bureau all information in the possession of the Air Corps regarding the sightings which were first reported so that the Bureau could conduct some investigation regarding these individuals to ascertain their motives for reporting that they had observed flying discs. When General Schulgen makes the information available regarding these individuals, it will be promptly brought to your attention.

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22 July. Kenneth Arnold: "I don't read Startling Comics." (See clipping below)

THE DENVER POST
12 Tuesday, July 22, 1947

Disk Pictures. Goal of Man Who Saw 'Em

If you have any clever comments to make about flying saucers, don't try them out on Kenneth Arnold of Boise, Idaho. He won't be amused.

Arnold was the first to give an eyewitness account of the disks and "it's upset the whole routine of my life," he complains.

"It's not funny to me," said Arnold, on a business trip to Denver, Tuesday. "I don't read Popular Science or Startling Comics. I don't know anything about atomic fission. I don't know what it was I saw. All I know is that I saw nine objects that performed like aircraft, traveling at tremendous speed.

"I have a wife and two children and a little business up in Boise, and I'm not looking for publicity. If I had known what a fuss it was going to stir up, I probably would

never have said anything about the disks. But it makes me pretty sore to have people say I'm imagining things."

Arnold said he was flying in his private plane near Mount Rainier on the afternoon of June 24 when he saw the queer objects.

"At first I thought they were jet planes," he said, "but I couldn't see any tails. I thought it rather strange, but I didn't really get excited about them until I clocked them flying between two peaks at 1,382.4 miles an hour. They were flying in echelon and were obviously controlled. They looked black when flying level and silver when their wings tilted.

"I don't think they could have been piloted, because they made abrupt turns, and I don't think a man could stand a sharp change of direction traveling at that speed."

Arnold said they were bigger than a two-engine transport plane, and flew in loose formation "like geese."

"I can say one thing for certain," he declared. "If I see any more of them, I won't say anything about it unless I can get a picture of them. I just about sleep with my camera now. It's getting to be kind of an obsession with me how to get this thing cleared up."

23 July. Aviation editor Dave Johnson of *The Idaho Statesman*.

Johnson discloses what might be an attempt to take advantage of the flying saucer mystery in the Cold War by citing "news" disseminated by the British Information Service. The news hints at British involvement in pilotless plane projects and an interest in "circular wing models." (See clipping on page 38)

The Russians may have struck first with the rumor of "Russian supersonic atomic-powered aircraft" that turned up in a letter mailed in Los Angeles back on July 7th. Among other things, the letter mentioned "polar bear pelts," the "tundra," and Siberia's Lake Bakal. (It's not surprising then that American Consulates in China were forwarding saucer reports).

Suggestions that the American military was responsible for the flying discs appeared here and there in the press but it would have been awkward to press the claim. Officially, the U.S. Air Force was still "investigating the problem."

One should also note Dave Johnson entertaining seminal speculation that: "...the military services know what's going on, but don't want to tell."

British Planning to Launch 'Flying Disc' --- and No Fooling

By DAVE JOHNSON

While this nation's military intelligence is still investigating the flying disc outbreak, the British government announced Tuesday it would use a circular wing in efforts to produce a supersonic airplane.

The British information service, in a dispatch circulated among U. S. aviation writers, said the experimental wing would be ring-shaped. The circular wing apparently is but one of many shapes under experimentation.

At the present time, the British are sending cigar-shaped projectiles through the stratosphere seven miles above the ocean off the rocky Cornish coast.

Called Ghosts

The projectiles, automatically controlled, are pilotless and are called "ghosts." They are launched from bombers at heights of 35,000 feet. They are said to have achieved speeds never before reached by man-occupied planes. They have thin wings with convex surfaces above and beneath, are sharp-nosed, and have a moving tail plane. They are rocket-driven.

As they fly, they transmit by radio to technicians on the ground information of stresses and speeds, and behind the ghosts fly Meteor jet planes, photographing the experimental planes. When their fuel is exhausted, the ghosts plunge into the ocean and are lost.

The circular wing will be used on later models of the ghosts, the British announcement said. The British are trying to find both a design that will fly safely at high speeds, and one which will furnish control at speeds breaking through from subsonic to the supersonic range.

Intelligence Services Curious

The U. S. Army and Navy intelligence services, meanwhile, would like to come to some decision on the reason for the reports of mysterious objects in flight in this country.

E. J. Smith, United Air Lines captain, was queried by both branches of military intelligence, as was Kenneth Arnold, Boise man who first reported seeing disc-like objects in flight.

It was Smith's story of encountering nine of the discs while flying his air liner from Boise to Pendleton that started some "saucer-scoffers" to thinking seriously about the objects.

His is the report that turned the disc disease into a story of major proportions with an undercurrent of strict seriousness.

And, reports of discs are still coming in to this newspaper. The most recent have come from persons familiar indirectly or directly with aviation. The stories still give the objects indefinite flight characteristics, with sudden appearances and sudden disappearances.

A CAA official, with years of aviation experience, said he was converted when he saw a flying disc. This man said he thought it contained a radio altimeter set to keep it a definite distance above the terrain so it wouldn't run into the mountains.

This, he said, would make the discs fly a "contour line" and would account for the porpoising movement noted by others.

Some folks express the belief that the military services know what's going on, but don't want to tell. This doesn't quite offset the fact the intelligence services are still investigating and apparently under orders from the top.

Psychologists, who know nothing about the discs but know a lot about human behavior, were inclined to put the discs down as

Boise, Idaho
Idaho Statesman
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"disturbances of the postwar period." But none of them said that Capt. Smith and his crew didn't see anything.

Dr. J. L. Moreno of New York, originator of the science of sociometry, or group organization, was quoted by the Associated Press as believing there was "no doubt that many witnesses of the flying discs really have seen what they described."

As one of those who saw a disc, I thank the doctor.

But he goes on to say, "An analysis of the reports gives the symptoms of a mental condition from which human society suffers at present. The basic cause seems to be fear of coming disaster . . . these normal feelings are infectious."

Now I don't know whether I'm so grateful.

The fact remains that despite the observations of psychologists and aviation experts combined, nobody has yet advanced a satisfactory explanation for the things folks reported seeing.

24 July. Pehuajo, Argentina. (daytime?)

"60-70 meters from the ground?"

The Buenos Aires press published: "Juan Arigues, a resident of...[Pehuajo] stated he was just leaving his home at Gorriti #960 when he saw a single 'flying saucer' about sixty or seventy meters from the ground." (xx.)

(xx.) Buenos Aires, Argentina. *Standard*. 26 July 47.

24 July. Bahia Blanca, Argentina. (about midnight)

In the same news story as Juan Arigues report was this:

"The man who saw one in Bahia Blanca is Jose Domingo Calabroal, a farmer who owns a 'chacra' in the vicinity of the local cemetery. He says that he was putting some sackcloth over some lettuces on Thursday night at about midnight. There were signs of frost and so Calabroal was taking no chances of the young plants being destroyed. Although he is not superstitious he has never liked being so near the cemetery specially when working at night, but he declares that he was not seeing ghostly things when he looked up at the sky and saw no fewer than 13 'flying saucers' disappeared in the direction of Bahia Blanca." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

24 July. Oregon City, Oregon. (night)

800 feet above the earth?

A news paper story said:

"Frightened more than he had ever been before, Ed Logue, driver for the Oregon City Cab Co., last night saw the first of the flying discs reported in Oregon City, an opalescent green light given off from a tube as large as the fuselage of a light plane. It was pear-shaped and appeared to be about 800 feet above the earth, flying south parallel to Main street and appeared to be as far up the hill as the State theatre.

"Logue was talking on the telephone to his employer, Albert Hockett, at the time. He said the plane or disc appeared to be flying slowly, about the speed of a reconnaissance plane out taking pictures.

"He said the motion of the plane in the air was like that of a fish swimming slowly in still water." (xx.)

(xx.) Oregon City, Oregon. *Enterprise*. 25 July 47.

24 July. Quincy, Massachusetts. (morning)

According to a press account:

"Even experts see them. The routine weather check at the Squantum Naval Air Station was disrupted this morning when two experienced aerographers's mates spotted a flying disc.

"The men, Joseph Muka, 52, Seaman Second Class of 158 Phipps street, Quincy, and John Francis Nihen, 19, aerographer's Mate Third Class of 24 Parkman street, Dorchester, were making their usual observations from the roof of the Operations Building at the Air Station.

"Suddenly, a 'highly polished, silver ball' hurtled through the air between six and eight thousand feet over the Milton area (to the west of the station). The men were... able to note that it was flying at 300 miles per hour, and rising in a northwesterly direction.

"They even had time to compare it with a plane which was taking off from the Squantum Station at the time, and they are certain that it bore no resemblance to a plane.

"The object was gone within ten seconds, so it couldn't have been a weather balloon, said Nihen and Mula." (xx.)

(xx.) Quincy, Massachusetts. *Patriot-Ledger*. 24 July 47. p.1.

24 July. Boston, Massachusetts. (between 9:20 and 9:30 p.m.)

"Report nine zooming in from the ocean."

The *Boston Post* printed:

"A formation of nine 'flying saucers' zooming in from over the sea at the Beach at Bryant & Beck was reported last night by four vacationing Bay State teen-aged youths.

"The spinning, white-blue discs traveled in a straight-line, above and below each other, as if they were guided, from the horizon in a north-westerly direction,' stated one of the boys, George Day, 17, of 214 Row Hill, Stoneham. Day also stated that the brilliantly lighted discs took only fifteen seconds to pass out of view in the clear sky last night.

"Walter Milne, 18, Pawtucket avenue, Marshfield, stated that the discs appeared to be from about four to five inches in diameter[relative estimate?].

"William Mulline, 18, of 195 Grafton Street, Worcester, stated that the objects flashed by them between 9:20 and 9:30 p.m. last night.

"Walter Murphy, 18, of 12 Johnswood road, Roslondale, the fourth eye-witness, said that it appeared as if a group of stars had cut loose from their regular position."

(xx.)

(xx.) Boston, Massachusetts. *Post*. 25 July 47. p.3.

25 July. El Paso, Texas. (about 4:45 p.m.)

"Wobbled like a pie plate."

A newspaper account states:

"Another 'flying disc' was sighted over El Paso about 4:45 p.m. Friday. Persons standing in front of the Five Points Bowling Lanes, 2800 Montana Street, saw the disc. Among the group were Jim Tyra, John Baker, a Mr. and Mrs. McMorrie and daughter, Harriet.

"They said the disc wobbled around in the air like a pie plate tossed into the air. It was silver aluminum in color, and remained in sight about five minutes, finally disappearing over the crest of Mount Franklin." (xx.)

(xx.) El Paso, Texas. *Times*. 26 July 47.

25 July. Kenneth Arnold: "revolutionary type aircraft?" (See clipping below)

Arnold Sights New Aircraft

Boise's First Observer Of 'Flying Saucer' Addresses Lions Club

Kenneth Arnold, Boise's flying businessman who startled the nation with the first report of "flying saucers," was guest speaker at the Lions club luncheon Friday at Hotel Owyhee.

Reports from the Army that experiments are being made with projected missiles, he said, con-

vinced him that someone "knows all about the objects." He said he believed science has figured out a revolutionary type aircraft which probably can carry human beings.

"I'm certainly not sorry I made the first observation of the objects," Arnold said, "but I feel they should be labeled a strange type of aircraft instead of 'flying saucers.'"

He said he thought the reason they have not been seen lately can be explained by the turbulence of the air in the northwest since July 6.

"About the time people of Washington, Oregon and Idaho saw the objects," he said, "the air was very, very smooth, there was little haze and the days were the longest of the year. I feel atmospheric conditions have a great deal to do with our ability to see them."

Bob Fifer, president, presided at the club meeting, and E. F. Casebeer was program chairman. Guests were Boyd Lytle of the Twin Falls club, H. F. Willmorth of Nampa, Leon Gonor and Clyde Johnson.

Boise, Idaho, Saturday Morning, July 26, 1947

St. James

27 July. Albion, Idaho. (daytime?)

"Fluttered like a butterfly."

According to the *Burley Bulletin*:

"Claiming to be the first Albion people to sight a 'flying disc' were Mrs. Matthew Tremayne, sons Leland and Alton Lee, and daughter, Katherine.

"They were near the Rice farm, going toward Declo, Sunday, July 27, when they first noticed the objects flying above the Anderson ranch.

"It seemed at first as a large reflector," Mrs. Tremayne said, "and was silver in color. It must have been traveling at a speed of 40 miles [mph?], but it didn't fly like a plane, fluttering more like a large butterfly."

"The Tremaynes heard no noise, although they said it was flying the height of an ordinary plane and was headed toward Idahome." (xx.)

(xx.) Burley, Idaho. *Burley Bulletin*. 5 August 47.

28 July. "Definitely Positive She Saw Flying Disk."

Disk witness Lillian Haynes was so angry with people writing the newspaper editor to suggest she had not really seen any mysterious object, she wrote a blistering reply. In a letter to the editor of the *Des Moines Register*, Mrs. Haynes penned for publication:

"To the Editor:

"Concerning the news item in *The Register* of Wednesday July 9, in which it was stated that Mrs. Lillian Haynes has seen one of the flying saucers, I want to say a few words in behalf of myself.

"After receiving so many quips about this illusive bubble, I am denouncing all and anyone, including Frank Miles who said the people who have seen them are in the cups, and Ken Rollins, who authored the little ditty which says, 'are probably crockery being thrown by Mrs. Paul Bunyan in a family fight.'

"For Mr. Miles' benefit, I don't drink. Those who have not seen 'it' or 'them' are the ones who make with the razz-ma-tazz; and those who have, are the ones who do believe.

"I am also definitely positive that I absolutely could not stretch my imagination to such an extent that I could watch it until the silver disk disappeared from my eyesight, and other witnesses, laugh that off.

"I will not say it was a mirage, but to the one who so sweetly sent me the clipping, why didn't he sign his name? A little psychology on his part wouldn't hurt him. You'll notice I sign my name.—Mrs. Lillian Haynes." (xx.)

(xx.) Des Moines, Iowa. *Des Moines Register*. 28 July 47. p.9.

28 July. Kenneth Arnold again.

"It sounds fantastic, but I don't doubt it."

Arnold gets a letter from Paris:

"BOISE, Idaho.—Kenneth Arnold, Boise business man-pilot who first 'spotted' the flying discs, added a letter from Paris in his growing file of correspondence offering solutions to the airborne saucers.

"The unidentified Frenchman, writing from Paris, said the disks are part of a 'great revelation to be made this year.'

"Arnold said the writer declared hieroglyphics on the grand pyramid in Egypt predicted that in June, July and August of this year, a new era would begin for humans.

" 'It sounds fantastic,' Arnold commented, 'but I don't doubt it.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Kellogg, Idaho. *Evening News*. 28 July 47. p.1.

28 July. Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. (shortly after noon)

"Little puffs of smoke?"

A press report said:

" 'A shining silver disc flying west at a tremendous height and releasing little puffs of smoke at regular intervals,' was reported seen by J.R. Lindsay, 221 Kitson Ave., ...[Norwood?], as he was standing near his house shortly after noon Monday.

" 'I had been watching it for about two minutes, when I looked to see if there was anyone else around. There was no one and when I looked up again it was out of sight.

" 'It must have had something mechanical attached to it release the smoke at regular intervals,' said Mr. Lindsay." (xx.)

(xx.) Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. *Tribune*. 29 July 47.

29 July. Port Orchard, Washington. (daytime?)

Coroner gets close up. (See clipping right)

29 July. Between Mountain Home and Boise. (8:34 p.m.)

UAL #105 encounters disc-like object. Officers refrain from reporting UFOs. "If they are secret craft they ought to be kept off the airways." (See clipping on page 44)

29 July. ¼ mile N.W. of Canyon Ferry, Montana. (about 12:05 p.m.)

"See it! See it! There's a flying saucer!"

Report by Division Plant Engineer for Pacific Tel & Tel. (See page 45) (xx.) (xx.) U.S. Army Intelligence Files 1947-1952. National Archives. Photocopies supplied to author by Barry Greenwood.

29 July. Hamilton Field, Main County, California. (2:50 p.m.)

"Specifically stated objects were not airplanes." (See page 46) (xx.)

(xx.) Memorandum for the officer in charge: Incident 4AF 1208-I 5 August 1947. (Date of interview was 4 August 1947. Date of incident was 29 July 47) U.S. Army Intelligence Files 1947-1952. National Archives. Photocopies supplied to author by Barry Greenwood.

29 July. Five miles north of Wendell, Idaho. (night)

More objects over Idaho:

**KITSAP CORONER
GETS CLOSEUP
VIEW OF DISK**
PORT ORCHARD, July 29. —
Coroner Al H. Segerquist of Kitsap County reported today he got a close-up view of a large, oval-shaped flying disk traveling at tremendous speed only about 500 feet above the ground and headed toward a landing in the Long Lake area.
Segerquist said he got a very close view of the speeding missile. He said it was traveling about three times the ordinary speed of a jet plane. It seemed to be a large oval, approximately ten or twelve feet long and five feet in diameter.
The coroner said he believed he could lead searchers within a close area where the disk might have landed, as it was headed down when he saw it and disappeared without any noise behind the hills and trees just beyond the Port Orchard war housing area.

Seattle, Washington
Post-Intelligencer
30 July 47.

United Air Lines Crew Reports Sighting Flying Saucer Between Mountain Home and Boise

BY DAVE JOHNSON

A United Air Lines crew reported Monday night the sighting of a flying disc-like object, and Charles F. Gibian, the trip's captain, said if the government is conducting secret experiments with such objects, "they ought to be kept off the civil airways."

Capt. Gibian and First Officer Jack Harvey of UAL's westbound trip 105 said they saw a round, flat object in the sky west of Mountain Home, a town 45 miles east of here, as the twin-engined liner was letting down for a landing at Boise's Gowen field.

Both men said they thought the object was an airplane until "in a matter of seconds it disappeared, apparently going away from us."

Gibian said if the object was "40 miles or so distant from the affirmer, it was as big as an airplane." He added that if what he and his co-pilot had seen actually was a flying disc, "it was going like hell when it vanished."

The Civil Aeronautics administration's communications station here reported there were no other

aircraft in the sky in the vicinity of Mountain Home at the time Gibian and Harvey reported seeing the object.

The two veteran United pilots told their story to the Idaho Statesman from United's operations office at Pendleton, where the line was held open until the plane landed there, its first stop after leaving Boise.

Others See Objects
Gibian said that "other officers on United planes" had seen objects but had refrained from reporting them because they did not know what they were.

He said that only Monday night he had held a radio conversation with another United captain on a trip passing near him, and said that while he could not use the captain's name, he appeared "concerned" over the objects that had been reported seen in flight.

Gibian and Harvey said they were not certain that what they had seen actually was a "flying disc." But, they added, they couldn't deny it.

Gibian said the "only logical explanation" he could think of was that it was a bit of rapidly-forming and disappearing cloud.

"... Wasn't an Airplane . . ."
"But," he said, "I say that's logical because I don't know what I saw. It wasn't an airplane, and if it was an object, when it vanished it was going like hell."

Gibian and Harvey are the second United crew to report sighting disc-like objects in the night sky over Boise. Capt. E. J. Smith of United's trip 105—the same trip that Gibian was flying Monday night—reported on July 4 that he and his first officer and stewardess saw two groups of flying objects near Emmett, west of here.

Smith said he saw first a formation of five objects, then a formation of four, and that his co-pilot had blinked the plane's landing lights at them in the belief they were other aircraft flying a collision course.

Harvey saw the object first to

night. He said he thought it was an airplane, and then turned his attention to the instrument panel to reduce power in order to make the let down for Boise. When he looked up again, he said, the object had become smaller, then disappeared.

Has "Substance"

He said the plane was flying into the setting sun, and the object appeared "to have considerable substance."

Harvey said he first saw the object south of course, then it seemed to be moving north or northwest, the direction it was following when it went out of sight.

Gibian said the object appeared to be at 9000 altitude, while the air liner was descending from a cruising altitude of 8000 feet. Both men said they saw the object at 8:34 p. m. (MST.)

They reported the incident to

(Please Turn to Page 2, Column 6)

Boise 22 Statesman July 29, 1947 The Ida UAL Crew Reports Seeing Flying Disc

(Continued from Page One)
the airways traffic control tower and to United operations here by radio before landing at Boise.

Seems to Weave
Gibian, speaking from Pendleton, said the object appeared to be "weaving" as if it were in choppy air. He said the air at that time was rather bumpy.

Gibian and Harvey said they had never seen any such thing before.

"If it is real," said Gibian, "it must be some sort of military experiment, and if that is the case they ought to arrange to keep the objects off the civil airways."

Gibian said he had talked to Capt. Smith about the objects Smith reported seeing, and said that "Smithy" was "really convinced he has seen some flying object that wasn't an airplane and for which he has no explanation."

Gibian said Harvey had pointed out the object to him as he would "have done if it had been an airplane."

"East or West?"
Then, he said, Harvey asked him, "Is that plane going east or west?"

While they were both looking at it, Gibian said at Pendleton, it disappeared.

Gibian said he "had thought of calling up the stewardess to look at the object" but by the time

he reached for the interphone to summon her, the object had disappeared.

He repeated that "logic" would dictate that the object was a piece of cloud, but said, "That's the logic of it because I don't know that such things as discs really exist."

Boise, Idaho
Idaho Statesman
29 July 47.

C
O
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Y

Report on a "Flying Saucer"

At or about 12:05 p.m., July 29, 1947, a sedan, driven by [REDACTED] and carrying [REDACTED] in the front seat and [REDACTED] in the rear seat, was proceeding northwesterly along the road leading from Canyon Ferry to York, both in Montana some 25 miles N.E. of Helena.

When at a point approximately 1/4 mile N.W. of Canyon Ferry, (as shown on Forest Service Map to be in the NE 1/4 of Sec. 10 T10N R1W) [REDACTED] suddenly shouted "See it! See it! There's a flying saucer!" [REDACTED] immediately slowed down and gradually brought the sedan to a stop, he and [REDACTED] meanwhile scanning the sky in the direction pointed by [REDACTED] in an effort to see the "flying saucer", but without success.

Approximately ten seconds elapsed between the time [REDACTED] reported seeing the "saucer", coming over the horizon at high speed from the southwest, (Karl first thought it a meteor) and travelling northeasterly, and the bringing of the car to a stop.

As the car came to a stop, [REDACTED], simultaneously, saw the following:

Directly ahead, (N.W.) 2 to 3 miles distant and approximately 3000 ft. above the ground, a bright disc hovering and fluttering in the air. Descending and rising through a vertical distance of fifty or a hundred feet for a period of about five seconds then, while at the top of an ascent, the "disc" suddenly swooped to the Northeast at tremendous speed and disappeared into the clear air within a distance of 200 ft. That is to say it did not pass beyond an obstruction to further visibility but "melted into thin air" as if because of tremendous speed.

This disc was, from the viewpoint of the observers, apparently 3 ft. in diameter, circular and of no great thickness - approximately 3 or 4 inches.

The sky was blue with scattered small clouds, the sun was shining brightly and the disc gleamed and shimmered in the bright sunlight as if covered with highly polished nickel.

After the "disc" disappeared from view, the sedan and its occupants proceeded northwesterly along the road, but could discern no evidence of the presence of the "disc" along or adjacent to that thoroughfare.

It is to be remembered that the dimensions as stated above were as they appeared to the observers some 2 or 3 miles from the "disc" and the true dimensions must be considerably greater.

/s/ R. J. Madden,
R. J. MADDEN,
Division Plant Engr.
The Pac. Tel. & Tel. Co.

COPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Incident
4AF 1208-I
5 August 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

On 5 August 1947, this agent interviewed Captain William H. Ryherd, ASN O-66356, the assistant operations officer in the 415th AAP BU, Building 95, Hamilton Field, California, regarding flying objects in the air. Captain Ryherd stated in substance: He is an instructor pilot in the 415th Training Unit. On 29 July at 1450, Captain Ryherd and a student, 1st Lt. Ward L. Stewart, 1242 Milvia Street, Berkeley, California, landed and parked an AT-6 near the hangar, building 59 of the 415th AAP BU. Walking from the aircraft toward reserve operations, and looking westward just over the hangar, Captain Ryherd saw a P-80 flying southward toward Oakland. Above this P-80, at approximately 8,000 to 10,000 feet in altitude, Captain Ryherd saw two flying objects traveling the same direction as the P-80. He, Ryherd, judged the solid, white, somewhat shiny objects were approximately 15 to 25 feet in diameter. Ryherd stated that he didn't call them discs due to the publicity these objects have been given, but in shape they were circular, like a ball on the bottom, but not completely round; and Ryherd specifically stated that these objects were not airplanes.

The first flying object was traveling straight and level; whereas the second was close behind the first, same altitude, only it seemed to be going from left to right and right to left, more or less like a guard in an aircraft formation. Captain Ryherd further stated that the speed of these two objects made a P-80 look as if it was motionless in the air.

The sky was clear, consequently Captain Ryherd and Lt. Stewart watched the two objects until they disappeared in flight, supposedly over Oakland, headed toward the ocean.

Due to the noise of the P-80, no sound of any kind could be heard from these flying objects.

These objects did not leave any vapor, "smoke", or any visible trails along their flight path.

Captain Ryherd informed this agent he had never told anyone about these flying objects, fearing that people would think he was crazy.

AGENT'S NOTES: Captain Ryherd showed extreme sincerity throughout the interview, answering all questions with caution and assurance.

JAMES A. NELSON, Spec. Agt., CIC 4AF

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"Four Boise residents Tuesday night reported what they believed were flying discs.

"Those reporting the objects were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Skillern of 915 Warm Springs avenue, and Stanley Ewing and George Smith, both of the Grand hotel.

"Mr. and Mrs. Skillern said they were driving on the highway five miles north of Wendell when they saw two round, silver-colored objects moving 'extremely fast' in front of their automobile.

"The Skillerns were driving from Twin Falls to Boise when they saw the objects. They said the two discs were flying approximately side by side, and not in trail, and said they vanished suddenly after being under observation for a minute and a half.

"Mr. Skillern said the objects were 'very high' but he could not estimate the height beyond that.

"Ewing said he and Smith, working at the Linde Air Products company on the bench, saw a grayish object due west of Boise at 8:30 p.m. Monday, about the relative size of a dollar. They said the object vanished suddenly.

"At 8:34 p.m. Monday, Capt. Charles Gibian of United Air Lines reported he and his co-pilot saw a disc-like object west of Mountain Home at an altitude of 9,000 feet." (xx.)

(xx.) Boise, Idaho. *The Idaho Statesman*. 30 July 47.

31 July. Stockholm, Sweden.

The Russian saucer hypothesis gets a boost?

The American Office of Naval Intelligence received disturbing news on July 31st. Commander Dare, USN, representing the Joint Research Board, learned that although the Swedes had pooh-poohed reports of guided missiles over Sweden (Ghost Rockets?), the Swedish Air Force refused to discuss details. Why? Concern by the U.S. Naval Attache was increased by the admission by the Swedes long wave radio signals, apparently from an electronic command guidance system, were emanating from Rugen, the vicinity of wartime German rocket base now occupied by the Russians. It was determined by the character of the signal some type of radio-controlled aircraft was being tested rather than V-2 type rockets.

The apparent affirmation of a secret Russian aircraft project may well have had an effect on the distribution of an "Essential Elements of Information" (EEI) document drawn up by Alfred Loedding and Dr. Charles Carroll in the Fall of 1947. The document was issued within the European Command by Lt. Col. Malcolm Seashore.

This EEI combined the Twining Memo of September 23, 1947 (The phenomenon is something real) with a report of the Russian development of a large, six-engine, bomber based on the German Horton design. (xx.) (See the history supplement covering September 1947)

(xx.) Hall, Michael & Wendy Connors. *Alfred Loedding and the Great Flying Saucer Wave of 1947*. Rose Press: Albuquerque, N.M., 1998. pp.114-117.

(See ONI Swedish report on pages 48-50)

ONI DISSEMINATION ROUTING SLIP
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NAVY DEPARTMENT

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SECRET

(Reference to this report must specify Serial No., Place and Date.)

Serial 33-S-47 at Stockholm, Sweden Date 31 July 1947
(Start new series each year, i. e. 1-43, 2-43.)

B.I.D. 0407.

From U. S. Naval Attache Monograph Index Guide No. 804-360
(Ship, fleet, unit, district, office, station, or person) Make separate report for each main title. See O. N. I. Index Guide.

Reference a) U. S. Naval Officer (directive, correspondence, previous related report, etc., if applicable)

Source and b) Swedish Air Force Officers. Evaluation a) A-1; b) F-3
(As official, personal observation, publication, press, conversation with— Identify when practicable, etc.) A-1 to F-3 etc. Ref: AG/EM 3-102 SER. 4312410-11-1842

Subject SWEDEN/RUSSIA Guided Missiles Radio Control Systems
(Nation reported on) (Main title as per index guide) (Subtitles) (Make separate report for each title)

SUBJECT. (Here enter careful summary of report, containing substance succinctly stated; include important facts, names, places, dates, etc.)

Swedish officers report having received, via long-wave radio, guided missile control signals. U.S. Navy radar search plane plots similar signals as emanating from the RUGEN area of Russian-occupied Germany, as long as 14 minutes duration, about 41.5 megacycles, indicating experimentation with radio-controlled aircraft or V-1 types rather than true rockets of the V-2 type. F5- 9282

1. During a recent visit in Stockholm at the request of Aluna Stockholm Commander E. R. Dare, USN, of the Joint Research Board, attempted to get Swedish Air Force officers to evaluate the reports of guided missiles over Sweden. Commander Dare's report is as follows:

"Discussions of guided missiles were fruitless in a general sense, inasmuch as the Swedes did not discuss in any detail their own problems or the results of any findings. The only fact of significance which I have not heretofore run into was that, despite the pooh-pooh of the guided missiles, the Swedes have received, on long wave radio, signals that can be attributed only to a system which probably is an electronic guidance system. Although they did not explain in detail the type signal received, it is apparent that it was not a communication signal but could only be interpreted as a command signal. A logical deduction from this would be that, if the Swedes are correct in their interpretation of the reception of a command signal on a long wave radio, the recipient of such a signal must be flying at less than 40,000 feet, inasmuch as a greater altitude and the high altitude ionization effect would preclude reception of consistent radio signals.

"I would not classify the above information as 'A-1', because I feel that the information tossed to me might have been a return from my discussion of the problems of an early warning system. However, such information may be of interest, and should probably be included in a hearsay report."

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3 A: R E T

N. A Stockholm Report No. 33-5-47

31 July 1947

2. On the day following Commander Dare's visit, Lt. Comdr. Eric Pollard, USN, pilot of a U.S. Navy Privateer from his home base at Port Lyantey, Africa, to Gothenburg and Stockholm, arrived here. This aircraft has made similar flights on three previous occasions, equipped with electronic equipment capable of receiving radar impulses and determining their direction and frequencies.

3. Lt. Comdr. Pollard stated that in the various radar search flights he has made over Scandinavia he has received and identified electronic signals which could be attributed to guided missile control from only one location: Russian-occupied Germany in the vicinity of Rügen. These signals had a frequency of about 41.5 megacycles, and the duration was as long as 14 minutes.

4. Lt. Comdr. Pollard stated that all of the other signals which he had received and identified were radar signals of the anti-aircraft search type, of 500-odd megacycles. Locations of these radar stations were placed as follows: one in Denmark, just south of Copenhagen; and three in Sweden, one on the west coast below Göteborg, one north of Stockholm, and one on the northern tip of the big Swedish island GOTLAND. (The latter may have been farther east, due to the aircraft's position at the time it was received, possibly from CSEL or LATVIA.)

5. When the above reports are compared, certain assumptions can be made:

- (a) The Swedes are conducting radar searches for guided missiles with their own radar, and have identified certain signals as being connected with guided missiles.
- (b) The Russians are experimenting with radio-controlled craft of some type in the Rügen sector of Germany.
- (c) From the long duration of the control signals received (14 minutes), it is probable that the experiments involve radio-controlled aircraft or V-1 types rather than true rockets of the V-2 type, so that the extreme limit of their range would be the southern tip of Sweden.

*Ref. by
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Authority ND 55-2303By 718 NARA Date 7/25/97

What bearing would reports of possible Russian radio-controlled aircraft in the Baltic have on America's flying saucer mystery?

There were two reports in the Western Hemisphere that suggested a foreign intruder. Both cases centered around fairly good photographs and both were undergoing investigation in late July.

One case concerned the Rhodes photo taken in Arizona that showed an object that resembled the German Horten aircraft. The other case was the photograph of a gap in a cloud over Newfoundland that indicated the passage of a heat producing machine.

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