

Mission's Flying Mystery



THE AIR FORCE WON'T EXPLAIN
Patrolman Allan Rosenbaum, MM1/C Wm. Hale—baffled

Two Pilots See 'Saucers' In Florida

MIAMI, Fla., July 15 (UP)—Two veteran Pan American Airways pilots reported today they saw eight huge "flying saucers" flying at a 1000-mile-an-hour clip near Norfolk, Va., last night.

W. B. Nash said he and W. H. Fortenberry saw six of the strange craft, estimated to be 100 feet in diameter and "glowing orange-red like hot coals." They were flying some 6000 feet beneath their DO4.

The six "things" turned westward sharply when the PAA plane passed overhead and were joined by two other similar flying discs, Nash said. The eight "saucers" zoomed upward to an estimated 10,000 feet altitude before the glowing light emanating from them "pulsated off" and they disappeared into the sky, Nash said.

Nash, 35, estimated he and Fortenberry, 30, "watched the whole maneuver" for between 10 and 12 seconds.

Nash, a first officer for PAA and a flying employee for ten years, said he and Fortenberry "would judge that the eight objects were definitely intelligently controlled—whether from within or without, he couldn't say."

"If either of us had seen the things alone, we would have hesitated to tell anyone about it," the pilot said. "But we watched the whole thing together."

Nevada Can Now Buy Shasta Power

CARSON CITY, Nev., July 15—Nevada got the right to buy Shasta Dam power today and thus won the first round in a four-year battle against the State of California, the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and several private power companies.

A contract signed here with the Bureau of Reclamation gives Nevada the right to 30,000 kilowatts of Shasta power as soon as it can find some way to transmit the power to Nevada. Another 60,000 kilowatts may be received at an indefinite time in the future if the power is available.

The State now has until next June 1 to find a way to get the power from Northern California down to Southern Nevada, where it is needed in the rapidly-expanding industrial center at Henderson, near Las Vegas. Private companies which could "wheel" the power over their lines and deliver it to Nevada have refused to do so.

But Senator George Malone of Nevada has threatened to introduce legislation providing for construction of Government lines to bring the power to Nevada. This is generally considered a move designed to force the private companies to carry the power to Nevada over their lines.

Everyday is a sale in today's Classified "PERSON-TO-PERSON" Bargain Counter. Groves, Music, Chef, etc. with many extras.

8 Isosceles, Some Cops, A Reporter

A bright midsummer sun shimmered yesterday in the periwinkle skies and anyone could plainly see that it was a perfect day for a flying-saucer story.

Happily, we have one for you—every cogent, fact documented by a Chronicle reporter who was off with flying coattails to Mission Police Station the moment the news of the mysterious find crackled over the phone wires.

The first bulletin came through a few minutes after noon.

"Here," he said, "is the background. I'll start it chronologically. This thing—call it The Thing if you want to—was found by John Sneddon, of 3451 26th street.

"Sneddon is a janitor at Horace Mann High School, at Valencia and 23d streets. He was coming to work at 7 a. m. when he found The Thing in the boys' courtyard at Horace Mann.

"He says he usually gets in early to raise the flag, but now he forgot all about the flag, and picked up The Thing and took it down to the boiler room. It looks like a silver tent, kind of, a kite, you might describe it. Nobody knows what it is.

"About 8 a. m. the head janitor came in. He is John F. Connelly of 44 Peralta avenue. He took one look and he said: 'My gawd, it looks like a flying saucer.'

"Connelly called the supervising janitor of the Board of Education. He is Stanley Laveell, and he said, 'Call the police.'

"By this time it was 11:45 a. m. The cop who got the call was Patrolman Allan Rosenbaum of Mission Station. That's also at Valencia and 23d streets.

"Patrolman Rosenbaum sent Patrolman Herman Jackson over to investigate and make a report. By that time The Thing was up in the principal's office—it got his name later.

"Now they're taking it across the street to the police station. The janitors are not going with the patrolman. I'll call you back."

The next bulletin crackled through with further details of The Thing:

"Patrolman Jackson is an Air Force veteran. He says, and you can quote this, 'I never saw anything like it. But it looks like a radar detection kite. Don't let that influence you, though. Because there's another Air Force man here from one of the other papers, he's gone out now to call for a photographer, and he says it's like what they use in lifeboats. But I've got on better than that. Wait a minute. I'll call you back. They're getting the armed forces in on this.'

The next call:

"Patrolman Jackson has called the Armed Services Police. They're on the way. Now this other fellow says this could be a flying saucer, but it's got markings on it. Sure I can read them. No. Sorry. They're not in Russian. But you never know. Some of those guys speak English.

"The markings say ML 307 C dash AP. That's the marking. Hold on, now, here's the Armed Services."

Then, five minutes later:

"The armed services man is Machinist's Mate First Class William Hale. He's stumped. He can't make anything out of it. Completely mystified. So he's going through channels. Hold on a minute.

"Now, Machinist's Mate First Class Hale has called Captain J. L. Austin. The captain has ordered a detail to come down and investigate. Soon I'm through with this call, I'll check the captain further.

"The Thing seems to be made out of water-repellant plastic, a kind of aluminum stuff. It has a four-sided figure on it, made out of eight isosceles triangles, all equal sided. They're isosceles all right. There are eight fellows standing around me right now, and they all agree that's what they are, even if they are all equal sided. I'd better call Captain Austin."

Then:

"Well, I called Captain Austin, and he won't give. He says he refers all calls to the Public Information Officer, Sixth Army, the Presidio. I called them and they don't know anything about it. Hey! Here comes the detail. Call you back."

At 1:42 p. m.:

"Well, the detail arrived. Two men in civilian clothes. One tall, thin and dark. The other short, blond and medium-sized. Very mysterious. They showed their CID cards to Patrolman Robert Ferroggiaro. CID—Criminal Investigation Division. Both men are unsmiling and unspoken. They've got The Thing now. Taking it out to their car. 'I'll call you back.'

And finally:

"The CID men took The Thing off in their car. They are Robert Boyles and Robert Middlemass of

Motorcyclist Killed in Alameda Tube

Frank G. Traugher, 26, a fork-lift operator of 618 14th street, Oakland, was killed early yesterday when a motorcycle he was riding crashed head-on with an automobile in Posey Tube.

Alameda's police said Traugher was bound for Oakland and passed on the right of a taxi at the tube entrance. The motorcycle struck the tube wall, bounced across the center line, and struck the right front fender of an Alameda-bound car driven by Elbert True, 59, of 3272 "A" street, Hayward.

Traugher was dead on arrival at the Alameda First-Aid Station. No citations were issued.

The 60th CID Detachment, Presidio, San Francisco. They don't talk. They whisper.

Looks like that's about all out here for now. Ask the desk shall I come in.

Addendum:

"Memo to desk: Rod Ireland, a PIO at the Presidio, says the Army called the Air Force and the Air Force says the Army can take it home and use it for a toy. Army doesn't know what it is, and CID agents haven't turned it in and Air Force won't talk. Ireland says as far as Provost Marshal is concerned the case is officially closed, but he'll check around further and call us tomorrow. Ireland says maybe it's a weather kite. Anyhow, not a real flying saucer. At least, so far as he knows."

Ah, mid-summer.

Ah, balmy dog days.

AVC Chapters to Hold Joint Session

The San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and Richmond chapters of the American Veterans Committee will hold a joint meeting this evening at 8 o'clock in the Durant Hotel, Berkeley.

State Chairman Erwin Klaus and State Secretary William Reynolds will report on the recent AVC National Convention.

CRUSADE PLANNING SESSION

Officials of San Francisco's United the Crusade's October fund drive. Crusade will meet at noon today in the Colonial Room of the St. Francis Hotel to draw up plans for Francisco's charitable groups.

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- 41 TEE SHIRTS..... 1/4 & 1/2 Off
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- 91 PAJAMAS..... 1/4 Off
- 208 TIES..... 1/2 Off
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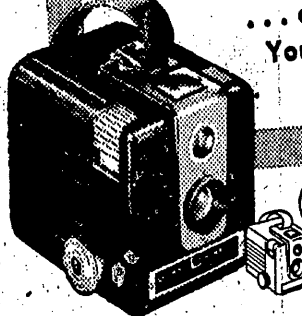
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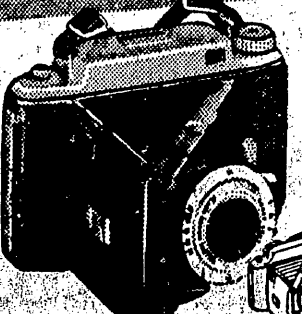


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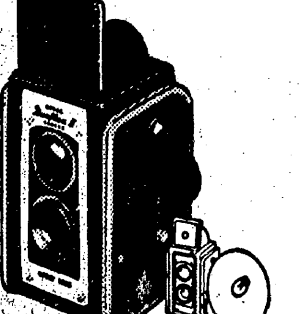
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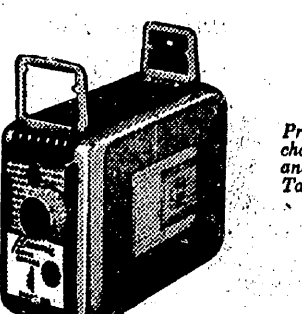
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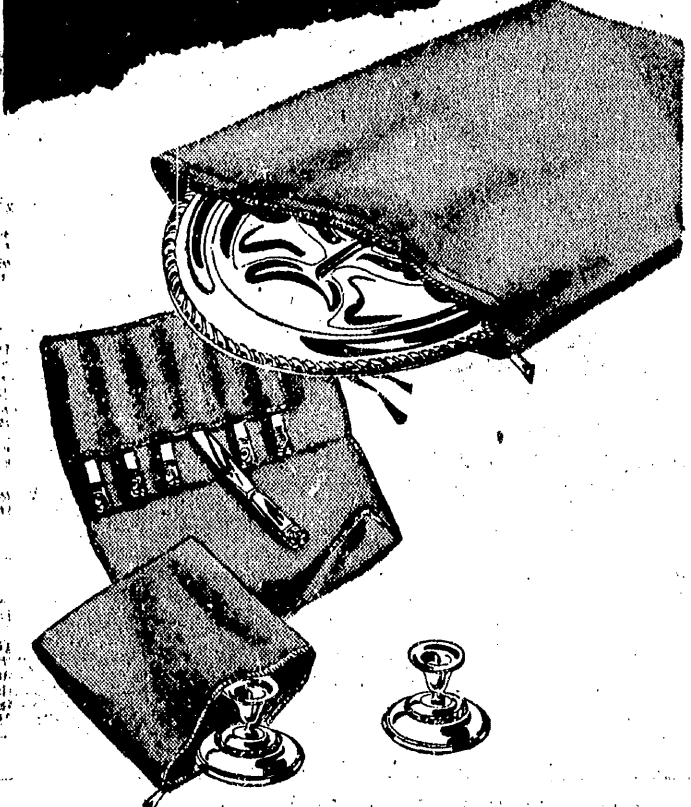
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- 6 teaspoon size..... 69c each
- 6 butter spreader size..... 69c each
- 6 salad fork size..... 69c each
- 6 dinner fork size..... 69c each
- 6 dinner knife size..... 79c each
- 6 soup spoon size..... 89c each
- 6-pc. pl. setting flatware 79c each

zipper bags for serving pieces

- 6x6-in. bag..... 59c each
- 9x9-in. bag..... 89c each
- 10x15-in. bag..... 1.29 each
- 15x15-in. bag..... 1.79 each
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