

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

1955 January-June

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

By

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Fremont CA

“UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse.”

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

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

Notes on sources:

The UFO wave of 1954 was primarily an "overseas" phenomenon. Coverage of regions outside the U.S. was limited for American researchers since civilian UFO groups like APRO were just beginning to develop contacts in places like Brazil and Venezuela, but thanks to Barry Greenwood, who spent countless hours scanning files of foreign newspapers in University libraries in New England, we have a many more UFO sightings to study. Barry's contributions are easy to spot due to his distinctive handwriting when listing dates and names of newspapers. (See sample)

*El Mercurio
Santiago Chile
Dec 22 1954*

Barry's writing.

One might also say a word about the translators for NICAP and APRO.

NICAP's "AMD" is better than APRO's "Joe," although both men did an adequate job. Direct translations of Spanish into English by "Joe", however, can be hard to figure out, therefore it was necessary to change a few words here and there for improved understanding.

Once in awhile both "Joe" and "AMD" insert interesting personal remarks which are unique sources of information.

As one can tell by a quick glance at the text, APRO's contribution of reports covering the last latter part of 1954 is considerable due to "Joe" who collected information as well as doing translations.

NICAP's foreign news clipping collection is larger than one might think, and many pieces of information from overseas are translated by "AMD." Many such items didn't seem to have appeared in the group's publications.

Jan Aldrich has collected so much material its difficult to sort out which item he made available.

Les Treece-Sinclair's and Robert Gribble's files always seem to have an occasional news clip not found in anywhere else, and of course there is Gribble's records on Fontes' activities which are a big help.

CUFOS archives are so extensive it can always counted on for something.

Finally, Murray Bott's Australian, New Zealand, and European, news clips continue to be a gold mine of data.

1955 (no day/ no month) At sea off the mouth of the Columbia River, Oregon
(daytime)

If this was a balloon pushed about by the wind, it was quite a wind!

In a letter to APRO it was said:

"The year was 1955 [no exact date given], I was deep sea fishing a few miles South, Southwest of the Columbia River, alone in the cockpit of my trolling boat. While watching the tips of my trolling poles for strikes, I noticed a round, silver object suspended in the air at about 25,000 to 30,000 feet. I continued to observe it for a period of approximately twenty minutes. During this time, it remained perfectly still. As I watched, suddenly it took flight as described below:

"From a suspended position, it suddenly accelerated on a Northward and upward course, thence South on an upward course, thence back North on an upward course, thence Southward again, accelerating on each leg of its climb. Then it tipped on its side, and flew straight up at a tremendous rate of speed until it disappeared from sight.

"The day was perfectly clear and I observed it very clearly without obstruction to my view. I also have substantiation of the sighting of this mysterious UFO.

"While I do not claim to be an expert observer, I will say that as a commercial deep sea fisherman, I am accustomed to seeing all normal flying objects...and this was something definitely unknown and flew a distinct pattern at terrific speed.

"It is somewhat of an uneducated guess as to its height, as I judged from a number of planes I have seen flying over the same approximate location. By the same token, I would judge it to have been approximately 75' to 100' in diameter." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: APRO. From: W.L. Powell, P.O. Box 217, Tualatin, Oregon. 97062. Date: 30 July 68. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

1 January. Lima, Peru. (night)

Back in the news again.

A news item said:

"The Peruvian government newspaper *La Nation* said Saturday that five flying saucers appeared over Lima last night and were seen by at least 50 persons, including one of the paper's editors. *La Nation* said the saucers were brilliant, silver-colored objects, throwing off intense light. They stood still over the city for about five minutes, the paper said." (xx.)

(xx.) Lima, Peru. 2 January 55. (UP)

1 January. Maturin, Venezuela. (daytime?)

Saucers over Monagas State?

A press report tells us:

"Clerks and functionaries of the Government's different dependencies, Town Hall, Municipal Council, and others, came out to the streets to observe the 'whitish point' in the sky over the city. Some reckon it could have been Venus, others a meteorological balloon and others some big piece of paper trapped by an air current and sent up by it to the stratosphere. Dr. Francisco Jimenez Sevillano, Judge of Monagas State, declared the object, seen by him, was circular and whitish. Mr. Humberto Hernandez, Chief of the Printing House of the State, declared he saw it as a whitish point which ascended upwards at great speed and that the at intervals seemed to vanish. He stated before the opinions of bystanders, that no military or commercial plane was known to fly that high. Dr. Regulo Marto Banderviest, Second Judge of First Instance in Criminology stated the same: bright colored round-shaped object going at tremendous speed. Prof. Pedro Tovar, Director of Education of the State, adds that he saw a round-shaped object which remained stationary for about an hour before racing away at great speed." (xx.)

(xx.) "Maturin, Venezuela. 55-1-1." APRO files. Probably translated by "Joe." Photocopy in author's files.

1 January. Caracas, Venezuela.
(4:30 p.m.)

"Frighten zamuros."

Local news story passed on to APRO representative Horacio Gonzalez:

SUNDAY NEWS, JANUARY 2, 1955

The Inquiring Photographer

By JIMMY JEMAIL

THE NEWS will pay \$10 for each timely, interesting question submitted and used in this column. Today's award goes to Andy Semansco, 437 Highland Ave., Mount Vernon, N. Y.

THE QUESTION.

Are you entirely convinced there are no such things as flying saucers?

THE PLACE.

Downtown Manhattan.

THE ANSWERS.

Bill Crank, Duane St., club owner:

"No. Actually, I think that flying saucers are a secret military weapon. They belong to the United States and the government isn't telling anyone about them. Since the Russians succeeded in bribing our citizens and stealing the A- and H-bombs, how come they've slipped up on this one?"

Al Sullivan, Seaman Ave., Inwood, chief clerk of Municipal Court: "Not entirely. The U. S. Air Force denies any knowledge of a secret flying weapon. Flying saucers could be some kind of contact from another planet. We're talking about space travel. How do we know that a civilization superior to ours isn't already doing it?"

Esther Iarossi, Staten Island, clerk: "No. I'm convinced that there are flying saucers. I read a book about flying saucers landing. The descriptions and arguments were so plausible that they left me convinced. Many responsible people have reported sighting flying saucers."

Sandy Gress, Centralia, Ill., high school student: "No. I'm convinced that flying saucers are a distinct possibility. Commercial airline pilots must be top men mentally and physically. Several have reported sighting flying saucers. One, I remember, actually tried to fly close to one, but it shot away at tremendous speed."

Paul Halpern, Walton Ave., Bronx, salesman: "Just about. I don't think there are any such things. The books on the subject are written for those who like comics. I know that 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea' was a prophecy.

but these books are not. I'm a practical man. I want proof."

Albert N. Duker, Sanford Ave., Flushing, merchandise manager: "Yes, I am. I'm aware of the fact that some reputable persons have reported seeing flying saucers. Some pilots say they pursued them. All this I attribute to mirages. A mirage looks real. It's very deceptive. I've mistaken mirages for fields, roads, ships at sea, etc."

Man (or woman) on the street interviews.

Are flying saucers real?

New York
Sunday News
2 January 55.

(Murray Bott files)

"Los Chorros is a residential zone some 25 or 30 minutes from Caracas when traffic is congested (15 to 20 when it is not). A very cool area with many woods and groves. A Mrs. Novacek noticed a flock of zamuros (crows) flying disorderly, like they were frightened by something. She also noticed her parrot turning its head up in a very funny way to gaze at the sky. When she looked up she saw a large, luminous object very high up and about the hand's size [sic], standing in the sky [hovering?]. The object began to move sideways, make turns, and cruise at different angles. Finally, it disappeared upwards at great speed. She called her husband and other relatives in the house. They too saw it. Time: 4:30 in the afternoon. Duration of the sighting: 15 minutes." (xx.)

(xx.) "Los Chorros, Venezuela 55-1-1." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe." Photocopy in author's files.

2 January. Dorothy Martin to receive treatment. (See clipping below)

Woman Prophet of Doom Will Get Psychiatric Care

CHICAGO, Jan. 1 (AP)—Mrs. Dorothy Martin, who predicted disaster would sweep half the continent Dec. 21, is to be placed under psychiatric care, police said today.

Police Chief Thomas P. Kearin of suburban Oak Park said the agreement was reached yesterday with Mrs. Martin's husband, Harold. Under the agreement, Kearin said, she is to receive treatment in a state other than Illinois.

Kearin said the husband agreed after being told that police were considering charging Mrs. Martin with inciting a riot and possibly with contributing to the delinquency of minors.

The chief said the first charge would have been based on the boisterous crowd which blocked traffic Christmas Eve outside the Martin home in Oak Park. After her prophecy of doom failed to materialize, Mrs. Martin predicted that she and her associates would be picked up Christmas Eve by flying saucers piloted by space men. No saucers showed up. *C-1-2-55*

Children Sleepless
Police considered filing the delinquency charge because, they said, Mrs. Martin had talked

about space travel to neighborhood children, causing sleeplessness for the youngsters.

The Martin home was locked today and mail overflowed the postal box.

One of Mrs. Martin's associates, Dr. Charles A. Laughead, was declared sane today in a Lansing, Mich., court hearing. Dr. Laughead lost his post as Michigan State College physician for predicting doom for the world.

A sister, Mrs. Margaret V. Laughead of Des Moines, Iowa, had petitioned the court to declare Dr. Laughead mentally ill and have him committed to a state mental institution.

Two court-appointed psychiatrists said that, although the doctor's ideas were "unusual," there was no proof that he was mentally ill. The petition to have him committed was dismissed.

(Credit:
Les-Treece Sinclair)

2-8? January. Ord, Nebraska. (night)

Red fireball "arches" over highway.

Our source states:

"The Ord vicinity has another mystery light in the sky, reports the *Ord Quiz*.

"Last week two Burwell women, who were driving at night, reported a flaming red fireball that arose from a cornfield near the highway, arched over the highway in front of the car, and fell into the field on the opposite side of the road.

"A search of nearby fields gave no trace of the phenomena which is the second to occur in the area.

"A few months ago, an Ord High School Senior, reported a 'glow' which preceded his car for eight miles and then turned around to pursue it. No one ever solved the mystery." (xx.)

(xx.) Ord, Nebraska. *The Enterprise*. 12 January 55.

Untranslated clipping dated: 3 January 55. (Credit: Barry Greenwood) (See below)

4 January. Bolivar City, Venezuela. (2:00 a.m.)

"Now I'm certainly sure."

A press account tells us:

"Yesterday at 2:00 a.m. in the morning, Francisco Gonzales and Amable Silva observed a luminous craft which, they stated, was a flying saucer. The place of the sighting was the highway which leads to Upata, in front of the entrance to a dam in Capucito. The machine flew in a perpendicular manner and, they state, it hovered and remained stationary in the air for several minutes. It then continued its flight and vanished at an extraordinary height behind a hill named El Corozo, in the environs of said town. 'We saw it as we were fixing our car in the road,' said Gonzales, and 'now I'm certainly sure that flying saucers exist as I've seen one.'" (xx.)

ANTOFAGASTA—

Disco Volador Fué Visto a Gran Altura Sobre Cerro Moreno

Descripción del objeto avistado por el personal de la Radioestación de Caleta Coloso

ANTOFAGASTA.— Un objeto calificado como "disco volador" fué visto cuando se desplazaba a gran altura, un poco al sur del aeródromo de Cerro Moreno y hasta que se perdió en el horizonte.

La información fué dada por el jefe de la radioestación de Caleta Coloso, de la Compañía de Teléfonos, don Reinaldo Arellano Gutiérrez. Señaló, que el "disco" fué visto, además, por su esposa, señora Ester Gómez de Arellano, y el radiooperador don Guillermo Guerra.

Según sus declaraciones, el objeto fué avistado por el señor Arellano, a las 0.20 de la madrugada de ayer. Se lo mostró al señor Guerra y llamó

a su esposa, quien, asimismo, observó la presencia de ese objeto.

"El aparato se distinguía perfectamente —expresó el señor Arellano— al principio parecía circular, pero al pasar sobre el lugar en que estábamos, lo vimos de forma alargada. Iba a gran altura, más su luminosidad roja intensa lo hacía destacarse nitidamente en el cielo. Se mantuvo visible alrededor de un minuto y medio. Desapareció a velocidad extraordinaria hacia el oeste. Parecía un punto rojo que se escondía en el horizonte".

"Hasta ahora, yo creía que los "discos voladores" eran sólo producto de leyendas populares o motivos para charlas entretenidas, pero, lo que hemos visto me convence que esas máquinas existen", expresó finalmente el señor Arellano.— IRLARTE. Corresponsal.

El Mercurio
Santiago Chile
Jan 3 1955

(xx.) "Bolivar Venezuela. 55-1-5." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe."
Photocopy in author's files.

4 January. Salto, Argentina. (midnight?)

Luminous objects darting through space.

APRO files has this note:

"Unidentified flying objects erupted in the Salteno sky last night over the city. Around 24:00 hours [midnight?] several groups of people glimpsed strange brightly luminous objects darting through space. They were also seen by Sr. Hector Carbone, amateur astronomer, who at approximately the same hour saw them from his automobile on Paysandu Ave. He was accompanied by Dr. Amiels Pandolfi.

"Just prior to arriving at the bridge over the Dayman River they saw a disc of bluish light advance through a 15 degree angle at prodigious speed from south to north, in a direction opposite that of the automobile, and losing altitude. Suddenly the disc stopped in flight and began to rise vertically, discharging a trail of red and green substance, hiding itself rapidly from sight." (xx.)

(xx.) "Argentina Salto 55-1-5." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe."
Photocopy in author's files.

5 January. Manzales, Columbia. (between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.)

Thousands of observers.

A press report states:

"Thousands of people observed last night, between 7 and 9 p.m., during two hours, one of the most startling phenomenon of our times: a strange, luminous object which hovered around [sic] the city. Said to have the size of a big, 200-watt light bulb (a little larger than the size of a hand [sic]), and that regularly (at intervals) shot off streams of light, very bright, as of a rocket (a flare light). The object ascended upwards at extraordinary speed, and then vanished in [among?] the slopes of the Andian range to appear again after a short time, over the city." (xx.)

(xx.) "Columbia Manzales 55-1-6." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe."
Photocopy in author's files.

5 January. Caracas, Venezuela. (about 8:00 p.m.)

Red-glowing sphere.

A short APRO item: "A family of Caracas stated that while driving on the highway eastward about 8 p.m. they saw a red-glowing sphere hanging in the sky near the Avila mountains." (xx.)

(xx.) "Venezuela Caracas 55-1-6." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe."
Photocopy in author's files.

6 January. Steyr, Austria. (no time)

Saucers again? (See clipping)

6 January. Iroquois Falls, Ontario, Canada. (morning)

"I made a dash to save the cattle."

A story in the *Toronto Star* said:

"Three residents of nearby Montrock sighted what they believe is a flying saucer—although it was really shaped like a washtub—yesterday morning.

"Bill Eaton, a mill employee here, had just returned home from work, when he saw a glow which he at first assumed was a fire in his barn.

" 'I made a dash toward the barn to save the cattle,' he said, 'but when I came closer I could see the light was coming from an object like a washtub suspended about 200 feet in the air behind the barn.'

"Mr. Eaton ran to the house to call his wife, who phoned a neighbor, Jim Brindle. Both Mrs. Eaton and Mr. Brindle saw the object 'which gave off a bluish-orange light, like a short-circuit flash.'

"It had been stationary in the air and made no noise, when Mr. Eaton first saw it, but the object moved off and disappeared in the north 'like a glorious sunset in the distance.' " (xx.)

(xx.) Toronto, Canada. *Toronto Star*. 6 January 55.

7 January. Cobalt, Canada. (8:15 p.m.-10:00 p.m.)

Celestial contraptions concern Cobalt.

A story by reporter Don Delaplane tells about heavenly hi-jinks on Friday night:

"An RCAF jet aircraft rushed from North Bay Friday night to inspect the heavenly hi-jinks, but as usual, when confronted with such situations, air force officials made a resolute 'no comment.'

"A single saucer was observed Friday by John Hunt, president of the Cobalt Chamber of Commerce; Ray Johnson, mechanic at Agaunico Mines, and Al Jennings, a truck driver.

"A bright white disc appeared offshore—above Lake Temiskaming near the mine and cavorted about the sky from 8:15 to 10:00 p.m.

"Earlier, on the day after Christmas [December 26, 1954], the saucers had made their debut on the same spot, and according to Willy St. Jean, a hoist man, one hung over the property like a huge light. He summoned Mr. Hunt, who is bureau manager of the *North Bay Daily Nugget*." (xx.)

The Daily Mail

Carmelite House, Carmelite Street, E.C.4.

Cutting from issue dated.....6 JAN 1955

SAUCERS AGAIN ?

VIENNA, Wednesday. — Reports from Steyr today said that six silvery objects trailing streams of red hovered over the city — B.U.P.

(xx.) Toronto, Canada. *The Globe and Mail*. 10 January 55. p.5.

7 January. Popayan, Columbia. (no time)

Saucers seen over district capital:

"During the last two weeks lots of sightings and reports have poured down to this city of flying saucers and reports have poured down to this city of flying saucers seen all over the country.... Flying saucers have been sighted over whole States such as Cauca, Telima and Santander. One of the most notorious cases was at Popayan, capital of Cauca." (xx.)

(xx.) Bogota, Columbia. 7 January 55 (UP)

8 January. Cobalt, Canada. (4:30 a.m.)

More UFO news from Cobalt:

"Yesterday morning at North Cobalt, the objects staged a double-bill performance for Maurice Parent, 28-year-old miner, his wife Alice, 23, and their daughter Marielle, 5; Mrs. Patrick Ruddy, Gregory Ruddy, his wife Joan, and Harvey Ruddy.

"I guess our little girl Marielle is the youngest person ever to see one,' said Mr. Parent. 'We had her out of bed just to assure ourselves our eyes weren't playing tricks.'

"Mrs. Parent rose at 4:30 a.m. to inspect the crib of her month-old son, Roger. She looked out the window and saw a bright object hovering above the roof of Mrs. Patrick Ruddy's home across the road to the east.

"Then, when Mrs. Ruddy got up, there was another saucer dancing in the western skies.

"Mr. Parent said the object moved to a lamppost in front of the Ruddy home and began to dodge about above it.

"The light was so bright it was difficult to look at. The light on the post itself looked like a dirty light in comparison,' he said. Both objects galloped around sky for two hours before taking off vertically at great speeds.

"Bud Morgan, a gunsmith and restaurant operator, and several other men, have rifles handy with the purpose of taking a shot at one of the objects. However, the saucers have been quite harmless to date.

"The confusing situation is further complicated by the fact that the onslaught was predicted several months ago by a U.S. resident who wrote mining man Dan Hellens. He told Mr. Hellens the saucers were bound to arrive because they had an affinity with the cobalt found in the district mines." (xx.)

(xx.) Toronto, Canada. *The Globe and Mail*. 10 January 55. p.5.

8 January. Border region between British Guiana and Venezuela. (no time)

"Umbrella-shaped saucers."

According to a press account:

"Now are umbrella-shaped saucers, according to the news proceeding from the border between Venezuela and British Guiana. The umbrella-shaped flying saucers, observed in that region, according to eye-witnesses, flew at a speed as that of any average plane. Months ago, several traders, arriving in from Trinidad, ascertained that the flying saucers have also been seen over that island." (xx.)

(xx.) "Venezuela Bolivar 55-1-5." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe." Photocopy in author's files.

8 January. Korea.

"Flying saucers no joke."

Here is a clipping found in APRO files:

"Flying saucers are no longer a joke to Bill Boss, Canadian Press war correspondent.

"Back from Korea, he said in an interview Wednesday that he is impressed with the reports of fighter-bomber pilots telling of flying saucers, disk clusters 'or whatever they are called.'

"Boss told of reports from 'seven independent' pilots on the same day, Jan. 8. 'There is more to this than we all thought,' he said. 'I think the story of the disks was the most significant to come out of Japan.'

"The evidence of the pilots, some of whom 'locked' with the objects, is too strong to be dismissed.

"One disk kept its distance from the 700-mile-an-hour jet in a straight line and then drew away.

"It must have had a multiple of the speed of sound to do that,' said Boss.

"The sky clusters were always reported out of from the Russian-held island of Sakhalin or the Russian-held mainland.

"Possibly it is significant that saucer stories always appear over Western places of strategic interest, like northern Japan or Texas, but never where satellite forces are committed.'

"It looks like a Russian experiment?' a reporter asked.

"It looks like a Russian accomplishment,' Boss replied." (xx.)

(xx.) Vancouver?, Canada. *Northern Daily News*. 29 January 55. (CP)

12 January. Talara, Peru. (morning)

Maneuvered for three hours.

A translation found in NICAP files says:

"On the morning of January 12, 1955, a strange aircraft with the characteristics

of a saucer maneuvered for three hours in the sky of Talara, in the north of Peru. The witnesses say the object had a cabin, in which they believed there must be a crew, but I don't know whether this statement can be trusted, since the object was at an altitude of 20,000 feet. It was flying in the direction of the 'Capitan Montes' military air base, and was observed from the CORPAC airport and from the El Tablazo military base. A plane was sent up from Talara base, but the object rose still higher, and disappeared upward. At the airport it was observed by numerous witnesses, among them the mayor of Tumbes." (xx.)

(xx.) NICAP files. (See material dated "12 January 55.") No newspaper mentioned. CUFOS archives.

13 January. Aversa, Italy.

An Italian Travis Walton?

A news wire report says:

"A peasant from the little town of Aversa, Italy, known to all as a serious and sober person, disappeared two days ago from his house. Some 48 hours later, when he came back to town he told the inhabitants of Gricignano a story almost incredible, which these believed in. The man said that when he was ready to get home after work, two 'beings came to him with 'fire-colored faces' (faces like the color of fire) and very shining eyes. They spoke a non-understandable language and signaled him to follow them. The peasant states that they made him walk during two days without feeding him or giving him anything to drink. What seems strange in this incident is that the countryman seemed not being tired, as when somebody walks without interruption for two days, and neither show signs of hunger or thirst." (xx.)

(xx.) "Aversa Italy 55-1-13." APRO files. Translation: Probably by "Joe." Photocopy in author's files.

Untranslated clipping dated: 15 January 55. (Credit: Claude Mauge) (See page 10) (This story is about a UFO over Majunga, Madagascar)

17 January. West German army recruitment film.

According to a newspaper story:

"West Germany's first recruiting film is a flying saucer view of the world. In a Bonn cinema today young Germans sat unmoved as the film showed them Martians surveying the world and commenting: 'We also had an epoch of wars and conflict on Mars long ago. We called it the age of nonsense.' When their electronic telescope reviewed Bonn, the Martians saw Chancellor Adenauer speaking 'for peace and freedom, a strong Europe and a reunited Germany.' The Martians commented: 'Now there is a man who comes closer to our way of thinking. He is the furthest advanced of them all. Not all his world comrades can follow his super-national ideas. What a

pity he is not one of us.' The Martians then showed how the new German soldiers would be treated. A burly, but friendly-faced, sergeant was shown greeting each recruit with a warm smile and a handshake." (xx.)

(xx.) London, England. *News Chronicle*. 17 January 55.

Soucoupe volante sur Majunga

La nouvelle remonte déjà à quelques jours, mais elle nous parvient seulement aujourd'hui les autorités de Majunga ayant sans doute attendu de recueillir sur la question des témoignages nombreux. L'information reçue ne se prononce d'ailleurs pas sur la nature du phénomène qu'elle qualifie simplement de phénomène lumineux ou de «disque lumineux».

Les observations ont été faites entre 19h. 30 et 19h. 45 dans les districts côtiers de Majunga et de Mitsinjo. Elles seraient toutes concordantes. L'un des témoins n'est autre que M. Quesnot, chef de district de Mitsinjo.

Un disque lumineux, de couleur bleu verdâtre entouré d'un halo de bruyard, d'un diamètre apparent semblable à celui de la lune est apparu au dessus de Majunga venant du Nord Est et disparaissant rapidement en direction du Sud ouest. Peu après l'objet était visible au dessus de Mitsinjo et sa luminosité était assez forte pour éclairer le sol d'une lueur bleue. Il s'éloignait alors vers l'ouest en direction de la mer ; M. Quesnot note qu'il put suivre des yeux pendant six secondes environ la trajectoire. Est Ouest du phénomène.

Ainsi Madagascar — qui se trouve sur ce point très en retard par rapport à la

France ou même à certains territoires africains — a-t-elle également ce que nous appellerons faute d'un terme plus approprié sa «Soucoupe volante». Si nos souvenirs sont exacts, les observations de ce genre — du moins celles qui sont connues — sont au nombre de trois, les deux précédentes ayant été faites l'une à Tananarive peu avant la fin de l'année par un groupe de lecteurs de notre journal, l'autre vers le mois de septembre au dessus de Fort-Dauphin, vers 4 heures du matin, par un correspondant de l'AFP.

L'observation que nous relatons aujourd'hui est, à n'en pas douter honnête et sérieuse. Nous avons toutefois voulu savoir si une explication naturelle était possible. Le service météorologique consulté admet, sans toutefois vouloir prendre position, que la description que nous venons de faire pourrait assez bien correspondre à celle d'un ballon-sonde lumineux. En effet, certains lâchers ont lieu parfois le soir et alors on accroche une lumière au ballon afin de pouvoir suivre sa marche au théodolite.

Une telle explication demanderait en tout cas à être vérifiée. Mais peut être après tout, s'agit il bien de ce que les américains nomment un U.F.O. — un objet volant non identifié ?

France Madagascar

~~France-Madagascar~~

Samedi 15 janvier 1955

Cyvidien, n° 23447

p. 1

17 January. Laon, France.

Shoot first and ask questions later.

A London newspaper noted:

"A news item headed 'EARTHMAN FINED' reads: 'Marcel Faisant saw two glowing discs, thought they were flying saucers, and fired at them with his shotgun. Magistrates at Laon, Northern France, fined him 15 pounds for smashing a tractor's

headlights and wounding two cows.” (xx.)

(xx.) London, England. *News Chronicle*. 17 January 55.

Untranslated clipping dated: 18 January 55. (Credit: Barry Greenwood)

18 January. Dewsbury, England. (about 5:10 p.m.)

“Something visited but no one knows what it was.” (See clipping on page 12)

20 January. Cincinnati, Ohio. (5:25 a.m.)

The THING—blackier than the night. “I was scared.”

Here is the story:

“Whatever it was, hanging there in the southeastern sky over Price Hill at 5:25 a.m. Thursday, it was blackier than the night.

“And it scared David Owen of 229 Craft street, Winton Place, a man not customarily susceptible to fear. He was delivering his *Enquire* route when he saw ‘the thing.’

“‘I was standing beside my car,’ Mr. Owen related, ‘at St. Lawrence and Rutledge avenues. I happened to look up and there was this big, black blob. I’d say about 55 feet in diameter, coming down—fast. It stopped when it was down about the height of Car...[son? Not clear] tower.

“‘Then it started back up again and headed southeastward over St. William Church, about Eighth and Sunset. It went out of sight in about three or four minutes. I know it was not smoke and it was blackier than the night...black as ink. I tell you for a minute I was scared. I’d sure like to know what it was.’

“A.W. Walstrom, U.S. Weather Bureau chief, couldn’t explain ‘the thing.’ No snow clouds, he said, that might cause such a phenomenon. No balloons aloft. No nothing.

“‘It’s anybody’s guess,’ said Mr. Walstrom.” (xx.)

(xx.) Cincinnati, Ohio. *The Cincinnati Post*. 21 January 55.

Untranslated clipping dated: 24 January 55. (Credit: Barry Greenwood) (See page 12)



El Tiempo

Bogotá Colombia

Jan 24 1955

DE MEDELLIN

De nuevo se afirma que han sido vistos platillos voladores

Medellín, 23. Personas por cuya seriedad merecen todo crédito, informaron que a las cinco de la mañana de hoy fue visto de nuevo, sobre el cerro de Santa Elena, a considerable altura, un extraño cuerpo que volaba de oriente a occidente.

Agregan los informantes que el aparato tenía forma de un paracaute abierto y que arrojaba bolas de fuego las cuales al apagar en el espacio formaban espesas nubes.

Como se sabe, desde hace algunos días se han observado en las regiones del oriente de Antioquia esta clase de aparatos, los cuales vuelan a alturas considerables y luego desaparecen.

Dewsbury Reporter

Wellington Road, Dewsbury

Cutting from issue dated:

23 JAN 1955

Shortly after 5 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon something visited Batley and Dewsbury, but no one apparently knows what it was.

Many people gazed in amazement at the spectacle described as "The Thing," or "A Flying Saucer." It was seen in the sky by Batley and Dewsbury people who have described the phenomenon as "A most wonderful sight."

Three Batley people, who had just left work with the Dial Automatic Scale Co., Bradford Road, Batley, told me their experience.

Mr. H. Corrison, of 2, Hirst Place, Batley, said he saw a bluey, green, oval-shaped disc with a flame. He was in Warwick Road and looking towards Batley when he saw the object.

Two other employees of the firm, who were leaving the premises with Mr. Corrison, and who saw the object, were Mrs. Gwen Tomlinson, of 6, Whitaker Square, Batley, and Mrs. H. Gledhill, of 7, Yard 1, Taylor Street, Batley.

Mrs. Tomlinson said it did not appear to be travelling fast, it was greenish in colour and there was a kind of a halo around it. Sparks seemed to be coming from the back of it.

NOT AT ALL FRIGHTENING.

"The thing" seemed to be coming from Mount Pleasant area over to Bradford Road, but it was not at all frightening.

"I was in the blitz in Birmingham during the war, but I never saw anything like it," said Mrs. Tomlinson.

Mrs. Gledhill said of the object: "I have never, in all my life, seen anything so beautiful."

She thought it was an enormous green light at first, until she saw it travelling, fairly slowly and not very high, in the sky.

She was so amazed to see it that she was not at all scared because it was so beautiful."

Asked if they believed in flying saucers, Mrs. Gledhill and Mrs. Tomlinson said they did not really know. They thought by now there would have been more proof if such things existed. Normally, when anything was seen in the sky people thought it was connected with aircraft, but the object they saw was so different.

SEEN AT SHAW CROSS.

Another person who saw the strange phenomenon was Mrs. J. W. Walker of 3, Hillersley Road, Shaw Cross.

Mrs. Walker saw the object about the same time on the same day as the Batley people, and her description was very similar.

About 5.10 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Walker said she had gone to the door of her home with her daughter, Mrs. Talbot, who was leaving after having tea with her.

"I just happened to look up and see this thing," said Mrs. Walker. It was round and moved fairly slowly in a circular fashion and she and her daughter watched it for about ten seconds. It was not travelling up, or across, but in a circular movement, and it was quite beautiful. The "saucer" was going in the direction of Southhill, not too high and quite visible, as it was a clear evening.

Her daughter, Mrs. I. Talbot, of Beaton Street, Ashworth Road, Dewsbury, saw the "thing" at the same time.

On Wednesday morning, Mrs. Walker said she looked at the daily newspaper and read of a man seeing a flying saucer in Southport the previous night. It was then that she wondered if she had seen the same thing.

Mrs. Walker, however, does not really believe in flying saucers. She feels they are things which scientists are trying to get into the atmosphere and which they are keeping secret.

Other people have reported seeing the object at the same time. A few weeks ago, several Dewsbury people said they had seen a similar object near Mirfield.

Mr. T. Hanson, of North Street, Orms Bank, Batley, a painter and decorator, said he was driving along Bradford Road on Tuesday about 5.10 p.m., when he saw an object in the sky. It was a bright green and about the size of a football and it seemed to drop down behind a block of houses.

Other occupants in the car thought he was joking and did not believe him, said Mr. Hanson.

25 January. Ashburton, New Zealand. (9:30 a.m.)

Parachute?

According to a press report:

"Last Tuesday morning at 9:30 an Ashburton businessman and his two daughters were motoring from Hakatere to Ashburton. It was a bright sunny morning without a cloud in the sky.

"His daughters suddenly saw an object in the sky which at first glance appeared to be a parachute slowly descending. On closer examination it was apparent that the object was not a parachute, although the shape was similar to the semi-spherical silk bowl of a parachute. The bright sun was reflecting strongly on the object, and it was obvious that it was made of metal similar to aluminum. It was also much larger than a parachute.

"The motorist said he immediately increased his speed to come closer to the object, which was still gradually descending. Soon afterwards, however, the object stopped its descent and slowly moved horizontally in a northerly direction. A few seconds later it suddenly increased its speed and, in a few moments, was travelling at a phenomenal pace. In a few seconds it had disappeared from sight. To have pursued it in his car would have been hopeless, said the driver.

"From the time the occupants of the car first saw the object to the time it disappeared would be about three minutes, he concluded." (xx.)

(xx.) Newspaper name not available. Date story published: 1 February 55. Murray Bott files.

26 January. Melbourne, Australia. (9:25 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.)

"Flying moon and a colossal poached egg." (See clipping on page 14)

28 January. Fairbanks, Alaska. (midnight)

Scramble bell sounded.

Letter to APRO:

"While I have never actually observed any unexplained aerial phenomena, I was involved in an 'occurrence' while a member of the Air Defense Command stationed at Fairbanks, Alaska. My pilot and myself were on number one alert on the night of January 28, 1955, when the scramble bell sounded at 12:01. GCI radar had an unknown track with a heading of (as I recall) 135 degrees. The target, at first report was travelling at 2,800 knots; in the space of some ten minutes the targets' speed had been recomputed as 3,200, 3,600, and finally 4,800 knots. The target crossed our interception track while still out of range of the airborne radar and out of sight visually. Another pilot who was in the air at the time told me that he saw a 'blood red' glow in the sky in that part where the unknown

should have been. There may or may not have been any connection between the glow and the radar track. The Air Force dismissed the incident as electronic disturbance on the scopes. (emphasis mine) This object was above 30,000 feet altitude, as I recall climbing at that altitude and we were still climbing when we gave up the chase." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: APRO. From: Herbert B. Johnson, Jr. Rt. 1, Box 244, Grand Rapids, Minnesota. 55744. Date: 6 March 67. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

Clipping from the
CUFOS archives

(This is a much
more detailed
newsclipping
than the one
first used.)

A 'flying moon' joined the 'egg'

MELBOURNE, Thursday: Startled readers jammed newspaper switchboards last night reporting that a high-flying "poached egg" and a "weird blue half-moon" had whined over southern suburbs between 9.25 and 10.

The objects—latest as big as a plane. It was flying high at terrific speeds, and vanished in the direction of Rosebud.

At 10 p.m. Mr. Don Elliott, of Ormond, saw an oval object racing across the Elwood skies.

He said: "It had a yellow core surrounded by a white edge."

"I thought it looked like a colossal poached egg with an unusually large yolk."

"Peculiar whining noises could be heard as it shot out to sea towards Williamstown."

"It was travelling higher and faster than any plane."

But was clearly visible because of its luminous glow.

"Seen elsewhere"

In Adelaide today Mr. Fred Stone said many flying saucers similar to the "poached egg" variety reported over Melbourne last night had been seen in other countries.

Mr. Stone is SA president of the Australian Flying Saucer Bureau.

"In America, they commonly call this kind of saucer a doughnut," he said.

"It looks like that because the outer edge of the saucer is spinning rapidly and the centre is still, which makes it look darker."

"Many more people are beginning to believe about flying saucers lately."

"My home has been deluged with phone calls since we started the bureau."

31 January. Sechura Desert, Peru. (2:00 a.m. or 3:00 a.m.)

Guillermo Serpa, Commander Peruvian Air Force.

Interview by APRO-Peru:

"APRO: 'Your full name please?'"

Serpa: 'Guillermo Serpa, Commander Peruvian Air Force, retired.'

“APRO: ‘When did you retire?’

Serpa: ‘Six months ago.’

APRO: ‘When did you enter the service?’

Serpa: ‘In 1943.’

APRO: ‘Your age?’

Serpa: ‘43 years. I enrolled in the Officer’s Academy as a cadet, spent two years in the United States...’

APRO: ‘What part?’

Serpa: ‘Texas. I took special training at Corpus Christi.’

APRO: ‘Do you know the exact date of your observation?’

Serpa: ‘The night of January 31st, 1955.’

APRO: ‘Location?’

Serpa: ‘The Sechura Desert. I was with Colonel Juan Rodriguez Cavero.’

APRO: ‘How can I contact this officer?’

Serpa: ‘He is currently in service with the Chief of Staff’s office in the Air Ministry.’

APRO: ‘So, what happened?’

Serpa: ‘Well, we had been on vacation and were returning to duty. Our base was the Fiura Air Force Base, and we were crossing the desert to get to it. It must have been about 2 or 3 in the morning, I don’t remember the exact time. We had been driving all day and night, had had some trouble with the car and were quite tired.’

APRO: ‘It was a clear night?’

Serpa: ‘Completely.’

APRO: ‘And there was only sand?’

Serpa: ‘There was just the road ahead of us, and the sand.’

APRO: ‘There is a good road there?’

Serpa: ‘Of course, the Pan American Highway. We talked to each other in order not to fall asleep. During the conversation, flying saucers came up and I said something about what if we saw one now. Suddenly, we did see a bright object at about 25 degrees elevation. We could not determine its distance as it was night and there was no reference points. It was stationary at about 45 degrees to our right. When I saw it I said ‘Look, a flying saucer!’ But he answered ‘No, I don’t believe in those things.’ But gradually as we were coming abreast of it he slowed down and we watched it.

APRO: ‘Did the car suffer any electrical disturbances?’

Serpa: ‘No. We turned off the engine ourselves. But we left the lights on. Later, Colonel Rodriguez turned off the lights of the car and at that moment the disk inclined itself at about 45 degrees so that its surface was visible.’

APRO: ‘What could you see then? Were there any structural details visible?’

Serpa: ‘Well, it wasn’t that close to be able to distinguish that. Instead of seeing it from the side we saw it as more circular, seen from the top.

APRO: ‘But could you see the dome on top?’

Serpa: ‘Well, I wasn’t able to notice then...but when it did this, it changed from a stationary position to a fantastic speed and seemed to be coming right towards us. We immediately panicked. We thought that the object was coming right for us and had intentions which...well, we couldn’t know.’

APRO: ‘How far did it come?’

"Serpa: 'Well, we didn't notice. We went into first gear and sped off fast...'

APRO: 'But you must have seen at what elevation it was when it approached?'

Serpa: 'We saw it coming towards us, up above us. We drove away and didn't see it again. On the way back I said we should look in the morning's papers to see if someone had seen a flying saucer that day. It was the first thing we did the next day and sure enough someone in Arequipa had seen one. We thought it was probably the same object that had traveled across the country.'

APRO: 'Did the paper give a description of the object seen in Arequipa?'

Serpa: 'No, it was just a strange light. We reached our base at about dawn. All the officers were sleeping. I suggested to Colonel Rodriguez we waken some of our friends in order to take them out to see the phenomena, so they would not think we were lying. They would probably not believe us when we told them and would think we were crazy and continually bother us about it. However, we took this risk and told them all about it.'

APRO: 'How did they take it?'

Serpa: 'Well, some of them took it sort of skeptically, but frankly we don't care if people believe us or not. We know what we saw.'

APRO: 'What do you think you saw?'

Serpa: 'Well, we saw a strange object which, at that time, could not have been constructed by man. We had jet planes at that time but the fastest they went was about 1,200 kilometers per hour. The movements that this object performed were much, much faster.'

APRO: 'How long did the observation last?'

Serpa: 'It was a long time. I can't rightly remember now...maybe 20 minutes maybe more. But it was quite a while. The strange thing was that out there in the middle of the desert, well..there's just nothing there. Nobody lives there. There could be no light source to account for the brilliance of the object we were watching.'

APRO: 'What was the temperature like? Was it hot?'

Serpa: 'It was normal. It might get quite hot in the day but at night it's always cool. I would like to say that we saw a vehicle that was controlled by intelligent minds, a vehicle that does not fall within the human technology of that time. It was impossible for us to have made a mistake in what we saw. After all, We were pilots of some experience...'

APRO: 'What sort of planes have you flown?'

Serpa: 'A wide variety of planes. Just about everything our Air Force has had.'

Serpa: [Serpa continued without waiting for a question] 'We then started to discuss what it was we were seeing, to be sure of what we were seeing. We didn't want to have any doubts. The shape of the object was that of two dishes stuck together with a sort of dome on top. It appeared to be about twenty centimeters in size...'

APRO: 'At arm's length?'

Serpa: 'More or less.'

APRO: 'And it had a dome on top?'

Serpa: 'Well, what I could see was a bright object, about two centimeters thick, at arm's length, with a sort of, of bigger part in the center.'

APRO: 'Was it all the same color, or did this center part have another color?'

"Serpa: 'No, I saw it all of the same color. It was of a bright orange color. Later, when it began moving, it changed color. It began moving downwards, then up again, then down and so forth; it did this on its own axis, as if it were an elevator. Every time it made a movement downwards or upwards it changed color and gave the impression that it got brighter when it was at maximum velocity. It gave off bright rays like...like you see around the planet Venus. You know when the planet Venus has these bright rays around it?'

APRO: 'Do you remember the color changes corresponding to the different speeds?'

Serpa: 'Yes. When it was motionless it had a dull orange color, almost red. As it gained speed it would get brighter, brighter, until it was just a plain bright white.'

APRO: 'White?'

Serpa: 'Yes, bright white and giving off these rays of light.'

APRO: 'When it was bright like this, could you see it clearly?'

Serpa: 'No, as it got brighter it became more difficult to define the form. These rays became more intense and it seemed to change form. I could also hear a strange...something...like something metal...a sort of clicking...'

APRO: 'What could you compare this noise with?'

Serpa: 'Well, I've never heard it again so...its not a buzz...it's a strange noise...like a click, click, click. Of course, the sound carried because out in the desert, I mean we were the only people for many miles...'

APRO: 'Were you afraid?'

Serpa: 'Well, we started talking between ourselves to make sure that we were not seeing an illusion. We would ask each other like: "are you sure of what you are seeing? Do you think that the object could be of man's creation, in accordance with the present state of science?" He would answer no, he didn't believe so, and I said the same thing. I would have liked to have been near the base at that time to call out the other officers, but we were still about 200 kilometers away.

APRO: 'When the object descended, what elevation did it have? What was the lowest it got? It didn't land?'

Serpa: 'No, no. It would come down to about five degrees and would rise again to about 20 or 25 degrees.

APRO: 'What distance do you think you were from the object, taking into consideration the size you saw it at?'

Serpa: 'Well, I couldn't really tell because out in the desert at night there are no references like trees.'

APRO: 'Was there a Moon that night?'

Serpa: 'I don't remember.'

APRO: 'And jet planes?'

Serpa: 'Well, I've flown in the T-33 but as a passenger. I'm too old for jets!'

APRO: 'And Colonel Rodriguez?'

Serpa: 'He is a very experienced pilot.'

APRO: 'Did you inform the Base Commander?'

Serpa: 'Yes, we told the Commander and all the officers.'

“APRO: ‘Did you believe in the so-called flying saucers before your experience?’

Serpa: ‘No, not really.’

APRO: ‘It was your observation that made you change your mind?’

Serpa: ‘Yes.’

APRO: ‘Do you know other officers who have observed such phenomena?’

Serpa: ‘Only Colonel Rodriguez. But then there was another time I saw a strange light that I think was a flying saucer. I was with Major German Alvarado in the town of Huanta and as we were watching the stars (that night there was no clouds) I noticed a strange bright star near the constellation of Orion. After a few seconds it moved away at a fantastic speed and disappeared after a few seconds. It could not have been a satellite. The next day it appeared in the papers that communications in Huancayo had been disturbed as a strange light had passed overhead. This was three or four years ago [1964-65].’ (xx.)

(xx.) “Report on the Observation by Commander Serpa.” By Richard Greenwell, APRO-Peru. “The Sechura Desert Peru 55-1-31.” APRO files. Greenwell added these comments, for APRO headquarters’ benefit, to the report: “I was put into contact with Commander Serpa by Major Alvarado. The interview with Commander Serpa took place on October 5, 1967. On June 24, 1967, I sent you the report from *El Comercio* dated July 15, 1964, covering this observation. I intend to interview Colonel Rodriguez and send his report together with this one.” (I never found the Rodriguez interview in APRO files, if it indeed did take place—L.E. Gross)

2 February. UFO sighting by Capt. Dairo Celis and co-pilot B.J. Corres. (See the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 January-June*, pages 17-18) (The Venezuelan press story has a crude drawing of the UFO. See clipping on page 19 of this supplement)

3 February. “January informal letter to U.S. Naval Attache, Moscow.”

The office of Naval Operations in Washington sent its monthly letter concerning Russian military activities and scientific research to its attache stationed in Moscow. The classified document contained this information:

“Circular Type Aircraft. The *Air Force Intelligence Digest*, issue of December 1954, contains an interesting article entitled the Flying Disk. Of particular interest to Naval personnel in the Soviet Union are statements therein that:

- a. Latest information indicates that a turbine powered, circular-shaped jet aircraft—literally a flying turbojet engine—will be in existence in the West just five years from now,
- b. If the United States accepts the possibility of success of circular-shaped aircraft, then it must also conclude that the Soviet Union is capable of developing such aircraft, and

El avión con un Platillo Volador

THEY MET A FLYING SAUCER

El Extraño Aparato Inutilizó el Receptor de Radio del Avión A.F.E. de la Aeropostal

The strange craft rendered useless the radio-receptor of the LAV airliner.

El Capitán Darío Celis y el Copiloto P. J. Cortez Dijeron que el Trompo avistado en la ruta a Barquisimeto se Colocó a Escasa Distancia de su Avión, Pudiendo Observar sus Colores y una Serie de Ventanillas. Los pasajeros Eduardo Wallis y Rinal Marcozzi, Presenciaron también el Extraordinario Suceso: "Lo Más Sensacional de mi Carrera Profesional" —Declaró el Piloto Celis al Regresar a Maiquetía—

MAIQUETIA, febrero 8. (Corresponsal G. Villanueva). —Trataron de dar alcance al extraño aparato volador que encontraron en su ruta en zona de Barquisimeto los tripulantes del avión de la Línea Aeropostal Venezolana, en la mañana del miércoles, pero el aparato se les desapareció a gran velocidad y en descenso. La revelación en cuestión fue hecha por los pilotos del DC-3 Y. V. A. F. E., Capitán Darío Celis y el Co-Piloto P. J. Cortez, cuando regresaron a las 12 y 30 del día a Maiquetía esta tarde.

—También agregaron los aviadores, que tuvieron interferencia en las comunicaciones, cuando se encontraron en el mismo paralelo que el extraño aparato y en contacto con la radio LAV de Barquisimeto, a cuyos operarios estaban reportando el acontecimiento.

—El Capitán Celis entregó al corresponsal una nota escrita sobre lo ocurrido, que según su propia expresión, es lo más sensacional de su carrera profesional del aire, por lo que habrá de guardar para siempre al recuerdo de ese día.

—Casi simultáneamente advirtieron el fenómeno el Capitán Celis y el co-piloto Cortez. Por corto espacio lo observaron y mientras que, este último con los comandos en su mano iniciaba un viraje de cuarenta grados de banco, el Capitán Celis acudía a comunicarse a los pasajeros, varios de los cuales pudieron ver claramente un aparato de igual forma que un trompo o zaranda multicolor que volaba a corta distancia del avión y en sentido inverso a la rotación común o sea de derecha a izquierda.

—Todavía no habían completado el viraje buscando la dirección del trompo volador, cuando se le vio —agregaron los pilotos— ascender a gran velocidad y sentido opuesto al rumbo que ellos habían fijado. Pudimos verlo —agregaron luego— seguir en su descenso, pe-

ro muy pronto se nos perdió del alcance de la vista.

—Nosotros —dijeron los pilotos Celis y Cortez— siempre fuimos incrédulos a las versiones sobre platillos voladores y esas cuestiones, pero ahora estamos plenamente convencidos de que los tales aparatos existen.

Describieron los pilotos Celis y Cortez que el aparato por ellos observado, además de la forma de trompo o zaranda, lucía color verde en la parte superior, al centro una franja roja, reflejaba destellos muy brillantes y tanto arriba como abajo tenía unas especies de ventanillas.

—Respecto a la repercusión que sintieron en el sistema de comunicaciones expresaron que habían hecho contacto con Barquisimeto y comunicado lo sucedido, cuando de pronto no pudieron recibir más mensajes, pero en cambio al pudieron continuar reportando.

En la radio de Valera, que también captaron —señalaron los tripulantes del A.F.E.— la información dirigida a Barquisimeto, al no poder tener más comunicación con el avión supusieron que el aparato de radio se había dañado, ya que sólo pudieron volvernos a sintonizar cuando estábamos llegando a aquel aeropuerto.

—En ese sentido —prosiguieron diciendo— pedimos también el testimonio de los pasajeros Rinal Marcozzi, quien iba con destino a Valera y Eduardo Wallis C., quien se dirigía a Mérida. Ambas personas confirmaron haber visto lo mismo que nosotros, añadieron.

El avión T. V. C. A. F. E. de la Línea Aeropostal Venezolana cumplió en vuelo número 202-203 con plan Maiquetía, Valera y Mérida, habiendo tenido paros al llegar a Valera y al salir de allí rumbo a Mérida. Los pilotos Celis y Cortez, con 202-203, se despidieron de los pasajeros Wallis y Marcozzi, quienes se bajaron en Valera y se dirigieron a Mérida. Los pilotos Celis y Cortez, con 202-203, se despidieron de los pasajeros Wallis y Marcozzi, quienes se bajaron en Valera y se dirigieron a Mérida.

presa, la cual se acercaba a medida que podíamos distinguirlo más claro.

—El corresponsal inquirió acerca del concepto que sobre los platillos voladores tenían tanto el Capitán Celis, como el co-piloto Cortez, ahora que habían localizado en su ruta aquel objeto.

—Respondieron que realmente para ellos siempre fue motivo de dudas la existencia de los platillos voladores, pero en esta oportunidad se han convencido de que algo hay con relación a esos fenómenos y que los mismos deben ser dirigidos.



Forma que dijeron los pilotos Darío Celis y Cortez, de la Línea Aeropostal Venezolana, tenía el extraño objeto volador que encontraron en su ruta al norte de Barquisimeto, cuando volaban hacia Valera en la mañana del miércoles.

- c. The disk aircraft is a vertical riser which means that it could be housed aboard most naval vessels, including submarines.

"The article further states: 'Obviously a disk aircraft and a sub would make a dealy combination in an offensive operation. It is estimated that in the space of thirty minutes, a disk could take off from its nesting place on the deck of a sub, climb to 65,000 feet or higher, make a run on a target area 200 to 300 miles inland, drop its bomb load and zip back home to the sub.'

"While it is obvious that the Naval Attache is alert to reporting data on circular type aircraft should he ever be in a position to gain such information, the above may be of interest on a subject which may assume greater importance in the perhaps not too distant future." (xx.)

- (xx.) "January Informal Letter to U.S. Naval Attache, Moscow." E.B. Pubsley, Commander, U.S. Navy Collections and Dissemination Office of Naval Intelligence. 3 February 55. Department of the Navy, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington 25, D.C. (Document obtained by Jan Aldrich) No doubt the U.S. Air Force Air Attache received similar notes. See the Senator Russell case in October 1955.

4 February. Pachuca, Mexico. (about 8:35 a.m.)

Scientists get an eyeful.

Here is the news report:

"In the sky over Pachuca there appeared this morning a flying saucer of great luminosity making a strange noise.

"After rapidly coming down close to earth the 'visitor' stopped for a few brief seconds and then took off again. This occurred about 8:35 in the morning.

"The strange flying saucer was observed by means of a theodolite by people working in the Office of Chartography of the National Defense in the Cuauhtemec street of this city, amongst them was Lieutenant Victor Manuel Yáñez Madrid. It was also seen by various scientists from Brazil and North America who were paying a visit to said Office of Chartography to see the work being done there." (xx.)

- (xx.) Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico. February 4, 1955. Exclusive for *La Prensa*.

6 February. Near Melbourne, Australia. (about 10:00 p.m.)

"Road-hogging UFO."

According to our source, a motorist by the name of Kenneth Marshall was the primary witness:

**En Pachuca
fue Visto
un Platívol**

Exclusivo para LA PRENSA.

PACHUCA, Hgo., febrero 4.—Sobre el cielo pachuqueño apareció esta mañana un platillo volador, de gran luminosidad y acompañado de un ruido extraño.

Después de acercarse a la tierra velozmente, el "visitante" se inmobilizó durante breves segundos, para finalmente alejarse. Esto ocurrió hacia las 8 horas y treinta cinco minutos de la mañana.

El extraño platívol fue observado con un teodolito por personas que trabajan en la oficina de cartografía de la Defensa Nacional, ubicada en la calle de Cuauhtémoc de esta ciudad; entre ellas está el teniente Victor Manuel Yáñez Madrid. También lo vieron varios hombres de ciencia del Brasil y norteamericanos que estuvieron de visita en dicha oficina.

"At the time of the encounter with the UFO, Mr. Marshall was returning with members of his family from a funeral service in Gippsland. The date was February 6, 1955. At approximately 10 p.m. Mr. Marshall was driving along the South Gippsland Highway about one mile to the Melbourne side of Koowee-rup when he became aware of an extremely bright light approaching him along the road from the opposite direction.

" 'This light appeared to be the head-light of an oncoming vehicle,' said Mr. Marshall.

" 'It was so big and strong it was just like an aircraft's landing light.

" 'The light was definitely focused on the strip of road ahead of it, and therefore must have been intelligently directed or operated. It was so bright that I could see the road and immediate surroundings very clearly. Fearing a collision, I slowed down abruptly and pulled to the side of the road, simultaneously dipping my own lights up and down to signal my presence. At this moment, I gained the definite impression that the oncoming vehicle was scrutinizing us.

" 'Some ten seconds after we had first sighted the light, and when it was approximately one hundred yards distant, it swung very sharply to the left and ran off the road. What happened to it after that I do not know, because our attention was attracted to the light and had hitherto been obscured by its brightness. This attachment seemed to detach itself from the light, and, instead of following it to the left of the road, swung away in the opposite direction, also leaving the roadway.

" 'This was a curious phenomenon. It looked for all the world like a railway carriage. Although we were unable to discern any definite outline, we could clearly see dimly-lit windows evenly spaced precisely like those in a railway carriage.

" 'The 'carriage' seemed to float into the open swamp at the side of the road. since the road is raised, the object cleared any obstruction there may have been. It definitely did not crash into the swamp, but appeared to be in flight only a few feet above ground level.

" 'Then an amazing thing happened. When it reached the middle of the swamp, the 'carriage' simply disappeared. I am completely unable to account for this occurrence. The object did not just simply disappear into the distance, nor were there any tracks along which it could have driven. Furthermore, there were no trees or bushes or obstructions that could have concealed it. It quite literally melted into thin air.

" 'We scanned environs thoroughly from the car, but were unable to detect any trace of the object. I might add that its speed across the swamp was comparatively slow, so that we were able to see it quite clearly.

" 'I am able to offer no explanation as to the nature of the above phenomenon. I can only say that it was definitely no form of motor vehicle.

" 'The other occupants of the car were: Mr. and Mrs. W. Driver of Gardenia Street, Blackburn; Mrs. W. Ludge of 12 Bourke Street, Korumburra, and my mother, Mrs. F. Marshall who lives with me.'

"Mr. Marshall and his mother were recently interviewed by VFSRS investigators. There is absolutely no doubt as to their veracity." (xx.)

(xx.) Some source data missing (my fault—L.E. Gross). *UFORUM* pp.4-5 The story might originally have been from a newspaper report. "VFSRS" must stand for

“Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society.”

7 February. Raglan, New Zealand. (about 11:00 p.m.)

Mystery light paces aircraft.

According to story in the press:

“Two men fishing on the upper reaches of the Raglan Harbour late Monday night claim to have sighted a mysterious light hovering close to an aircraft that passed over them traveling south at about 5,000 feet.

“The men are Mr. W. Dryland, storekeeper, of Te Uku, and Mr. R. Moon, a farmer, also of Te Uku. They were at the harbour at about 11 p.m. when they sighted aircraft navigation lights overhead.

“Immediately they spotted a bright white light waving from side to side around the aircraft and keeping pace with it. The night was stormy and there was much cloud, but for fully two minutes Messrs Dryland and Moon glimpsed the aircraft and the wavering light.

“Mr. Dryland said yesterday he was astounded to read that a similar light had been seen by a National Airways CD3 crew. No N.A.C. aircraft were over Raglan at 10:30 p.m.

“A Tasman Airways spokesman said yesterday that the aircraft had both wingtip and tail-lights on. Landing lights were off but this type of aircraft has large cabin windows and they give out a considerable diffusion of light.

“Mr. Dryland is emphatic that the light he and Mr. Moon saw was not a part of the aircraft, or even a reflection of light.” (xx.)

(xx.) (No city given) *New Zealand Herald*. 11 February 55.

9 February. “Janet X.”

If nothing else, the following account could be in the running as one of the earliest such stories promoted in “fact-driven” (I use the expression loosely) UFO literature. If a young girl can fool a hypnotist and UFO investigators, what does that say about suspected con jobs by adults in recent times? Fortunately the injection of references to Adamski and his book makes it easy to question Janet’s truthfulness. Here is the “Janet X” story as it appeared in the October-December issue of the *Australian Saucer Record*:

“One of the strangest, and most interesting, cases so far investigated by the A.F.S.R.S. is that of Janet X. Soon after the Society was formed, in February, 1955, an Adelaide hypnotist approached the Committee with the request that we investigate the case. Janet X was a schoolgirl, about ten years old at the time (At her parent’s request, we have suppressed her real name). The hypnotist had been giving her a series of treatments for a slight nervous disorder. It appeared that the treatment consisted of inducing a state of complete relaxation under hypnosis for short periods, during which the subject was unconscious of her surroundings but would respond to the

hypnotist's voice. To check her response, the hypnotist would ask, 'Where are you now, Janet?' Normally she would reply, 'In a chair,' or words to that effect. On the occasion concerned, however, she replied 'In a flying saucer.' (Note here the resemblance to the case reported by H.S.W. in *Uranus*, Vol.1, No.1 [I haven't checked on that yet—L.E.Gross]). The astonished hypnotist questioned her further, and received a running commentary on a trip inside a saucer to another planet. She described the landing, the people, and a kind of city—all as though it were actually happening, and she were merely describing what she saw. Finally he brought her out of the hypnosis, and, deciding that the case was so extraordinary as to merit further investigation, he brought the story to us.

"Suspecting a hoax, we questioned him closely; then, satisfied that he was sincere, we arranged to investigate the case. On an appointed evening, he again hypnotized Janet; then we set up a microphone and tape recorder, to record every word spoken. Once again she described her trip in the flying saucer, which answered closely to Adamski's description [Judge for yourself].

"Questioned by the hypnotist and three committee members in turn, she described a city and people, and even spoke to the people and asked them questions. We made many tests to discover if the whole thing was a hoax, finally establishing that, whatever the case may be, it was not a conscious hoax on the part of Janet. At one stage we sent the hypnotist out of the house, and later, her parents; but their absence did not affect Janet's narrative.

"The experiment lasted two hours, and the dialogue was subsequently typed out and studied in detail. This mass of material would fill the *Record* twice over, but here are some excerpts, with repetitions and irrelevant material omitted.

"First Janet described the saucer, containing three men with black hair, wearing coloured 'overall things.'

"QUESTIONER: What are the men doing now?

JANET: Getting on the couches.

Q.: Do you know what these couches are for, Janet?

J.: Going into gravity.

Q.: Now what are the men doing?

J.: Pulling a lever. (She said that she could see the planet that they were approaching, in 'a screen thing.' It looked like a red and silver ball.)

Q.: Can you see the surface yet?

J.: Yes.

Q.: What can you see now?

J.: A big mountain with a hole in it.

Q.: Can you see any cities at all?

J.: No.

Q.: What is the saucer doing now?

J.: Going into the big mountain.

Q.: Is it going through the hole?

J.: Yes.

Q.: Now what is inside this mountain?

J.: A big lift thing.

Q.: What also is inside this mountain, can you see?

J.: A city.

Q.: What kind of buildings?

J.: Glass ones.

Q.: Can you see through the glass?

J.: No. (She was told to go inside one of the buildings. She described rooms and 'big long corridors' or passages. At the bottom of one of these was machinery, and black-haired people dressed in overalls.)

Q.: I want you to go into some other room. What do you see now?

J.: A lift.

Q.: Where does it take us to?

J.: Where the operating of the machinery.

Q.: Are there any switchboards there? Are there any buttons or levers?

J.: A lot of buttons.

Q.: Who is controlling the buttons?

J.: Men.

Q.: One man or many men?

J.: Four.

Q.: Janet, look at me. Where are you now, Janet?

J.: On the control deck.

Q.: What are the men controlling?

J.: Machinery.

Q.: What does the machinery do?

J.: Makes flying saucers.

Q.: Does the machinery do anything else?

J.: Makes their clothes. (Asked about food, Janet said that 'upstairs,' in the same building, women were eating grapes and drinking a dark liquid, like wine.)

Q.: What are the women wearing?

J.: Short dresses.

Q.: I want you to go to one of the ladies. I want you to ask her to speak to me.

J.: Would you speak?

Q.: I want you to tell me what she is saying.

J.: Would you like something to eat? (Apparently the people were aware of Janet's presence. They were also hospitable! The children, Janet said, were at a school, with a teacher.)

Q.: Can you see the Earth from there?

J.: In a screen thing.

Q.: You can't see the sky?

J.: No.

Q.: Can you go outside?

J.: You have to put a helmet thing over your head.

Q.: Can you do that, and go outside?

J.: Yes.

Q.: Can you see the Sun?

J.: Yes.

Q.: How big is it?

J.: Same as Earth.

Q.: Is it not smaller than ours?

J.: A little.

Q.: Now its night. The Sun has set. Can you see any stars?

J.: A few.

Q.: Can you see the Southern Cross?

J.: Yes.

Q.: Can you see a moon?

J.: Part of it.

Q.: What shape is it?

J.: Like a banana.

Q.: How big is it?

J.: Bigger than on Earth. (She said that she could see no vegetation, but there was snow on the ground where she was standing. Asked to feel it, she announced, with some surprise, that it was warm.)

Q.: Can you go inside again?

J.: Yes.

Q.: How do we go inside?

J.: Press a button and a door opens. Go into a lift and you go down, and then The city's there.

Q.: Can you tell me if there is any air outside?

J.: No.

Q.: Can you ask someone what the air is like?

J.: What is the air like? (pause) You can't breathe in it.

Q.: You can't breathe in the air, but can the people on the planet breathe in it? Ask one of them

J.: Can you breathe in it? (pause) Yes.

Q.: Is there any wind outside?

J.: No. (Janet described a type of television device, which showed a picture of Earth. She was next shown a copy of the message written on a film holder reproduced in [Adamski's book] *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.)

Q.: Janet, you see this message here? Can you ask someone to whom was that Message sent on Earth?

J.: An important man.

Q.: What was his name?

J.: I don't know. (It should be mentioned here that Janet had never read *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, and it is doubtful if she had ever heard of George Adamski.)

Q.: Ask the man, does he know this man's name?

J.: Do you know this man's name?

[To interrupt here for a moment, it now very apparent, if we are to believe any of this, that events are allegedly taking place in real time and Janet is not recalling a past experience. Why the investigators are not questioning this is beyond me —L.E. Gross]

Q.: What does he say?

J.: He doesn't quite understand his name.

Q.: Ask him to say this man's name, if he can.

- J.: Would you say this man's name? (pause) He can only say it in his language.
 Q.: Did the man on Earth get the message?
 J.: He doesn't know.
 Q.: How was it sent to Earth?
 J.: In a flying saucer.
 Q.: Ask the man, does the name Adamski mean anything to him?
 J.: Does the Adamski mean anything to you?
 Q.: What does he say?
 J.: He thinks it's the important man. (At this point Janet was shown a photograph of George Adamski.)
 Q.: Show him this picture.
 J.: This picture is the important man. (Now Janet was shown a photograph of Desmond Leslie, co-author of *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.
 Q.: And what about this man?
 J.: He helps.
 Q.: How does he help?
 J.: Trying to find out about flying saucers. (This, certainly, was a fair enough description of Desmond Leslie's activities—and Janet herself could not have known who he was. But to return to the dialogue:)
 Q.: Ask him, will he speak to me, through you, in his language?
 J.: No.
 Q.: Ask him why?
 J.: It would be too hard.
 Q.: Has anyone on Earth heard their language?
 J.: Only a little bit.
 Q.: Who was this man who heard the language?
 J.: The important man.
 Q.: What are these three round balls underneath the saucer for?
 J.: When they're landing.
 Q.: Nothing else?
 J.: No.
 Q.: Are there any flying saucers over Australia now?
 J.: Yes.

"The experiment took place on February 9th, 1955. The following day, Australian newspapers carried headlines reporting strange sights in the Melbourne sky...Janet is a normal schoolgirl, of average, or perhaps a little above average, intelligence; no more interested than most girls of her age in space travel or science fiction. Her interests lie in the direction of music and drawing rather than reading. During the experiment, she spoke in her normal voice." (xx.)

(xx.) *Australian Saucer Record*. Official organ of the A.F.S.R.S. Vol.1, No.4. Last Quarter, 1955. pp.12-17.

Since there is no claim of being "kidnapped," this so-called experience cannot be termed an abduction. One can see, however, with just a few changes here and there in the story, an adult could produce a convincing abduction scenario "recalled by hypnosis."

10 February. Caracas, Venezuela.
(9:30 p.m.)

"Strange form of large dimensions which projected powerful light beams."

A note by Horacio Gonzalez:

"Strange aircraft seen by Mr. Jose Agustin Diaz on the night of the 10th of February 1955 at 9:30 p.m. from the porch of his home in Altamira northeast of Caracas. Object flew over the city of Caracas in 6 to 8 minutes. Seen by many persons (See clipping). He did not make any report to the newspapers but told me his experience the very next day before we both saw the report in the *El Universal*. It flew out of the northeast towards the southwest—lights were pulsating—very powerful—like stadium lights—bluish colored—shone from underside of disc—no noise—no trail—crossed in straight line straight over Caracas—large size—could not estimate height but is absolutely certain as to shape and outline as he saw it perfectly. His sister also saw the thing. Both were frightened—sister nearly collapsed—object appeared as two luminous eyes scrutinizing the city." (See drawing below) (xx.)

(xx.) "Caracas Venezuela 55-2-11."
APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

De Los Rosales 11/2/55 Universal

Extraña Aeronave con Potentes Ojos Luminosos Fue Vista Ayer Noche en el Cielo de Caracas

Voz conmovida avisa por teléfono. Aeronave al N.E. de Caracas. Dos testigos de la extraña visión. Niega su nombre y al fin consiente darlo, bajo palabra de que no se publicaría. Lo contamos tal como nos fue referido

Ayer a las 10 se recibió en esta redacción una llamada telefónica que fue contestada por el reportero de guardia.

Una voz conmovida comenzó en el aparato, la cual explicó en tonos a la vez cargados de sinceridad y de emoción que nos llamaba porque quien hablaba había sido testigo de un extraño fenómeno.

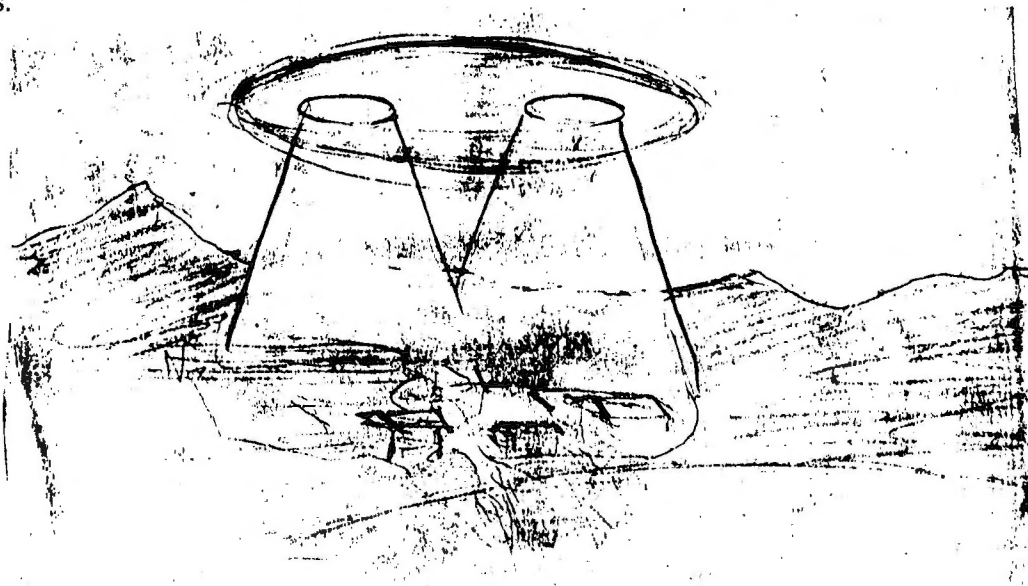
dos grandes proyectores, tan poderosos —explicó— como los del estadio.

Manifestó que el extraño aerostato había permanecido visible durante minutos, causando la consiguiente sorpresa a él y a su acompañante que se mantuvieron estáticos, paralizados, ante la visión.

Preguntado el informante sobre si algunas otras personas habían contemplado el tal objeto, dijo que no dudaba de que alguien más pudiera haberlo visto, puesto que había permanecido en el campo visual de ellos por cierto tiempo. Expuso también que la aeronave, o lo que fuese, evolucionó sin producir ninguna clase de ruido.

Rogamos a nuestro informante que dijese su nombre y a nuestra insistencia, terminó diciendo, luego de habernos explicado no publicarlo. Y concluyó manifestando que vivía en San Bernardino, y que nos llamaba desde su domicilio a donde acababa de llegar, y que aún le duraba la impresión de lo que viera.

Miró hacia arriba y pudo contemplar con absoluta nitidez hacia el N.E. y a gran altura una especie de aeronave de extraña forma y grandes dimensiones, que proyectaba hacia abajo la destempladora luz de



Untranslated clipping dated: 12 February 55. (Credit Barry Greenwood) (See below)

¿Un Platillo Volador en el Cielo de Miraflores?

Declaraciones de un observador que asegura que no se trataba de un avión

Antier, minutos después de las ocho de la noche, numerosos vecinos de Miraflores espectaron un extraño fenómeno celeste. Se trataba, tal como informáramos en nuestra edición matutina de ayer, de la presencia de un cuerpo luminoso en el cielo, cuyas características coinciden con las que se atribuyen de manera general a los "platillos voladores", que en forma continua han venido apareciendo en diversas partes de la tierra desde el año 1947. Este inesperado fenómeno fue presenciado por grupos diversos de vecinos del referido distrito, quienes se congregaron en varios lugares de la zona céntrica de Miraflores, provocando dificultades en el tránsito de vehículos que en esas horas de la noche suele ser intenso.

Un conocido profesional—cuyo nombre desea se mantenga en reserva—observó este "platillo volador" desde la intersección de las avenidas 28 de Julio y Colón y nos formuló sus impresiones sobre este extraño suceso, que ha provocado múltiples comentarios entre los observadores. Nuestro entrevistado nos expresó que unos minutos después de las ocho de la noche, se dirigía por la Avenida 28 de Julio y al llegar a la altura de la calle Colón vió en este cruce una gran cantidad de personas reunidas señalando hacia el cielo. Descendí del automóvil—nos dijo—y movido por la curiosidad me acerqué al grupo de personas, el cual, a cada instante se hacía más numeroso. Pude entonces—añadió—observar que en el cielo a una distancia imposible de calcular, estaba estacionado un disco de color anaranjado oscuro que

ofrecía el aspecto de una bola de fuego redonda, pero con una ligera tendencia ovoideoa, dando la sensación de volumen.

Luego—continuó relatándonos—después de unos minutos, este cuerpo dio un viraje y mostró la forma de un plato perfecto biconvexo. Estaría estacionado unos dos minutos—añadió—y después un grupo de cúmulos lo tapó, desapareciendo rápidamente.

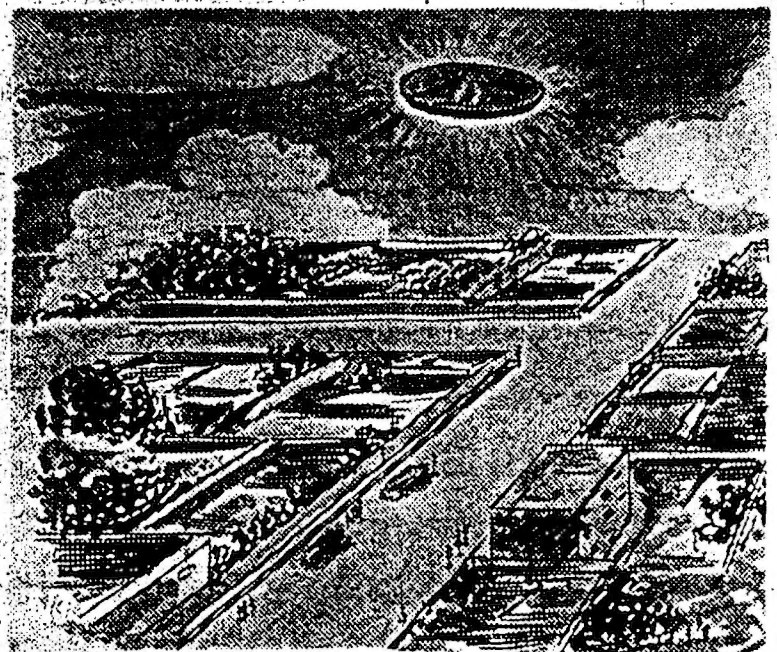
Interrogamos a nuestro entrevistado sobre las dimensiones del disco aparecido en el cielo de Miraflores. Nos dijo que aquel era relativamente pequeño y que más o menos tenía como diámetro una cuarta parte

del que ofrece la Luna ordinariamente. Al solicitarle algunas otras características, del presunto artefacto, nos manifestó que éste no parecía estela como ordinariamente se cree para el caso de los "platillos voladores". El objeto celeste visto antier—continuó—presentaba zonas de discos concéntricos que aumentaban de intensidad de color a medida que iban de la periferie al centro.

Agregó que "inmediatamente que desapareció el 'platillo volador' apareció en el mismo lugar un avión, y que los focos que estos aparatos suelen llevar en los extremos de las alas sirvió de contraste y de elemento de comparación para apreciar las dimensiones y aspecto del 'platillo volador'".

Nuestro informante finalizó diciéndonos que estaba absolutamente convencido de que el extraño cuerpo visto por él y otras muchas personas no era un avión volando a considerable altura".

*El Comercio
Lima Per
Feb 12 1955*



Nuestro dibujante reproduce así la visión que numerosos mirafloresinos han tenido de lo que suponen ser un "platillo volador".

14? February. Eastern Europe.

"Eyewash for the masses."

"Combat the psychosis."

(See clipping) (xx.)

(xx.) Denver, Colorado.
Denver Post.
 14 February 55.

(Not sure of source
 data. This is an
 interpretation of
 the writing in ink
 across the top of
 the clipping.)

Dr. Donald Menzel.

On pages 27-28 of the monograph
UFOs: A History 1955 January-June
 there is a short item about UFO hard-
 liner Donald Menzel who, as usual,
 blasted UFO "believers."

He also happened to mention in
 passing he had recently observed a
 "strange light" that "turned out to be
 a reflection."

Menzel claimed a number of UFO
 sightings, all explainable according to
 his judgement, but perhaps the best
 one never made it into the literature.
 This is as good as place as any to re-
 late the story since we have no exact
 date for the incident.

It seems Air Force BLUE BOOK
 advisor Dr. J. Allen Hynek came
 across a letter at ATIC from Menzel
 to Colonel John O'Mara, Deputy
 Commander, Air Force Intelligence,
 Wright-Patterson AFB.

Hynek was interviewed by Richard
 Hall on August 19, 1956, at which
 time the military scientific advisor

NKVD vs. UFO

SEEN any UFO lately? You know, "un-
 known flying objects," more commonly
 called flying saucers. They seem to have
 stopped operating in our skies, and the reason
 may be that they've moved over behind the
 iron curtain, where they're giving the inhabi-
 tants—and Communist government functionar-
 ies—one fit after another.

From Warsaw, Prague, Budapest and East
 Berlin comes word that Red security officers
 have been given special orders to combat a
 flying saucer psychosis which has been spread-
 ing rapidly in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hun-
 gary and Communist Germany, on the wings
 of reports from all over that the saucers have
 been seen.

When the western world was all in a swivet
 over flying saucer reports, the Red propagan-
 dists told their people that the whole thing
 was "a proof of western decadence and a lot
 of eyewash for the masses." There are no
 flying saucers, they said, so forget it.

BUT now the people who have "seen" the
 UFO think their rulers were kidding them;
 that they were denying the existence of the
 objects because they didn't have them, and
 didn't know the first thing about them.

What makes it all the tougher on the Com-
 munist authorities is, that they don't know—
 any more than we do—whether there are fly-
 ing saucers or not. Some of them are afraid
 maybe there are, and that they are secret
 weapons from the west. So they've issued
 orders to the Poles, Czechs, Hungarians and
 Germans not to look. Specifically, they are
 forbidding the use, possession, borrowing or
 lending of "military telescopes," whatever they
 are, by civilians, in all the areas afflicted with
 flying saucer nerves.

The Reds are slipping. They could have told
 the people: "Sure, you saw the things. They're
 ours. Just another Communist invention, you
 know, proving how far ahead of the west we
 are in all developments for the protection and
 security of the peoples democracies."

By the way, do you suppose—? Oh, of
 course there aren't—are there?

disclosed the contents of the missive to O'Mara. Hall jotted this down:

"Other case is a letter from Menzel (to O'Mara) describing a rotating bright disc with red and green lights which approached his plane, shot away again, and then again approached. Menzel concludes that this gave him a lot of uneasiness until he finally figured out 'what it was'—THE END! Hynek says he inquired and found out Menzel is using a complicated optical 'explanation' with six inversion layers and the star Sirius as sole light source! Evidently enjoys this and is glad to share the joke with others—but cautions us particularly on confidential character of this incident." (xx.)

(xx.) "Recollection of Hynek interview Friday, August 19, 1956," by Richard Hall. Photocopy in author's files. Hall probably has the original notes in his Donald Keyhoe archive.

16 February. Quito, Ecuador.

This case appears in the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 January-June* on page 32. The version given there was from a second-hand American source. Another version, apparently more faithful to the original account, contributes more detail. The "aluminum half-orange with a dome" UFO was apparently seen by a flight of Equadorian military aircraft led by Capt. Francisco Soloranzano during a routine flight. The thing was spotted hovering over the volcano Pichincha in the Andes and then was seen descending to an altitude of 18,000 feet where it moved slowly about the sky for two hours before leaving the area at high speed. The 100 witnesses mentioned in news accounts were personnel at the Air Force Base where Capt. Soloranzano landed. The date of the incident, missing from the monograph version, is given in this more accurate story: 16 February. (xx.)

(xx.) *Quarterly Journal Civilian Saucer Investigations (NZ)*. Vol. 3, No.1. Issue #9. p.29.

18 February. Pueblo Libertad, Argentina. (1:30 a.m.)

Traveled in an undulating manner.

APRO files contain this report:

"Sr. Nelson Lopez Diaz stated that just after 1:30 a.m. of the 18th of February he was called by his brother to look at a strange object in the sky.

"All of his family then observed in detail the object which remained in view for almost half an hour. Its form was circular, of moderate size, and intensely brilliant, illuminating the area over which it passed without the slightest sound. It was seen in the direction of the shore of the river Plata and traveled with an undulating movement from one side to the other, like a pendulum.

"Later it departed a great velocity to the southeast, to reappear traveling slowly along the shore. Moments later it disappeared suddenly, giving the impression of having passed behind a cloud. It was not seen again.

"Sr. Lopez states that besides his family, other residents witnessed the phenomenon.

"Once the object disappeared Sr. Lopez went to the police station and gave an account of the sighting, and there he was informed by an agent that he also had seen the same, two hours before, but had said nothing for fear of being ridiculed." (xx.)

(xx.) "Pueblo Libertad Argentina 55-2-18." APRO files. Translation: No one indicated. Photocopy of report, labeled: "Case No.13," in author's files.

20 February. Horseheads, New York.

Confusion over "Angel Hair."

Fate magazine tries to sort it out:

"The night of February 20, 1955, was still, cold and quiet in the village of Horseheads, in southern New York State. The wind was from the south and of low velocity. Yet, during the hours of darkness a mystery developed that put the quite, little village in the world news.

"Mr. Charles L. Shull, president of the Shull Electronic Corporation, reported a strange 'cobwebby' substance spread over his plant property early in the morning of February 21. At the same time, shortly after sunrise, other residents and workers in the area discovered more of the strange material covering trees, lawns and buildings for an area of several blocks.

"A news photographer from the Elmira, New York, *Star-Gazette* photographed the 'web' and collected a specimen which was examined by Dr. Francis A. Richmond, Professor Emeritus at Elmira College.

"Dr. Richmond's preliminary inspection indicated the 'web' consisted of short, weak fibers that looked and felt like cotton or wool.

"The specimen was passed on to the professor of chemistry at the local college, Dr. Charles B. Rutenber. No immediate explanation or conjecture was forthcoming as to the source of the strange material.

"On Tuesday, February 22, Dr. Rutenber issued a statement that his findings, based on chemical analysis, showed the mystery substance was cotton, either waste or fibers, that 'had been in an explosion and were heavily damaged.'

"Tests with the college geiger counter showed the material to be radioactive. The doctor's findings on the composition was supported both by Dr. Richmond and Mrs. Hans Bernt, assistant professor of art, who, as an expert in textiles, examined the specimen. Again, no explanation was offered as to the source of the material.

"Other reports referred to a similar mysterious deposit found in London and in other major cities last year. It was generally agreed that the substance could have been carried great distances in the upper air and that the cobweb might have knit itself together and fallen in a small area pulled down by its own weight.

"By February 23, the local mystery had attracted the interest of the Atomic Energy Commission which asked Dr. Rutenber for information on the results of his tests. The Associated Press carried the story on its wire services and the New York correspondent of the *London Times* expressed an interest because of the similarity to the 'web' found last year in London.

"Meantime, Mr. Shull who first reported it said the web was rapidly disintegrating

and disappearing.

"While the scientists continued their tests at the college a new avenue of conjecture was presented by Mr. Lawrence Peer, plant manager of a local dairy. Mr. Peer, supported by Mr. John Stelmak, a chemical engineer at the Westinghouse Electronic Tube Division plant at Horseheads, suggested the possibility that powdered milk, not cotton fibers, was the basis of the substance. Mr. Peer claimed it was possible that some powdered milk could have passed through a vent pipe and been converted to stringy casin fibers by the 300 degree temperature of the machine. He admitted, however, that a large quantity of milk powder would have been required to cover the half-mile area with fibers.

"Too, the milk theory did not explain the radioactivity, the amount of which prompted the Westinghouse plant to conduct another investigation to discover why the 'web' produced a higher count on the testing machines than matter usually taken from the local air. Spokesmen from the plant stated that a metallic content would be more likely to pick up radioactivity than organic matter.

"February 24 brought even more confusing and muddled reports. Dr. Rutenber, who held to the cotton fibers 'heavily damaged in an explosion' theory, suddenly reversed his decision. He announced that he now was convinced the material was a protein product created by the escape of a hot milk product at the local milk plant.

"The manager of the chemistry section of the local Westinghouse plant, Mr. John B. Diffenderier, also held to the milk theory. However, the Westinghouse tests showed the contents of the 'web' to be only about 30 % carbon, with quantities of calcium, silica, aluminum, iron and about 10 other traceable elements. In the interval the radioactivity had dropped to almost nothing.

"Directly opposing the milk theory were the findings at the milk plant where the milk theory first originated. Louis R. Hermann and Robert L. Mix, chemical technicians at the plant, reported, after conducting their own tests, that the material consisted of cotton and wool fibers with pieces of fine copper wire mixed in. 'It looked like it might have come out of a carpet sweeper bag,' they said.

"In the midst of this confusion all the investigators expressed complete satisfaction with their own findings. The tests were discontinued.

"Was it powder milk? If so, why the radioactivity compared with that usually found locally? If it was powdered milk where did the metal elements, the aluminum and iron come from? What about the vast quantity of powdered milk needed to cover a half-mile area?

"On the other hand, if the material was cotton fibers why did it settle only in one solid area and not in scattered areas? Why the high radioactivity? Where was the explosion that 'heavily damaged' the fibers?

"Can either of the two theories explain the 'webs' found in London, Philadelphia and other parts of the world?

"Perhaps some time during the night of February 20, 1955, a strange aerial object hovered over the village of Horseheads. Reports from other 'web' sites say this was true before the appearance of similar material in their localities." (xx.)

(xx.) Towner, Cliff R. "Cobwebs from the Sky." *Fate*. (missing month/year) pp.62-65.

23 February. Robert Gribble's UFO group collected two news clips that illustrate the debate. (See page 33)

Untranslated clipping dated: 25 February 55.
(Credit: Barry Greenwood) (See below)

"Platillos Voladores" fueron avistados el 22 en Trujillo

(De nuestro Corresponsal)
Trujillo, 24. (Por teléfono). — Un grupo de vecinos de la calle Astete, aseguran haber pasado ante anoche momentos de gran emoción por haber presenciado, más o menos a eso de las 8, el raudo paso por el firmamento de dos objetos luminosos, orillantes y rojizos que por las características que tenían, están convencidos de que se trata de los llamados "Platillos Voladores".

— Dice la señora Bélgica de Arboleo, domiciliada en la cuarta cuadra de la calle Miguel Astete, que en circunstancias que se hallaba en la puerta de su domicilio, distraída, miró al cielo y que se sorprendió al ver el paso de dos objetos luminosos, por lo que inmediatamente llamó a sus familiares e hijos quienes son ocho y luego se agregaron varios vecinos, los que tuvieron oportunidad de ver claramente los cuerpos que se deslizaban a gran velocidad de sureste a nordeste, perdiéndose después en dirección a Huerta Grande.

Las mencionadas personas han declarado que era sorprendente la luminosidad de los objetos que se deslizaban a fantástica velocidad.

EL Comercio
Lima, Peru
Feb 25 1955

'Cobwebs' From Sky Identified As Cotton Fiber

HORSEHEADS, N. Y., Feb. 23. — (AP) — A gray "cobwebby" substance that fell from the sky here and spread over an area half-a-mile square was identified yesterday after exhaustive tests as heavily damaged cotton fiber.

Dr. Charles B. Rutenber, a professor of chemistry at Elmira College, said the condition of the fiber indicated that it was waste material or had been damaged in some sort of explosion. At first, scientists were stumped in efforts to identify it.

The fiber draped over houses, trees and bushes in this South-Central New York village.

Rutenber said that the substance was radioactive but not dangerously so, and that this was not surprising in view of the atomic tests under way.

1st report

Horseheads 55 Blanketed By Cows' Cobwebs

HORSEHEADS, N. Y., Feb. 23. — (AP) — The mysterious cobweb that blanketed parts of this village was only powdered milk, scientists decided tonight. And it was no more radioactive than the air you breathe.

The fuzz was tested all day by chemists at the Westinghouse electronic tube division plant in this South-Central New York village. They concluded that it came from a flue at a nearby dairy.

John B. Diffenderfer, manager of the plant's chemistry and physical section, said the cobwebs proved to be about as radioactive as the air, which is slight.

The substance waited over the village Sunday night, covering everything — trees, houses and shrubbery — in a half square mile area.

Diffenderfer said the fuzz came from a dairy plant where milk is heated intensely during conversion to powder form.

A scum called casein forms on top of the milk when it is heated, and apparently some escaped through a vent. In the air, Diffenderfer said, the stuff became stringy and drifted to earth.

2nd report

Scribe Finds Tracking 'Saucer' Confusing Job

By BRAD WILLIAMS

A "flying saucer" dropped in for a brief visit over Beaverton Friday night and caught the air force with its flaps down.

The unidentified flying object was first seen by Mrs. Yvonne Compton, who mans a ground observation post in Beaverton with Mrs. Arlene Shriver. They promptly relayed the information back to the Portland air defense filter center. It, in turn, notified other official agencies. Eventually the news of the apparition trickled into the newsroom of The Journal.

A reporter called the filter center.

"We are processing the report," a center spokesman replied, "if you will call back in about an hour—"

THE REPORTER shrugged and called Mrs. Shriver. She lived a short distance from the telephone and there was a slight delay.

"It came back again," she said breathlessly when she came to the phone, "I just saw it again on my way over here. You will have to hang up while I report it."

"It couldn't be an airplane?" queried the reporter.

"Absolutely not! Hang up right away."

The reporter obliged and waited a quarter hour, then called again. A Mrs. Gladys Sahnaw answered the phone.

"Mrs. Shriver went over to the ground observation post," she said. "She was ordered to."

"Did you see it?" asked the reporter.

"Never saw anything like it before."

"A flying saucer?"

"I DON'T KNOW. I never saw a flying saucer before," Mrs. Sahnaw said. "It's still here about four inches off the horizon if you want to come out."

The reporter waited long enough for a photographer to gather his assorted telephoto lenses, then went out to Beaverton. After considerable search, they found the ground observation post and went in. A teenager who was reading a copy of "Lost Horizon" put down his book.



ORDERED to keep quiet was Mrs. Arlene Shriver of 850 NW Canyon road on the mysterious object which hovered over Beaverton late Friday. She and Mrs. Yvonne Compton manned the Beaverton ground observer post which first spotted strange sky visitor. Here Mrs. Shriver points to wings she earned as observer.

4 March. Beaverton, Oregon. (night)

Air Force run-around.

(xx.) Portland, Oregon.
The Journal.
5 March 55

"Understand a flying saucer has been around," the reporter said in a conversational manner.

The boy cast a jaundiced eye on the reporter and photographer—"That's a military secret. We have been ordered to give out no information."

"Mrs. Shriver around?" the reporter asked.

The lad hesitated, then replied, "She went home to eat."

THE REPORTER found her at her home at 850 NW Canyon road.

"Understand you saw a flying saucer," he said.

Mrs. Shriver looked at him suspiciously. "How did you find out?"

"I talked to you on the phone a little while ago."

"We have been ordered not to give out any information," she said, tight-lipped. "All I can tell you is that it wasn't any airplane 'cause I've seen a lot of airplanes since I earned my wings." She relaxed. "You'd better call the air defense filter."

The reporter returned to The Journal and followed Mrs. Shriver's advice.

"Call back in an hour," the filter spokesman said.

The reporter waited the hour, then added another 30 minutes for good measure.

"HAVE YOU got anything on that unidentified flying object yet?" the reporter asked.

"Can't talk. Orders, you know. Call McChord field in Washington."

The reporter sighed and called McChord and told the operator there his problem. "I will see if you can reach Maj. Gettings."

The reporter listened as she rang the PX, the officers' club, the officers' quarters and even the women's quarters to see if anyone had a date with the elusive major. After a while she said, "I'll have him call you back."

Thirty minutes later the phone rang. "This is Bill Gettings."

THE REPORTER sighed with relief. "I understand we had a flying saucer near Beaverton," he ventured tentatively.

"Nothing to it, pal," said the major. "Strictly nothing, but a weather balloon with a light on it. Why are you calling way up here for something like that? You should have called the 503d in Portland."

The reporter again called the 503d fighter group and was advised to call an officer at home.

"Understand you had a flying saucer," he suggested.

"Never heard of such a thing," said a sleepy voice.

The reporter looked at the clock. Midnight. He called the filter center. "Any news on the flying saucer?"

"Sorry, sir. That is secret information. I suggest you call the public information officer at McChord. His name is Gettings."

4 March. Near Albion, New York. (8:15 p.m. and (9:45 p.m.)

"Maybe it was just keeping an eye on us." (See clipping below)

Ride Becomes Nightmare

C - Mar. 4, '55

Eerie Sky Object Follows Couple's Car

An aerial object of some kind bathed in a glowing red light last night scared the bejabbers out of an Albion couple whose after-dark motor trip to the home of relatives was turned into a nightmare.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Scholl, 323 E. Park St., left their home about 8:15, and later wished they hadn't.

"We were driving along in the vicinity of Culver and Angevine Rds. when we noticed this huge and brilliant red light suspended in the sky," said Scholl, who is 23 and a member of the office staff at the T. J. Lipton Co. in Albion.

"We first thought it was the top of a tower of some kind because it wasn't moving. Then as we drove along it started following us. Then we thought it might be a plane, but it was moving slowly and there were

no lights blinking. It was just a steady glare."

The Scholls were on their way to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen J. McKenna, who live in Angevine Rd.

"When we got there and got out of the car, we heard a terrific humming sound and the light had stopped right out over a patch of woods. The thing started to descend and the humming became more intense. It hung suspended over the woods, then disappeared and the humming turned into a low buzz."

Boy Also Sees It

Scholl, a Navy veteran, said he and his wife, Virginia, 21, were alarmed and called to the McKennas. The McKenna's 13-year-old son, John, claimed to have seen "the thing" from his bedroom window as it dropped into the woods.

That was bad enough. Everybody was quite upset. But there was more to come. Unnerved, the

Scholls said they cut short their visit with the McKennas and started home about 9:45.

"When we started home, we saw it rise out of the woods again, just as though it was following us, or maybe keeping an eye on us."

Scholl said he and his wife heaved sighs of relief when, this time, the glaring thing rose straight up and then started moving west and high in the sky.

"It finally disappeared," he said. "And we were glad to get home."

Scholl said he didn't know what "it" was.

"It sure was something with a light on it. The light was too immense to be on the wing tips of an airplane. It was too bright, too, and it was more of a fluorescent glow."

Scholl told his story to Jailer Howard Squire at the Orleans County sheriff's office.

? March. Southwest of Los Angeles. (between 10:00 p.m. and midnight)

Unidentified radar track.

UFO report in an old issue of *Skylook*:

"Ralph Bock, of St. Louis, an electronics engineer, reports the following which occurred between 10 o'clock and midnight, one night in March, 1955: 'I was the duty officer in the radar van of an M-33 Radar/90 MM Antiaircraft Artillery battery site in Baldwin Hills reservoir area just southwest of Los Angeles and north of Inglewood. During an alert for an unidentified aircraft in the SE area, a strong return was spotted at maximum range due west over the ocean, moving due east. Return moved within track radar acquisition range, and was locked on. Estimated speed of approach 2,000 mph, prior to lock-on. At estimated 10-15,000 yards, target made abrupt turn to port, breaking track lock-on, and moved rapidly north out of range. Intensity of the blip indicated a vehicle equal to a larger than the largest commercial aircraft. No known aircraft could perform the turn that the blip described on the PPI scope. The turn was made within a few seconds of track radar lock-on—no time to verify speed. Speed estimated by travel between returns based on search radar sweep time. Calculations ver-

ified by radar operator on duty—he also saw return on scope. Sighting not reported to Area Control until after off-screen. Thought might be system failure. Heard nothing more from A.C.” (xx.)

(xx.) Schuessler, John F. “Unusual Radar Tracking Reported.” *Skylook*. #39. February 1971. (no page number available)

5 March. Los Angeles, California. (various times)

Can infrared film reveal UFOs?

Circumstances leading to the photographic experiments:

“Photographic engineer Norman F. Schulte revealed in Los Angeles on October 18, 1972, the only known infrared pictures of UFOs made by technically qualified personnel. The films were taken by Schulte and two co-workers, Bob Forrester and LaRue Stillwell while the three were employed in the photographic engineering department of North American Aviation’s El Segundo facility.

“On the morning of March 5, 1955, Schulte and Stillwell had decided to photograph, from Los Angeles, atmospheric atomic tests being conducted at Frenchman’s Flat, Nevada. They felt that they could obtain better city-skyline pictures than those previously published and they set up two Speed Graphic 4 x5 cameras, with Ektar lenses, on a vacant lot in Baldwin Hills. Stillwell used standard Type B film. But Schulte used a red-sensitive Type C film, Tri-X (Tri-X manufactured now [1972] is a different type of film from that made in 1955). He also equipped his camera with a 25-A red filter, thinking a red-sensitive film might record the bomb blast more distinctly.

“When Stillwell came out of the lab with two prints he had just processed, one his and one Schulte’s, he jokingly remarked, ‘Hey, Norm, you’ve got a flying saucer on your picture.’

“There was a very clear, distinct little object in the middle of the picture. Under a magnifying loop it looked even more curious. Stillwell blew it up about 50 diameters and it looked even more unexplainable—and another unknown object was found, small and like the first, dome-shaped.

“This decided the two to get into the infrared investigation of UFOs and Bob Forrester, also interested, joined them in a series of experiments.

“The infrared part of the electromagnetic spectrum consists of invisible heat waves of varying frequencies. Invisible infrared is an extension of and is contiguous to the red end of the visible light spectrum.

“The men knew that the human eye can perceive only a small fraction of the electromagnetic spectrum. If UFOs could operate in invisible areas of the spectrum, two puzzling aspects of many UFO reports would be clarified; sudden disappearances of the objects, often described as ‘like someone turning off a light bulb,’ and appearances on radar of apparently solid targets invisible to the naked eye.

“‘We were getting very strange images every night,’ Schulte says of the experiments. ‘And this happened for about 30 consecutive nights before we discontinued

the project. Only one of two times did we draw a blank. In 28 or 29 of the shots we had one image or more; everything from crescents to boomerangs and ovals. There were cigar, domed, and elliptical-shaped objects—very distinct, very clear cut, very intense.’

“ ‘We eliminated all possibilities of any kind of error or conventional explanation such as fogging, chemical defect or reflections,’ Schulte states.

“ ‘... We did as much analytical work as we could on the photographs. We determined that there was something in the skies over the airport that shouldn’t be there. And these objects could not be seen with the naked eye. We were all convinced that we had photographed UFOs.’ ” (xx.)

(xx.) “Aerospace Photography with Infrared Film Reveals UFOs.” *Skylook*. #61. December 1972. p.3. Information supplied to *Skylook* by Professor Emeritus Charles G. Kahlert, of Seal Beach, California. The information was in the form of a news clipping cut from the Santa Ana, California, paper, *The Register*, dated October 25, 1972. The reporters who wrote up the story were Robert B. Klinn and David Branch. Their writing were paraphrased by the editor of *Skylook*. Original clipping not available.

The images:

Reporters Klinn and Branch were told by Schulte that the images, or whatever they were, occurred: “...in patterns of three in each photograph. In some of the pictures we had web-like arcs extending from one object to the other. The webs were kind of veil-like shadows, but distinct.” (xx.)

(xx.) Klinn, Robert B. and David Branch. “Photographer Threatened After Taking Infrared UFO Photos.” Santa Ana, California. *The Register*. 1 November 72. p.D2. The story was published in two installments. The original clipping of part two is in the author’s files.

Checking with the FAA:

“...[Klinn and Branch] spoke with an official of the Federal Aviation Administration in Los Angeles. He confirmed privately that numerous visual sightings of UFOs, around the time of Schulte’s experiments, had been made by Los Angeles tower operators.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

9 March. Sensational rumors and a couple of odd coincidences.

On page 33 of the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 January-June* there is the sensational claim of Mr. Eugene Metcalf of Paris, Illinois, about seeing a big UFO scooping up a jet aircraft and carrying it off. This was supposed have taken place in the air over his home on March 9, 1955. Metcalf was a janitor at the local hospital at the time who “sighted UFOs on more than

one occasion." A letter, written by Metcalf, is in the files of Coral Lorenzen's UFO organization, APRO. It seems there had been a 1968 inquiry of Metcalf's claim by a Mr. "Raynes" and Metcalf responded. Metcalf had little new to say, which may, or may not, help his credibility. In any case, here is Metcalf's story, the 1968 version:

"This observation was made March 9, 1955, just after sun down. The visibility was very good as the weather was clear and no haze [one might check the weather records for that day]. The size of the object was approximately the size of a large grapefruit held at arms length and a silver color.

"Thru an opening that appeared on the plane side it swallowed the plane. It only lasted a matter of seconds.

"I was living two miles east of Redmond and 7 miles northwest of Paris, Illinois, at the time [He prefers to give Paris as his address]. My wife and youngest son saw the UFO after it had taken the plane [Mr. "Raynes" should have contacted those two also]. I was in the yard by myself the instant of the plane napping.

"I made every effort I could to find out if anyone else had seen the same as I, but with no success." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Mr. Raynes. From: Eugene Metcalf, (no street number given) Paris, Illinois. Date: 24 November 68. "U.S.A. Redmond, Illinois 55-3-9." APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

Metcalf had approached UFO researcher Leonard Stringfield years before Mr. "Raynes" had made an inquiry. Here is some notes found in NICAP files:

"Preliminary data on 'Metcalf.' Verbally from LS 8/26/56

"Sighting March 9, 1955, by Eugene Metcalf, about 30, farmer in Paris, Illinois [He may have a small farm and also worked as a janitor. It would explain why he lived two miles from town].

"Metcalf got in touch with Len. Len asked a Mr. Fitch, of Cleveland, to investigate Metcalf. Felt Metcalf was sincere, believed he saw exactly what he claims to have seen. Fitch is reliable and intelligent [Fitch investigated a number of UFO cases].

"The UFO was 'pretty big' in comparison to the bomber. There was a plane allegedly missing at the same time; no details, confirmation. Should be a clipping on the missing aircraft; check St. Louis papers about March 9-10.

"No information on where jet bomber had been based.

"Metcalf says there was a vapor trail left by the bomber before incident. Not sure it was bomber, was a jet.

"FBI was contacted.

"Metcalf drew pictures for Len.

"Len has been involved in this case since last May (about) 1956. First heard of it through Fitch.

"Daytime sighting. (Exact time unknown at time of LS-TB mention)

"Important thing to ascertain is the disappearance of aircraft at the time." (xx.)

(xx.) March 9, 1955. NICAP files. CUFOS archives. Photocopy in author's files.

General Exon.

Now we will take note of some remarks by General Arthur Exon who figured so prominently in the Roswell controversy. There is no exact match of time and place with Metcalf story, but one has to admit there is something of a coincidence here. In the writings of Kevin Randle there is some comments about an interview of General Exon. "R" is Randle who speaks first in the following exchange:

"R: In the course of the investigation, we'd come across his [Exon] name as being one of the people who knew some information about this [Roswell], so we approached him to talk to him a while ago [this is in the late 1980s or early 90s]. And he gave us some information about the Unholy Thirteen and other things. He told us about four, I think, F-89 fighter planes that disappeared over the continental United States chasing these [UFOs]. The planes just flat vanished, nobody ever found them. And that had the oversight committee and the Pentagon very upset, and that was how Exon learned about them, and was involved in some of that activity. We found Exon through our investigation talking to other people. Arthur Exon we'd been able to confirm who the committee was [sic]. I've talked to him at one point right at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. We went to lunch at the Officer's Club in July of last year [1990]. So he's exactly who he says he is. We found him through our investigations and talking to other people.

"JS: When was that, Kevin, the F-89 disappearance?

"R: The only thing he could tell us about the F-89s was that he thought it was around 1955 or 56 and it was in Tennessee or Kentucky [For the record, Paris, Illinois, is near the Illinois/Indiana State Line some 120 miles north of Kentucky]. He really couldn't remember all the details. Now I've gone back through the *New York Times* index of aircraft accidents looking for disappearances of aircraft. I haven't been able to find any. That simply means I haven't been able to find it yet, so we're still working on that lead." (xx.)

(xx.) "Conference call with Kevin Randle." 17 August 91. Manuscript in Robert Gribble's files (Roswell 1947 file). Gribble's files now in author's collection.

Four planes "vanish."

Well, if one looks hard enough, he may find something. (See clipping) The trouble is, the incident is not that good a match. Sweden is more than a few miles from Tennessee, Kentucky, or even Illinois.

22 March. Medanito and Las Camadas, Venezuela. (about 10:30 a.m.)

"The news spread like sparks in a hay-barn."

"UFO" news, or "something else" (take your pick), came out of the Alto Apure region at this

Monday, May 2, 1955

Four Swedish Air Force Planes Have 'Vanished'

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)—Four Swedish air force planes failed to return to their bases today, a Swedish air force spokesman reported.

"The planes have vanished," the spokesman said.

He said the planes seem to have disappeared somewhere in the coastal area of south central Sweden.

time. Here is the story, with a few of the words changed from the original translation to make in more readable:

"The news spread like sparks in a hay-barn. Messrs. Francisco Romera and Jesus Hernandez, natives of this State and from the nearby towns of Medanito and Las Camadas, came to the office of our correspondent for that region after having seen [sic: "heard"] the remarkable phenomenon, and gave him precise information on the odd incident. According to these two men, persons of authority and responsibility, around 10:30 in the morning while they were engaged in their farming chores, each one on his respective estate, surrounded by loneliness and stillness, suddenly experienced a 'deafening buzzing' which caused their houses to shake and quiver. The hellish noise seemed to come from a very powerful aircraft like a helicopter, or something similar, since the sound was so tremendous. But the most curious thing about this sighting is that, in spite of scanning with their eyes the limitless horizons [the Alto Apure region in mostly savanna and prairie-like cattle country] and the whole of the sky, they could not see the cause of the sound. All of the people thereabout believe a flying saucer was responsible." (xx.)

(xx.) "Venezuela Alto Apure 55-3-2." APRO files. Translation by "Joe."
"Joe" added the comment that UFO reports in the Venezuelan press had dropped off considerably.

? April. Nubian Desert, Africa. (midday)

The magazine *Flying* was devoted to the promotion of private aviation. It was in no way what one could call a "saucerzine." One article in its November 1956 issue was a long, day by day account, of a married couple's flight in a small plane over the Sudan and Egypt. In the middle of the couple's sight-seeing trip this took place:

"Between Khartoum and Wadi Halfa, over the Nubian Desert, where one would die of exposure if stranded for more than four hours, Lettie and I saw a strange object aloft. It was flying at jet speed and shone bright silver in the mid-day sun. We noticed it change course and come toward us, perhaps 1,000 feet higher. When about a mile away it seemed to stop and hover. We could clearly distinguish an oval-shaped front view, similar to artists' impressions of flying saucers. Excited and worried because it seemed to be watching us, we decided to proceed on course as though he had not spotted anything. After three long minutes, the object darted off northwest at very high speed and disappeared on the horizon within 30 seconds." (xx.)

(xx.) (Name of article not available) *Flying*. November 1956. p.80. Photocopy of page 80 in author's files. Also: "Khartoum 55-4-." APRO files.

? April. Near Worcester, Massachusetts. (1:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m.)

Director of Flight Standards and Law Enforcement sees "mystery cigar." Hynek? and a ten minute elevator ride—blindfolded. Raytheon scientists see UFO. (See transcript of phone call

from Dr. James McDonald's files)

3:00 p.m.

June 21, 1968

Phone call from Lou Corbin re following sighting:

Sighting report by an FAA observer in April, 1955, near Worcester, Mass. Air-to-air.

Witness is William S. Morges (1376 Limit Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21212; phone 301-433-3589); Director of Flight Standards and Law Enforcement, Baltimore, Md. (Friendship Airport?)

In April, 1955, as Chief Pilot of the East Coast Pilots' Association, while flying with two other people in a single-engine Republic Aircraft, owned by Albert Moll, he was practising landings and take-offs on a lake near Worcester, Mass., when, flying at 25,000 feet, his attention was drawn by one of the others to a very bright stationary light of high magnitude at an estimated distance of 7 or 8 miles to the east.

The plane was on a 75-degree bearing and the object appeared slightly below the plane's altitude. The pilots headed toward the object and at an estimated distance of about 3 miles, the light source began to shrink, like the closing of a lens. Witnesses next could see a solid cigar-shaped object, dark blue and grey in color, about the size of a P-47 fighter. Approaching closer, the object suddenly shot straight up at a 90-degree angle, some 7000 to 8000 ft.

It made a turn, came back toward the witnesses, passing over them some 3/4 mile away and about 600 feet higher than the plane. The witnesses observed the object through binoculars as it headed in the direction of Westover Field at an estimated 1200-1500 miles per hour.

Morges, flying out of Hanscom Field, landed and promptly reported the incident to base personnel. In a short time, an AF Security Officer came into the lounge where Morges waited and requested a written statement from the witness, which Morges made out and submitted.

About 3 weeks later, he received a call to go out to the Cambridge Research Center. He was met at the door by two men, accompanied them into the building, and then blindfolded. The three men entered an elevator and for 10 minutes rode up and down in the eight-story building for what Morges could only assume was an effort to confuse him. Finally, the elevator stopped at an undetermined floor and Mr. Morges, the blindfold removed, was directed into a certain office.

He was met by a man with a goatee, who identified himself as Dr. Hynek. Hynek made an intensive cross-examination of the witness and said he was especially interested in Morges' report, which had taken place at about 2 p.m., because about one hour before that, about 1 p.m., a group of Raytheon Corp. scientists on the roof of the Cambridge Research Center, had spotted and reported a similar object.

Lou Corbin said he would try to obtain more details from the witness, and elicit his cooperation. However, the witness' name is to be held in strictest confidence.

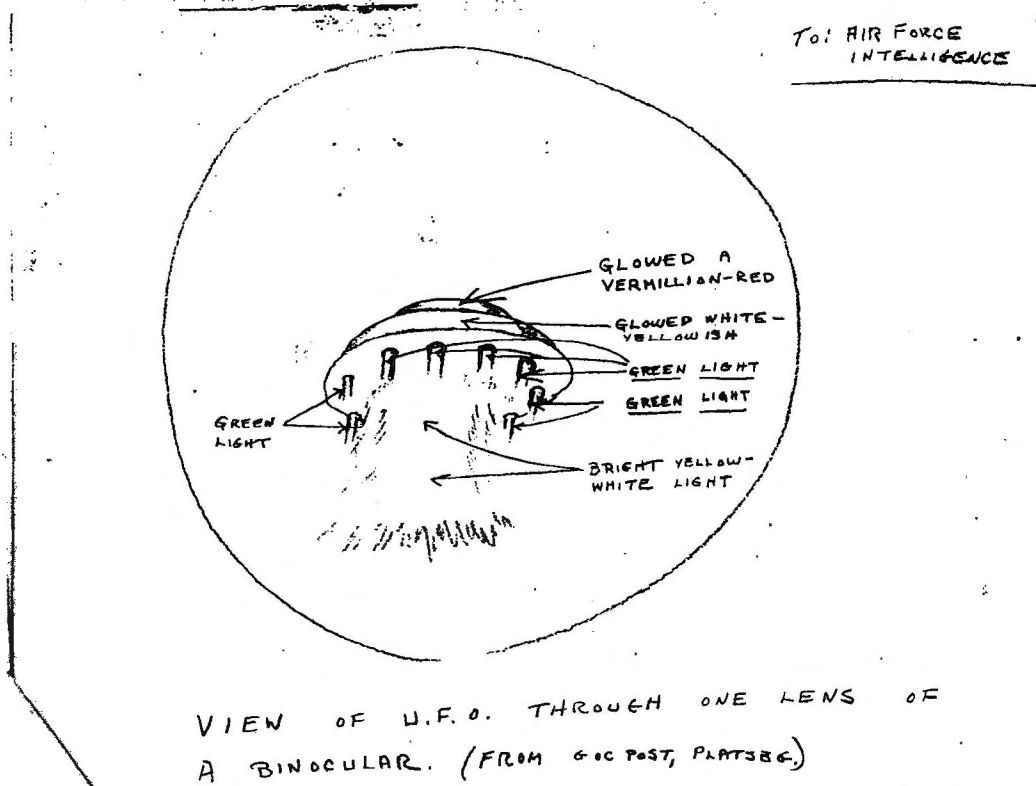
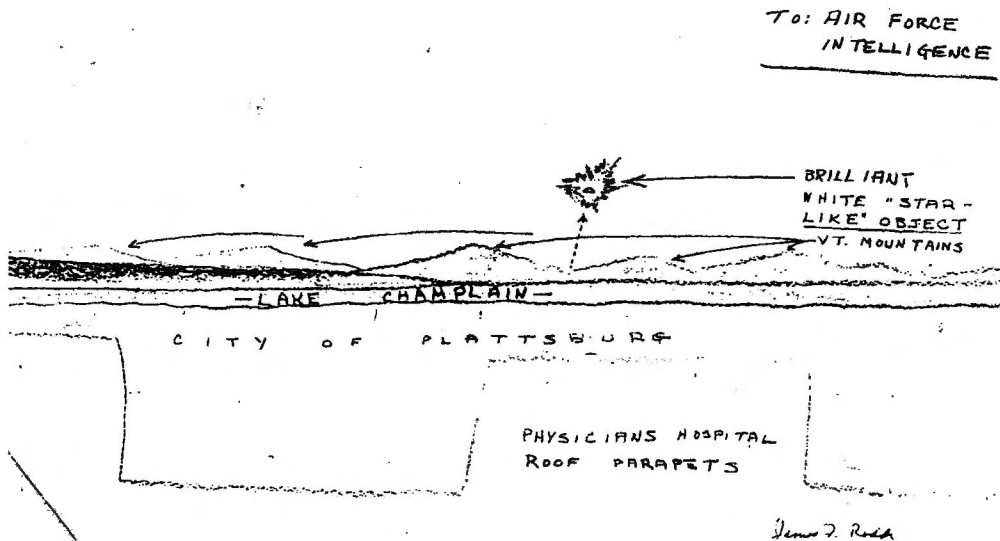
Ted Bloecher
NICAP Staff

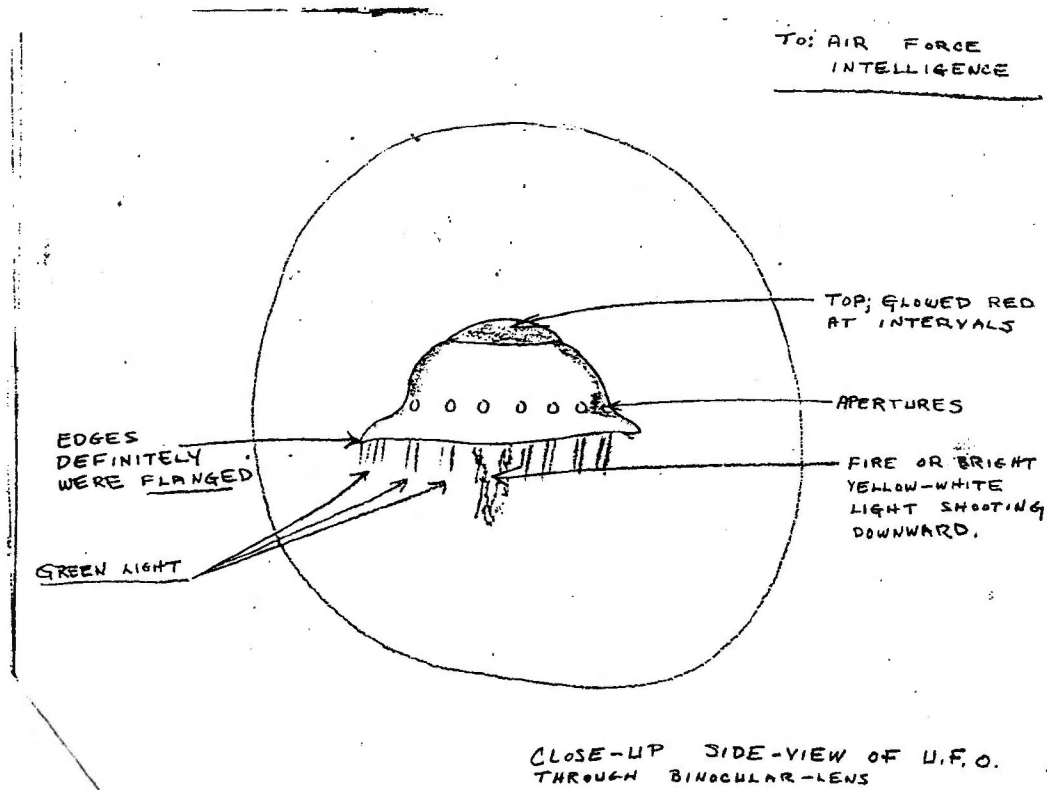
(Notes retyped June 19, 1969, upon securing witness' address and phone number from Baltimore Directory.)

9 April. Plattsburg, New York.

For details of the case see the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 January-June*, page 53. Below are freehand sketches supplied the Air Force by witness James Roddy. (xx.)

(xx.) "Headquarters 32D AD (DEF) Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOB)" (Data required by AFR 200-2) From: HQ 34B Plattsburg, N.Y. (9 April 55). Time: 0840Z Rcd 0627 Rcd. Passed to: Moscow (EJ) (9 April 55) Time: 0843 0629. Photocopy in author's files.





9 April. Dunedin (Near Green Island), New Zealand. (night)

Ball of light hovered over the sea—took off again.

Strange Object Seen Hovering Over Sea By Two Dunedin Men

Two Dunedin men may have been the first people outside California to sight a strange phenomenon. The men, motoring near Green Island last Saturday night, saw a ball of brilliant white, tinged round its perimeter with a sulphur colour, hover over the sea, pause for a few seconds and then rise slowly into the sky. The men could see the object plainly in the moonlight, but neither heard a sound.

Mr D. A. Metcalf, Dunedin president of the Civil Saucer Investigation group, an international body studying flying saucers, said this morning that the object did not fit the descriptions of saucers, but said everything indicated that the ball was of the type sighted in great numbers over California in 1952 and 1953.

The ball seen by the men fitted, almost exactly, a description distributed by Professor Lincoln La Paz, of the

California University, chief scientist working with the American air force on "Operation Blue Book," a Government assisted investigation into the presence of flying saucers.

Mr R. Stewart, a farmer, of Saddle Hill, one of the men who saw the fire ball (or saucer), described the few seconds it was within their

vision, thus: "It looked at first like a brilliantly lighted ship out at sea, but later it came closer and hovered over the water. It appeared to land, stayed about five or six seconds, and took off again. It was like looking at the inside of a white-hot furnace. It made no sound, and seemed to float on a plane with the surface of the sea."

Mr Metcalf remarked that the Californian fire balls also were the same colour, and followed the contours of surrounding hills. Like the local one, the balls moved horizontally as well as vertically.

FROM "DUNEDIN
EVENING STAR"
13.4.55

22 April. Tintinara, Australia. (7:45 a.m.-8:05 a.m.)

Silvery sphere with a flat flange.

According to our source:

"At 7:45 a.m. on 22/4/55 the observer was driving towards Melbourne with two companions, a few miles from Tintinara, in the outback of S.E. South Australia. Glancing to his right, he saw an object in the sky, about five degrees above the horizon, and an estimated quarter mile away. He stopped and got out to watch the object, which came towards him losing height, and crossed the road about 100 yards behind the car. At this point it was at an altitude of about 35 degrees and the observer estimated its diameter to be about 30 feet.

"After passing behind the car at an estimated speed of 15 m.p.h., it turned and began to move towards the East, roughly parallel to the road. When it was about 500 yards away the observer started the car again and began to follow it.

"It accelerated considerably; he reached 70 m.p.h. and followed it for 15-20 miles, but was unable to catch up with it. At about 8:05 a.m. he stopped to check one of the tyres, and when he continued the object was almost out of sight. When last seen it was at an altitude of about 45 degrees and climbing rapidly.

"He had a good view of it when it was close to the car, and he described it as a silvery sphere, like aluminum, about 10 feet in diameter, and surrounded by a flat flange about 30 feet on overall diameter. This flange was a bright deep red. The object moved smoothly and silently, with the flange horizontal, it did not tilt or bank. He saw no markings, portholes, or other features. The outline was clear and sharp, and the object appeared real and solid. The sun was shining at the beginning of the sighting, but clouds gathered towards the end. The other two people in the car also saw the Saucer, but were not available for interview at the time of going to press." (xx.)

(xx.) "Adelaide Man's Close View of Saucer." Report to A.F.S.R.S. by Observer. *Official Quarterly Journal Civilian Saucer Investigation (NZ)*. Vol.3, No.2. P.O. Box 1914. Auckland, New Zealand. pp.9-10.

22 April. Captain Robert C. White, USAF, of the Office of Public Information, Department of Defense.

Mr. C.H. Marck of Denver, Colorado, had a great fascination with the UFO problem and send many letters to authorities. His letters were neatly typed, restrained, and asked reasonable questions. Captain Robert White, the latest PIO at the Pentagon handling UFO inquiries, replied to Mr. Marck inquiry of March 15th with more of a personal missive than the usual bare-bones press handout. Captain White carefully followed the Air Force's official line so one can't learn anything new, but since it is probably the best example, or at least the most eloquent example, of the military's view of the things circa 1955, we will post it here for the benefit of posterity. (See letter to Harold Fulton from Mr. Marck that contain White's remarks on pages 43-44)

April 22, 1955

Mr. Harold H. Fulton
President, CSI
Auckland, New Zealand

Dear Mr. Harold H. Fulton:

Below is a verbatim letter that I received from Captain Robert C. White USAF, of the Office of Public Information, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

Dear Mr. Marck:

This is in reply to your letter of March 15, which I am returning so you may have ready reference to my comments.

Mr. Talbott has denied that he saw a "saucer" or unidentified flying object. I know of no instance where he has stated that he did see anything which could possibly be a "flying saucer". I also know nothing of a NIKE being sent up to shoot down a UFO, and strongly doubt that such ever took place. This, incidentally, would be handled by the Army. However, they state that there is nothing to this report.

The report prepared by Major Dewey Fourney was simply a report of his own personal views. They were not concurred in by members of the staff. If his report had been made public it would have been construed as the official views of the Air Force, which it was not. I believe he is now a civilian and he may publish his personal views to any extent he so desires.

You ask why we do not make a true statement about the UFO's. I'm sure that we're being as honest and forthright about them as it is possible to be. Thousands of "saucer" fans want us to say that they come from outer space, manned by people from Mars, Venus, and planets not yet discovered. Unfortunately, our investigations simply do not support such a contention. We don't rule out the possibility; we can't so long as there remains a percentage which can't be explained. However, we do feel, quite honestly, that the probability of unidentified flying objects being space craft

is extremely remote. Quite often our disagreement is labeled dishonesty.

Some publications, some of them not too reputable, are quick to play up anything on "flying saucers" because the subject insures increased sales. Some of the stories are quite sensational and interesting, they are completely untrue. Under our American system of a free press, they are perfectly free to distort and fabricate to an extent not realized by the layman. I'm sure you are familiar with the type publication to which I refer.

There have been some excellent articles prepared by by national magazines. I'll list a few of them in case you should care to check at any large library:

30 April 1949 Saturday Evening Post

6 Sept 1952 The New Yorker

May 1954 True Magazine

Each of the above articles was prepared by authors of standing who made a thorough and honest investigation of the subject.

In closing, I would like to make one point which does not seem clear to many people. The Air Force does not care whether people believe that flying saucers are from outer space or not, and we don't attempt to influence their beliefs aside from announcing what we know to be factual. Our primary concern is to assure that there is nothing on our skies which could represent a threat to security of the United States. We are far less concerned whether an unidentified flying object is from outer space than if it is an enemy missile or aircraft. For that reason, we continue to immediately investigate every worthwhile report.

I hope that I have, perhaps, given you a better understanding of our position on the "flying saucer" situation.

Sincerely
ROBERT C. WHITE
Captain USAF (XX.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Harold H. Fulton, President, CSI, Auckland, New Zealand. From: Mr. C.H. Marck, 1991 Roslyn Street, Denver 8, Colorado, U.S.A. Murray Bott Files, Auckland, New Zealand. Photocopy in author's files.

Spring 1955. ?Nashville, Tennessee. (early afternoon).

"Hovering in the air 500 feet from the school."

A letter to APRO said:

"It occurred in the Spring of 1955, while I was in English class at school. It was in the early afternoon and the sun was shining brightly. There were only a few scattered clouds dotting the sky. One of my classmates asked me to look out at the strange plane, and when I did, I was amazed to see a shining, disc-shaped object hovering in the air about 500 feet from the school. The object was the size of a small plane but was not like any plane I had ever seen and, moreover, not like any plane I have seen since. The object hovered for about two minutes, in a wobbling manner, and then darted off at a tremendous rate of speed. The class of about thirty, including our teacher, witnessed the event. Our teacher told us not to be alarmed, that it was probably some new experimental aircraft. Most of the class accepted this explanation, but to this day, I have carried with me the belief that what I saw was something unearthly, and not an experimental aircraft of the U.S.S.R. or the U.S." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: APRO. From: Stanley H. McElhiney, 1815 Guest Drive, Nashville 6, Tennessee. Date: 13 August 62. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

28 April. Mira Valley, Nebraska. (?-1:00 a.m.)

The moving glow.

The first part of this clipping is missing, nonetheless there is enough information to record a story. It seems a Don Wilberg encountered a strange "glow" in the middle of the night while he drove across the Nebraska countryside. The story picks up where Wilberg notices that the "glow" seems to be interested in his car:

"...Don swung the car east. As he did the glow moved with him travelling parallel and still at the half mile distance.

"One mile from the previous mentioned corner the road passed a famous land mark, the Round Barn.

"As Don's car swung left and north around the Round Barn corner the glow moved to the road ahead of him.

"He became alarmed, slowed down and looked the glow over carefully.

" 'It was about 100 yards ahead of me,' he said, 'at about tree top level. It appeared to be 15 to 20 feet tall and about three to five feet wide in the center. The object was shaped like a cigar except that it had much sharper points. Around the outside of the object was a halo or aura. The central part was quite dense but I could see stars through the upper portion, which was much thinner.'

"Don kept the car moving. The glow stayed its distance ahead.

"Sometimes it would be dim,' he remembered, 'then again it would increase in intensity.'

"The road, after leaving the Round Barn corner travels straight north for about nine miles. The highway intersects with an east-west road. The corner is dangerous. The northbound driver must stop.

"Near the Mira Valley Evangelical United Brethren church the glow remained ahead of Don's car. Don approached the corner with caution.

" 'When coming to this corner I always turn out my lights to see if another car is approaching on the other road,' Don said. 'The reason I am so cautious is because my dad's cousin was killed at this intersection. So I came to the corner and turned out my lights. I stopped.'

" 'The glow really brightened then. It still remained about the same distance ahead. I began to get a little frightened since it was so persistent. After a few seconds I started up again.'

"Don said the glow kept ahead of him until he entered a section of road heavily lined with trees near the Ray Peterson farm.

" 'Then it disappeared. I either lost it in the trees or it left altogether. Anyway I was certainly relieved.'

"Don drove another two miles to the Clement corner. The main road swings west towards Archie Geweke's farm. A secondary road continues on north.

" 'I turned west, crossed a small bridge, then stopped the car,' Don relates. 'I got out and looked back to see if I could see what had become of the glow.'

" 'It was behind me about 100 yards back in the center of the road. It moved towards me. I really became scared then.'

"Don said he got back into the car and drove the remaining seven miles to Ord at a pretty fast clip.

"Don, and Editor Bill Lee, attempted to see the apparition again Friday morning. The pair prowled the road until 2 a.m. but saw nothing.

"Friday morning's weather was clear and quiet. A daytime wind had gone down. A brilliant moon was shining. There were no clouds.

"Len looked for airport beacons glow, headlights, or other explanations for the mystery. He found none.

"Don's mother and family reported he was visibly excited and shaken when he checked in at home Thursday morning following the strange encounter.

"What was it Don witnesses?" (xx.)

(xx.) Ord, Nebraska. *The Ord Quiz*. 5 May 55.

The cow stampede.

This is something inserted in the "glow" news story, an incident that took place three nights later:

"Something spooked cattle in a corral on the Ed Lange farm, Sunday night. One heifer was cut with wire. Another animal suffered a torn udder.

"Farmer Henry Lange, a brother, said the animals apparently had been stampeded through three fences.

"Lange said a dog had been heard barking about the time the stampede was be-

lieved to have taken place.

"The Ed Lange farm is a mile south of Ray Peterson's where Don Wiberg told the *Quiz* he momentarily lost sight of the mysterious glow last Thursday at 1 a.m." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid. The *Quiz* may be a rural weekly which would explain the time delay in reporting events.

Early May. Schulte is contacted by an Air Force officer?

Back on March 5th Schulte and others at the North American photographic engineering department in Los Angeles began taking infrared photos of the atmosphere over the city. Mysterious images appeared on the films. Here is the aftermath:

"Schulte's group discontinued its experiments, which were known to the 13 or 14 night-shift employees of the North American photographic engineering department. Schulte kept the infrared negatives at his home. About three weeks later, in early May, 1955, Schulte was contacted by an Air Force officer.

" 'I was working drying prints one evening—this was in a classified department—and all of a sudden I realized I had a visitor,' recalls Schulte. 'I don't know who let him into the department. He was sitting on my sorting table, and he started to small talk with me.

" 'He was between 30 and 35 years of age. He wore brown sport clothes, had blond, sandy hair, was athletic looking, about 5 feet 10 inches, and about 160 pounds. He wore no company badge, and was a complete stranger to me.

" 'The small talk somehow graduated over to UFOs and the infrared project. He asked if he could see the pictures. And I said sure he could see them, but they were at home. Then he got very indignant and wondered why property of North American should be at my home. And I told him that I didn't know where he got the idea they were property of North American. He then demanded that I bring them in. I think there was even some mention that he would accompany me home right then and there to get them.

" 'The small talk somehow graduated over to UFOs and the infrared project. He asked if he could see the pictures. And I said sure he could see them, but they were at home. Then he got very indignant and wondered why property of North American should be at my home. And I told him that I didn't know where he got the idea they were property of North American. He then demanded that I bring them in. I think there was even some mention that he would accompany me home right then and there to get them.

" 'About that time, he brought out a military officer's identification card. It said 'Captain' somebody. I don't remember his name, but the surname 'Scott' seems to come to mind. He told me he was from the Air Material Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and that he had heard about UFO pictures made at North America, and that he was sent out here from Ohio to obtain the negatives for investigation and analysis.

“I said I’d be glad to lend them to him for analysis providing I got them back. I said, ‘Well, if you can’t guarantee I’ll get them back, you can’t have them.’ Then it got to the point where he was virtually demanding them and he said he was going to confiscate them. I told him to go ahead and try, but they weren’t North American property, and I didn’t like his entire approach. He tried to impress me with his military position, that he was some kind of a security officer with the Air Force and that if I didn’t cooperate, being that I was in a sensitive job—a security job—he would go to the company and have me dismissed for security breaches. The discussion got pretty heated. I virtually told him to go fly a kite. And I have kept the negatives in my possession ever since.” (xx.)

(xx.) Klinn, Robert B. and David Branch. “Photographer Threatened After Taking Infrared UFO Photos.” Santa Ana, California. *The Register*. 1 November 72. p.D9.

18 May. 1953 Hawaii hoax.

UFO researcher Ted Bloecher comments on the 1953 “horrendous face-thing” case.

It seems Donald Keyhoe was impressed by a 1953 sighting and asked around about possible confirmation. Fortunately his contacts within the UFO community provided some guidance in the matter. In a letter dated May 18, 1955, Ted Bloecher of New York told Keyhoe:

“You asked about information concerning a report over Hawaii in 1953; I have a sneaking suspicion that you are referring to a case Jim Moseley tracked down and finally discovered to be an elaborate hoax. I refer to the alleged case of a horrendous face-thing in a saucer that flew near an airliner; a grotesque picture was drawn up from ‘descriptions of passengers’ and passed off as legitimate. Moseley went to a great deal of trouble only to discover he was ‘had.’” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Major Donald E. Keyhoe, 214 Kent Road, Alexandria, Virginia. From: Ted Bloecher, 317 East 83rd Street, New York 28, New York. Date: 18 May 1955. Photocopy in author’s files.

22 May. Ten miles from Cheyenne, Wyoming. (between midnight and 1:00 a.m.)

“Flying hat?”

Two airmen observed an object so strange they reported the incident to their superiors. One witness was A/3C Edward C. Ingber who submitted this statement:

“On the 22nd May 1955, three other airmen and myself were on the Denver highway coming back to the base for bed check when our car went out of gas. We pulled to a stop on a hill. About 10 miles from Cheyenne. We stopped a car on the highway and we told two of the other airmen to get gas while Airman Sharpio and myself stayed

and I saw a funny-looking object. It was shaped something like a pencil with a white light all around it. The object remained for about 10 seconds then disappeared. About one minute later it was there again, then there was a flash of light and there were two cone-shaped objects they had a sort of white color at first then changed to a bluish purple color at first. Then as they moved skyward they kept getting brighter and I could see them glittering then they were gone from sight.

"Airman Shapiro and myself just looked at each other, and I said I guess we should report it, so at 0730 Monday morning 23 May 1955 we reported what happened to M/Sgt. Francis J. Martin. We were coming back from Greely on route 85 when this all happened." (xx.)

(xx.) Eward C. Ingber, A/3C. STATEMENT. 3451st Student Squadron, Francis E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne, Wyoming. 23 May 1955. Document from Dr. J. Allen Hynek's papers. Found in Dr. Willy Smith's files. Photocopy in author's files.

Statement by Airman Irwin J. Shapiro:

"Last night on the 22nd of May 1955 we were coming back to the base from Greely. We were on route 85. We ran out of gas about 10 miles from Cheyenne, Wyoming. While two of my friends started to Cheyenne for gas, Eddie and I stayed in the car. It all started happening somewhere between 2345 and 0030. Eddie said he saw something but didn't know what it was. I took a look out the window. It disappeared in a minute and then returned, only this time there were two of them. They were there for about five minutes, and then they disappeared completely. A few minutes later there appeared in the sky moving objects. They started moving south, flying not too high. Every couple of minutes it would turn a bluish purple, almost as bright as a light. This is when I caught a glance as to what it was shaped like. I'll try and come as close as possible. It was in sight for about ten minutes, then it ascended almost straight up and toward the south." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid. (Irwin J. Shapiro, A/3C. STATEMENT. 23 May 1955)

The confusion over what was being seen was apparently due to the variation of lights emitted by the object and the darkness of the night sky. The outline of the object glimpsed by Shapiro resembles a "hat" although he does not use that expression. (See Shapiro's drawing on page 52)

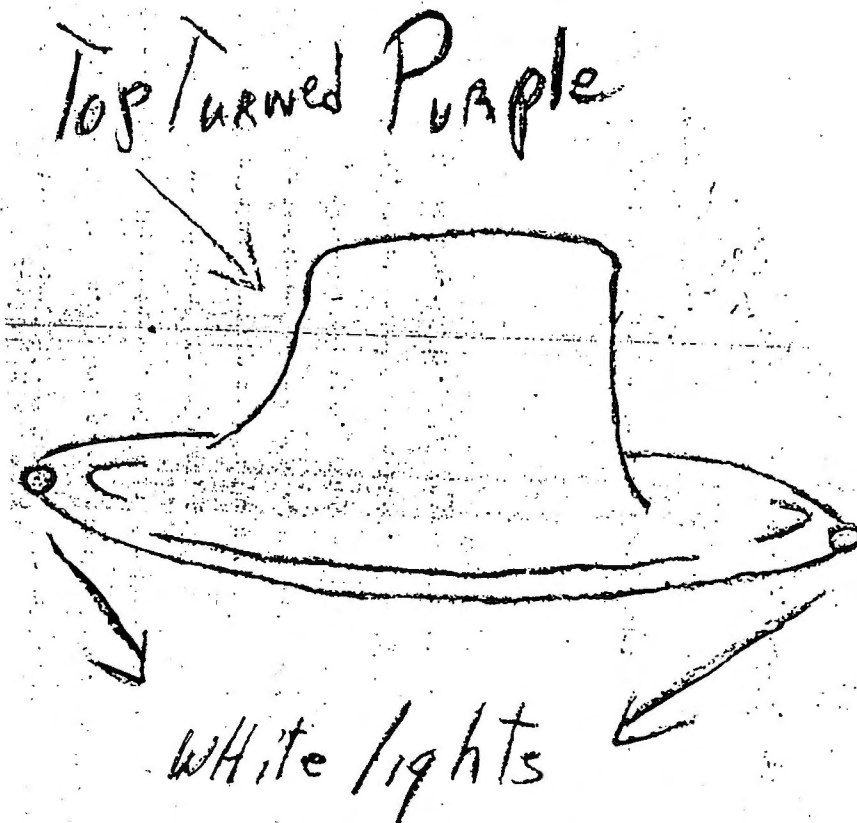
25 May. London, England. (10:15 p.m.)

UFO tracks American bomber?

Mr. R.R. Russell of England submitted the following report:

"I was watching an American B-47 bomber over Alexandra Park, London, recently when a luminous disc appeared over it.

"It was at 10:15 p.m. on May 25 and I had with me a pair of 8x30 prismatic field glasses and a German field compass fully marked in degrees. I saw the B-47 travelling in a slow arc at about 30,000 feet and leaving four contrails, through my glasses I could see clearly the starboard, port and tail lights.



"The sky was almost dark except for a brilliant thin crescent moon which was on my right—I was facing west.

"Just as I was putting away my glasses I noticed another single light coming in extremely fast from the a south-westerly direction and what looked like 100 feet above the aircraft. At first I thought this was a jet making an interception, but then I saw that the object was not like any form of aircraft.

"It was a ball or disc, luminous and amber red. It was the size of a large pea held at arm's length, as seen from the ground, but clearly defined. It left no vapour trail and I could hear no noise. Immediately above the aircraft it suddenly stopped and stood still. About five seconds later it glided away swiftly to the left at a speed I would estimate at being around 250 to 300 m.p.h. After covering two inches in the field of view, during which it was moving south-east, it instantaneously reversed on its tracks and moved the same distance to the north-west. Again it remained stationary, for eight seconds, then shot away in a direction of 230 degrees at what I would say was well over 900 m.p.h. and disappeared. The B-47 was still cruising on an extended arc." (xx.)

(xx.) Russell, R.R. "U.F.O. Tracks American Bomber." *Flying Saucer Review*. July-August 1955. Vol.I, No.3. p.10.

Untranslated news clipping dated: 26 May 55. (Credit: Barry Greenwood) (See below)

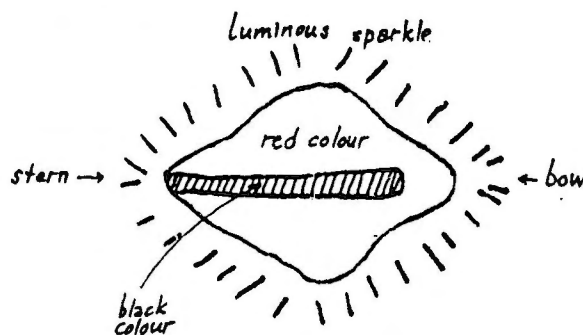
27 May. Pisco, Peru. (no time)

Performed fantastic maneuvers.

A Peruvian correspondent, Alejandro de la Jara, wrote some American friends to report:

"Eight persons, among them a pilot, a radio operator, and a meteorologist, saw a squadron of five flying saucers maneuvering for two hours over the airport of Pisco, 270 miles south of Lima.

"Airport personnel peered at the supposed flying saucers through a theodolite. Luciano Lino Cardenas, the meteorologist who was using the theodolite, noticed the flying saucers while following the ascension of a weather balloon he had launched. According to his story, he saw in the sky diamond-shaped machines whose edges were of a decided red colour and which bore in the middle, toward the rear, a black-coloured rectangle, while the rest of the surface gave off a very bright white light. The mysterious airships were describing circles above the airfield, at an altitude of two miles. Their maneuvers were observed by other employees and workers at the airport and also by a pilot of the Peruvian Air Force who had stopped at Pisco airport to take on fuel. According to the information received from Petare, the pilot said he observed the strange maneuvers, and that he could not acknowledge the aircraft as a product of earthly manufacture." (See drawing below) (xx.)



(xx.) Caracas, Venezuela. *El Universal*. 30 May 55. NICAP files. Translation by Alejandro de la Jara. CUFOS archives.

28 May. Was the UFO a balloon?

A letter to the editor of the London *Times* said:

"Sir, the crew of an airliner were reported to have seen a cigar-shaped object fly beneath their aircraft while they were between Dunsfold and Epsom. I was at Epsom

El Comercio
Lima Per
May 26 1955

Volando sobre el Huascarán vieron probables "Platillos Voladores" de seis metros

Pucallpa, 25. (U.P.) — El sábado viajando en un avión de la compañía Faucett, los señores Rogelio Fernández y Comandante Víctor Gal Lino, personas radicadas en esta localidad desde hace algún tiempo, expresaron que cuando volaban en la cordillera de los Andes y sobre el Huascarán vieron un objeto plateado que flotaba en el espacio, con mucho brillo, que rotaba de izquierda a derecha y creían que se trata de los "platillos voladores", que tenía aproximadamente 6 metros y medio de diámetro. Este espectáculo, informan, los dejó absortos y poco después estos "platillos" desaparecieron.

on May 25th, on the racecourse, and suggest that the object they saw was a balloon in the shape of an airship painted silver-grey, measuring three feet in length and 18 inches in diameter. These airships were being sold in great numbers to racegoers, and taking into account the weather conditions, which were fine with a strong breeze, one of these 'airships' could have reached a considerable height. I suggest that this is in fact what the crew of the airliner saw.[See page 72 in the monograph *UFOs: A History 1955 January-June*]." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter to the editor by M. Lock. London, England. *Times*. 28 May 55.

29 May. Auckland, New Zealand. (6:10 a.m.)

May?/June (date uncertain) Near Trail, Oregon. (about 2:30 a.m.)

"As if they were playing a game."

Typed report in APRO files:

"Location: 3 ½ miles north of Trail Oregon.

Date of sighting: May or June 1955.

Date sighting reported: December 1960.

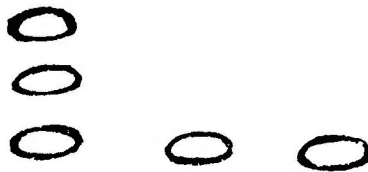
Weather: clear skies.

Witnesses: Mr. & Mrs. Carl Robbins, #42, Trail, Oregon.

Narrative:

About 2:30 a.m. this couple was awakened by a bright light—they think it was that—and looking out their bedroom window, saw five UFOs in the northwestern sky and at about a 45 degree angle of sight. The objects were estimated to be at least two miles away and were one third the size and the color of a full moon.

"When first observed, the objects were seen in position as follows:



"They kept more or less in this formation and acted as if they were playing a game of some kind. If they changed position at any time they would resume the original position. They stayed in the same general sky area and Mrs. Robbins mentioned that she became uneasy. After watching them for some time the couple went back to sleep, as they were very tired." (xx.)

(xx.) "#7 Report on UFOs." May/June 1955. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

Early June. New Ulm, Minnesota. (7:15 p.m.)

"Craft with two big windows?"

A letter to the editor of the local paper said:

"Have been hearing about flying saucers lately and thought I would tell you that I saw one close enough in daylight so I could make a good memory sketch of it.

"Sound crazy doesn't it? This happened in June 1955. At that time I mailed a report of what I saw to WCCO [must be a radio or TV station—L.E. Gross] with a picture I sketched to the Science-Fiction program. I asked that they check with Air Army authorities to see if some kind of new experimental aircraft had appeared in this location at the time. As I remember it was about 7:15 p.m. in early June.

"Here is what occurred. My wife and I had just finished supper and I went outside to water plants. I had just connected the hose and started watering when I heard a peculiar sound in the air like a high-pitched power saw if you hear it in the distance. The first thought that occurred to me was that a jet plane was going over the above some place and yet the sound was so different from the usual sort of whistling jet-exhaust—but that is what I was looking for. I had no thought of flying saucers as that seemed too fantastic for me at that time.

"Well—I tried to figure where the sound was coming from and looked southwest from here. There was a thunderhead cloud sort of pinkish from the setting sun and below and trailing off to the west the sort of mackerel cloud effect in grays and lavender effect. Toward the east of the thunderhead was a clear blue evening sky.

"As I looked toward the sound it seemed to come from about above where the Loretto Hospital Chapel is situated on the hill when you look southwest from my place. As I just about dropped everything, this queer shaped saucer-like machine spiraled out and downward from behind the thunderhead cloud as I show in my sketch. I yelled for my wife to come out and I guess she thought something had bitten me or something terrible had happened the way I yelled. She just about tumbled out of the door wild-eyed looking at me to see what was wrong. I yelled 'Look, look, look' pointing at the strange craft. I had kept my eyes glued on it and as I yelled it had completed the spiral journey and before she could see what I was pointing at—it disappeared behind the Thunderhead.

"I was disgusted that she had not been able to see it in time so that I would have a witness to the event—but she knew that it was something out of the ordinary because I rarely shout about anything that happens.

"Well—I didn't want to be the laughing stock of New Ulm so I simply made a sketch and sent it to WCCO, asking that my letter be forwarded to Science Fiction program. I told them I didn't believe that some craft were from other planets...

"...it must have been a large sized craft because I could see it so distinctly. I saw a canopy with what appeared to be portholes with glass. The canopy must have been stationary and the outside rim may have been revolving because the portholes kept about the same portion as the craft spiraled.

"My sketch shows the view I got of it at the distance and altitude that I saw it the craft must have had at least a hundred foot diameter in order to show up as clearly as it did. It was a silvery craft clearly outlined against the blue sky background. As it disappeared behind the thunderhead the noise of it motors became fainter and fainter."

(See sketch on page 55) (xx.)

(xx.) New Ulm, Minnesota. *Journal*.
3 January 57.

24 June. Near Baltimore, Maryland.
(10:00 p.m.)

Darting, hovering, green light.

Evidence of UFO activity near Baltimore, which may have some connection with sensational claim of "lights out" at Washington Nation (See pages 84-85 in the monograph *UFOs: A History January-June*), was reported by a party of nine people. According to one of the witnesses, A Mr. James Houck :

"On the night of June 24, 1955, a party of 9 people (four adults and five teenagers) were on board our sailboat sailing east in the Chesapeake Bay from the mouth of Middle River. At approximately 10:00 p.m. some of the party noticed the Light in the sky, at about 90 degrees over the horizon in a northern direction. Attention was called to it, and from this time for about 10 minutes all 9 persons observed the unusual behavior of the object. All people were of the opinion that the 'Light' was not associated with local or explainable source. The distance involved, the erratic behavior, the rapidity of movement, of the Light all point to what we refer to as a UFO." (xx.)



New Ulm object

(xx.) Air Force Technical Information Sheet. Date filled out: 30 April 68. Person making the report: James William Houck, 1125 Gypsy Lane West, Towson, Maryland. Photocopy in author's files

The "object/light" was a brilliant green like a traffic light moreover. Mr., Houck continues:

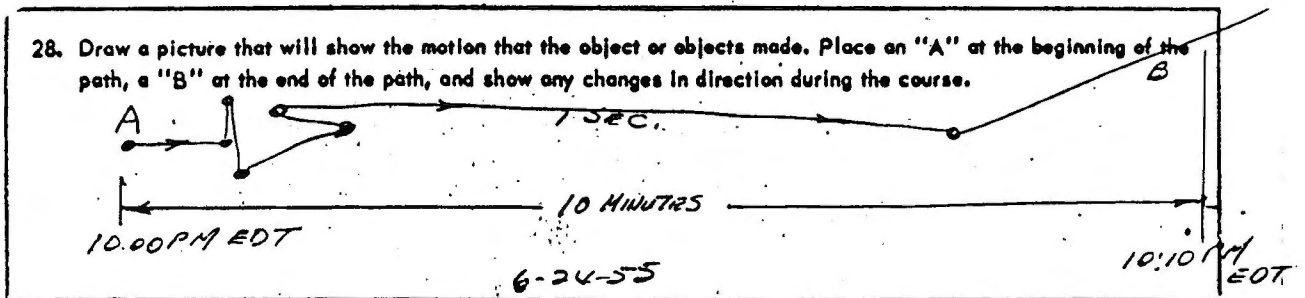
"The object was small in the sky, appearing as a bright green light and giving the impression that it was at a great distance. Being at this distance, it was impossible for any known vehicle of earth to move with the rapidity of this object. The light moved within a second, to a position approximately 180 degrees of the original sighting. The light would 'dart' and 'hover' in its maneuvering, then move with 'lightning' speed to a new position." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Mr. Houck: "The speed of the object was so great, that in moving from one place to another, it seemed to disappear." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Path of object/light drawn by Mr. Houck. (See below)



Covers:

Page 58: Robert Gribble's *Flying Saucer Review* (August 1955 issue)

Page 59: *Marvel Tales* #134, May 1955 (Displayed in the CUFON Flying Saucer Comic Book Cover Gallery: www.cufon.org) (Les Treece-Sinclair Collection)

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A REPORT ON INTERPLANETARY AIRCRAFT

30c

THE FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

The Official Publication of

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MARCH of The MARTIANS



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