

UFOs: A History
1954
January–May

UFO's: A HISTORY
1954: JANUARY - MAY
by
Loren E. Gross
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UFOs; A HISTORY 1954: JANUARY-MAY

"It's landing!"

Panic gripped Pfc. Harrison Bennett the night of December 30, 1953 when a brilliant, crimson point of light seemed to swoop close to his guard post. Grabbing a butcher knife the terrified soldier ran into the darkness yelling: "It's landing in the tank shed!" 1. The excited Army man found no invaders. Likewise, the troops searching the area discovered no trace of anything unusual.

New Year's morning.

At 4:20 a.m. the red mystery made another appearance in the sky. Soldiers said it: "...moved northeast, then south, then north and remained over the tank shed at an elevation of about 3500 feet... and that it lay under the moon until morning." 2.

News accounts in the Washington Daily News listed official reactions to the odd manifestations.

The base Provost Marshal, Major D.D. Pomerleau, witnessed the phenomenon and then told the press the thing was like a blinking red traffic light, soundless, and was sharply delineated. He stated: "...I have friends and a professional reputation and as far as I'm concerned just say it's an aircraft navigation light." 3.

The Marine base information officer, Major A.B. Ferguson, announced: "We did at no time dispatch troops to fight off the invaders or capture them or welcome them aboard or anything else." 4. The Washington Daily News, however, did some checking and learned that official records stated: "A 13-man detail arrived (at 11:15 p.m. Dec. 30) from Camp Barrett and made a search of the area in which the light was first seen. The search proved fruitless." 5.

The Marine guards were pretty worked up. Exactly what they were dealing with eluded their understanding. When it was suggested the UFO was just an aircraft navigation light, Private Viet lashed out: "That was no airplane. I first thought it might be a weather balloon, but it wasn't. Either way, you could have seen the shape." 6. Viet continued: "Nobody in the barracks knows. They're just talking flying saucers, that's all. They're talking about men from Mars and everything else you could name." 7.

The news media played it up. The Associated Press on January 4th proclaimed: "Probe of Flying Light Is Started," and the United Press newsservice announced that: "...a mysterious flying object landed and took off..." 8.

Convincing the press.

The following day (January 5th) newsmen were assembled at Quantico to hear an official explanation.

Major John Shearer of Marine Intelligence and Major Pomerleau, Provost Marshal, played host to the representatives of the Fourth Estate telling the gentlemen that aircraft navigation lights were definitely the cause of the uproar. The officers said that at 6:40 p.m. the strange phenomenon would make an appearance. Sure enough, at exactly 6:40 someone shouted: "There it is!" 9. The newsmen ran outdoors and beheld a faint, flashing, red point of light low in the southwest sky and at the same time heard Major Shearer say he

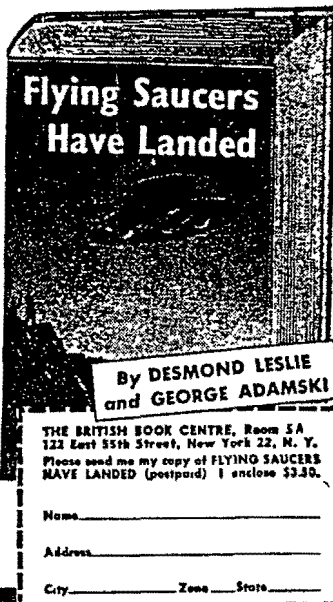
Do you live next door to a man from Venus?

The most exciting true adventure of them all proves
INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL IS FACT, NOT FICTION...



Read this fantastic, but authentic and documented account of an actual meeting with a man from Venus. Read what this visitor from outer space said about other Venusians who have settled on earth... about the dangers of atomic warfare... see pictures of the Venusian footprints, and the hieroglyphic message he left for our world—a message that top brains in the country are still trying to decipher today in

AUTHENTICATED documents and photographs prove this book is *fact, not fiction*—a true account of the most historic meeting of the 20th century—the opening of a new era of interplanetary relations. The first part of this vital book is a historical tracing of all the saucer sightings that have ever taken place... from ancient Egypt to the present day—an astonishing chronicle of interplanetary traffic. In the second half is the story of the momentous meeting with a man from outer space, which took place in the open—in the presence of reliable witnesses. Now, for the first time, this outspoken book breaks through the hush-hush government conspiracy to ignore the facts about flying saucers. Send today for the handsome, illustrated, clothbound book that dares to prove there is life on other planets.



Bethurum did enjoy some success, but he never came close to replacing George Adamski as the "foremost contactee." A measure of the difference was the number of books Adamski sold compared to his Redondoan Beach rival. Flying Saucers Have Landed outsold Bethurum's Aboard A Flying Saucer 15. by such a wide margin it wasn't even a contest. Moreover, Adamski wrote two more books that were commercially published. Bethurum tried his hand at a second work, Facing Reality, that was so boring evidently no publisher would take a chance.

could clearly see an airplane with red navigation lights with the aid of his binoculars he had brought along.

At 7:45 p.m. another shout called attention to some lights rising straight up some distance away. Again Major Shearer was able to interpret the source of the lumination by announcing his binoculars showed the UFOs to be light carrying weather balloons.

At 8:15 p.m. the Major pointed out a twinkling point in the heavens and exclaimed: "It's a star!" 10. (One supposes this series of examples was an attempt to explained all the reported motions of the mystery light: horizontal movement, climbing movement, and hovering).

Finally, the reporters were taken to Washington National Airport to so they could take pictures of the red tail lights on the airliners landing and taking off. 11. (50,000 candlepower Grimes Beacons had been recently installed on the passenger planes)

The Quantico lights and civilian UFO experts.

Of course all this strange sky light business did not escape the attention of Donald Keyhoe and Coral Lorenzen.

Keyhoe chose to title his version of the events "Cover-up at Quantico," 12. while Coral Lorenzen headlined her group's UFO newsletter story on the subject: "Attempted Landing at Quantico." 13. Mrs. Lorenzen told her readers any further information on the Quantico case was unlikely due to security considerations. She also noted that APRO members living in Virginia knew of no reports of UFO activity in the region. 14.

Other civilian saucer detectives.

As Al Bender's order to shut down the International Flying Saucer Bureau (IFSB) became effective on January 1, 1954; another civilian UFO organization came into existence, "The Little Listening Post" which set up shop on Illinois Avenue in downtown Washington D.C. Meanwhile, the Los Angeles, California, "Civilian Saucer Investigations" group felt it had enough data to draw some conclusions, deciding that the reality of unexplained aerial objects was irrefutable, agreeing with the U.S. Air Force that "credible witnesses" were reporting some incredible things."

The CSI people considered the reported objects incomprehensible to science and therefore must be from another world an unknown distance away. Referring to its modest data bank, the group declared: "There is little spectacular material in these reports, but the constant repetition of descriptions of well-defined configurations and types of phenomena, the repeated reports of the same flight characteristics, and global spread of the sightings all point definitely to the interstellar possibility." 16.

While CSI had reached a conclusion with some speed, in general the organization suffered from a lack of vigor that contrasted sharply with the excellent qualifications of some of its members, and perhaps from a lack of plans to go national. Satisfied with the little data it had already gathered, there appeared to be no strong leadership on the issue of long term goals.

George Adamski.

The year 1954 started off with a long excerpt of George Adamski's Flying Saucer Have Landed in the January issue of Pageant magazine. It was introduced with a short note by the editor that denied the magazine would vouch for the story but did call the material highly readable and having rare "shock value" whatever that was suppose to mean.

However, not everything was going that great for Adamski. As feared, Jerold Baker had rebelled and had talked freely to James Moseley, an editor of a civilian UFO bulletin. Baker charged that Adamski had faked his so-called space ship pictures by photographing a model. Moseley brought Baker's version of events and attacked the California contactee in the columns of Nexus. On January 4, 1954 Adamski pored out his anger in a letter to a faithful admirer of his, Laura Mundo of Detroit, Michigan, writing that Moseley was a "young snip" who preferred "distorting the truth to thinking." 17.

An Air Force comment.

Besides Pageant there was Allen Long's essay in the January issue of Science Digest titled: "The Air Force Looks At 'Saucers.'" Since Long only interviewed an Air Force spokesman, nothing much in the way of new information was included, yet it is interesting the way the spokesman discussed the subject of "sensational UFO reports." The spokesman told Science Digest it was Air Force policy to remain silent if a UFO viewer had suffered an hallucination or had perpetuated a hoax. He admitted this policy had the effect of deeping the mystery about the subject but it also had the advantage of not deterring future legitimate reports from sincere persons who feared public ridicule.

With an unconcealed chuckle, the Air Force spokesman added: "You can never tell when one of these darn things will land." 18.

UFOs downunder.

An Australian UFOlogist noted: "A few isolated reports were received in the early 50's but it wasn't until the global wave of 1954 that we experienced a small flap. Melbourne, Victoria, was the scene of several descriptions of saucer-shaped objects, some even during the daylight." 20.

New Years Day Captain D. Barker, a pilot for the Australia National Airline, saw a strange object moving tens times faster than a jet and bigger in size than a DC-3 at a low altitude above Yarra Valley in the Victoria district. At 10:15 a.m. in the morning this object, having the appearance of a "huge metallic mushroom" and shooting off shafts of light, zoomed passed Captain Barker's plane, ducked into a cloud for a few seconds, and then descended into the clear where the airliner pilot got a good look at it. 21.

That afternoon at 2:30 p.m. a strange incident took place near Melbourne where a "tumbling, box-like" object was reported in the sky which was "dived on" by a ball of vapor(?). Both "things" then disappeared. Later, an odd smoking fireball zoomed across the heavens.

A little less than an hour later (3:17 p.m.) at Hampton, Australia, an object said to look like a "clear plastic flying dish" travelled across the sky.

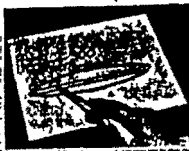
That evening at 8:45 p.m. a large metallic-looking object spewing a fiery bluish wake was sighted. One witness estimated the object was only some 300 feet in the air at one point in its travels but that seems unlikely since it was visible from many different locations. 22.

Alice Springs, Australia.

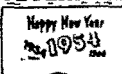
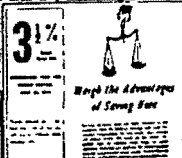
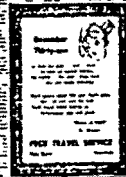
Sometime in January a large, dark, round, object was sighted hanging motionless in the air above Mt. Gillen, peak near the Australian town of Alice Springs which is located in the very heart of the continent. The object was an estimated 150 feet in diameter. A photograph was taken of the object while it was motionless and before it whizzed away at high speed, ac-

The Bethurum Story--'Best Read' of 1953

Redondoan Tells About
His Visit to Space Ship



Bethurum's Activities
Since Story Appeared



Left:

Hundreds of people in Southern California requested copies of the September 25, 1953 Redondoan Beach, California Daily Breeze that carried the Bethurum story; so many in fact, the article was reprinted on January 1, 1954.

Right:

Bethurum "swears on a Bible" he is telling the truth. The book to the lower right is his published account of his supposed contact, Aboard A Flying Saucer. This picture appeared in the Santa Cruz, California, Sentinel-News.



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To request approval for ATIC officer to travel to Rapid City, South Dakota, and Bismarck, North Dakota, for the purpose of determining the origin of a reported unidentified flying object.

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. On 5 Aug 53 a sighting was made in the vicinity of Rapid City, South Dakota, by numerous reliable military and civilian observers. Another sighting was reported from Bismarck, North Dakota, on the same date and appeared to be the same object. The object was also tracked by radar. Investigation followed but without the aid of an astronomer and the case remains unsolved.

3. Dr. Hynek of Ohio State University, contract astronomer to Project Blue Book, has had this case under study and believes that a satisfactory conclusion may be reached by a joint on-the-spot investigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

4. Project Blue Book believes that this is a significant case and should be solved for the purpose of its possible scientific value as well as to discourage its use by writers who may draw their own conclusions in lieu of an official solution. It is, therefore, recommended that Capt Charles A. Hardin (in company with Dr. Hynek) proceed to Rapid City, South Dakota, and Bismarck, North Dakota, for approximately 5 days TDY. 19.

cording to the Alice Springs Centralian Advocate which published the photo (The exact date of this incident is not known to this writer --Loren Gross) 23.

January 3rd. More from Australia.

Melbourne airport was swamped with UFO reports by January 3rd. One of them was about a thin, flat, shiny object which rocked back and forth high in the sky over Victoria. As the thing flashed in the sunlight it threw off a purplish halo of light. There was no sound as it took off at, according to the report, "five degrees a second." The observer was John W. Boyle, Vice-President of the Victoria branch of the British Astronomical Association, who saw the strange thing at 11 a.m. in the morning of January 3rd. At first glance Mr. Boyle thought the object was a piece of paper being tossed about by the wind. There was no surface air currents.

That evening at 8:30 p.m., also at Victoria, three women spotted a weird spinning object. 24.

January 4th.

"There were some cases we could not explain. Never could."

The 4th fell on a Monday. That day writer MacKinlay Kantor checked his wristwatch early in the evening. He noticed it was 6:07 p.m. He had never seen a flying saucer and was, as he described himself, a "grimly determined Doubting Thomas." Besides, he was a successful literary professional, a Pulitzer Prize winner, so he had nothing to prove by "seeing things."

Kantor owned a beachhouse on Siesta Key, an island in the Gulf of Mexico near Sarasota, Florida. He was standing on his private beach that Monday when he sighted something motionless in the air out over the water. He could only guess at its distance or its size but there seemed little doubt the thing was one of the so-called flying saucers. He yelled for his wife but his house was too far away so Kantor dashed over to his neighbor, Dr. Gillespie, who had just stepped outside. Kantor yelled: "LOOK! LOOK!" and pointed at the UFO. Dr. Gillespie saw something and at first thought he was looking at an airplane but quickly changed his mind when it was obvious the object was standing still.

What did the thing look like? Kantor swears it resembled the "top third of an apricot." If the object had any interesting details like "portholes" or "windows," they could not be discerned due to the distance but a curved top surface that gleamed from the light of the setting sun was visible and a rim of some sort was seen running around the bottom and a dark shadow on the object's underside testified to its 3-dimensional character.

Now that he had a second eyewitness, Kantor turned to seeking some measurable data. Using some trees as reference points, he determined how many degrees above the horizon the object was and also the thing's bearing.

In spite of how impressed Kantor was with the sight, critics like Dr. Menzel would have insisted the object was a balloon if the object had not cooperated in helping to prove it was a "high strangeness" object by suddenly shooting away at an incredible speed. Fortunately Kantor had the thing under observation when it finally moved. He followed it with his eyes as it took a diagonal, ascending course to the southwest. A veteran correspondent who was familiar with the latest aircraft, Kantor was astonished by the UFO's velocity, comparing it to a streaking meteor.

Kantor checked his wristwatch again. The time was 6:11 p.m. He had observed the UFO for some 4 minutes.

A man who knew his way around military establishments, Kantor rushed over to Florida's Mac Dill AFB where he confronted Col. Michael McCoy, a commander of a bomb wing. Kantor excitedly told his story, drawing a picture and urging that Project BLUE BOOK be notified immediately. Col. McCoy just shrugged and remarked that BLUE BOOK would just insist on some conventional explanation, so why not forget the incident? Kantor stiffened and exclaimed he would never forget!

As he would later write, Kantor did not have to believe in UFOs because after his experience he knew such objects existed.

In 1965 when former Air Force Chief of Staff E. La May penned his autobiography Mission With LeMay -- My Story, Kantor was selected to aid the old warrior by providing editorial advice. During the preparation of the manuscript, Kantor broached the subject of UFOs. The General replied with the usual Air Force comments about balloons, birds, stars, etc., but he admitted that occasionally reputable individuals had seen something very odd. He said: "There were some cases we could not explain. Never could." 25.

Second "landing" at Marignane'

What made Marignane field "so different?" There were thousands of airfields in the world so why would Marignane in southern France be singled out for two "UFO landings," assuming of course the incidents are true.

The first such "landing" took place back on October 27, 1952 and was supposed to have been witnessed by French custom agent Gabriel Gachignaud. It was now the evening of January 4, 1954. At Marignane field the air was cold and there were gusts of wind. The sky was Moonless. Outside the great Boussiron Hanger adjacent to the main runway was M. Chesneau on fireguard. The fellow huddled in a corner out of the blasts of chilly air, nonetheless from his position he could still see much of the airfield, and as one can imagine he was easily distracted from his boring duty by aircraft traffic. The time was 9:00 p.m. and no aircraft was expected, yet out of the southern sky came a luminous ball that approached the airstrip at moderate velocity. The "plane" touched down, bounced a few times, and stopped. Astonished, M. Chesneau ran to a phone to alert the control tower and Marignane field's Officer-in-charge.

An immediate search of the area in the darkness discovered no "airplane" or anything unusual. The thing, if it had landed, must have departed leaving no trace. With the light of day, however, there was a discovery on the runway. Strange metallic fragments, dense, dark-gray, spheres with six inch stems with curled ends; were scattered about on the tarmac. The stems looked as if they had been subjected to heat, "soldered" onto the spheres. The forementioned information was gathered by French reporter Constant Vautravers of the newspaper Le Provençal.

Gueiu investigates.

When French UFO investigator Jimmy Gueiu learned of the "landing," he made numerous inquiries over the phone but didn't get anywhere. People either refused to speak about the supposed incident or referred him to someone else, and those who he was referred to, likewise had nothing to say. It was the all too familiar "run-around." It was even denied that UFO witness even existed.

The reporter Vautravers eventually managed to contact Chesneau and set up an interview, but the UFO witness never kept the appointment.

Airport police were questioned by radio reporter Pierre Cordelier, but the lawman brushed off the incident as the "display of an experimental rocket." 26.

A Marseilles manufacturer who chose to remain anonymous informed the press that he was motoring home with a car full of family and friends about 10:45 p.m. It was Tuesday evening, January 5, 1954 (the day after the "landing" at Marignane). In the outskirts of Saint-Martin-deCrau the people in the car spotted a big red globe hanging in the air. The witnesses had the ball in view for about three seconds before it jumped vertically at terrific speed. A glowing ray or trail remained behind but it stayed visible for only a few moments before fading. 27.

"Mystery Moon."

The witness noticed a "black, round, object with a lighted rim" stationary in the sky. The thing was clearly outlined and was at an altitude of 23 degrees. The witness was A/2C Gordon E. Bruebach, an Air Policeman at Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, Michigan. He first thought he was observing the Moon. There was an overcast with thick clouds. The time was 8:00 p.m., January 6th.

For about 16 minutes the "Moon" hung in the dark sky above the wind indicator on the airfield. Was it close? Was it far away? Apparently there was no way to know and no reason to get excited, but then the thing moved. It: "...made a turn 5 degrees up and 7 degrees to the right, then straight away until it disappeared." 28.

Tooma, N.S.W., Australia.

A couple of Australian gentlemen were on vacation near Tooma, Australia, and were unaware a UFO flap was in progress. They had not been listening to the radio nor had they been reading any newspapers.

At noon on January 5, 1954 the men noticed something so odd they rushed to telephone the R.A.A.F. headquarters in Melbourne.

It seems that in the eastern sky there was a trio of bright, round, objects travelling very fast toward the west. What caught the eye was the fact that although the objects were moving in one general direction --west, they were at the same time "orbiting each other." After a time, the trio changed their heading: "...one headed South followed by #2 and #3 after an interval, line astern formation." 29.

January 6th. "They are not a joke."

The importance of the UFO mystery was underscored by the Superintendent of Traffic Control, Department of Civil Aviation, Melbourne, Australia; when on January 6th he officially released a collection of UFO reports covering the period from November 1951 to July 8, 1953. The areas studied were New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. Witnesses comprised people in impressive occupations: airdrome officers, control tower operators, pilots, etc. Phenomena listed included: Illuminated cylinders, star-like bodies moving at high speed, V-shaped formations of objects travelling soundlessly, and one case that mentioned a glowing fishbowl-like thing that flew around a DC-3. The Superintendent appealed for more reports stating: "They are not a joke." 30.

Meteor or what?

The American CIA surveying foreign newspapers found the following in the Liege, Belgium, newspaper Le Monde du Travail:

"On 7 January 1954 at 0420 hours, a Sabena pilot preparing to land at Melsbrock saw a ball of fire low on the horizon, moving in a north-northwesterly direction. The ball was white, edged with green, and was followed by a long trail. The phenomenon illuminated the whole sky and the pilot supposed at the time that it was a green rocket signal set off by the airport authorities. Since the latter denied this, it was assumed that he had seen the same light which was seen over Dieppe." 31.

We have two sources that mention the phenomenon at Dieppe. Both tell of a blinding explosion that turned night into day and broke windows. It was said the remains of the meteor, or whatever it was, fell into the English Channel off shore near Dieppe. Witnesses aboard a French trawler reported the passage of a tremendous ball of fire leaving sparks in its wake. 32.

Jimmy Gieu, a French source for this episode, asserts that the object passed over the towns of Arras, Orchies, and Dieppe in a "series of short curves" and for a time "hovered for a few seconds." 33.

QUEL ETAIT CET ETRANGE RODEUR DU CIEL ?

Nouveaux témoignages sur le passage d'un bolide flamboyant au-dessus de notre région

CERTAINES OBSERVATIONS SEMBLERAIENT EXCLURE L'HYPOTHESE METEORE. ALORS ?...

(De nos correspondants particuliers)
Météorite géant ou « soucoupe » ? La question reste posée. En tout cas de nombreux témoins penchent pour cette seconde hypothèse. En Haute-Marne, dans le Jura, et aussi dans la région dijonnaise, voici ce qu'ils ont vu.

EN HAUTE-MARNE

On a vu le bolide flamboyant à Montigny-le-Roy, où plusieurs personnes l'ont aperçu vers 7 h 45. Elles en ont donné une description identique aux autres.

A Chaumont, un chauffeur routier, M. Bourgeois et M. Thibault à qui « était apparue une tâche lumineuse dans le ciel. Je la suivis des yeux de 10 à quinze secondes avant qu'elle disparaisse. A sa base j'ai reconnu la forme d'un d'aque ».

A Langres, des employés de la Tréporerie, et M. Miché, conseiller municipal et directeur d'école. Ayant aperçu l'objet il appela Mme Hunion, femme de service à l'Ecole qui fut le temps d'accourir et d'aper-

cevoir un engin extrêmement lumineux, suivi d'une mince traînée brillante.

EN COTE-D'OR

« Samedi matin un habitant d'Auxonne qui circulait sur le Pont de France a vu, en direction du nord-est, un engin allongé qui se déplaçait vers l'est.

A un certain moment une partie du « cigare » qui jusqu'alors paraissait d'un jaune orange s'est éteinte puis toute lumière a disparu. Notre compatriote qui a observé ce phénomène pendant quelques secondes, a aussitôt regardé l'heure. Il était 7 h 45.

D'autres personnes ont-elles vu ce phénomène ? Jusqu'ici, il ne nous a pas été permis d'obtenir d'autres renseignements. »

A DOLE

Vers 7 h. 50 samedi matin un entrepreneur dolois, M. Marcel Girard se trouvait à l'intersection de l'avenue de la Paix et du boulevard Wilson.

Levant les yeux il distinguait dans le ciel un engin de forme bizarre qui se déplaçait à une grande vitesse dans la direction dit-il, du mont Roland vers Salins-le-Bains. L'engin coupait donc le boulevard Wilson à peu près à la hauteur de l'école.

La vision a été très courte, M. Girard l'estime à environ trois ou quatre secondes ; l'engin ayant effectué un ralentissement très net au-dessus du boulevard Wilson, comme si les occupants (?) avaient l'intention de regarder de plus près.

Voici comment M. Girard décrit l'engin : « C'est un objet dont la forme générale rappelle un cigare dont la pointe levée une couleur bleue éblouissante ; par contre, la partie inférieure est de couleur orange ou rouge comme s'il y avait des étincelles à l'arrière ; il se déplaçait à une vitesse très grande mais faute de moyens de repère ni la vitesse de l'engin ni sa hauteur n'ont pu être évaluées. D'abord ces mensurations sont très difficiles à faire, même par des techniciens ; ensuite, la lumière était très déficiente. »

D'autre part, un employé de la S. N. C. F., M. Maillet, qui se trouvait sur le « Pont de Mouchard » a vu l'engin au même instant.

D'après lui, il s'agissait d'un objet de forme circulaire, qui aurait évolué à une hauteur de 3.000 m. (?) L'engin se déplaçait sans aucun bruit et M. Maillet put le suivre des yeux pendant quatre secondes.

A LONS-LE-SAUNIER

Plusieurs Lédoniens nous ont fait savoir qu'ils furent, eux aussi, les témoins oculaires de l'étrange phénomène. C'est ainsi que deux personnes dignes de foi - un employé des P. T. T. et la jeune fille d'un buraliste lédonien, nous affirment avoir vu et observé avec un étonnement bien compréhensible, samedi matin, à 7 h. 50 exactement, une boule qui semblait évoluer lentement à la verticale des monts de Pannessières.

« Cet engin, « une grosse mandarine » nous dira la jeune fille, laissa derrière lui, au moment de son accélération, un énorme panache rougeoyant. »

D'autres informations reçues de La Bièvre, Mirebel Crancot viennent encore corroborer les affirmations de nos Lédoniens.

Tous les témoins sont également d'accord pour signaler l'immobilité presque complète de l'engin pendant quelques dizaines de secondes et son rapide démarrage en direction de la Suisse.

QUE CONCLURE ?

De toutes ces informations, que conclure ? Il manque encore bien des renseignements notamment sur l'heure exacte du passage la direction de l'objet, ses changements d'allure et de direction, pour être affirmatif en un sens ou en l'autre.

Enfin, que des lecteurs se seront intéressés observateurs précis, et nous communiqueront leurs remarques.

En attendant le mystère reste entier...

A CIA agent in North Africa discovered the following in a French language newspaper. The agent documented this:

"At approximately 0427 hours on 7 January 1954, a fiery disk, followed by a luminous trail, was sighted in Arras, Pas-de-Calais Department. An observer stated that the disks remained motionless in the sky for an instant, after which it flew away and disappeared over the horizon." 34.

(See French newspaper clipping from the La Bourgogne Republicaine)

The Belgium "bolide" seen on the 7th by the Sabena pilot, white edged with green, gives some interest to a Brooklyn, New York, UFO report. For three nights straight some women at a Brooklyn address reported something that resembled a large dinner plate that was very bright in the center: "... with light streamers like sparks which seemed to run from the center of the core to the outer rim. The outer rim seemed to be of a deep green color that shimmered like haze..." 35.

The UFO was seen stationary at a high altitude when first seen and afterward shooting up too fast for the eye to follow.

The object was always to the west in the direction of Seagate on January 7th at 1:45 a.m., January 8th at 1:30 a.m., and January 9th at 11:30 p.m. 36.

January 8th. UFOs over Berlin.

U.S. Air Force OSI records state:

"On 8 January 1954, a German resident of the American Sector of Berlin noted an unidentified object, similar in appearance and size to a full moon, traveling in a straight path from northwest to southeast over the American Sector of Berlin. Time of observation was 2027 hours (local time), and source observed the object for a period of approximately five (5) to seven (7) seconds, at which time it disappeared behind the surrounding buildings. Weather conditions at the time of observation were clear sky, a new quarter moon, wind approximately five (5) to ten (10) miles per hour, and temperature 20 degrees to 25 degrees F. Source could give no identifying aerodynamic features but stated that there was no sign of exhaust trail nor could any sound be heard from the object. The object traveled in a straight line at a constant altitude and speed. Source was unable to estimate altitude of the object but stated that speed of the object appeared to be twice that of a jet fighter aircraft but much slower than the speed of a meteor." 38.

More UFO news from Australia.

On January 8th a bright orange UFO with the appearance of two saucers rim-to-rim was seen over Hamilton at 9:45 p.m. according to the observer, Mr. Alan Brown.

Hours later, approximately midnight, at Sale, Australia, a Mr. R. Cobain and his neighbor viewed an aerial object low on the horizon move up and down, and change from red, to green, and then back to red. 39.

The next day the press quoted an officer of the Royal Australian Air Force:

Murchison Citizens Report Sighting "Flying Saucers"

For the third time in as many days reports from persons, who said they had observed "strange metallic-colored disks" in the skies near Athens, came in Thursday.

Mrs. T. M. Taylor, Murchison postmistress, stated that she had seen one of the objects on Tuesday prior to the time that Mrs. A. L. Skinner, Athens housewife, made the first reported sighting.

Mrs. Taylor said she saw the object from her back yard as she was hanging out clothes and said that she was certain what she saw was not a reflection. She said the object was shining brighter than any plane reflection she had ever seen.

She said there was no vapor trail, as is sometimes left by jet-planes, or no sound of engines. Mrs. Taylor said she sighted the object between 12 and 1.00 o'clock, Tuesday, and thought that she watched it three or four minutes.

She said she could not determine the shape of the thing but that it definitely was not moving, just hovering in the north at approx-

imately a 90 degree angle in the sky.

Mrs. Taylor said she ran toward her house to call her husband but that when they returned the object had gone.

Mrs. Skinner's sighting was also made while she was hanging out clothes but she was able to give a more accurate description of what she saw and it is believed from the accounts of the incident that Mrs. Skinner's sighting was at a closer range.

Another sighting made the same day as Mrs. Skinner's but also unreported at the time was made by a man who lives about five miles northeast of Murchison. He requested his name be withheld from the account.

He said he made his sighting at 9:15 in the eastern part of the sky and apparently at a great distance away. He said he first thought he had seen a jet because of his or vapor trails in the vicinity.

He said he watched the object for some time, however, and

became convinced that it was not a plane because of the rapid speed at which the thing was climbing. The man, who is a former serviceman, said the gleaming object was going straight up at an apparently tremendous rate of speed. He said he knew that the Air Force gave some jets that will fly faster than the speed of sound but that they don't appear to be moving so fast when observed at a great distance.

He said the object "shot" straight up for a time and then headed into the east and quickly disappeared.

Phil Dibert, a Tyler Morning Telegraph reporter, reported seeing an unidentified object near Wunona Wednesday morning. His description fitted the one given by Mrs. Skinner, although it was not as detailed. He said that one disappeared in the same manner as the one seen by Mrs. Taylor.

Further reports had been received by The Athens Review Friday morning but an interview with the observers had not been arranged at press time.

The Athens Review - ATHENS, TEXAS

8 JAN 1950

"I believe, from the information we have received, that the objects could have an interplanetary source. People on earth should be able to fly into outer space within about 40 years. Why shouldn't people on other planets have already reached this stage?" 40.

Lock, Nevada. (See teletype report)

South America "wakes up."

There are scant sources of information in English but it seems UFO sightings began to emanate from South America at this time. Coral Lorenzen of the civilian group APRO had yet to establish what would become probably the best Latin American UFO information network ever, but she did learn that on January 9, 1954 a wire press story datelined Lima, Peru, discussed the idea of a "UFO base" near Marañon River because of the "frequency of sightings in the area." 41.

Searching for something? Further comment on the American mystery.

Some 30 miles northwest of Quantico where the Marines were excited by repeated visits by a supposed low-flying UFO is the city of Warrenton, Virginia. Observers at Warrenton noticed a strange orange light moving about in an undulating manner an estimated 30 feet above the tops of the trees in the area. Speculation by the witnesses centered on the light being some kind of aerial camera searching the countryside. 42.

France too.

Similarly, a UFO was reported wandering about over the countryside of France. The thing put on quite a show for two hours: 6-8 a.m. on January 9th.

According to an investigator of the French civilian UFO group Ouranos, a Charles Garreau, the sky object in question appeared first over the community of Luneville where it was seen glowing a brilliant scarlet. The same object was then over Nancy glowing yellow, and then above Montigny-le-Roy and two other towns, Langres and Gemeaux, where the object appeared red with green stripes. Finally, the thing was visible moving over Poligny showing a yellow-red color and leaving a blue trail behind it.

Garreau makes no mention of the color of the UFO when it passed over two more towns but did say something about the object's maneuvers. As the thing sped over Chaumont it changed course while under observation, making a sharp turn and when arriving at Lons-le-Saulnier the thing hovered for a bit before speeding away leaving behind a huge red plume of smoke.

Generally, the UFO's speed varied as did the altitude as indicated by witnesses statements, and the apparent size ranged from an orange to the full moon. 43.

Australia yet again.

Another story of a UFO moving about in a seeming aimless fashion was a report by a pilot for the Australian National Airlines, Capt. W. Booth, who was flying a passenger plane in an airline about 100 miles northeast of Adelaide when just after sunset he sighted a strange object directly ahead an estimated 50 miles. The UFO was moving erratically, circling slowly and then shifting side to side. 44.

In the sky over Adelaide, from 2:30 to 3:15 a.m. January 10th, a UFO

NR 692

CL PRIORITY

FROM 3984TH COMPOSITE WG STEAD AFB NEV 141645Z

TO CHIEF OF STAFF USAF WASH DC

3984TH AF MARCH AFB CALIF

SPEC SCTY OFFICER ATIC WPAFB OHIO

ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLORADO

UNCLASSIFIED

CITE WI 424

UFOB. THE FOLLOWING REPT IS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFR 200-2 DTD 26 AUG 53 AND AFR 200-2A DTD 2 NOV 53: 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT: A. ROUND IN SHAPE. B. ABOUT THE SIZE OF A GRAPEFRUIT. C. OBJECT WAS YELLOW WITH 2 REDDISH DIM LIGHTS ON RIGHT SIDE IN PARALLEL POSITION. D. THERE WAS 1 OBJECT. E. NOT APPLICABLE. F. OBJECT WAS QUITE BRILLIANT UNTIL TIME OF DISAPPEARANCE THEN DIMMED OUT CONSIDERABLY. G. NEGATIVE. H. NEGATIVE. I. NEGATIVE. 2. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT: A. QUITE DARK WITH ATTRACTION MADE BY BRILLIANT YELLOWISH GLOW. B. NEGATIVE. C. NEGATIVE. D. OBJECT MOVED IN AN UNUSUAL, JAWY PATTERN TO THE WEST, REMAINED STILL FOR A FEW MINUTES, DROPPED FOR AN ESTIMATED SEVERAL HUNDRED FT TO THE SOUTH, THEN BOUNCED UP AND DOWN SEVERAL TIMES AND RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL POSITION. E. FADED SOMEWHAT AND DISAPPEARED OVER THE HORIZON AWAY FROM THE OBSERVERS. F. OBJECT WAS IN SIGHT APPROXIMATELY 7 MINUTES. 3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: A. GROUND-VISUAL, FROM CABOOSE OF TRAIN. B. NEGATIVE. C. NOT APPLICABLE. 4. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING: A. 1245Z, 8 JULY 1954. B. NIGHT. 5. LOCATION OF OBSERVERS: A. 10 MILES NORTHEAST OF L LOCK, NEVADA (40 DEGREES 11 MINUTES N-118 DEGREES 238 MINUTES W). 6. IDENTIFYING INFO OF OBSERVERS: A. MR. [REDACTED] AGE 38; MAILING ADDRESS [REDACTED] SPARKS, NEVADA; [REDACTED] FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD, [REDACTED] AGE 60; ADDRESS [REDACTED] RENO, NEVADA; ENGINEER FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC. 7. WEATHER AND WINDS ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING: A. CLEAR NIGHT, CALM, COOL. STARS WERE OUT. B. NORTH AT 3 MPH; 25000 FT. C. UNLIMITED. D. 40 MILES. E. NEGATIVE. F. NEGATIVE. 8. ANY OTHER UNUSUAL ACTIVITY, ETC: NEGATIVE. 9. EXISTENCE OF ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, ETC: NONE. 10. INTERCEPTION OR IDENTIFICATION ACTION TAKEN, ETC: NEGATIVE. 11. LOCATION OF ANY AIR TRAFFIC IN THE AREA AT TIME OF SIGHTING: NONE REPORTED BY CIVIC AERONAUTIC AGENCY NOR BY STEAD AFB. 12. POSITION TITLE AND COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER, ETC: NEGATIVE

15/1950Z

UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED AT 2 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DC 1-1-70010

was watched by four witnesses. It also moved erratically, hovering, and shifting up, down, and sideways. It changed from orange to white. One of the witnesses claimed that a tiny brilliant point of light was seen flying around the bigger light. 45.

"Celestial Phenomenon."

We have no date and time concerning the case, but there was a curious story in a Swiss paper dated January 10, 1954. The CIA collected the following clipping and translated it into English. It read:

"For a few seconds, inhabitants of Gemeaux, Cote d' Or Department, recently observed in the sky a red ball surmounted by a triangle. The phenomenon moved on without leaving a trail. The same observation was reported by several witnesses from Nouvelles-les-Champ-litte and Langras." 46.

Another CIA report from the European press stated:

"At 1030 hours on 12 January 1954, a 'flying saucer' crossed the sky over Saint Arnaud, in the Constantine(Tunisia) area. The phenomenon was witnessed by many persons, including Cumat, director of the Ecole Clemenceau, and his staff and students. The witnesses described the object as a luminous disc moving from west to east, leaving long trails similar to ribbons. Its speed did not appear to be great, but it was impossible to determine its altitude. It quickly disappeared over the horizon." 47.

Saucer at a West Coast airfield?

Coral Lorenzen, the director of the civilian UFO group, was tipped off on January 12th that Dr. Hynek and a BLUE BOOK officer had departed from Dayton on a special field investigation(It was the Rapid City incident apparently). Wondering what was up, Coral Lorenzen wired Frank Edwards to ask if he had heard of anything making the rounds in Washington. Edwards replied in a hurry, informing the lady APRO director that there was an odd rumor circulating concerning the crash or landing of an unidentified object at a location near the California-Oregon State line five weeks earlier, and that certainly that might well be the reason for the departure of the UFO investigators from Wright Field. Edwards said he had held off on the sensational news until more details could be gathered.

The next day Edwards couldn't contain himself, going public by telling his radio listeners that the recent restrictions imposed on newsmen by the BLUE BOOK people, on the grounds that "Donald Keyhoe's book Flying Saucers From Outer Space had generated too much interest," may not be the real reason for the censorship, that perhaps it was because a "captured flying disc may be undergoing an examination at a West Coast airfield."

Mrs. Lorenzen's pulse rate shot up over this news so she notified the readers of the APRO Bulletin (January 15, 1954 issue) that due to Frank Edwards' information, and the apparent yearly pattern of massive UFO sightings during the Summer months, the "saucer story is about to break" and that: "In view of this only quarterly(not yearly) subscriptions will be accepted." 48. Such optimism!

We do know that there were restrictions imposed. That is a fact.

"Discourage its use by writers."

Due to the impressive nature of the August 5, 1953 UFO sighting at Rapid City, South Dakota, special orders were cut to send a follow up investigative team to do an on-the-spot inquiry. A BLUE BOOK memo stated in part:

"Project Blue Book believes that this is a significant case and should be solved for the purpose of its possible scientific value as well as to discourage its use by writers who may draw their own conclusions in lieu of an official solution. It is, therefore, recommended that Capt Charles A. Hardin (in company with Dr. Hynek) proceed to Rapid City..." 49.

"Brass curtain."

In the U.S. there was less official cooperation. BLUE BOOK banned visits by newsmen. On January 6th the Cleveland Press complained in a headline: "BRASS CURTAIN HIDES FLYING SAUCERS." The Washington Daily News story on this read:

"The Air Force will be unable to honor visits to the ATIC because the volume of requests for information has seriously interfered with investigations. The mail has become so heavy that the two or three persons detailed to investigating unidentified flying objects --called UFOs --are not getting anything else done." 50.

Kelly AFB, Texas.

A radar case dated January 14, 1954 located at Kelly AFB, Texas was explained as: "Weather effects as indicated by motion, estimated speeds, and duration and persistence..." 51. The teletype report mentions:

"OBJECTS REMAINED ON PPI SCOPE OF RADAR SYSTEM FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AND FIFTY MINUTES ESTIMATED RATE OF SPEED OF OBJECTS FROM 100 TO 6,000 MILES IN A RADIUS OF 30 MILES. THREE OBJECTS JOINED TOGETHER FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE MINUTES AND THEN SEPARATED WITH A DEFINITE HEADING..." 52.

There was fog and rain in the area which boosts the theory atmospheric conditions were causing the strange targets, yet the following part of the teletype report is odd, which said of the objects: "...DISAPPEARED WHEN LOCAL AIRCRAFT WAS IN AREA RETURNED AFTER AIRCRAFT DEPARTED." 53.

The intense interest of the CIA in what may be considered "border-line" UFO sightings (like the ones given above) is more understandable when one ponders the newsstories that appeared at this time:

"January 14, 1954: New York newspapers state that Dr. Clyde Tombaugh of Lowell Observatory, is searching the skies for a group of tiny moons believed to be circling the earth at altitudes of from 10,000 to 240,000 miles. He is using the new Schmidt telescope. These little satellites are from one foot to 120 feet in diameter. The new telescope could photograph a forty-two foot object 100,000 miles away, and a four foot object 10,000 miles away. The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps is interested, because for one thing, the discovery would assist in estimates of the cost of establishing stations out in space." 54.

Further comment on this issue was contained in a newsstory on the 18th, in which it was stated, that it was "within the realms of possibility" that missiles could be launched at American targets from structures in orbit and that aircraft pilots flying domestic routes needed to keep a sharp look-out of suspicious "UFOB's" that might pose a threat to the security of the United States. (See newspaper article)

Drew Pearson, in his "Washington Merry-Go-Round" column, also dwelled on the mission of the Air Defense Command and UFOs, even the idea that the Air Force was considering the planet Mars as a subject of investigation! (See newspaper article)

The Washington Merry-Go-Round January 19, 1954

AF Missiles to Scan Mars

By Drew Pearson

It isn't being advertised, but the Air Force will send high-flying observation planes and guided missiles into the upper atmosphere for a closer look at the planet Mars in June, when Mars will approach nearer to the earth than at any time in the last 13 years.

Flying saucer enthusiasts say the elusive saucers have always been spotted in greater numbers when Mars is close to the earth. The Air Force is skeptical about this, since no evidence has been uncovered linking flying saucers with other planets.

However, the Air Force will cooperate with scientists by sending up observation planes and guided missiles for a closer look. The missiles will be equipped with special instruments trained on Mars, and will be shot into the stratosphere. In addition, a scientific expedition will journey to Bloemfontein, South Africa, closest point on earth from which to observe our neighbor planet.



Pearson

Meanwhile, the Air Force has compiled a special report, as yet unpublished, summing up its findings on flying saucers. This acknowledges that 20 percent of the flying-saucer reports "cannot be definitely associated with familiar things."

"The difficulty in evaluating these unexplained reports," according to the Air Force document, "is based largely upon the insufficiency of accurate basic data such as size, shape, composition, and flight characteristics of the objects . . ."

"The majority of reports of aerial phenomena have come from civilians," continued the document. "About 8 percent come from civil airlines pilots, while approximately 25 percent are reported by military personnel. Reports have been received also from highly qualified scientists."

The Air Force adds that it "has received many reports of unusual images on radarscopes," but points out that "It is fairly well established that some of these images are ground objects, reflected from a layer of warm air above the earth."

"No orders have been issued by the Air Defense Command to its fighter units to fire on unidentified aerial phenomena," states the flying saucer report. "The Air Defense Command is charged with air defense of the United States, and its mission is to attack anything airborne which is known or appears to be hostile. This should not be interpreted to mean that our pilots will fire haphazardly on anything that flies."

In an attempt to photograph a flying saucer, the Air Force will set up diffraction-grating cameras at various air towers and also use "a continuously operating Schmidt telescope equipped with a camera. This telescope has a wide aperture lens and is capable of covering a cone of 150 degrees or nearly the whole sky from horizon to horizon. This equipment will make it possible to get on a series of photographic plates a complete record of what happens in the sky at night."

Still another CIA report, again from Tunisia, stated:

"At 1330 hours on 18 January, many persons in Saint Arnaud observed an object leaving a double trail of white smoke, describing an immense circle over the town. Several officers at La Remonte even heard a strange sound made by the object, which seemed to have come from the north. (A similar observation had been made on 16 January, when the object had come from the west.) The meteorological station at Qued Hamimine airport (near Constantine) reported that it had

observed a double trail of smoke at 1400 hours but concluded that the smoke came from a plane flying at great altitude.

"At 1430 hours, inhabitants of Setif saw an object arrive from the east, emitting bluish smoke trails and moving relatively slowly. After circling above the town for several seconds, it suddenly headed back in the direction of Saint Arnaud at great speed. Most of the spectators described it as being cigar-shaped and flying at high altitude.

"Finally, at 1645 hours on the same day, a large, luminous, rectangular-shaped object was seen over Ouled Djellal (200 kilometers south west of Setif) for over 30 minutes following a rectilinear course. The object came from the east and disappeared toward the west." 55.

"Saucer Royal."

Even given the confusion of the times, it is still rather curious that on occasion so little resistance was made to Adamski's claims. A case in point is the missive penned to the contactee's co-author, Desmond Leslie, on January 18, 1954. Leslie, nick-named the "Saucer Royal" because he knew members of the British Royal family and various VIPs, had presented a free copy of Flying Saucers Have Landed to one of those VIPs, the Hon. George Ward, British Secretary of State for Air. In a letter with the forementioned date, Ward told Leslie that the unusual volume was "fascinating," but no doubt the warm tone of the review was due to the fact the men were chums and was contained in a private communication. 56.

WARN ARMEN: WATCH OUT FOR GUIDED MISSILES

Report Flying Objects, Pilots Told

(Chicago Tribune, Jan. 18, 1954. CR: R. Helden)

Washington Jan. 18 — Air force intelligence officials have alerted airmen against the possibility of enemy guided missiles that might be pooh poohed as flying saucers, restricted air force documents just made public disclosed today.

Urging that the UFOBS (unidentified flying objects), so reported as rapidly and completely as possible the air force said the possibility that hostile aircraft or missiles may first be regarded as flying objects by the initial observer is real.

The air force said "to date the flying objects reported have imposed no threat to the security of the United States

and its possessions." But it warned that some of the strange objects reported have not been explained satisfactorily.

Satellite Missiles

"Within the realms of possibility, and of intelligence interest, are contemplated designs for projecting missiles vehicles or structures to some point in space," the air force said "where the force of gravity is just enough to keep it in a fixed orbit around the earth."

"Any such man-made bodies cruising around the earth like a moon are called satellites. If the satellite is launched as a missile it may be designed to remain in its orbit until such time that it can be maneuvered pointed to, and fired at some point on the earth, by remote control from the earth."

The air force said the earth satellite would require a launching speed of about 26,000 feet per second. A space ship to escape from the earth's gravity pull into the freedom of the space between the stars, would require a launching velocity of 36,700 feet per second.

Underwater Threat

Airmen were urged to keep on the lookout and report immediately any flying objects or

missiles of unusual shape and radical designs. This warning was interpreted as an indication that the Russians may attempt to use robot weapons that do not resemble the cigar-shaped or winged type missiles generally known in this country.

In a general description of guided missiles that might be detected, the air force included the possibility of missiles fired from underwater by submarines. Missiles, it said, "could be launched under water, to break surface and take a light course to the target similar to ground launched missiles."

Missiles, the air force said, could have a variety of warheads containing ordinary explosives, poison gas, germs, propaganda leaflets, or atomic explosives, "by far the most devastatingly powerful military weapon known to man." A hypothetical design of the omic warhead showed two millions of atomic explosives ought together instantaneously by a propellant charge ignited by a fuse, which could be set off upon contact. A heat seeking device, infrared rays, sound waves, radar, time delay mechanism.

January 25th.

On the above date secret orders came down from the British War Office and Air Ministry directed to servicemen to not discuss in public any UFO sightings they may make. 57.

January 26th.

"I felt rather disturbed at first."

Yet another "meteor-like" phenomenon swept over France terrorizing people. At 4:50 a.m. on January 26th a strange thing appeared above Dijon moving northwest, a giant orange oval spewing a dazzling stream of vapor behind it. The thing gave off considerable light, a part of which was a momentary violet ray. It's unlikely the object was a meteor if there was any truth to reports that place its passage at an altitude less than 4,000 feet. We know that a cloud ceiling was at 4,000 feet so unless the layer was very broken it seems evident the object was below that level given its brilliance. Although it may not have been a "saucer," its effects were nonetheless unnerving. At Nuits-Saint-Georges, a M. Guyennot was quoted as saying: "I felt rather disturbed at first and asked myself if I were dreaming." 58. Another fellow became blinded momentarily, and still another, a M. Louis Jacquot of the town Liffol-le-Grand, told police: "It looked as though the sky was splitting in two. I had a sharp burning sensation in my eyes and ears." 59. Some people covered their eyes in fear, while others ran away seeking safety in flight. 60.

January 27th. The "Meteor question."

The meteor question came up in the Swedish press on January 27th. An American CIA agent noted the item and supplied headquarters with this translation:

"Meteor expert Bertil Lindblad of the Lund Observatory has submitted a reassuring report to the Swedish Defense Staff, regarding the flying saucer which a Transair Airlines pilot, Capt Ulf Christiernsson, reported he saw on 17 December over Hassleholm and the large meteor sighted over southern Sweden, Bornholm, and Denmark on 9 January. In this report, Lindblad, who holds that the Hassleholm flying saucer may well have been a meteor, gave the scientific explanation, from a military point of view, of the suspicious fact that most of the balls of fire fly in from the east." 61.

Sacramento, California.

In the United States, the State of California had its own visit by an "orange-colored meteor."

On January 27th the local Ground Observer post at Fairfield located in the north central valley flashed a UFO report to the regional Sacramento Filter Center. The six civilians at the Fairfield post described a round, orange-colored object at an estimated 5,000 feet travelling horizontally. After being in view for some moments, the object abruptly shot straight up and was lost from view when it entered a cloud layer. 62.

Quantico again.

There was a flurry of excitement again at Quantico, Virginia, on January 27th when something big and unidentified was reported flying only 25 feet above the ground in the area. A search was made by military aircraft. 63.

Yellow-orange "meteor."

A CIA report on a North African press story read:

"According to statements by several persons, a round, luminous, yellow-orange appeared in the sky over Algiers at 1525 hours on 27 January 1954; it was moving in the direction of Cap Matifou. The object grew larger, until it was two or three times the size of the Sun; then it diminished in size and disappeared on the horizon, sinking, seemingly, into the sea." 64.

"Special instruction on UFO reports."

BLUE BOOK records contain a three page letter-report concerning the sighting of an unknown object hovering very high over Blackstone, Virginia, the afternoon of January 28, 1954. The object was said to have been a "shiny, white-colored, flat oval" that remained stationary during the entire time it was under observation by a witness on the ground. There was nothing in the report that would have disqualified a big Sky Hook balloon, on the other hand what little data there was did not prove the thing was not a spy platform from the planet Mars either, except for the fact that the former suggestion was a more, we have to admit, likely possibility.

What catches the eye of the UFO researcher, however, is the wording in the paperwork that accompanies the UFO report. It states that the usual Air Force report Form 112 was not utilized because the "Director, Office of Security Investigations* to the 21st District Office of Special Investigations," had authorized UFO reports in a "letter form." The 21st District was headquartered at Langley AFB, Virginia, and its jurisdiction included a very important region (Washington D.C., CIA Headquarters, etc.). One supposes the "special letter form permission" was given for one of two reasons: (1.) It made the report a quicker read, or (2.) The letter form made it possible to include information in more detail. (A person might also surmise that no proper forms were on hand but note it was the security people who made the request).

It is also worth noting that the "UFO letter" was addressed to the: "Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington 25, D.C.," and that BLUE BOOK at ATIC, Dayton, Ohio, was only routed an "information copy."- One can see the potential for mischief here. If it was possible to bypass BLUE BOOK, was it being done?

"Nobody pays attention."

The United Press newsservice would have people believe the UFO issue was dead. (See news clipping)

* I have underlined these two words because I wonder if there was official worry over a threat to the nation's security. ---Loren E. Gross

Sensation Deflated:

Flying Saucers Still Around But Nobody Pays Attention

NEW YORK—(UP)—Question—Whatever happened to flying saucers? Answer—They're still bouncing around in the sky but people now pay them no mind.

This is strange when you remember how much attention they used to get. In 1952, 1,500 were sighted and duly reported. Last year the number dwindled to a little more than 300.

Yet they're still to be seen, merely by looking upward almost any night — and on many days. Dr. Donald H. Menzel, astronomer, physicist, director of the Harvard College Observatory and top scientific authority on flying saucers, said there were "literally hundreds of varieties."

He revealed in an interview that there are two kinds which are even more numerous than his previous studies had indicated.

Flying Fungus

The luminous fungus which causes rotting wood to glow is responsible for one. Night flying birds like owls or bats get covered with this lowly vegetable and shine in the dark.

The other kind he is up-grading are "made" by overhead wires. They reflect moving ground lights up into the night sky. This bewilders night sky gazers unless they're hep to what's going on.

Each variety of flying saucer he said represents a phenomenon of nature of one kind or another. Rainbows are one kind, only they're not called flying saucers. Most flying saucers owe their existence to earth's atmosphere — to what the atmosphere can do in freakish ways with the light of the sun, planets, or star that comes into it from above or with man-made lights which enter it from below.

No Little Swirls

Menzel believed he had studied most if not all the flying saucers reported, and he was quite certain "that the phenomenon re-

ported as flying saucers does not in any way require the hypothesis of interplanetary travelers for an explanation."

He may be largely responsible for the fast deflation of the flying saucer craze which only a year or so ago was making many people jittery. He did it simply by explaining to people what flying saucers really were, because he thought the public was being exploited by those who wish to keep up the illusion that the saucers were some sort of vehicles from interplanetary space. However, he didn't convince everyone—there still remain die-hard interplanetary saucer believers. One is George Adamaki who operates a restaurant on the slope of Mount Palomar, Calif., upon which is one of the world's great telescopes.

Man From Venus?

It is Adamaki's story that he saw a flying saucer land, saw a man from Venus step out of it. This man, he maintains, gave him an interview. Adamaki took pictures of the saucer which looked remarkably like an antique electric light fixture.

Another hold-out is Desmond Leslie, an English fiction writer with three novels to his credit. Leslie maintains he has "proof" that creatures from other planets have been joyriding in flying saucers in earth's atmosphere since 10,000 B. C. but are so superior to earthlings they disdain even to notice them.

Adamaki and Leslie have written a book, of course—"Flying Saucers Have Landed," which, according to its publisher, is selling "very well." But their "proof" hasn't arrested the tobogganing decline in flying saucer sightings. *Wayhoe Not Convinced*.

Neither has the "proof" of a third challenger of Menzel's science—Donald E. Keyhoe—a

professional writer and retired marine officer.

In his book, "Flying Saucers From Outer Space," Keyhoe said the Air Force had positive proof that flying saucers are machines controlled by unearthly beings, and the Air Force gave him "an official admission" to that effect.

Some high Air Force officers, he said, were withholding this proof from the public because they're afraid of how the public would react if it found out beings from outer space were investigating the earth carefully, perhaps with the idea of landing and taking over. He demanded that the Air Force come clean.

To meet his attack, the Air Force issued a "fact sheet" which named no names but challenged his evidence point by point. It also made available a "to whom it may concern" letter from the man who gave Keyhoe the Air Force's "official admission." He is Albert M. Chop who used to be a subordinate press agent in the Defense Department but no longer works for the government. Chop's letter said he had given Keyhoe only "expressions of my own personal opinions."

Nothing Unshakid

The Air Force added that it was "untrue" that "the Air Force is either withholding flying saucer information from the public or cloaking it beneath a security classification." Keyhoe, however, insisted the "facts" were as he stated them.

"I honestly believe that some day perhaps not far off events will prove I am right," he said. Menzel's book "Flying Saucers," explaining the natural phenomena which create flying saucers, was published a year ago by Harvard University press.

Keyhoe goes to Canada.

Toward the end of January Donald Keyhoe flew to Canada to confer with Wilber Smith. After arriving Keyhoe stopped at North Bay where there was a RCAF Filter Center. The officer in charge, Flying Officer William Scott, told his American visitor: "We've received several...[UFO reports] for which there is no normal explanation. Whatever the UFOs are, they're worth our serious consideration." 65. 66.

Keyhoe then travelled to Ottawa where he discussed the UFO situation with Smith and examined the "Shirley Bay flying saucer observatory."

Smith revealed a new idea of his to Keyhoe, a theory that the flying saucers used not only electromagnetic power (which the Shirley Bay facility was supposed to detect), but also produced an "anti-gravity shield" that made it possible for the craft to survive fast accelerations and sharp turns. It was a fantastic suggestion yet it would explain observed maneuvers by UFOs which evidently were not effected by "G" forces. Moreover, there was two other "gravity shield" characteristics that would be manifested, Smith continued, and each would also explain puzzling UFO sightings: 1.) By producing its own gravitational field, dragging the air along with it, UFOs would be silent, not giving off engine sounds or sonic booms. 2.) This molecular air cushion might also produce a coronal discharge.

Keyhoe made notes of Smith's ideas and came to believe in them.

The next person Keyhoe wanted to see was Deputy Minister Baldwin of the Canadian Department of Transport. Keyhoe was granted an interview but it did not amount to much since Baldwin insisted that the Canadian Defense Research Board considered UFO reports classified information. Surprised at this news Keyhoe snapped back, saying that it was a wonder the Shirley Bay UFO project had been given so much play in the press. In his reply, Baldwin gave the impression public knowledge of Smith's activity may have been a mistake. The Deputy Minister would not air any personal opinion about UFOs and expressed a hope the Shirley Bay effort would be able to gather definite evidence. That comment ended the interview. 67.

"Discoverer of primordial cosmic energy (Orgone Energy)."

One of the many unusual personalities to emerge from the turmoil of the year 1954 was a "Dr. Reich of the Orgone Institute." Based in Rangeley, Maine, Dr. Reich made himself known to the U.S. Air Force late in January 1954 when he mailed to military authorities a long report of a series of UFO sightings. The report was a bit more complex than most since it contained a survey authored by Reich that discussed the numerous appearances of UFOs in the area of Rangeley. On the chance the case might produce useful data, the the Air Force's field investigative team for BLUE BOOK, the 4602nd squadron, issued a teletype message on the matter that stated:

"HQ 4602D AISS-O 204 PD PERTAINS TO REPT OF UFOB PD ALLEGEDLY SIGHTED OFTEN SINCE TWENTY NINE JAN ONE NINE FIVE FOUR BY DOCTOR REICH OF ORGONE INSTITUTE CMA ME PAREN GEORGE HJEQ ONE NINE FIVE EIGHT PAREN PD OBJ REPORTED TO HAVE APPEARED THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF A STAR CMA COLOR YELLOW CMA ASPECT BRIGHT PD NO FURTHER INFO AVAILABLE PD SIGHTING REPORTED TO MAJ(--deleted) CMA INTEL OFF CMA FIVE ZERO SIX STRATEGIC FTR WNG CMA DOW AFB CMA ME PD REPT RELAYED TO FLT THREE G 4602D AISS PRESQUE ISLE AFB CMA THEN TO THIS HQ ZERO NINE FEB ONE NINE FIVE FOUR PD

RELIABILITY OF OBSERVER IS FOX DASH SIX PD REQ DIRECTIONS RELATIVE TO INITATING INVESTIGATION THROUGH FLT THREE E 4602D AISS ETHAN-ALLEN AFB CMA VT PD END." 69.

Dr. Reich, who used the codeword "Ea" to describe UFOs, detailed a theory in regards to the mystery objects ("Ea's") for the benefit of the military. The Air Force replied on April 23rd that: "Your theory, along with many others, is being reviewed. Please be assured that the United States Air Force appreciates your interest in this matter." 70.

UFOs were a subordinate interest to Reich, who seemed to thrive on controversy and thus apparently couldn't resist involving himself.

Reich's UFO theory is not detailed in military records but we can get some idea from other sources.

Dr. Alan F. Schatzberg, who wrote an article for a psychiatry journal on Reich, states that the man claimed to have discovered a "new energy form (orgone energy," something he called the very essence of a cosmic force, which had a variety of applications, one of which concerned UFOs.

Like many others in the 1950s, Reich was convinced Flying Saucers were real machines. Dr. Schatzberg wrote:

"Reich believed that his cosmic energy was being employed by the invading forces from outer space. (Mankind's)...only hope for survival, he felt, lay with citizens of earth employing his energy force to combat the intrusion." 71.

When Reich failed to appear in court in March 1954 to fight an injunction brought by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to halt the interstate shipping of "orgone boxes" to treat medical problems, he explained his failure to appear had to do, among other things, with the U.S. Air Force and UFOs. Dr. Schatzberg, researching this court battle, put it this way:

"Reich...implied that the information which he feared revealing originally referred to his work on UFOs. Reich was convinced that the U.S. Air Force had full knowledge of his work and would eventually protect him from the FDA..." 72.

"No threat to the defense of the USA."

On January 29th an Air Force C-54 #AF2647 enroute to King Salmon, Alaska, was some 65 miles from Cold Bay when its crew sighted something unusual. At 0536 Zulu a single red glow appeared in the sky at eleven o'clock level, and then dropped back to a point off the left wing where it "oscillated vertically approximately 1,500 feet." (The report is not clear here. Did it rise and fall 1,500 feet?). The light then dropped back to a seven o'clock position which put it about 12 miles behind the C-54. The light then accelerated rapidly and caught up with the aircraft, stopping abruptly when it reached a point off the left wing tip. Eventually, as Aircraft Commander Capt. Kummey and eight members of the aircrew watched through the plane's windows, the light dropped so far back it faded from sight. 73.

February.

UFOs at extreme altitude?

The first day of February, at about 2:00 p.m. CST, two men were flying in a small plane over open country near Tuscalusa, Alabama. The plane was cruising at 80 mph in an eastward direction in pursuit of a cosmic research balloon. The men were employees of the Winzen Research Company which had a contract with the U.S. Office of Naval Research. The balloon was high, probably at 100,000 feet, and plainly visible in a weather-free sky. It was expected that the huge plastic giant would soon burst, releasing its instrument package so the devices could float slowly to earth by parachute.

Suddenly both men noticed some strange, very bright, white-colored, objects. The plane's pilot wrote:

"Both myself and Mr. (...deleted) were keeping a close watch on the balloon. I observed first two objects in formation --very quickly they were joined by four others. The five objects were observed to join formation in trail behind the leader. They appeared very quickly and joined this trail formation. While in formation they were spaced very evenly. When I saw three of the objects I asked Mr. (...deleted) what he could see. He saw exactly what I did. While he was watching I took pictures with a 16 MM Bolwx with a 6" telephoto lense. As I was taking pictures the objects moved slowly under the balloon and to a ENE direction. Very suddenly the objects seemed to go straight up at right angles to their level flight position. They remained in perfect trail formation and seemed to 'peel' or 'break' straight up at terrific speed and disappear.

"In my opinion these were not reflections from the aircraft wind shield nor were they reflections from the balloon. The sky was a clear deep blue and the objects were a deep white. They were very easy to see. Although I have not seen the pictures, I feel quite certain they should appear --even though I did not have time to adjust the F-stops properly." 74.

Skippy peanut butter jar.

Radio station KLAC Los Angeles aired a forum the evening of January 31, 1953 on the subject: "Flying Saucers --Fact or Fantasy." The moderator was KLAC newscaster James Mc Namara. One of the panel members was R. De Witt Miller whose "saucer credentials" could be traced back to 1947 when he had written articles on the strange and unknown for Coronet magazine.

The above was written as sort of an introduction to a UFO report made by Mrs. W.J. Daily of Puente, a suburb of Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Daily story incurred the interest of the Air Force which filed the following report:

"On February 2, 1954 (...deleted) Street, housewife, was interviewed in the presence of her husband (...deleted) stated that she had been lying on the sofa in her living room on the morning of 1 February 1954, at approximately 1000 hours when she heard some jets flying over, and since they sounded like they were lower than usual she had gone outside to watch them. She said that she had gotten outside too late to see them, gone back into her kitchen, noticing the clock which read 1005 hours. She said she had heard some more aircraft, had picked up her field glasses, a pair of 8x32, uncoated and had gone outside again. Mrs. (...deleted) stated that she always kept her field glasses handy be-

cause many aircraft passed over their house daily and she liked to watch them. She also stated that she had been hoping to see a flying saucer some time and this was the reason she always had the field glasses handy and watched the aircraft and the sky just about any chance she had. She said she had watched the vapor trails and had sighted this object hovering in the sky. She said this object was shiny silvery colored, round in shape, luminous and seemed to be sort of fuzzy or cloudy looking around the edges. She said it was almost due North, the sky was blue and the sun was at her back. She said she had used the field glasses but was so nervous she could hardly hold them on the object. She advised that she had looked around to see if there was someone else she could show it to but there was no one of her neighbors at home and the only people in the vicinity were some painters about 100 yards away. She said the object seemed to be drifting toward the East; it had tilted a little and at this angle had seemed to be bell shaped, and the bottom appeared as a very radiant orange-red glow. She said the red and orange glow seemed to become more radiant and she could see some dark round objects through the glow which resembled landing gear. At this point(...deleted) said, 'It's just like the pictures I have seen in magazines and articles dealing with flying saucers.'* (...deleted) said that she had wanted to get her husband to come and see it because she knew that he would ridicule her if she told him about seeing it and he didn't see it. She had run around to the side of the house to go in and get him, but when she had looked up again the object had disappeared. She had searched the sky, finally saw it again almost due East, but it disappeared in approximately five seconds. She said there was still a red glow to it but seemed to be a brighter silver color than previously when she had looked at it. She said it was approximately about one-third the size of a full moon when she had first seen it and after showing her husband an aircraft in approximately the same spot he had told her it was approximately five to six thousand feet high and from two to three miles away. She said she had then showed him about where it was when it vanished and he estimated this to be fifteen to twenty miles away and almost due east. (...deleted) said when she first saw this object she had looked at it for at least thirty seconds. The writer asked(...deleted) if she had noticed what color regular aircraft had appeared to be on this date and she said they were also shiny silver and orange or red on the bottom but not as radiant or bright as the colors of the object she had seen. Mrs.(...deleted) stated that she had remained outside for approximately twenty more minutes watching the planes go over and while she was watching the aircraft she had noticed some strands coming down through the air. They had resembled silver ribbons when high up but when they reached the ground they had looked more like soup glass, very fine in texture, approximately four to five foot strands, and seemed to be curly while floating through the air but straight when they alighted on some object. She said the top of a tree in her yard and the light and telephone lines had been literally covered with the substance, but it seemed to be evaporating at the time. She said it seemed to her that this substance covered an area of approximately one half a city block." 75.

*She is apparently referring to George Adamski's scout ship and this casts some doubt on her powers of perception. She may have seen a weather balloon. In any case, the connection between the UFO and the white-colored strands was not really established.

Excited By the UFO program Mrs. Daily contacted station KLAC and asked for newscaster Mc Namara, who in turn referred her to "UFO expert" R. De Witt Miller. Meanwhile, the woman's husband collected samples of the "angel hair" and sealed some strands in a Skippy peanut butter jar. Mr. Daily also made an intriguing observation. Official records state:

"...at the time he was picking up some of the foreign substance, he had looked for and found a cobweb, had broken a piece off to determine if it was similar in structure to the foreign matter. He said that the cobweb would stretch, he could feel it between his fingers and was very tensile in character, whereas the other substance was not tensile, could not be felt by the fingers and would seem to evaporate." 76.

Unlike his wife, Mr. Daily phoned the authorities, informing the FBI. The Bureau in turn notified the Air Force. Special Agent LeRoy Betz of the Maywood, California, OSI office interrogated the Dailys and when he heard De Witt Miller had the sample in the peanut butter jar, he paid a visit to the "saucer expert."

While the jar was in Miller's possession, he wondered a lot about the strange material since he had some knowledge of similar "angel hair" incidents. Was this latest stuff the same and was it some kind of ectoplasm? Why did the substance evaporate? The sample in the jar, however, did not seem to be disappearing which was odd because it was believed sunlight triggered the evaporation process and the jar had been in the light for some time and in addition had been exposed to the glare of a 1,000 watt and a 500 watt blub when photographs were taken. Miller mulled the possibility the "angelhair" required oxygen to break down and since the jar was airtight, perhaps that was why nothing was happening. Having arrived at that theory, Miller sealed the jar even tighter and set it aside.

Not long after Special Agent Betz called on Miller and, as Miller described it, asked: "...courteously but definitely --for the jar and the two negatives I had exposed." 77. Betz thanked Miller, noted his curiosity about the material, and politely said he doubted the results of any official analysis would be made public.

Miller made two follow up calls to Betz without learning anything about the fate of the "angel hair." As far as we know the Skippy peanut jar is still setting on some shelf at military Intelligence.

San Fernando Valley.

Over two weeks later, long after Miller thought the "angel hair" affair had ended, Mc Namara alerted the saucer expert to a story in the February 15th issue of the San Fernando Valley Times under the by-line of Gordan Grant:

"A fluffy blanket, dead white, almost ephemeral in its delicacy and apparently electrically charged, may be the San Fernando Valley's first physical contact with visitors from space. It is reported to have streamed like a lacy ribbon from a mysterious craft that sped over the Valley.

"Could it be nothing more than spider webs? Observers say no. Others, familiar with fungi, discount the possibility that the mystery substance is merely bug-fluff." 78.

Fasinated, R. De Witt Miller contacted Grant and learned that the stuff, which looked something like spun glass, fell on February 1st, the same day as the Puente incident. This coincidence prompted further inquiries by Miller who arranged to have witnesses to the San Fernando fall gather at Mel Barnes' home for a meeting.

A number of people showed up and it was learned that there were three different UFO sightings on February 1st. In the morning a cigar-shaped object was reported (no details were given) and that night a trio of objects were seen flying over San Fernando Valley in a triangular formation. The formation was in view for about 15 seconds and then was seen to break up, each object in the group zooming away in a different direction at incredible speed. One of the three objects was said to have made a 90 degree turn instantaneously. The witness to this 90 degree turn was emphatic that the maneuver was not a turn in the ordinary sense but an abrupt change of direction.



-Valley Times Photo

The last of the three sightings was the most interesting. The morning of February 1st a big white-colored ball appeared in the sky over San Fernando Valley spewing an "angel hair substance," after which the ball rose quickly out of sight. A large amount of the lacy material floated to earth and draped itself over houses and trees. People picked up tufts of the stuff and said it was "cold and damp" to the touch. Racing around on bicycles, children tried to collect the whitish filaments, as did some engineers from nearby aircraft manufacturing companies. Miller felt that efforts to gather the substance was a waste of time since it slowly disintegrated in everyone's hands. Apparently no one tried putting some in an air tight jar. 72.

The Air Force and Dr. Hynek clash.

The field investigation of the August 1953 Rapid City UFO case resulted in the following exchange of letters. One should note that the Air Force officer was ready to dismiss the whole business but Dr. Hynek had to remind the Major that certain facts could not be ignored. (See copies of letters) 80. 81.

"He was too frightened to be making it up."

A newsstory from Greenwich, Connecticut, told of a UFO sighting by a couple of local boys on February 2nd:

"The story of two North Mianus school pupils who swear they saw a 'flying saucer' was revealed by the witnesses yesterday.

"The sworn witnesses are Waldo Morrell, 11, of Valley Rd., and

140TH AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON
 Ellsworth Air Force Base
 South Dakota

P
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19 January 1954

Dr. J. A. Fynek
 Ohio State University
 Columbus, Ohio

Dear Doctor:

After your departure I checked possibility that Lt. Needham was a man who tended to become excited or confused in emergencies. I discussed the possibility with several of his associates and particularly with his operations officer, Major Fairbrother. Contrary to Mr. [redacted] statement, I found that Lt. Needham is a very reliable, cool individual with an excellent combat record. On the other hand, I also checked a little on Mr. [redacted] reliability. Some of the pilots of aircraft that he has controlled have termed [redacted] This happened before the incident in question and he has apparently calmed down somewhat since then as he grew more accustomed to his job. I also have had a report from my adjutant that Mr. [redacted] has been known to exaggerate stories. These exaggerations were particularly noticed in Mr. [redacted] recounting of past baseball records. It just so happened that the adjutant has been a student of baseball records for some years and he immediately detected the inaccuracy of the stories. He told no one about them at the time and did not contradict Mr. [redacted] on the spot because he wanted to avoid embarrassment for him. Apparently Mr. [redacted] will tell stories to improve his prestige although the facts may not be accurate. The adjutant and Mr. [redacted] were both members of the squadron baseball team during the past summer and the adjutant noted that Mr. [redacted] will never admit that he might have been wrong. He engaged in several serious arguments with umpires when it was apparent to everyone, including members of both teams, that he was wrong.

The above story leaves me somewhat embarrassed. There were three members of my organization who contributed to the authenticity of the incident. The two Staff Sergeant [redacted] and [redacted], [redacted] [redacted]

Although these facts do not entirely discredit their statements I do not feel [redacted] By adding Mr. [redacted] it appears the observations of all three can be treated skeptically. These military observers are of course the only people to whom I can ascribe traits of reliability. However, it would appear that a part of any future investigation could appropriately contain a reliability investigation of all persons who offer evidence of unusual sightings. I say this in spite of the fact that I agree with you that observers should not be automatically subjected to ridicule.

In my own mind I have now totally discounted the entire incident as an unfortunate series of seemingly coincident circumstances. A light was observed by a ground observer which could very well have been from a light aircraft. This sighting was reported to Mr. [redacted] as a flying saucer. Mr. [redacted] then interpreted a target on the scope as the object in question and sent an interceptor after it. He contrived a track which may well have been the track of his own interceptor and the "object" was pursued to the north. The pilot was [redacted] was chasing a light and he picked out a handy one in accordance with the sector

-4-

1 January 1954)

that he was given from the ground station. Obviously the pilot would be serious at the time, particularly since he was told that there was a ground and a radar observation of the object. On reconsideration I believe he is willing to admit that he was chasing a large star. Considering the reliability of the military witnesses at the radar site, the excitement of Mr. [REDACTED], and the relatively poor description of subsequent sightings in the Rapid City area, I feel that the incident can be discounted from consideration entirely. The sightings in the Bismarck area cannot be judged by me but the power of suggestion must be considered in these, particularly since a correlated story of sightings was passed from Rapid City to the North Dakota Filter Center. I can imagine the degree of credulity that could be lent to the story in the minds of Filter Center personnel when I realize that the statements in the official report from Rapid City were sufficient incentive for you and the people of ATIC to conduct an extensive investigation. Essentially the same information, possibly embellished, was relayed to North Dakota that same night and, to use your words, the people there "could not consider the incident in the cool light of morning."

My interpretation of the incident relegates me to the ranks of skeptics and certainly does not permit scientific conclusions as such. I do wonder if perhaps many of the twenty percent of unresolved cases might not respond to a psychiatric rather than a scientific approach. The percentage of unsolved cases might be reduced at least somewhat.

I have taken the liberty of inclosing an article which labels me as a devotee of Mr. Pearson amongst others. I passed it along in case you missed it, particularly since the tone was moderate. The article was in this evening's paper and it was most timely to me.

Trusting that you had a pleasant and rapid trip home and that I may be of service to you again, I am,

Yours truly,

/s/ Allen L. Atwell
Major, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

2 February 1954

Major Allen L. Atwell
Commander, 740th AC&W Squadron
Ellsworth Air Force Base
Rapid City, South Dakota

Dear Major:

Thank you for your letter of 19 January. You have been of considerable service to us in tracking this down further, and especially in giving us the highly important character sidelights. I think the "baseball" example is particularly telling. I therefore feel as you do, that the incident reports from Rapid City sprang from, in general, unreliable observers. Even the two lieutenants, under questioning, were not sure of what they saw, but at least they were honest enough to admit this.

I agree with your statement concerning reliability checks, and hasten to assure you that one of the reasons we came out in person was to size up the observers. Speaking for myself, although I think the Captain would concur, we are ready to write off the Rapid City--Black Hawk incident as "information from questionable sources." In short, we can't trust the evidence, and when this happens in any scientific procedure the thing to do is throw the whole thing out the window.

I would like to ask, just for possible future reference: with a good man at radar controls, what are the possibilities of "unknown blips" over a long period? That is, out of 365 days, would you say that unknowns appear on the scope several times each day? Once every few days? A few times a year? I am assuming blips not due to malfunction but to echoes, etc.

What I now have to say will surprise you: The observers at Bismarck I would class as entirely reliable. It is therefore impossible for us to write off the Bismarck incident in a like manner. Indeed, I wish we could. It is impossible, however, to say that the objects seen in Bismarck were the result of suggestion from Rapid City, because at least two people independently (and 15 miles apart) reported the objects without previous knowledge of the phone call from Rapid City. The objects persisted for more than two hours, and the various observers agreed, within reason, on their tracks.

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Despite, therefore, the coincidence between Rapid City and Bismarck, in view of the disparity in quality of observers in the two places, I think we shall probably proceed by discounting the Rapid City incident altogether and concentrate on the Bismarck incident.

I note that you never did get around to telling me specifically whether Needham was the pilot who became unnerved when the jet crashed.

Thanks again for your very real help in this. I hope the next time we meet will be under less unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
J. ALLEN HYNEK

J. Allen Hynek

Copy to ATIC

jah/jg

UNCLASSIFIED



his neighbor and pal, Roy Moshier.

"Waldo came flying into the house the other night breathless, scared, and white as a sheet.

"He told his mother he and Roy had seen a flying saucer over the Mianus River.

"I know he saw something. He was too frightened to be making it up. He wouldn't even go up the store for cookies," Mrs. Morrell insisted.

"Roy and Waldo had gone down to the Mianus River about 7:45 p.m. to go ice skating. Roy held a flashlight while Waldo started to don his skates.

"Then, Roy said, he spotted the flying saucer coming up from behind the trees down the river. The saucer was crossing the river toward Greenwich. Suddenly the unearthly missile turned left and started north paralleling the river.

"What was it?" the boys asked each other. Waldo stopped lacing the first skate.

"The pair watched in awe as the saucer-shaped flying object neared. Roy said the saucer was 'like a balloon with a light shining from inside.' It was as big as a small living room, he explained.

"It looked just like the color the sun does now," Roy said, pointing to yesterday's setting sun at 4:12 p.m. 'It glowed from inside.'

"You could see the distinct outline of the edges, too," he added.

"The closer it got, the faster it looked. It must have been a couple of thousand feet high like clouds," Roy reported.

"Waldo said the saucer did not shine on the ice or cause any shadows.

"The two boys said they watched the saucer for about three minutes, getting faster as it approached. That's why they believe it was fairly high.

"Then they fled.

"Waldo threw off his loose skate, put his shoe back on, and scrambled home.

"I set a new world's record when I ran to the house," Waldo admits.

"Roy stopped running as he neared his house. He turned for another look but the saucer had gone.

"Both boys had left their skates and gloves at the ice on the river.

"Roy said his classmates called him a lunatic in school for saying he saw a flying saucer.

"Waldo's parents told him not to mind what others said.

"If you believe you saw the saucer, don't change your mind because people kid you," they said.

"The folks sitting in the Morrell's living room, yesterday said they are sure the two boys saw a flying saucer. Most agreed that saucers don't come from Mars.

"It's probably the Army or Navy testing some radio-controlled devices," Mr. and Mrs. Morrell think. They had watched a television story on flying saucers during which was mentioned the theory that the armed forces are the secret source of the strange missiles." 82.

February 3rd. Encounter in the sky over Venezuela.

Captain Dario Celis was at the helm of a LAV plane (Aeropostal Venezuela) on 11:15 a.m. on February 3, 1954 as it approached the city of

Interest in UFOs was kept alive in England by J. Stubbs Walker's articles in the London Daily Mail.

In his third article on the Flying Saucers mystery the writer describes a strange incident during a Coastal Command exercise off the Yorkshire coast.

90,000-foot Radar 'Target' set 'Ack-Ack' a Puzzle

by J. STUBBS WALKER

SIGHTINGS of unidentified Flying Objects by men of the Royal Air Force and by crews of aeroplanes are treated with considerable respect by the official investigators for the reason that the men reporting are trained to observe, accustomed to the difficulties of making intelligent estimates of things seen in the sky, and should be aware of the strange visual effects that the weather can have.

Five R.A.F. Coastal Command aircraft were at Topcliffe air station, Yorkshire, during "Exercise Mainbrace" towards the end of 1952 and were watching a Meteor approach to land at the nearby aerodrome of Dishforth.

Behind a Meteor

As they watched they all noticed that about five miles behind the Meteor and at some 10,000ft above it there was a white object in the sky apparently following the Meteor but, as the men on the ground first saw it, travelling at a slightly slower speed.

The airmen had the white object under observation for approximately 30 minutes. They watched it lose height with a "falling leaf" movement and then saw it appear to hover spinning on its own axis, before speeding off to the west, changing course to the south-east and disappearing at an extremely rapid speed—"as fast as a shooting star," the witnesses said.

This group of observers, two officers, a master signaller, a sergeant, and a leading aircraftman, all insisted that what they had seen was a solid object and they did not believe it was a balloon because of its manoeuvring, change of direction, and speed.

The following day, it was reported that three Danish Air Force officers saw a very similar thing happen over Karup airfield.

Tracked on radar

THE use of well-authenticated sightings by experts, however must be that of a group of radar experts at a Territorial heavy anti-aircraft regiment, H.Q. in South London. Here the UFO was not only seen through a tele-

scope by a group of technical men but was also tracked for 15 minutes on a modern Army radar set which was able to give an accurate record of its distance and bearing and its speed of movement.

Even though this sighting has been officially explained away as a meteorological balloon there are some facts worth studying.

Sergeant Harry Waller, 35-year-old permanent staff radar instructor at 285 Heavy Anti-aircraft Regiment, Lee Green, a man holding a "B2" radar certificate in the Army, indicating a high degree of training, was making a routine test on a radar set early in the afternoon when on the radar screen he saw a very large response from a target. Because of its depth he at first thought that it must be something "very big and very low."

For five minutes

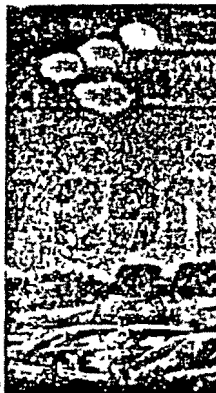
BUT when he checked on his instruments he realised he was wrong. His target was at a height of 60,000ft, and the "slant range" from his radar set—the straight-line distance from the aerial to the target—was 90,000ft.

Modern radar equipment can be "locked on" to the target, which means that, without any manual help from the operator, the instruments will keep the target in the centre of the radar beam.

For five minutes Sergeant Waller had his set "locked on" to his very large target and from his instruments saw that its movement was negligible—possibly a movement of 100 yards in 30 seconds.

He went outside expecting to see something quite big in the sky, and was surprised to find that he could see nothing with the naked eye. On the radar equipment, however, lined up on the moving aerial array is a low power sighting telescope used for testing the alignment of the set.

Through this—which of course was automatically looking at the same target as the radar beam—he was able to see with some difficulty a white ball—not merely reflecting sunlight, but seeming to glow of its own accord.



This photograph was taken by a U.S. coastguard at an air station after he had seen four unknown objects in the sky. A "ball" of light seen to extend in front and behind.

Now Sergeant Waller is an experienced practical man. The response on his radar was three times as large as any signal he could expect from even the largest aircraft at that range. The response was a completely steady and because he has had experience with the fluctuating rhythmic response from the reflecting aerials of weather balloons he now has difficulty in believing that explanation.

Idea of size

SOME time before he had had the radar set lined up on a big four-engined Valiant jet bomber at a range of little more than a third of that of his mysterious target. Though he could only just see his "balloon" which at that height would have measured only a dozen or so feet it was just as big as the Valiant had appeared at 35,000ft range compared with the 90,000ft range of the "balloon."

"I cannot understand how at that range I could have seen a weather balloon measuring some 12ft, even if it were brilliantly illuminated by the sun," says Sergeant Waller.

"Imagine what a six-foot target on a 300-yard rifle range looks like in your sights and compare that with an object only twice as large and 100 times as far away."

Besides, the extremely large radar response, as steady as a rock, has to be explained away.

Every detail of his story is confirmed by a group of half a dozen technicians at the Regimental headquarters including Mr. A. S. Trow, a civilian radar engineer. They all saw the radar response and in turn looked at the "target" through the telescope.

Another interesting feature in Sergeant Waller's story was the fact that he took the trouble to search the sky for cloud movement in order to estimate wind conditions. His target had moved out of range towards the south-east, but a small patch of high cirrus cloud was moving easterly.

An explanation

THIS, however, may well be accounted for by the unexpected movements that are to be found in the upper air. In fact, the Meteorological Office report for that day shows that at 35,000ft—the wind was north-westerly blowing to the south-east, the same direction as the very slight movement of the sergeant's target while at 30,000ft it was blowing from the south-west, which would have carried the lower-lying cloud to the north-east.

The discrepancy there is that the 35,000ft wind, according to the weather men, was blowing at 35 miles an hour, while the radar target had very little movement.

These tricks of wind at varying heights are well known to the weather men, and it is to make a more complete study of them that well over 100 met. balloons are released in Britain daily. Both speed and direction can sometimes vary enormously in different layers of the atmosphere.

Tomorrow: What the scientists think.

Barquisimeto. All of a sudden both Capt. Celis and his co-pilot, a man named Cortez, caught sight of a rotating, top-shaped, object. The upper surface of the object had a green color and across its midsection was a band of red. Just above and below this red area were ports or openings that gave off brilliant light.

While co-pilot Cortez put the airplane in a 40 degree bank in a try to gain on the object, Capt. Celis scrambled back to the passenger compartment to alert additional witnesses which he succeeded in doing. In the meantime, the plane's radio operator contacted Barquisimeto field to inform authorities but communications inexplicably went dead just as the control tower on the ground answered.

The UFO descended quickly and moved out of view in seconds.

When the LAV flight landed at Maiquetia, Venezuela, at 12:00 p.m., news-people met the plane and interviewed both the pilots and passengers. 83.

February 6th.

A speeding silvery, cigar-shaped, UFO was supposed to have puzzled the general population of New Zealand's south island on the 6th. A great explosion was also heard at the time. Its possible that the excited New Zealanders confused a meteor for a true UFO. 84.

General de Buretel de Chassey.

On February 10, 1954 newsman Charles Garreau in the employ of the La Bourgogne Republicaine interviewed the Commander of the First French Air Force Region, Dijon; a General de Buretel de Chassey. The General was quoted as saying:

"I remember reading the report of the pilots of the two Vampires of Orange Base who in June 1951 vainly pursued what appeared to them to be a shining disc above the Alpilles. These two pilots were sober types and I doubt that they would venture a hoax. 85.

Furthermore:

"We must follow with the attention which they deserve these hitherto inexplicable phenomena which in my opinion cannot be terrestrial objects, and we must hope that international co-operation perhaps under the auspices of the United Nations Organization, will help us one day to solve the mystery of the Flying Saucers." 86.

February 12th. Interest stays alive in England. (See newspaper clipping)

5-10 UFO sightings a night!

Jim Lucas of Scripps-Howard made known the startling fact that Commercial airline pilots were reporting 5-10 UFO sightings a night and that military Intelligence was seeking ways to expedite information. Moreover, the pilots were requested not reveal their UFO experiences to the news media or, in Lucas' words, not even to: "...discuss their sightings publicly..." (See newsclipping) While UFO author and Pentagon critic Donald Keyhoe would give the Lucas story a "pro-alien twist," and good case could be made for a genuine worry over a Russian threat, the possibility that advanced Communist missile/aircraft were probing U.S. airspace prior to acquiring sufficient nuclear bombs to make a knockout blow. Concern over "UFO reports" would result in the issuance of an official regulation on March 10, 1954, a document titled: "JANAP 146."

—Saturday February 13, 1954.

Flying Saucer Sightings Increase;

By Jim G. Lucas

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Feb 13—Commercial airline pilots report between five and 10 flying saucer sightings each night, it was learned today.

Representatives of major airlines will meet Wednesday in Los Angeles with Military Air Transport Service intelligence officers to discuss speeding up saucer reporting procedures. The idea will be to "get the reports in the quickest possible way" so that the Air Force can send fast jet fighters to investigate.

Pilots Gagged

Heretofore, commercial pilots have landed and then reported to MATS through their companies. By that time, the trail usually is cold. Now, pilots are instructed to flash reports direct from the air to MATS intelligence in Washington or to the nearest Air Force base.

Airline pilots are asked not to discuss their sightings publicly or give them to newspapers.

One well-informed source said that until recently the largest number of sightings were from the Southwest Pacific. Saucer sightings have been particularly numerous around Australia,

ONE RIGHT ONLY!
An Illustrated Lecture
THE MESSAGE FROM THE FLYING SAUCERS
Hear Rosalee Arthur's amazing true story of her personal contact with Space Craft and Interplanetary Beings. She is the writer of the "Flying Saucer Letters" to the President, signed by hundreds and has appeared on radio and TV shows.

Saturday, February 20th, 8:00 p.m.
Richmore Hall, 1148 So. Oak Street
Los Angeles
Avalon being turned away come early.
(Reservation at the door)

Woman Dies Of Thirst, 2 Miles From Water

Twenty-nine Palms, Cal. — A 40-year-old woman who longed to become a writer died of thirst on the searing Mojave desert apparently en route to get a feature story about a meeting of flying saucer enthusiasts.

The body of Miss Florence Minna Thiel of Los Angeles was found yesterday on the hot desert sands 15 miles northwest of here. Sheriff's deputies said she died of thirst and exposure.

Friends in Los Angeles told officers that Miss Thiel had gone to

the desert to attend the meeting of saucer hobbyists at nearby Giant Rock airport and to write an article about them. She had been employed as a proofreader.

Search for her began Friday when owners of a desert cabin found a note by her reading:

"I am exhausted and must have water. I do not believe I can last much longer."

Miss Thiel had left three 31 Mills to look for a window she had broken to gain entrance to the cabin. There was no water there.

Apparently she collapsed — en route back to her car, stuck in the sand two miles away. In the auto were several publications dealing with flying saucers.

Miss Thiel died two miles from Surprise Springs, where there was plenty of water.

The Air Force/airliner representatives meeting in Los Angeles mentioned by Jim Lucas in news clipping was evidently a follow-up on a statement out of Washington D.C. back on January 18, 1954 which declared: "Air Force intelligence officers have alerted airmen against the possibility of enemy missiles that might be pooh-poohed as flying saucers..." 87.

The Stephen Darbishire photos.

Pictures taken on February 15th caused a stir in England. The principle in the photographic case was a young Stephen Darbishire. Probably the most complete account of the incident can found in Leonard Cramp's book: Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer. A 13-year-old snapped some pictures, it was claimed, of a "domed saucer with portholes and a three-ball undercarriage." We are led to believe that the boy's little Kodak was on the wrong setting greatly blurring the image but remained clear enough to compare very well with George Adamski's "Venusian scoutcraft." The young man claimed he was unfamiliar with the Adamski photos, although the American's pictures had appeared in English newspapers like the Illustrated London News and the London Daily Mail. Stephen seemed sincere about his experience but conveniently the blurred nature of the image makes it impossible to analyze. We have no official British investigative report on the case and civilian investigations lacked sophistication. The account in Leonard Cramp's book was drawn up by Desmond Leslie, Adamski's co-author, hardly an objective source of information. 88.

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

It could be that, in time, Stephen would have admitted a hoax if that was the case but within a month he was faced with a situation that made it difficult to confess. Word was received inviting the youth to Buckingham palace! The 13-year-old made an appearance as requested and was questioned by an aide to Prince Philip (who was in Australia at the time). It seems the Duke of Edinburgh had taken an interest in the controversial subject of flying saucers and wanted to know more about Stephen's pictures. The boy cooperated, answering all questions and if he wanted to admit a fraud after that, there didn't seem to be much incentive. 89.

The London Daily Mail was one of the major English papers to reproduce Stephen's photographic effort, thereafter often referred to as the "Coniston photos." Other newspapers, like the London Times and the London Telegraph refused to touch the so-called "pictorial UFO evidence." Not everyone was on the UFO bandwagon, nonetheless there was a lot tension on Fleet Street. Editor Gavin Gibbons later related the fact that his colleagues were faced with a big dilemma. The English press chiefs hated to be "scooped" yet had no choice but to employ extreme caution. By guessing right they could be in on the possibly the "greatest news story of all time," or be fooled and thus: "...be faced with such ridicule that his very appointment on the paper is in jeopardy." 90.

Funny lights over New Jersey.

A BLUE BOOK report of February 18, 1954, that discusses a number of eyewitness accounts in New Jersey raises some questions for the student of the UFO mystery. What was project HENRY? 91.

Report to Bluebook
on the investigation of Unidentified Aerial Objects
in the New Jersey area, night of 1 Jan 54.

J. R. Gluck
Project Henry, PFS-161

18 February 1954 I made a phone call from New York to the Intelligence Officer of the 568th Air Defense Group, McGuire AFB, New Jersey, from whom ATIC had received the Form As on this case. A Capt. Peterson was contacted, advised of my status on this project and of the incident in question. He was familiar with the situation, promised full cooperation, and asked if I would like to come down the next day. ✓

19 February, arrived via train and bus from New York, found Capt. Peterson, who turned me over to a Sgt. Alkire, of the 4602 AIDSS. A staff car and driver were obtained and we drove to Toms River, N. J.

Upon arrival at Toms River we went first to the police station. Alkire had established contact with these people before, when the initial investigation had been conducted. The chief of police and one officer had been among the observers. Then we proceeded to the home of Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED] who live on [REDACTED] in Toms River, and a police car, with the officer who had been an observer, came to meet us.

Three sets of observers are neighbors. Mrs. [REDACTED], whom I would call a better than average observer, took us across the street to the backyard of the [REDACTED] residence, from where she had made her observations. She pointed out the beginning and end points of the visual sightings and two photos were taken with a Polaroid camera I had rented in New York. These photos are Fig. A and B. The first one, looking directly South, shows three objects which were observed by seven people on [REDACTED] Drive. Photo B

UNCLASSIFIED

"Eisenhower disappears."

California was becoming a real hotbed of UFO enthusiasm. Thousands of people were flocking to saucer lectures. Truman Bethurum was particularly active but many minor figures were trying their hand like Bessie Arthur who had drafted an open letter to the President back in August, 1953, urging Eisenhower to release all saucer data that would not jeopardize national security. She did it on behalf of those who voted for the plea during the "Flying Saucer convention" at the Hollywood Hotel in Hollywood.

Fascination with UFO mystery was so great George Van Tassel planned yet another big get together for 1954 to called the "International Spacecraft Convention," to be held at the wide open spaces of his Giant Rock Airport.

All this excitement in Southern California may well have been one reason a weird interpretation was given to something that happened at Palm Springs.

Eisenhower was taking a vacation at Palm Springs but the press managed to arrange a question and answer session the evening of February 20th. When the Chief Executive failed to show and no one could give a satisfactory explanation as to his whereabouts, speculation started to get out of hand. Some even thought the President was dead or dying and words to that effect even appeared on the press wire.

Alarmed, Press Secretary James Haggerty quickly summoned reporters to a late night press conference to disclose that the President had slipped away for a short period to "have some emergency dental work done after breaking off a tooth cap during a meal early that evening." 92. Any doubts about the President's welfare were put to rest the next morning when Ike appeared at Sunday church services a picture of perfect health.

Monday evening at a Presidential Palm Springs steak fry the "local dentist that had treated the President" was introduced to the press. The explanation was simple enough and apparently satisfied everyone.

However, UFO researcher William L. Moore discovered some odd facts about the "disappearance."

First of all, Moore wondered why the President was taking a vacation at Palm Springs when just a week earlier he had taken one in Georgia?

Secondly, when questioned in June, 1979, the dentist's widow remembered all the details of the steak fry which she and her husband attended due to a Presidential invitation, yet could recall nothing about the treatment of the President.

Moore felt these facts indicated a cover story was being used so he did some research at the Eisenhower Library where highly detailed records were kept. He found that in Eisenhower's health papers there is a file titled: "Dentists." Even so, there is no reference to the Palm Spring dentist that had done the famous tooth repair job! Moreover, there is a huge collection of acknowledgements to every conceivable person, many of very minor importance, yet there is no written thanks to the Palm Spring dentist, although Moore did locate a thank you note to the minister that

Those Flying Saucer Folk to Convene

JOSHUA TREE, Feb. 22 — Flying saucer enthusiasts will convene near Giant Rock Airport, north of Joshua Tree, on April 4 for an International Spacecraft Convention, according to George Van Tassel, operator of the airport.

Frank Scully, George Adamson, Desmond Leslie and representatives of the Air Force Intelligence have been invited to attend.

Visitors may fly in or drive in over the Giant Rock road from Joshua Tree or the Victorville road from Yuca Valley.

conducted the Sunday services Eisenhower attended the morning of February 21st. 93. Something unusual seems to have happened, but what? *

Alice Springs, Australia.

The Australian Civil Aviation Traffic Control issued a statement that the strange object which roared over Alice Springs in central Australia at 4:30 the morning of February 18th was "not known air traffic." 94.

February 21st.

A UFO with flashing lights was spotted high above the Rockford, Illinois airport by a CAA control tower operator. The time was 2:00 a.m. the morning of February 21, 1954. Thirty minutes afterward apparently the same object was seen flying in circles above the nearby city of Freeport. A number of sheriff deputies observed the maneuvers.

A day later Ground Observers manning a post at York, Pennsylvania, reported 14 objects they could not identify moving along in formation above 15,000 feet altitude. The Filter Center at Harrisburg was notified. The report prompted a jet scramble but the objects escaped by climbing steeply away.

Soon after there was excitement at Easton, Pennsylvania, when a UFO was spotted over the town and there was a report that something like a fiery ball fell into a stand of trees causing a fire. Search planes sent to the scene by the Civil Air Patrol flew over the burning area, while Air Force ground teams investigated the terrain on foot. 95.

"Here comes another one."

* According to Air Force records the following UFO sightings were made at Van Nuys, California:

"(...deleted) who said he was an Air Force pilot during the war, advised that he, his wife, and mother were returning to their home at approximately 2300 hours on 21 February 1954. He said he was unlocking his garage door, at which time he observed an object in the sky which he immediately identified from previous accounts he had read as a flying saucer. He said he called to his wife and mother who were still in the car to look at it. His next-door neighbor, (...deleted), who was a former Marine Corps pilot, and his wife were in bed, their bedroom facing the (...deleted) driveway. (...deleted) said that they heard him, got out of bed and came out into the yard.

"(...deleted) said the first object he saw was moving erratically at considerable speed and making changes in direction impossible to any aircraft with which he was familiar. It disappeared to the west, traveling at a very high rate of speed. (...deleted) and his wife

* Eisenhower's "disappearance" is a much longer story. It will be discussed again on pages 71,74-75.

came into the yard in time to see this object traveling toward the west. As it disappeared, (...deleted) said his wife exclaimed, 'Here comes another one.' All of them then observed a second object approaching from the north. This object appeared to be coming directly toward the group and then made three complete circles over the area and disappeared to the east.

"(...deleted) said his estimates of altitude, speed, and size were pure guesses as he had nothing but his own sense of depth perception to judge these factors. He said the night was crystal clear, bright moonlight, and there was no cloud cover. He estimated that the second object was at an altitude of approximately 4,000 to 5,000 feet; that while it was circling, it was traveling at approximately 1,000 miles per hour; that it was 30 to 50 feet in diameter; and that as it disappeared toward the east, it was traveling at a much higher rate of speed. (...deleted) said the object made no sound at all and that it was within range where he was sure they would have heard any sound it may have emitted. He said the object was luminous, reddish in the center, with what he described as an electric-blue luminosity at the edges which seemed to flash in a bluish halo as it turned. (...deleted) also said that he had the impression which he could not define that the object was in some manner transparent. He said he seemed to be looking into rather than at it. He described the object as elliptical in shape but could make no estimate as to its thickness. (...deleted) said the second object must have been in full view of the entire group for at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 minutes and that he and (...deleted) discussed its size, height, and speed while they were still observing it. He said that as it disappeared toward the east, they observed a jet aircraft at a lower altitude approaching them from the east.

"(...deleted) said that he and (...deleted) had discussed the object at great length and that it was completely beyond anything within their former experience. He said both had been pilots --he, (...deleted), having about 2,000 hours --and both had seen many natural aerial phenomena such as Saint Elmo's fire. He said he was reporting the matter because he was certain in his own mind that something had been in the sky which he could not define within his own experience." 96.

Canada's project SECOND STOREY. The sixth meeting. February 22nd.

"It appears then, that we are faced with a substantial probability of the real existence of extra-terrestrial vehicles." ---Wilber Smith.

(See the important pages of the meeting report on pp. 41-43.)

"Washington knows what the saucers are."

It was Sunday morning, 11:30 a.m. (unfortunately we have no date except that it was early 1954) when strange objects were noticed in the sky above South Coe Creek, Wyoming, which was the site of a Phillips Petroleum Company project. As a dozen oil company employees watched, eight objects silently maneuvered in the air and then came together in an inline formation. The formation dived and then climbed away at high speed until lost from view.

PROJECT SECOND STOREY

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting held at the Defence
Research Board, 22 Feb 54, 0900 hrs.

Chairman: Dr. P.M. Millman
Dominion Observatory.

Members: Capt. Baker
D.M.I.

S/L Coupland
D.A.I.

Lt. Cdr. Stone
D.M.I.

S/L W. Birch
Defence Research Board.

Mr. W.B. Smith,
Dept. of Transport.

In his opening remarks the Chairman stated that one of the prime objects of keeping the Committee in being was to keep abreast of developments in connection with unidentified flying objects. In this connection, particularly at this meeting, it was intended to review the work being carried out at the Department of Transport as well as to follow up the various items outlined for action at the last meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were moved for adoption by Mr. Smith, and seconded by S/L Birch.

Concerning items arising out of past meetings the request that Capt. Ruppel of the USAF be brought to Canada for discussions with this Committee. The Chairman pointed out that this item of unfinished business had now been on the agenda since 9 March 1953 and no action had yet been initiated by the R.C.A.F. The R.C.A.F. representative was again asked to look into this matter to find out definitely whether there was any possibility of contact with the US group dealing with unidentified flying objects.

Prior to asking Mr. Smith to outline the activities of D.O.T., the Chairman made reference to the "fire ball" sighting on 13 January 1954. This fire ball was seen 0702 hours in the region generally from Eastern Quebec to Western Ontario and Northern Michigan. The Dominion Observatory is conducting a complete investigation and over one hundred reports have already been received. However, due to sparsity of population in the region where the "fire ball" was observed it is doubtful whether it can be determined if any small meteorites landed.

The Chairman made reference also to the latest book on the newstands entitled "Flying Saucers Have Landed", by Leslie and Adamski. This book appears to be of doubtful authenticity and must not be taken too seriously. The Chairman will check with the Palomar Observatory on their knowledge of Adamski.

- 6 -

From a study of the sighting reports (Appendix IV), it can be deduced that the vehicles have the following significant characteristics. They are a hundred feet or more in diameter; they can travel at speeds of several thousand miles per hour; they can reach altitudes well above those which would support conventional aircraft or balloons; and ample power and force seem to be available for all required manoeuvres. Taking these factors into account, it is difficult to reconcile this performance with the capabilities of our technology, and unless the technology of some terrestrial nation is much more advanced than is generally known, we are forced to the conclusion that the vehicles are probably extra-terrestrial, in spite of our prejudices to the contrary.

It has been suggested that the sightings might be due to some sort of optical phenomenon which gives the appearance of the objects reported, and this aspect was thoroughly investigated. Charts are shown in Appendix III showing the various optical considerations. Enticing as this theory is, there are some serious objections to its actual application, in the form of some rather definite and quite immutable optical laws. These are the geometrical laws dealing with optics generally and which we have never yet found cause to doubt, plus the wide discrepancies in the order of magnitude of the light values which must be involved in any sightings so far studied. Furthermore, introducing an optical system might explain an image in terms of an object, but the object still requires explaining. A particular effort was made to find an optical explanation for the sightings listed in this report, but in no case could one be worked out. It was not possible to find so much as a partial optical explanation for even one sighting. Consequently, it was felt that optical theories generally should not be taken too seriously until such time as at least one sighting can be satisfactorily explained in such a manner.

It appears then, that we are faced with a substantial probability of the real existence of extra-terrestrial vehicles, regardless of whether or not they fit into our scheme of things. Such vehicles of necessity must use a technology considerably in advance of what we have. It is therefore submitted that the next step in this investigation should be a substantial effort towards the acquisition of as much as possible of this technology, which would without doubt be of great value to us.] ✓

7.3. Smith
Engineer-in-Charge,
Project Magnet

APPENDIX "B"

Based on the conclusions of the 1952 report, it was felt that certain of the phenomena would probably be accompanied by physical effects which could be measured, and since measurements are always more satisfactory than qualitative observations, it was decided to try and get some measured data. (99)
(49)

Whether the phenomena be due to natural electromagnetic causes, or alien vehicles, there would probably be associated with a sighting some magnetic or radio noise disturbance. Also, there is a possibility of gamma radiation being associated with such phenomena.

It has been suggested by some mathematicians that gravity waves may exist in reality, as well as a convenience to make an equation balance. While we know practically nothing of such waves in nature, nevertheless, if the possibility exists, flying saucer phenomena, being largely an unknown field, might be a good place to look for such gravity waves.

Therefore, a group of instruments was set up in a hut at Shirley Bay for the purpose of trying to get measurements which could be tied to one or more actual sightings. The instruments are; a compass type magnetometer, a gamma ray counter, a radio set and gravimeter. The outputs of these four instruments are arranged to draw proportional traces on a 4 pen recorder.

These instruments went into operation last October and apart from the usual bugs, seems to be operating satisfactorily. We have as yet obtained no saucer data from them.

Our future plans include study of any data which we may get from our Shirley Bay set-up, should we be so fortunate, as well as the continued analysis of sighting reports which come in to us. We propose also to make rigid analysis of unknown phenomena to see how much can be explained on this basis. Most of the previous work along these lines has been largely qualitative and open to serious objection from the point of view of quantitative analysis.

We intend to promote a study of gravity waves, whether within this Department or outside to find out if:

- a) They exist in nature
- b) How we can detect them if they do
- c) How to generate them, and
- d) What they may be used for.

Shortly thereafter witness Marge Michaelis telephoned an Air Force detachment stationed at Casper and talked with the Commanding Officer. The CO told her a pipeline work gang had also reported strange objects in the area and that he was going to contact the Pentagon about the matter.

Later the CO called Mrs. Michaelis back to say that the Pentagon told him: "Washington knows what the saucers are." 97.

Al Bender's last issue.

A last issue of the I.F.S.B. Space Review arrived in the mail to certain members in February 1954. Labeled "A limited and restricted publication," and containing a so-called "Statement of Importance." Bender failed to print the whole story of his troubles with authorities (According to his claims) but just related that "orders from a higher source" were keeping the lid on the UFO mystery and that the government has "know what flying saucers are for two years." 98.

Curious about "Bender's problems with authorities," the editors of "Saucers" magazine queried the Department of Defense. They received a reply from the Pentagon written by 1st Lt. R.C. White which said:

"With respect to your question as to whether the Air Force has any adverse feelings toward civilian 'saucer' research groups, we most certainly do not. On the contrary, we welcome any authentic and concrete evidence which they may be able to supply us." 99.

February 26th.

Strange cylinder over Ohio.

An official teletype report states:

"THE OBJECT APPEARED CIRULAR AT FIRST, AS IT APPROACHED IT BECAME MORE CYLINDRICAL LIKE THE FUSELAGE OF AN AIRCRAFT. ESTIMATED THE SIZE TO BE THAT OF A MEDIUM SIZED AIRCRAFT C-54 OR KC-97 FUSELAGE. AT FIRST IT APPEARED A ROUND WHITE LIGHT WITH A LIGHT GREEN HALO. HOWEVER, AS IT APPROACHED IT APPEARED TO HAVE TWO RED LIGHTS UNDERNEATH WHICH TENDED TO FORM A V; THERE WERE WHITE-ORANGE COLORED LIGHTS WHICH WERE JUDGED TO BE INTERIOR LIGHTS. THE ENTIRE OBJECT WAS SURROUNDED BY A LIGHT GREEN HALO EFFECT....THE RED LIGHTS UNDERNEATH TENDED TO FORM A V WHICH GAVE THE-APPEARANCE OF A MAIN BODY WITH A GONDOLA OF SOME KIND UNDERNEATH. ...SOURCES WIFE HAPPENED TO BE LOOKING OUT OF A WINDOW IN THEIR LIVINGROOM AND CALLED HIS ATTENTION TO WHAT SHE INITIALLY THOUGHT WAS AN UNUSUAL STAR. APPROXIMATELY THREE MINUTES AFTER THE FIRST SIGHTING SHE NOTICED THAT THE OBJECT WAS MOVING AND HAD COME CONSIDERABLY CLOSER AND SHE INSISTED THAT SOURCE LOOK. WHEN SOURCE FIRST SIGHTED THE OBJECT HIS FIRST THOUGHT WAS THAT IT WAS MOST LIKELY A WEATHER BALLOON BEING RELEASED AT PORT COLUMBUS. HOWEVER, AFTER CLOSER EXAMINATION THIS WAS RULED OUT AND HE AND HIS WIFE DECIDED TO GO OUTSIDE TO GET A BETTER LOOK IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHAT THE OBJECT WAS.... WHEN FIRST OBSERVED THE OBJECT APPEARED TO BE ALMOST STATIONARY AT ABOUT 1500 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. THEN IT ASCENDED VERTICALLY AT A VERY SLOW RATE TO WHAT THE SOURCE ESTIMATED TO BE 3,000 FEET. THEN IT

STARTED ACCELERATING IN ALMOST LEVEL FLIGHT TOWARD THE SOUTH-WEST AT AN EVER INCREASING RATE. WHEN LAST SEEN IT WAS AT AN ALTITUDE OF APPROXIMATELY 500 FEET. GOING AWAY FROM SOURCE AT EXTREMELY HIGH SPEED AND DISAPPEARED." 100.

"How to contact space visitors."

George Hunt Williamson remained active by writing a feature for Valor Weekly titled "Saucer Symposium." The Valor publication was printed by Soulcraft of Noblesville, Indiana.

The qualification for aspiring "contactees," Williamson informed his readers in the February 27th issue, was simply being: "...desirous of helping suffering humanity..." 101.

Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York.

While the Civilian Saucer Investigations of Los Angeles was experiencing its last days as a viable organization, another private group was born on the East Coast that assumed an almost identical name.

In February 1954 a New York housewife by the name of Marilyn Shaw observed something strange in the heavens she couldn't comprehend. Greatly concerned, she discussed the phenomenon with others who were interested. It was decided to form the "Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York" with the goal of "devoting itself to the serious study of flying saucers." 102.

Among the founding members of CSI New York were Ted Bloecher, Isabel Davis, and Alexander D. Mebane. All of the forementioned persons would achieve significant publication credits concerning the UFO mystery in the years ahead.

March.

• JANAP-146 imposed.

Just weeks after officials of the Military Air Transport Service met with representatives of the nation's major airlines to plan the expediting of UFO reports, the Pentagon issued JANAP-146, Revision C, March 1954. (See reproduction pp.46-48.)

UFO over Uruguay.

Witnesses noticed a strange oval object 30 degrees above the northeast horizon. It was 2:30 p.m. March 1, 1954. The location was the National Airport of Carrasco, Uruguay. Airport employees kept the object under observation and detected a change in shape. The exact nature of this change was apparently not too clear but in a short time a smaller body was seen to detach itself and move to a position below and behind.

Alerted to the presence of UFOs, controllers in Carrasco tower made a visual check. Sra. de Rizzardo spotted the two objects at 125 degrees azimuth and 20 degrees above the horizon. He claimed he saw an oval object with protuberances accompanied by a pair of smaller bodies. The chief controller, Pedro V. Ocampo, was still fumbling for his binoculars when the UFOs started moving away eastwards at great speed, passing over the Sierras de Minas mountains. 103.

There may be some connection with the following account found in the European press: "On 1 March 1954, numerous bathers at the beaches near Montevideo observed a 'flying saucer,' a sort of metallic disk emitting yellowish reflections. It remained stationary for 2 minutes at an altitude of several thousand meters." 104.

(110)

JANAP 146(C)

**COMMUNICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPORTING
VITAL INTELLIGENCE SIGHTINGS FROM
AIRBORNE AND WATERBORNE SOURCES**

JANAP 146(C)

**THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
JOINT COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
MARCH 1954**

1

**ORIGINAL
(REVERSE BLANK)**

JANAF 146(C)

CHAPTER I

GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF COMMUNICATION INSTRUCTIONS
FOR REPORTING VITAL INTELLIGENCE SIGHTINGS101. PURPOSE

The purpose of this publication is to provide uniform instructions for reporting of vital intelligence sightings and to provide communication instructions for the passing of these intelligence reports to appropriate military authorities.

102. SCOPE

a. This publication is limited to the reporting of information of vital importance to the security of the United States of America, its territories and possessions, which, in the opinion of the observer, requires prompt defensive and/or investigative action by the U.S. Armed Forces.

b. The procedure contained in this publication is provided for:

- (1) Civil aircraft and commercial airlines designated by the U.S. Air Force;
- (2) Any military aircraft where civil communication facilities provide the only means of communicating vital intelligence to military authorities.
- (3) Military aircraft as prescribed by the respective service instructions.
- (4) U.S. Flag Vessels
- (5) Fishing Vessels of U.S. registry
- (6) U.S. Government Vessels where civil communications facilities provide the only means of passing vital intelligence to U.S. military authorities.
- (7) U.S. military vessels not covered by separate instructions.

103. MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION

a. Reports made from airborne sources will be identified by CIRVIS as the first word of the text.

b. Reports made by waterborne sources will be identified by MERINT as the first word of the text.

JANAP 146(C)

CHAPTER IICIRVIS REPORTS

SECTION I - GENERAL

201. INFORMATION TO BE REPORTED AND WHEN TO REPORT

a. Sightings within the scope of this chapter, as outlined in Article 102b(1), (2), and (3), are to be reported as follows:

- (1) While airborne (except over foreign territory - See Article 212)
 - (a) Single aircraft or formations of aircraft which appear to be directed against the United States, its territories or possessions
 - (b) Missiles
 - (c) Unidentified flying objects.  NOTE
 - (d) Submarines.
 - (e) A group or groups of military surface vessels.
- (2) Upon Landing.
 - (a) Individual surface vessels, submarines, or aircraft of unconventional design, or engaged in suspicious activity or observed in an unusual location or following an unusual course.
 - (b) Confirmation reports.

202. SIGHTINGS NOT TO BE REPORTED

Reports are not desired concerning surface craft or aircraft in normal passage, or known U.S. military or government vessels and aircraft.

JE-6

DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
Vol. II

Whole Number 40

ALL "SAUCERS"

EDITED BY

TIFFANY THAYER

35c.

2/— in Great Britain

Fortean Society interest in UFOs peaked with the Winter 1953/54 issue of Doubt. This is a rare "saucer item."

OTHER NEW AGE PUBLICATIONS

THE CHALLENGE OF SPACE

By Arthur Joquel II.

Price \$4.00

Science and history combined, displaying a new exciting outlook. The result of twenty years research.

STAR GUESTS

By W. D. Pelley.

Price \$4.00

A Soucraft publication revealing mounting evidence that life on this planet may have come from another heavenly system. Explains some of the great arcane mysteries of the Cosmos and gives much information about life after death. You need this knowledge to help you understand today's Drama of the Skies.

ABOARD A FLYING SAUCER

By Truman Bethurum.

Price \$3.00

The outstanding news story of 1953. Mr. Bethurum, completely taken by surprise by men from Outer Space was ushered into a Flying Saucer, met the woman commander of the ship, describes minute details about the furnishings, dress, manners, speech and life on the planet "Clarion,"

THE SAUCERS SPEAK

By George H. Williamson and Alfred C. Bailey. \$2.00

A Documentary Report of Interstellar Communication by Radiotelegraphy. Contains startling information and convincing proof that people of Other Worlds are with us. The amazing experience of Dr. Williamson and associates is fully described together with a transcript of communications received and the affidavit of the witnesses present.

I RODE A FLYING SAUCER

By George Van Tassel.

Price \$1.00

The strange story of the author and his desert retreat, and some of the extraordinary messages from outer space.

SAUCERS

A review of latest Saucer developments. Issued by Flying Saucers International. 4 issues \$1.00.

NEW AGE PUBLISHING CO.

1542 Glendale Boulevard

Los Angeles 26, Calif.

An advertisement for "New Age" literature in 1954. Note the possible influence of theosophical belief in Pelley's Star Guests. ---L. Gross

Another note on South America.

There was some interesting UFO activity reported in South America in 1954, but any firm conclusions about the wave in the region are elusive since coverage of Latin America is incomplete due to the transient nature of the civilian efforts to compile UFO information. There was a supposed "Hellwig encounter" in Brazil during March but it is very dubious and thus not worth detailing. 105.

"Spacecraft Convention."

The first gathering of UFO enthusiasts in August 1953 generated such interest contactee George Van Tassel decided to host a second one in 1954; and as operator of a small private airport at Yucca Valley, California, he had the space to accommodate a large crowd.

In the March issue of his publication *Proceedings*, Van Tassel announced the event and defended the airport site although it lacked many facilities. People would have to camp out for the two day affair if lodging was not available in nearby communities, but Van Tassel maintained that "spacecraft preferred isolated places" and he expressed a hope "our space friends" would take advantage of the situation by making an appearance.

The list of those invited included: George Adamski, Orfeo Angelucci, Truman Bethurum, Gerald Heard, Donald Keyhoe, Meade Layne, Desmond Leslie, Silas Newton, Ray Palmer, Frank Scully, George Hunt Williamson, and even U.S. Air Force Intelligence. 106.

Keyhoe blamed.

Keyhoe learned on March 3rd that the latest issue of *American Aviation* quoted an official spokesman as saying: "The Pentagon definitely attributes the latest rush of saucer reports to Major Keyhoe's book, Flying Saucers From Outer Space." 107. That same afternoon United Press newsman Bob Stirling phoned Keyhoe and informed him Senator Francis Case had approached Secretary of the Air Force Talbott concerning charges in Keyhoe's latest book that the military was keeping UFO information from the public. In reply Secretary Talbott had General Joe W. Kelly, Director of Legislative Liaison, supply an answer. General Kelly wrote: "All information on sightings of aerial phenomena, including our conclusions, is unclassified and available to the public." 108.

Keyhoe blew his top when he heard about the General's remark and insisted that Stirling write a story quoting him as claiming there was a definite UFO blackout, especially concerning the Tremonton UFO film which was still being withheld. 109.

March 6th.

Los Angeles newsman James Mc Namara may have considered the book closed on the UFO subject for him after all the San Fernando Valley excitement the month before, but there was a surprise in store.

On Friday, March 6th Mc Namara's car was parked next to the Pan Pacific Auditorium in downtown Hollywood. Part of the newsman's job was doing the weather forecast on radio station KLAC, and as he got into his car and slipped behind the wheel, he glanced at the sky to see if a predicted storm was approaching.

Looking west he was stunned to see a trio of luminous, round, bodies stationary in the air, slightly tilted, and in a triangular formation. Before he could recover from his surprise, two of the objects shot upward at a 60 degree slant in a northwestern direction. An instant later the third

The Book Parade

What Los Angeles Is Reading
According to the Los Angeles Public Library

Fiction

1. "Adventures of Augie March," by Saul Bellow.
2. "Someone Like You," by Roald Dahl.
3. "The Doctors," by Andre Soubiran.
4. "The Female," by Paul Wellman.
5. "The Devil's Laughter," by Frank Yerby.

Non-Fiction

1. "A House Is Not a Home," by Polly Adler.
2. "Flying Saucers From Outer Space," by Donald Keyhoe.
3. "The Power of Positive Thinking," by Norman V. Pease.
4. "Sexual Behavior in the Human Female," by A. Kinsey and Others.
5. "Gone With the Windsors," by Ilse Brody.

Children's Books

1. "Rocket Away," by Frances Mary Froh.
2. "Brightly of the Grand Canyon," by Marguerite Henry.
3. "The Story of King Arthur and His Knights," by Howard Pyle.
4. "Early Moon," by Carl Sandburg.
5. "White Snow, Bright Snow," by Alvin Tresselt.

Keyhoe's book is popular.



The Washington View

MARCH 1, 1954

The Saucers Again

Flying saucer reports, which it seems are to be with us forever, have recently been attracting considerably more interest than could be accounted for by military officials. Now, however, the Pentagon definitely attributes the latest rush of saucer reports to Major Donald Keyhoe's book *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*, which is currently on the fiction best-seller list.

What gives the book a certain flavor of authenticity is the inclusion of what is purported to be an official Air Force letter. It states the Air Force continues to receive a high rate of reports on unidentified objects and that all but 20% can be accounted for. The unaccounted-for portion—usually for lack of sufficient data—has left an area for speculation, upon which Keyhoe has dwelt effectively. The letter, written by an AF underling no longer with the service, has been flagrantly used, however, to promote the book.

The Air Force today is officially refusing comment. Inasmuch as the book had not been submitted for approval, it is being ignored as if it doesn't exist.

object darted away, following its companions.

Mc Namara was stunned because he was a veteran war correspondent, seeing action in World War II and Korea. Balloons, jets, rockets, searchlights, aircraft, etc., were familiar to him but these objects were something completely novel. 110.

Keyhoe struggles for more data.

In early March, 1954, a Yale university professor sent a letter to Air Force Headquarters requesting clarification of the statement in Donald Keyhoe's book Flying Saucers From Outer Space that 41 UFO reports listed therein were officially cleared; also, like Senator Case, the professor requested the results of tests conducted on the Tremonton UFO film.

What the professor received after making the forementioned inquiries was not very enlightening. A form letter was sent that said the Air Force would not comment on publications which are not submitted for authentication, and that from time to time UFO reports were declassified and made available to the press. Any interpretation of information released by the military, the form letter stated, would not necessarily reflect official thinking. The mimeographed document was signed by 1st Lt. Rober C. White of the Department of Public Information.

The professor contacted Keyhoe and discussed the language in the form letter. The ex-Marine made up his mind to challenge military.

Keyhoe immediately phoned Lt. White and demanded access to the latest UFO reports, since, the way Keyhoe chose to interpret it, the Air Force form letter meant "General Kelly had given his blessing to such requests." Lt. White was shaken a bit, refusing to cooperate and insisting there must be some mistake. And if that wasn't enough, Lt. White insisted that if the form letter language did promise more than was warranted, a retraction was in order. Continuing to play it safe, Lt. White said that an official retraction, however, was up to the General. Keyhoe chose to take offense, giving the impression he felt the military may consider the material in his Flying Saucers From Outer Space as somehow "unauthorized." Lt. White defended the military position, saying that restrictions were really aimed at "those authors who had written books about having conversations with saucer pilots." Keyhoe was not completely happy with the explanation given by Lt. White and urged termination of the form letter. The public information officer replied in uncertain terms, expressing doubts any promises could be made except to assure Keyhoe the problem would be submitted to higher ups for consideration.

After phoning the Pentagon, Keyhoe went to Capital Hill to meet with Senator Case. Since the Senate was in session, Keyhoe met with the legislator's press secretary, Rodney Moulton, and dropped off documentation supporting the claims made in Flying Saucers From Outer Space. If the Senator believed General Kelly, Keyhoe told Moulton, he had only to phone Lt. White at the Pentagon to learn the truth. 111.

More "Lubbock Lights" over the southwest.

A report made on March 8th has a curious similarity to the famous 1951 "Lubbock Light" case. A teletype message states:

"OBJ CONSISTED OF A SERIES OF MORE THAN TEN BUT LESS THAN TWENTY LIGHTS ARRANGD IN A CRESCENT SHAPE. APRX EQUAL TO A REG SIZED DINNER PLATE HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. VERY HIGH INTENSITY WHITE LIGHTS. APPEARED TO BE FLUORESCENT. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT

THERE WERE BETWEEN TEN AY INDIV OBJ FLY IN CLOSE FORMATION. OBSR STATED THAT THE RELATIVE PSN OF THE INDIV LIGHTS DID NOT C WHICH LEADS WRITER TO BELIEVE THAT ONLY ONE OBJ WAS OBSRD... THERE APPEARED TO BE A BLUISH HAZE SYRROUNDING OBJ. NO SOUND. SPEED EST TO BE FIFTEEN HUNDRED MPH. OBSR CERTAIN THAT OBJ WAS NEITHER CONVENTIONAL ACFT NOR ANY OTHER KNOWN ACTY. ALT EST TO BE BET TEN AND TWENTY THOUSAND FEET. OBSRS WERE IN THE FRONT YARD OF PVT RESIDENCE WHEN OBJ SIGHTED. ANGLE OF ELEVATION SEVENTY DEGREES. AZIMUTH, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE DEGREES. OBJ FIRST SIGHTED DUE SOUTH AND CONTINUED EAST IN A STRAIGHT LINE. OBJ BECAME OBSCURED BY TREES. APROX THREE SECONDS. GRD-VIS. 90507Z MAR 54. NIGHT. OBJ FR RESIDENCE (...DELETED) SAN ANTONIO TEXAS. OBJ WAS OBSRD BY MAJ(...deleted) 10965A 1708TH FERR(...deleted) AFB TEXAS. DY ASGMT GRP NAV & INTL O....VERY CLEAR NIGHT. NO CLOUDS." 112.

There was another UFO report from Texas on March 8th. Unfortunately we have no time of day. It seems that a strange, disc-shaped, object zoomed over Laredo AFB, Laredo, Texas. The thing titled vertically and then shot straight up. 113.

March 9th. Cincinnati.

The sky was dark and moonless over Cincinnati, Ohio. The time was 3:57 a.m. March 9th.

That morning a Mr. John H. Stewart was driving along Paddock Road when he noticed something very strange. Aerial phenomenon was nothing new to Stewart who had 6,500 hours flying time with the military during the Second World War and since then kept his skills intact piloting a private plane. He spotted something that morning, however, he had never seen before, a dark ellipsoidal body inside a bluish luminescent halo, moving slowly south at an altitude of about 2,500 feet. The thing stopped in the air above the city's General Electric plant so Stewart stopped too and got out of his car to take a good look. After four minutes the UFO took off, quickly accelerating. With the increase in speed the object's glow changed from bluish-white, to yellow, and then to a molten red. Before passing out of sight Stewart could see the UFO veer east and then vault skyward almost straight up. 114.

CRIFO is begat.

The above report was collected by yet another new civilian UFO group. Leonard Stringfield of Cincinnati was an advertising manager during business hours and after work pursued various hobbies: astronomy, paleontology, oil painting, and his favorite passtime which was growing exotic plants.

Over time Stringfield slowly developed a new interest: UFOs. His correspondence with other UFO buffs grew and grew.

During the intense Summer 1952 UFO flap, Stringfield became concerned over disturbing rumors. It was being said that Air Force jets had crashed while attempting to intercept UFOs, and there were some very strange stories about green fireballs zooming over New Mexico, apparently the activity of some mysterious "spy" devices.

A highly curious and energetic person, Stringfield loss no time making friends with Donald Keyhoe, becoming fasinated with the UFO writer's asser-

tion there was an official cover-up regarding the sky object mystery.

Stringfield made the study of UFOs his one and only hobby, selecting to focus on the intent of the UFO pilots and whether that intent was hostile. Also like Keyhoe, Stringfield was convinced the UFO pilots were not Russians.

Stringfield decided to establish a civilian effort dedicated to the UFO mystery, a group he named: "Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects" (CRIFO). March 10, 1954 was the organization's birthdate and plans went ahead for the publication of a monthly newsletter with an initial press run of 2000 copies, with a year's subscription costing two dollars. The purpose of all this was, according to Stringfield, to: "...serve the public's appetite for truth." 115.

Senator Case writes Keyhoe.

The documentation Keyhoe left at Senator Case's office required a reply so on March 10th the Senator wrote Keyhoe to say he had forwarded the material to the Air Force for comment.

At first the Air Force tried to brush things off by making denials, but when Keyhoe heard about that and insisted on an appointment with the Senator, the military changed its tune and said Intelligence representatives would visit Case to "explain things." When Keyhoe checked with the Senator's press aide Moulton some time later, he was told the Air Force kept putting off their meeting because they were "extremely busy." 116.

General Kelly sent a letter to Senator Case on April 14, 1954 that made three points in reply to Keyhoe's charges:

- 1.) On February 24th when the Senator was given the information, the Air Force was in the process of revising its policies which led to some confusion.
- 2.) A second answer from General Kelly was sent to the Senator's office that superseded the first.
- 3.) The Tremonton UFO film press release was a matter of the PIO's personal opinion which did not amount to an official position. 117.

Whether all the above makes sense or not is beside the point. The net result was that Keyhoe failed to get evidence the Air Force was "covering up" data.

"Increased speed to 530 mph but could not close."

Another mystery at Nouasseur.

From French Morocco came the following message:

"At 0935Z, 12 March 1954, 1st Lt. Robert Johnson, 357th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, Nouasseur Air Depot, sighted an unidentified flying object at 30,000 feet in the approximately area of 33 degrees 31 minutes North - 07 degrees 11 minutes West, flying on a heading of 010 degrees. The object was estimated as being approximately 2,000 feet in front of Lt. Johnson's aircraft and was described as being generally the same size of a fighter jet aircraft but was observed without wing tanks or visible smoke trails. The speed of the observer's aircraft was approximately 370 mph at the time of first sighting of the object. Lt. Johnson

increased the speed of his aircraft to approximately 530 mph but did not overtake the object. Although the observer's F-86 was directly following the object, the pilot stated that the object simply disappeared from his sight after approximately thirty seconds. The weather at the time of the sighting was clear above 22,000 feet." 118.

Special Report #14.

A document in BLUE BOOK files (Administrative files) titled: "History of Project" states in part:

"Special Report #14 was completed on 17 March 1954 . It concluded that on the basis of the observations reported to the Air Force it was highly improbable that any of these reports represent observations of technological developments outside the range of present day scientific knowledge. In accordance with the recommendations of the Scientific Panel and provisions for release of information outlined in AFR 200-2 the report was declassified and released to the general public on 5 May 1955." 119.

Australia. An Aborigine sees one.

A newspaper article said:

"At Alice Springs, an Aborigine reported that while he was ridding his horse on March 17th, a weird flying machine nearly flew into him. The object was about 40 feet in diameter, emitted four streams of smoke from each side and caused a heavy wind when it rose at terrific speed, making a noise like a drum-laden truck on a bad road. Other natives saw it from a distance. They were well educated, and used to aircraft, including jets." 120.

"UFO dogfight around an airliner."

Michael Kuritz and his wife who lived in Weatherly, Pennsylvania, told the press the four objects were "quite large" and reflected brilliantly in the sunlight but it was the object's maneuvers that were newsworthy. The objects were engaged in a "mock dogfight" around a passing airliner. The object's zoomed ahead of the plane, and they reversed direction and moved behind. Another time they rose vertically and then dropped to a lower level. This air show lasted the five minutes the airliner was in view. When last seen, the UFOs were still trailing the plane. The date of this incident was March 22nd and the location Hazelton, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kuritz was adamant the objects were not jets, balloons, or light reflections. 121.

Meanwhile, inside the airliner the pilot radioed the CAA, which in turn alerted Newcastle AFB in Delaware. The base PIO refused to release information to the press about the military actions and only said that a report on the incident had been forwarded to Washington, but when contacted, authorities in the nation's capital informed reporters nothing had arrived from New Castle(!). 122. The forementioned information is what can be found in Donald Keyhoe's account of the case. Fortunately there is some additional data in BLUE BOOK files that exceeds in interest what both Keyhoe or the press had gathered. The military teletype message on this case reads in part:

"DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTS: FLYING ROUND IN SHAPE, DISCS. SIZE: APPROXIMATELY THAT OF A HALF DOLLAR, HELD IN A HAND OF ABOUT AT ARMS

LENGTH. FURTHER DESCRIBED AS VERY LARGE, LARGER THAN THAT OF A MULTI ENGINE AIRLINER. THE FLYING DISCS WERE FLYING IN CIRCLES WHEN FIRST OBSERVED. COLOR: SILVERY, FOUR (4) FLYING DISCS. THREE (3) OF THESE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS WERE OBSERVED FLYING IN FORMATION WHILE THE FOURTH AIRCRAFT [?] FLEW IN A CIRCLE TO THE REAR OF THE AIRLINER. THESE OBJECTS WERE OBSERVED ALSO TO HAVE DOMES ON THEIR UPPER PORTIONS OF THE DISC. NO SOUND WITNESSES STATED, VERY QUIET. ANOTHER AIRCRAFT WAS SIGHTED WITHOUT INCIDENT BY THE WITNESS FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES LATER FLYING A TRACK OF EAST TO NORTHWEST. THE WITNESS FURTHER STATED AT THE TIME THESE OBJECTS WERE MANUVERING ABOUT THE AIRLINER THEY WERE AT AN ALTITUDE OF BETWEEN TWELVE AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND FEET THE OBJECTS WOULD CIRCLE BEHIND THE AIRLINER AND WERE MAKING PASSES FROM LEFT TO RIGHT THEN PULLING UP IN VERTICAL ASCENT. THE WITNESS FURTHER STATED AT NO TIME DID THE FLYING DISC FLY IN FRONT OF THE AIRLINER. THESE OBJECTS WERE FIRST SIGHTED BY WITNESS DIRECTLY OVERHEAD AT AN ELEVATION OF 90 DEGREES. HE STATED THAT THEY SEEMED TO COME OUT OF SPACE AND DESCENDED ON THE AIRLINER. THE OBJECTS DISAPPEARED TO THE WEST FROM APPROXIMATELY TEN TO TWENTY DEGREES ABOVE THE HORIZON PULLING STRAIGHT UP IN A VERTICAL ASCENT TRAVELING AT A TREMENDOUS RATE OF SPEED. THE FLYING OBJECTS CAME OUT OF THE EAST AND DISAPPEARED IN THE WEST. THE WITNESS ALSO STATED THAT THE AIRLINER WAS MAKING GOOD A TRACK OF FROM EAST TO WEST THE LENGTH OF TIME THEY WERE IN SIGHT WAS FOUR (4) MINUTES MANNER OF OBSERVATION: IT WAS GROUND VISUAL. NO OPTICAL AIDS WERE USED BY WITNESS. TIME 1000 HOURS. DATE 22 MAR 54 (ZEBRA TIME) 1500 HOURS. LIGHT CONDITIONS DAY. LOCATION OF WITNESS AT TIME HE OBSERVED FLYING DISC TWO MILES WEST OF WERTHERLY PA. OBJECTS OVER SPRING MOUNTAIN." 123.

The BLUE BOOK file adds: "AS FAR AS KNOWN NO INTERCEPTION ACTION TAKEN BY ADC." 124. Moreover, the file on the case says that local military radar, the 772nd ACGW, was not operational at the time so it could not confirm the presence of air traffic. Furthermore, if the airliner did notify New Castle, word never reached BLUE BOOK which reached this conclusion: "No report from airline, probably reflection from airliner." 125.

March 18, 1954.

The disposition of the original Tremonton UFO film.

Since the famous Tremonton UFO film was again a point of dispute, an official letter was exchanged between BLUE BOOK and the U.S. Naval Photographic Interpretation Center: The Center wrote ATIC on March 18th:

"Subj: Tremonton, Utah Film.

* Ref: (a) ATIC W-PAFB Ohio 1tr AFOIN-ATIATE-5 dtd 27 Jan 1954.

1. Reference (a) requested information concerning the disposition of the original Tremonton, Utah film and whether or not any copies of the film are currently held by the Center.

2. It is advised that this Center has never had possession of the original film and does not have information concerning its whereabouts. However, it is suggested that Major Fournery, an AF Special Investigator who was formerly stationed in this area, be contacted regarding this matter. Major Fournery at one time advised that the original would be made available to this Center for spectrophotometric analysis. This analysis never materialized, therefore the original was not requested.

3. This Center is presently holding one 16 mm color film copy which was received from the Air Force. In addition, 35mm color positive and 35mm black and white negatives duplicates blowups are held.

4. Reference (a) referred to the original film as being 35mm. It is understood that the photography was taken with a Revere, 16mm, Magazine loading type, with an F1.9 wide-angle, telephoto lens." 126.

The Air Force fights rumors, "reawakened interest," and hysteria.

On March 23rd the Air Force complained through a Washington spokesman about the "reawakened" interest in the UFO subject; about the recent "rash" of media stories, books, radio and T.V. shows; which it felt was increasing UFO sightings, saying that there was a direct correlation between publicity and Americans "seeing things."

The military also had to defend itself with increasing frequency, a more distressingly tiresome task. Keyhoe was not the only one to find fault with the Air Force or to present a different picture of the UFO situation than that favored by the Generals. The Pentagon took exception with certain newsstories it claimed were untrue, for example that airline pilots were reporting 5-10 UFO sightings a night, and the rumor that proof existed the Air Force had "recovered hunks of flying saucers" and was covering up the fact. (See newsclipping)

Captain Nash.

The one who brought up the "recovered saucer parts" subject was a respected Pan American World Airways pilot, Bill Nash. Nash was known for his amazing UFO encounter on July 14, 1952.

Capt. Nash made his "recovered saucer parts" charge during a talk to the Greater Miami Aviation Association, telling his listeners he was convinced UFOs were controlled by intelligence beings and that he was also convinced: "...the Air Force has collected hardware from outer space." These facts, he said, were not being acknowledged by the Pentagon because of the threat from Russia. (Nash, in the newsstory, does not detail the hardware claim.) (See newsclipping)

"Are the saucers our friends?"

More about Nash's personal beliefs were given in the March issue of Mystic magazine. In his Mystic essay, Nash tried to temper any alarm his extraterrestrial assertions may have engendered, going beyond the debate about the reality of UFOs to what he called a more haunting question: "why were the aliens systematically exploring the Earth?" Like Leonard Stringfield of the newly launched CRIFO organization, Nash was especially fascinated with the alien's motives.

Fellows like Adamski and Bethurum were having a lot of fun selling fiction, but for the serious student of the UFO problem putting together the "facts" was a tough chore because there was too much data and too many ways to look at it. For example, the apparent lack of hostility could mean the pilots of the UFOs had benign designs on mankind, or it could mean the aliens were conducting a thorough reconnaissance prior to a big raid, or it could mean UFOs were just delusions!

Air Force Denies It Hides Hunks of Flying Saucers

**Pan Am Pilot's Report Said Unfounded; Nothing
Known to Indicate Outer Space Origin**

Washington, March 23 (AP) — A spokesman today termed without basis an assertion that the Air Force has recovered hunks of "flying saucers and just isn't telling the public about them."

The Air Force position, he said, is that "given enough factual data," every "flying saucer" report over

the last six years could be explained in natural, earthly, non-sensational terms.

"We don't think the so-called saucers come from outer space or from a foreign government," the spokesman said.

Bill Nash, a Pan American World Airways pilot, told the Greater Miami Aviation Association recently he was convinced that "the Air Force has collected hard-ware from outer space."

"I do not believe the Air Force cares to make all its findings public so long as the United States is threatened by unfriendly powers," Nash said.

Nash was quoted as having reported sighting unidentified objects while flying from New York to Miami on a date not specified.

Nash said he and his crew saw six objects, later joined by two others, and the lights from them were "20 times brighter than those of Norfolk and Newport News."

"From their maneuvers, there is no doubt in my mind these objects were controlled by intelligent beings," Nash said. "When you have seen them, you realize they were not made on this planet."

The Pentagon officer currently handling "saucer" queries said that to date more than 80 per cent of the sightings—both visual and by radar—have been identified as known objects. He said from 10 to 15 per cent have been outright hoaxes.

"The others probably could be explained if our knowledge of physics was greater," he said. "There are many things about the sky that science still doesn't understand."

An Air Force summary declares there is "a direct correlation between the number of sightings reported and the publicity given to flying saucers."

Thus, in recent months there has been a rash of magazine and newspaper articles, radio and television shows and a couple of books on flying saucers—and a generally reawakened interest and some-what increased incidence of sightings, the Air Force says.

The Air Force says it knows nothing to substantiate a recent published report that commercial airline pilots are seeing 5 to 10 saucers a night.

"Of 366 sightings through October 1953, only 3 came from airline pilots," the spokesman said. An official of the Air Line Pilots Association said he knew of no sighting reports at all in recent months, and of only a few at any time by airline pilots.

Similarly, Civil Air Patrol headquarters and Ground Observer Corps members here have no record of sightings by their members who watch the skies closely for unidentified aircraft.

Nash concludes in his article, "Are The Saucers Our Friends?," that the builders and operators of the UFOs meant the Earth no real harm. His reasoning, however, is shaky, being based on evidence culled from certain controversial UFO cases. The fatal Capt. Mantell plane chase of January 1948 he passed off as an example of "self-defense" and (more logically) points out the fact that there was no supporting evidence to connect the UFO with the fighter's mishap. The 1953 "Sonny" Des Vergers West Palm Beach incident when a "fireball was shot at the Scoutmaster," was also passed off, in this case as an example of a "possible attempt to neutralize DesVergers's exposure to the saucer's energy field" after the poor fellow had wandered too close! Likewise, the (so-called) Fred Regan rescue from a mid-air collision and the man's subsequent death from brain tissue degeneration, Nash blamed on the possible accidental exposure to the underside of the disc machine (For details on the Regan story see the booklet: UFOs: A HISTORY 1953: MARCH-JULY, pp.57-58).

Nash had high praise for Meade Layne's July 1952 statement to the U.S. Government after a "shoot-to-bring-them-down" order was said to have been issued by the military. Representing the San Diego based Borderland Sciences Research Associates, Mr. Layne had written two years before:

"They come in friendship, with a science over-matching ours by a thousand years. They are engaged in scientific studies of geophysical changes and of our social and political conditions. Their present incursion (one of many in the course of history) was occasioned by the release of atomic energies, which disturbed and alarmed the worlds of their habitation. This threat has now been contained by them so that their chief concern is with certain startling changes occurring deep within our globe. But they impose no law upon us (though they could enslave us if they so desired), and they exact no tribute and move harmlessly through our skies." 127.

Nash no doubt would not have been so quick to quote Mr. Layne if he knew the ultimate source of such confident statements was BSRA's use of "mental radio."

"A more godlike way of life almost too good to be true."

Adamski's well promoted Flying Saucers Have Landed was the first book about UFOs many people ever read, their introduction to the mystery, and it quickly gained a big uncritical following.

In the early Winter of 1953, in Detroit, Michigan, an advertising salesman, Henry Maday, recommended the Adamski book to school teacher Laura Mundo. The Californian's writings made a big impression on Miss Mundo. She found in the story about a contact with a Venusian: "... a more godlike way of life almost too good to be true." 128.

During the Christmas holidays Miss Mundo paid a social visit to two friends, Helen and Bryant Reeve (future authors of Flying Saucer Pilgrimage). The Reeves shared Miss Mundo's interest in the "advanced ideas" being peddled by Adamski, so it was decided to ask the Californian to lecture in Detroit, with Miss Mundo handling the publicity. On March 28, 1954 some 4,500 (standing room only crowd) people heard the man from Palomar Gardens.

Miss Mundo became a devoted Adamski fan, spending all her spare time to the "vital necessity" of learning more about the "advanced spacemen

that wanted to help mankind." 129.

Adamski's appeal.

Actually, what Adamski said was less important than the mood he generated. The contactee phenomenon created a deviant belief system, a sub-universe that was "real" to those who refused to return to what philosopher William James termed the "paramount reality of common sense." Empirical evidence was rejected in favor of mystical experiences that were supposed to provide the ultimate test of any "truth." 130. The fact that Adamski and some others claimed to have "met face-to-face" with the source of their "truth" rather than by receiving wisdom by the use of "mental radio" was not much of a difference. The evidence for such meetings was more "mystical" than "empirical."

The Theosophical Society. A seedbed?

The contactee phenomenon, that was a sensation in the psychic community during the 1950s, may be said to have had its roots in the ideas of Madame Helena Blavatski who conceived the idea of "The Great White Brotherhood" back in the America of the 1870s. As sociologists David Stuppel and Abdollah Dashti point out in their excellent research project of the social history of the flying saucer movement, "Flying Saucers and Multiple Realities: A Case Study in Phenomenological Theory," Blavatski, co-founder of the Theosophical Society, originated the belief that a population of super beings resided variously in remote mountain retreats, in the air cloaked from prying eyes, and on other celestial orbs beyond the Earth. This so-called superior race, Blavatski maintained, achieved its status by "breaking the reincarnation cycle (This shows the influence of Eastern mysticism). A basic theme of Theosophical belief was that a select group of the super beings take an interest in mankind and visit the Earth, contacting certain individuals that happen to be more "highly evolved" than their less fortunate fellow humans. Stuppel and Dashti felt comfortable saying that the success of certain contactee groups was due to adherence to basic Theosophical concepts. 131.

Of course not everyone was enamored with the "good news from space" idea. In the March 1954 issue of the Journal of the British Interplanetary Society, Arthur C. Clarke, chairman of the society, reviewed Adamski's book and damned the work as "a farrago of nonsense." Clark wrote: "If flying saucers do turn out to be space-ships, Messrs. Leslie and Adamski will have done quite a lot to prevent people of intellectual integrity from accepting the fact." 132.

The "Hanger 18" rumor grows.

The charge that the Air Force was "hiding hunks of flying saucers" that was made by Nash, was echoed in the last issue of the CSI Los Angeles UFO newsletter in which listed some the organization's conclusions as of January 1954:

"During the past two years we have followed such a story of a 'captured flying saucer' from March Field, where it was kept under a tarpaulin, progressively through three southern California aircraft plants. This is the one made of the transparent metal, which cannot be machined with a diamond fly-cutter. At last report it had been loaded on a truck at the Hughes Aircraft Company plant and was headed for some unknown destination." 133.

March 24th.

Glowing object over England. (See newsclipping)

'Half Way to Venus':

Glowing 'Flying Saucer' Seen Over Norwich and New London

NEW LONDON (AP)—A round, glowing object "about half way to Venus" caused considerable stir in the Norwich area late yesterday afternoon and was also spotted in the more northern reaches of this area. Max Rubendunst of Lantern Hill said he was looking up at a wisteria vine about 4 p.m. when he noticed the thing in the sky roughly northeast of his home and "very high." It glowed around its rim but was dark in the center, he said. Occasionally it appeared to flatten out and take on a reddish hue. George Stedman of North Stonington also saw the "flying saucer" and pinpointed its location. "About half way to Venus" said in a report to Groton State Police "and moving very little. Then it went west about 6:30 p.m. and disappeared."

V-formation over Baltimore.

A news commentator for radio station WFBR, Baltimore, Lou Corbin, phoned Donald Keyhoe the morning of March 25th and notified him of yet another UFO-airliner case, this time over Baltimore the night before at 10:32 p.m. A witness on the ground to aerial display was Adolph Wagner, Deputy Coordinator for Civil Defense at Baltimore. 134.

Looking out his window to check the weather, Mr. Wagner saw:

"...13 objects at approximately 50 degrees off the horizon moving in a V-formation. He described the objects as triangular in shape and glowing glowing fluorescent blue and proceeding on a west-east course. As he watched, a larger object came out of the north and positioned itself in front of the V-formation. After observing them for one minute, Wagner noticed a commercial airliner, with running lights on, coming out of the northeast, heading for Friendship Airport. It was flying low. Suddenly, the glowing objects split their V-formation, six of them executing a very sharp turn, changing from blue to a purplish color. Heading into the southwest direction of the airliner, the six objects tailed in single-file. The remainder continued their original course in an eastward direction. Wagner estimated their size at 20 ft. on a side, with the leader of the group at nearly 50 ft. He could not see any exhaust, or hear any noise. The objects were sharply defined, no hazy edges." 135.

Corbin told Keyhoe he had contacted Friendship tower to get a story but when Chief controller got on the line he "almost yelled" that the UFOs were just geese. 136. Not put off by the rudeness, Corbin dialed again and this time got another controller. This man simply confessed ignorance about the matter.

Through other sources Corbin determined that the airliner belonged to Eastern but when contacted Eastern officials refused comment. 137.

March 25th.

Only a few hours after Corbin's call, another friend of Keyhoe called, Pam Am Captain William Nash who was phoning from Miami to inform the Major a Marine jet pilot had encountered a UFO over Florida's guided missile range and the flyer, a former skeptic, was talking his head off. The story was all over town. The Miami Daily News printed an account and sent it out on the UP newswire. The Marine aviator, Captain Don Holland, even agreed to go on television to relate his sighting.

It seems that at 3:30 p.m. the afternoon of March 25th Capt. Holland was flying over the missile range when a strange round object dropped out of the sky near his plane and hovered at 3,000 feet. Amazed, Capt. Holland banked his jet sharply and turned on his gun cameras but the UFO spoiled his chance to obtain photographic proof by leaving at tremendous speed. General William G. Manly, CO at Miami, confirmed Capt. Holland's report and vouched for the flyer's reliability. 138.

"Flying Manta."

Rumors of an American saucer-plane were enhanced by Canadian inventor John Frost in March 1954 when he identified the U.S. Air Force as a major player in the race to build a highly advanced interceptor. Frost, who was committed to England's De Havilland Company, as well as to A.V. Roe in Canada; announced that a "huge sum" had been allocated by the Americans for a project to build a prototype of an early design of his, a "manta ray" type craft that would be capable of a top speed of 1,850 mph. 139.

The ultimate witness?

Harold E. Talbot, Secretary of the Air Force, was in an airplane enroute to Palm Springs, California, the afternoon of March 24, 1954. While passing over Fresno, California; Talbot, his aides, and the plane's aircrew, all saw a large metallic-looking object following the plane in a position about a 1,000 feet below and a like distance behind. Talbot ordered his pilot to turn around, but when the plane banked, the UFO made a tight little orbit and streaked away at an incredible speed. 140. There is no record of this encounter in BLUE BOOK files and debate about its' existence surfaced in mid-May 1954(See that date).

Things really begin to heat up.

"Operation Immediate." Cherokee, Wyoming. (See CIRIS document, and note reference to the CIA at the bottom of the page. This shows official sensitivity to what might be a run-of-the-mill meteor report when the color reported is a "bright green," the same color of the mysterious phenomenon that haunted restricted nuclear facilities in New Mexico).

March 29th. A "Mother ship and her brood?"

A Spot Intelligence report states:

"On 29 March 1954, (...deleted) and his wife, (...deleted) Street, Philadelphia, Pa., were interviewed at the 3rd OSI Detachment, Philadelphia, Pa., by Special Agent Russell A. Williams. The Sperriers stated that they wished to report that at approximately 0215 hours, 29 March 1954, they had observed approximately twenty-five (25) unidentified flying objects in the sky. The (...deleted) described these objects as being round and silver in color, with a luminous circle around each. The (...deleted) estimated that the objects

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

29 MARCH 1954

BEP B40

O 281100Z

FM USLUUT LAR LARRIME WYO
TO BEPW/SD WASHDC

JEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO
JWPLW/COMDR LOWRY AFB COLO

AF GRNC

CIRVIS. UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT GLOWING BRIGHT GREEN SIGHTED BY UAL-600
FLYING EASTBOUND AT 19 THOUSAND FEET MEAN SEA LEVEL OVER A POINT

12 MILES EAST OF CHEROKEE WYOMING. OBJECT FIRST APPEARED 12 TO 15
DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON AND 100 DEGREES TRUE
FROM OBSERVATION POINT AND DISAPPEARED BEHIND CLOUD BANK

SLANTING DOWNWARD 30 DEGREES TO LEFT OF VERTICAL. TIME OF OBSERVATION
280125M. DURATION 5 SECONDS. WEATHER CLEAR OVER AN UNDERCAST AND

HIGH CLOUD BANK EAST. UPPER WINDS NOT REPORTED. CAPTAIN SPERRY.
UAL-600 .-CONFIRMED BY CO-PILOT. CONFIRMED BY PILOT N28392 DC3

5 MILES WEST OF SINCLAIR WYOMING AT 13 THOUSAND FEET MEAN SEA LEVEL
SAME TIME OF OBSERVATION. ARLT STN 281001Z

NOTE:::THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN RELAYED TO CIA BY ELECTRICAL MEANS.

DIST 03/32 AF ARMY ACT

002 202 05 50 CG CIA DIRNSA JCS/SITROOM OSD

CNO/OOD

DLVY NR 43/WB/HH/

BEPN BEPJC BEPS

(1217) 82

452.1

28 Mar 54 (6 File 4)

were between 3000 and 5000 feet in the air, and all but one appeared to be a little larger than the size of a baseball. They stated that one of the objects flying toward the rear was about twice the size of the others. The Sperriers advised that the objects appeared to be flying in formation. They described this formation as two (2) objects flying side by side with one following, and then two (2) more flying side by side and one following. This formation was repeated. The (...deleted) informed Special Agent Williams that there was a slight variation in the formation and that the objects seemed to move with a slight up and down effect. They said that this motion was not very noticeable. When they first sighted the objects, they appeared to be flying in a straight line. The (...deleted) said that there appeared to be a flame coming out of the rear of each object. This flame was approximately one-fourth of the length of the objects and that they were moving slightly faster than the speed of a jet airplane. During the time that they observed these objects, one veered away from the formation, with what the (...deleted) said was a tremendous speed, and then it came back and rejoined the formation. The(...deleted) stated that they saw no exhaust trail or smoke and that they did not notice any unusual odors in the air." 141.

Project A comes to a close.

Toward the end of the month Ohio Northern University notified the press it was terminating its project A. The school announced that it "had no alternative" since: "For the past year this research has been practically at a standstill." 142. Moreover:

"The information received by Project A indicated that a sizeable fraction of the total sightings throughout the country were sightings made of material objects. These material objects were not standard aircraft. Having concluded that a proportion of the sightings were of material objects, possessing the ability to maneuver at extremely high speeds, and in climatic conditions.

"An investigation was begun of the relationship of sighting dates of magnetic storms...(but because of the lack of information)it is therefore impossible for the Project to continue with its study of the relationship of magnetic storms to sightings of phenomena known as flying saucers.

"We had hoped such a study might be indicative of the possibility of the use of electro-magnet energy as a means of propulsion." 143.

Further UFO news from Australia.

The civilian UFO group in Australia, the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau," received a boost when its director, E.R. Jarrold, was asked by the Australian Minister of Air to confer with the nation's Air Force Intelligence at Melbourne headquarters.

The Port Moresley UFO film had been lent to Jarrold's organization so, perhaps, that was the reason for the consultation, otherwise sources available to us give no other clue, although Jarrold did make a point to deny that the meeting could be construed as having some relationship with the unease sweeping the Australian public concerning the prolonged UFO flap taking place there.

Only partially processed by Australian experts, the Port Moresby film showed a small, lightly-colored, object. Hoping the American experts could learn more from the frames, the film was sent to the United States for special analysis.

Meanwhile, UFOs continued their visitations. The following is an undated bit of data but it is assumed to have occurred in March, 1954:

"At Young, a town near Sydney, Marjorie McLennan, 34, looked up to see what a strange humming sound was all about, after her dog began to bark furiously. Directly above her she saw a long, cylindrical object, 'colored two shapes of white,' which 'seemed to taper off to one end.' The object hovered in the sky for about five minutes, then 'seemed to gradually float down toward the skyline until it disappeared.' A neighbor woman, Moya Hugget, confirmed the sighting." 144.

Green fireballs. over Australia?

Apparently the same emerald bombardment that excited the U.S. Southwest in 1948-49 was now doing the same to Australia during January and February in 1954.

The Civilian publication, the Australian Flying Saucer Magazine, March 1954 issue, referred to a spate of reports that described: bright, green, silent, and large (1½ to 2 times the size of the full Moon) fireballs that flashed over the countryside and exploded. 145.

April.

The third day of April Donald Keyhoe took a plane for California to make an appearance on the Betty White T.V. show.

Arriving in Los Angeles, Keyhoe took a cab to the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel where he met E.J. Ruppelt.

There was a rumor about a sensational August, 1953, case at Pearl Harbor and Keyhoe hoped Ruppelt, who was still active with BLUE BOOK at the time, could shed some light on the supposed incident. Asked outright if "anything big" had taken place in August, 1953, Ruppelt could only think of the Rapid City case; an answer that surprised Keyhoe who knew nothing of the excitement in South Dakota that Summer. The Rapid City case, Ruppelt declared, shook up many of the skeptics. The ex-BLUE BOOK chief gave Keyhoe an abbreviated account of the case, of how a UFO was seen visually, detected on radar, and pursued over a 100 miles by F-84 jets. As for Pearl Harbor, Ruppelt knew nothing.

Keyhoe couldn't resist asking for Ruppelt's personal opinion now that the Air Force's UFO expert was on inactive duty, but Ruppelt had another surprise for Keyhoe, saying that he had recently finished writing an "objective look at the UFO problem," an essay scheduled to appear in the May issue of True magazine. That was good news to Keyhoe but he felt Ruppelt was being evasive. Keyhoe pressed the question: "What did you conclude?" 146. To that Ruppelt said he was not a firm believer like Dewey Fournet, but if such odd craft actually existed, they must be from another planet. 147.

"Zig-Zags." Strange objects seen on April 3rd.

At 1345Z the first of two strange orange-white objects came into view in the sky over Atlanta, Georgia. The first object, as well as the second one, moved at high speed west to east. The first object was in sight for approximately 60 seconds. It: "...made several zig-zags in the west and then passed

almost directly overhead in spasmodic flashes and disappeared in the east." 148. The second object came into view three minutes later and was in sight for 90 seconds. It: "...appeared from the same direction but then darted toward the north in spasmodic flashes. When almost due north of observers, it made an erratic circle and then continued on to disappeared in the east." 149.

V-formation over Wichita.

On April 4th at 0250Z a strange group of flying lights was sighted. A military teletype message read in part:

"...WHILE SITTING IN CAR FACING S ON MARKET ST, WICHITA, KANS,...
OBSERVER CASUALLY GAZED INTO SKY AND SAW SEVEN TO NINE LIGHTS MVG IN A NORTHERLY DIR. LIGHTS WERE IN A V FORMATION AND APPEARED TO BE VERY HIGH AND EXTREMELY FAST. OBJS WERE 1ST SIGHTED AT A 35 DEGREE ANGLE, AZIMUTH 180 DEGREES AND PASSED DIRECTLY OVER OBSR'S HEAD. THE FLT PATH OF THE OBJE WAS VERY STEADY ALTHOUGH THEY SEEMED TO HAVE A VERY SLIGHT DIFFICULTY IN RTNG V FORMATION. THE LAST LIGHT ON THE W SIDE WOULD PERIODICALLY DROP BACK, RESUME ITS PSN AND THEN MOVE OUT TO THE W SIDE OF FORMATION BEFORE RTNG TO PATTERN. THE OBJS DISAPPEAR- AT A 35 DEGREE ANGLE AND AN AZIMUTH OF 350 DEGREE. OBJS WERE IN SIGHT FOR PD OF 10-12 SECONDS, MADE NO NOISE, AND LEFT NO VISIBLE CON- TRAIL. SIZE OF LIGHT CAN BE COMPARED TO HEAD OF PIN HELD AT ARM'S LGTH WHILE SHAPE COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. COLOR OF LIGHTS WERE (W) W/BRIGHTNESS BEING COMPARED TO SECOND OR THIRD MAGNITUDE STARS..." 150.

FIRST INTERPLANETARY

SPACECRAFT CONVENTION

AT GIANT ROCK INTERPLANETARY AIRPORT
17 mi. North of Yucca Valley, California

Sunday April 4th 1954

SPEECHES AND DISCUSSIONS
PICNIC

*Bring Your Own Food and Refreshments
Our Restaurant Will Be Closed*

ADMISSION *Your host and hostess*
FREE Mr & Mrs J. W. Van Tassel

'Saucers' Clue in June Via Mars, Hints Expert

Is our earth under observation from another planet by "flying saucers" capable of traveling 9000 miles an hour? Is the home base of these high speed discs a friendly, or a hostile planet?

We may get the answers, or strong hints along that line, late in June when Mars, strongly suspected by some observers of being the planet that wants to know more about us, reaches the closest point in its travels, where we are concerned.

Major Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC, Retired, and an outstanding expert on space ships and flying discs, made this prediction in Los Angeles today as he resumed his efforts to get Air Force higher brass "to loosen up and tell the public what it has learned about the so-called 'saucers.'"

Scientists will be posted at 18 observatories, including those at Griffith Park and Palomar, to study Mars as it nears our plan-

et, to try to ascertain whether there is evidence of life on that body and, if possible, try to determine whether it is trying to contact us through messages or, possibly, the flying discs.

"It has been suggested—and don't laugh—that 100 million planets may be inhabited by higher forms of life, and Mars could be one," Major Keyhoe said.

Saucers Shun Space Craft Convention

GIANT ROCK, Calif. (AP)—Some 2500 delegates to the world's first interplanetary space craft convention dispersed for home today, disappointed that a flying saucer promised them did not appear—or did it?

"There goes one!" voices shrieked last night from scores of sleeping bags strewn about the edge of Giant Rock Airport, run by George W. Van Tassel, who said he sponsored the convention on suggestion of friends from another planet.

High in the sky a large orange fireball blazed briefly over the convention grounds and flickered out.

Saucer true believers sighed enthusiastically and viewed the fiery object as a "sign" that "they" were in the area and ready to land a whirling 300-foot craft, as Van Tassel had promised.

Skeptics thought it was flare from the nearby Marine base—or a gas.

Van Tassel said the fireball was probably a "nullifier" used by other worlds to rid our atmos-

phere of radioactivity from recent H-bomb blasts.

George H. Williamson, 27, of Prescott, Ariz., who said he has been in radio contact with space ship pilots since August, 1952, declared the fire ball was "definite evidence of saucer activity in the area."

Other saucer "experts" some from as far away as Chicago and New York, later aired their pet views and described bizarre experiences to the delegates who sat under the hot sun to listen.

A typical story was related by Orice Angelucci, 42, of Glendale, who claimed a "thing" which looked like "a transparent soap bubble hemisphere" landed near him on a bridge on July 23, 1952, and obliged him with a ride "1000 miles over Los Angeles."

Even more intriguing was the tale solemnly told by 55-year-old Truman Bethurum, a Redondo Beach welder. Bethurum told hearers he came face to face with a female space ship skipper at Moon Mesa, Nevada in 1952.

"Spacecraft Convention."

George Van Tassel's so-called "spacecraft convention," scheduled for Sunday, April 4th, got off to a good start. Saturday afternoon people began to arrive at Giant Rock airport and by sundown about 500 had set up camp to spend the night. At midnight someone playing a joke set off a skyrocket that gave off a brilliant flash and caused a heavy concussion. "There's goes one!" people shrieked. 151.

Sunday morning a sympathetic audience of 6,000 had gathered at the desert site to hear a line up of contactee speakers: George Hunt Williamson, Orfeo Angelucci, Truman Bethurum, Dan Fry, and the convention host, Van Tassel. The gathering was informal. Admission was free and planned activities were listed as "speeches, discussions, and picnicking." People milled around taking pictures, chatting, and buying saucer literature and souvenirs. 152.

Desmond Leslie sent his regrets but wrote a letter that was read to the convention. Adamski likewise sent his regrets since he was busy in Detroit giving lectures sponsored by Laura Mundo.

Like the August 1953 UFO convention in Hollywood, a message to President Dwight Eisenhower was approved. By unanimous vote a telegram was sent to the Chief Executive requesting that the official UFO investigation be taken away from the Air Force and placed under the control of the administrative branch of government and a panel appointed composed of representatives from civilian, theological, scientific, and military sectors of society. 153.

The "spacecraft convention," although it was all fun and nonsense, did have a serious impact on the UFO problem in one way. The public gained the impression only crazy and gullible people were interested in UFOs.

Life in outer space? 'Mars Committee.'

- Due to the lack of scientific knowledge about the planets in 1954, contactees like Adamski could get away with concocting wild stories about conditions on other worlds and their alleged inhabitants, but the slow process of obtaining factual information by the experts in astronomy was speeded up a bit by an announced "International Mars Committee," a worldwide effort to study the Red Planet during its close approach to Earth on June 24, 1954 (the seventh anniversary of the Kenneth Arnold sighting and a coincidence not lost on UFO buffs), the nearest that orb had come to the Earth since 1941. The newsmedia took notice of the plans of 17 observatories throughout the world to scrutinize Mars by posing questions that touched on the UFO mystery.

Associated Press reporter Arthur Edson suggested that the Mars Committee would attempt: "...to determine, among other things, whether little men could really live there." 154.

Hearst Newspaper Syndicate writer Charles Maitland asked: "How clever are the Martians, if they exist? Are they intelligent and inventive enough to launch flying saucers?" 155.

During his appearance on the NBC network Betty White television show, Donald Keyhoe also had some comments:

"We expect a tremendous flurry [of flying saucer sightings] this summer when we near Mars... They [the Mars Committee] expect to prove that there is actually life on Mars. I was told by some of them in Washington -- one of the officials on the project -- that the moment they find out any proof, it will be announced publicly. And I think

Certain About Those Saucers

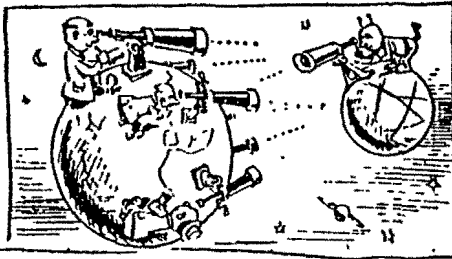
International News

Maj Donald E. Keyhoe, retired Marine officer whose home is in Alexandria, tells *Pittsburgh Courier* that flying saucers do exist. Keyhoe, who formerly was employed by the Air Force to probe foreign missiles, said data is being withheld from the public.



THE MIRROR

WED, MARCH 31, 1954—Part 5



WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—This summer the planet Mars comes within a paltry 40,000,000 miles of the earth. And while it's so close scientists would like to determine, among other things, whether little men really could live there.

Best scientific guess now: Plant life, maybe. Little men, no, no matter what the fiction writers say.

The International Mars Committee has been meeting here, planning for the great event, and a news conference was called to report.

Never before has Mars been stared at scientifically so much by so many. Seventeen observatories, all over the world, will take part in the interplanetary snooping.

And what do they hope to find out?

Many things. The weather. The precise diameter of Mars. More exact measurements all around.

And in the words of Harold C. Urey, the nuclear phys-

MIC STEAK CHARGE

icist from the University of Chicago:

"If you could prove there are plants on Mars, that would be the most marvelous result possible. For it would mean that life exists on both Mars and earth, and that, therefore, life is something that appears when conditions are right."

"Just as soon as we can prove that life exists on Mars, then life is no longer unique and it must exist elsewhere in the universe."

Presumably, if plant life exists elsewhere, there's no reason why animal life couldn't exist, too.

Dr. E. C. Silpher of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., who has spent a lifetime studying Mars, will head a National Geographic Society expedition to South Africa, a favorable spot for looking at the planet.

Silpher is pretty sure Mars has plant life. He thinks those famous canals may be vegetation which, because of certain natural conditions, grows in peculiar geometric patterns.

"Proving it is another matter. So far, he said, no one has been able to detect any chlorophyll—which would indicate plant life—on Mars."

Silpher doesn't think animal life exists on Mars because no oxygen has been discovered there, and animals, he said, have to have oxygen to live.

"I'll have to differ with you there, Silpher," Urey said. He said a grublike creature lives at the bottom of the Great Lakes without oxygen and that some maggots live on a relatively oxygen-free diet.

Either way, it's hardly an attractive portrait of potential Mars men.

Silpher said scientists hope a study of Mars' weather will help them understand the earth's better. Urey said that if the exact diameter of Mars can be determined, it may knock into a corked hat present theories on how the solar system was formed.

that the Mars Committee is tied in with the government's plan gradually to tell the public what the saucers really are and where they're from. I think that this summer you're going to hear some headline news." 156.

April 7th. "Two disc-shaped flying objects." (See report)

Keyhoe asks Ruppelt for help.

To make things very clear before his next lecture scheduled in Cleveland, Keyhoe wrote E.J. Ruppelt (who now lived on Josie Avenue in Long Beach, California) on April 8, 1954, requesting a complete written statement explaining the procedures used to process official UFO reports for his use, and also to confirm the existence of the Tremonton UFO film and the fact that an analysis had been conducted that was still classified. 157.

Ruppelt was agreeable and wrote back on April 11th. The ex-BLUE BOOK chief described in his letter how Air Force cases were declassified and sent through the Director of Intelligence, often with Keyhoe specifically named as the recipient of the information, moreover, Ruppelt added a statement that said he had read Flying Saucers From Outer Space and found no distortions in the cases as they were presented, or in the presentations of Air Force conclusions.

The Tremonton film's existence would have been very hard to deny and Ruppelt didn't try, but of greater import to Keyhoe was the analysis. Ruppelt skirted the issue of the results of the analysis and merely mentioned that a dispute arose over language had killed a press release.

Another key point was Al Chop's letter on the book jacket of Keyhoe's Flying Saucers From Outer Space. Ruppelt wrote that he agreed with Chop that if speeds and maneuvers were being reported accurately, then the capabilities of UFOs exceeded the limits of modern science and, therefore, their origin must be outer space. Many persons high up in the military, he stated further, were in a agreement on this. 158.

April 11th. Columbus, Missouri.

A short military teletype message said: "...SEVERAL PEOPLE AT COLUMBIA MO AIRPORT AT 110230Z SIGHTED A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT SHAPE-ROUND SIZE- AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION LIGHT APPROACHED COLUMBIA AT RAPID SPEED FROM FROM THE EAST ON AN EVEN PLANE AND SUDDENLY CLIMBED STRAIGHT UP INTO 2500 FEET OVERCAST MADE NO NOISE REPORTED BY T/SGT(...deleted)COLUMBIA MO AIR FORCE RESERVE." 159.

Europe.

In England the British Flying Saucer Bureau amalgamation with the Bristol Flying Saucer Club showed that interest overseas was on the upswing, although reports were few in number for the moment.

April 12th at 6:15 p.m. a strange object was viewed at Macclesfield, England. The observer, C. Evans, a former member of the R.A.F., reported the sighting to a R.A.F. airbase at Ringway. The Commandant there refused to comment except to say the report would be forwarded to his superiors. 160.

April 13th. Time:1510Z.

Three round and flat objects the apparent size of the steering wheel of an automobile were sighted moving in formation; one above the other, diagonal level; at tree-top level, near Annapolis, Maryland. 161.

April 8, 1954

REPORT OF SIGHTING OF STRANGE AND UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS BY C. R. ALLEN,
ACC(AP), USN, IN VICINITY OF LAKE DRUMMOND ON 7 APRIL 1954.

TIME: Approximately 1500, 7 April 1954.

LOCATION: Objects were first observed approximately two miles west
of Lake Drummond at an altitude of 3500 feet.

OBJECTS SIGHTED: TWO DISC-SHAPED FLYING OBJECTS.

STATEMENT OF OBSERVER:

At approximately 1500, 7 April 1954, while engaged in flying an air control flight in an F8F type aircraft for Fleet Training Center Norfolk, Va., I observed two strange saucer-like objects at an altitude of 3500 feet flying in very close proximity to each other, as in formation with each other. My altitude was 3000 feet. Visibility in all directions was 20 to 25 miles. As shown on attached chart in diagram, the objects were approximately 15 miles from me when I first sighted them. My first impression of the objects immediately made me think "gun birds flying pretty high and right under the base of the clouds", then as the objects changed their relative position so rapidly and came into better view, I was able to distinguish them as disc-shaped. I immediately started turning my plane and kept them in sight until they disappeared in the vicinity of Cape Henry in an easterly direction. They were dark colored - i.e., they gave no impression of color other than that they showed up dark against the white background of the cumulonimbus type clouds. There was no apparent motion directly around the disc - the only impression there was that of very great speed in that they flew through a gap in and constant arc of approximately 180°, covering somewhere around 30 miles in the time of 25 to 30 seconds. They kept approximately the same relative position to each other, and stayed about the same distance from me until they disappeared from my sight. I notified FNO of this sighting as soon as the objects left my sight. They acknowledged my call and apparently let it drop there as they said they had volumes of reports of flying saucers. Attached is a chart showing position the objects were first sighted, their path, my position, and position where objects disappeared. The cloud base of the scattered to broken cloud layer was 3500 to 3000 feet.

C. R. Allen
C. R. ALLEN

Near miss. UFO or what?

An official for the C.A.B. issued a statement on April 14th that said there had been a near miss between United Airlines Flight 193 and an "unidentified craft" 5,000 feet above Long Beach, California, just before midnight.

Capt. J.M. Schidef at the controls of Flight 193 testified that a huge bulk came at him out of the blackness. The thing had only one light on it, a red one which was only visible on the UFO's right side, just before what appeared to be an unavoidable head-on collision. At the last second Capt. Schidef yanked his controls hard over, putting his plane in a steep bank. In the main cabin there were screams of fright as passengers were tossed about. A Mr. C. Barber, a resident of North Hollywood, had his left leg fractured, and a stewardess working in the galley cracked an ankle bone. 162.

Capt. Schidef complained: "It was in sight just two seconds and made no movement to avoid me." 163. Air Traffic Control reported no other aircraft other than Flight 193 as being authorized to fly in the area at the time. 164.

Red glow over Roswell, New Mexico. April 15th.

A teletype report stated: "...SIGHTING IN VICINITY OF ROSWELL RADIO AT 14 1940 MST IN THE FORM OF A DULL REDDISH GLOW ABOVE THE LOWER CLOUD DECK. AT 141945 MST SAME DULL REDDISH GLOW SIGHTED NORTH OF CAPITAN MOUNTAINS HEADED WEST. LOWER CLOUD DECK APPROXIMATELY SIX THOUSAND FEET." 165.

April 15th.

"It was the strangest thing I have ever seen! For all the world it was like one of those Buck Rogers space ships!" --Elbert Edwards. (See news-story)

April 16th. "Red spy.?" (See reproduced report)

The Gerald Light letter.

"Did President Eisenhower meet aliens?"

For decades rumors have circulated in the UFO community about an alleged "visit by UFO pilots to Muroc AFB, California, early in 1954." (Muroc's name was later changed to Edwards AFB)

Little effort has been made to check out the facts and the rumors continue to persist and take on spurious elaborations. One researcher, to his credit, has at least tried to get to the bottom of some of the story.

The researcher, William Moore, determined that on the evening of February 20, 1954, President Eisenhower did "disappear" for a time (See pp. 38-39 of this book). The "disappearance" did have some validity but what about the rest of the supposed story?

An indepth check of the rumors, other than on the whereabouts of Ike by Moore, has yet to be done, but a few cursory examinations of some material readily available may help us make some sense out of the supposed "alien visit."

Not much is known about Mr. Light, but it seems he was a resident of Hollywood, California, in 1954; an elderly "mystic" who, among many other things, believed in "astral travel."

THE LAS VEGAS SUN, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



SUN

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1954

Educator Here Views Weird Grand Canyon 'Space Ship'

By JIM DEITCH

"It was the strangest thing I have ever seen! For all the world it was like one of those Buck Rogers space ships!"

Those were the words used by Elbert Edwards, superintendent of schools in Boulder City, to describe a weird object seen in the skies above Grand Canyon last Friday evening by himself, his 17-year-old son and an internationally-known professional explorer and ethnologist.

Edwards told the Sun last night he and his two companions saw the brightly lit, cigar-shaped object at 10:20 p.m. mountain time, Friday night as they were camped above Havasu canyon in Grand Canyon.

"I saw it first," Edwards explained, "as a bright light in the North. I first thought it was a star, but after observing that it moved and was much too bright for a star, I knew it was something else."

"It grew very rapidly as it came toward us," Edwards said. He was certain it was not a conventional type aircraft because it had no flickering wing and recognition lights.

Edwards said he then called the strange phenomena to the attention of John Goddard, whom he had accompanied to the canyon as part of an ethnological (the study of the origins of mankind) exploration.

Goddard rushed to his car and obtained a pair of 8-power binoculars, which he trained on the object for the rest of the full minute it took to cross through the sky and disappear into the southwest.

When he took the glasses from his eyes, Edwards said, Goddard's first remark was:

"I can't believe it! I just can't believe what I have seen!"

When the object was almost directly opposite them, Edwards said, it appeared to have a row of five extremely bright lights—like portholes—along its side.

The one bright light he saw first, the educator said, came from the nose of the object.

It took slightly more than a minute to travel from the north, where it was first seen by Edwards, to the south-southwest. It was heading toward Mexico when it went out of view, Edwards said.

Goddard, who served with the air force during the war, estimated the strange craft was no more than three miles from them at its closest, and flew in a straight line at an elevation of 5000 to 6000 feet.

After observing it through the binoculars, Goddard said the object apparently had no wings and no visible means of propulsion. Edwards said he could dis-

The rest of the clipping reads:

"...discover no glow or exhaust from the device. It absolutely was different from anything I have ever seen, he said.

"The strange humming, buzzing sound emanating from the craft, li(?)... was unlike conventional sounds from the skies, both men agreed.

"For all the world," he concluded, 'it was like one of those Buck Rogers space ships.'

"The three men obtained confirmation of their strange experience the following morning when they questioned an elderly Indian who had camped approximately 100 yards from them.

"The old Indian described what he had seen as a 'light in the Heaven.' It was 'like a worm,' the Indian told them.

"Edwards, his son, Arthur, and Goddard left here Friday noon for the trip to Arizona. He and his son returned to Boulder City Monday afternoon, while Goddard went down into the canyon to continue his exploration."

San Francisco, Calif
Hq PACD, MATS, APO 953, c/o PM,

IR-85-54

2

2

Source: Mr. [REDACTED] Honolulu,
Oahu, T. H., employed at Hawaiian Telephone Company, Honolulu.

1. On the night of 16 April 1954 Mr. [REDACTED] observed an unusual flying object in the air. Interrogation of Mr. [REDACTED] by PACD Intelligence Officer revealed the following information:

a. While at Sandy Beach which is located on the southeast shore of Oahu on 16 April 1954 between 2215 and 2220 hours, Hawaiian Standard time, Mr. [REDACTED] observed a brilliant red light-like object hovering over the ocean between Oahu and Lanai at approximately 3,000 to 4,000 feet elevation.

b. This brilliant red light-like object remained stationary for about one and one-half minutes, then continued at a very high rate of speed in the direction of the Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station. While the object was moving at this rate of speed, a tail of light (like a neon sign) was observed.

c. The U. S. Weather Station at Honolulu International Airport revealed that the weather on the night of 16 April was very good with wind direction north-east at 10 to 12 knots. No ceiling and visibility was very good.

Comments: Pearl Harbor Rescue checked and reported that no aircraft or ships were reported in that area at that time. Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station reported that a C-45 landed at their station at 2230 hours on the 16th of April. The radar station at Kaneohe was contacted by phone but nothing unusual was reported on the night of 16 April. No substantiating reports from other military and civilian agencies were received that would confirm the above reported sighting.

It can also be noted that in a 1969 letter to a civilian UFO publication, the Kansas Newsletter; Light styled himself "Reverend" and wrote about: "... the coming changes of the New Age of Aquarius...", and mentions that he had been associated with Meade Layne's metaphysical organization, the Borderland Science Research Associates, of San Diego, since 1948. 166.

An examination of the famous Light letter of April 1954 (the letter runs two pages, something not known to many people since often only the first page is reproduced), shows that the man was committed to BSRA's Etherian theory by his glee over the (supposed) "emotional pandemonium" of society's representatives as they were "confronted with demonstrations that destroyed their familiar theories and concepts," and how he had not suffered from such pathetic bewilderment" due to his acceptance of the "dematerization of solid objects" due to his "study of the etheric, or spirit, theory of existence."

According to Light, he had been specially invited to Murdoc AFB, along with Hearst newspaper's Franklin Allen, Bishop MacIntyre of Los Angeles (who later became Cardinal MacIntyre), and President Truman's one-time financial adviser Edwin Nourse. They all, wrote Light, spent two days at Murdoc observing five different types of flying saucers being flown and examined by U.S. Air Force personnel with the assistance of the alien owners! 167. (It should be noted that there is nothing in the Light letter concerning the President).

A skeptic should question Light's credentials for being one of four men selected to witness this supposed fantastic event. What part of society did Light represent? What organization? Light does not say, so we are left to wonder what could possibly qualify the man, unless it was his supposed "study of the etheric."

If the letter is a hoax, what prompted it? We can speculate by first noting Ike's "disappearance" in February. This odd event was made public by Time magazine, so Light could have known about it without difficulty. 168. This "disappearance" provided a foundation for building a story.

Another factor playing a role no doubt, was the fact that pleas were being made to the President during this period by the saucer buffs in Los Angeles. It should be remembered that Van Tassel's Flying Saucer convention had sent a well publicized telegram to Eisenhower less than two weeks before the Light letter was written, a missive that stressed the need for a new, balanced, UFO investigative effort composed of theological, scientific, and military representatives. One can see there is some interesting similarity.

Rumors about "crashed saucers" had been around since Frank Scully gave the idea so much publicity back in 1949/50. That such ideas were still alive can be noted in the last issue of the Los Angeles Civilian Saucer Investigations' newsletter which printed:

"During the past two years (1951-53?) we have followed such a story of a 'captured flying saucer' from March Field (California), where it was kept under a tarpaulin, progressively through three southern California aircraft plants. This is the one made of transparent metal, which cannot be machined with a diamond fly-cutter. At last report it had been loaded on a truck at the Hughes Aircraft Company plant and was headed for some unknown destination." 169.

And then there was the "captured saucer" story headlined in the January 1954 issue of Coral Lorenzen's APRO bulletin, as well as Frank Edwards'

Evidence that the rumor CSI was following was related to the Frank Scully story is found in the newsstory below. Apparently editor Wes Izzard of the Amarillo, Texas, Globe-News was dreaming up new details or he was passing on a version of story that was distorted by word-of-mouth transmission.

PAPER UNKNOWN	Saturday, January 21, 1956
'SNUFF, HE CRIED	
The Amarillo, Texas Globe-News has been running some sensational articles lately in regard to flying saucers. Written by Editor Wes Izzard. The Globe-News says its articles are either going to be found revolutionary. Or complete dubs. It sticks to the former belief. Anyhow, it says these flying saucers are actually space ships from some other planet and some have been found by the government. And are now being examined at secret laboratories in southern California near Los Angeles. They are made of a light metal which is like nothing found on this earth and as yet not identified by the government. Inside were found little beings about 36 inches in height. They ran the flying	saucers. Which came in two sizes. One containing a crew of two, the bigger size a crew of 16. The government figures the little planet people are friendly and didn't fly down here to make war. Just to look around. They were killed by the difference in atmosphere. The inside of the saucers were filled with various gadgets including one something like a radio. The government people turned it on and briefly got some noises. Sort of like a Chinese orchestra playing Egyptian music. The saucers carried cubes of processed food, which, when put in water expanded to many times their original size. The government will eventually release the story, a bit at a time. So as not to create consternation. The Globe-News also says Readers Digest is shortly to carry revealing stories on all this. Maybe true. Maybe not. Anyhow it's interesting. -W.T.L.

announcement on network radio about the possibility "a flying saucer was being examined at a certain West Coast airfield."

"Dr. G.L. and the one-eyed monster."

There is a four-page document in Air Force BLUE BOOK files by an unnamed New Yorker which discusses the July 2, 1954 Ennio La Sarza "spacecraft landing" in Canada. The material is of little interest except for something on the last page, a note by the editor of BSRA's newsletter Round Robin. In the note there is a remark concerning the "space being" reported by La Sarza compared to a creature reported by "Dr. G.L." as published in a recent issue of Round Robin. "Dr. G.L." was no doubt Gerald Light. The RR editor wrote: "...Dr. G.L. describes the first Etherian whom he encountered as being of great stature and as having a single eye in the center of his forehead." 170. Unfortunately, back issues of Round Robin are very hard to come by, so we cannot comment on the entire "G.L." story about the "one-eyed monster."

Did it refer to the Murdoc incident?

It is possible then, "G.L." wrote more about his supposed Mudoc experience than people are currently aware of, material that could be so "far-out" it could really damage Light's credibility!

It would seem, however, that the Light story, as it evolved over time, focused more on "authorities," especially Eisenhower, who in the first account was not mentioned at all but eventually became the main figure, even making a treaty with the aliens!

Why the Light story? What was the motivation?

Speculation about a motivation might center on Light's authorship of the reaction of authorities involved in the alleged event, the "depression and alarm" that was suppose to have gripped representatives of various specialized knowledge groups. Light seems to have identified closely with the San Diego BSRA organization, even to addressing its director, Meade Layne, as: "My dear friend." 171.

There is a claim in BSRA literature that upon receiving Gerald Light's letter on April 16, 1954; the next day Meade Layne asked BSRA associate Mark Probert* to make mental contact with one of his "controls" about the supposed happenings at Murdoc. A seance was convened and a "contact" informed Probert, the "medium," that Eisenhower was a sincere man but he was

* The same Mark Probert that made a so-called psychic contact with the pilots of a UFO over San Diego back in 1946. On that occasion it also happened that Layne asked for Probert's help. The expert at "mental radio," Probert was supposed to have contacted the UFO, which was said to be a "Kareeta," and learned that its owners were peaceful and wanted a meeting with Earth scientists at an isolated location. (See my book-let: Charles Fort, The Fortean Society & UFO, pp.68-69. --Loren E. Gross.

Last minute addition:

Having located a copy of Meade Layne's
"PERSONAL BULLETIN No. 4" dated April 16,
1954; I was able to include it in this
edition. See the following page.

It should be noted that for the first
time President Eisenhower is mentioned
in connection with the supposed incident.

--- L. Gross

PERSONAL BULLETIN No. 4
April 16, 1954

Dear Associate:

The following news is authentic. It is a personal first-hand report from one of our best-known associates - whose name will be given within a few days. This Associate has spent two days at the Edwards Air Force Base (So. Calif.).

At this Base five types of aeroforms are under top-level inspection, with the permission and help of the Etherians. The process of mat and demat have been demonstrated. There is consternation, confusion and collapse among scientists, technicians, and governmental authorities. It is believed by our Associate that President Eisenhower will take supreme control of the situation if present impasse continues of bitter conflict among our own department heads. The President visited the Base during his Palm Springs vacation and is believed to be fully informed of all developments. Our Associate visited this Base in company with three well-known persons. He believes that the President will make a public statement about the middle of May.

~~If a period of public confusion follows on this, it is possible~~ (and probable) that subversive and communistic elements will make as much trouble as they can - as this will be a golden opportunity. We are already being told that "Communism would be better than the destruction of civilization." We urge BSR Associates to cooperate with all legitimate authority, for public welfare.

The situation at the A.F. Base is already known to the major news services, and in any event cannot be kept secret much longer - and stories by hearsay are certain to be distorted. We do not feel that any principle of security is being violated by this present release. We hope no one will sensationalize what has been said here (the more facts in themselves being the most remarkable news story in recorded history).

Your BSR Director has had an interview of about an hour with the Controls Ramon Natalli and the Yada di Shi'ite, relative to the news here summarized. A transcript of this is being prepared (mimeo from tape recording). We shall have to charge for this - mimeo of that length is too expensive for free distribution. If you want a copy send us (say) \$1.00 - or less or more. This transcript is a note of sanity and wisdom in a very jittery world - and highly informative as well.

In this connection we point out (since it's all in the family, so to speak, and no axe to grind) that all basic information concerning the aeroforms, given us by the MP Controls in 1946, has been and is now being verified - their origin and purpose, their etheric nature, their operation by etheric or space people, much of the super-physics involved and which now is so devastating to the textbook science of the experts assembled at the EAF Base. The tide has been turning in our favor for some time - and it now reaches its flood stage in a great historical event. Quite seriously, the destiny of our race and planet hangs in delicate balance - but the issue is in our own hands and Mankind can and will win through into a better world. . . M. Layne.

under pressure from "certain persons" like "Bernard Baruch" and "some high officials in the Roman Catholic Church." 172.

Selected portions of the Light letter were made public in a private mailing in late April 1954 in Meade Layne's "Personal Bulletin No.4" and the entire letter was finally published in BSRA's journal Round Robin in 1958. 173.

By reading BSRA material one can establish that the organization was opposed to what it called the "Military-Industrial-Religious complex," or "MIR," and over the years this dislike did not diminish but continued to show up in new versions of the Gerald Light story. The successor to Layne as director of BSRA, a Mr. Riley Hansard Crabb (who took over in 1959), wrote about the Edwards (Muroc) AFB alien incident and claimed that Eisenhower had yielded to the wishes of the "MIR" group by keeping the fact of "peaceful visitations by Guardians from Mars" an official secret, that it was the aim of the "MIR" group to dominate the world by destroying Russia using the UFO's propulsion system to drive its own war machines. Crabb even got specific, singling out the Martin Company's Advanced Projects Department that was headed by a George Trimble. 174.

Crabb had introduced new elements into the Light story, naming where the aliens were from, as well as their intentions. Just where this new information originated from was not disclosed. Did it come from "mental radio?" It seems that the Martin Company was picked for no other reason than for the fact its Advanced Projects Department was doing test flights for NASA, having the contact to build a special re-entry vehicle.

Decades later we find rumors that "Eisenhower spoke to the aliens" and had agreed to a treaty between the visitors from space and mankind, and what was included in the so-called document becomes stranger every year as new rumors appear.

"The Chesapeake Connection." Is it connected?

One wonders if "The Chesapeake Connection," as explained by Robert L. Oechsler in the MUFON 1989 International UFO Symposium Proceedings, pp.148-233, owes anything to BSRA speculations decades before, unfortunately any attempt to explore such an interesting possibility is beyond the scope of this book.

April 21st.

There was UFO activity in Alaska during this period. On the 21st a glowing UFO was reported near Cook Inlet crossing back and forth in the sky four times before zooming out of sight. That same night a mysterious glowing body paced an aircraft. 175. Military officials at Elmendorf AFB told the Anchorage Daily News Cook Inlet had been the location of UFO activity since early April. 176.

April 23rd.

There were a number of UFO reports in the Three Lakes area of Hot Springs, Arkansas, at this time but one tops them all.

Huge ball of light is curious about people. (See newsclipping)

6 in Car Report Ball of Light Circled House, Followed Auto

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., April 23. Six workmen, who had gathered late last night at a rural home near here to ride to work, told a reporter they watched a mysterious, gleaming ball hover over the house for 20 minutes.

One of the men, Les Reatherford, said the ball once dived toward him, and that he had to duck to avoid being hit.

"If I hadn't ducked it would have hit me sure," said Reatherford.

The men, all employees of a Reynolds' Metal Co., aluminum plant, said they met nightly at the house near the town of Percy to ride to work together.

They described the white ball of light as about 10 feet in diameter. They said it circled the house slowly, stopping for a moment at irregular intervals.

One of the witnesses said the ball followed the men when they left in a station wagon, and drove toward Percy.

"We tried to put a spotlight on it," said one of the men, "but every time it would dodge the beam."

The men agreed that the ball suddenly disappeared as they reached Percy.

Besides Reatherford, those who saw the object were Harley and Fred Skeets, Tom and Dayton Henderson, and John Vaughn.

1954

Peace makers from the planets?

The appeal of Bethurum's and Adamski's stories is demonstrated by news stories that appeared in southern California newspapers at this time.

When asked what they would do if an H-Bomb attack was imminent, people replied with these answers: "Head for the hills," "start praying," "damned if I know," and "take about six straight belts of whiskey." Its no wonder people were willing to entertain the far-out notion of peace-loving space brothers arriving on Earth to help mankind sort out its problems. (See newspaper clippings)

April 26th. "Lubbock-type lights over Georgia."

When a V-formation of lights sped passed an aircraft on April 26th near Athens, Georgia, the pilot of the plane made a report to the Air Force. BLUE BOOK termed the report "very reliable" which is understandable since the man who made the sighting was a professor of Air Science and Tactics, AF ROTC Detachment 160, the University of Georgia; and a Senior pilot with some 4,000 hours of military flying time. (See reproduced report)

Disc dives, "pulled back upward."

April 26, 1954. Newburyport, Massachusetts.

According to the local paper, an architect, Russell M. Peirce, reported:

"The time of day was between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, and the sky was clear overhead. I was standing at the rear of the local High School building talking with two friends... Suddenly we all heard a very loud deep roar as of many motors, which accelerated very rapidly and then faded out just as rapidly. The direction of the

Evening Outlook
Santa Monica
 April 23, 1954

The Cub Reporter

By Gordon Macker

Who, now, shall believe such a tale?
 —GRATEFULNESS.

Do you believe in flying saucers, Josephine? (I am not referring to those platters you let fly at poor Hamm when he rolls in at two in the morning.)

There is a startling new book on the market on the subject.

It is titled "Aboard a Flying Saucer," and it was written by a Redondo Beach construction worker named Truman Bethurum.

It is undoubtedly the most controversial book of the year.

For Brother Bethurum claims he has made 11 visits on a saucer.

Some readers believe his story. Others claim he's a crackpot.

You'll get a chance to judge for yourself. If you're interested, because Bethurum will be at Gutenberg's Book Shop at 2 p.m. tomorrow to autograph his book.

Too Much Sun

I just finished it.

Personally, I am one of the nonbelievers.

I do not claim the author is a fraud, as some readers have.

I just think he was out in the Nevada sun too long.

It was on Mormon Mesa in Nevada where Bethurum supposedly boarded the "Admiral Scow" from "Clarion" and talked to the crew of "small-sized" men and their glamorous female captain, "Aura Rhames."

If it hadn't been for the feminine captain of the scow, I perhaps would have "bought" the story.

For the author refers to phenomena generally unknown except in highly specialized scientific fields.

He gives a logical explanation of the source of energy to power the craft.

He describes the huge saucer in great detail as to size, shape, kind of metal used and construction in general.

And he assures us at the conclusion of the book that Capt. Aura Rhames has promised that she will some day soon take him on a visit through space to her planet.

As I say, I do not accept Mister Bethurum's story.

Especially because he had a tomato as captain of the scow. That sounds too much like a B-picture.

But, as for recommended reading material, I can truthfully say: "Aboard a Flying Saucer" is out of this world!

Add H-Bombs

Ray Tucker, in his Washington column Monday was deploring the appalling ignorance of the American people in regards to defensive measures against the H-bomb.

He suggested that his readers make a quiz of their neighbors as to what they would do in case they received an advance warning of a H-bomb attack.

Since the U. S. Air Force says that cities which would be favorable targets could be assured of only 20 minutes' warning, I called up 10 people and asked:

"What would you do if you received a warning that Santa Monica was in danger of an H-bomb attack in 20 minutes?"

The answers:

Head for the hills (6);

Start praying (3);

Damned if I know (1);

Take about six straight belts of whisky (1).

I do not concur with Tucker that those answers reflect ignorance.

The worst thing in the world to do, of course, is what six out of 10 people said they would do: head for the hills.

But that is what U. S. Civil Defense Administrator Val Peterson suggested in a speech in Los Angeles a couple of weeks ago. (In a front page editorial on April 11, the Evening Outlook flatly stated that Mr. Peterson should have his head examined for making such a statement.)

No Defense

Actually, there is no civilian defense possible against the H-bomb, so why should Tucker censure us poor peasants?

Les Storr, who heads Civil Defense in Santa Monica, says there is no possible defensive measures against the H-bomb.

"If it hits here," says Storr, "you've had it."

The only thing for an individual to do is operate on the theory that he won't be under the bomb when it lands.

Storr feels that too many people who know too little about the subject are peeping off and creating a mass hysteria.

While he doesn't pose as a military or political pundit, Storr says the possibility of an earthquake looms more for the immediate future than an H-bomb.

Which leaves me with this thought: While columnist like Tucker are deeply concerned about our ignorance in regards to defensive measures against the H-bomb, just what defense does one take against an earthquake?

Matti

DEPARTMENT OF AIR SCIENCE & TACTICS
AF ROTC Detachment 160
The University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia

27 April 1954

SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Object.

TO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

In compliance with AF Regulation No. 200-2, 26 August 1953, the following report is submitted:

(1) Description of the object:

- (a) The shape of the object appeared to be roundish.
- (b) About the size of a grapefruit.
- (c) Practically the same color as a grapefruit.
- (d) Approximately 15 to 20.
- (e) Facing the observer like a check mark with a trailing end to the right. Like a "V" shape pointing at the witness and trailing off to the right.
- (f) None other than above.
- (g) None
- (h) No sound.
- (i) The smoothness of the flight through the air was remarkable.

(2) Description of course of object:

- (a) Witness just happened to look up and saw the formation. Witness called the attention of the other people on the porch to the formation and they then looked up and saw it.
- (b) Facing due south the formation came in at 1200 low and flying due north. They were under the clouds which were 6,000 feet. The formation disappeared into the night at six o'clock (due north)

Det #160 AF ROTC Univ of Ga Subj: Report of Unidentified Flying Object
27 April 1954

- (c) Facing due south the formation disappeared at six o'clock fairly high. They just flew into the night due north.
- (d) They held a straight and level path.
- (e) Just flew out of sight.
- (f) Approximately ten seconds.

(3) Manner of observations:

- (a) Ground-visual.
- (b) None
- (c) N/A

(4) Time and date of sighting:

- (a) 270035Z
- (b) Night

(5) [REDACTED], Athens, Georgia

(6) Identifying information of all observers:

- (a) Mr. [REDACTED]
37 years of age
[REDACTED], Athens, Ga
Clark, U. S. Post Office (15 years)
Reported reliable, dependable, and a meticulous observer.

Mr. [REDACTED]
Adult
[REDACTED], Athens, Ga
Reliable

Mrs. [REDACTED]
Adult
[REDACTED], Athens, Ga
Considered reliable

[REDACTED]
16 years of age
[REDACTED], Athens, Ga
Considered reliable

Det #160 AF ROTC Univ of Ga Subj: report of Unidentified Flying Object
27 April 1954

- (7) See attached report.
- (8) None
- (9) None
- (10) None
- (11) See statement Colonel L. G. Duggar attached.
- (12) Professor of Air Science and Tactics, University of Georgia. Senior pilot with approximately 4,000 hours military flying time.

It is my belief that any lights seen below cloud level on the night of this observation would have required any aircraft and especially any jet to have been easily heard. The Athens area is normally quiet and jets can be easily heard up to 30,000 to 40,000 feet altitude.

3 Incls:
Stat Col Duggar
Stat Mr Cartey
Weather report

L. G. Duggar
L. G. DUGGAR
Colonel USAF
PACAF

Copies of this report furnished:
Original: Dir of Intell, Hq USAF
Copies: Commander, ADC, Ent AFB, Colo
Commander, Air Tech Intell Ctr
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Commander, AF ROTC
Commander, AU

DEPARTMENT OF AIR SCIENCE & TACTICS
AF ROTC Detachment 160
The University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia

27 April 1954

STATEMENT

At the time of sighting, the Professor of Air Science and Tactics, University of Georgia, (Reporting Officer) was flying a C-46 between Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, and Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia. Landing at Dobbins AFB at approximately 2100 hours. At 2035 hours, the time of the reported sighting, I estimate general clouds covering most of the area to the north and northeast in the direction of Athens, Georgia, as well as in the local area. I saw no local traffic but heard it on Channel 8 calling Dobbins, a distance of approximately 60 nautical miles west of Athens. Visibility was comparatively low at 4,000 to 4,500 ft. I estimate that any traffic at 6,500 feet or above would have been obscured by clouds. No flight in or out of Athens was scheduled at that time nor is Athens on any airway.


L. G. DUGGAR
Colonel USAF
PASST

S-T-A-T-E-M-E-N-T

[REDACTED]
Athens, Georgia
27 April 1954

In addition to the information contained in the letter from Detachment #160, AFROTC, University of Georgia, dated 27 April 1954, I would like to add that this was not a mirage. I actually saw this formation coming out of the south going due north, travelling at a tremendous rate of speed which I couldn't estimate. The smoothness and the soundless effect was remarkable. A few seconds after they went north, coming directly from the trail they had taken, a white object which appeared to be about the size of a baseball went southwest in a blast of speed. In fact it was out of sight before I could call the attention of the others to it. It went through scattered clouds and disappeared into the southwest. It was at a tremendous height and was a brilliant white light.

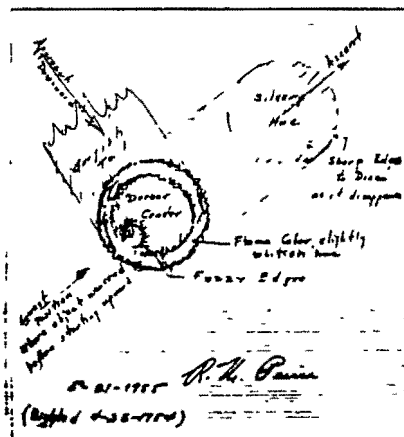
[REDACTED]

sound was from the sky and I instinctively turned my head and eyes upward. It just happened that the line of my vision was such that my eyes were almost instantly focused on the object, which was east, perhaps a little to the SE, from where I was standing. It was up high overhead, and from the angle at which I was looking up, about 60 degrees, with the earth, I would say that the object could have been out over the ocean as we are in about 4 miles from the coast...

"The object as I first saw it appeared as a flaming ring. The color was a little on the whitish tone but also had some suggestion of the orange-yellow of the common flame of burning wood, say. At the lower left quadrant of the ring there appeared a small, bright disc tangent with the ring, same color as the ring. The center of the remainder of the ring appeared dark. The object was headed earthward, not quite in a direct line toward me, but sort of downward and a little to the right. This direction was indicated by a short, grayish trail upward to the left. Then the object seemed to waver and 'skid around' for just a few seconds, apparently reversing its direction, because it next went upward and to the right, disappearing from sight very quickly.

"As it disappeared the appearance changed from that of a ring and internal concentric disc, to a solid silvery colored disc...The sound came and went synonymously with the object's appearance and disappearance. The size appeared slightly smaller than a full moon would appear high in the sky...The time of observation was short, say twenty seconds, but long enough to get a good clear view of what was visible...My daughter heard the roar from inside our home, and three other people called me, after seeing the newspaper article, to tell me they had heard the unusual sound from the sky at the same time I had heard it...

"It appeared as though the object were traveling earthward at a terrific speed, and then as though a tremendous force were applied to arrest the earthward direction and send the object back upward, and consequently it went rapidly out of sight and out of hearing distance...What the object was, where it came from, and where it went, are all a complete mystery to me but the sighting was as clear as a picture on a wall." 177.



April 28th.

"Huge monster driven by an amateur."

Easily the most incredible story of all to come out of Australia during the year was one dated April 28, 1954.

The story was reported to the Australian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research by a locomotive engineer, A.E. Smith; and his fireman, Colin Beacon. The two railroadmen were members of a train crew manning a freight train that was rolling along uneventually until it reached a point about 45 miles west of Geelong at 7:20 a.m. At that time and place a "terrifying experience occurred."

Engineer Smith leaned out of the cab window and saw a gigantic round, dark blue or black, mass. The thing was diving out of a beautifully clear sky and was heading directly at the train. Terrified, Smith called to Beacon. Fear subsided when the UFO started to slow down, arresting its plunge at an increasing rate until the thing became motionless a short distance away. Now that it was close, both Smith and Beacon studied the vast bulk.

"What was it?"

The railroadmen could see no openings in the "huge monster" and it was so big the trees in the vicinity looked like matchsticks in comparison. After hovering for awhile, the "monster," which Smith guessed may have been as big as 1,300 feet in diameter, suddenly began jerk about in the sky in such a manner Smith suggested that an "amateur must have been at the controls." At one point the "monster" approached the train as close as 300 feet but gradually its maneuvers carried it higher and higher until it moved out of sight. Astonished, Smith was convinced he had seen something from another planet. 178.

A quote by Smith in the Melbourne Argus read:

"Its size was just colossal. For the four minutes in which we saw it over our engine, it partly obscured the sun, but all the time the light was clear. I feel definitely that the weird thing was piloted! It was not a clearly lined or defined object, for it was somewhat covered in a haze--perhaps caused by its speed or design. It was not like any aircraft I've seen or read about...more like something out of a dream." 179.

Word from the Royal Australian Air Force Intelligence section was that it was interested in investigating the report, according to the Argus. 180.

The "vast bulk" and some speculation.

If the "monster" story was true, why was the object so big and so dark? Ponder one suggested idea: an orbiting space base colored dark so it would not be readily noticeable in the blackness of space.

Back on March 1, 1954, Donald Keyhoe learned some hot news about an official attempt to search for tiny natural moons that might be in orbit around the Earth. Dr. Lincoln La Paz, director of the New Mexico Institute of Meteorites; and Dr. Clyde Tombaugh, were in charge of special telescopic equipment that had automatic tracking cameras, the sky sweep being funded by U.S. Army Ordnance Research.

On March 3rd a press report datelined White Sands New Mexico, related more about the effort, quoting Dr. Tombaugh who said the orbits of the natural moons they were seeking would be near the equator and would give off little light, dim streaks amid the stars. 181.

That afternoon Donald Keyhoe conferred with one of his sources, a Mr. Paul Redell, who told him there had been two visual contacts for a few minutes with some strange orbiting bodies. There were three tracking stations, Redell said, one in New Mexico, another in Arizona, and a third near Berlin, Germany. Redell also informed Keyhoe that he had "reason to believe" that a large body of some sort had left orbit and had dropped down to an altitude of 60,000 feet over the Atlantic during the last week of February. Redell's "reason" was not disclosed. 182.

"We didn't hear any more about it, did we?"

Radio newsman Lou Corbin interviewed Capt. Howard T. Orville: USN Ret., head of the President's Weather Control Commission; on station WFBR sometime in 1954. Corbin questioned Orville about two bodies that were rumored to be circling the Earth, asking him directly if the bodies were unnatural. Orville was evasive, saying that if such was the case it would be a matter of military security, but did admit something puzzling was in orbit.

Three years later, on October 24, 1957, Corbin questioned Orville again, requesting an update on the 1954 unknown satellite mystery. Orville said it appeared the military had neglected to keep the public informed. Corbin pressed Orville to get him to confess a deliberate cover-up was involved, something the Captain would not do, however, Orville did remark: "But we didn't hear any more about it, did we?" 183.

~ April 29th.

"Stopped, and then went straight up."

On April 29th U.S. Army radio personnel standing outside the Fort Meade Second Army Radio Station, Maryland; were surprised when a brilliant, round, mass approached out of the south-west sky. The heavens were dark since it was 11 minutes after ten in the evening but the UFO was plainly visible, it being four times the size of any star.

According to testimony taken from a Corporal Flath and a Private First Class Hough, the: "...light emitted by the object was blinking on and off as the object moved across the sky in a straight path." 184. And: "When it got above the Second Army Radio Station it stopped blinking and started to disappear by going straight up and becoming smaller in size." 185.

April 30th. Telegram to Eisenhower answered.

The telegram sent to President Eisenhower by Van Tassel's Flying Saucer Convention back on April 4th arrived in Washington D.C. and was referred to the Department of the Air Force for a reply which was written by Brigadier General Joe W. Kelly. The language in the letter was routine with the possible exception of these lines: "Regardless of independent action by other agencies of the government, the Air Force feels an obligation to continue its own investigation." 186. Also: "...we are engaging the services of prominent scientists throughout the country on a consultant basis and have from time to time submitted reports to leading laboratories for further analysis." 187.

"The saucers speak?"

George Adamski's ex-associate, George Hunt Williamson, was enamored with electronics and tried conventional means in his attempts to "contact saucer pilots." With an array of hardware, Williamson eventually claimed contact with "an alien that was supposed to have travelled to Earth from the planet Uranus." The entity called itself "Affa" and, according to Williamson, imparted so much information via radio it made possible the book The Saucers Speak, a volume that was published in early 1954. 188.

"Affa," Wilbert Smith, and U.S. Naval Intelligence.

On April 30, 1954, a Miss Frances Swan, who lived in rural Maine, claimed to have heard a whistling noise in her ear and then felt compelled to write: "WE COME WILL HELP KEEP PEACE ON EU DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED." 189. It was the first of many more messages she would receive through "automatic handwriting" from an "Affa of Uranus." The evident use of Williamson's spaceman as to name and origin and the fact that her subsequent communications with "Affa" contained many contradictions, make Miss Swan's "extraterrestrial experience" hard to believe to say the least (If that does not convince you, "Affa" said the world would end in 1956 and that Uranus was like the planet Earth!), yet the fact is such claims did not prevent the woman's story from becoming a subject of interest to Canadian scientist Wilbert Smith (and his undoing) and U.S. Naval Intelligence in the coming months.

Adamski gets cold feet?

In New York the brand new private UFO group, Civilian Saucer Intelligence, was eager to learn as much as it could about the UFO mystery and was casting about for any speaker available. George Adamski was in the news at the time so the Californian was considered. The difference between "contactees" and "contact stories" had not yet been defined in these early days of UFO history, but CSI's experience with Adamski was a start.

In April 1954 Adamski was asked to address CSI for a small fee. Adamski was agreeable so the contactee's publisher, the British Book Center, made arrangements since it seemed to be a good opportunity to plug Flying Saucers Have Landed.

The day of the planned lecture, however, Adamski tried to back out, offering the excuse that he had to return to the West Coast immediately so he could "discuss with the space brothers the problems of the Earth's atmosphere since mankind insisted on polluting the air by conducting atomic tests." CSI officer Ted Bloecher doubted the so-called "space brothers" had anything to do with the cancellation since he received the impression Adamski merely got cold feet when it became apparent the talk would be given to an organization with a high caliber membership, one which would insist on asking some tough questions.

It didn't take long before CSI understood individuals like Adamski, persons that gave lectures, wrote books, and tried in various ways to exploit their non-dramatic experiences with human-like beings who passed on benevolent messages. In time CSI, and the rest of the rational UFO community, would come to know about another type of contact story, terrifying, confusing, perplexing encounters with small humanoids. This latter type of contact investigators would find very disturbing. 190.

James Moseley.

Another one of those curious Americans who were following the course of the UFO mystery was a James Moseley of Fort Lee, New Jersey. Like most UFO pioneers, Moseley's interest in the subject grew out of correspondence with other people who shared his fascination. Over the months and years Moseley accumulated a small library of UFO information, but to his annoyance, no answers.

In April 1954 Moseley received a letter from a fellow who expressed his belief the Air Force was keeping a captured flying saucer under guard at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, a claim that did not arouse any special enthusiasm in Moseley who had heard such things before, but the letter referred to an Army WAC who could vouch for the existence of the space ship and also for the fact that Wright Field had been put on attack alert for a couple of weeks in the Fall of 1952 because of the alien wreckage. According to the woman, the captive saucer contained a beeping device the military feared was a distress signal. As for details of the saucer's crash, the WAC admitted she knew very little but she believed the ship spun out of control near Columbus, Ohio, where the strange machine and its crew of six "little men"(all dead)were recovered and hauled to Wright Field.

Since such rumors had always turned out to be unsubstantiated yarns, Moseley placed the letter with its sensational claims in his "crash file" to be checked at a later date. 191.

May.

In May James Moseley became aware he would be making a stopover in the hometown of the correspondent that had written him about the captured saucer at Wright Field. Moseley hadn't planned it but since the opportunity presented itself, why not give the man a call? After a phone conversation with his informant, Moseley had doubts the story was just something appropriated from Frank Scully writings. The information was not a second hand account. The informant had a tape recording by the WAC and knew her name. This put Moseley on the track of obtaining some possible concrete evidence. Locating the woman took time and a lot of detective work. The search took until August before the woman could be tracked down and questioned. 192.

Ruppelt's article in True.

Sometime in the Fall of 1953 Edward Ruppelt approached Donald Keyhoe about writing a UFO book that would detail his tenure as chief of BLUE BOOK. To allay Keyhoe's suspicions, Ruppelt promised he "would not follow the Air Force policy line," writing only the truth as he knew it. He gave assurances that on no other condition would he consider such an effort. 193.

Working quickly, Ruppelt managed to produce an extensive essay that was published in the May, 1954, issue of True, the same magazine that had made Keyhoe famous. The feature: "What Our Air Force Out About Flying Saucers," foreshadowed the 315 page hardback published in 1956 by Doubleday: The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects.

In a way, Ruppelt's writings are in response to Keyhoe's. The main thrust of Ruppelt's UFO story is the question: "What constitutes proof?"

May 1st.

"Interceptors are coming in with live ammunition."

Glowing yellow round objects circled in the air over Port Townsend, Washington. Sheriff Peter J. Naughton watched the objects as they swept through the sky in an echelon formation. Concerned, the sheriff placed a call to nearby Payne Air Force Base outside Tacoma. The officials at the airbase took the lawman's call and later called back, asking the sheriff to notify the local airfield. The Air Force wanted "all planes at Port Townsend to be grounded because military interceptors were coming in with live ammunition." 194.

May 4th.

A speeding orange-red object was sighted by three policemen at Camfield, Ohio. 195.

May 5th.

V-formation over Minneapolis, Minnesota:

"On its 11 p.m. broadcast, station KSTP said a group of astronomy students who were watching the stars from the roof of the physics building at the University of Minnesota reported seeing a V-formation of objects fly over shortly after 9:30 p.m. They were described as small, round and white and shone with a clear, steady light. They travelled from horizon to horizon much faster than a jet plane and made no sound. 196.

May 6th.

V-formation over Heppner, Oregon.

A V-formation of round and slightly domed objects crossed over Heppner, Oregon at noon May 6th. It was estimated the objects were travelling in excess of 1,000 miles per hour. According to the witness, Albert Lovegren, the objects oscillated a bit as they moved through the air and were an estimated 100 feet in diameter. 197.

Sweden. May 7th.

A story reminiscent of the 1946 ghost rocket wave turned up in a Stockholm newspaper:

"In the near future, an investigation will be made to determine whether a flying object which landed in a field near Spjellerup about six months ago is a meteor, a shell, or some part of a 'flying saucer.' The object made a hole in the field about 3.5 meters deep and 25 centimeters in diameter and passed through a thick stratum of flint. The owner of the land pushed a long iron rod into the hole and determined that the object at the bottom is metallic. It is said that at the time the object descended to Earth, there were quite a number of unidentified flying objects over the area. Excavation of the object will be performed with assistance from the military." 198.

Stringfield offers his help.

The debut of the new UFO group started by Leonard Stringfield came at the right time. UFO reports were on the upswing. There was even some suspicious activity in his own backyard. Stringfield carefully logged the data and then

forwarded it the Air Force, offering to aid the military in their effort to understand the phenomena. The night of May 5th was of special interest as can be seen by Stringfield's letter. The chief of CRIFO also forwarded a newsclipping concerning the Wednesday night excitement cut from the Cincinnati Post. As can be seen by Stringfield's inked remarks, newspaper accounts often have the facts wrong. (See clipping)

May 9th. "Possible meteor sighting." (See BLUE BOOK record card) .199

PROJECT 10073 RECORD	
1. DATE-TIME GROUP 9 MAY 54 10/0122Z	2. LOCATION Foster AFB, Texas
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION WAS ASTRONOMICAL: METEOR
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	Possible meteor sighting in accord with duration and description. Spiral attributed to optical illusion or movement of observer's own a/c.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Tear drop shaped light. Fluorescent, bluish green, reddish tail. No sound. Made half Spiral to left as approached a/c and disappeared immediately after leveling off. Position at same altitude and directly in front of observer's a/c. WX included light haze.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION EX air visual	
7. COURSE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 G-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

May 10th.

"Unconventional type aircraft flying in V-formation."

A teletype report from Robins Field, Georgia, informed Washington of a trio of objects that passed over Atlanta the morning of the 10th:

"SHAPE: Round; flying in horizontal position in relation to earth.
SIZE: Estimated 20' diameter; thick in center, tapering to thinner edge.

COLOR: Shiny appearance.

FORMATION: Three objects, flying in a V-formation.

AERODYNAMIC FEATURES: None recognized.

VAPOR TRAIL OR EXHAUST TRAIL: None.

PROPULSION SYSTEM: Unknown.

SPEED: Estimated 500-600 MPH.

Photostat of Cincinnati Post's story, May 7, 1954
 Note The misquotes, etc..

Jets, Saucers Play Tag In Skies

BY HARRY MAYO

Air jets and flying saucers cavorted all over the Cincinnati skies Wednesday night. No one would admit they were more than coincidental but for a couple of hours they put on a dandy show.

Leonard M. Stringfield, who is so intensely interested he has organized a national organization to study "interplanetary flying objects," first saw the saucers from his porch at 7017 Britten avenue, Madison Place.

"It was 9:30 p. m.," he remembered. "There were two pin points of bluish light—intense like an arc welder—in the northwest. I made nothing of it."

But at 9:45 p. m., Herbert Clark of 4973 Strathmore ave-

Stork KO's Pilot

MEKVEN FRENCH MONROE, May 8 (U.P.)—A stork collided with a French air force jet trainer today.

The windshield was broken and the pilot was knocked out.

The instructor, in the rear cockpit, took over the controls and landed the aircraft safely.

nue, Stratford Manor, phoned Mr. Stringfield. He had seen something, too.

"Slow moving yellow light," headed southwest... two minutes later two jets moved in and took after them..."

Mr. Clark phoned Mr. Stringfield. Then he returned to the porch with his wife and Mr.

and Mrs. Larry Thomas same address. Reporting back to Mr. Stringfield.

"It was still there a low-hanging ellipsoid object in the vicinity of Indian Hill and Madeira. It was a brilliant white, about 30 times brighter than a star. After three minutes it vanished, and two jets went after it..."

Mr. Stringfield went to his own porch with his 10 x 50 power glasses. In his words:

"The object was solid red, silent and it seemed to pulsate moving swiftly and low on a southwest course from the position Clark had reported first seeing it."

Mr. Stringfield phoned Lunken Airport and told the traffic controller, Miss Edith Harmon about the saucers. She radioed

Howard Berning, who was "top-stairs" in a Cinema. He radioed back that he didn't see anything.

Today The Post phoned Wright Field Dayton, and asked what kind of hide-and-seek game it was.

"Well," said public information officer, "we didn't hear anything about flying objects, but we had 18 jet interceptors down there on a routine mission."

"They were equipped with afterburners which cause a glow. Maybe that created the illusion of something chasing something."

Mr. Stringfield then pointed out a patent truth: "Jets don't hover."

wrong time

mis quote

mis quote

object witnesses was not a jet afterburner

NOTES BY
 STRINGFIELD

???

SOUND: None.

MANEUVERS: None; straight flight.

MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE: Flew out of vision.

TIME OF OBSERVATION: 1030 hours.

EQUIPMENT USED IN SIGHTING: None.

LOCATION OF OBJECTS: Latitude 33' - 51''; Longitude 85' - 33''

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL OF OBJECTS: Viewer observed objects traveling from approximately 45 degree angle from perpendicular extended above viewer. Sun position to right and rear of viewer.

WEATHER: Bright, clear day; small wind.

AIR TRAFFIC: Cargo type aircraft taking off in a NW direction passed under objects as they passed over Atlanta Municipal Air port." 200.

"Low, hovering objects over Sweden."

According to American newscaster Frank Edwards, Swedish military authorities had been inundated with reports from citizens living in countryside concerning unidentified glowing bodies maneuvering low over forest areas during the week of May 10th. A few sightings made by military observers indicated that aircraft were not responsible, so the General Staff in Stockholm ordered the creation of special search detachments and had them sent to the northern part of the country where the strange manifestations were the most frequent. 201.

May 11th. Bethurum speaks to a 1,000 people. (See newsclipping)

May 12th. UFO over BLUE BOOK?

Dayton, Ohio, home to ATIC and project BLUE BOOK, was the location of a UFO sighting on May 12th.

It seems a Mr. and Mrs. McDonald; a Mr. and Mrs. Wildenhaus; an Andrew Coleman; and a High School teacher by the name of Miss Mildred Crage; all noticed a red-colored object high in the sky at sundown that they compared to a "dinner plate on edge." The UFO was under surveillance for approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour, after which it tipped at an angle, changed shape, and then sped away trailing flame. 202.

UFO fragment?

A vague report of "30ft long UFOs" passing over Shepparton, Victoria, Australia, on May 12th became more than a minor matter when word was circulated that the civilian UFO group, the amalgamated Australian Flying Saucer Club/Bureau, had come into possession of a piece of one of the mysterious objects. The Australian group's spokesman, Edgar Jarrold, who had worked closely with the eccentric American Al Bender, wrote his colleagues in England that having a portion of the "strange material" had generated the organization's "...worst flood of hysterical mail so far." 203. Jarrold promised that the material would be submitted for analysis to determine its composition, and that he would make known the results in about three weeks, more or less. UFOlogist Gray Barker in the U.S. was one of those people who waited impatiently for the test results, but much to his disappointment no further word was heard about the so-called saucer fragment. Jarrold's creditability began a decline and eventually he faded from the UFO scene much the same way as his buddy Al Bender. 204.

5¢

THE WEATHER
Occasional cloudless Tues-
day. High 60, low 40. See
Page 47.

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3-5225

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1954

From Outer Space...

By Hugh Hough

Lots of people claim to have seen flying saucers. But they don't do much about it except bore their friends with the tale. Very different is Truman Bethurum, who spoke Monday night to more than 1,000 saucer fans and a few doubters at 32 W. Randolph.

He makes almost as much money as Liberace talking about the 11 times he has actually been aboard a flying saucer.

That's right, he insists, aboard an honest-to-outer-space saucer where he spoke to its crew of 32 little men from the planet Clarion and their beautiful, black-haired lady captain.

Bethurum tells this—and much more—with a straight face and a far-away look in his eyes that indicates he believes it all himself.

"I haven't seen a saucer now since Nov. 2, 1952," he says, adding hastily, "to talk to, that is, I've seen 'em in the air since then."

And many in Bethurum's audience believed his every word.

For doubters, Bethurum had a few words of warning.

"One man, a fellow construction worker in Nevada, called me a liar," Bethurum said in a solemn voice. "But a few days later he came

back with apologies, begging me to call them off.

"He'd been buzzed by a flying saucer."

At that point Bethurum, 55, bald and hollow-eyed, asked his audience not to "get me wrong."

"I'm not a superbeing," he said. "I'm just a plain construction worker."

But he did not entirely remove the lingering impression that with some previously arranged signal he might call in from Clarion a whole swarm of saucers to effect a mass ground-level conversion of doubters.

After the talk there was a question period.

Yes, he had been alone when the saucers visited him in the Nevada desert.

No, he had never been asked to ride back to Clarion with the little men and their gorgeous leader.

As the reporter dazedly left the lecture room, a small, intense man was asking the expert if "we might mail post cards to Clarion like we do to Europe?"

There may have been more, but the last words this doubter heard from Bethurum were these:

"Yes, it might be possible. One of the little men might pick them up."

UFOs over Washington D.C.

Three U.S. Air Force Air Policemen: A/IC Mason W. Augst, A/IC George F. Wright, and A/IC Elmer A. Cruver; were standing guard next to a hanger at Washington National Airport, Washington D.C. the morning of May 12th.

At 4:45 a.m. the forementioned airmen observed a formation of two UFOs fly over the Capital, and at 05:15 a.m. another sighting of two UFOs was made by the military men. Finally, at 0610 a.m. two UFOs were seen making a third pass. BLUE BOOK records are not clear but it is assumed each pass over the city was the same as to the object's appearance, course, and maneuvers.

The records state that the UFOs were a glowing white color, seemingly the "size of a street light about one foot in diameter." 205. The two UFOs would first appear just above the horizon to the northeast of Washington D.C., approaching in a straight line, and when over the city they made a 90 degree turn, moving out of sight toward the south, slowly getting smaller as they flew away. Each pass took approximately 45 seconds. 206.

"Huge 'Mother Ship' high over Washington?"

Just before noon on May 13, 1954 an experimental radar at Washington detected a huge target 15 miles high above the Capital. The giant was moving in a rectangular pattern at a speed of approximately 200 mph. The thing, what ever it was, was an estimated 250 feet in diameter.

The huge UFO slowly drifted out of range over a period of three hours.

Newman Frank Edwards who lived and worked in Washington D.C. learned of the fantastic radar from a personal friend who was an electronic expert and was involved in the pick-up and tracking of the incredible target. 207.

Encounter over the Pacific.

A message in BLUE BOOK files reads:

"HQ PACD, MATS, APO 953, c/o PM, IR-117-54
San Francisco, California.

"Source: Aircraft Commander - Captain D.B. Mautner, AO 662073
32nd A.T.S., McChord Air Force Base, Washington

"Scientific Intelligence:

1. At 13/0220 HST, Pearl Harbor Rescue received an unidentified flying object report from a C-124, Aircraft #1030, Trip #528, enroute from Hickam Air Force Base to Travis Air Force Base. Actual time departure from Hickam 13/0645Z, estimated time arrival Travis 13/1716Z.

2. Message received as follows: 'At 13/1045Z, position 26 degrees 5'N-146 degrees 12'W object was sighted. Bright light moving left parallel with aircraft. Aircraft lights were blinked at object. Reported object signaled back to aircraft. After 5 minutes object moved away to NE at very rapid speed climbing at this time. Weather was 3/8 CU tops 6000, clear above.'

3. Duty Officer, Pearl Rescue, advised CINCPAC and CINCPAC passed information to Hickam AFB. Hickam sent following wire to Travis AFB: 'Request Travis TOC notify Intelligence to debrief crew on Aircraft #1030 on object sighted and submit appropriate report.'

"Comment: As far as can be determined by the preparing officer, no other friendly aircraft were in the area at the time of the sighting. It is assumed that the Intelligence section at Travis Air Force Base will submit full report to the proper authorities." 208.

May 13th. Swedish activity.

The American CIA reported:

"On the morning of May 13, 1954, three persons in three different areas of Norrbotten Province, Sweden, observed a 'brilliant, silver colored sphere with a tail.' It was reported from Hammerfest, Norway, that on the same day three bright objects passed over Kautokeino (in northern Norway) at a great speed. They flew in a V-formation and disappeared towards the southwest. A deputy constable who had observed them with binoculars stated that they flew so high that he could not ascertain their shape but that they were not ordinary aircraft. He added that they seemed to be red on one side and white on the other and appeared to be rotating." 209.

May 13th. UFOs over northern Norway.

A Danish newspaper printed:

"Oslo, 14 May --Luftkommando Nord (Air Command North) has received a number of reports that indicate that the flying objects observed over Finnmark Province, Norway, at 1210 hours on 13 May were not conventional aircraft or meteorological balloons. Sheriff Oskal of Kautokeino, three of his deputies, and two clerks observed the three objects through binoculars for 4-5 minutes. Oskal described them as flying in formation at an altitude of about 2,000 meters, being triangular in shape (V-formation?) reddish brown on the underside and shiny on the upper, and moving with a rotary motion. They left no smoke. The weather was clear and visibility perfect. 210.

May 14th. Silver "dinner plates" over England.

BLUE BOOK's suggested explanation for next case is: "Description indicates balloon. Flight and maneuvers, as well as radar pickup within upper air balloon capabilities." 211. The UFO buff, however, would probably find "flying saucer" a better answer. The reader can judge for himself.

The sighting took place on May 14, 1954 at 3:40 in the afternoon near Norfolk, England. The weather was clear. BLUE BOOK records state:

"SUMMARY:

Formation led by Captain Scott vectored to unidentified object by G.C.I. Estimate object round, diameter approximately size of dinner plate held at arm's length, altitude 50,000 to 60,000 ft. Object made a 180 degree turn and disappeared. Rapidity of change of direction at that altitude and apparent speed led observer to consider the maneuver improbable for conventional aircraft.

"EVALUATION OF SOURCE:

Captain Scott is an experienced pilot and flight commander with 300 hours flying time of which over 1100 hours is jet time. Con-

sider his observations ver reliable. Lt's Eckes and Clardy, both wingmen, did not have the object in sight for more than 30 seconds and made no concrete identification excepting the fact that there was no resemblance to conventional aircraft.

"COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER:

Interview of radar operator revealed nothing conclusive excepting estimated airspeed of object (240 kts. Airspeed) and fact that it was climbing out of radar scope above 50,000 ft. Other aircraft in area at 35,000 to 40,000 ft were RAF Meteors and seven F-86's. None were in visual range of observers at 1540Z. Observation source considered reliable. No explanation of the possible cause of the sighting." 212.

With Summer approaching UFO reports were showing up in Sweden, Finland, England, and Germany, in keeping with the pattern of previous flap years. But in North America there was no increase in Canadian reports that had preceeded the big American flaps in earlier years even though Canadian project MAGNET officials urged citizens to be especially alert to possible strange sky phenomena.

They changed their color to orange and flew away.

Some six miles west of Dallas, Texas, on May 14th, a flight of Marine Corps jet fighters, with a Maj. Charles Scarborough in command, encountered a group of glowing white objects.

Perhaps encountered is not quite correct since the UFOs were three miles away, directly ahead and above. Contact was visual. There were 16 UFOs flying in four groups of four.

Major Scarborough also noticed what he identified as a conventional aircraft high above the UFOs, so high it was leaving a contrail. The Major was able to raise the high-flying aircraft on radio and learned that the plane generating the vapor stream was piloted by a Capt. Ray Jorgenson who was cruising at 42,000 feet. The UFOs were at 32,000 feet and thus between Jorgenson and Scarborough so the two pilots attempted to close on the mysterious objects from two directions. The UFOs, however, responded to the challenge by changing their color to orange and then speeding away to the north. 213.

Keyhoe reveals the Tabott sighting, orbiting satellites, Canadian alert. (See newsclippings taken from Truman Bethurum's personal scrapbook. Note that Bethurum also collected items on the nuclear arms race)

Ruppelt writes Keyhoe.

Edward Ruppelt wrote a short letter to Donald Keyhoe on May 15th that refers to the Talbott sighting. Ruppelt mentions he sent Keyhoe a "tip" about the incident but on his end things seemed to have "pooped out," whatever that meant. Other than that, the ex-BLUE BOOK chief thanked Keyhoe for his favorable comments on the recent True article, while noting that among the "lunatic fringe" the response was anything but favorable. Ruppelt shows his almost visceral dislike of the far-out UFO personalities by writing such people "live under a rock."

The letter had a "P.S." to it. This little addition to the missive has Ruppelt agreeing with Keyhoe's prediction that a big summer UFO flap was in the works, that: "Things were stacking up exactly the way they did it 1952." 214.

U.S. Explodes Fourth H-Bomb, Ends Successful Pacific Tests

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States exploded its fourth—and perhaps its fifth—hydrogen bomb of the year during the last few days, it was reported Thursday night.

The Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense jointly announced successful completion of the 1954 series of "thermonuclear weapons" tests in the Pacific.

There was no mention of how many explosions there were. Three blasts previously have been reported—on March 1, March 26 and April 6. And it was understood there has been at least one more blast during the last week or so.

There were indications that, while the fourth explosion of the year went off at the Bikini Proving Ground, a fifth shot could have been made at Eniwetok Atoll.

The joint announcement declared the tests were successful in the development of thermonuclear weapons. Further, it called these tests essential to national security and said they "contributed materially" to the security of the United States and the whole free world.

The announcement came in a joint statement from Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the AEC, and Sec. of Defense Wilson.

The statement said:

"The 1954 series of thermonuclear tests at the Atomic Energy Commission's Pacific Proving Ground has been completed.

"The tests were successful

in the development of thermonuclear weapons. They were essential to our national interest and have contributed materially to the security of the United States and the free world.

"The tests being concluded,

within a few days sea and air traffic may be safely resumed within the 'warning area' which was set up for safety purposes for the time when the tests were taking place. Official notice to airmen and mariners will be published."

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1954

He Dishes Up New Flying Saucer Yarn

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald E. Keyhoe, who writes about such things, said the earth is being circled by one or two artificial satellites. Air Force Sec. Harold E. Talbott personally has seen "large, silvery, disk-shaped object" in the sky, Keyhoe said.

Talbott promptly denied Keyhoe's statement.

"I have never seen a flying saucer," Talbott said Thursday night.

Keyhoe, a retired Marine corps major, wrote "Flying saucers From Outer Space."

In an interview with commentator Frank Edwards of Mutual Broadcasting System, he said three "very important developments" concerning unidentified flying objects have been kept from the public.

These, he said, are (1) The artificial satellites he reported, (2) What he said Talbott saw, and (3) Notice from Canadian government scientists to all official sky-watchers within the last two weeks "to be especial-

ly alert and to report immediately any unidentified aerial objects."

U.S. government scientists at White Sands, N.M., Keyhoe said, are making an intensive effort to locate and chart the course of the satellites in an attempt to determine what they are and where they came from.

He said Talbott and the crew of his plane sighted a disk-shaped object late in March near Fresno, Calif.

"After watching the object for several minutes, Sec. Talbott ordered his plane to swing around and approach it," Keyhoe said. "The object immediately accelerated and disappeared at high speed."

More from Europe.

On May 15th the new UFO wave hit Germany. The German newspaper Der Kurrier commented:

"Mysterious appearances in the sky over Berlin are at present engaging the attention of the Air Technical sections of the occupation powers. For several weeks, unidentified objects have been seen flying at great height over the four sector city on nearly all cloudless nights. Their maneuvers and lightning changes of course at tremendous speed are so mysterious that experts think it impossible that these flying celestial bodies are piloted by any human agency.

"A German expert has also voiced an opinion. Rudolf Hermes, one of the few German flying saucer experts, who works in the Templehof air traffic control and who was for ten years employed in the same capacity by the Lufthansa, said: 'There is no doubt that these appearances are identical with the flying objects known as flying saucers.'

"In his office on the airfield, Rudolf Hermes records all observations made over Berlin. His file already holds about 300 eyewitness reports. The observations were made by various witnesses in different parts of the city at the same time, so that an hallucination is scarcely likely.

"The story of the mysterious flying objects over Berlin began on May 15th this year. About 22:15 hrs that day, Wolfgang Kobski and Rudi Fibich, two amateur astronomers, observed three round luminous bodies flying at great height on a zig-zag course. They declared that what they had seen could certainly not have been meteors, stars or an hallucination. In the following weeks, responsible witnesses made similar observations. All reports agree that the observers saw the objects between 22 and 23 hrs - for three to ten minutes, and in all cases three luminous discs were seen in formation, flying jerkily on a zig-zag course.

"For some time English and American officers have been visiting all Berliners claiming to have seen 'flying saucers,' taking statements on their observations. The American authorities have drawn up a questionnaire which is sent to all persons who think they have seen Unidentified Flying Objects.

"American technicians have also stated installing another radar apparatus on the airfield, as the present apparatus is fully occupied with traffic in the air corridors." 215.

"The best brains in the country are working on the UFO problem."

Speaking at an Armed Forces Day dinner at Amarillo AFB, Amarillo, Texas, May 15th; the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, General Nathan Twining, made a digression from his speech to say something about UFOs. As printed by the newspapers, the story went:

"Gen. Nathan F. Twining the Air Force Chief of Staff, said today that the Air Force has the best brains in the country working on the flying saucer problem.

"Twining said that about 90 per cent of reports of flying saucers are pure imagination. But the Air Force can't explain the other 10 per cent.

"'We just don't know about that 10 per cent,' he said. 'If they are from Mars and there is a people and a world that are far ahead of us,

I don't think we have even to worry about it.' *

"'So far,' he said,' no facts have been uncovered to show that there is anything to flying saucers. But,' he said,'some very reliable persons have reported flying objects that can't be identified.'

"'We are certainly working on the problem and are not discounting all these reports,' he said." 216.

Keyhoe checks on Twining's talk.

The hint dropped by General Twining ignited Keyhoe's imagination. The Air Force had insisted all along its UFO investigative effort was a small-scale, but now Keyhoe's suspicions about a secret, large-scale effort, which included civilian scientific consultants, appeared confirmed.

Keyhoe phoned the Air Force PIO at the Pentagon, A Capt. White, hoping that some of what General Twining said could be amplified, but spokesman White refused to comment and cautioned Keyhoe about "the reliability of the press services." Twining's office, when contacted directly, likewise had nothing to say. 217.

CRIFO gets a big boost.

Besides helping Keyhoe, newscaster Frank Edwards saw an opportunity to assist a new civilian organization, Leonard Stringfield's CRIFO.

When the first issue of the CRIFO bulletin arrived in the mail, Edwards went on the air that evening (May 18, 1954) and urged his listeners to subscribe to the little Ohio publication. Since the MUTUAL radio program had an audience of 10,000,000 one can guess the result. Stringfield later wrote: "I ate my dinner at the telephone and entertained guests while I typed. Bookkeeping nearly replaced romance, and my only rest was in the sanctum of the bathroom." 218.

Mobilizing his entire family and a few friends, Stringfield processed his UFO mail that contained:

"Letters from enthusiasts everywhere in the world, ranging from retired Generals, pilots, engineers, newspapermen, doctors, and lawyers, businessmen, members of a nudist colony, a woman who had seen an 'unidentified man' ---and one lost soul who, enclosing a dollar, left only one return address, the moon." 219.

Even the newsmedia made inquiries. Radio stations and newspapers all over the nation contacted CRIFO for the latest "saucer news."

After an initial surge of some 6,000 letters, public interest leveled off at about 100 missives daily, of which Stringfield could find time to reply to only 25. 220.

* Twining gave no reason why an advanced race of aliens would automatically be nothing to "worry about." How could one just assume such beings would not be inimical to mankind?

Three UFOs in formation zoomed over Vienna, Austria, May 15th. Five persons were witnesses. 221.

On May 17th, according to local citizens, in the sky above Joliet, Illinois, a silvery object performed maneuvers. The city paper headlined: "SAUCER PAYS A VISIT." 222.

On May 16th a "white sausage" was seen over Currumbin, Queensland, Australia. It was viewed for three minutes before it disappeared. 223.

An uneasy experience for Donald Keyhoe.

Monday, May 17th, Keyhoe took a plane to New York to give a talk to a church group. He felt uneasy discussing the UFO subject, but during the talk he noticed no serious concern among the members of the audience about theological issues that his assertions raised. There was, however, a question about those who claimed "contact with spacemen."

Keyhoe and contactees.

One can understand Keyhoe's disgust with the contactees because for a long time he fought for a serious dialogue on the UFO subject and had met with some success, but now he found himself sharing the stage with the likes of Adamski. Angry, Keyhoe lashed out, denouncing "certain incredible stories" as "delusions, hoaxes, or stupid practical jokes."

Later, in private, Keyhoe expressed his feelings to his friend John Du Barry, an early (1949) UFO investigator for True magazine.

Both men were willing to accept the possibility of "contacts," but recent claims of that sort they felt were no more than cheap fabrications. Du Barry told Keyhoe that what really got his goat was that so many otherwise intelligent people tended to believe wild yarns. Keyhoe knew that only too well. Back in February when he addressed a banquet being held for the medical staff of Waterbury Hospital, a psychiatrist gave his professional opinion on the matter, saying that stories about kindly beings from wonderful worlds that led perfect lives was a highly appealing concept that offered an escape from the reality of taxes, hard work, illness, the Russians, the H-Bomb, etc. 224.

"Affa" urges Mrs. Swan to contact authorities.

In New England the woman named Frances Swan continued to claim messages from an entity called "Affa." "Transmissions" were being received by Mrs. Swan during the first part of May, and by this time "associates" of "Affa" were also now brothing the woman. Beings that were suppose to represent the "Universal Association of Planets," with names like "Alomar of Mercury," "Ankar of Centuras," and "Ponnar of Pluto," were bugging Mrs. Swan around the clock, announcing their presence by causing a painful ringing in the woman's ear. The female contactee complained the entities knew her thoughts and feelings, and struggled to gain control of her mind.*

Speaking through automatic handwriting, on May 18th "Affa" urged Mrs. Swan to write the authorities, informing them he and the others aliens from

* There is a possibility this experience was a classic example of demonic activity as described in religious literature.

the Planetary association were friendly and wanted to make official contact. The "being from Uranus" suggested the U.S. Navy would be a good intermediary since that service had short range radio sets which could tune into the frequency used by "Affa" and his pals.

Up to this point, the so-called "contact with entities" was just the problem of an obscure housewife living in rural Maine, possibly the work of the Devil, a hoax, or just an example of a mental disorder. What made this case history of a contactee memorable was the fact that a Mrs. Helen Knowles lived next door to Mrs. Sawn. Mrs. Knowles was married to Rear Admiral H.B. Knowles, USN (Ret.) Aware of Admiral Knowles, Mrs. Swan found herself asking her neighbors for help. The Knowles were skeptical of course when Mrs. Swan detailed her contact with extraterrestrials, but were intrigued when they were told "Affa" would "appear in person" on May 26! 225.

May 19th. Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

A fisherman spotted three reddish-yellow objects in the sky on the 19th. Two of the objects appeared to be 6-8 feet apart and the third object appeared to be 16-20 feet from the first two. The man's story as it is recorded in BLUE BOOK files follows:

"Mr. (...deleted) stated that at approximately 2030 hours 19 May 1954, he went out to the pier to check the water and sky and noticed two objects reflected in the water; that the two objects appeared to be similar to a light from the objects shining down on the water; that he followed these rays up from the water until he saw the objects in the sky; that he then noticed a third object in the sky which was considerable distance away from the other two; that he observed these objects for approximately forty-five minutes; that he would estimate the objects were approximately 30 degrees above the horizon and were in a northeasterly direction from the point of observation; that the three objects moved in an up and down and side to side pattern but did not seem to have any regular pattern nor did the objects move in unison; that the objects seemed to fade away in a northeast direction as if they were going away from the observer until they finally disappeared; that he could not estimate the altitude or distance of the objects except they appeared to be a great distance from him. Mr. (...deleted) stated that the sky was clear and visibility was unrestricted." 226.

"Huge circular flying machine."

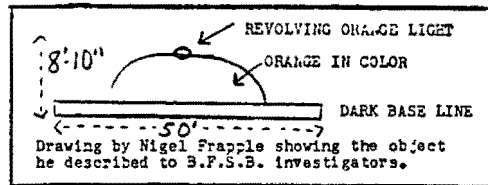
Hampshire/Somerset, England.

A Miss Doreen Heffer lived in the village of Shobley which is near Ringwood. The view from her home looks out over a forest. About 11:00 p.m. on May 19th Miss Heffer was awoken from a sound sleep by a bright orange light lit up her bedroom, the glare so intense she compared it to setting sun. Peering out the window, Miss Heffer saw a huge, brilliant, orange ball dropping down out of the sky. The "ball" stopped when it reached the treetops and then moved away, a low-flying, flame-colored object that seemed to be following the Southampton to Bruton, Somerset road. 227.

Three hours later, 2 a.m. May 20th, a Nigel Frapple, of Bruton, Somerset, was cycling home in the darkness when he was attracted to a terrific orange colored light about 20 feet in the air and some 90 feet from the road. The light was coming from an object Frapple estimated was 50 feet in diameter. Dismounting his bike, Frapple approached the object and hid in a hedgerow so

he could spy on the strange machine. The thing was some sort of domed craft topped by a revolving light. A smaller light was seen underneath the base of the dome.

After five minutes the object zoomed away, making only a slight swishing sound as it passed out of sight. 228. 229.



Bethurum wows them in Detroit. (See newsclipping)

Daybreak on May 24th. Eastern Taranaki, New Zealand. (See newsclipping)

May 26th. Would "Affa" appear?

Skeptical but willing to humor their neighbor Mrs. Swan, Admiral Knowles and his wife went next door on May 26th to witness the predicted materialization of the "space being Affa" at 1:12 p.m. The Admiral took along his notebook.

At 1:12 p.m. nothing happened and Mrs. Swan became indignant, but at 1:25 the woman began to receive a message through automatic writing. "Affa" refused to take on material form but was quite willing to answer any questions Admiral Knowles wanted to ask. The Admiral played along, asking how far out the satellite base was orbiting, the kind of landing field saucers needed, and what if any landing quarantees were required.

The Admiral received answers (which were impossible to confirm immediately) but was more impressed by how the information was being transmitted. The Admiral scribbled: "The answers came through without hesitation, any apparent premeditation or confusion, on her part. She wrote swiftly and smoothly in a peculiar hand." 230. Besides that, "Affa" informed the Admiral Navy Intelligence could contact space visitors easily by using Radio Band QM-306 and sending out the message: "M4 M4 A F F A." With exact instructions like that, what did the Admiral have to lose compared with what he might gain with so little effort? The retired officer thought it worth a try. At this point our story becomes more than a kind of joke.

May 27th. Admiral Knowles contacts the Pentagon.

The next day Admiral Knowles hurriedly penned a letter to Rear Admiral C.F. Espe, Chief of Naval Intelligence in Washington D.C. In the letter Admiral Knowles portrayed Mrs. Swan in a favorable light: "average education,

Detroit Free Press

Wednesday, May 19, 1954

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE



Bethurum and Non-Interplanetary Saucer

He'll Tell of Dates With Saucer Beauty

Trucker to Relate Meetings
With Visitors from Out Yonder

BY CURTIS HAZELTINE

Press Staff Writer

A 55-year-old Redondo Beach (Calif.) welder came to Detroit Thursday to tell people here about flying saucers.

Thomas Bethurum said his first contact with a flying saucer came while he was mapping in his truck one night near Las Vegas.

He just woke up and there it was.

IT WAS a huge thing, said Bethurum, about 200 feet in diameter and about 100 feet thick, made of metal like polished steel.

Several dark little men surrounded him but with seemingly friendly intent, waving only to shake his hand.

They invited him (he says) aboard their own craft. It seemed slightly to set him back. There he met the captain, a small, perfectly powerfully built woman he later learned was Capt. Ann Rhames.

She revealed a complete knowledge of the earth and its people Bethurum said. But she wasn't very communicative about her own planet, Clarion. She said vaguely it was not somewhere beyond the moon.

SHE LINKED to chat with Bethurum because she brought her saucer back for its home visit, he said.

But somehow or other — Bethurum isn't sure of the reason — she failed to keep her promise to take him up to Clarion to her home planet. He hasn't even her name now & 1953.

Time after time he has tried to take to persuade people to go with him to a rendezvous with Capt. Rhames.

And even when there have been people in the vicinity they failed to see Capt. Rhames' saucer ship.

And Capt. Rhames has refused to let him photograph her saucer.

But he expects there will be enough people interested in his experiences to fill Masonic Temple when he lectures there at 8 15 p.m. Sunday.

DETROIT TRUTH FORUM

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 22, 1954 — 8 15 P.M.
MASONIC TEMPLE — Scottish Rite Cathedral

Admission \$1.50
Tax .15
Total \$1.65

No 1504

2

The Christchurch Star-Sun

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1951

Pilots Report Strange Objects

Three pilots of a New Plymouth aerial road-dressing firm saw a number of strange objects flying over eastern Taranaki about daybreak yesterday. The objects were oval and were seen flying at great speed before disappearing in the clear morning sky. The men were Messrs F. Ferrier, D. L. Falwasser, and M. Hodder, all of New Plymouth. The men were reluctant to talk, but this is how one described the incident. We were flying to an airstrip at the back of Tahora about 7 a.m. when we first saw some strange objects in the east in the direction of Taumarunui. We first noticed three. They appeared to be hovering about 7000ft above us, but as we were flying at 135 miles an hour, it would be difficult to estimate accurately whether or not they were moving. They were oval and looked like giant discs. They seemed to be a reddish orange with a red flame coming from them. We flew on in the same direction for another three minutes and we saw a number of others. They seemed to be flying in a single line formation. Suddenly they all climbed steeply at great speed and disappeared. All the men are experienced pilots in first-class physical condition and have been aerial road-dressing for four years.—P.A.

perhaps better than average intelligence, and deeply religious." At the same time, the Admiral wrote that: "...he did not believe that she has the knowledge or ability to manufacture...the fantastic story." 231. And then the Admiral added what had impressed him the most: "She has the appearance of one being impelled into doing something over which she has little control." 232.

After that introduction, Knowles recommended Navy Intelligence attempt radio contact with the aliens utilizing the band and code designated by "Affa." 233.

Would Admiral Espe buy all this? Well, its very doubtful if the "Affa" story would be favorably received at Naval Intelligence if Espe could have learned about the messages transmitted on May 28th. Among other things, "Affa" communicated to Mrs. Swan that the terrain of the planet Uranus was "exactly like the Earth," that the inhabitants and animals thereof were similar, and even the government system and how people dressed were similar, adding: "Yes, we even have roadside eating places." 234.

Anyone who had taken astronomy 101 would know Uranus is a huge ball of methane gas with a temperature hundreds of degrees below zero.

May 27th. UFOs over Rogersville, Tennessee.

BLUE BOOK records state:

"On 28 May 1954, Mr(...deleted) Personnel and Administration Section, Division of Reservoir Properties, Tennessee Valley Authority, reported by telephone that three TVA employees at the construction site of the John Sevier Steam Plant, Rogersville, Tennessee, had observed unidentified flying objects at approximately 0900 hours, 27 May 1954." 235.

The weather was clear, dry, and with no cloud cover. The principle witness reported:

"(...deleted) said that he was standing in a 37-foot excavation and was preparing to signal a crane operator to lift an unusually heavy load of structural steel. He made a visual inspection to determine if the load was aligned with the tip of the 220 foot boom of the crane, and at this time, observed a bright, luminous object about the size of a baseball. He said his angle of view was about 15 degrees to the west, and he estimated the altitude of the object as over 20,000 feet(...deleted) called to(...deleted) and all three observed the object for about one minute. (...deleted) described the object as pure white, about the size of a full moon; (...deleted) described it as aluminum-colored, about the size of a basketball. The object apparently remained motionless until another object of similar description passed very rapidly from north to south, through the observer's line of sight, at approximately the same altitude. (...deleted) did not see the second object. When this occurred, the first object moved at high speed to the west without any apparent acceleration. Both objects then faded from sight within three or four seconds." 236.

Subversives?

At least one member of the audience was not very thrilled when George Adamski came to Detroit to enlighten the citizens of Motor City and

ended up talking about more than his supposed contact with a spaceman. An unnamed woman (Her name was deleted from official declassified FBI files) attended an Adamski lecture on May 27th and became alarmed when she heard the visiting Californian say Americans should work to reduce nuclear weapons because the H-Bomb could blow up the world. It seems the space brothers were afraid mankind had started something that could get out of hand.

The woman felt that the Laura Marxer crowd, which had sponsored Adamski, might be a subversive organization so she immediately informed the FBI. In her letter to the Bureau, the woman wrote that a small select group, to be called "The Flying Saucer Review Group," was in the works. The group was to be led by a Mr. Henry Maday who used the pen name Jared Lyon. 237.

May 29th. Willcox, Arizona.

The Air explained the next case as: "Reflections from almost anything -- could be a/c, balloon, ice crystals, etc." 238.

The witnesses' report is reproduced here as it was found in BLUE BOOK files. (See report)

New Mex.
June 9, 1954

Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sirs:

I wish to report the sighting of a so-called flying saucer on May 29, 1954 while driving from Lordsburg, New Mexico to Tucson, Arizona.

At a point someplace between Willcox and Benson about 10:30 AM my attention was attracted from the road by the reflection of the sun on a smooth, silvery, disc-shaped object. It appeared to tilt toward me and in so doing it caught the reflection of the sun. The reflection lasted for a period of 2 to 5 seconds and then the object resumed a more horizontal position and the reflection was lost.

I would estimate that I viewed the object at an angle of about plus 20 degrees and it might have been two to five miles distant. It appeared to be about 50 ft. in diameter and perhaps 6 ft. thick. In the brief time it was visible I could not detect any lateral movement. I was alone at the time so there was no other witness that I know of.

Very truly yours,

The Air Force interpreted the following report as a "possible meteor." A teletype report from March AFB, California, told of an encounter near Las Vegas, Nevada, on May 30th:

"UFOB AF43-49273 C47 REPORTED SIGHTING ONE AIRBORNE OBJECT AT 30 2340Z OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION CYLINDRICAL ABOUT THE SIZE OF A B36 WITHOUT WINGS OR TAIL SURFACE GRAY IN COLOR. OBJECT AS REPORTED BY PILOT TRAVELED AT PHENOMENAL SPEED AT APPROXIMATELY 8000 FT TO 10000FT. SURVEYED OBJECT FOR ABOUT TEN SECONDS BEFORE DISAPPEARING ON A HEADING OF APPROXIMATELY SIXTY FIVE DEGREES TYPE OF AIRCRAFT SIGHTING OBJECT C47 AF43-4973 AT AN ALTITUDE OF TEN THOUSAND FEET ON A HEADING OF TWO HUNDRED FORTY FIVE DEGREES. LOCATION OF OBJECT 340 35N PILOT OF AIRCRAFT GIANNINI J.L. MAJOR POPE AFB N. CAROLINA. WEATHER AT TIME OF OBSERVATION CLEAR SKIES WITH THIRTY MILES VISIBILITY." 239.

May 31st.

East Malvern, Victoria, Australia, had two "visits" the end of May; one on the 30th and another on the 31st. Apparently the same object was seen on both occasions, but it was only the May 31st incident that we have data on. It seems that about 8 p.m. in the evening a "white football-like" object swooped out of the sky spewing a yellowish gaseous trail. The thing then displayed various velocities, from a floating, barely moving motion; to high speed. The thing backed up, flatten its shape, vanished and then reappeared. Finally, the object shot skyward straight up out of sight.

That same night three other reports of strange objects in the heavens came in from other locations in the Victoria region. A dull-glowing UFO was seen at one place, and at another site a strange object was seen that suddenly disappeared, "like switching off a light." The third report concerned a star-like point was seen hovering in the sky and then suddenly making a miles long lateral move. 240.

"Bounces off the design board."

The saucer-like craft of C.M. Frost and the Canadian Roe Company's Project "Y" was given a spread in Life magazine on May 31st. The essay maintained that the U.S. Air Force was taking the invention seriously and was ready to "invest heavily" in a prototype. 241.

The article in Life said: "Even while the U.S. prepared for the saucer age, the Air Force received pictures of flying saucers, presumably Soviet, flying over Scandinavia." 242.

Time magazine followed Life's lead: "The USAF's willingness to spend money on saucer-plane experiments results from a growing belief that the Soviet Air Force may be ahead of the U.S. in this field." 243.

UFOs in the Far East.

A news release by the U.S. Fifth Air Force confirmed that "flying saucers" had been seen and pursued by American jets over South Korea. 244.

Korat, Thailand.

Three student Royal Thai Air Force pilots took off from Korat airbase in T6 aircraft one night in May 1954. Their instructor, Captain Uthai Lumyatjata, followed in a fourth plane. The students were to engage in night flying training and conditions seemed ideal. The night was moonless and cloudless. It was about midnight.

After leveling off at 3,000 feet, the flight of four planes joined up and headed east. Not long afterward, Captain Lumyatjata spotted an orange fireball about 1,500 feet away and approaching fast, but since the odd object was a little above his altitude, there was no chance Capt. Lumyatjata was in danger. Within moments the fireball passed over the T6s and Capt. Lumyatjata got a good look at the object, which he estimated was six feet in diameter and moving at a speed of about 900 mph. Perplexed at the unexpected "air traffic," Capt. Lumyatjata radioed Korat tower and requested information. He was told nothing else was scheduled to be in the area.

Capt. Lumyatjata put his T6 in a 180 degree turn so he could pursue the orange ball. As he took out after the UFO, the flight instructor noted a small blue fireball on the right side of the big orange one, apparently attached. To the instructor's surprise, the UFO turned rapidly and ended up 600 feet behind him! Once behind Capt. Lumyatjata, the UFO slowed to match the speed of the T6. Now at close range, the UFO could be seen better. Capt. Lumyatjata said he was:

"...able to see that the center of the orange fireball was quite dark, as though nothing were there, whereas the blue-colored light appeared to be round the rim of whatever was in the center. The glow was too bright to determine any shape or substance. After 20 seconds it increased its speed and flew ahead and made a right-hand climbing turn. I followed with full throttle and gave chase up to 5,000 feet but could not get near it. I had to turn back because I had no oxygen mask. The object continued to climb and it appeared to gain speed until it became invisible to the eye." 245.

Mars.

Suspicious about the planet Mars remained strong. In Europe French UFO experts Aime Michel and Jimmy Guieu were both taken by the apparent correlation between the orbital position of the red world and the outbreaks of UFO flaps on Earth. Guieu had recently published the first French UFO book, Les Soucoupes Volantes Viennent Dun Autre Monde (Later translated into English) but it was Michel who got credit for the Mars theory. The theory was based on sparse data but Michel felt confident enough in the Spring of 1954 to predict a new big wave of UFO reports would erupt sometime in September 1954. The weekly Paris-Match printed the prediction for the record. Months later even Michel was astonished when the Mars theory seemed "brilliantly confirmed." 246.

FOOTNOTES

1. Clark, Evert. "Are They Hiding Those Lights Under a Bushel?" Washington D.C. Daily News. 5 January 54.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Ibid.
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FLYING SAUCERS INTERNATIONAL

P. O. Box 34 - Prouse Station - Los Angeles 35, Calif.

"I will show wonders in the heavens . . ." - Joel 2:30

10, January, 1954
(0012)

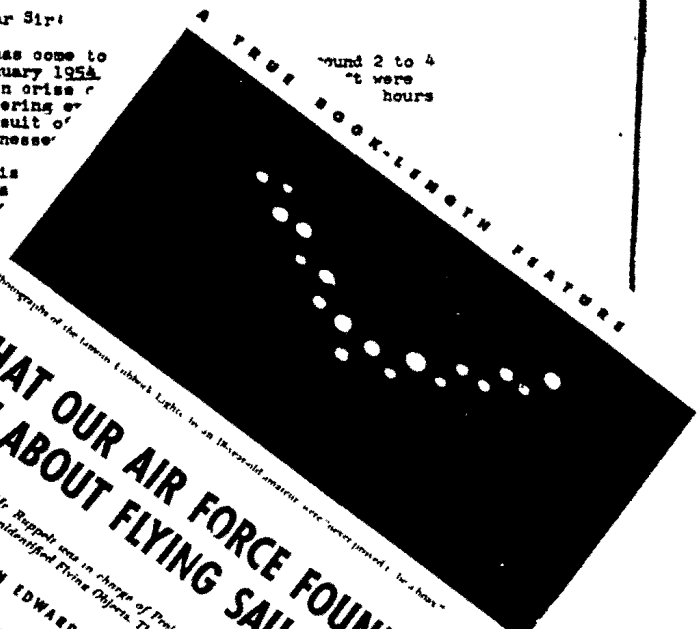
Director
Ground Observer Corps/
Air Filter Center
Knoxville, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

I has come to
January 1954
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pursuit of
Tennessee

It is
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WHAT OUR AIR FORCE FOUND OUT ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS

From 1951 to 1953 Mr. Ruppelt was in charge of Project Blue Book, the official Air Force investigation of unidentified flying objects. This is what he learned about them

BY CAPTAIN EDWARD J. RUPPELT, USAF

On August 12, 1953, a woman in the Ground Observer Corps in the Black Hills of South Dakota reported a light burning in the sky in the east. She was sitting on the porch of her home. The thing was not in the shape of a saucer. It was a bright, glowing, light green neon tube. It was about the size of a football. It was moving in a curved path. It was seen by two other women who were sitting on the porch. They were all in the same room. They were all looking out the window. They were all seeing the same thing. They were all seeing a light green neon tube. They were all seeing it move in a curved path. They were all seeing it disappear behind the mountains north of the city.

4—Sat., April 24, 1954 RICHMOND INDEPENDENT

'Green Fireball' Spotted in Nevada

ELKO, Nev. (AP) — Authorities today were investigating eyewitness accounts of a spectacular "fireball" which was reported seen in the skies over Elko. The CAA said it received several calls from persons who said they saw a brilliant object the color of a "light green neon tubing" and spouting an orange flame travel across the sky last night. They said it disappeared behind the mountains north of the city.

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Leonard H. Snowfield
Editor
1007 Belmont Ave.
Channahon, Ill.

Reply to above address or P O Box 1555

INTERPLANETARY DISCS SWARM OVER NATION. PENTAGON UTTERY IS SHOWDOWN NEAR? These are blatant, but fact-rooted headlines. While the news se... addlingly don dark glasses, completely ignoring one ma-
 jor "saucer" hearing... and instead gave top billing to the McCarthy-Army
 hearings over W... of the coming storm... maybe a showdown, loomed
 Pandor... Pentagon officials screwed down the lid of the
 on the new... then gave three wishes 1) that no one
 inter... on the outside 2) that the nation's
 of recent sightings 3) that our
 while

Ike Met Space Aliens

President Dwight D. Eisenhower met with a group of British high-ranking officials...
 member...
 on



THE AIR FORCE LOOKS AT "SAUCERS"

by Allen Long

Continued from Science News

THE U S Air Force doubts flying saucers come from outer space. But Air Force officials are keeping an open mind on the subject—just in case.

You can never tell when one of the darn things will land, one spokesman said. But his chuckle showed disbelief.

The spokesman, who declined to be quoted by name, said 90 percent of the 1953 crop of flying saucer reports has been traced to such things as weather balloons, temperature inversions and jet planes. Only ten

percent of the reports turned in during 1953 were unaccounted for.

He said he felt the Air Force could have explained the remaining ten percent as natural or man-made phenomena if more information had been available.

Flying saucer hysteria in the United States has been stimulated by sensational sightings reported from time to time in the press. And the mystery apparently is made even deeper by an Air Force policy of not discrediting a person or organization.

When a sensational flying saucer report is received the Air Force investigates. If the experts conclude that the sighter had hallucinated or that he deliberately concocted a hoax the Air Force usually turns down the report.

Why I Believe

By MACKINLAY KANTOR
 Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Andersonville

The noted writer—co-author with Gen. Curtis E. LeMay of "Mission with LeMay. My Story"—tells of the strange personal sighting that convinced him that UFOs are real.



in 1954 and...
 H...
 Warrant