

another heads southeast, and the last remains stationary. (UFOEv, [p. 137](#); Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 95)

- 1959**, January 11 — [Wilbert Smith](#) speaks on UFOs at the Illuminating Engineering Society's Canadian Regional Conference in Ottawa, Ontario. He claims that "Various items of 'hardware' are known to exist, but are usually clapped into security and are not available to the general public." (Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, [p. 48](#))
- 1959**, January 13 — 7:00 a.m. Robert Collins is driving a pickup truck south on Hartstown Road across Pymatuning Lake, Pennsylvania, when he sees a bright light approaching from the east and illuminating the ground. It stops above his truck, hovering 200 feet above it for several minutes. The truck's electrical system fails, the engine dies, and the headlights and radio go out. The object's light illuminates an area about 300 feet in front of him. It takes off and disappears in seconds, and the truck begins working again. ("[Area Man's Encounter with Unidentified Flying Object Called Weirdest Experience](#)," *Greenville (Pa.) Record-Argus*, January 31, 1959, pp. 1–2)
- 1959**, January 17 — [George Adamski](#) arrives in Auckland, New Zealand, on the first stop on his world lecture tour where he is received by North Island Adamski Correspondence Group leaders [Henk](#) and Brenda Hinfelaar for a 6-week engagement starting with a talk in Kaikohe on January 20. ("[World Lecture Tour](#)," The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019; Marc Hallet, [A Critical Appraisal of George Adamski: The Man Who Spoke to the Space Brothers](#), The Author, 2016)
- 1959**, January 18? — Eight people see a UFO over Stigsjö, Sweden. The round object, 18–24 feet in diameter, approaches slowly from the south over Lake Länssjön at a height of 900 feet. It is surrounded by a luminous ring 6 feet wide. It is visible for 3 minutes. (*Stockholms-Tidningen*, January 20, 1960; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, p. 25)
- 1959**, January 21 — 6:00 a.m. A flying object is seen crashing into the waters of the harbor at Gdynia, Poland. Rumors later claim that a rust-free fragment is retrieved by divers and, after being examined by the Polish navy, sent to Gdynia Polytechnic University [possibly the Polish Naval Academy]. A few days later, an injured occupant of the craft is allegedly found wandering in the area. He speaks no known language, wears an odd uniform, and apparently has burns on the face. He is taken to a hospital, but he dies when doctors attempt to remove an armband. His remains are said to have been shipped to the Soviet Union. (Hobana and Weverbergh 1–2; Poland 25–28, 115)
- 1959**, January 21 — MP [Roy Mason](#) asks the Air Minister another question in the UK House of Commons: What instructions have been sent to RAF stations about collecting military UFO reports, and what collaboration is there with Canada and the US? Air Minister [George Ward](#) replies that RAF units have standing instructions for handling reports, and there is no special collaboration with those countries. ("[Roy Mason Asks Another](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 2 (March/April 1959): 2; Good Above, [p. 52](#); Isaac Koi, "[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#)," Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1959**, January 25 — After 12:00 midnight. [Franklin](#) and [Louise Richardson](#) park on Spivey-Tapp road north of Lampasas, Texas, hoping to once again see the mysterious lights they encountered on December 20. They notice a large light about 20 miles to the northeast, "hopscotching" south rapidly, then making a right-angle turn and so that it is heading directly toward them. Panicked, Louise begins driving away, watching the light in the rear-view mirror. She accidentally hits some gravel on a curve, applies the brakes, and the car skids and hits some trees. The car is severely damaged, Louise is injured, and the light has disappeared. ("Lampasas Couple 'Victims' of Mysterious, Fast-Flying Lights," *Lampasas (Tex.) Record*, January 29, 1959, via Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse, UFOs: A History: 1958 November–December](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 32–33, 44, 51; "[Lights That Flew, Danced, and Sank into the Ground](#)," *CSI News Letter*, issue no. 11 (Publication no. 25), p. 4)
- 1959**, January 28 — At a Symposium on Aerospace Technology by the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences at the Astor Hotel in New York City, USAF Maj. Gen. [Donald J. Keirn](#), assistant deputy chief of staff on development for nuclear systems, talks about nuclear aircraft propulsion. He mentions that if intelligent extraterrestrials do exist, "it is entirely possible that some of them may have passed through our stage of evolution, and may have already achieved a higher level of social and technological culture than our own." He suggests using electromagnetic emissions to detect them, as they may be doing with us. (US Congress, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Hearings, *Aircraft Nuclear Propulsion Program*, July 23, 1959, [p. 153](#))
- 1959**, January 31 — The US Ground Observer Corps is deactivated with the advent of automated Army (Missile Master) and Air Force (SAGE) radar systems. (Wikipedia, "[Ground Observer Corps](#)")
- 1959**, February — 9:30 p.m. The people of Digeliotika, Greece, hear a humming noise coming from the direction of the sea. Running out of their homes, many people see a luminous disc circling the village for about 10 minutes. Radios fail to operate and the electrical current in one house fails completely. When the disc flies low over the

house of the priest, Papa Costas, there is a loud noise and the whole house shakes. The object moves off to the west. Inspection of the house the next day reveals that many of the roof tiles have been displaced, and others are on the ground. ("[UAOs Collide with Tree, Roof](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March 1959, p. 2)

- 1959**, February 1 — JANAP 146(D) integrates Canada into the CIRVIS reporting instructions. The Canadian Department of National Defence launches a series of Communications Instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings in line with the JANAP procedures. (Gregory M. Kanon, "[UFOs and the Canadian Government](#)," *Canadian UFO Report* 3, no. 7 (Spring 1976): 17–18; Antonio F. Rullán, "[Blue Book UFO Reports at Sea by Ships](#)," December 10, 2002)
- 1959**, February 17 — [Hynek](#) wants to start bringing together ATIC and Blue Book personnel for monthly meetings where scientific and PR problems are reviewed. To get it going, he meets with Air Force Intelligence, Secretary of the Air Force officials, and Blue Book staffers in the Pentagon. This meeting includes, besides Hynek, Maj. [Robert J. Friend](#), Col. Leonard T. Glaser, [Alex Francis Arcier](#), Maj. James F. Byrne, Maj. [Joseph E. Boland](#), Maj. [Lawrence J. Tacker](#), and [Burgoyne Lee Griffing](#). The group agrees that eventually the term "UFOs" should be jettisoned and older unsolved cases reexamined in the light of "greater scientific knowledge" that will move them from unknowns to knowns. (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, pp. 148–149; Clark III 919; Swords 286; "[Saucer Reading Fest](#)," Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1959**, February 20 — Pfc. Bernard G. "Gerry" Irwin, on leave from Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, is driving near Cedar City, Utah, when he stops to investigate what seems to be a crashing plane. He is later found unconscious in the snow and treated at the Cedar City hospital. He suffers from amnesia, continues to have fainting spells, and returns more than once to the site in some kind of fugue. He soon deserts and perhaps disappears, but not forever, as he is living in Idaho in 2013, where [David Booher](#) interviews him about his PTSD-like symptoms. (Coral Lorenzen, "[Soldier Sees Flash; Unconscious 24 Hours](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March 1959, pp. 1, 10; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 97–99; Lorenzen, *Encounters with UFO Occupants*, Berkley Medallion, 1976, pp. 347+; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1961 July–December](#), The Author, 2003, pp. 56–60; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1962 July–December](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 68–70; Kevin D. Randle, *The UFO Dossier*, Visible Ink, 2015, pp. 134–141; David Booher, *No Return: The Gerry Irwin Story, UFO Abduction or Covert Operation?*, Anomalist, 2017; Clark III 2)
- 1959**, February 20 — Just as the first working models of the Army's VZ-9 Avrocar are being manufactured, the Canadian government cancels the Avro CF-105 Arrow program. Almost all Avro Canada employees are laid off, including those with the Special Projects Group. However, three days later, many of the Special Projects employees are rehired, but it isn't quite business as usual. The USAF Project Office devoted to the Avro projects recommends that the WS-606A and all related work (including the Avrocar) be cancelled. However, in May the USAF authorizes Avro to continue its "flying saucer" programs. (Wikipedia, "[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)")
- 1959**, February 24 — 8:20 p.m. Capt. [Peter W. Killian](#) is flying an American Airlines flight from Newark to Detroit when he encounters three bright lights flying in a precise line. The initial detection takes place when the aircraft is flying at 8,500 feet and 50 mph about 13 miles west of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. At first Killian thinks he is seeing Orion's sword, but he can see those stars elsewhere. One of the objects abruptly leaves formation and approaches the plane, slows down before Killian takes evasive action, then rejoins the other two. Killian alerts copilot James John Dee and then announces on the intercom for the passengers to take a look. He also puts out a call to nearby aircraft, and five other commercial airline pilots indicate that they can see the objects. The lights remain at about the 9 o'clock position for 40 minutes, providing an opportunity for many of the 35 passengers to observe them. They are also seen by the crews of two other planes flying much farther to the south, as well as by the tower operators in Pittsburgh. The Air Force quickly identifies the objects as the three Orion stars, changes that to an aerial refueling operation, then accuses Killian of being drunk. But an independent sighting of the UFOs by an Air Force transport plane 150 miles further south confirms Killian's observation, and no refueling routes exist in central Pennsylvania. [Brad Sparks](#) uncovers new evidence in 2016 that supports the witnesses' story. (NICAP, "[The Killian Case](#)"; "[Pilot Reports Saucers: Says Airliner Passengers and Crew Saw Lights](#)," *New York Times*, February 26, 1959, p. 2; "[Flying Saucers Escort Airliner for 45 Minutes](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 3 (May/June 1959): 2, 4; UFOEv, pp. 116–117; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 58–60; Clark III 385–387; [Sparks](#), p. 270; Willy Smith, "[Over Pennsylvania](#)," *IUR* 23, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 13–14, 29–30; Swords 285; Patrick Gross, "[The Killian–Orion Belt Sightings, 1958](#)"; "[American Airline Case of 2-23-1959 – Capt. Peter Killian](#)," *Ufology: A Primer in Audio*, 1938–1959, November 21, 2013)
- 1959**, February 24 — 10:00 p.m. A 17-year-old male is home babysitting the family pets and his younger brother in Victorville, California, when he sees a bright light shining in his bedroom window. The dogs begin to howl and

run around. He goes outside and sees a luminous object like an “elongated egg,” dull red with purple waves inside it, flying in a descending path toward his house. It passes over the front yard at a height of only 8–10 feet. As the object returns, he goes inside to get a gun, but as he goes outside the object is making a third pass and he goes back inside. When the parents return home, they find the dogs in a terrified state. (*Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 167–170; Swords 286–287)

- 1959**, Late February–April 15 — [George Adamski](#) continues his world lecture tour in Sydney, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Brisbane, Australia. (“[World Lecture Tour](#),” The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019)
- 1959**, February 25 — 8:45 a.m. Jim Dobbs Jr. is driving south on State Highway 18 south of Hobbs, New Mexico, when he sees an egg-shaped object glowing like radium on a watch dial. He estimates it is 10° above the southern horizon and traveling fast. His radio fades out and produces only a steady succession of two dots and a dash. The object disappears in the east after 30 seconds. (“[Hobbs Man Sees Glowing ‘Saucer,’ Hears Signals](#),” *Alamogordo (N.Mex.) Daily News*, February 26, 1959, p. 5; “[Hobbs Man Sees Glowing UFO, Hears Signals](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March 1959, p. 1)
- 1959**, February 25 — Lt. Col. [Lee B. James](#), chief of the Liaison Branch of the Army Ballistic Agency in Huntsville, Alabama, gives a talk at the Detroit Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers on space flight. Because of the recent Killian incident, he is asked about UFOs. Referring to the witness on that aircraft, he says: “If they (35 passengers and several crew members) saw what they really saw, it would have to come from outer space—a civilization decades before ours.” (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, p. 68)
- 1959**, February 25 — 7:25 p.m. A pale-yellow light is seen by officials above one of the runways at London Airport [now Heathrow], England. Airport and air defense radars do not pick up any target. RAF Fighter Command Headquarters says the light fluctuates in intensity and is about 200 feet from the ground. It stays in one position for 20 minutes then climbs away at high speed. (Charles H. Gibbs-Smith, “[Venus and the Nose-Cone Light: A Study in the Lunacy of Explainistics](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 3 (May/June 1959): 10–11, 31; Good Above, p. 52; UFOEv, p. 122)
- 1959**, February 28 — The US Air Force launches Discoverer 1, the first of a series of satellites that are part of the Corona spy program. The mission is a failure due to problems with the Agena upper stage. (Wikipedia, “[Discoverer 1](#)”)
- 1959**, March — On the Baltic Sea coast near Kołobrzeg, Poland, soldiers watch the sea become turbulent as a triangular object, 12 feet in diameter, emerges, circles the barracks, and flies away at high speed. (Vallée, *Magonia*, p. 275)
- 1959**, March 11 — Rear Admiral [George J. Dufek](#), on his way back from commanding Operation Deepfreeze in Antarctica, tells reporters in Wellington, New Zealand, that he does not think the existence of UFOs can be discounted: “I think it is very stupid for human beings to think no one else in the universe is as intelligent as we are.” Asked years later why he said this, he explains that it was because of sightings related to him by people who worked with him at the South Pole. (Swords 290)
- 1959**, March 11 — In the House of Commons, MP [Albert Hunter](#) asks [John Hay](#), the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, about the light seen at London Airport on February 25. Hay responds that it was not reported to the Ministry. MP [Geoffrey de Freitas](#) asks the Secretary of State for Air [George Ward](#) whether he will make a statement about the case, and he replies that there is insufficient information. (Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1959**, March 12 — Several witnesses at Bergen, Norway, see a bright object passing north to south, taking two minutes to move from horizon to horizon. Several minutes later another appears, following the same course. This is soon followed by three more in succession. (ClearIntent, p. 138)
- 1959**, March 13 — 2:00 a.m. Percy Briggs is driving from Purnong to Mannum, South Australia, with a load of vegetables and Claypans Postmaster C. Towill as passenger. They have just climbed Cournamont Hill near the Purnong Ferry over the Murray River. They see to the left of the road a huge dome-shaped object with 8–9 red and blue lights about 20 feet apart. The UFO soon rises from the ground at a 15° angle and moves away to the southwest. The separate lights merge into one big light. They watch it recede for about 10 minutes. (“[Purnong Landing](#),” *Australian Saucer Record* 5, no. 2 (1959): 3; “[Saucer Landings Reported at Punnong and Goolwa, Australia](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1959): 6–7; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 79–80)
- 1959**, March 18 — 8:50 p.m. Jesse Wilson of Denville, New Jersey, is taking photos of the Moon through a telescope and captures an image of two groups of multiple objects. (Center for UFO Studies, [\[case documents\]](#))
- 1959**, March 19 — USAF spokesman Maj. [Lawrence J. Tacker](#) retracts the dubious Orion explanation for the [Killian](#) case and says instead that the pilots saw B-47 bombers refueling in flight from a KC-97 tanker. Killian tells the papers, “I don’t care what the air force says,” he knows what refueling looks like and the UFOs were “at least three times

the size of any tanker or bomber we have. They could travel at 2,000 mph. And they were *not* conventional aircraft.” (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 82–84)

- 1959**, March 20 — 5:30 p.m. Witold Sambrowski, an electronics engineer, sees two noiseless cigar-shaped, reddish-pink objects flying over Ostroleka, Poland. They are traveling horizontally at a speed greater than a jet. When the two vanish, a third appears and follows the path the others have taken. (Hobana and Weverbergh 211–212)
- 1959**, March 22 — 1:30 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bond are driving near Ann Arbor, Michigan, when they see an intensely lighted object hovering about 2 miles to the southeast. It is about 200 feet in the air and just south of a main road. Intense shafts of light are shining from two oval ports at the bottom. As they drive closer, they can hear no sound and find it is about 50–75 feet from the road. The UFO parallels their car at first, then the light shafts go out, and a circle of 8–10 red lights appear on the bottom. Then it rises rapidly and disappears in seconds. A local radio astronomer, Allen Barrot, claims the couple saw the lights of his telescope. But the Air Force finds that the couple were never looking in the direction of Barrot’s observatory. (“Report Seeing Object Resembling Bird Cage in Sky,” *Ann Arbor News*, March 23, 1959; Swords 288–289; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 87–90)
- 1959**, March 27 — [Lou Corbin](#) has told [Keyhoe](#) that Rep. [Samuel Friedel](#) (D-Md.) is “all set to hop on this [Killian](#) business” and begins to plan for Killian to meet with him. But Killian’s [wife](#) now tells Keyhoe that he is under strict orders from the Air Force not to talk to anyone about the sighting or risk losing his job. Soon afterwards, the Air Force releases a statement from Killian that says, “Having never seen night refueling of jets by a tanker, I suppose that could be what we saw.” (Keyhoe, FSTS, pp. 27–36; UFOEv, [pp. 116–117](#))
- 1959**, March 31 — 11:30 p.m. Barry Neale, operator of the Port Elliot movie theater, is driving home to Goolwa, South Australia, and sees a dome-shaped, reddish-orange object with a row of evenly spaced portholes around it. He estimates it to be about 15 feet wide, and it is on the ground about 900 feet from the road. He sees it disappear to the east. (“[Saucer Landings Reported at Punnong and Goolwa, Australia](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1959): 6–7; Michael Hervey, *UFOs over the Southern Hemisphere*, Robert Hale, 1975, p. 165; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 January–March](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 99–100)
- 1959**, Spring — [Keyhoe](#) meets with [Hillenkoetter](#) at the New York Yacht Club to discuss NICAP strategy. USAF Public Information Officer [Lawrence J. Tacker](#) has sent the organization a letter asking it to stop writing to Air Force personnel about UFOs. Keyhoe tells Hillenkoetter that three scientists have contacted a certain congressman to report UFO sightings. Hillenkoetter advises, “we’ll have to do something to speed things up.” (Keyhoe, FSTS, pp. 15, 247–248)
- 1959**, Spring — Soviet radar and Air Defense personnel observe UFOs circling and hovering for more than 24 hours above the headquarters of the Tactical Missile Command at Sverdlovsk, Russia. Fighter aircraft sent to intercept them report that the UFOs easily outmaneuver them and zigzag to avoid machine gun fire. (*Flying Saucers*, no. 47, May 1966, pp. 6–10; Good Above, [p. 227](#))
- 1959**, Spring — Early evening. A weather officer with the US Fifth Air Force in Tokyo, Japan, is in the operations center when the staff tracks a UFO near Misawa Air Base on the north end of Honshu. One of the officers says this happens frequently, that the objects travel at 2,000 mph, and they often stop in one position and hover for 30 minutes to several hours before taking off westward along the Tsugaru Strait and disappearing in a burst of speed. The center commander orders the pilots of two specially equipped F-106s based at Misawa to intercept the target. One of the planes is having instrumentation problems, but the other goes up. After 10 minutes he is being guided toward the target through Misawa. The pilot says the object is circular and metallic with a cockpit on top. The commander calls the Pentagon for authorization for the pilot to fire on the UFO, and he gets permission for the pilot to make a firing pass. The pilot fires two missiles, but they detonate just at the edge of the object, as if it is protected. The UFO then turns toward the terrified pilot, and the command center watches as the two blips merge into one. The blip disappears. Crews search for wreckage for 4 days but find none. (Bruce Maccabee, “[Hiding the Hardware](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1991): 8–9)
- 1959**, April 1 — An Air Force C-118 plane with four on board crashes between Sumner and Orting, Washington, about an hour after taking off from McChord AFB [now Joint Base Lewis-McChord] in Tacoma. Their last radio message indicates that they hit something or that something hit them. [Bob Gribble](#) and other UFO investigators find witnesses who claim to have seen two orange or yellow objects closing in on the plane. Best guess is that the plane hit a tree and the UFO observations are unrelated. (“[Plane Crash Fiery](#),” *Centralia (Wash.) Daily Chronicle*, April 2, 1959, p. 1; Bob Barry, “[The Case of the Mysterious Airplane Crash](#),” *Saucer News* 6, no. 4 (September 1959): 14–17; Bruce Sandham, “[‘Murder’ on a Mountainside](#),” *Saucers, Space and Science*, no. 62 (1971): 13–

14; Loren E. Gross, [*The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 April–June*](#), The Author, 1999, pp. 2–4; Feliks Banel, “[Bonney Lake Crash and UFO Mystery Reveal Hidden History](#),” *My Northwest*, March 28, 2018)

1959, April 7 — 8:00 p.m. Control tower operators at CFB St. Hubert [now Montreal/Saint-Hubert Airport], Quebec, spot a red, glowing light hanging in the sky for a few minutes at 3,000–7,000 feet altitude. It suddenly darts to the north at supersonic speed. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 100)

1959, April 11 — Two businessmen at Woodlands, New Zealand, watch a glowing 40-foot-long object with a balloon-like attachment on the underside hovering just above the trees. As they approach it in their car, it speeds off to the north. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 100)

1959, April 12 — 8:00 p.m. Control tower personnel and airport officials at St. Hubert Air Defence Command Base [now CFB St. Hubert], Quebec, as well as local residents watch a red ball of light hovering above the airfield at 3,000–7,000 feet. Descriptions vary from a black ball with a red light to a long red cigar. Radar does not pick it up. Suddenly it takes off toward Montreal to the north. (“[Red Light Still Mystery](#),” *Montreal (Que.) Star*, April 13, 1959, pp. 3–4; Yurko Bondarchuk, *UFO Sightings, Landings, and Abductions*, Methuen, 1979, pp. 94–96)

1959, April 17 — [George Adamski](#) meets with [Sisir Kumar Maitra](#), head of the Department of Philosophy and dean of the Faculty of Arts of Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi during a stopover in Kolkata, India. (“[World Lecture Tour](#),” The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019)

1959, April 18–May 14 — [Adamski](#) arrives in London, England, and appears on the TV show *In Town Tonight* on April 18 and on the BBC program *Panorama* on April 20 where he debates with astronomer [Patrick Moore](#), a show that is seen by 9 million viewers. Both Gen. [Frederick Browning](#) and RAF Commander [Peter Horsley](#) meet with Adamski and [Desmond Leslie](#) during their visit to a private address in London. Adamski gives further lectures in Tunbridge Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Bournemouth, at Caxton Hall in London (on April 28), Birmingham University (April 29), Manchester (May 1), and several more around the British Isles. (“[World Lecture Tour](#),” The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019; David Clarke, “The Prince and the Saucers,” *Fortean Times* 406 (June 2021): 19)

1959, April 19 — 3:00 p.m. [Otis T. Carr](#) and Norman Colton, who have been in Oklahoma since February, pretend to attempt the launch of their OTC-X1 spacecraft in a gravel pit 6 miles east of the Frontier City amusement park northeast of Oklahoma City. Frontier City obligingly erects a model of the spacecraft as a ride. However, Carr comes down with a mysterious throat ailment and goes to Mercy Hospital on April 17. He invites [Long John Nebel](#) to have a brief glimpse of the model, but Nebel thinks it looks like a jumble of unconnected parts. As it turns out, the OTC-X1 develops a “mercury leak” and the launch is delayed then canceled. Those who have come for the April 19 launch hear contactee [Dana Howard](#) talk about her trip to Venus, and [Margaret Storm](#) (Carr’s “publications editor” in Baltimore) declares that Carr is inspired by the “Divine Master St. Germain.” (“[Difficulties Put Off Flying Saucer Test](#),” *Oklahoma City Daily Oklahoman*, April 20, 1959, pp. 1–2, 13; Clark III 860–861)

1959, April 20 — Ufologist [Morris K. Jessup](#) commits suicide in a Dade County park, Florida, from carbon monoxide poisoning. Some theorists connect his involvement with the Allende letters and the [Philadelphia experiment](#) to his death, but friends say Jessup has been discussing suicide with them for several months. (“[Jessup and the Allende Case](#),” *Pursuit* 1, no. 4 (September 30, 1968): 8–10; Clark III 635; Powell, *Keyhole*, 277)

1959, May — The first Avrocar, #58-7055, rolls out of the Avro Malton factory in Mississauga, Ontario. From June 9 to October 7 it is tested in a static hover rig. A second Avrocar is completed in August. (Wikipedia, “[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)”; Graff 133)

1959, May 4 — [Otis T. Carr](#) and his attorney are summoned to the county courthouse in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to answer questions about stock sales by OTC Enterprises, including a block of 21,000 shares to Frontier City promoter [Jimmy Burge](#), oilman [Frank Buttram](#), and publisher [Edward K. Gaylord](#). Carr pleads the Fifth Amendment. (Clark III 861)

1959, May 5 — [Hynek](#)’s newly formed UFO Advisory Panel holds its first meeting at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. The panel consists of Hynek, Lt. Col. [Richard M. Graham](#) (chaplain), Lt. Col. Theodore J. Hieatt (PR), Maj. Leroy D. Pigg (psychologist), V. J. Handmacher (physicist), and L. V. Robinson (Harvard astronomer). (“[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019; Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, pp. 148–149)

1959, May 18 — [George Adamski](#) has an audience with Queen [Juliana](#) and Prince [Bernhard](#) of the Netherlands at Soestdijk Palace in Baarn on his world lecture tour, amid fiercely critical media coverage. The royal audience, scheduled to last 45 minutes, goes on for two hours, making Adamski 20 minutes late for his lecture in The Hague. The royal couple claim that the British royal family, especially [Prince Philip](#), are also keen to meet

Adamski. After the audience, Dutch Aeronautical Association president [Cornelis Kolff](#) says “The Queen showed an extraordinary interest in the whole subject.” Royal Netherlands Air Force Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Haye Schaper says, “The man’s a pathological case.” (“[World Lecture Tour](#),” The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019; David Clarke, “The Prince and the Saucers,” *Fortean Times* 406 (June 2021): 19)

- 1959**, May 20 — 5:30 p.m. Antonio Sanchez and Ernesto Fogliani are hunting rabbits about 7 miles from Pehuelches station, Buenos Aires, Argentina. They see a saucer-shaped, silvery machine resting on the ground about 980 feet away. They approach to about 490 feet when the object rises into the sky and disappears. At the spot where it was, they find the grass flattened in the shape of a large oval. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 April–June](#), The Author, 1999, p. 32)
- 1959**, May 25 — The UFO Advisory Panel meets again to “determine the type of information which should be used for correlation in bringing Special Report #14 up to date.” (“[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1959**, Late May — [Ruppelt](#) tells [Keyhoe](#) he is revising his book to bring it more up to date and requests NICAP’s most recent information. He says the Air Force is giving its full cooperation and he is “middle of the road” on the UFO question. (Donald E. Keyhoe, “[Capt. Ruppelt Revising His UFO Book: Air Force Rumored to Be Pressuring Former Project Chief](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 8 (June 1959): 5–6; Keyhoe, FSTS, pp. 258–260)
- 1959**, May 26, 29 — [Adamski](#) gives two lectures in Zürich, Switzerland. At the second talk, he meets with organized resistance by a group of 300 students (in an audience of 700) who have been led to believe he will discredit Swiss astronomer [Fritz Zwicky](#). When a reporter afterwards asks if he will accept an apology, Adamski replies that it should not be given to him, but to the Swiss public. Due to recurring heart problems, Adamski cancels his remaining lectures in Switzerland, Italy, Austria, and Denmark. (“[World Lecture Tour](#),” The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019)
- 1959**, May 28 — [Otis T. Carr](#) and two OTC Enterprises employees (Lari Kendrick and Charles O. Rhoades) are barred by a federal court order from selling any further stock in the company. The SEC contends that they have been selling unregistered securities fraudulently since November 18, 1955, using the US mail to do so. Contactee associate [Wayne Aho](#) escapes arraignment, while Norman Colton has fled the state and cannot be located. (Clark III 861)
- 1959**, May 28 — Night. Two observers on a Project Moonwatch team in San Antonio, Texas, see two silvery objects through their telescopes that shoot across the sky in less than one second, one curving away in a parabolic path, the other executing a more gradual hyperbolic curve. (Michael D. Swords, “[Gazing at the Moons](#),” *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 13–14; Center for UFO Studies, “[Moonwatch Mystery Satellites, 1958–1962](#)”)
- 1959**, June — The Argentine Navy bottles up a fast, submarine-like object in the Buenos Aires harbor, Argentina. It is shaped like a huge fish, is silver in color, and sports a tail like the stabilizer on a B-17. (Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, pp. 52–53)
- 1959**, June — The radiation effects reactor at Lockheed’s Georgia Nuclear Aircraft Laboratory [now closed] in the Dawson Forest outside Dawsonville, Georgia, is brought up to full power and unsheathed for the first time. It is a water-cooled 10-megawatt nuclear reactor in a shielded underground shaft with the purpose of irradiating military aircraft as well as the forest itself to determine the effects of nuclear war on wildlife. The experiment exposes everything within a 1,000-foot radius to a lethal dose of radiation. Bugs fall from the air, and small animals and the bacteria living in and on them are exterminated, in a phenomenon the technicians call “instant taxidermy.” Oak trees turn brown, yet crabgrass is seemingly unaffected. Pine trees are the hardest hit of all. Clear Coca-Cola bottles turn brown, hydraulic fluid coagulates into chewing gum, transistorized equipment stops working, and rubber tires become rock hard. Documents about the reactor remain highly classified, and the entrance to the underground portion of the facility has been buried. The area is closed in 1971, and only objects left above ground were the concrete foundations on which the buildings and reactors were placed. (Wikipedia, “[Georgia Nuclear Aircraft Laboratory](#)”; Adam Higginbotham, *Midnight at Chernobyl*, Simon & Schuster, 2019, p. 30)
- 1959**, June 12 — [Keyhoe](#) writes an open letter to [Ruppelt](#) that lists his past statements on UFOs and urges him not to let the Air Force intimidate him into retracting. (Donald E. Keyhoe, “[Capt. Ruppelt Revising His UFO Book: Air Force Rumored to Be Pressuring Former Project Chief](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 8 (June 1959): 5–6; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 280–281)
- 1959**, June 13 — [Charles S. Sheldon II](#), technical director of the House Science and Astronautics Committee, writes to [Richard H. Hall](#) at NICAP to say that while he thinks UFOs are “extremely interesting,” they do not pose a national security threat.” (Swords 290)
- 1959**, June 13 — [Adamski](#), along with follower Lou Zinsstag, meets with diplomat [Alberto Perego](#) and Mario Maioli at Ristorante La Cisterna in the Trastevere area of Rome, Italy, then go on an all-night taxi ride around the city. He

returns to the United States via Copenhagen, Denmark, on June 17. ("[World Lecture Tour](#)," The Adamski Case, October 5, 2019; 1Pinotti 106)

- 1959**, June 22 — 8:00 p.m. A large, luminous UFO passes over Salta, Argentina, and blacks out all electrical power for several minutes. (Bernardo Passion, "[Report from Argentina](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, November 1959, p. 9; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 April–June*, The Author, 1999, p. 56)
- 1959**, June 26–28 — 6:45 p.m. At Boianai Mission, Papua New Guinea, Rev. [William Booth Gill](#) and 38 others watch a platform-shaped object with legs that appears in the sky above Venus. It has an electric blue spotlight and is hovering about 500 feet away at a height of 300–400 feet. On top of the object, four humanlike figures, their bodies surrounded by illumination, are busy with some unknown task. The men and spotlight disappear at 7:20 p.m. and the object vanishes into the clouds. It reappears at 8:28 without the men or spotlight but now joined by second, third and fourth objects at 8:29, 8:35, and 8:35–8:50 p.m., coming and going through the clouds. The main UFO, "large, clear, stationary," gives off a red light and disappears overhead into clouds at 9:10 p.m., reappears at 9:20, moves across the sea to Giwa appearing white-red-blue, then disappears at 9:30. An overhead object reappears at 9:46, hovering, disappears behind a cloud at 10:10, reappears in a gap between clouds at 10:30, then is gone at 10:50. The next day, the object returns at 6:00–6:30 p.m. with two others, one to the west and one overhead. "Two of the figures seemed to be doing something near the center of the deck. They were occasionally bending over and raising their arms as though adjusting or setting up something (not visible). One figure seemed to be standing, looking down at us." Father Gill and another teacher wave their arms, and two of the figures on the main object wave back. Gill waves a flashlight and the object moves back and forth laterally. Gill goes in for dinner and a church service; when he returns at 7:45 p.m., the UFO is gone. The next evening at 6:45 p.m., some eight objects align themselves across a section of the sky. No occupants are visible. [Martin Kottmeyer](#) suggests that Gill was watching a lighted squid-fishing boat close to shore, but Gill has confirmed the object was over his head. ("[Saucer Men Seen in Flight: Amazing Sighting from Papua](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1959): 7–8; Norman E. G. Cruttwell, "[Flying Saucers over Papua: A Report on Papuan Unidentified Flying Objects](#)," March 1960; Norman E. G. Cruttwell, "[What Happened in Papua in 1959?](#)" *Flying Saucer Review* 6, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1960): 3–7; "[Father Gill and the Rev. Lionel Browning](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1961): 23–25; Norman E. G. Cruttwell, "The New Guinea Sightings," *APRO Bulletin*, [July 1961](#), pp. 5–8, [September 1961](#), pp. 5–8, [November 1961](#), pp. 4–6, [January 1962](#), pp. 4–5, [March 1962](#), pp. 4–6; Norman E. G. Cruttwell, "[Flying Saucers over Papua](#)," in Charles Bowen, ed., *UFOs in Two Worlds*, special issue of FSR, August 1971, pp. 3–38; Gordon Creighton, "[The New Guinea Sightings: A Note on Some Anthropological Aspects](#)," in Charles Bowen, ed., *UFOs in Two Worlds*, special issue of FSR, August 1971, p. 39; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 167–172](#), [271–273](#); *Hynek UFO Report*, [pp. 216–223](#); "[Papua/Father Gill Revisited](#)," *IUR* 2, no. 11 (November 1977): 4–7; "[Papua/Father Gill Revisited, Part Two](#)," *IUR* 2, no. 12 (December 1977): 4–8; Jerome Clark, "Close Encounters: History's Best Case," *Fate* 31, no. 2 (February 1978): 38–46; Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 59–62; Martin Kottmeyer, "[Gill Again: The Father Gill Case Reconsidered](#)," *Magonia*, no. 54 (November 1995): 11–14; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 April–June*, The Author, 1999, pp. 59–68, 69–71; Thomas E. Bullard, "[Defending UFOs](#)," *IUR* 34, no. 2 (Mar. 2012): 31–32; Swords 383–385; Clark III 533–536; Bill Chalker, "[The Boianai Visitants of 1959](#)," The Black Vault, May 16, 2016; "[Papua, New Guinea CE-III Case of 6-26-1959 – Fr. William Gill](#)," *Ufology: A Primer in Audio*, 1938–1959, November 21, 2013; Graff 256–257)
- 1959**, July — The Air Force reassigns UFO investigative duties to the 1127th Field Activities Group stationed at Fort Belvoir, Fairfax County, Virginia, replacing the 1006th AISS. The unit will also be responsible for Project Moon Dust and Operation Blue Fly. (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, [p. 134](#); Kevin D. Randle and Donald R. Schmitt, "[Secret Projects and Open Eyes: A Response](#)," *IUR* 19, no. 3 (May/June 1994): 16–17)
- 1959**, July — Contactee [Gabriel Green](#) rebrands his group as the Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America and publishes the *AFSCA World Report* from 1959 to 1961, *UFO International* from 1962 to 1965, and *Flying Saucers International* from 1966 to 1969. (*AFSCA Information Sheet*, no. 1 (1959); *AFSCA UFO International*, no. 17 (Sept./Oct. 1962); *Flying Saucers International*, no. 24 (July 1966); Clark III 99)
- 1959**, July 5–6 — US Navy Cmdr. Julius Larsen, an ONI liaison officer to the CIA's Photographic Intelligence Center in Washington, D.C., rediscovers the Swan-Knowles-Affa correspondence from 1954 in a file and decides to follow up on it. He goes to Eliot, Maine, to visit Adm. [Knowles](#) and interview Frances Swan. Larsen tries his hand at automatic writing and channels a message from Affa. Back in Washington on July 6, Larsen goes to director of the Photographic Intelligence Office, [Arthur C. Lundahl](#), and tells the story to him and his assistant Lt. [Robert S. Neasham](#). They urge Larsen to try to contact the extraterrestrials. Larsen goes into a trance, asks Affa questions, and writes the answers down. When Neasham challenges Affa to appear in person or let them see his spaceship,

Larsen stops writing and tells Neasham to go to the window. Lundahl sees nothing unusual, but Neasham insists a spaceship is hiding behind some fluffy clouds. He also insists that he later contacted Washington National Airport and heard from the radar tower that the sector where the UFO appeared had been “blocked out.” Neasham urges Project Blue Book’s Maj. [Robert Friend](#) to come over for a briefing. He shows up on July 9 and hears Neasham’s version of the story, and Larsen even channels some messages. Friend goes back to Dayton, Ohio, and prepares a memo for his boss. (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, [pp. 153–154](#); Clark III 1118–1119; Robert Emenecker, *UFOs: Past, Present, and Future*, Ballantine, 1974)

- 1959**, July 8 — Night. Mrs. Napau Abednego and other indigenous people on Prince of Wales Island in the Torres Strait off Queensland, Australia, see a huge, glowing red object land on top of a hill at Port Lihou. The same night, residents of nearby Thursday Island see a green UFO flying low, and a strange object is also reported at Mapoon Mission on the west coast of Cape York. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, p. 13)
- 1959**, July 11 — 6:02 a.m. A Pan American Boeing Stratocruiser piloted by Capt. George Wilson flying over the Pacific Ocean about 1,035 miles northeast of Honolulu, Hawaii, encounters a large bright light with 3–4 satellite lights in a line below, behind, and to the left of the main object. It makes a sharp right turn and disappears to the south. Copilot Richard Lorenzen and Flight Engineer Bob Scott also see the UFOs. Another Pan Am flight sees essentially the same phenomenon, as well as an Air Force bomber crew, a Slick Airways plane, and a Canadian Pacific airliner. (“[PanAm Pilots Spot Bright Flying Object](#),” *Richmond (Calif.) Independent*, July 11, 1959, p. 1; “[Flying Objects Puzzle Pilots](#),” *Duncan (Okla.) Banner*, July 12, 1959, pp. 1, 10; “[Veteran Pilot Claims He Saw Flying Saucers Over Pacific](#),” *Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel*, July 12, 1959, p. 6; “[Five Pan-Pacific Pilots Sight UAO](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1959, pp. 1–2; UFOEv, [p. 125](#); Covert 43)
- 1959**, July 13 — 5:30 a.m. Eileen Moreland, a farmwoman in Blenheim, New Zealand, goes to the barn to milk her cows and sees a huge object, about 20–30 feet in diameter, with two intense green lights on its underside descend towards her and hover at rooftop height. It bathes her in green light. Two rows of jets around the middle shoot out orange flames. She can see two men inside, dressed in close-fitting suits of shiny material and opaque helmets. The jets turn on again, the object tilts, and it shoots up vertically at great speed, making a high-pitched sound. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 25–28; Richard H. Hall, “[Dyad Scout Craft](#),” *IUR* 25, no. 4 (Winter 2000–2001): 23; UFOEv II 457–458; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), November 2, 2006)
- 1959**, July 14 — 8:22 p.m. Larry Godwin of Salisbury, North Carolina, sees a flash of light and hears a loud vibrato noise. His TV set mysteriously goes dead. Six other families in the area either hear the sound or report interference with their lights and TV sets. ([Schopick](#), pp. 111–113; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 29–30)
- 1959**, July 20 — A shuttlecock-shaped UFO is seen over the RAAF Woomera Range Complex in South Australia. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 100)
- 1959**, July 27 — The UFO Advisory Panel meets at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio to discuss trends and statistics and recent sightings. (“[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1959**, July 28 — 2:10 p.m. [Ray Stanford](#) and a friend simultaneously take 8mm and 16mm film footage of three cigar-shaped objects maneuvering in the sky above his parents’ home at 2629 Lynch Street, Corpus Christi, Texas. A fourth UFO appears about 5 minutes later. At one point a jet aircraft appears to alter its course to fly closer to one of the objects. (Ray Stanford, “[The July 28 Movies](#),” *Saucers* 7, no. 3/4 (Fall/Winter 1959/1960): 20–23; “[Out of the Past](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1984): 5–7; “[Out of the Past](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 5 (Oct./Nov. 1984): 7–8)
- 1959**, August — Stan Seers, president of the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau [now UFO Research Queensland], is contacted by a man who requests a meeting with him in a Brisbane car park and offers him important information on UFOs. At the meeting he finds out that the man is an agent of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, who indicates he knows quite a bit about the group and its officers. By suggesting that ASIO could offer them significant information, the agent subsequently infiltrates the group and causes dissension and confusion. Some QFSRB members are pacifists, apparently, and are seeking to contact Russian scientists about the UFO phenomenon through the Soviet cultural organization VOKS. (Good Above, [pp. 164–166](#); Kremlin 137–144)
- 1959**, August — 2:00 p.m. A son and his father are driving near Skiatook, Oklahoma. Upon nearing a bridge, the car engine dies. Another car is stopped on the other side of the bridge with its hood up. They see a metallic, domed disc with a flexible hose hovering less than a foot above the water of a creek. They watch it for 5 minutes, then the hose draws in and the disk rises to 10 feet, disturbing the water’s surface into a foot-deep trench. It flies

upward and the cars start again. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 59–61; Michael D. Swords, “[Messing Around with the Force](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 4 (March 2008): 16–17)

1959, August — Kathleen O’Rourke is asleep with her two children in her bedroom in New Matamoras, Ohio, when her son yells her awake. There are a dozen globes of yellow light circling about a foot above his bed. They are about 3 inches in diameter. Then a second group enters the room, passing through the screen. They split, half joining the first and half sailing over Kathleen. They all then move to her bed and circle above her. Not one of the lights goes to her daughter’s bed. She presses the light switch, and the lights turn into straight-edged streaks of light and disappear. There are no holes in the screens. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Trick of the Light](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 10)

1959, August 9 — 7:30 p.m. Petroleum engineer Armando Uribe is returning home from Cerro Sombrero, Tierra del Fuego, Chile, with his wife and an 11-year-old housemaid when their pickup runs out of fuel. As they are waiting for another vehicle, the girl spots a bright blue light around 7:54 p.m. that is swinging in the air with a pendulum-like motion. As it approaches, they see it is an object like a metallic egg standing on end with two shafts of white light projecting from the bottom. A rose-colored, rotating device is on top. The object makes a quick movement when Uribe gets out of the truck, but then moves closer. Uribe points a rifle at it, and it quickly recedes and disappears. (Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, pp. 14–16; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 53–54)

1959, August 13 — 4:00 p.m. Pilot Jack H. Goldsberry, flying a Cessna 170 from Hobbs to Albuquerque, New Mexico, at 8,000 feet, notices halfway between Roswell and Corona, that his Magnesyn electric compass has suddenly moved around a slow 360° rotation in about 4–5 seconds. His other standard magnetic compass is spinning wildly. About this time, he sees three small, gray, and slightly fuzzy elliptical objects in close echelon formation passing in front from left to right and around his plane at a distance about 450–600 feet at a speed of about 200 mph. The Magnesyn compass follows the objects’ position as they circle the plane, and after one full circle they disappear to the rear. Then both compasses settle back to normal. The controller at Albuquerque cancels his flight plan and orders him to land at Kirtland AFB, where he is interrogated by a USAF major, who tells him that he might become ill from the experience. (NICAP, “[Former Navy PBY Pilot Encounter / EME](#)”; Clark III 950; [Sparks](#), p. 278; Swords 287; “[AF Secretly Warns Pilot of Danger](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 5; [Schopick](#), pp. 127–128)

1959, August 13 — Around 9:45 p.m. Orville Shanks is driving with three passengers on Highway 332 north of Freeport, Texas, when they see a bright object with two satellite lights approach at low altitude. The car motor stalls and the headlights go out. The two lights appear to land, the main object follows them, continually changing colors and varying the intensity of its light. The motor and lights come back on when the UFOs cross the road, and Shanks drives on. About midnight they return, and the object is still there. Shanks gets out and approaches, but the UFO starts glowing brightly and making a noise, and they drive off again. (“[Object Lands in Texas, U.S.](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, September 1959, p. 3; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 55–60)

1959, August 17 — The automatic keys at the power station in Uberlândia, Minas Gerais, Brazil, suddenly disconnect power to all four trunk lines. A technician at a substation 45 miles away reports that all the keys disconnected as a UFO passes overhead, traveling toward the main station along the power lines. The chief engineer resets all the keys but they turn off again. Outside he sees a bright object approaching at high speed. As soon as it passes, the entire system returns to normal. (Lorenzen, *FShoax*, pp. 179–180; [Schopick](#), pp. 143–145; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 152–153; McCampbell, *Ufology*, 1976, pp. 66–67; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 66–67)

1959, August 25 — 11:00 a.m. At Eveking, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, Lutz Holtman walks towards a bright object in a forest and faints after he gets close to it. When he regains consciousness, he sees the UFO take off silently and vertically. The object is circular, has a tripod landing gear and two rows of bright openings, and is about 90 feet in diameter. (Vallée, *Magonia*, p. 277)

1959, September — Employees of Lockheed’s Skunk Works are the first to return to Area 51 in Nevada to develop an aircraft that will replace the U-2. The Archangel-12 (A-12) spy plane will be designed to reduce its radar cross section by 50%. Following tests with wooden models at Burbank, California, proof-of-concept tests are to be carried out at Area 51 with full-scale mockups elevated onto 50-foot pylons. The CIA program to develop the follow-on aircraft to the U-2 is code-named Project Oxcart. EG&G agrees to move its radar test facility here. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, p. 131; Peter W. Merlin, “[Area 51 Timeline](#),” Secret Heroes, November 10, 2021)

- 1959**, September — [Waveney Girvan](#) takes over the editorship of *Flying Saucer Review* from [Brinsley Le Poer Trench](#). (“[Trench Resigns](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 5, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1959): 2; Clark III 498)
- 1959**, September — Physicists [Giuseppe Cocconi](#) and [Philip Morrison](#) propose using the 21 cm hydrogen line to detect potential radio signals from interstellar civilizations. (Giuseppe Cocconi and Philip Morrison, “[Searching for Interstellar Communications](#),” *Nature* 184 (1959): 844–846)
- 1959**, September — Harvard University psychologist [Henry Murray](#) begins what are widely considered unethical experiments, in which he uses 22 Harvard undergraduates as research subjects in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Among other purposes, experiments focus on measuring people’s reactions under extreme stress. The unwitting undergraduates are submitted to what Murray calls “vehement, sweeping, and personally abusive” attacks. Specific, tailored assaults on their egos, cherished ideas, and beliefs are used to cause high levels of stress and distress. The subjects then repeatedly view recorded footage of their reactions to this verbal abuse. Among them is 17-year-old [Ted Kaczynski](#), a mathematician who goes on to become the Unabomber, a domestic terrorist targeting academics and technologists for 18 years. [Alston Chase](#)’s book *Harvard and the Unabomber* connects Kaczynski’s abusive experiences under Murray to his later criminal career. His participation in these experiments and his service in the OSS have led many to believe that Murray was a part of the MK Ultra program. His experiments are not so much for observing stress reactions, but for a study of brainwashing and enhanced interrogation techniques. (Wikipedia, “[Henry Murray](#)”; Alston Chase, *Harvard and the Unabomber: The Education of an American Terrorist*, Norton, 2003)
- 1959**, September 7 — 2:00 a.m. Rural mail carrier [Walter E. Ogden](#) sees a glowing, pumpkin-shaped object about 40 feet above the trees in his pasture at Wallingford, Kentucky. After a minute, a bluish blaze of fire comes from the bottom and it rises about 500 feet, leaving a circular smoke ring. It then zooms away horizontally. Six days later, a 12-foot depressed ring of scorched earth is discovered on the spot, along with a kerosene smell. Air Force investigators show up and declare it a hoax. (“[Ask Probe](#),” *Park City Daily News* (Bowling Green, Ky.), September 14, 1959, p. 5; “Rural Mailman Has UFO Proof,” *Raleigh Register* (Beckley, W.Va.), September 18, 1959, p. 7; “[APRO Studies Soil Samples from Eastern Landings](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1959, pp. 1, 3–4; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September*, The Author, 2000, pp. 74–75, 77–80)
- 1959**, September 9 — The first Atlas-D ICBM is successfully launched at Vandenberg AFB [now Vandenberg Space Force Base] near Lompoc, California, and Gen. [Thomas S. Power](#), CINCSAC, declares the first ICBM to be operational. Shortly afterward, the first operational Atlas-D ICBM squadron goes on alert at Francis E. Warren AFB, west of Cheyenne, Wyoming. It is equipped with six SM-65D Atlas missiles based in above-ground launchers. (Wikipedia, “[Vandenberg Space Force Base](#)”; Wikipedia, “[SM-65 Atlas](#)”)
- 1959**, September 13 — 9:58 p.m. A radar target is tracked at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, New Mexico, moving at 2,300 mph at an altitude of 60,000 feet and heading northwest. A total of four radar stations track the object. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 103)
- 1959**, September 14 — Air Force Regulation 200-2 is revised, with additional emphasis on reducing the number of unknowns. This version devotes five full paragraphs to public release of information, which is now restricted to the Secretary of the Air Force’s Office of Information Services at the Pentagon. Local base commanders can release information only if an object is positively identified. Air Force personnel are not to contact private individuals on UFO cases or discuss their operations unless ordered to. (“[USAF UFO Program](#),” September 28, 1959; Clark III 920–921)
- 1959**, September 14 — The CIA emphasizes antiradar study, aerodynamic structural tests, and engineering designs, selecting the Lockheed A-12 over rival Convair’s Kingfish. [Edward Lovick](#)’s suggestion for adding cesium to the A-12’s fuel in order to ionize the exhaust and mask it from radar is also persuasive. Lockheed has also added twin canted fins instead of a single right-angle one. Project Oxcart is officially established. The A-12 design, a combination of their A-7 and A-11 submissions, emphasizes low radar cross section, extremely high altitude, and high-speed performance. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed A-12](#)”)
- 1959**, September 17 — The first powered X-15 flight is piloted by [Albert Scott Crossfield](#) out of the Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards AFB, California. (Wikipedia, “[North American X-15](#)”)
- 1959**, September 21 — The Air Technical Intelligence Center is renamed the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. (NASIC, “[National Air and Space Intelligence Center Heritage](#)”)
- 1959**, September 24 — About 4:55 a.m. In Redmond, Oregon, police officer Robert Dickerson sees a bright white light rapidly descending north of the airport. It stops abruptly and hovers about 200 feet above ground for several minutes, lighting up the juniper trees below. Dickerson drives toward it on the Prineville Highway, then turns toward the airport. The object turns reddish-orange and moves rapidly to about 10 miles northeast of the airport to hover again. Dickerson arrives at the airport to report his sighting in person to the FAA Air Traffic Communication Station. Flight Service

Specialist [Laverne Wertz](#), Dickerson, and others view the object through binoculars as flat and round with occasional flames extending from its edge. The FAA reports the UFO to Seattle Air Route Control Center in Washington at 5:10 a.m., which in turn reports it to Hamilton AFB [now closed], Novato, California, which scrambles six F-102 jets from Portland to intercept the object. FAA station observers see the object hover and emit long tongues of red, yellow, and green light that extend and retract at irregular intervals. As the jets approach the object from the southeast, it turns into a mushroom shape, emits red and yellow flames from the lower side, and ascends rapidly, disappearing above scattered clouds at about 14,000 feet. The object's departure forces one F-102 to swerve to avoid collision. Another nearly loses control from the UFO's turbulent wake. The UFO is tracked on one F-102 gunsight radar, but the jets cannot intercept. The UFO reappears about 20 miles south of Redmond at about 25,000 feet. The Seattle Center reports at 6:20 a.m. radar contact with the object about 25 miles south. The USAF Air Defense Center radar site at Klamath Falls, Oregon, tracks a large target abruptly changing course and vectors B-47 and F-89 aircraft to identify it. Redmond FAA controllers lose sight of the object. Seattle FAA reports at 7:11 a.m. that Klamath Falls radar still is tracking it at 25 miles south of Redmond but varies in altitude from 6,000 to 52,000 feet. The Air Force claims the UFOs are caused by false radar returns, with excitable witnesses imagining the glow. But locals notice the FAA is checking for abnormal radioactivity, so the Air Force changes its explanation to weather balloon. After NICAP obtains FAA logs showing all the details, the Air Force again changes its explanation to Venus. (NICAP, "[Huge Disc Sparks Scramble](#)"; "[Recent Sightings](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, January 1960, p. 3; "[Federal Aviation Agency Report Exposes AF Cover-Up](#)," *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 9 (March 1960): 1–3; "[Air Force Contradicts FAA Report](#)," *NICAP Special Bulletin*, May 1960, p. 2; UFOEv, pp. 44, 48, 113–114, 138; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, pp. 33–36; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 July–September*, The Author, 2000, pp. 81–86; WFAA, Dallas, Texas, "[Archive 1959: Fighter Jets Sent to Intercept Redmond UFO](#)," May 12, 2016; Patrick Gross, "[The Redmond UFO Incident, USA, September 24, 1959](#)"; "[Redmonds, OR CE-II Case of 9-7-1959 – News Interviews](#)," *Ufology: A Primer in Audio*, 1938–1959, November 21, 2013; "[Fighter Jets Scrambled to Intercept UFO; Police and Other Witnesses, Radar Confirmation, Redmond, 1959](#)," Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, July 21, 2024)

- 1959**, September 28 — ATIC issues a staff study by Col. [Richard R. Shoop](#) reassessing its UFO investigating role. It recommends that the UFO program be transferred to the Air Research and Development Command, which has better scientific capabilities, and then implement an effective public relations campaign with the goal of "the eventual elimination of the program as a special project." ("[USAF UFO Program](#)," September 28, 1959; "[Saucer Reading Fest](#)," *Saturday Night Uforia*, January 25, 2019; Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., p. 151)
- 1959**, September 29 — Maj. R. O. Braswell, flying an Air Force C-47 at 6,500 feet over Texas, sees a "large red fire" that looks like a mushroom cloud. It is 5° above his plane, with its base at 12,000–15,000 feet and its top at 16,000 feet. (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, pp. 160–161)
- 1959**, September 29 — The first attempt to hover a tethered Avrocar is made. After the vehicle becomes airborne, an uncontrollable roll and pitch-coupled oscillation starts that forces each of the three wheels into the ground in turn. The pilot, W. D. "Spud" Potocki, immediately shuts down all engines. Changes are made to the stability system to provide more control authority, while new tethers are investigated to improve the ability to control the problem. (Wikipedia, "[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)")
- 1959**, September 30 — Night. During a training flight with a student over Poznań, Poland, a pilot named Leszczyński sees two large circles of light with another pair some 12 miles away. He makes a close approach, but one of the objects shoots off while the other grows dimmer. After a short while, the dark object moves away. (Poland 63)
- 1959**, October — NICAP continues collecting statements in preparation for potential congressional hearings. It gets statements from USAF pilot and UFO witness Lt. Col. [Richard T. Headrick](#), Sgt. James H. Sawyer, and Sgt. Oliver Dean. (Keyhoe, *FSTS*, pp. 252–254; UFOEv, p. 25)
- 1959**, October — 10:00 a.m. Fr. Raimundo Nascimento Teixeira, a professor at Don Bosco College, is walking in the Núcleo Bandeirante region in Brasília, Federal District, Brazil, when he sees a crowd watching a strange object moving and stopping in the blue sky. He sees a student of his with a box camera, and he takes six photos of what he calls a flying saucer. A few days later, Teixeira meets with another witness, Israel Pinheiro, president of the New Building Company, who takes the negatives of his three best photos to forward to the Brazilian Navy for analysis. A few months later, the Navy returns different photos and offers no technical report. (Clark III 197; Roberto Affonso Beck, "[Um Fenômeno Desafiador](#)," September 2005, pp. 35–36)
- 1959**, October 1 — 9:20 a.m. A radar target moving at 719 mph on a northwest course is tracked at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At 10:29 a.m., another radar target is detected moving at 1,000 mph to the northwest.

Its altitude is 41,000 feet. Two F-89J Scorpion fighters are scrambled to intercept it but they can see nothing. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 103–104)

- 1959**, October 2 — 12:20 a.m. For three hours, a Hercules radar site (#13) at McChord AFB [now Joint Base Lewis-McChord] near Tacoma, Washington, tracks a total of five objects that usually appear in pairs. The radar returns are said to be “weak.” Visually, at least one soundless, round. “quarter sized,” blue-white light is seen in the sky. ARTC reports no air traffic in the area of the radar site during the time of contact. The first object on radar is seen at 10° elevation. The last object seen on radar was at 20° elevation. The visual object is at 10° degrees elevation. When last observed, the visual object is 20° elevation. Flight patterns are erratic. Range changes from 12,000 feet to 24,000 feet, and azimuth from 190° to 170°. Objects seem to fade from the scope and visual contact when finally lost. Visual contact is disrupted by intermittent fog. (NICAP, “[Hercules Site Tracks Objects for Three Hours](#)”; Condon, pp. 145–148; Swords 287)
- 1959**, October 6 — 8:15 p.m. Selective Service Lt. Col. L. Liggett and his wife and son watch a round, white-yellow light make several abrupt turns at high speed for 2 minutes from their home in the southeast portion of Lincoln, Nebraska. The object is about the size of a dime at arm’s length. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 68–69; [Sparks](#), p. 281)
- 1959**, October 8 — Night. Two amateur astronomers in Mobile, Alabama, observe an unknown object traverse the Moon’s disk from west to east directly over the crater Copernicus. They watch the fast-moving shape “every night the weather permitted for a period of 33 days.” They write to Project Moonwatch about the observations, but they reply that no other lunar observers have seen the phenomenon, so it must be closer to the Mobile observers. (Michael D. Swords, “[Gazing at the Moons](#),” *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 15)
- 1959**, October 12 — 1:00 p.m. Multiple witnesses at Washington, Sharon, and Crawfordville, Georgia, watch “brown or black footballs” traveling southeast to west, followed by angel hair covering a vast area. The substance consists of “threads from 10’ to 50’ long connected at ¾” intervals by minute particles resembling snowflakes.” The material falls for about 2 hours. Five samples are collected and sent to the Chemicals and Materials Laboratory at Robins AFB, Georgia. No unusual elements are discovered except for high amounts of silver in one and some silver in three others. The conjecture is that “cloud seeding with a silver salt could have caused the phenomenon.” (Brian Boldman, “[Angel Hair Physical Analyses: A Review](#),” *JUFOS* 9 (2006): 103–104)
- 1959**, October 13 — In his syndicated column, [Joseph Alsop](#) goes so far as to describe “classified intelligence” as placing the Soviet missile count as high as 1,500 by 1963, and the US will have only 130 at that time. (Joseph Alsop, “[True Missile Gap Picture Belies Pentagon Response](#),” *Eugene (Oreg.) Register-Guard*, October 13, 1959, p. 10)
- 1959**, October 22 — Night. Three witnesses are driving through Cumberland, Maryland, when they see a metallic disc emitting a bluish-green light around its edge. The driver abruptly stops, but leaves the car running. Suddenly the object drops down to 50 feet altitude and hovers 100 feet away in front of the car, making a humming vibration. As two of the witnesses open the door to get out, the car engine, lights, and radio fail. Shortly afterward, the disc shoots straight up, then forward, makes a 90° angle, then disappears in clouds. The car begins functioning normally again. (Whitney Bolton, “[Looking Sideways](#),” *Santa Ana (Calif.) Register*, November 5, 1959, p. D2; [Schopick](#), pp. 67–68; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 104–105)
- 1959**, Late October — 6:55 p.m. Electrician Gideon Johansson is at home in Mariannelund, Småland, Sweden, when there is a power failure. He goes outside to look at the power lines when he bumps into his son Rolf, who points out a brilliant white object hovering above a three-story building. The object descends slowly and appears to be heading toward Johansson’s garden. The machine oscillates three times and smashes into the top of a maple tree, descends through the branches and hovers about 18 inches above the ground. Only about 10 feet away, Johansson can see the object has a large window, through which two entities are visible. Their heads have high crown and they have big, friendly eyes. They have small mouths and pointed chins and are wearing white uniforms with broad black belts. One seems to be working at an instrument panel. They are only the size of a 14-year-old. Soon the object moves up and shoots away in a flash. Glassy deposits are found on some power lines in addition to the damaged tree, and Johansson gets prickly pains in his lower body. (Anders Liljegren, “[Mariannelund UFO and Occupants](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 16, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1970): 14–17)
- 1959**, October 31 — Soviet Col. [Georgy Mosolov](#) reaches an airspeed record of 1,484 mph in a Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21 over the Soviet Union. (Wikipedia, “[Georgy Mosolov](#)”)
- 1959**, November — A full-scale mockup of the A-12 is shipped to Area 51 in Nevada for radar signature testing by EG&G. (Peter W. Merlin, “[Area 51 Timeline](#),” Secret Heroes, November 10, 2021)
- 1959**, November 2 — 12:00 noon. A substance described as angel hair falls from two UFOs seen in Evora, Portugal, and is collected and analyzed under a microscope by a school director, Dr. Amaral, and later by armed forces technicians and scientists at the University of Lisbon. The scientists conclude that the substance is produced by a small insect or some strange kind of single-celled organism about 4 millimeters in length. (Hayley Price, “[Evora](#)

[Angel Hair](#),” UFO Weekly News; Nicole Guardiola, “[An Extraterrestrial Living Being, Captured and Studied Eighteen Years Ago](#),” translated from *El País*, October 13, 1978)

- 1959**, November 2 — [Otto Struve](#), director of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, West Virginia, announces in a lecture at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that he is certain there billions of planets in the Milky Way that could support intelligent life: “Whether it is human life, we don’t know, but I feel sure there is some form of life.” (“[Believes There Is Form of Life in Outer Space](#),” *New Castle (Pa.) News*, November 4, 1959, p. 8)
- 1959**, November 8 — A large, luminous object is seen moving at great speed over Kandahar, Afghanistan, to the northwest. Shortly afterward it explodes with a loud roar in nearby mountains, causing some slight earth tremors. Possible Russian missile test. (Good Above, [p. 308](#))
- 1959**, November 10 — Requests to transfer responsibility for UFO investigations from ATIC to ARDC are sent to Maj. Gen. [Charles B. Dougher](#) (ATIC commander), Col. Philip G. Evans (ATIC Deputy for Sciences and Components), and Maj. Gen. [James H. Walsh](#) (AF Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence). (“[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1959**, November 12 — The first completely free flight of an Avrocar takes place. This test proves the nozzle control system unacceptable. (Wikipedia, “[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)”; Graff 133–134)
- 1959**, November 16 — 8:00 p.m. Czech Air Force officer Commander Duchoň is driving with another officer named Bezák to a Czechoslovakian airfield [now in the Czech Republic] to supervise night-flying exercises. At about 6 miles from the airfield, the car engine begins to stall. Suddenly they see a light sapphire-colored band moving at high speed at an altitude of 1,600–2,600 feet. It is completely silent. Some minutes later they are able to start the car again. Personnel at the airfield tell them they had seen a flaming ball that rotated, made a 90° turn, and passed over the airfield again. The tower tracks the object on radar at an altitude of 3,000 feet during its second pass. The object is about 500 feet in diameter with a glowing ring around it. (“[Saucers and the Iron Curtain: A Report from Czechoslovakia](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 6, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1960): 31–32)
- 1959**, November 19 — [Otis T. Carr](#) is convicted in federal court of selling unregistered securities to [Gurney G. Warnberg](#), a pilot and railroad man in Yukon, Oklahoma, and fined \$5,000. Unable to pay, Carr works off his fine in jail at a dollar a day. (“[Trial Is Slated for Otis Carr](#),” *Oklahoma City Daily Oklahoman*, November 1, 1959, p. 28A; “[Carr Fined \\$5,000 for Saucer Deal](#),” *Oklahoma City Daily Oklahoman*, November 20, 1959, pp. 1–2; “[Short Shots](#),” *Saucers* 7, no. 3–4 (Fall/Winter 1959/1960): 28; Clark III 861)
- 1959**, December — The new edition of [Ruppelt](#)’s *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* is published with three new UFO debunking chapters, the last of which is completely different in tone from the rest of the book. He claims there is no Air Force secrecy on UFOs and NICAP is just a bunch of grandstanding nuts. (Michael Hall and Wendy Connors, “[The Forgotten Letters of Edward J. Ruppelt](#),” *IUR* 24, no. 4 (Winter 1999): 20–26, 30, 32; Swords 301; Clark III 1024; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 281–286)
- 1959**, December — The London UFO Research Organisation is founded by Paul Teugells, Nigel Stephenson, Susanne Stebbing, and Roy Stemman, and begins publishing a monthly magazine, *LUFORO Bulletin*. ([LUFORO Newsletter](#), no. 1 (December 1959))
- 1959**, December — Project Space Track moves to a new building in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the National Space Surveillance Control Center (NSSCC), which is formally dedicated on February 9, 1960. The NSSCC is part of the Air Force Command and Control Development Division, Air Research and Development Command. Harold O. Curtis of Lincoln Laboratory is the director of the NSSCC. (Wikipedia, “[Project Space Track](#)”)
- 1959**, December — 5:45 a.m. Larry Jensen is driving to work on US Highway 99 near Proberta, California, when his radio begins making “snapping” noises, and his lights dim. He pulls over to the side of the road and gets out to check his headlights, which he finds are shining feebly. He notices a huge, bright, bluish-green, crescent-shaped object hovering about 60 feet above the road a quarter of a mile behind him. It appears to be 80–90 feet across and 15–20 feet thick. Suddenly and inexplicably, he finds his clothes are soaked and he feels an alarming feeling as if he is getting crushed inside. He also feels as if he is being sucked up into the object. He grabs for a car door, then collides with a side mirror and staggers backward, but manages to get inside. Looking out the right-door window, he sees the UFO a few miles away, heading northeast and climbing at a shallow angle over the Sierra foothills. It vanishes within 10 seconds. Jensen’s car lights come back on. He resumes driving, but 600 feet away is forced to stop because he smells burning rubber. The battery caps are blown out, and the battery is swollen out of shape, the generator is not working, and the armature and field wires have melted together. Later, he finds it odd that he has not encountered another single car during or after the episode. (Clark III 866; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 October–December](#), The Author, 2000, pp. 56–59)

- 1959, December 1** — At a NASA news conference in Washington, D.C., Cal Tech geochemist [Harrison Brown](#) suggests that boneless animals similar to jellyfish abound in oceans on Venus. The speculation comes in the wake of the discovery that the planet's atmosphere contains water vapor. ("[Scientist Says Jellyfish May Live on Venus](#)," *Wilmington (Del.) News Journal*, December 2, 1959, p. 29)
- 1959, December 2** — A bright, circular object is seen in the sky heading southwest over Ghazni, Afghanistan. It disappears after 2 minutes. (Good Above, [p. 308](#))
- 1959, December 5** — After five flights, testing of the Avrocar is temporarily halted, by which time it has logged 18.5 hours of test time in total. (Wikipedia, "[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)")
- 1959, December 7** — Maj. Gen. [James H. Walsh](#) writes to Lt. Gen. [Bernard A. Schriever](#), commander of ARDC, regarding transfer of UFO duties. ("[Saucer Reading Fest](#)," Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1959, December 11** — A memo reaches CIA head [Allen Dulles](#)'s desk recommending the removal of [Fidel Castro](#). He sets the wheels in motion.
- 1959, December 13** — Early evening. A rocket project officer at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, is out looking at the Moon with binoculars when a lighted object approaches the Moon very slowly in the six o'clock position. Once nearly in line with the lunar edge, it begins a precision journey, skirting the edge until it reaches three o'clock. It then leaves on a straight track directly away. During the observation, the man calls his wife and two neighbors to watch the performance. (Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 14–15)
- 1959, December 15** — USAF Maj. [Joseph Rogers](#) attains an airspeed of 1,526 mph in a Convair F-106 Delta Dart at Edwards AFB, California. (Wikipedia, "[Convair F-106 Delta Dart](#)")
- 1959, Late December** — 10:00 p.m. Lorentz Johnsen sees a dark, silent object with a row of windows fly slowly by at an altitude of 500 feet, headed in the direction of Namsenfjorden, Trøndelag, Norway. It descends to about 160 feet, grows fiery red, then explodes with a crash and falls into the water. He says that it looks like a cover is torn off in one piece like a "curved sheet of metal." (Ole Jonny Brønne, "[Observations of Unidentified Submarine Objects in Norway](#)," *IUR* 20, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1995): 13)
- 1959, December 23** — 12:07 a.m. Kenneth Lindsley Jr. is near the intersection of Claribel Road and McHenry Avenue just north of Modesto, California, when he sees a bright orange "bowl-shaped" object descending toward him from about 2,000 feet. It drops to about 20 feet above the road, where it stays for about 2 minutes before ascending again. The object makes another appearance at 12:45 a.m. when he is walking further south near the new McHenry Bowl. Estelle Hendershott also sees a bright, stationary object above Modesto at 12:15 a.m. ("[Bright Orange 'Thing in Sky' Calls for Explanation](#)," *Modesto (Calif.) Bee*, December 24, 1959, p. 1; "[Women Report Seeing Bright Object in Sky](#)," *Modesto (Calif.) Bee*, December 27, 1959, p. C-1; "[Bowl-Shaped Object in Central California](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, January 1960, p. 3)
- 1959, December 24** — Maj. Gen. [Richard E. O'Keefe](#), acting inspector general of the Air Force, issues instructions pertaining to "UFO business" to every air base commander in the US. The document is not intended for public distribution, but NICAP obtains a copy. Across the top are the words "UFOs Serious Business." It says that UFOs "must be rapidly and accurately identified as serious USAF business in the ZI [Zone of Interior]" and specifies that UFO investigators "should be equipped with binoculars, camera, Geiger counter, magnifying glass and have a source for containers in which to store samples." O'Keefe asks that UFO explanations be "reasonable and knowledgeable." ("[AF General Warns UFO's Serious, Will Increase](#)," *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 9 (March 1960): 1, 3; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: 1959 October–December*, The Author, 2000, pp. 61, 65–66; Swords 286; Good Need, [pp. 226, 229](#))

1960

- Early 1960** — Night. Vice Chief of Air Staff Gen. [Curtis LeMay](#) is conducting an exercise to test his bombers' capability to penetrate US air space. An F-89J Scorpion jet instructor pilot and his radar observer, 1Lt. Joe Meyer, have just successfully intercepted a B-47 and are descending to land at James Connally AFB [now TSTC Waco Airport] near Waco, Texas. They notice a pinpoint of light at their level 12 miles away over Waco and decide to approach and attack it as if they are armed. As they approach on a collision course, they see the object has four bright blue-white lights on it and it is stationary. They estimate it is 25–30 feet in diameter. But the object shoots straight up at incredible speed before they reach it. They look up and see the object is bright blue white on its underside. It disappears at about 90,000 feet altitude. ("[Pilot Finally Reveals UFO Encounter](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 375 (July 1999): 17)
- 1960** — [Jim Lorenzen](#) is hired as senior technical associate with the Kitt Peak National Observatory, so he and [Coral](#) move to Tucson, Arizona, from Alamogordo, New Mexico. On their third day in Tucson, an "exterminator" visits

them, offering to inspect their rented premises for free. He fails to mention the name of his company, nor does he seem interested in his occupation. He talks with Coral about their reason for moving, where Jim is employed, and UFOs. (Clark III 50; Lorenzen, *Encounters with UFO Occupants*, Berkley Medallion, 1976, pp. 3, 251)

- 1960** — French journalist [Louis Pauwels](#) and Russian-French chemical engineer [Jacques Bergier](#) publish *Le Matin des magiciens*, covering a diverse array of topics from alternative history to ufology, Nazi occultism, alchemy, and spiritual philosophy. Heavily influenced by [Charles Fort](#)'s ideas, the authors' primary aim is to arouse the curiosity of their readership, stating, "Let us repeat that there will be a lot of silliness in our book, but this matters little if the book stirs up a few vocations and, to a certain degree, prepares broader tracks for research." The book's tales of ancient astronauts predate the works of [Erich von Däniken](#) on the topic. An instant cult classic with French youth culture, the book is translated into English in 1963 under the title *The Dawn of Magic* and released in 1964 in the US as *The Morning of the Magicians*. (Wikipedia, "[The Morning of the Magicians](#)"; Louis Pauwels and Jacques Bergier, *The Morning of the Magicians*, Stein & Day, 1964)
- 1960** — [Brinsley Le Poer Trench](#), 8th Earl of Clancarty, publishes *The Sky People*, in which he claims that [Adam and Eve](#), [Noah](#), and many other characters in the Bible originally lived on Mars. Trench believes that Adam and Eve were experimental creations of extraterrestrials. The biblical description of the Garden of Eden is inconsistent with what Earth is like, and because Mars contains canals, the Garden of Eden must have been located on Mars. He further claims that the north polar ice cap melted on Mars, causing the descendants of Adam and Eve to move to Earth. The Book of Genesis is a symbolic version of what actually happened to groups of people on Mars, he writes, with the Great Deluge referring to the flooding of Atlantis and Lemuria, which were populated with Adamic migrants. (Brinsley Le Poer Trench, *The Sky People*, Spearman, 1960; Jerome Clark, "[Vimanas Have Landed: Ancient Astronautics in Ufology](#)," *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 26–27)
- 1960** — Contactee [George Hunt Williamson](#) legally changes his name to Michel d'Obrenovic, said to reflect an ancestral connection to the throne of Serbia. However, John Griffin says the real reason is that Williamson's sensational claims have rendered his anthropological work (such as it is) completely unacceptable. (Clark III 1287; Zirger and Martinelli, *The Incredible Life of George Hunt Williamson*, Verdechiari, 2016, pp. 119–124)
- 1960** — Day. Frank Kinsey and his brother-in-law are looking at Lake Casitas, north of Ventura, California, when they hear a loud noise and water splashing. They notice, rising out of the water, a round object with an "observation cone" on top. Through binoculars, Kinsey can see portholes through which a humanoid form is looking out at them. It hovers in the air about 20–30 feet from the surface. Kinsey grabs his camera, but the object starts moving away, making a loud noise like a jet, its outer cylinder rotating quickly as it changes colors from dark lavender to bright orange-yellow. He snaps a photo on Kodak Infrared film as the UFO speeds up and disappears over the mountains about 10 miles away. After it is developed, the photo shows something in the air above the lake on the left. ([MUFON case file](#))
- 1960** — Night. During a pause in army maneuvers near Brno [now in the Czech Republic], soldiers see a peculiarly colored light above the city. After hovering a while, it vanishes but reappears in another part of the sky. Their commanding officer tells them to look at it with binoculars and check the radar. Headquarters sends up interceptors to chase the object, but every time one of them gets near, the light disappears from the radar screen, only to turn up elsewhere. The incident goes on for an hour before the light disappears for good. (Hobana and Weverbergh 90)
- 1960** — Night. A3C Larry W. Rogers, assigned to the USAF 3926th Air Police Squadron K-9 at Ben Guerir Air Base in Morocco, and five other members of his squadron are on guard at the north end of the base runway shortly after one of the French nuclear tests in the Reggane District of Algeria. They notice a group of small, glowing objects hovering above the Atlas Mountains to the southeast. After calling the observation in to their command post, they see 4–5 fighter jets launched from Zaragoza Air Base in Spain streaking toward the lights. As they approach, the lights suddenly begin moving around erratically, making sharp-angled turns and full circles. The encounter lasts 45 minutes, after which the jets return to Spain. The K-9 squadron is taken to headquarters for a debriefing, and Rogers is ordered to sign a non-disclosure statement. (Robert Hastings, "[UFOs Observed by U.S. Air Force Security Guards during French Atomic Testing in Algeria](#)," *UFOs & Nukes* blog, February 7, 2013)
- 1960** — The invention of transponders that transmit an electronic identification signal from aircraft to ground control helps to further reduce clutter on air traffic control radars. This means that "aerial phenomena" appear on radar only if they intrude on flight paths and create a near miss of the type investigated by the Civil Aviation Authority. (David Clarke, "Gremlins and Black Projects," *Fortean Times* 291 (August 2012): 26–27; National Air Traffic Controllers Association, [A History of Air Traffic Control](#), 2019)
- 1960, January** — The first issue of the *Australian Flying Saucer Review* is published jointly by the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society and UFOIC, edited by Peter E. Norris and [Andrew P. Tomas](#). It will continue until

December 1972, various issues confusingly sponsored by each group, plus the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau and the renamed Victorian UFO Research Society. ([Australian Flying Saucer Review](#) 1, no. 1 (January 1960))

1960, January — Tests continue with a slightly modified Avrocar. (Wikipedia, "[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)")

1960, January 18 — 11:00 a.m. Lorna Nelson, wife of the Rev. Robert A. Nelson, Methodist minister at Kollupitiya, Colombo, Sri Lanka, is at Devon Cottage in Nuwara Eliya when she sees a cigar-shaped object flying high in the sky. The object is moving toward the east and descending in a cloudless sky. At arm's length the object measures about 4 inches. Mrs. Nelson watches it for about 4 minutes and then rushes into the house for her binoculars. When she returns, the object is lower in the sky about the hills in the east. Two other people with her also witness the object. ("[Ceylon: Cigar Shape](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 6, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1960): 22)

1960, January 18 — 10:45 p.m. Leo Haley and Bert C. Baker are driving on US Highway 2, some 9 miles west of Lakota, North Dakota, when the headlights dim just as a brilliant green flash lights up the sky. In a field to the north about 1 mile away they can see a 5–6 foot crescent-shaped object with a 9-foot exhaust tail. (*Grand Forks (N.Dak.) Herald*, January 21, 1960; UFOEv, [p. 75](#); [Schopick](#), p. 69)

1960, January 26 — [Richard Bissell](#) notifies [Kelly Johnson](#) that the CIA is authorizing the delivery of 12 A-12 aircraft that will be five times faster than the U-2 and fly three miles higher. Skunk Works will move into production at Area 51 in Nevada to work on Project Oxcart. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed A-12](#)"; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [pp. 134–135](#))

1960, February — The US Navy reportedly detects a "dark satellite" thought to be a Soviet spy satellite in orbit. However, a follow-up article alleges that the object was "the remains of an Air Force Discoverer VIII satellite that had gone astray." ("[Trackers Spot Mystery Object Orbiting Earth](#)," *Washington (D.C.) Evening Star*, February 11, 1960; Wikipedia, "[Corona \(satellite\)](#)")

1960, February 5 — The office of the AF Chief of Intelligence is informed of ARDC's rejection (by Maj. Gen. [James Ferguson](#)) of the ATIC proposal. ("[Saucer Reading Fest](#)," Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)

1960, February 5 — 11:15 p.m. Many people see a distinctly round UFO hover and maneuver slowly over or near the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and La Brea Avenue in Hollywood, California. Cars are stopped bumper-to-bumper, according to employees of several businesses around the intersection, with people gaping at the object overhead. Persons on hotel and apartment rooftops go out to see a bright "cherry-red, circular light." Two service-station attendants at the intersection, Jerry Darr and Charles Walker, say that "hundreds of people saw it—everybody was looking" as the light hovers for at least 5 minutes over a busy drive-in. Pen Meyer, another service station attendant a third of a mile to the north, watches it hovering for about 10 minutes. Harold Sherman, his wife, and two others watch it as it resumes motion very slowly eastward. After proceeding east for a distance of a block or two, it veers southeastward and passes out of sight. No sound is heard over street-noise background. (Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee case files; James E. McDonald, "[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#)," in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 54–57)

1960, February 6 — 11:15 p.m. The red object reappears over Hollywood, California, this time about one block further east, above Sunset Boulevard and Sycamore Avenue. A number of witnesses observe it hovering for about 10 minutes at an altitude of 500–600 feet. Then with a loud explosion it emits a brilliant bluish-white flash that extends downward and to the west, lighting up the ground all around La Brea Avenue. A mushroom-shaped cloud appears and dissipates. As the red light is extinguished, an object described by most witnesses as long, tubular, and about 70 feet long shoots upwards. A few seconds later, the red light appears about 1,000 feet above Sunset and La Brea for about 8 minutes. It then begins drifting slowly eastward, turns sharply toward the north-northeast, accelerates and climbs steeply, not stopping again until it is at a very high altitude well to the north. (Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee case file; James E. McDonald, "[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#)," in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 54–57)

1960, February 16 — 9:15 a.m. Retired industrial chemist Earl T. Ross sees an oval, light-colored object moving steadily toward the east from his home in Laguna Beach, California. Two seconds later, a similar object, wobbling on its axis, approaches and overtakes the first from a position lower in the sky, taking up a steady position behind and to the right of the first. Both objects move toward the hills on the horizon in about 8–10 seconds. (UFOEv, [pp. 67–68](#))

1960, February 17 — [Hynek](#) writes to Brig. Gen. [Benjamin G. Holzman](#) at ARDC in the hopes of interesting him in assessing UFO reports. ("[Saucer Reading Fest](#)," Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)

1960, February 22 — 5:30 p.m. Five people see a formation of circular, whitish UFOs that make a loud noise as they speed overhead at Sarnia, Ontario. Canadian National Railway employees say the objects are definitely not

helicopters. One witness describes the sound they make as “whirling dynamos.” They move in formation on two levels, each projecting a beam of light toward the ground. (“[Other Recent Sightings](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 9 (March 1960): 8)

- 1960**, February 27 — NICAP sends photocopies of [O’Keefe](#)’s 1959 “UFOs Serious Business” memo to the media and to committees in the House and Senate, calling for congressional hearings. NICAP Board member Rear Adm. [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#) adds a statement: “Behind the scenes, high-ranking AF officers are soberly concerned about the UFOs. But through official secrecy [AFR 200-2] and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense.” NICAP board member [Albert Baller](#) writes: “If the UFOs are believed a threat, it would seem incumbent on the armed forces to waste no time in alerting the people. Any sudden, hostile act against a nation left in relative ignorance could have serious consequences.” (“[UFO Warning Issued: Flying Objects ‘Now Serious Business.’](#)” *Lincoln (Nebr.) Journal Star*, February 27, 1960, p. 1; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1960*, The Author, 2003, p. 37)
- 1960**, March — The Ottawa Flying Saucer Club begins publishing *Topside*, edited by [Wilbert B. Smith](#) until 1962. It continues until winter 1971. (*Topside*, no. 1 (March 1960))
- 1960**, March 6 — 5:15–5:27 a.m. Photographer Esse Jansson of Norrtälje, Sweden, goes out early in the morning to try to take a photo of an unidentified satellite, termed 1960 Alpha [however, the designation of 1960 Alpha 1 is reserved for the Pioneer 5 space probe, which isn’t launched until March 11], “which was expected to pass the Stockholm latitude in a southerly direction about 0525 hours.” He sees two objects that come from the north and move in a southeasterly direction. They are similar to phenomena he has seen before, but these objects reverse direction completely. One of his plates shows a third object. The CIA takes note of this and another mystery satellite viewed by a Swedish airplane and reported in *Dagens Nyheter*, March 8. ([[Light in the Sky New Satellite, Experts Believe](#)], *Dagens Nyheter* (Stockholm), March 10, 1960; Central Intelligence Agency, “[UFO’s Sighted, Photographed in Sweden; Unidentified Satellite Seen](#),” FDD Note 1107, March 17, 1960; E. Jensen, “[Lidt Rapportnyt fra Sverige](#),” *UFO-Nyt*, June 1961, p. 112; “[Weltrundschau](#),” *Weltraumbote*, no. 60/61 (1961): 19–20; ClearIntent, p. 138)
- 1960**, March 8 — [Holzman](#) forwards [Hynek](#)’s letter up the chain of command. (“[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1960**, March 17 — President [Eisenhower](#) signs off on a CIA paper titled “A Program of Covert Action against the Castro Regime.” The order gives the agency authorization to create an organization of exiled Cubans to manage opposition programs, begin a propaganda offensive to draw support for the movement, create an intelligence gathering network inside Cuba, and develop a paramilitary force to be introduced into Cuba to organize, train, and lead resistance groups against the Castro regime. Its budget is \$4.4 million. Under the Cuban Project and under the direction of CIA Directorate for Plans [Richard M. Bissell](#), MKUltra’s [Sidney Gottlieb](#) proposes spraying [Fidel Castro](#)’s television studio with LSD and saturating his shoes with thallium to make his beard fall out. Gottlieb also hatches schemes to assassinate Castro, including the use of a poisoned cigar, a poisoned wetsuit, an exploding conch shell, and a poisonous fountain pen. (Wikipedia, “[Sidney Gottlieb](#)”; Kris Hollington, *Wolves, Jackals, and Foxes: The Assassins Who Changed History*, St. Martin’s, 2008; Wikipedia, “[Operation Mongoose](#)”)
- 1960**, March 24 — Two policemen are in the vicinity of Lambert–St. Louis International Airport in Missouri, one on the north side, the other on the south side. A bright light illuminates the entire area. Three objects in a V-formation whisk overhead. They are round, white, and 9 feet in diameter. (Swords 293)
- 1960**, April 8 — Project Ozma, the first SETI experiment set up only a few days earlier by [Frank Drake](#) at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, West Virginia, seems to hit paydirt. As he slews his 85-foot radio antenna off Tau Ceti and onto Epsilon Eridani, Drake is greeted with a strong, periodic, pulsed signal on 1420 MHz, the hyperfine transition emission line of interstellar hydrogen atoms proposed for SETI by [Giuseppe Cocconi](#) and [Philip Morrison](#), and still favored as a promising hailing frequency for interstellar communications. Drake is ready with a second, low-gain antenna. The pulses are there as well, sadly disproving their extraterrestrial origin. But they are not exactly terrestrial interference, either. The rate at which the phantom signal traverses the sky suggests that it is emanating from an aircraft cruising at unprecedented altitude—perhaps 80,000 feet. At the time, no known aircraft can reach the stratosphere. Such an aircraft, as it happens, doesn’t “come into existence” until the following month, when [Francis Gary Powers](#) is shot down over the Soviet Union. (Drake wisely decides to withhold publication of this positive result, so he never does receive proper credit for “discovering” the U-2.) The project only lasts through July. (Wikipedia, “[Project Ozma](#)”; H. Paul Shuch, “[Project Ozma: The Birth of Observational SETI](#),” in *Searching for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*, Springer, 2011, pp. 13–18; Seth Shostak, “[Project Ozma](#),” SETI Institute, July 2021; Graff 159–166)

- 1960, April 9** — The U-2 spy plane piloted by [Francis Gary Powers](#) crosses into the Soviet Union from Pakistan and flies over the Semipalatinsk Test Site in Kazakhstan; the Dolon Air Base in Semey, Kazakhstan; a SAM test site near Saryshagan, Kazakhstan; and the Baikonur Cosmodrome near Tyuratam, Kazakhstan. The plane is detected by Soviet Air Defense Forces but avoids intercepts by a MiG-19 and a Su-9. Powers lands at an Iranian airstrip at Zahedan. A 1994 CIA monograph by Gerald K. Haines, “CIA’s Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947–90,” claims that “According to later estimates from CIA officials who worked on the U-2 project and the Oxcart (SR-71, or Blackbird) project, over half of all UFO reports from the late 1950s through the 1960s were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights (namely the U-2) over the United States.” (Wikipedia, “[1960 U-2 incident](#)”; Gerald K. Haines, “[CIA’s Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947–90](#),” *Studies in Intelligence* 40, no. 5 (1997): 67–84)
- 1960, April 25** — 9:00 p.m. Former town selectman Arnold W. Spencer watches a bright cigar-shaped object, “dark scarlet as the deepest red in a rainbow,” hovering above Plymouth, New Hampshire. It is hanging low in the eastern sky, with vertical bands of pulsating light visible along its length. After 25 seconds, the UFO suddenly moves off silently toward the south at high speed, illuminating the branches of trees as it passes. (UFOEv, [p. 68](#))
- 1960, April 30** — [George Adamski](#) appears on [Long John Nebel](#)’s late-night TV show on WOR. (“[Long John Nebel, The Flying Saucer Story \(George Adamski interview\)](#),” ThriftStoreVinyl YouTube channel, September 4, 2018; “[Final Years](#),” The Adamski Case, June 11, 2009)
- 1960, May** — The CIA begins to recruit anti-Castro Cuban exiles in the Miami, Florida, area. Infantry training is carried out at a CIA-run base that is code-named JM Trax near Retalhuleu in the Sierra Madre mountains of Guatemala. (Wikipedia, “[Brigade 2506](#)”)
- 1960, May** — [Keyhoe](#) publishes *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*, again criticizing the Air Force for its censorship of credible UFO sightings. (Powell, *Keyhoe*, 289)
- 1960, May 1** — 6:26 a.m. A US U-2 spy plane, flown by CIA pilot [Francis Gary Powers](#), takes off from Peshawar, Pakistan, and performs photographic aerial reconnaissance over Baikonur, Kazakhstan, and Chelyabinsk, Russia. Powers has orders to continue across Siberia to get a look at the new Plesetsk Cosmodrome, but at 8:53 a.m. local time he is hit by an S-75 Dvina (SA-2 Guideline) surface-to-air missile fired by a defense battalion near Kyshtym, Russia. The U-2 crashes near Sverdlovsk [now Yekaterinburg]. The Soviet Air Defense Forces have anticipated the flight and give orders to “attack the violator.” Powers parachutes safely and is captured. This is the first time in five years of overflights that the US is caught. (Wikipedia, “[1960 U-2 incident](#)”)
- 1960, May 5** — NASA issues a press release saying a weather research aircraft has “gone missing” north of Turkey and speculates that the pilot has fallen unconscious and the plane has crashed. Under the impression that the pilot has died and that the plane has been destroyed, a U-2 plane is quickly painted in NASA colors and a photo is shown to the media at NASA Flight Research Center [now the Armstrong Flight Research Center] at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Premier [Nikita Khrushchev](#) announces the shoot-down to the Soviet parliament but does not reveal yet that the pilot has survived. (NASA, “[U-2](#),” September 4, 1997)
- 1960, May 7** — [Khrushchev](#) now reveals to the Soviet parliament that [Powers](#) is alive and much of the U-2 technologies have survived the crash.
- 1960, May 9** — Director of Central Intelligence [Allen Dulles](#) tells Congress that all U-2 flights are used for aerial espionage and are flown pursuant to “presidential directives.”
- 1960, May 10** — House Appropriations Chair [Clarence Cannon](#) (D-Mo.) reveals to the press that the U-2 is a CIA plane engaged in aerial espionage over the Soviet Union “under the aegis” of the president. The press begins to suggest that [Eisenhower](#) has lost control of the intelligence agencies. (Wikipedia, “[1960 U-2 incident](#)”)
- 1960, May 13** — 7:00 p.m. More than 100 people at Paracuru, Ceará, Brazil, watch a disc-shaped UFO. Flying about 600 feet in the air at low speed, the silent object maneuvers over the downtown area for a long time. About 60 feet in diameter, it hovers at an angle by a church. A strong bluish light is on top of it. The same day, 20 cities and towns in Ceará state, four in Rio Grande do Norte, three in Pernambuco, two in Paraíba, two in Bahia, and one each in the states of Piauí and Maranhão report UFO sightings. (Olavo Fontes, “[Orthoteny in Brazil, Part II](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, September 1960, p. 5; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 220–221; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1960*, The Author, 2003, pp. 92–93)
- 1960, May 14** — 4:00 a.m. Fisherman Raimundo Ursulino dos Santos sees two metallic discs landed on a sandy hill by the beach at Paracuru, Ceará, Brazil. As he approaches, he sees two humanlike beings outside, talking to each other. They are small and pallid. One is dressed in a blue suit with a helmet. Dos Santos turns and runs away. Marks in the sand are found later. (Olavo Fontes, “[Orthoteny in Brazil, Part II](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, September 1960, p. 5; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, [p. 200](#); Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1960*, The Author, 2003, p. 93; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), September 29, 2007)

- 1960, May 19** — A silver-colored round object, 20–25 feet wide with hanging appendages, hovers 50–100 feet away from Indigenous observers in the village of Ekuk, Alaska, south of Dillingham. It barely clears electric wires 12 feet above the ground. It sucks up two empty five-gallon trashcans and drags them swirling along the ground. It flies between two houses and crosses to the other side of a ridge for 100 yards, drops the trashcans and sucks up some swirling grass, makes a loud sucking sound, then ascends rapidly. [Thomas M. Conrow](#), chief of intelligence at a nearby Air Force Base, interviews the witnesses and concludes that “there still appears to be no logical explanation of the sighting.” At Wright Patterson AFB, Blue Book analysts classify it as a “weather balloon with a radar reflector,” even though it is traveling against the wind. (*Hynek UFO Report*, [pp. 146–149](#); [Sparks](#), p. 284; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1960*, The Author, 2003, pp. 99–101)
- 1960, May 22** — 9:33 a.m. An observatory on Majorca, Balearic Islands, Spain, sees a white, triangular object one-quarter the size of the moon spinning on its own axis and maintaining a steady course. It cables a report to NASA in Washington, D.C. (UFOEv, [p. 123](#))
- 1960, May 28** — Engineer [Ronald N. Bracewell](#), suggests that extraterrestrials may already be in our neighborhood through an autonomous interstellar space probe (now called a “Bracewell probe”) sent for the express purpose of communicating with alien civilizations. (Ronald N. Bracewell, “[Communications from Superior Galactic Communities](#),” *Nature* 186 (1960): 670–671)
- 1960, Summer** — 2:00 a.m. Two brothers are alerted by their journalist brother about an elusive UFO that local police in Walkerton, Ontario, have been pursuing for about an hour. They drive out along country roads until they get within 300 feet of the object, which is hovering around a large tree. The object is circular and apparently about 3 feet in diameter. It is very bright and changes color repeated. It then circles the tree purposefully for several minutes. The brothers climb a fence and approach it, but the UFO suddenly accelerates and disappears to the south. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 54–56](#))
- 1960, June 1** — [Bulkley Griffin](#), chief of the *Worcester (Mass.) Evening Gazette*’s Washington, D.C., Bureau, writes a well-reasoned story about the Air Force’s unilateral control of UFO information and its national security implications. He quotes Adm. [Hillenkoetter](#)’s opinion that UFOs are intelligently controlled and are neither US nor USSR devices, which is why he is pushing for a Congressional investigation. (Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1960*, The Author, 2003, pp. 111–112)
- 1960, June 3** — Physicist [Freeman Dyson](#) in Princeton, New Jersey, writes a speculative paper on “The Search for Artificial Stellar Sources of Infrared Radiation” in which he discusses how an advanced civilization might be visible from Earth. He suggests that the logical endpoint of the drive to capture as much energy from a sun would be for engineers to completely enclose it in a hollow sphere. Once the builders have completed it, the only light visible from their star would be the muted infrared glow of radiation heat. Such a structure, which becomes known as a “Dyson sphere,” would be a sure sign of an advanced race. (Freeman J. Dyson, “[Search for Artificial Stellar Sources of Infrared Radiation](#),” *Science* 131 (1960): 1667–1668; Wikipedia, “[Dyson sphere](#)”; Graff 234–235)
- 1960, June 12** — 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. Following a sonic boom above Quebec, a fiery object falls from the sky from an altitude of 1,000–2,000 feet and splits into two pieces that fall into the St. Lawrence River near Les Écureuils, about 20 miles upriver from Quebec City, Quebec. A beachcomber runs across the pieces, one closer to the shore and visible at low tide, the other one further out and mostly submerged. He retrieves a smaller piece (800 pounds) and sells it to a scrap-metal dealer, who fails to recognize it as ferrous and possibly ships it to Japan. The other piece is picked up by the Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment [now DRDC Valcartier] near Quebec City. [Wilbert Smith](#)’s Ottawa Flying Saucer Club [later the Ottawa New Sciences Club] tells its members that the material is high-strength metal that is 6 feet in diameter and 2 feet thick at the center with an embedded tube, an “electronic potting can,” and a transistor. CARDE’s analysis is said to have revealed an alloy with a high manganese content, although it was identified as the “normal product of a foundry, consisting of slag with semi-molten scrap embedded in it,” likely coming from Sorel Iron Foundries in Sorel, Quebec. Smith rejects those findings and conducts his own tests (although he is an electrical engineer and not a metallurgist) on a chunk the club retrieves from the river around July 1, supposedly engaging in a “tremendous amount of detective work on this metal.” In November 1961, Smith tells Ohio UFO researchers C. W. Fitch and George Popovitch: “We are speculating that what we have is a portion of a very large device which came into this solar system...we don’t know when...but it had been in space a long time before it came to Earth; we can tell by the micrometeorites embedded in the surface. But we don’t know whether it was a few years ago—or a few hundred years ago.” In June 1968, the Colorado project’s [Roy Craig](#) is in Ottawa and offers to examine the club’s chunk of metal because they had offered it to project director Edward Condon a year earlier. Craig obligingly takes a piece with him but

does not analyze it since there is no connection to a UFO and it looks like foundry slag anyway. Later, the Montreal UFO Society's Ronald Anstee has a piece of it analyzed by an independent metallurgist, who finds that the composition "does not correspond to any known commercial manganese steel." In September 1967, Eric Smith of the Canada Department of Energy, Mines, and Resources visits the Ottawa club and examines their large artifact, but fails to report back. In 1969, the National Research Council's [Peter Millman](#) takes a look and is convinced that it is ordinary manganese steel from the Sorel plant. ("[The Mysterious Chunk of Hardware at Ottawa](#)," *Topside*, no. 20 (Spring 1966): 4–6; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, pp. 48–49; "[The Mystery of UFO Hardware](#)," *Topside*, no. 24/25 (Spring/Summer 1967): 10–11; "[Unidentified Hardware Mystery Deepens](#)," *Topside*, no. 27 (Winter 1968): 4–9; "[Latest Report on the Mystery Metal](#)," *Topside*, no. 29 (Summer 1968): 11–12; Condon, pp. 133–135; "[Canada's Mysterious Chunk of Metal](#)," *Spacelink* 6, no. 2 (January 1970): 6–9; "[More Mystery Added to Ottawa's Mysterious Chunk of Hardware](#)," *Topside*, no. 33 (Winter/Spring 1970): 13–17; "[Latest Report on Ottawa's Mystery Metal](#)," *Topside*, no. 34 (Summer/Fall 1970): 22–23; "[New Developments on Ottawa's Mystery Metal](#)," *Topside*, no. 35 (Winter 1971): 29–33; Story, pp. 208–209; John Robert Colombo, *UFOs over Canada*, Hounslow, 1991, pp. 53–56; Roy Craig, *UFOs: An Insiders' View of the Official Quest for Evidence*, University of North Texas, 1995, pp. 121–132; Good Above, pp. 188–189; Chris Rutkowski, *Canada's UFOs: Declassified*, August Night, 2022, pp. 166, 229–249)

1960, June 21 — NICAP sends a confidential report to the US Congress on "Dangers of Secrecy on UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) and Digest of Documented Evidence" urging legislators to go on the record about the reality of UFOs. (Donald E. Keyhoe, "[Confidential NICAP Report to Congress: Dangers of Secrecy on UFOs \(Unidentified Flying Objects\) and Digest of Documented Evidence](#)," June 21, 1960)

1960, June 22 — 6:20 p.m. John Person is setting up camp at Clan Lake, Northwest Territories, on a prospecting expedition and is waiting for his partner. He hears a noise like an aircraft approaching and something bounces on the ground and hits the surface of the lake about 1,700 feet behind him. Person sees an object 4–6 feet wide with arms or spokes is rotating rapidly in the water, but gradually slows down and stops spinning. When his partner arrives, they get into a canoe and travel to the impact area. They find an area of burned grass and another area where grass is cut up in small pieces. They use a pole to probe the lake bottom and find a channel that is one foot deeper at one end and three feet deeper at the other, RCMP Cpl. Matheson flies to the lake in a seaplane on July 19 and August 15 and finds the impact area as Person has described but no submerged object. (Royal Canadian Mounted Police, "[Report of Strange Object Striking Clan Lake, Clan Lake Dist., N.W.T.](#)," July 19, July 25, and August 25, 1960; "[Did a UFO Crash at Clan Lake?](#)" Mikey McBryan YouTube channel, October 2, 2020; Chris Rutkowski, *Canada's UFOs: Declassified*, August Night, 2022, pp. 98–102)

1960, July — Members of the US Senate Preparedness Committee and the House Science and Astronautics Committee, as well as the CIA, ask for hearings on USAF's handling of UFOs. (Clark III 922)

1960, July 1 — 10:30 a.m. Four witnesses at the Leefe Mine in Lincoln County, Wyoming, see a shiny disc move in from the south and hover above a slag heap. It has a diameter of at least 185 feet and is 14 feet thick. Five transparent bubbles are visible on the bottom as it rocks gently before moving off to the south at high speed. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 221)

1960, July 2 — Early morning. A couple driving in the vicinity of Kankakee, Illinois, see the landscape light up with a bright blue light as a ball of fire approaches out of the south. It passes above their car dragging a trail of bluish light behind it. The inside of the car heats up uncomfortably, waking up their daughter and her husband who are asleep in the back. The light gradually fades and disappears in the north. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 221–223)

1960, July 3 — 4:30 p.m. Argentine Air Force Capt. Hugo F. Niotti is driving north near Villa General Belgrano, Córdoba, Argentina, when he notices a dark object hovering to the right of the road. He stops his car, grabs his camera, and takes a photo of the object, which is moving slowly over a field. As he is winding the film to take another shot, the object accelerates and disappears into the clouds. The photo shows a conical object low above the ground, as well as a horse whose attention is attracted to the object. Analysis shows that the object is about 23 feet high, 20 feet in diameter, and 56 feet above the ground. (Guillermo C. Roncoroni and Gustavo J. Alvarez, "[Foto de OVNI Avalada por la Fuerza Aerea Argentina](#)," *UFO Press* 1, no. 3 (April 1977): 32–38; "[Cone-Shaped UFO Photographed in Argentina](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 8 (December 1980): 1; Johannes Koch, "[Correspondence](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 2 (February 1981): 2; Willy Smith, "[The Yacanto, Cordoba, Argentina, Photograph, 07-03-1960](#)," UFO Casebook; Willy Smith, "UFOs in Latin America," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 104–106)

1960, July 6 — Responding to NICAP's "Dangers of Secrecy on UFOs" report, Sen. [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) (D-Tex.) states that he has ordered the staff of the Senate Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee to keep a close watch on

UFO developments. (“[NICAP UFO Report: Extension of Remarks of Hon. Leonard G. Wolf of Iowa in the House of Representatives, Wednesday, August 31, 1960](#),” *Congressional Record, Proceedings and Debates of the 86th Congress, Second Session*, vol. 106, Part 14, pp. 18955–18956)

- 1960**, July 11–15 — The Air Force gives major briefings on UFOs for congressional staffers: Chief Counsel Robert Smart (House Committee on Armed Services); [Spencer Beresford](#), Richard Hines, and Frank Hammill (House Science and Astronautics Committee). [Charles S. Sheldon II](#), technical director of the House Science and Astronautics Committee, is also present. The USAF reps are [Robert Friend](#), [Lawrence J. Tacker](#), [Hynek](#), and Maj. Gen. [Arno H. Luehman](#). CIA officers Richard Payne and John S. Warner are possibly there as well. The staffers are skeptical; Smart accuses the Air Force of withholding information and wants to be kept informed of sightings and investigations. ([documents], “[11–15 July 1960, Congressional Briefings \(Mr. R. Smart\)](#),” USAF Historical Archives; Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, pp. 156–159; Marcia S. Smith, *The UFO Enigma*, Congressional Research Service Report No. 83-205, June 20, 1983, pp. 65–66; Swords 291–292; “[Saucer Reading Fest](#),” Saturday Night Uforia, January 25, 2019)
- 1960**, July 13 — The Air Force gives a preliminary briefing to associate counsel Stuart French, staff member of the Senate Preparedness Committee, who wants to know about USAF explanations for the Washington National Airport and Levelland cases. (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, p. 156)
- 1960**, July 24 — 8:45 p.m. While State Policeman [Fred Porcello](#) is playing in the yard with his children in Portville, New York, his youngest son Fred Jr., 7, points out two lights in the sky. Porcello looks and sees two glowing reddish objects moving toward them in the southern sky. When not glowing, they appear to be dumbbell-shaped, silvery, and metallic. They change course to the north-northwest, then stop and hover, followed by a sharp right turn to the east. Then they swing back toward the south and move out of sight. The objects are visible 4–5 minutes. (UFOEv, p. 64)
- 1960**, July 26 — Lt. Col. [Lawrence J. Tacker](#) writes to [Stringfield](#) that “There is absolutely no truth in the charge that the Air Force or any other governmental agency is withholding information on the subject of UFOs from the general public.” (Stringfield, *Situation Red*, Fawcett Crest, 1977, p. 167)
- 1960**, August — The US severs diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic. The CIA’s Special Group decides to arm Dominicans in hopes of an assassination of generalissimo [Rafael Trujillo](#). The CIA disperses three rifles and three .38 revolvers, but things pause in 1961 as [John F. Kennedy](#) assumes office.
- 1960**, August 9 — Contactee [Gabriel Green](#) announces his candidacy for the presidency of the United States at a press conference at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel. He publishes his Space Age Platform at the second meeting of his Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America convention in the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California, on August 13–14, but soon drops out and lends his support to [John F. Kennedy](#). (Wikipedia, “[Gabriel Green](#)”; Jack Smith, “[Flying Saucer Man Runs for President](#),” *Los Angeles Times*, August 10, 1960, p. III-2; “[Whittier ‘Flying Saucer’ Candidate Opposes Nixon](#),” *Pomona (Calif.) Progress-Bulletin*, August 10, 1960, p. 8; “[Space Age Platform of Gabriel Green: Candidate for the Office of President of the United States](#),” *AFSCA World Report*, no. 16 (July/Aug. 1960): 4–7; Clark III 99; S. D. Tucker, *False Economies: The Strangest, Least Successful, and Most Audacious Financial Follies, Plans, and Crazes of All Times*, Amberly, 2018, chapter 3, excerpted in “Taxing Credulity,” *Fortean Times* 367 (June 2018): 52–55)
- 1960**, August 10 — The Discoverer 13 Corona KH-1 photoreconnaissance satellite is launched from Vandenberg AFB [now Vandenberg Space Force Base], California. The primary goal of this series of satellites is to replace the U-2 spy plane in surveilling the Sino-Soviet Bloc, determining the disposition and speed of production of Soviet missiles and long-range bombers assess. The Corona program is also used to produce maps and charts for the Department of Defense and other US government mapping programs. On August 11, after 17 orbits, the satellite splashes down in the North Pacific and its payload is recovered. It represents the first-ever successful recovery of an object from orbit. (Wikipedia, “[Discoverer 13](#)”)
- 1960**, August 11 — 3:10 p.m. Ray Hawks is operating a farm tractor at Left Hand Canyon near Altona, Colorado, when he hears a muffled explosion. Looking up, he watches a disc dropping vertically out of the cloud cover. It stops in midair about 650 feet away from him and 200 feet above the ground, wobbling a bit. When it stabilizes, he sees it looks like two concave discs joined together at the rim and dull aluminum in color. Bluish smoke is issuing from an apparent gap in its surface. An electric hum seems to come from inside the object. The section where the smoke is issuing is withdrawn inside, and a new section appears to replace it, settling in with a click. The hum increases in intensity, and the object appears to be surrounded by a heat haze. It then shoots up into the clouds and vanishes. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 223–225)

- 1960**, August 12 — NASA's Echo 1 balloon satellite is launched by a Thor-Delta rocket and becomes the first passive communications satellite. Microwave signals are bounced off the satellite from one point on earth to another. (Wikipedia, "[Project Echo](#)")
- 1960**, August 13–14 — 11:50 p.m.–2:05 a.m. Highway Patrol officers Charles A. Carson and [Stanley E. Scott](#), plus three others at Red Bluff, California, are on patrol when see what they think at first is an airliner about to crash. It turns out to be a maneuvering, silent red light with five white lights, descending to 100–200 feet altitude. It suddenly reverses course, climbs to 500 feet, hovers, sweeps the ground with a red beam, performs aerial gymnastics, then heads east, chased by the police car. It is joined by a similar object from the south, then it disappears in the east. A local radar operator confirms the UFO at the time but denies it the next day. Tehama County sheriff's officers also see the UFO and another similar one the same night. (NICAP, "[Red Bluff Incident](#)"; "[False AF Answer in Red Bluff Case](#)," *NICAP Special Bulletin*, October 1960, pp. 1, 4; [Schopick](#), pp. 96–100; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, pp. 180–182; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 153–156, 225; *Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 92–94; Clark III 1002–1006; [Sparks](#), p. 284; UFOEv, pp. 61–62, 112; UFOEv II 169–170; Swords 295–297; "[Red Bluff: 1960](#)," Saturday Night Uforia, February 16, 2017)
- 1960**, August 15 — *Air Force Information Policy Letter for Commanders*, vol. 14, no. 12, is issued by Office of the Secretary of Air Force. In "AF Keeping Watchful Eye on Aerospace," it states, "There is a relationship between the Air Force's interest in space surveillance and its continuous surveillance of the atmosphere near Earth for unidentified flying objects—'UFOs.'" (UFOEv, p. 108)
- 1960**, August 17 — The trial for downed U-2 pilot [Francis Gary Powers](#) begins in Moscow.
- 1960**, August 18 — The Discoverer 14 Corona KH-1 spy satellite is launched. It is the first completely successful mission and returns images of the Mys Schmidta airfield in Siberia. (Wikipedia, "[Discoverer 14](#)")
- 1960**, August 18 — 9:58 p.m. A woman in Charleston, West Virginia, takes a time-lapse photo of a mystery satellite that is in the same part of the sky as NASA's Echo I communications satellite, which is also in the photo below it. (Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 13)
- 1960**, August 25 — The "dark satellite" is seen and photographed five times by Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation at Bethpage, Long Island, New York. It is supposed to be three times faster than the Echo 1 satellite and travels east to west in a retrograde orbit, rather than west to east. Its inclination to the equator is about 135°. The color of the object varies from "carrot to straw." The Grumman observers estimate that the object is in an eccentric orbit with an apogee of as much as 4,200 miles and a perigee of about 300 miles. They immediately produce a proposal to the US Air Force to share data in the hopes of plotting a firm orbit for the mystery satellite. (NICAP, "[Grumman Mystery Satellite](#)"; Gordon W. Creighton, "[Unidentified Satellites](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1961): 3–6; "[The Unidentified Satellite: Grumman Aircraft Writes to One of Our Readers](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 2 (March/April 1961): 29; Blue Book files, "[Grumman Proposal for Optical Surveillance of the Retrograde Satellite](#)," 1961; UFOEv, p. 138; Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 13; Center for UFO Studies, "[Moonwatch Mystery Satellites, 1958–1962](#)")
- 1960**, August 25 — The National Security Council recommends to President [Eisenhower](#) the establishment of a top secret National Reconnaissance Office to coordinate USAF and CIA reconnaissance satellite activities because of management problems with the USAF satellite program. (Wikipedia, "[National Reconnaissance Office](#)")
- 1960**, August 26 — 9:00 p.m. Director Robert I. Johnson and other staff at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, Illinois, observe a faint reddish object in the sky moving from east to west, apparently the same mystery satellite seen and photographed by the Grumman observers. ("[It's Official! A New 'Thing' Is Circling Sky](#)," *Chicago Tribune*, August 31, 1960, p. 17; "[Moonwatchers See Strange Object in the Sky](#)," *Clinton (Ill.) Daily Journal and Public*, August 31, 1960, p. 6; Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 13; Swords 294; Center for UFO Studies, "[Moonwatch Mystery Satellites, 1958–1962](#)")
- 1960**, August 31 — Rep. [Leonard G. Wolf](#) (D-Iowa) makes a statement in the House on NICAP's "Dangers of Secrecy on UFOs" report, saying that it is "imperative to end the risk of accidental war from defense forces' confusion over UFOs." He mentions NICAP board member Adm. [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#)'s request that "Congress inform the public as to the facts." Based on a three-year NICAP study, Wolf states that all defense personnel "should be told that the UFOs are real and should be trained to distinguish them—by their characteristic speeds and maneuvers—from conventional planes and missiles.... The American people must be convinced, by documented facts, that the UFOs could not be Soviet machines." ("[NICAP UFO Report: Extension of Remarks of Hon. Leonard G. Wolf of Iowa in the House of Representatives, Wednesday, August 31, 1960](#)," *Congressional Record, Proceedings and Debates of the 86th Congress, Second Session*, vol. 106, Part 14, pp. 18955–18956; Good Need, p. 261)
- 1960**, Late August — Two men in a car near Butte Falls, Oregon, see a pale-white light hovering 300 feet ahead of them. They watch it for 15 minutes, then decide to drive closer. The light then rises to 100 feet and recedes, then

changes to orange. No sound is heard. The light performs geometrical maneuvers, creating rectangle paths and other zig-zags. It then accelerates, changes back to white, and zooms off. (Swords 294)

- 1960**, Late August or early September — Evening. [Rhodes McCarroll](#) and his grandfather, sitting on the upstairs back porch of their home in Memphis, Tennessee, notice a glowing basketball-sized globe in the soil by the hedge. They watch it for 5 minutes, then see a figure standing behind the ball. It is a glowing nude, generally humanlike figure, about 6 feet tall, holding a light at chest level. The figure is square-shouldered and has disproportionately long legs that are narrow and pointed between the knees and ankles. The witnesses watch another 5 minutes, at which point the globe and the entity begin to fade and are gone from sight in another 5 minutes. (Clark III 279–280)
- 1960**, September — Groom Lake in Nevada receives the name “Area 51” when A-12 test facility construction begins, including a new 8,500-foot runway (Runway 14/32) to replace the existing one built for the U-2. (Wikipedia, “[Area 51](#)”)
- 1960**, September — CIA officer [Richard M. Bissell Jr.](#) and DCI [Allen W. Dulles](#) initiate talks with two leading figures of the Mafia, [Johnny Roselli](#) and [Sam Giancana](#). Later, other crime bosses such as [Carlos Marcello](#), [Santo Trafficante Jr.](#), and [Meyer Lansky](#) become involved in the first plot against [Fidel Castro](#). The strategy is managed by [Sheffield Edwards](#). [Robert Maheu](#), a veteran of CIA counterespionage activities, is instructed to hire the Mafia to kill Castro. The advantage of employing the Mafia for this work is that it provides the CIA with a credible cover story. The Mafia are known to be angry with Castro for closing their profitable brothels and casinos in Cuba. On September 14, Maheu meets with Roselli in a New York City hotel and offers him \$150,000 for the “removal” of Castro. [James O’Connell](#), who identifies himself as Maheu’s associate but is really the chief of the CIA’s operational support division, is present during the meeting. Declassified documents do not reveal if Roselli, Giancana, or Trafficante accept a down payment for the job. According to CIA files, it is Giancana who suggests poison pills to add to Castro’s food or drinks. Such pills, manufactured by the CIA’s Technical Services Division, are given to Giancana’s nominee named [Juan Orta](#). Giancana recommends him as being an official in the Cuban government with access to Castro. Allegedly, after several unsuccessful attempts to introduce the poison into Castro’s food, Orta abruptly demands to be let out of the mission, handing over the job to another unnamed participant. Later, a second attempt is mounted through Giancana and Trafficante using [Tony Varona](#), the leader of the Cuban Exile Junta, who has, according to Trafficante, become “disaffected with the apparent ineffectual progress of the Junta.” Varona requests \$10,000 in expenses and \$1,000 worth of communications equipment. However, it is unknown how far the second attempt goes, as it is canceled due to the launching of the Bay of Pigs Invasion. (Wikipedia, “[Sam Giancana](#)”; Wikipedia, “[Assassination attempts on Fidel Castro](#)”)
- 1960**, September — MKUltra chief [Sidney Gottlieb](#) brings a vial of poison concealed in toothpaste to the Democratic Republic of the Congo with plans to place it on Prime Minister [Patrice Lumumba](#)’s toothbrush. The plot is abandoned, allegedly because CIA station chief [Larry Devlin](#) refuses permission. (Wikipedia, “[Patrice Lumumba](#)”)
- 1960**, September — The USAF Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence turns down ATIC’s request for one additional staffer for Project Blue Book (raising it to 3) and additional funding. (Clark III 922)
- 1960**, September 2 — 11:30 p.m. Richard Ireton and his wife are driving on US Highway 1 in Westbrook, Connecticut, when they notice what seems to be an aircraft about to crash. It veers close to the shore and the Iretons drive to the beach to look for it. They see a triangular-shaped object flying silently at the speed of a Piper Cub airplane, alternately hovering and moving horizontally and vertically. When it reaches the public beach, it takes off at great speed toward Long Island, New York. They see a similar object the next evening around 9:30 p.m. at Chalker Beach in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. (“[Flying Triangle’ Seen in State](#),” *Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, September 17, 1960, pp. 1–2)
- 1960**, September 4 — 2:00 p.m. J. H. Kirkpatrick and Warren Specht are monitoring an unpiloted Navy test drone at the China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station [now Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake] near Ridgecrest, California, when they notice an object following their drone. The drone is at 8,000 feet and the UFO is several feet above and pacing it. The object is dumbbell-shaped and seems to be composed of a shiny red metal that reflects the sun. After 2 minutes, the object makes a sharp 45° turn and climbs out of sight within a few seconds. (Powell, *Scientist*, 51–52)
- 1960**, September 8 — Night. Witnesses in Consett, South Shields, and Newcastle upon Tyne, England, see a triangular formation of lights with a red light in the center. (London *Evening Chronicle*, September 9, 1960; Marler [76](#))
- 1960**, September 10 — A married couple in Scituate, Massachusetts, sees a trio of brilliant discs parked in a triangle formation in the sky. About 12° to the objects’ left is a huge cylinder. One witness watches them through binoculars, and the brilliance hurts his eyes for two hours. Two more discs seem to be attached to the top of the

cylinder. Small domes sprinkle their surface. The large object disappears too quickly for the eye to follow. (Swords 294)

- 1960**, September 10 — 9:50 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Evans see two light-gray glowing objects, saucer or boomerang-shaped, that swish when accelerating, over Ridgecrest, California. (Swords 294; [Sparks](#), p. 285)
- 1960**, September 14 — 2:50 a.m. A dispatcher in Lorain, Ohio, is taking a coffee break when he sees a light that he thinks is the Echo 1 satellite. As he watches it, knowing it is not the right time for Echo 1, he sees four objects traveling in a perfectly spaced line of flight. It makes a surprising right turn, after which the objects move on their way, apparently at a great height. (Michael D. Swords, “[I’ve Seen the Light...But What Was It?](#)” *IUR* 32, no. 3 (July 2009): 3; Swords 294–295)
- 1960**, September 15 — 7:30 a.m. A witness sees a UFO hovering 300–400 feet above the Douglas Aircraft plant in Santa Monica, California, and calls it into the West Los Angeles police station. Desk Officer Don Anderson goes outside and sees a dark triangular object moving slowly to the northeast at 3,000 feet. It disappears in the vicinity of Santa Monica Boulevard and Beverly Glen Street. (“[Officer Reports Flying Triangle](#),” *San Pedro (Calif.) News-Pilot*, September 15, 1960, p. 1)
- 1960**, September 15 — [Ruppelt](#) dies of a heart attack in Long Beach, California, at age 37. (“[Capt. Ruppelt Is Dead](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 11 (Dec./Jan. 1960–1961): 8; Clark III 1024)
- 1960**, September 29 — 9:25 p.m. Five people are out looking for the Echo 1 satellite in New Westminster, British Columbia. After they spot it, they remain for a few minutes talking. One of them sees three objects come up from the southeast, pass overhead, and disappear over the rooftops in 10 seconds. The objects are luminous, round-cornered triangles. (Michael D. Swords, “[Timmerman’s Triangles](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 16)
- 1960**, September 30 — [Tiffany Thayer](#)’s widow [Tanagra Thayer](#) formally disbands the Fortean Society. (Clark III 516)
- 1960**, October — Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Company begins construction of “Project 51” at the Nellis AFB complex in Nevada with double-shift personal schedules. They mark an Archimedean spiral on Area 51’s dry lake approximately two miles across so that an A-12 pilot approaching the end of the overrun can abort instead of plunging into the sagebrush. Area 51 pilots call it “The Hook.” For crosswind landings, they mark two unpaved airstrips (runways 9/27 and 03/21) on the dry lakebed. (Wikipedia, “[Area 51](#)”)
- 1960**, October 4 — 6:10 p.m. Rev. Lionel Browning and his wife are looking at a rainbow outside their rectory in Cressy, Tasmania, when they see a gray, cigar-shaped object emerge from a raincloud. It has 4 or 5 vertical, dark bands around its circumference and an aerial array that projects from the top. Browning estimates it to be 100 feet long and about 4 miles distant. It moves north at about 60–70 mph at about 400 feet altitude. After one minute, it stops and is joined by 5–6 smaller objects that emerge from a cloud. After another minute, all the UFOs abruptly reverse back into the rain squall at the same speed. (“[Mysterious Ships in the Sky](#),” *Australian Flying Saucer Review* 1, no. 4 (February 1961): 1–2; Bill Chalker, “[The Australian Government and UFOs](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 19–20; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1960](#), The Author, 2003, pp. 104–107; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1961](#), The Author, 2003, pp. 35–36; Swords 385–388; Clark III 350–352)
- 1960**, October 5 — A formation of UFOs is detected by the new Ballistic Missile Early Warning System at Thule Site J in Greenland. The objects appear to be heading directly toward North America from the direction of Russia. Within seconds, Strategic Air Command headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska, scrambles the crews of B-52 bombers armed with nuclear warheads to prepare a retaliatory strike. But at the last moment checks reveal that the objects are spurious radar echoes. Unusual atmospheric conditions create phantoms on the BMEWS that cannot be seen by other radars. (Eric Schlosser, *Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Incident, and the Illusion of Safety*, Penguin, 2013, [pp. 253–254, 542](#))
- 1960**, October 10 — The first test of a Soviet mission to Mars, Mars 1M No. 1, is lost in a launch failure before it can begin its journey to study the interplanetary environment between Earth and Mars. (Wikipedia, “[Mars 1M No. 1](#)”)
- 1960**, October 14 — The second Soviet attempt to explore Mars, Mars 1M No. 2, this time in a flyby trajectory, is destroyed after its carrier rocket fails to achieve orbit. (Wikipedia, “[Mars 1M No. 2](#)”)
- 1960**, October 20 — Australian MP [Gil Duthie](#) asks [Frederick Osborne](#), Australian Minister for Air, whether he has read the account of the UFO seen at Cressy, Tasmania. Osborne responds that he has, and he admits that the Department of Air receives UFO reports and shares them with the RAF and the US Air Force. However, all of them are “explainable on a perfectly normal basis.” (“[Flying Saucer Inquiry](#),” *Canberra Times*, November 18, 1960, p. 10; Clark III 352; Swords 387)
- 1960**, October 31 — Most guerrilla infiltrations and supply drops directed by the CIA into Cuba have failed; these are replaced by a plan to mount an initial amphibious assault with a minimum of 1,500 men.

- 1960**, November 3 — 4:30 p.m. Two 8-year-old boys are walking over a small hill in rural Price County, Wisconsin, when they hear an odd high-pitched, humming noise. The air has become unusually warm. They look back and see an aluminum-colored object on the hill behind them. They run back toward it, but it lifts off and shoots away. They find the soil of the hill to be warm to the touch. (“[Small Boys See Warm, Landed UAO](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1961, pp. 1, 4)
- 1960**, November 4 — House Majority Leader [John W. McCormack](#) (D-Mass.) writes to [Keyhoe](#) that “it was pretty well established by some, in our minds, that there were some objects flying around in space that were unexplainable.” (“[Congressmen Confirm AF Secrecy: Pressure for Investigation Increasing](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 11 (Dec./Jan. 1960/1961): 1; UFOEv, [p. 175](#))
- 1960**, November 15 — 10:40 a.m. A USAF B-57 Canberra reconnaissance aircraft operating out of RAAF Base East Sale, Victoria, Australia, encounters a UFO 15 miles north of Launceston, Tasmania. Capt. [Douglas G. Ludlam](#) and Capt. [Joseph W. Ivins](#) say it looks like a balloon about 70 feet in diameter and is flying at 35,000 feet, just below the B-57, and traveling at about 920 mph. It is in sight for 5–7 seconds before it disappears under the left wing. (Bill Chalker, “[Australian A.F. UFO Report Files](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 30, no. 11 (December 1982):4; Clark III 352; [Sparks](#), p. 285; Bill Chalker, “[The Cressy Affair](#),” in *UFOs Sub Rosa Down Under, Part Five*, Project 1947, 1997; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold UFO Cases: Stratospheric Balloons, Part 2](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, November 16, 2010)
- 1960**, November 18 — Director of Central Intelligence [Allen Dulles](#) and CIA Deputy Director for Plans [Richard Bissell](#) brief President-elect [John F. Kennedy](#) on the Cuban invasion. Dulles is confident that the CIA can overthrow the Cuban government.
- 1960**, November 29 — [Eisenhower](#) meets with the chiefs of the CIA, Defense, State, and Treasury departments to discuss the new concept of a Cuban invasion. No one expresses objections, and Eisenhower approves the plans with the intention of persuading [John F. Kennedy](#) of their merit.
- 1960**, December 5 — Pentagon UFO spokesman Lt. Col. [Lawrence J. Tacker](#) publishes *Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force*, in which he blisteringly attacks critics of Project Blue Book, depicting them all as charlatans and opportunists and gullible believers. (“[Editorial](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1960, p. 2; Lawrence J. Tacker, *Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force*, Van Nostrand, 1960; “[AF Disavows Tacker Book As Official](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 2 (October 1961): 7; Clark III 922; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 290, 300)
- 1960**, December 5 — [Keyhoe](#) debates Lt. Col. [Lawrence J. Tacker](#) on the *Today* show, hosted by [Dave Garroway](#). Tacker says he wrote the book *Flying Saucers and the US Air Force* because “I felt the Air Force was being set upon by Maj. Keyhoe, NICAP, and other hobby groups who believe in spaceships as an act of pure faith.” Keyhoe repeatedly challenges Tacker, whose statements ring hollow, and even Garroway asks Tacker pointed questions and coolly notes Tacker’s apparent ignorance of basic physics. The show generates numerous phone calls and letters to NBC, most of them critical of the Air Force. (“[New Debunking Campaign Backfires](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 11 (Dec.–Jan. 1960/1961): 1–2; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1960*, The Author, 2003, pp. 129–135; “[Dave Garroway Show NBC-TV UFO Discussion: Tacker vs. Keyhoe, December 5, 1960](#),” *Journal of UFO History* 1, no. 4 (Sept./Oct. 2004): 3–6; “[Lt. Col. Lawrence Tacker Interview, UFOs in the Air Force, December 4, 1960](#),” The Black Vault YouTube channel, May 23, 2019; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 289–292)
- 1960**, December 8 — [Richard Bissell](#) presents an outline for the Cuban invasion to the Special Group, while declining to commit details to written records.
- 1960**, December 9 — 8:30 p.m. Mme. Dhelens in the Château des Mailles (31 miles south of Carignan-de-Bordeaux), Gironde, France, sees a luminous oval object twice the size of an automobile hovering just above the ground in the château’s park. It has two round portholes, behind which she sees indistinct shadows moving. It takes off, leaving a 12-foot circle of yellowed grass, which later dies. (Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1960*, The Author, 2003, p. 138)
- 1960**, December 14 — The Brookings Research Institute in Washington, D.C., releases a 186-page report prepared for NASA titled *Proposed Studies on the Implications of Peaceful Space Activities for Human Affairs*. It is later published as a 272-page Committee Print for the House Committee on Science and Astronautics on March 24, 1961. The report includes a section on “Implications of a Discovery of Extraterrestrial Life.” It is sent to the House Committee on Science and Astronautics for approval by Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) (D-La.) and discusses the effects of meeting extraterrestrial life: “It is possible that if the intelligence of these creatures were sufficiently superior to ours, they would choose to have little if any contact with us.” It also speculates on the possibility of finding alien artifacts on earth and the possibility that contact might result in social disintegration. (Wikipedia, “[Brookings Report](#)”; *Proposed Studies on the Implications of Peaceful Space Activities for Human Affairs*,

committee print prepared for NASA by the Brookings Institution, Report of the US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 87th Congress, First Session, March 24, 1961, [pp. 215–216, 225–226](#) (note 34))

- 1960**, December 14 — The first Single Integrated Operational Plan, titled SIOP-62, is completed. It describes a massive strike with the entire US arsenal of 3,200 warheads, totaling 7847 megatons, against Russia, China, and Soviet-aligned states with urban and other targets being hit simultaneously. Nine weapons are to be “laid down” on four targets in Leningrad [now St. Petersburg], 23 weapons on six target complexes in Moscow, and 18 on seven target areas in Kaliningrad. Weapons scientist [George W. Rathjens](#) looks through SAC’s atlas of Soviet cities, searching for the town that most closely resembles Hiroshima in size and industrial concentration. When he finds one that roughly matches, he asks how many bombs the SIOP “laid down” on that city. The reply: one 4.5 megaton bomb and three more 1.1 megaton weapons in case the big bomb is a dud. The execution of SIOP-62 is estimated to result in 285 million dead and 40 million casualties in the Soviet Union and China. Presented with all the facts and figures, USAF Gen. [Thomas D. White](#) finds the plan “splendid.” Disregarding the human aspect, SIOP-62 represents an outstanding technological achievement. (Wikipedia, “[Single Integrated Operational Plan](#)”; Daniel Ellsberg, *The Doomsday Machine*, Bloomsbury, 2017, pp. 90–103)
- 1960**, December 24–25 — Midnight. At least a dozen observers at the [Wade Folsom](#) ranch near Durango, Colorado, see an object on the brow of a mountaintop to the north. Folsom says it is round, about 20 feet in diameter, filled with tiny blinking lights, has a dome on top, and hovering low above the ground in a clearing about 400 feet north of Florida Road. The top of the object looks like a “giant plastic dome” about 25 feet square. It is surrounded by a glow that changes from white to green, but after 15 minutes it dims suddenly and disappears. In the morning, Folsom takes his dog and two grandsons to the top of the mountain to look for traces, but finds nothing except broken tree limbs. About 3:00 p.m., the family’s pet dog comes running to the house, hurls herself at the door, dashes around the living room as if frightened, then drops dead. Disturbed, Ruth Stephenson and three other women go up the mountain to the estimated landing spot and find the damaged trees. They are about to turn back when a second family dog begins barking furiously. They climb higher up, following the dog until he stops at a spruce tree. Stephenson notices some strange giant human-shaped tracks leading up to the tree and toward a clump of cedar trees beyond. Another set of tracks imprinted in the snow resemble a hoof, although there are three hoofmarks together, in a cloverleaf patter, leading from the clump of cedars. She notes more broken limbs and scraped-off bark in this area. Another set of tracks look like a deer’s but with four toes instead of two. Other tracks look like a “giant frog” and a kangaroo’s trail moving in a straight line. Another set of tracks were human, but only 5 inches long. The women follow the tracks to a deserted mountain cabin, which the tracks have circled. Undersheriff [Myron Darmour](#) and Deputy Bill Hiser visit the site on December 27 and find some of the tracks but discount them, saying they are not in the area where the light was seen. Folsom thinks the dog has been poisoned. (*Durango (Colo.) Herald*, December 28, 1960; “[UAO Parked on Colorado Mountain Top](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1961, pp. 1–3)
- 1960**, December 25 — 11:45 p.m. A man visiting relatives in Cottonwood, Minnesota, goes outside and sees an unusual light traveling in the north. The object obligingly comes closer, and 30 seconds later he can see it is a tan color and shaped like a hemisphere with a dome on top and a porthole on the left with light shining from it. A silvery glow outlines it. At its base is an opening that shows a whitish color. The object flutters down, rocking gently from side to side like a falling leaf. It stops, hovers, and ejects a whitish object from its rear. The smaller object floats to the west until it appears to be the size of a star. The larger UFO drops further down and releases two reddish objects that fly southeast and appear to flash green light beams at each other. Finally, they separate and go in different directions. The large object ascends, and the two red objects apparently reenter it, followed by the white object. The portal closes and the original object leaves in the same direction it has come. The duration of the sighting is 10–15 minutes. (“[1960 Sighting of UAO Carrier](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1962, p. 2)
- 1960**, December 27 — Blue Book officer Maj. [Robert Friend](#) and his boss at ATIC, Philip G. Evans, write a memo to Air Force Intelligence in the Pentagon. Friend complains about civilian UFO organizations supported by people for “financial gain, religious reasons, pure emotional outlet, ignorance, or possibly to use the organization as a ‘cold war’ tool.” He is upset by their accusations that the Air Force is withholding UFO information. (Swords 292)

1961

- 1961** — The first American to publish on the microwave auditory effect is biophysicist [Allan H. Frey](#). In his experiments, the subjects are able to hear appropriately pulsed microwave radiation from a distance of 328 feet from the transmitter. This is accompanied by side effects such as dizziness, headaches, and a pins-and-needles sensation.

(Allen H. Frey, "[Human Auditory System Response to Modulated Electromagnetic Energy](#)," *Journal of Applied Physiology* 17 (July 1, 1962): 689–692; Wikipedia, "[Microwave auditory effect](#)")

- 1961** — [Ray Palmer](#) begins publishing *The Hidden World*, a quarterly magazine in trade-paperback format that runs through 1964. It consists of reprints of [Richard Shaver](#) stories and readers' contributions. (Clark III 873)
- 1961** — [George Adamski](#) publishes *Flying Saucers Farewell*, signaling his intention to refocus his efforts on teaching about life and consciousness. (George Adamski, *Flying Saucers Farewell*, Abelard-Schuman, 1961; "[Final Years](#)," The Adamski Case, June 11, 2009)
- 1961** — An Antonov AN-2P mail biplane takes off from an airfield at or near Sverdlovsk, Russia, bound for Kurgan with seven people on board. About 80–100 miles from Sverdlovsk, the aircraft disappears from the radar screen. Ground control cannot regain contact, so a search is launched with helicopters and troops. The aircraft is found in a small clearing in a dense forest, completely intact. The authorities state that it looks like it was placed there gently from above. All the mail is intact, and there is no sign of anyone on board. No marks or footprints are seen. A 100-foot wide, clearly defined circle of scorched grass and depressed earth is found at a distance of 328 feet from the plane. A report by the Moscow Aviation Institute claims that a UFO was tracked on radar at the control tower and that strange radio signals were heard at the time of the disappearance. (Good Above, [pp. 228–229](#))
- 1961** — A UFO appears above the iron-ore mine of Catalina Huanca, owned by the Marcona Mining Company, near Apongo, Peru. It hovers for 5–15 minutes, only about 300 feet away from a young mining engineer. It is round and glowing, with windows on the upper part. The engineer gets a look at it through his theodolite, but it still looks fuzzy. The object reappears throughout the day, allowing all the mine workers (about 70) to view it. The following day it follows a supply truck for several hours as it exits the mine heading south over a dirt track. (S. Parker Gay Jr., "[Peru, 1961](#)," *IUR* 24, no. 3 (Fall 1999): 29)
- 1961**, January — Day. Government topographer Adolfo Paolini Pisani is driving a jeep along the highway between La Victoria and El Vigía, Mérida, Venezuela, when a truck passes him. A few minutes later, a brilliant metallic disc like polished blue steel swoops down and passes dangerously close above the hood of the truck. The truck rises a few feet into the air and overturns in the direction taken by the object, falling in a sandbank with its wheels in the air. The object ascends and is lost to view in a few seconds. Pisani stops his jeep to assist, but fortunately the lone driver has only a few scratches. (Horacio Gonzales, "[Disc Upsets Truck](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, September 1961, pp. 1, 3)
- 1961**, January 3 — President [Eisenhower](#) severs diplomatic relations with Cuba.
- 1961**, January 3 — 9:01 p.m. An explosion at the US Army's SL-1 nuclear power reactor in Idaho Falls, Idaho, causes a meltdown, killing three operators. The direct cause is the improper withdrawal of the central control rod, responsible for absorbing neutrons in the reactor core. The event is the only reactor accident in the US that results in immediate fatalities. (Wikipedia, "[SL-1](#)")
- 1961**, January 4 — The CIA Deputy Director of Plans [Richard Bissell](#) plans for a "lodgement" by 750 men at an undisclosed site in Cuba, supported by considerable air power.
- 1961**, January 8 — *Pravda* asserts that "some regions" (including Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) of the USSR are reporting UFOs, but dismisses these reports as reflections on water, rainbows, atmospheric reflections, self-deception, or disinformation. It quotes physicist [Lev Artsimovich](#) saying that "it is about time that these tales be stopped no matter how breathtaking they may be." (Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1961*, The Author, 2003, pp. 5–6; Mikhail Gershtein, "[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#)," UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1961**, January 10 — A US Navy A-1 Polaris missile is launched from a ground pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida. A large disc appears somewhat close to the rocket and causes the tracking mechanism to lock on to the UFO. The diameter of the disc is approximately 20–25 feet and it is about 6–8 feet thick at its center. The tracking system returns to focus on the Polaris a bit downrange. The object is visually lost to ground observers and the primary witness ([Clark C. McClelland](#), with 10x50 binoculars) as it continues to move away. The original investigation is conducted by McClelland and his Florida NICAP subcommittee. (NICAP, "[UFO 'Alters' Tracking of Navy Polaris Test](#)"; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1961*, The Author, 2003, pp. 6–7; [Sparks](#), p. 286)
- 1961**, January 12 — In a press conference in Moscow, Russia, Minister of Merchant Marine [Viktor Bakaev](#) charges that US military aircraft and ships are systematically conducting "provocative actions" against Soviet vessels around Cuba. He is probably referring to close approaches to Cuban airspace by Fort Bliss–based reconnaissance aircraft that are testing the responses of Soviet electronic countermeasures. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [pp. 155–157](#))
- 1961**, January 17 — DRC Prime Minister [Patrice Lumumba](#) is executed by firing squad near Élisabethville [now Lubumbashi], Democratic Republic of the Congo. CIA Station Chief [Larry Devlin](#) has helped direct the search to

capture Lumumba for his transfer to his enemies in Katanga, he is involved in arranging Lumumba's transfer there, and he is in direct touch with the killers the night Lumumba is killed. The Congolese leaders who kill Lumumba, including [Mobutu Sese Seko](#) and [Joseph Kasa-Vubu](#), receive money and weapons directly from the CIA. [John Stockwell](#) writes in 1978 that a CIA agent had the body in the trunk of his car in order to try to get rid of it. Stockwell, who knows Devlin well, feels Devlin knows more than anyone else about the murder. However, documents released in 2017 reveal that the US role in Lumumba's murder was only under consideration by the CIA and never carried out. (Wikipedia, "[Patrice Lumumba](#)")

1961, January 17 — [Eisenhower](#) delivers a farewell address in a TV broadcast. Perhaps best known for advocating that the nation guard against the potential influence of the military-industrial complex, a term he is credited with coining, the speech also expresses concerns about planning for the future and the dangers of massive spending, especially deficit spending, the prospect of the domination of science through federal funding, and, conversely, the domination of science-based public policy by what he calls a "scientific-technological elite." (Wikipedia, "[Eisenhower's farewell address](#)"; Dwight D. Eisenhower, "[Farewell Address](#)," January 17, 1961)

1961, January 17 — 6:17 p.m. A former weather officer at Holloman AFB is driving with some companions near Cimarron, New Mexico, when they see three different groups of amber UFOs flying in V-formation about 15 miles away at 30,000 feet. There are six lights in the first group and eight in the second and third. They fly away to the southwest and then return to where they first appeared. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 226–227)

1961, January 19 — A USAF press release proclaims that "not even a minute fragment of a so-called 'flying saucer' has ever been found." (Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, [p. 48](#))

1961, January 22 — 4:45 p.m. An elliptical, metallic-looking UFO approaches Eglin AFB near Valparaiso, Florida, from over the Gulf, makes a U-turn and speeds back over the Gulf. Harry Caslar is filming his son on the beach with 8mm movie film and captures the UFO. ("[UFOs Continue Earth Observation](#)," *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 12 (April/May 1961): 5; UFOEv, [p. 95](#))

1961, January 28 — President [Kennedy](#) is briefed, together with all the major departments, on the latest plan (code-named Operation Pluto) that involves 1,000 men landed in a ship-borne invasion at Trinidad, Cuba, about 170 miles southeast of Havana at the foothills of the Escambray Mountains in Sancti Spiritus province. Kennedy authorizes the active departments to report progress.

1961, February — Forester Vasili Brodski finds a mysterious crater 100 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 10 feet deep on the bank of a frozen lake in Karelia, Russia. It had not been there two days earlier. The base is remarkably smooth, and around the edge are lumps of grass and soil but no trace of the excavated dirt. Six investigators from Leningrad [now St. Petersburg] arrive and find odd, crumbling black pellets on the edge of the lake. Divers discover a 330-foot strip where the soil has been displaced along the floor of the lake, as if something slid along the ground and submerged, ploughing up the soil. Geologist Vsevolod Charmov examines ice, water, and soil samples but cannot explain a green discoloration on some of the submerged pieces of broken ice. The pellets seem to be an inorganic substance. (Hobana and Weverbergh 61–63)

1961, February 5–7 — Many people report strange lights flashing around in the sky over Maine. Some blink and move up and down. A *Portland Press Herald* editorial, February 9, says: "Mysterious objects 'lit up like a ball of fire and going fast' zoom over Portland. Unidentified shapes with green, yellow, and red lights hover over Brunswick, then dart away with 'unbelievable quickness.' Strange things are happening. . . The military had us just about convinced that no such objects existed. The only trouble was that many people—good, reliable observers—continued to see these things." (UFOEv, [p. 138](#))

1961, February 16 — House Majority Leader [John W. McCormack](#) suggests to the press that the House Committee on Science and Astronautics might hold hearings on UFOs because he feels "the Air Force has not been giving out all the information it has on Unidentified Flying Objects." (Bulkley Griffin, "[McCormack Asks Hearing on UFOs](#)," *Worcester (Mass.) Evening Gazette*, February 16, 1961)

1961, February 28 — 3:20 a.m. Clarence Blackwood and his wife hear a roaring sound in the sky at their home in Lakeville, Massachusetts. They look out the bedroom window and see a fiery cigar-shaped object moving at low altitude to the northeast. It is bright yellow in the middle with a bright red edge and surrounded by thin clouds of black smoke. The object rolls back and forth rapidly and travels slowly to the southwest. It passes directly above their house, illuminating the bedroom. The lights that they have left on in the kitchen dim three times and go out for 4–5 minutes. The object returns at 3:40 and the kitchen lights repeat their previous actions. ("[Low-Flying UFO Puts Out Lights](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 1 (July/Aug. 1961): 5; [Schopick](#), pp. 115–117)

- 1961, March** — In an article in *Argosy*, Lt. Col. [Lawrence Tacker](#) says that critics of the Air Force investigation are “absolutely erroneous,” “a hoax,” “sensational theories,” and the work of “amateur hobby groups.” NICAP’s evidence is “drivel,” its claims “ridiculous,” and it is making “senseless accusations.” (Lawrence J. Tacker, “Flying Saucers Are Fakes!” —U.S. Air Force,” *Argosy*, March 1961, pp. 58, 125–126; UFOEv, [p. 108](#))
- 1961, March** — House Majority Leader [John W. McCormack](#) tells [Keyhoe](#) privately that he has urged the House Science and Astronautics Committee, headed by Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) (D-La.), to investigate Air Force UFO secrecy. (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, [p. 76](#))
- 1961, March 10** — 8:45 p.m. Mr. F. Reynolds and his 15-year-old son Lloyd are camped in their trailer 900 feet from the Murray River, at Bowna, New South Wales, when they see what appears to be a huge trailer with four windows and a red light at the end standing by the water. A fire is visible to the right of the object, and they can see four figures moving quickly between the object and the fire. Reynolds watches through binoculars and sees the entire array moving sideways in a jerking manner. After 45 minutes, it is all gone from sight. In the morning they can find no traces on the soft mud flat. (“[UFO Landing?](#)” *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 5 (July 1961): 1–2)
- 1961, March 16** — 6:15 p.m. Brazilian meteorologist Rubens J. Villela, on the deck of the [USS Glacier](#), watches a tear-shaped fireball over Admiralty Bay, South Shetland Islands, Antarctica, in slow, level flight. It leaves a long orange trail like a tracer bullet, then abruptly divides in two as if exploding. It disappears after 10 seconds. (UFOEv, [pp. 53–54](#); James E. McDonald, “[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 64–65)
- 1961, March 17** — USAF Public Information Officer Lt. Col. [Lawrence Tacker](#) writes to Col. Philip G. Evans, deputy for science and components, that Blue Book is utilizing a group of four officers who are on call, rather than one full-time officer. The officers selected for the duty have backgrounds in physics, chemistry, and electronics. ([documents], “[11–15 July 1960, Congressional Briefings \(Mr. R. Smart\)](#),” USAF Historical Archives)
- 1961, Spring** — Late evening. A couple parking in Millville, New Jersey, watch a bright light silently moving northward. It hovers, reverses direction, and maneuvers for 5 minutes. At one point it races directly at a star, abruptly stops, draws a neat, right-angled, half-box around it, and goes racing on. Finally it speeds out of sight in about 5 seconds. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [p. 44](#); Michael D. Swords, “[We Know Where You Live](#),” *IUR* 30, no. 2 (January 2006): 10)
- 1961, April** — Lt. Col. [Tacker](#) is removed from his job as Pentagon UFO spokesman and reassigned to Europe. He is replaced by Maj. [William T. Coleman](#). (“[Tacker Replaced As Spokesman](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 12 (April/May 1961): 1–2; UFOEv, [p. 108](#); Powell, *Keyhoe*, 299–300)
- 1961, April 4** — President [Kennedy](#) approves the Bay of Pigs plan (also known as Operation Zapata) for the invasion of Cuba because it has an airfield that does not need extending to handle bomber operations, it is farther away from large groups of civilians than the Trinidad plan, and it is less noisy militarily, which would make any future denial of direct US involvement more plausible. (Wikipedia, “[Bay of Pigs invasion](#)”)
- 1961, April 12** — Soviet cosmonaut [Yuri Gagarin](#) becomes the first human to go into outer space when his Vostok spacecraft completes an orbit of the earth. (Wikipedia, “[Yuri Gagarin](#)”)
- 1961, April 17** — The Bay of Pigs invasion takes place in Cuba. A counter-revolutionary military (made up of Cuban exiles), trained and funded by the CIA, Brigade 2506 fronts the armed wing of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (DRF) and intends to overthrow the increasingly communist government of [Fidel Castro](#). Launched from bases in Guatemala and Nicaragua, the invading force is defeated within three days by the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces under the direct command of Castro. (Wikipedia, “[Bay of Pigs invasion](#)”)
- 1961, April 18** — 11:00 a.m. [Joe Simonton](#) hears a whining sound on his farm four miles from Eagle River, Wisconsin, and sees a silvery object, 30 feet in diameter and 12 feet high, with exhaust pipes around the periphery, land nearby. A door opens and a man appears, about 5 feet tall and wearing a black, turtle-neck pullover with a white band at the belt, and black trousers with a vertical white band along the side. Two other figures are visible inside. The creature is holding a metallic jug and making gestures suggesting he wants a drink. Simonton takes the jug into his basement, fills it with water, and returns it to the man. Simonton notices one man frying on a flameless grill and motions for some food. Simonton receives four ordinary pancakes or cookies, 3 inches in diameter, perforated with small holes. The object takes off after 5 minutes. Simonton gives one of the pancakes to Judge [Frank Wellington Carter](#), who then passes it on to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena; another he gives to [J. Allen Hynek](#) for Project Blue Book; and the third he keeps for himself. A thorough analysis is performed on one of the pancakes by the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the food is found to be made of terrestrial but tasteless ingredients, including hydrogenated oil and buckwheat flour. The Air Force concludes that Simonton is honest but has mistakenly conflated the reality of his breakfast with a dream.

([Sparks](#), p. 287; [The Case of the Interplanetary Cookies](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May 1961, pp. 1–3; “[Facts Behind the ‘Pancake’ Story](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 1 (July/Aug. 1961): 8; “[The Eagle River Incident: A New Contact Claim](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1961): 7–8; “[A Re-Examination of the Simonton Case](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, September 1961, pp. 2–3; “[Waveney Girvan, “Claimants, Ridicule, and a Piece of Cake](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1961): 12–14; “[The Eagle River Incident: The Air Force Comments](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 7, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1961): 20; “[“‘Cakes’ from Saucer Men](#),” *Saucerian Bulletin* 6, no. 1 (December 31, 1961): 1, 3–10; “[Saucers, Pancakes, and Such](#),” *Science* 135 (February 16, 1962): 518; “[The Eagle River Incident: A Letter from Joe Simonton](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 3 (May/June 1962): 9–10; Vallée, *Magonia*, pp. 23–25; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1961*, The Author, 2003, pp. 32–34; Center for UFO Studies, [[Hynek case documents](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [[case photos](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [[Lex Mebane case files](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [[NICAP case documents](#)]; Jerome Clark, “[The Pancakes of Eagle River](#),” *IUR* 21, no. 1 (Spring 1996): 3–8, 27; Clark III 421–426; Joshua Cutchin, “The Great Alien Bake-Off,” *Fortean Times* 332 (November 2015): 42–44; “[1961-04-18: Joe Simonton Pancake Encounter](#),” Tom Owens UAP YouTube channel, September 22, 2019; Brent Raynes and Richard Heiden, “[The Flying Saucer Pancake Caper of Joe Simonton](#),” *Alternate Perceptions* magazine, August 2021; “[Joe Simonton Talks Getting Pancakes from a Humanoid after a UFO Landed in His Back Garden, 1961](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, January 19, 2023)

- 1961**, April 19 — 7:40 p.m. Commanding Officer C. J. Peterson of the minesweeper HMS *Maxton* sees a swiftly moving object as the ship is 33 miles off San Vito Lo Capo, Sicily, Italy. It is green and leaves an orange trail as it moves higher and disappears to the northwest. The ship’s crew sees a similar object on April 20 at 4:50 a.m. when it is 25 miles south of Capo Carbonara, Sardinia, Italy. (1Pinotti 112–113)
- 1961**, April 25 — US Air Force *Intelligence Collection Guidance Letter* no. 4, originally classified Confidential, describes and provides guidance for Project Moon Dust reporting. Several items of interest appear in the document: classification level of Moon Dust Alerts and reports, focus of Moon Dust on “foreign earth satellite vehicles,” and destination agencies for Moon Dust reports among them. Project Moon Dust is a covert project to exploit the discovery of Soviet hardware when it temporarily lands in American hands. (Department of the Air Force, “[MOON DUST Reporting](#),” *Intelligence Collection Guidance Letter*, no. 4, April 25, 1961; Kevin D. Randle, *A History of UFO Crashes*, Avon, 1995, pp. 157–169)
- 1961**, April 29 — Around 4:00 p.m. Contractor John P. Gallagher is working at a home adjacent to Bailey’s Beach, Newport, Rhode Island. He sees a red spherical object bobbing on the ocean waves about 600 feet from the shore. Suddenly the object rises into the air to 60 feet and moves out to sea at about 100 mph. (“[Head’ Floats—Flies](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1961, p. 4)
- 1961**, May — Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) (D-La.) appoints Rep. [Joseph Karth](#) (DFL-Minn.) head of a Subcommittee on Space Problems and Life Sciences. Karth and two other members plan for hearings in early 1962. The plan calls for a statement by [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#). NICAP releases a joint statement by 21 American scientists that calls for an open investigation by UFOs without secrecy. It says the Air Force should have a more straightforward information policy that releases all facts on major UFO sightings. (“[Scientists Urge Check on AF Investigation](#),” *UFO Investigator* 1, no. 12 (April/May 1961): 7; “[UFO Inquiry behind Closed Doors: NICAP Asks Right to Question Air Force](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 1 (July/Aug. 1961): 1)
- 1961**, May 5 — Astronaut [Alan Shepard](#) becomes the first American in space (for 15 minutes and 22 seconds) when his [Freedom 7](#) capsule is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, as the first manned Project Mercury launch. (Wikipedia, “[Mercury-Redstone 3](#)”)
- 1961**, May 10 — Late evening. Richard Vogt, driving on a rural road south of Osakis, Minnesota, sees a “ball of fog approximately 3 feet in diameter” swiftly descending toward him at a 45° angle from a clear sky. Unable to take evasive action, Vogt can only stare as the object hits the upper part of his hood and windshield. The noisy impact generates a tremendous amount of heat; the windshield becomes extremely hot to the touch. The object leaves pit marks burned in the windshield, circular tracks on the glass, and burned specks in the finish of the hood. (C. W. Fitch, “[Monitoring and Scanning UFOs](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1963, p. 5; Clark III 716)
- 1961**, May 15 — An order approved by President [Kennedy](#) results in the dispersal of four machine guns to insurgents in the Dominican Republic. President [Rafael Trujillo](#) dies from gunshot wounds on May 30. In the aftermath, [Robert Kennedy](#) writes that the CIA has succeeded where it has failed many times in the past, but in the face of that success, it is caught flatfooted, having failed to plan what to do next. (Wikipedia, “[Rafael Trujillo](#)”)
- 1961**, May 22 — 10:00 a.m. An oval, aluminum-colored object flies silently over the hills near Santa Teresa del Tuy, Venezuela, and lands on a hill near the site of earth-moving operations in the Paraiso del Tuy area. More than 20 witnesses, including engineers and surveyors, say the object is weaving through the hills, dodging trees, and

flying at slow speed, before it stops above a patch of tall Guinea grass (*Megathyrsus maximus*). Rino del Negro jumps into his jeep and follows the path of the object, catching up with it just as it disappears behind a small hill. Driving further, he sees it take off and vanish behind some hills further away. On finding the patch of grass, he finds it flattened toward the ground in a roughly circular area about 60 feet in diameter. Three similar objects had been seen flying along the same route on May 21. (Horacio Gonzales, "[Venezuelan Reports](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, September 1961, pp. 4–5; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, [p. 185](#); Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 72–73)

- 1961, Summer** — Near Rybinsk, Yaroslavl Oblast, Russia, crews are setting up new missile batteries as part of Moscow's defensive network. A huge disc-shaped object allegedly appears at an estimated altitude of 12.5 miles, surrounded by a number of smaller objects. A nervous battery commander panics and gives unauthorized orders to fire a salvo at the disc. All the missiles explode at an estimated distance of 1.2 miles from the target. A third salvo is not fired, because at that point the smaller objects stall the electrical apparatus of the entire missile base. After the smaller disc rejoin the big UFO, the electrical systems return. (Good Above, [pp. 227–228](#); *Flying Saucers*, no. 47, May 1966, pp. 6–10)
- 1961, Summer** — Capt. [Robert Filler](#) and Lt. Phil Lee, based with the 82d Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Travis AFB in Fairfield, California, are scrambled in their F-102 Delta Dagger jets to intercept a radar target that has been hovering at 50,000 feet for 30 minutes. They get a radar lock-on 20 miles out above the Sacramento Valley. The target is still stationary until they are 5 miles away, then the target moves quickly several times to a higher altitude. Filler estimates it is moving at 36,000 mph. (Good Need, [pp. 245–246](#))
- 1961, Summer** — Day. Glenn E. Bradley watches a group of six metallic discs pass over his farm near Beloit, Ohio, at a low altitude. They are traveling in single file at about 30 mph and are spaced 1–2 miles apart. The objects are each about 60 feet in diameter at the bottom with a 30-foot dome on top. Within a transparent section in the center he can see two figures on each side. The objects begin banking to the left about 200–300 feet away. ("[Soup Bowls over Ohio](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 1 (Feb./March 1985): 4, 6)
- 1961, June 3** — 6:35 a.m. Giacomo Barra, Giuseppe Pordoi, Filippo Marin, and Silvano Guardinfante are in a motorboat off Savona, Italy, when the boat begins to roll badly. More than one-half mile away, they notice the surface of the sea is "bulging like an enormous ball, with long billows going out." An object emerges from the sea and stops still for a few seconds at a height of 30 feet and rocks slightly. A halo forms around the base and it shoots away quickly across the sea and vanishes towards the northwest. (Gordon W. Creighton, "[The Italian Scene: Part 4](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1963): 11–12; Olsen, sec. 3, p. 73; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1961](#), The Author, 2003, p. 50; IPinotti 117–118)
- 1961, June 3** — A civilian weather observer sees an object through a theodolite at Mercury, Nevada. It remains in sight for 2 hours at an altitude of 80,000–120,000 feet. Project Blue Book evaluators correctly identify the object as a probable U-2 aircraft flying out of Nellis AFB. (Mark Rodeghier, "[The U-2 Spy Plane and Blue Book: Another Look](#)," *IUR* 27, no. 3 (Fall 2002): 21)
- 1961, June 4** — Mrs. James W. Annis, a librarian, sees a large, narrow, elliptical object hovering low in the sky to the north of Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania. Farther to the east, a cluster of smaller objects is hovering. She then watches the smaller objects streak across the sky to the larger one. All then move out of sight behind trees to the north-northwest. ("[Increased UFO Observation Shown by Reports](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 1 (July/Aug. 1961): 7; UFOEv, [p. 71](#); Herbert S. Taylor, "[Satellite Objects: A Further Look](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 25)
- 1961, June 5** — 2:30 a.m. Patrolman Jaime de Miranda and Astrogildo de Medeiros are called to the scene of a sighting on the Rodovia Anchieta highway 30 miles northwest of Santos, São Paulo, Brazil. When they arrive, they find about 20 cars stopped along the road and people watching a luminous disc-shaped object maneuvering in the area. The patrolmen try to signal the object by shining a spotlight on it, but they get no response. When they focus a red light on it, the object moves toward the cars at high speed. They take cover. Another responder, Marshal José Otavia Leite, is about to shoot at the object but other police prevent him. After 3 hours, the object gets dimmer. At 5:30 a.m., it is still visible through binoculars when it lands on the ground some distance from the highway. By daybreak it is no longer visible. ("[Object Dives on Highway Patrolman](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, July 1961, p. 5; "[No. 20](#)," *Boletim SBEDV*, nos. 22/23 (July/Nov. 1961): 11; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 227–228)
- 1961, June 9** — A second USAF/NASA flight evaluation of the Avrocar is conducted on a modified second prototype at the Avro facility in Mississauga, Ontario. During these tests, the vehicle reaches a maximum speed of 20 knots and shows the ability to traverse a ditch 6 feet across and 18 inches deep. Flight above the critical altitude proves dangerous if not nearly impossible due to inherent instability. The flight test report further identifies a range of control problems. (Wikipedia, "[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)")

- 1961, June 11** — 11:00 p.m. José-Gregorio Darnaud y Rojas Marcos, 28, is lying in a hammock in the front of his house on the Fuenteluega Estate in Sevilla, Spain, when he feels a peculiar pricking sensation throughout his whole body but particularly in his head. His dogs are cowering, the sheep go completely crazy, and the crickets and cicadas become silent. Suddenly, a luminous disc about 15 feet in diameter appears from behind the house, flying from northeast to southwest. It makes an abrupt 90° turn and moves directly toward him, hovering about 400 feet away from him and 80 feet in the air, changing colors from white to orange to red to purple several times. Darnaud runs inside, but the disc turns bright white and shots away at enormous speed. (Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, "[Twelfth Night: And a UFO](#)," *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, no. 18 (September 1974): 11)
- 1961, June 19** — A flying object hovers for more than an hour above an airport at Exeter, Devon, England. Officials say: "We do not know what it is. It was seen on the radar screen and we have had it under observation for some time. We think it is pretty big. It appears to be shining brightly and is about 50,000 feet up." (UFOEv, [pp. 80, 139](#))
- 1961, June 28** — A dubious memorandum from President [Kennedy](#) asks the director of the CIA for a summary of "MJ-12 Intelligence Operations as they relate to Cold War Psychological Warfare Plans." ([National Security Memorandum](#), John F. Kennedy to CIA Director Allen Dulles, June 28, 1961)
- 1961, June 30** — 2:00 p.m. Residents of Warsaw, Poland, see a large, luminous, roughly spherical, slowly moving object in the sky. It supposedly remains visible for more than 8 hours. (Poland 29–31)
- 1961, July or August** — Dusk. Florin Gorănescu is staying at a villa in Lacul Roșu, Romania. He and two colleagues notice on top of a nearby high cliff an intensely red light that remains motionless until it begins moving slowly northeast. (Romania 13)
- 1961, July 1** — The USAF Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson AFB becomes the Foreign Technology Division and is reassigned to Air Force Systems Command. Project Blue Book is included in the reorganization. FTD intelligence estimates are subsequently provided to the National Security Council through the 1962 United States Intelligence Board. FTD's additional location at the Tonopah Test Range Airport conducts test and evaluation of captured Soviet fighter aircraft. ([Sparks](#), pp. 12–13; Wikipedia, "[National Air and Space Intelligence Center](#)")
- 1961, July 1** — A new squadron that will become the 1st Aerospace Surveillance and Control Squadron becomes operational under the USAF Air Defense Command at Ent AFB [now the US Olympic Training Center], Colorado Springs, Colorado, part of NORAD's Space Detection and Tracking System. The first squadron commander is Col. Robert Miller. The Space Track organization at Hanscom Field, Bedford, Massachusetts, assumes a backup role for squadron operations. (Wikipedia, "[1st Space Operations Squadron](#)")
- 1961, July 11** — 10:35 p.m. [Jacques Vallée](#) and others at the Paris Observatory in Meudon, France, see a mystery satellite as part of Project Moonwatch. The following day the director of the project confiscates all their data and destroys it, apparently in fear of being laughed at by the press, scientific colleagues, and the Americans. (Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science*, North Atlantic, 1992, [pp. 41–42](#); Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 11–12)
- 1961, July 17** — 2:00 a.m. Two people driving about one mile north of Bonnie Springs Ranch [now the Ranch at Red Rock] in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Nevada, see in the rear-view mirror a low-flying object that overtakes their car, followed by a rush of cold air. It stops, circles the vehicle, flies off, and is lost to sight behind the mountains, where it might have landed, but an investigation by the military finds no trace. (Vallée, *Magonia*, [p. 282](#); [Sparks](#), p. 288)
- 1961, July 17** — After an FBI staffer in New Orleans inquiries about the propriety of joining NICAP, the Special Agent in Charge writes to [J. Edgar Hoover](#) saying that, although it has not been investigated by the FBI, "NICAP is not the type of organization with which the Bureau's name should become connected." (SAC, New Orleans to Director, FBI, "[National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Miscellaneous—Information Concerning](#)," July 17, 1961)
- 1961, August** — Construction of essential facilities is completed at Area 51 in Nevada; three surplus Navy hangars are erected on the base's north side. The original U-2 hangars are converted to maintenance and machine shops. Facilities in the main cantonment area include workshops and buildings for storage and administration, a commissary, control tower, fire station, and housing. The Navy also contributes more than 130 surplus Babbitt duplex housing units for long-term occupancy facilities. Older buildings are repaired, and additional facilities are constructed as necessary. A reservoir pond surrounded by trees serves as a recreational area one mile north of the base. Other recreational facilities included a gymnasium, a movie theater, and a baseball diamond. (Wikipedia, "[Area 51](#)")

- 1961, August 4 — Rep. [Thomas N. Downing](#) (D-Va.) advises NICAP that the House Science and Astronautics Committee is considering hearings on UFOs by a three-man subcommittee headed by Rep. [Joseph Karth](#). Meanwhile, Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) (D-La.) contacts [Hillenkoetter](#) and [Keyhoe](#), asking them to prepare the best UFO cases and proof of official censorship for a meeting on August 24. (UFOEv, [p. 139](#); Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, [pp. 77–78](#))
- 1961, August 5 — 8:20 a.m. John Lee-Steere sees a “snowy white meshlike substance” float to the ground from 12 white metallic discs traveling in pairs over the Mount Hale shearing station, 50 miles northwest of Meekatharra, Western Australia. Sheep-shearing contractor Edwin C. Payne picks up the material and it fades away in his hands. (“[Discs Trail White Fibrous Stuff](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1962, p. 1; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1961*, The Author, 2003, p. 23; Keith Basterfield, “[Angel Hair: An Australian Perspective](#),” *IUR* 27, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 7; Clark III 324)
- 1961, August 11 — [Keyhoe](#) writes a letter to Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) that details NICAP’s proposal to end UFO secrecy as a means of avoiding an “accidental war.” He proposes creating a UFO information agency that would release all UFO reports “from Dec. 8, 1941 to date, these not to be summaries but complete reports.” ([Donald E. Keyhoe to Overton Brooks](#), August 11, 1961; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 306–307)
- 1961, August 12 — 9:00 p.m. College seniors J. B. Furkenhoff and Tom Phipps see a large oval object with a fin extending from one edge to the center, like a sled with lighted car running boards, near Old Mission High School on 50th Street in Kansas City, Missouri. It hovers at 50 feet altitude for 3–5 minutes, then flies straight up, disappearing in about 5 seconds. (Patrick Gross, “[Kansas City 1961, a Blue Book ‘Unknown’](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 289)
- 1961, Mid-August — House Committee staff consultant Richard P. Hines visits ATIC in Dayton, where Col. [Robert Friend](#), [Hynek](#), and other officials give him a tour, tell him that Project Blue Book has the UFO problem at hand, and that Rep. [McCormack](#) has been pressured by NICAP to hold hearings. Hines leaves ATIC “favorably impressed.” (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, [pp. 160–161](#); Swords 293)
- 1961, August 16 — [George Hunt Williamson](#), now going by the name of Michel d’Obrenovic, arrives in Japan at the invitation of the Cosmic Brotherhood Association and its contactee leader [Yusuke Matsumara](#). (Zirger and Martinelli, *The Incredible Life of George Hunt Williamson*, Verdechiari, 2016, pp. 129–130)
- 1961, August 17 — [Keyhoe](#) writes a letter to Rep. [Joseph Karth](#) (D-Minn.), chair of a three-man House UFO Subcommittee, and offers to send him a copy of NICAP’s proposal for a UFO information agency. ([Donald E. Keyhoe to Joseph E. Karth](#), August 17, 1961)
- 1961, August 22 — Adm. [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#) signs a NICAP letter to Congress urging “immediate congressional action to reduce the dangers from secrecy about UFOs, including accidental war and the Russians falsely claiming UFOs are Soviet weapons. (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, [p. 85](#))
- 1961, August 25? — Five people at Toulouse, France, see a luminous, yellow object, 24 feet in diameter, flying about 30 feet above a road. The object has horizontal and vertical bands of darker tone that give the appearance of “windows.” The UFO flies upwards very quickly when the car reaches town. (Vallée, *Magonia*, [p. 282](#))
- 1961, August 28 — Rep. [Karth](#), after receiving a copy of NICAP’s plan to end UFO secrecy, writes a harsh letter to [Keyhoe](#) and attacks him for trying to defame and ridicule the Air Force. He had thought Keyhoe would be proving the existence of spaceships, but he knows now he cannot do this. Therefore, he is no longer interested in holding hearings. He tells a newspaper reporter that he will not be part of Keyhoe’s “cheap scheme to discredit the Air Force.” ([Letter from Joseph E. Karth to Donald E. Keyhoe](#), August 28, 1961; Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, [pp. 161–162](#); Powell, *Keyhoe*, 307–308)
- 1961, September — A National Intelligence Estimate concludes that the USSR has no more than 25 ICBMs and will not possess more in the near future, effectively discrediting the missile gap myth. (Wikipedia, “[Missile gap](#)”)
- 1961, September 2 — 4:40–4:50 p.m. A man named Ziegler is reclining outside his home in the northeast section of Albuquerque, New Mexico, when he sees a shiny round white object moving erratically to the west. At two different times it emits several small silvery objects about one-sixth the size of the main object. It fades out of sight to the south. (NICAP, “[Silver Object and Smaller Ones Emitted](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 289; Herbert S. Taylor, “[Satellite Objects: A Further Look](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 25)
- 1961, September 6 — The National Reconnaissance Office is officially launched with headquarters in Chantilly, Virginia. It designs, builds, launches, and operates the reconnaissance satellites of the federal government, and provides satellite intelligence to several government agencies, particularly signals intelligence (SIGINT) to the National Security Agency, imagery intelligence (IMINT) to the National Geospace-Intelligence Agency, and measurement and signature intelligence (MASINT) to the Defense Intelligence Agency. Its existence remains top secret until September 18, 1992. The move creates a protocol that requires the CIA deputy director and the undersecretary of

- the Air Force to co-manage all space reconnaissance and aerial espionage programs. The public face of the NRO is the Office of Space Systems. (Wikipedia, "[National Reconnaissance Office](#)"; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 168–169)
- 1961, September 12 — After [Richard H. Hall](#) on September 1 sends Rep. [Karth](#) an interim response to his August 24 letter, Keyhoe also replies with a conciliatory letter, admitting he used "poor choice of words" and holding out a hope for congressional hearings on UFOs. ([Richard H. Hall to Joseph E. Karth](#), September 1, 1961; [Donald E. Keyhoe to Joseph E. Karth](#), September 12, 1961; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 308)
- 1961, September 16 — Rep. [Overton Brooks](#) (D-La.) dies of a heart attack; the August 24 meeting about UFO evidence has not taken place. He is replaced on the House Science and Astronautics Committee by Rep. [George Paul Miller](#) (D-Calif.) who indicates he will not order UFO hearings. ("[Rep. Brooks Dies in Washington](#)," *Shreveport (La.) Journal*, September 16, 1961, p. 1; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, p. 78)
- 1961, September 18 — Fourth Officer G. Gendall of the cargo ship [Queensland Star](#), in the Indian Ocean, sees a white UFO through a cloud formation. It vanishes into the clouds and then reappears, dropping toward the sea. The water in the surrounding area grows intensely bright. Particles of white matter continue to fall into the sea after the object disappears, and the sky and water are illuminated for several minutes. (Sanderson, *InvRes*, pp. 47–48)
- 1961, September 19 — 5:22 a.m. The North Concord Air Force Station [now closed] at East Mountain, Vermont, picks up an unidentified radar target at 62,000 feet for 18 minutes. It moves at a slow speed on an erratic course. (NICAP, "[Radar Tracks Object before and after Hill Abduction](#)")
- 1961, September 19 — [Keyhoe](#) has smoothed things over with Rep. [Karth](#), who writes: "Now that we better understand each other, I would hope we could properly proceed with a hearing early next year—providing the new chairman [[Miller](#)] authorizes hearings." ([Joseph E. Karth to Donald E. Keyhoe](#), September 19, 1961; "[Majority Leader Support Indicates Early Congressional Action: Chairman Karth Backs Open Hearings](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 2 (October 1961): 1–2)
- 1961, September 19–20 — 10:30 p.m. [Barney and Betty Hill](#) are driving home to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from a vacation in Quebec, going south on US Highway 3. Near Groveton, New Hampshire, Betty sees a bright light moving upward and erratically, growing larger. Later, Barney stops the car at a scenic picnic area south of Twin Mountain. Through binoculars, Betty sees a solid object against the moon that "appeared to be flashing thin pencils of different colored lights." Barney thinks it's a plane, though it might be "playing games" with them. Barney drives slowly through Franconia Notch, watching the object. At one point it passes near the Old Man of the Mountain. About one mile south of Indian Head (north of Lincoln), the object rapidly descends toward their vehicle, causing Barney to stop in the middle of the highway. The huge, silent craft hovers approximately 80–100 feet above the Hills' 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air and fills the entire field of view in the windshield. It reminds Barney of a huge pancake. Carrying his pistol in his pocket, he steps away from the vehicle and moves closer to the object. Using the binoculars, Barney claims see about 8–11 humanoid figures who are peering out of the craft's windows, seeming to look at him. In unison, all but one figure move to what appears to be a panel on the rear wall of the hallway that encircles the front portion of the craft. The one remaining figure continues to look at Barney and communicates a message telling him to "stay where you are and keep looking." Barney has a recollection of observing the humanoid forms wearing glossy black uniforms and black caps. Red lights on what appears to be bat-wing fins begin to telescope out of the sides of the craft, and a long structure descends from the bottom of the craft. The UFO approaches to within 50–80 feet overhead and 300 feet away from him. Barney tears the binoculars away from his eyes and runs back to his car. In a near hysterical state, he tells Betty, "They're going to capture us!" He sees the object again shift its location to directly above the vehicle. He drives away at high speed, telling Betty to look for the object. She rolls down the window and looks up. Almost immediately, the Hills hear a rhythmic series of beeping or buzzing sounds which seem to bounce off the trunk of their vehicle. The car vibrates and a tingling sensation passes through them. At this point in time they experience the onset of an altered state of consciousness that leaves their minds dulled. A second series of beeping sounds return them to full consciousness. They find that they have traveled nearly 35 miles south, but have only vague, spotty memories of this section of road. They recall making a sudden, unplanned turn, encountering a roadblock, and observing a fiery orb in the road. At 5:00 a.m., they arrive home, about two hours later than expected. Barney feels compelled to examine his genitals, and they both take long showers. Betty notices a pinkish powder and a tear in her dress. There are shiny, concentric circles on their car's trunk that were not there the previous day. Betty and Barney experiment with a compass, noting that when they move it close to the spots, the needle whirls rapidly. But when they move it a few inches away from the shiny spots, it drops down. (Wikipedia, "[Betty and Barney Hill](#)"; NICAP, "[The Betty and Barney Hill Case](#)"; Clark III 577–581; [Sparks](#), p. 289; John G. Fuller, *The Interrupted Journey*, Dial, 1966; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 178–184; Mark Rodeghier, "[Hypnosis and the Hill Abduction Case](#)," *IUR* 19, no. 2 (March/April 1994): 4–6, 23–24; Robert H. Coddington, "[The Hill Experience](#)," *IUR* 19, no. 3 (May/June 1994): 18–19; Michael D. Swords, *GrassRoots UFOs: Case*

Reports from the Timmerman Files, Fund for UFO Research, 2005, p. 143; Greg Sandow, "[The Hill Case and the Limits of Ufology](#)," *IUR* 31, no. 4 (March 2008): 3–7, 19–28; Stanton Friedman and Kathleen Marden, *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*, Weiser, 2007; Mark Cashman, "[Behavioral Classification System for UFO Occupants](#)," *IUR* 24, no. 1 (Spring 1999): 19; UFOEv II 528–529, 567–571; Colin Dickey, "[They Knew What They Had Seen](#)," *Slate*, September 11, 2023; Matthew Bowman, *The Abduction of Betty and Barney Hill: Alien Encounters, Civil Rights, and the New Age in America*, 2023; Randle, 1973, pp. 42–46; Graff 253–255; Nigel Watson, "[On the Credibility of the Barney and Betty Hill Abduction Case](#)," in Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 220–228; "[Rare, Extensive Betty Hill Interview on Her 1961 UFO Abduction with Husband Barney in New Hampshire](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, February 27, 2024)

1961, September 20 — 2:14 a.m. Pease AFB [now Pease Air National Guard Base] in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, picks up an unidentified radar blip 4 miles away from the base, with no visual contact. (NICAP, "[Radar Tracks Object before and after Hill Abduction](#)")

1961, September 21–22 — [Betty Hill](#) calls Pease AFB and reports her UFO incident (without mentioning the figures). Maj. Paul W. Henderson of the 100th Bomb Wing calls back with a few questions.

1961, September 26 — [Betty Hill](#) writes to [Donald E. Keyhoe](#) (mentioning the figures Barney remembers seeing) and asks for more information. She mentions that she and Barney are considering hypnosis. (Mark Rodeghier, "[Hypnosis and the Hill Abduction Case](#)," *IUR* 19, no. 2 (March/April 1994): 4–6, 23–24; Michael D. Swords, "[Radio Signals from Space, Alien Probes, and Betty Hill](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 4 (July 2005): 15)

1961, September 27 — [Allen Dulles](#) resigns as director of central intelligence; [John A. McCone](#) replaces him.

1961, September 27 — 7:57 a.m. The radar operator on a USAF Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft off the California coast spots five targets on his scope. Four of the objects are on a heading of 90°, and all of them are moving at a high rate of speed. They soon disappear into sea clutter. Three minutes later, two objects appear heading 70° then also disappear into sea clutter. The speed of one of the objects is measured at about 2,070 mph over a distance of 230 miles. While the two objects are on the scope, a single stationary object also appears. After remaining stationary for about two minutes, it moves on a heading of 265° at 70 mph and is lost in the sea clutter. The objects can only be painted with the IFF on. The radar is an APS-95. (NICAP, "[Uncorrelated Targets on APS-95](#)"; [Sparks](#), p. 290)

1961, September 29–October 3 — [Betty Hill](#) has a series of intensely vivid dreams in which she and Barney encounter a strange roadblock and are approached by a group of men. She loses consciousness and awakes on board a craft where they are given a medical examination by "intelligent, humanoid beings." (Clark III 581–583)

1961, Autumn — Evening. Emanoil Manoliu, son of the prominent novelist [Mihail Sadoveanu](#), is at the Neamț Monastery west of Târgu Neamț, Romania, when he sees a blinding, multicolored light. After a few seconds it rises quickly and he can see it looks like a disc with a concave base about 20–23 feet long and 10 feet broad. It vanishes "like a tornado in the air" and he feels the rush of wind. The next day he goes to the site with a priest and finds an area of singed grass and a light imprint in the soil. (Hobana and Weverbergh 167–168)

1961, October 1 — The Defense Intelligence Agency, created at the request of Defense Secretary [Robert S. McNamara](#) to integrate all military intelligence operations, begins work with a handful of employees in borrowed office space. Its mission is the continuous task of collecting, processing, evaluating, analyzing, integrating, producing, and disseminating military intelligence for the Department of Defense and related national stakeholders. Other objectives include more efficiently allocating scarce intelligence resources, more effectively managing all DoD intelligence activities, and eliminating redundancies in facilities, organizations, and tasks. (Wikipedia, "[Defense Intelligence Agency](#)")

1961, October 2 — Around 12:00 noon. [Waldo J. Harris](#), private pilot and real-estate broker, is getting ready to take off in a Mooney M20A from Utah Central Airport [now closed] in Granger, Utah, when he sees a bright spot in the sky. After he takes off, he notices that the light is still in the same location. He flies toward the object to get a better look, and sees that the UFO has no wings or tail and is hovering with a slight rocking motion. He later estimates the diameter at 35–50 feet, with a thickness of about 4 feet, and the appearance of sand-blasted aluminum. Harris estimates he has approached within 2 miles of the object before it rises abruptly and zooms away for 10 miles before it resumes a rocking hover. He approaches again, but it departs in about 2–3 seconds. Several other people, including airport controller [Jay Galbraith](#), also see the UFO from the airport. Investigators from Hill AFB near Ogden arrive quickly. Airport attendant Russell M. Woods tells them he thinks the object was at 2,500 feet altitude. On October 9, [Douglas M. Crouch](#) forwards the Hill AFB official report, including transcripts of interviews, to Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio, saying "No unusual meteorological or astronomical conditions were present to account for the sighting." Nonetheless, Blue Book wanders from Venus to a research balloon to a

- sundog (an assessment [James E. McDonald](#) calls “nonsensical”) as explanations. (“[‘Flying Saucer’ Observed over Valley](#),” *Deseret News* (Salt Lake City), October 3, 1961, p. 1B; “[Pilot Ground Crew, Observe Disc](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1962, pp. 1, 3; UFOEv, [pp. 1–2](#); James E. McDonald, “[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 49–50; Clark III 1025–1028; Covert 42)
- 1961**, October 4–5 — Two IBM engineers, C. D. Jackson and [Robert E. Hohmann](#), have lunch in Washington, D.C., with [Donald Keyhoe](#), who shows them the letter from [Betty Hill](#). (Michael D. Swords, “[Radio Signals from Space, Alien Probes, and Betty Hill](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 4 (July 2005): 15)
- 1961**, October 12 — After 8:00 p.m. Television commentator [Frank Edwards](#) is leaving the WTTV studio in Indianapolis, Indiana, when he notices a strange object in the distance. It is spherical and has a band of light around its middle. Red lights are blinking on the bottom of the object. The UFO itself is silvery, apparently metallic, and reflects the city’s lights. As Edwards watches, the UFO spirals upward, stops, hovers again, and speeds away to the south. The crew of a train on the Indianapolis Belt Railroad (fireman Jerry Carter and engineer [Nolan S. Garman](#)) say that the band of light is a row of square portholes from which a bright, pulsating white light is flashing. Two security guards at a meat-packing plant (Bud Kaesel and Walter Jamison) see the object pass directly overhead, rotating clockwise. (“[Frank Edwards Sights UAO](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1961, p. 1; “[Frank Edwards, Many Witnesses, Sight UFO over Indianapolis](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 3 (Jan./Feb. 1962): 5; Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 76–77)
- 1961**, October 14 — 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Erwin Riley, a summer resident in Two Harbors, Minnesota, sees a large object slide into the water of Lake Superior about one mile from shore and bob about on the surface. She summons a neighbor, Jack Ray, and they both watch through binoculars, but they can’t make out what it is. At dusk, the Lake County Sheriff responds to their call, but he can’t see much due to swells on the lake surface. He calls the Air Force and Coast Guard to make sure it’s not part of a training exercise. Shortly afterward, Riley sees the object rise into the air and travel southeast at about the speed of a car. A Coast Guard search the next day turns up only a floating log. (“[Flying Log?](#)” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1961, p. 3)
- 1961**, October 14 — 5:30 p.m. Mayor Michael Burson and his wife watch two pairs of UFOs move to the east above Sunset, Utah. The first pair looks like puffy cotton joined together by “stringy stuff,” and the second pair are metallic discs. (“[More Discs in Utah](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March 1962, p. 2)
- 1961**, October 15 — 5:00 p.m. Mrs. John P. Vanicky and Norine Gribble are driving from Marquette, Michigan, to Hurley, Wisconsin, when they see a brown cigar-shaped object spouting fire from its rear and moving southeast. They stop the car and watch for 20 minutes until it disappears. (*Duluth (Minn.) News-Tribune*, October 19, 1961; “[Flying Log?](#)” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1961, p. 3)
- 1961**, October 19 — NICAP secretary [Richard H. Hall](#) writes to [Walter N. Webb](#) at Hayden Planetarium in Boston, Massachusetts, and asks him to talk to [Betty and Barney Hill](#). (Clark III 578–579)
- 1961**, October 21 — 2:00 a.m. A brilliant fireball flashes in front of Richard and Rhonda DuBois’s car on US Highway 60 as they are driving between Datil and Pie Town, New Mexico. It then veers into the sky. Later, as they approach a canyon they see that the light is traveling along in front of them. It breaks into four lights that move along with the car, even as DuBois drives at 100 mph, until they stop at a roadside motel. The lights then zoom straight up and disappear. (“Woman Says Flying Objects Chase Car,” *Garden Grove (Calif.) News*, October 23, 1961; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 231; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1961](#), The Author, 2003, p. 97)
- 1961**, October 21 — [Webb](#), initially skeptical, winds up interviewing the [Hills](#) for 6 hours. He finds that their amnesia concerning some parts of the episode has unsettled them, and Betty tells him she had vivid nightmares for six straight nights a couple weeks after the incident. (Clark III 581)
- 1961**, October 26 — [Walter Webb](#)’s report to NICAP concludes that the [Hills](#) are telling the truth. (Walter N. Webb, “[A Dramatic UFO Encounter in the White Mountains, N.H., September 19–20, 1961](#),” NICAP Massachusetts Subcommittee, October 26, 1961; Clark III 581; Mark Rodeghier, “[Hypnosis and the Hill Abduction Case](#),” *IUR* 19, no. 2 (March/April 1994): 4–6)
- 1961**, October 30 — The Soviet RDS-202 hydrogen bomb, the 50-megaton Tsar Bomba, is supposedly the most powerful nuclear weapon ever tested. It is detonated at the Sukhoy Nos Cape of Severny Island, Novaya Zemla, Arkhangelsk Oblast, Russia. It flattens entire villages in surrounding areas and breaks windows in Finland 1,000 miles away. (Wikipedia, “[Tsar Bomba](#)”)
- 1961**, October 30 — Engineer [Carl H. Geary Jr.](#) watches four luminous blue discs, each with a band of different-colored lights or portholes, moving slowly in a straight-line formation above Derry, Pennsylvania. They are apparently oscillating with a sideways motion. When they reach a hill, they give off a blue flash. Geary jumps in his car and

paces them on a parallel road, but the objects finally disappear behind a mountain. ("[Frequent UFO Operations, Many at Night](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 3 (Jan./Feb. 1962): 6)

- 1961**, November 1 — A small, informal conference on SETI is held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory's facility in Green Bank, West Virginia, with astronomer [Frank Drake](#) as the host. The group includes J. Peter Pearman, [Otto Struve](#), [Carl Sagan](#), [Melvin Calvin](#), [Philip Morrison](#), [Dana W. Atchley Jr.](#), [Bernard M. Oliver](#), [John C. Lilly](#), and [Su-Shu Huang](#). Drake has written this equation on a chalkboard: $N = R f_p n_e f_i f_c L$. The equation, the Green Bank Formula, summarizes the main concepts that scientists must contemplate when considering the question of extraterrestrial life capable of communicating by radio across space. The equation estimates the number (N) of detectable civilizations in space as equal to the rate (R) of star formation, times the fraction (f_p) of stars that form planets, times the number (n_e) of planets hospitable to life, times the fraction (f_i) of those planets where life actually emerges, times the fraction (f_c) of planets where life evolves into intelligent beings, times the fraction (f_c) of planets with intelligent creatures capable of interstellar communication, times the length of time (L) that such a civilization remains detectable. It is more properly thought of as an approximation rather than as a serious attempt to determine a precise number. (Wikipedia, "[Drake equation](#)"; "[The Drake Equation Revisited, Part I](#)," *Astrobiology Magazine*, September 29, 2003; H. Paul Shuch, "[Project Ozma: The Birth of Observational SETI](#)," in *Searching for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*, Springer, 2011, pp. 13–18; Lee Billings, "[The Alien-Life Summit](#)," *Slate*, September 27, 2013; Maria Temming and Anthony Crider, "[The Order of the Dolphin: Origins of SETI](#)," American Astronomical Society, AAS Meeting no. 227 (January 2016); John Wenz, "[The Order of the Dolphin: SETI's Secret Origin Story](#)," *Astronomy*, October 10, 2018; Graff 170–175)
- 1961**, November 3 — 4:30 p.m. Mr. E. Adkins observes a brilliant object with an orange center flying south over Eyres Monsell, Leicester, England, at an estimated 600 mph. It is triangular in shape and about 300 feet wide. ("[Triangular Object over Eyres Monsell](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 2 (March/April 1962): 24)
- 1961**, November 13 — The AFCIN-1E-0 Draft Policy letter (Betz Memo) is prepared by Lt. Col. [Norman M. Rosner](#) for Col. [Ward Reid Betz](#). Among other things, it specifies three peacetime functions of the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron at Ent AFB [now the US Olympic Training Center], Colorado Springs, Colorado: UFO investigations, Project Moon Dust (an exploitation program to locate, recover, and deliver descended foreign space vehicles), and Operation Blue Fly (to facilitate delivery to the Foreign Technological Division of Moon Dust and other items of great technical intelligence interest). These three functions involve "employment of qualified field intelligence personnel on a quick reaction basis to recover or perform field exploitation of unidentified flying objects, or known Soviet/Bloc aerospace vehicles, weapons systems, and/or residual components of such equipment." (Paul Dean, "[The Rejuvenated 'Betz Memo'](#)," *UFOs: Documenting the Evidence*, May 8, 2016; Kevin D. Randle, "[Coast to Coast AM: The Moon Dust Controversy](#)," *A Different Perspective*, April 30, 2021)
- 1961**, Late November — Evening. A group of four friends are hunting on a Sunday in the area of Harvey, North Dakota. As they are returning in the car, the two men in the front seat notice a descending glowing object in the sky ahead of them. Assuming they are witnessing a plane crash, they rush to the scene of its landing, where they find at 150 yards distance, a "silo-appearing craft which was sticking in the ground with this glow around it." The men shine a hand spotlight and shine it on the object, whereupon they see four human-looking individuals standing around it. At this point they seem to hear an explosion and "everything went out." The principal witness wakes up from dozing in the back seat as the car is negotiating soggy ground looking for the craft and crew. They return to the spot where the landing takes place, and they see the figures again, wearing white coveralls and standing 5 feet high. They get out of the car and one figure waves them away. Eventually, the men agree to return to a small town, possibly Martin, North Dakota, 11 miles away, where they find a police officer, who listens to the story and agrees to accompany them back to the site. They see red lights moving in the field and both cars go in pursuit of them. The lights go out, the police officer drives away, and the four men resume driving home. Two miles down the highway, the silo-like object reappears, landing gently 150 yards away with two of the figures watching them. Two of the men get out of the car again and shine the spotlight on the craft. One of the men is carrying a rifle; he drops on the ground and shoots, apparently hitting one of the figures in the right shoulder. The figure spins around, goes down on his knees, gets help from the other figure, then yells, "Now what the hell did you do that for?" Weirdly, as soon as the men return to the car, the two who have remained inside insist the rifle had not been removed and no shot was fired. The primary witness (who remains in the car) has no recollection of what happened to the craft and figures. By the time they get home, dawn is breaking, and their wives are waiting for them. They all know it has taken longer than it should have to return. A few hours later, around 12:00 noon, the principal witness is at work when three well-groomed, official-looking men visit him. He presumes they are Air Force intelligence officers who say they have a "report" about the previous night's event. They ask him what

clothes he was wearing and what the object looked like, but they never ask about the shooting. Later, they show up at his house and ask to see his hunting gear and boots. They tell him not to say anything more about the incident. In January 1968, US Border Patrol agent [later BATF agent] Donald E. Flickinger manages to interview the primary witness, who works as a supervisor at Minot AFB hospital, and two of the others, one a small-town high school superintendent and the other an active-duty Air Force sergeant. They all are “extremely reliable and responsible,” Flickinger says. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 164–165](#); Clark III 825–827)

- 1961**, Late November — 9:30 p.m. Real estate agent Cavaleiro Mendes is walking along the beach in Balneário Pinhal, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, when he sees a huge light 900 feet away. As he walks toward it, he sees it is a huge disc resting on the sand. He feels compelled to approach it and sees two helmeted figures come from behind the object. They seem to be telling him telepathically not to resist. Mendes finds he is completely unable to move. He feels one of them scratching his forearm with an instrument, then he blacks out. When he wakes up, he is nearly back to his beach house and it is 11:30 p.m. After a few weeks he feels anxious and sad for no apparent reason. He refuses to be hypnotized. (Lorenzen, *Flying Saucer Occupants*, Signet, 1967, [pp. 199–200](#))
- 1961**, November 22 — US Navy pilot [Robert G. Robinson](#) reaches an airspeed of 1,606 mph in a McDonnell-Douglas F4H-1F Phantom II over Edwards AFB, California. (Wikipedia, “[Robert G. Robinson](#)”)
- 1961**, November 25 — IBM engineers C. D. Jackson and [Robert E. Hohmann](#) interview the [Hills](#). One of them expresses surprise at how long the drive took. They are mysteriously interested in whether nitrates or chemicals containing nitrates are in their car. For the first time, Barney and Betty realize that there are two hours they cannot account for. Also present is a friend of the Hills, retired USAF Maj. James McDonald, a former intelligence officer. He suggests that Betty and Barney consult a hypnotist. (Clark III 583; Mark Rodeghier, “[Hypnosis and the Hill Abduction Case](#),” *IUR* 19, no. 2 (March/April 1994): 6, 23–24; Michael D. Swords, “[Radio Signals from Space, Alien Probes, and Betty Hill](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 4 (July 2005): 15; Tanner F. Boyle, “[Forbidden Science Dispatches #1](#),” Getting Spooked Substack, October 4, 2023)
- 1961**, November 28 — President [Kennedy](#) presides over the dedication of the new CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. (Wikipedia, “[George Bush Center for Intelligence](#)”; CIA History Staff, *[50 Years in Langley: Recollections of the Construction of CIA’s Original Headquarters Building, 1961–2011](#)*, January 2012)
- 1961**, November 30 — Covert operations against [Fidel Castro](#) are officially authorized by President [Kennedy](#) after being given the name Operation Mongoose at a White House meeting on November 3. The operation is led by USAF Gen. [Edward Lansdale](#) and goes into effect after the failed Bay of Pigs Invasion. A document from the Department of State confirms that the project aims to “help Cuba overthrow the Communist regime,” including Castro, and it aims “for a revolt which can take place in Cuba by October 1962.” One of Lansdale’s ideas is to project a huge image of the Second Coming of Christ above the island, spread the word that Castro is the anti-Christ, shoot starburst shells from a submarine into the air, and hope for an uprising. US policymakers want to see “a new government with which the United States can live in peace.” (Wikipedia, “[Operation Mongoose](#)”; Kremlin 131–133)
- 1961**, December — Funding runs out for the Avrocar and it and related WS-606A supersonic VTOL programs are officially cancelled by the US military. (Wikipedia, “[Avro Canada VZ-9 Avrocar](#)”; Joseph Trevithick and Tyler Rogoway, “[No, This Is Not A Secret UFO Crash Retrieval](#),” The Drive: The War Zone, November 29, 2023)

1962

- 1962** — According to a “former Project Blue Book Chief” (probably Maj. [Friend](#)) gun-camera films obtained during jet interceptor UFO chases are routinely referred to the CIA’s National Photographic Interpretation Center (established in 1961) for analysis. [Richard H. Hall](#) writes, “This cannot be documented at present, but I heard him say so to a UFO researcher colleague. None of the photoanalysis data in these cases has been released, nor has the existence of these films ever been acknowledged.” (Richard H. Hall, *Uninvited Guests*, Aurora, 1988, [p. 179](#))
- 1962** — The Air Force tries once again to get rid of the UFO program, but its attempts to get NASA or the National Science Foundation to handle the program prove futile. It finally gives up the entire idea. The program remains at the Foreign Technology Division as a special project and without expanded resources. (Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, [p. 164](#))
- 1962** — Day. An Air Force pilot is flying a brand new B-52 with a full crew out of Wichita, Kansas, headed for an air base in the southwest. He notices a bright flash of sunlight in his left side and turns to see a metallic object “like

polished chrome.” It is pacing the aircraft near its left wingtip. The object is 4–8 feet in diameter and has no seams or markings. His First Officer is watching an identical object off the right wing, and the crewman in the tail reports that there is a round shiny metal ball following close behind the B-52. The top and bottom gunners also see spheres above and below the plane. The pilot goes into an evasive maneuver, but after 10–15 minutes the objects are maintaining their positions. He returns to his previous assigned altitude and heading. After a few minutes, the five objects leave, one at a time, first the bottom one, then the top, then the tail. The two objects on the wings shoot away at the same time and climb out of sight parallel to each other. After landing, the crew is told not to talk about the sighting at all. (Richard F. Haines, “[NARCAP’s Project Sphere: Are Spherical UAP a Threat to Aviation Safety?](#)” *IUR* 33, no. 2 (July 2010): 5–6)

- 1962** — 12:00 midnight. Actor [Jamie Farr](#) and his wife Joy Ann are driving through the desert near Yuma, Arizona, when they notice a light moving erratically at the top of a mountain. It zig-zags across the sky as it approaches them, moving to within 150 feet, then 60 feet of their vehicle. They can see two lights, red and blue, revolving beneath the silent object. It paces them for a short time then moves away at incredible speed. (“[Jamie and Joy Farr Report UFO Sighting](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 8 (December 1980): 3, 5)
- 1962** — The Argentine Navy creates a permanent commission for the study of UFOs, and the Argentine Air Force establishes a division for the same purpose. (Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, “[Argentina: UFO Declassification](#),” UAPSG–GEFAI, July 29, 2020)
- 1962** — The first UFO book to be published in Russia is a translation of Harvard astronomer’s [Donald Menzel](#)’s *Flying Saucers* (1953). (*O letayushchikh tarelkakh*, Izdatelstvo Inostrannoy Literatury, 1962)
- 1962** — [René](#) and [Françine Fouéré](#) establish the Groupe d’Étude des Phénomènes Aériens in Paris, France, with an initial group of 60 interested members. The following year GEPA launches a magazine, *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, which is published through 1978. In 1964, [Lionel-Max Chassin](#), now retired from the army, takes over as president. (Wikipedia, “[Group d’Étude des Phénomènes Aériens](#)”)
- 1962** — French composer [Paul Misraki](#) writes *Les Extraterrestres* using the pseudonym Paul Thomas. He links modern UFO sightings with biblical and mythological tales and claims that angels are aliens, that the Bible and other ancient texts are filled with many UFO flying saucer sightings, and that throughout human history extraterrestrial visitors have intervened in human affairs. Misraki is also one of the first authors to suggest that apparitions may be UFO-related phenomena. (Paul Thomas [Paul Misraki], *Les Extraterrestres*, Plon, 1962; Jerome Clark, “[Vimanas Have Landed: Ancient Astronautics in Ufology](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 28–29)
- 1962, January** — The Federal Aviation Administration expands the restricted airspace in the vicinity of Groom Lake, Nevada, and the lakebed becomes the center of a 600-square-mile addition to restricted area R-4808N. (Wikipedia, “[Area 51](#)”)
- 1962, January** — The IBM 7950 Harvest computer, designed to be used for cryptanalysis, is delivered to the National Security Agency. It includes Tractor, a large automated tape cartridge library. An NSA-conducted evaluation finds that Harvest is more powerful than the best commercially available machine by a factor of 50–200, depending on the task. It remains in use until 1976. One purpose of the machine is to search text for keywords from a watchlist. From a single foreign cipher system, Harvest is able to scan more than 7 million decrypts for any occurrences of some 7,000 key words in under four hours. The computer is also used for codebreaking, and this is enhanced by a system codenamed Rye, which allows remote access to Harvest. (Wikipedia, “[IBM 7950 Harvest](#)”; “[Timeline of the IBM Stretch/Harvest Era \(1956–1961\)](#),” computerhistory.org)
- 1962, January 29** — A Royal Dutch Air Force pilot flying an F-86 Sabrejet sights a UFO over eastern Netherlands. The jet’s radar also picks up the object and control tower radar (somewhere) is also tracking it. He attempts to give the object an urgent warning by radio, but it goes unheeded. He arms a Sidewinder rocket and tries to close in, but the UFO pulls away swiftly before he can fire. (“[New Sightings by Navy, FAA, and Airline Observers: Dutch Jet Pilot Tries to Down UFO](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 5 (Aug./Sept. 1962): 1–2)
- 1962, February** — [Richard M. Bissell Jr.](#) leaves the CIA and is replaced as head of the Directorate of Plans by [Richard Helms](#).
- 1962, February** — Maj. [William T. Coleman](#) is replaced as Pentagon UFO spokesman by Maj. [Carl R. Hart](#).
- 1962, February** — Vice-Admiral [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#) resigns from NICAP, stating that NICAP has gone as far as it can and should no longer criticize USAF investigations. (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, [pp. 85–86](#); Powell, *Keyhoe*, 311)
- 1962, February** — The [Hills](#) begin making numerous trips over several months to try to find their encounter site but are unsuccessful. (Clark III 583)

- 1962**, February — Alec Birch, 14, snaps an out-of-focus photo of five domed discs that he and two friends see hovering 500 feet above his backyard in Mosborough, Sheffield, England. Alec and his father show the photo later to the Air Ministry, which pronounces them “temperature inversions” in October. However, in an interview on BBC-2 television on October 6, 1972, Alec confesses that he had superimposed images painted on glass over the backyard scenery, fooling even his father. (“[Schoolboy Snaps Saucer](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1962): 4; Gordon Creighton, “[‘No Kidding This Time. My Flying Saucers Photo Is Genuine!’ \(–Alec Birch\)](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 45, no. 2 (Summer 2000): 9–11; Clark III 603)
- 1962**, February 6 — The US Air Force issues the last of its UFO fact sheets (no. 179-62). In the future it will issue press releases. (“[Relax! Flying Saucers Belong to This World](#),” *Boston (Mass.) Globe*, February 7, 1962, p. 21; “[Answer to the AF Release](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 3 (January/February 1962): 4; UFOEv, [p. 108](#))
- 1962**, February 9 — 3:30 a.m. Ronald Wildman is driving a new Vauxhall car through Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, UK, when he sees a silent, white, oval-shaped object with black vents spaced at regular intervals around it. It is about 20–30 feet above the ground and at least 40 feet wide. When Wildman is within 60 feet of it, his car slows to 20 mph, but his headlights do not fade. The object keeps ahead of him by 20 feet for a while, then comes lower and a white haze appears around it. It veers off to the right at terrific speed and vanishes, brushing particles of frost from the tree tops onto his windshield. (“[The Ivinghoe Flying Saucer: Mr. Ronald Wildman’s Sensational Story](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1962): 18, iv)
- 1962**, February 10 — CIA pilot [Francis Gary Powers](#) is exchanged for Soviet spy [Rudolf Abel](#) on the Glienicke Bridge that connects Potsdam to West Berlin, Germany.
- 1962**, February 20 — Astronaut [John Glenn](#) pilots the [Friendship 7](#) Project Mercury capsule for three orbits and just short of 5 hours flying time, becoming the first American to orbit the earth. (Wikipedia, “[Mercury-Atlas 6](#)”)
- 1962**, February 24 — NORAD Requirement 64-73 states that its radar coverage “would provide warning from all directions, not just northern approaches.” (Clark III 811)
- 1962**, February 28 — The first A-12 test aircraft covertly arrives at Groom Lake, Nevada, from Burbank, California. (Wikipedia, “[Area 51](#)”)
- 1962**, March — Chemical engineer [Leon Davidson](#) writes a two-part article in *Saucer News* explaining how he has become convinced that the CIA, especially under the influence of [Allen Dulles](#), has engineered disinformation about UFOs and even manufactured some seemingly legitimate radar sightings as a tool in the Cold War. Its aim is to cause the Soviet Union to waste time and effort in preparing defenses against fictitious aircraft and weapons that the US might be developing. Furthermore, UFOs can be used to capture headlines, diverting attention from unwelcome news coverage of espionage operations. Davidson writes that Dulles has resorted to using contactees and UFO organizations as a propaganda vehicle. Messages supposedly from spacemen calling for a halt in nuclear testing could influence public opinion in a test ban treaty that, in effect, would benefit the US more than the Russians, since the Soviets were seen as overtaking the American lead in weapons development. Davidson attributes CIA involvement in the claims of [George Adamski](#) and [Daniel Fry](#). He also points out that electronic countermeasures (ECM) equipment is capable of creating fake radar returns and goes so far as to say that secret working models of saucers, perhaps piloted by “midgets,” are responsible for some sightings. (Leon Davidson, “[An Open Letter to Saucer Researchers, Part One](#),” *Saucer News* 9, no. 1 (March 1962): 8–11; Leon Davidson, “[An Open Letter to Saucer Researchers, Part Two](#),” *Saucer News* 9, no. 2 (June 1962): 8–10; Leon Davidson, “[ECM + CIA = UFO: Or, How to Cause Radar Sightings](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 6, no. 2 (March/April 1960): 9–12; Gerald K. Haines, “[CIA’s Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947–90](#),” *Studies in Intelligence* 40, no. 5 (1997): 67–84)
- 1962**, March — [Betty and Barney Hill](#) meet with Patrick J. Quirke, a psychiatrist at the Baldpate Sanitarium in Georgetown, Massachusetts, but he is unsympathetic and discourages them from undergoing hypnosis. (Clark III 583)
- 1962**, March 25 — The [Hills](#) meet with a psychiatrist (Duncan Stephens of the Exeter Clinic, New Hampshire) who rules out simultaneous hallucination. Around this time, Barney develops a series of warts in an almost geometrically perfect circular ring in his groin but does not associate his malaise with the UFO incident. (Clark III 583–584)
- 1962**, March 26 — 1:35 p.m. USAF Capt. J. M. Lowery, from an unspecified aircraft, sees a thin, cylindrical object, 1/3 snout, 2/3 tail fins, fly at an estimated Mach 2.7 (1,800 mph) at Ramstein Air Base near Ramstein-Miesenbach, Germany. At first sight the object appears like a small delta-wing fighter. When it reaches the 3 o’clock position, the object appears more like a sidewinder missile. As the object travels from the 3 o’clock position to the 5 o’clock position, the pilot has the impression of shape changing to the appearance of a dart target. The duration is 5–8 seconds. (NICAP, “[Missile-Like Object Observed from Aircraft](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 291; John Greenewald, “[Project Blue](#)”

[Book: Ramstein Air Force Base UFO Encounter, March 26, 1962 \(Unidentified\),](#)” The Black Vault, August 7, 2024)

- 1962,** March 27–30 — [George Adamski](#) claims to attend a Twelve Counsellors Meeting on Saturn that addresses the threat of nuclear war on Earth. In the report that he publishes in June, Adamski writes that the “present explosions of atomic energy are going in the wrong direction, and if these experiments do not stop, the only results will be a lost civilization... This is even affecting their planets.” Ridiculed by many, some of Adamski’s descriptions in the report about his trip clearly show this was a deeply spiritual experience for him, which may have unbalanced him for some time. (George Adamski, [George Adamski’s Special Report: My Trip to the Twelve Counsellors Meeting That Took Place on Saturn, March 27–30, 1962](#), Science of Life, 1962; [“Final Years,”](#) The Adamski Case, June 11, 2009)
- 1962,** March 29 — 11:32 a.m. A group of six men (E. P. Taylor, R. C. Bauld, V. Watkins, M. Lush, R. E. Goodall, and M. Dentice) on a fishing trip at Kinloch, New Zealand, see a UFO hovering above Whangamata Bay from their boat, *Ponui*, which was about a half mile away from the Kinloch Marina. It resembles a parachute at first as it hovers for about 2 minutes, but through binoculars it appears to be rotating counterclockwise, and soon changes to the shape of a cross. It speeds away suddenly, disappearing in 4 seconds. ([“Fishermen See UFO,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1962): 23)
- 1962,** Spring or summer — All base personnel on flying status attend a briefing in the theater at the Clinton-Sherman AFB [now the Clinton-Sherman Industrial Airpark] near Burns Flat, Oklahoma. The airmen are shown a short 20–30-minute Air Force film showing, spliced together without interpretation, five or six gun-camera clips apparently documenting attempts by aircraft to intercept UFOs. Afterward, the commander of the 4213d Strategic Wing reads a statement (probably JANAP 146(D)) stipulating fines and jail sentences for anyone publicly reporting a UFO sighting and hands out UFO sighting forms in the event of an incident. One technician recalls there is a section on reporting any electronic signature emitted from the UFO picked up by specific ECM devices. (Nukes 123–125)
- 1962,** April — An informant of [Leonard H. Stringfield](#), a captain in the US Naval Reserve attached to the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing deployed to Wright-Patterson AFB as an exchange pilot, is leading his crew on a running trip through the base. They enter a hangar that they think contains an equipment room, but they are confronted by an air police sentry with a submachine gun. Nearby on two engine test stands is a strange object resembling a disc 12–15 feet long and 8 feet deep. It has no markings, insignia, or rivets. The object is roped off and eight guards are standing parade around it. The guard turns them away and they exit the hangar. The crew returns to its base in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, one week later, and the captain is reprimanded by the brigadier general of the combat wing, saying that he has broken security. He agrees that he has seen nothing. (Leonard H. Stringfield, *UFO Crash Retrievals: Status Report III, Amassing the Evidence*, The Author, June 1982, [pp. 88–89](#))
- 1962,** April 18 — Evening. A red, glowing object is first seen at a great height over Oneida, New York, heading west silently. There are reports from Kansas and Colorado. NORAD radar picks up the object; ADC alerts several bases, including Nellis AFB near Las Vegas, Nevada. Fighters are scrambled from Luke AFB near Phoenix, Arizona, and the jets are possibly heard over Nephi, Utah, after the object passes overhead. Capt. Herman Gordon Shields, flying a C-119 two miles west of Levan, Utah, sees it as a slender object. A man in Silver City, Utah, claims that the object is a glowing ball of light about the size of a soccer ball. He says it is white with a yellowish tint and a bright yellow jagged flame coming from the rear: “As the object passed over Robinson [in Ogden, Utah?], it slowed down in [the] air, and after, [a] gasping sound was heard, the object spurted ahead again. After this procedure was repeated three or four times, the object arched over and began descending to earth after which the object turned bluish color and then burned out or went dark. After the object began to slow down it began to wobble or fishtail in its path.” Several people see the object over Eureka, Utah, apparently crashing and interrupting electrical service from a power plant close to the landing site. It is described as a “glowing, orange oval which emitted a low, whirring sound.” It takes off a few minutes later, continuing to the west. The object lights up the streets of Reno, Nevada, and then turns to Las Vegas. It blares brightly like a “tremendous, flaming sword” over Nellis AFB and then disappears from their radar scopes at 10,000 feet. Witnesses say the object is traveling almost horizontally northeast of Las Vegas until a final explosion occurs from the direction of Mesquite, Nevada. Sheriff’s deputy Walter Bun, who leads the search and rescue unit, moves the unit into the Spring Mountain area in jeeps to search for wreckage. They search through the night, and when the sun comes up they continue using aircraft. They do not find anything of importance except some ashes that might easily be the remains of a campfire started by a hunter some weeks earlier. When no one reports a downed or missing aircraft, Bun and the other deputies call off the search. The object seems to have changed direction, because at Reno it passes west to east, in Utah it is seen going southeast to northwest, and at Nephi it travels west. The duration of

the sighting, from New York to Nevada, is only 32 minutes, giving a speed of 4,500 mph, below the speed of meteors. On May 8, the Air Force sends [Hynek](#) and Lt. Col. [Robert Friend](#) to Utah with [Douglas M. Crouch](#), chief of criminal investigation at Hill AFB, south of Ogden, Utah. They determine it is a bolide. Blue Book lists it as two sightings: a multiple radar sighting at Nellis on April 18 with no visual (despite hundreds of observers in Las Vegas), and a bolide over Utah that it claims occurs on April 19. In reality, the Utah and Nevada sightings are only minutes apart (8:15 p.m. Mountain Time). However, there is quite a bit of information from numerous sources concerning this major incident, including Project Blue Book documents, and now possible [confirmation](#) by a radar man at ATIC. The case is also not explained in a Blue Book monthly sighting listing for April 1962. It is interesting that every one of these states except Utah has or was in the process of obtaining ICBM bases: New York (Plattsburg AFB); Kansas, (Forbes AFB and McConnell AFB); Utah (Minuteman production at Air Force Plant 77 at Hill AFB); Idaho (Mountain Home AFB); Montana (Malmstrom AFB); New Mexico (Walker AFB); Wyoming (F. E. Warren AFB); Arizona (Davis Monthan AFB); California (Beale AFB). (NICAP, “[National Air Defense Alert](#)”; Frank Edwards, *Strange World*, Ace ed., 1964, pp. 38–41; “[Meteor Lands in Utah, Lights Western Skies](#),” *Los Angeles Times*, April 19, 1962, p. 15; “[Brilliant Fireball Flashes in Skies](#),” *Salt Lake City Deseret News*, April 19, 1962, pp. 1, 5; “[Meteor Startles Reno](#),” *Reno (Nev.) Gazette-Journal*, April 19, 1962, p. 1; *Las Vegas Sun*, April 19, 1962; Kevin D. Randle, *A History of UFO Crashes*, Avon, 1995, pp. 79–94; Clark III 333–335; [Sparks](#), p. 291; Randle, *Levelland*, 2021, pp. 87–99)

- 1962**, April 24 — 7:45 p.m. [Alice W. Gasslein](#) and her mother are driving near their home in Springfield, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, when they see a large domed object emitting flashes of green light moving over the roofs of nearby homes. A rotating band around the main body consists of a series of square windows from which come shafts of bright white light. They drive back home to alert her husband, [Joseph A. Gasslein](#), an aviation worker. By that time, the UFO is about a half-mile distant, giving off colored lights. Around 8:10 p.m., the object returns flying toward the Gassleins’ home (south of Walsh Park) only 20 feet above ground level and passes over their backyard before making a sharp left turn and moving away to the east. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 78–80; “[Out of the Past: A Very Close CE-1](#),” *IUR* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1985): 9–10, 14; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1962*, The Author, 2005, pp. 56–57)
- 1962**, April 25 — The A-12 is taken on its first (unofficial and unannounced) flight with Lockheed test pilot [Louis Schalk](#) at the controls. Intended as only a taxi run, the A-12 unexpectedly takes flight and Schalk lands it 2 miles past the runway. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed A-12](#)”; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 177–178)
- 1962**, April 26 — [Schalk](#) makes another unofficial low-altitude, 40-minute test flight with the A-12. The takeoff is perfect, but after the A-12 gets to about 300 feet it starts shedding all the “pie slice” fillets of titanium on the left side of the aircraft and one fillet on the right. (On later aircraft, those pieces are paired with triangular inserts made of radar-absorbing composite material.) Technicians spend four days finding and reattaching the pieces. Nonetheless, the flight pleases [Kelly Johnson](#). (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed A-12](#)”; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 178–179)
- 1962**, April 30 — [Schalk](#) takes the A-12 up to 30,000 feet on its first official flight at Area 51 for 59 minutes. His top speed is 400 mph. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, p. 179)
- 1962**, April 30 — Just before 10:00 a.m. During a free-flight test (Flight 52) of the X-15 to a height of 246,700 feet (46.7 miles) by NASA pilot [Joseph A. Walker](#) from Edwards AFB, California, to Ely, Nevada, the instruments photograph 5–6 cylindrical objects. No visual confirmation. On May 11, at NASA’s Second National Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Space in Seattle, Washington, Walker mentions the objects photographed (and perhaps shows the slides; it is not mentioned in the proceedings). NICAP is unable to obtain the photos. NASA claims the objects are ice flaking off the aircraft (“fireflies”). They are described by a NASA spokesman as “barbell shaped, bright-orange in color, and passing in groups up to six behind the X-15.” Opinion ranges from “definitely something up there,” to “film spots,” to “sun rays on the lens.” [Jacobsen](#) implies it was the A-12 test the same day. (“[Walker’s Films Back Theory of Space Objects](#),” *Dover (Ohio) Daily Reporter*, May 11, 1962, p. 2; *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*, May 11, 1962; “[AF Criticizes NASA Release of ‘Mystery Object’ Photo](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 5 (Aug./Sept. 1962): 8; *UFOEv*, p. 139; Leonard Stringfield, “[Roswell and the X-15: UFO Basics](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 259 (November 1989): 3–7; Good Above, p. 366; *Proceedings of the Second National Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Space, Seattle, Washington, May 8–10, 1962*, NASA Office of Scientific and Technical Information, November 1962; Curtis Peebles, “[Fireflies: The X-15 ‘UFO’ Sighting Controversy](#),” *Magonia* 78 (June 2002); Jacobsen, *Area 51*, p. 205)
- 1962**, Late April or early May — Three women and a 10-year-old boy are driving home to Granby, Connecticut, when two bright yellow lights appear in the sky ahead. The lights cross the road and disappear behind some shrubbery. Driving nearer and stopping, the witnesses see the lights hovering above a field, one above the other. The objects realign horizontally and move toward the car. The driver starts the car up and speeds away, but the lights are right behind her, only a few feet from the rear window and matching the car’s speed. The yellow lights are only a few

feet in diameter and have a reddish patch that rotates. They follow the car for four minutes then turn away. (Swords 299–300)

- 1962**, May 4 — The A-12 achieves supersonic speed of Mach 1.1 at 40,000 feet during a test at Groom Lake, Nevada.
- 1962**, May 11 — 7:40 p.m. Argentine Rear Adm. [Eladio M. Vázquez](#) and Capt. Aldo Molinari watch a UFO from the US Military Mission at the Comandante Espora Air Naval Base in Bahía Blanca, Argentina. (UFOEv, [p. 170](#); “[In Argentina](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1963, p. 4)
- 1962**, May 13 — 4:00 a.m. Near Oncativo, Córdoba, Argentina, two women driving from Rosario see a long object flying at moderate altitude and emitting a powerful, multicolored light. They enter a fog and see through the trees a sort of “little house” on the ground, with green, red, and yellow lights set in an arrow-shaped arrangement. (Oscar A. Uriondo, “[Preliminary Catalogue of Type 1 Cases in Argentina](#),” *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, no. 12 (December 1972): 10; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1962](#), The Author, 2005, p. 62)
- 1962**, May 13 — 4:20 a.m. Three truckers (Valentino Tomassini, Guro Tomassini, and Humberto Zenobi) are driving from Bahia Blanca to Jacinto Aráuz, La Pampa, Argentina, when they see a lantern-like light resting in a nearby field. It brightens and dims alternately. As they slow down, a row of 20–30 lights come on. When they approach to within 210 feet of the object, it rises up and crosses the road at a height of 12 feet. Its lights go out, a reddish flame comes from the bottom, and it makes a soft humming noise. The UFO then divides into two parts that fly off in different directions. Navy Capt. Luis Sanchez Moreno, chief of intelligence at the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base, interviews the witnesses. At the landing site, grass is burned over an area 180 feet in diameter, and there are damp, gray-colored patches. These are taken for analysis to either or both the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base and Universidad Nacional del Sur, both in or near Bahia Blanca. It consists of calcium carbonate and potassium carbonate. (“[Relatos de aparecimientos de discos na Argentina em 1962](#),” *SBEDV Boletim*, no. 30 (Aug. 1962/Feb. 1963): 14; “[In Argentina](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1963, pp. 2, 4; UFOEv, [pp. 170–171](#); Oscar A. Uriondo, “[Preliminary Catalogue of Type 1 Cases in Argentina](#),” *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, no. 12 (December 1972): 10; Hector P. Anganuzzi, *Historia de los Platos Voladores en la Argentina*, Plus Ultra, 1976; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1962](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 60–61)
- 1962**, May 18 — 7:00 p.m. Elizabeth Scott sees a cigar-shaped object hovering in the northwest sky at Pompano Beach, Florida. The underside is brilliantly lit and the top is dark. The object remains motionless for 9 minutes, moves slowly south for 30 seconds, then speeds up and disappears rapidly to the south “like a flash of lightning.” (UFOEv, [p. 71](#); Powell, *Scientist*, 66)
- 1962**, May 21 — Miguel Thomé, a reporter for *La Nueva Provincia*, takes several photos of a luminous object above Bahia Blanca, Argentina, one of which is exactly at a point when the object changes course. (“Fotografióse un objeto luinoso que cruzó ayer el Cielo Bahiense,” *La Nueva Provincia* (Bahía Blanca), May 22, 1962, p. 5; UFOEv, [p. 170](#); ClearIntent, [pp. 138–139](#); “[Un avistaje de OVNI en Bahía Blanca aparece en los archivos de la CIA de Estados Unidos](#),” *La Nueva* (Bahía Blanca), February 3, 2016)
- 1962**, May 21 — Day. Capt. Gordon Pendleton and First Officer J. P. Murphy are flying an Aer Lingus Vickers Viscount airliner above southern England at 17,000 feet when they see a brown globe-shaped object approaching head-on. It speeds 3,000 feet below the aircraft at about 700 mph. The object has a number of antenna-like projections on its surface. (*Irish Times*, May 22, 1962; “[Airline Pilot Sees ‘Globe Flying at 500 m.p.h.](#),” *Birmingham (UK) Post*, May 22, 1962, p. 1; “[Foreign Sightings Spotlight Global Increase](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 4 (March/July 1962): 1; UFOEv, [p. 122](#))
- 1962**, May 22 — 7:10–7:45 p.m. A formation of Navy planes, led by flight instructor Lt. Rodolfo César Galdos, near Comandante Espora Air Naval Base in Bahia Blanca, Argentina, observes several UFOs over a 35-minute period. Witnesses at the control tower also see an object. Student pilot Roberto Wilkinson sees a luminous object trailing his plane. It lights up his cockpit and his radio transmission is disrupted as it passes underneath. (“[Argentina Confirms Navy Pilots’ Sightings to NICAP](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 6 (Oct./Nov. 1962): 4; UFOEv, [pp. 119, 171](#); [Schopick](#), p. 129; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1962](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 65–67; Scott Corrales, “[Saucers in My Backyard: Argentina’s Trancas Case](#),” *Inexplicata*, May 8, 2007)
- 1962**, May 22 or 24 — A woman is hospitalized after she and her husband see an object land near Winifreda, Las Pampas, Argentina. Two large “robot-like creatures” emerge. Argentine Air Force investigators find a circle of scorched grass. (Lorenzen, *Encounters with UFO Occupants*, Berkley Medallion, 1976, p. 152)
- 1962**, May 25 — USAF Pentagon spokesman Maj. [Carl R. Hart](#) tells NICAP that Air Force investigations involve hundreds of intelligence officers, as well as “the best scientific brains available in the laboratories of all

government agencies,” also scientific investigators in commercial laboratories, wherever needed. He adds that [Hynek](#) has consulted with the “world’s leading scientists.” Around the same time, Lt. Col. Spencer Whedon from ATIC informs NICAP that the Air Force spends about \$10,000 on each major sighting investigation. (“[AF Admits UFO Probe Still in Full Operation](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 4 (March/July 1962): 2)

- 1962, Summer** — Col. [Joseph J. Bryan III](#), special assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force and advisor to NATO, joins the board of NICAP. In 1959 he had contacted [Keyhoe](#) and asked to see some of his “really hot cases.” It is later revealed that he was also founder of the CIA’s psychological warfare staff. Bryan never discloses his CIA background to NICAP or Keyhoe. Although Bryan, the father of later UFO author [C. D. B. Bryan](#), makes strong pro-UFO statements, he is later suspected of helping to discredit Keyhoe and undermine NICAP; his son and [Richard H. Hall](#) deny it. (“[AF Colonel, Noted Astronomer, Join Board](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 5 (Aug./Sept 1962): 2; “[Col. Joseph Bryan](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 8 (May/June 1966): 5; “[NI-CIA-AP or NICAP?](#)” *Just Cause* 1, no. 7 (January 1979): 5–13; “[CE4K Author C. D. B. Bryan Dies](#),” *Rigorous Intuition*, December 18, 2009)
- 1962, Summer** — Around 9:00 p.m. Harvey Packard and five other men are fishing near East Peru, Maine, when three orange globes show up across the pond and begin dancing about. The globes move toward the witnesses, who get scared and jump in their car and speed away. The globes follow the car, one in the rear and the others on each side. The objects appear to be transparent, 3-foot spheres that easily pace the speeding vehicle. Occasionally they leave their positions and form into a triangle with squarish bridges between them, then split up and continue the car chase. The car radio is filled with static. Finally, they veer off and fly into the woods. (NICAP case file; Swords 300)
- 1962, Summer** — Donald MacKenzie, a shepherd, discovers some strange wreckage in a remote moor near Ardgay, Sutherland, Scotland, that he thinks is related to Sputnik. In October, a team from RAF Kinloss [now Kinloss Barracks] on the Moray Firth arrives to investigate. They find a strange box-shaped object, large enough to have carried a person and containing spaces for cameras and a brass panel that explains, in pictures, what the finder should do in the event of discovery to claim a reward. Buried nearby are a number of bottles of colorless fluid. The team is mystified and suspects something Russian but can’t confirm it. The debris now seems likely to have come from a secret spy balloon, one of many launched in 1955–1956 by the US Air Force from RAF Evanton [now closed], to take reconnaissance photos of Russian military and nuclear facilities. Once clear of Soviet territory, the balloons were designed to drop into the Pacific Ocean where its VHF beacon would guide recovery efforts. (David Clarke, “[The Scottish Roswell?](#)” Dr. David Clarke: Folklore and Journalism, July 29, 2012)
- 1962, June 5** — Contactee [Gabriel Green](#) runs for the US Senate in California and receives more than 171,000 votes in the Democratic primary, but at only 8.45% of the total votes, that is not enough to make it as the Democratic candidate. (Wikipedia, “[1962 United States Senate election in California](#)”; Sam Gordon, “[Candidates: ‘Why You Should Vote for Me,’](#)” *Los Angeles Evening Citizen News*, June 2, 1962, p. 23; S. D. Tucker, *False Economies: The Strangest, Least Successful, and Most Audacious Financial Follies, Plans, and Craze of All Times*, Amberly, 2018, chapter 3, excerpted in “Taxing Credulity,” *Fortean Times* 367 (June 2018): 52–55)
- 1962, June 6** — 11:20 a.m. Six silent objects are seen at intervals over Caroda, New South Wales. A trail of shiny, web-like filaments falls and gradually disintegrates as they drift through the air. Witnesses say they are up to 5 feet long. (Keith Basterfield, “[Angel Hair: An Australian Perspective](#),” *IUR* 27, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 7; Keith Basterfield, “[A Catalogue and Analysis of Australasian ‘Angel Hair’ Cases](#),” March 2001)
- 1962, June 7** — A brilliant white light, approximately 20 times brighter than first magnitude stars, is seen at Hallett Station [now closed], Cape Hallett, East Antarctica, at 250° (true) azimuth, and 30° elevation. Over 5 minutes it remains stationary and is viewed both with binoculars and the naked eye. It appears circular. It is a dazzling gold color and observed between two mountain peaks. The sun at the time is below the horizon. After 5 minutes it moves in a southerly direction and is lost to view behind a peak. Project Blue Book concludes it is Jupiter, even though that planet’s position is only at 5° elevation. (NICAP, [[Blue Book documents](#)]; [Sparks](#), p. 292; Swords 298; Keith Basterfield, “[Dr. Paul E. Tyler’s Interest in UAP](#),” *Unidentified Aerial Phenomena—Scientific Research*, August 14, 2022)
- 1962, June 19** — 6:03 p.m. C. L. Davis is walking due west on a footpath running adjacent to the railway from West End Lane to Ravenshaw Street in West Hempstead, London, England, when he sees a dull gray object in the shape of an inverted cup passing from north to south. It is moving at about 400–600 mph in shallow loops and disappears after about 6 minutes over Hammersmith. (“[London Sighting](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1962): 21)
- 1962, June 25–26** — 9:00 p.m.–2:00 a.m. John, 14, and James Westmoreland, 12, are camping out in their backyard at 7466 East 18th Street, Tucson, Arizona, with a friend, Ronald Black, 11. About 9:00 p.m. John notices a bright

star in the west that moves occasionally, dips, and hovers. Around 11:45, they notice that the star is brighter and has moved closer, taking the shape of a triangle. At 12:15, the object noiselessly emits three green flares that take on a speedy horizontal flight path. They notice a second, ball-shaped object that races from west to east, flips, and stops at a higher elevation than the first. A “flare-like” light approaches the second and seems to be absorbed by it. The first UFO spits out more green flares, two of which disappear into the second object a few minutes later. The second object shoots out a rocket that disappears in the sky. A third whitish object, larger and disc-shaped, appears above Pontano Wash with a cone-shaped superstructure. Three stilt-like protuberances appear briefly then are drawn back in. The third object also drops something like a rope that extends to the ground for 3–5 minutes. The boys soon get sleepy and retire after a while, telling the mother, [Pansy Westmoreland](#), about it in the morning. (“[Saucers, Rockets Inhabit Night Sky](#),” *Tucson (Ariz.) Daily Citizen*, June 26, 1962, p. 17; Coral E. Lorenzen, “[Saucers Shoot Rockets over Tucson, Arizona](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1962, pp. 1, 3–4; Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, pp. 114–118)

- 1962**, July — APRO refers to NICAP as merely a “lobbying” effort in *APRO Bulletin*, while APRO is “gradually drawing the endorsements of the scientific community.” (“[Support NICAP?](#)” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1962, pp. 1–2; Clark III 50)
- 1962**, July 7 — Soviet Col. [Georgy Mosolov](#) reaches 1,665 mph in a Mikoyan Gurevich Ye-166 (a modified Ye-152) over Russia. (Wikipedia, “[Georgy Mosolov](#)”)
- 1962**, July 7 — 11:10 p.m. Claude B. Taylor, chief scientist at Hallett Station [now closed], Cape Hallett, East Antarctica, sees an intense light followed by two smaller lights pass over the facility in a few seconds leaving a clearly visible trail. Its passage is registered by an all-sky camera used for the study of auroras. Probable bolide. (NICAP, [[Blue Book documents](#)]; NICAP, “[Object Filmed by All Camera \(IFO\)](#)”; “Seven Men Will Never Scoff Again,” *Antarctic*, September 1962, p. 120; Keith Basterfield, “[Dr. Paul E. Tyler’s Interest in UAP](#),” Unidentified Aerial Phenomena—Scientific Research, August 14, 2022)
- 1962**, July 9 — 9:00 p.m. An object larger than the moon speeds to the west in seconds above Whakatāne, New Zealand, leaving a fiery trail that persists for several minutes. Constable Douglas Gray sees the object coming from north of White Island off the coast, lighting up the sky. (“[Mystery Object over Whakatane, NZ](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May 1962, p. 6)
- 1962**, July 10 — 7:10 a.m. A group of Grumman S-2 Trackers are making touch and go landings at Naval Air Station New Iberia [now Acadiana Regional Airport] in Louisiana when suddenly a disc-shaped object comes in very fast and low, slows over the runway and hangar, then speeds out of sight while climbing at a 20°–30° angle. It has a rotating dome on top that appears to be equally divided into two sections—one half light gray, the other black. (“[New Sightings by Navy, FAA & Airline Observers](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 5 (Aug./Sept. 1962): 1–2)
- 1962**, July 17 — Maj. [Robert Michael White](#) is piloting Flight 62 of the X-15 at Edwards AFB, California. He flies it to 314,750 feet (59 miles), qualifying him for USAF astronaut wings. For this, he is featured on the cover of the August 3 issue of *Life*. At the top of his climb he sees a small grayish object “like a piece of paper” about 30–40 feet away. He exclaims, “There *are* things out there. There absolutely is!” (“[Space: Inside the Sky](#),” *Time*, July 27, 1962; Leonard Stringfield, “[Roswell and the X-15: UFO Basics](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 259 (November 1989): 3–7; Good Above, [p. 366](#))
- 1962**, July 19 — 9:30 p.m. C. T. Loftus and H. Wilbert are fishing off Bay Head, New Jersey, when they see a star-like light moving faster than a jet. Soon three or more other lights appear, each from a different direction. Each light stops momentarily, then darts away a great distance generally in a straight line, its luminosity increasing as it moves. One object that is moving from south to north zig-zags as it darts about, but returns to a straight path eventually. The lights soon fade out after 7–10 minutes. (Olsen, sec. 3, p. 81; [Sparks](#), p. 292)
- 1962**, July 28 — Before dawn. The skipper of a chartered fishing boat 6 miles southeast of Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, California, sees several stationary lights low in the water dead ahead. Through binoculars he sees a squat, lighted structure in which several men are working, apparently the stern of a submarine with no markings and decks almost awash. He and another crew member see five men, “two in all-white garb, two in dark trousers and white shirts, and one in a sky-blue jumpsuit.” The craft swept in their direction toward the open sea, still on the surface, and the skipper has to turn hard to keep clear. It makes no noise and leaves no wake. (Marvin Miles, “[Report Studied on Soviet Sub off Catalina](#),” *Los Angeles Times*, October 25, 1962, pp. 1, 10)
- 1962**, July 29 — 12:20 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Barton and their family see a bright, cherry-red object shaped like a diamond flying slowly over Ocean Springs, Mississippi. It is first seen an estimated 2,000 feet from their house, moving from right to left and sometimes hovering. Its apparent shape changes to round, and its movements change to patterns of loops and squares in as little as one second. After 10 minutes of maneuvers, it fades away. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 81–82; [Sparks](#), p. 292)

- 1962**, August — 7:00 p.m. Three witnesses are driving south toward San José de Méta, Salta, Argentina, when they see a light against the mountains to the west. It approaches, growing as large as the full moon when it is 300 feet ahead of them. It has a bulge at the top and reddish-pink, green, and white blinking lights. It continues to approach and passes above a Fiat truck in the road ahead of them. The truck stops, and the witnesses stop their car as well, two of them walking into some nearby bushes to observe. The object now seems to be the diameter of a DC-3's wingspan and is 150 feet in the air. The truck's lights go out, and the object rocks back and forth, taking off to the north at a great rate of speed. Five minutes later, they drive up to the stopped truck, whose driver is scooping up dirt to cool its overheated engine down. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 157–158)
- 1962**, August — Night. Marilyn Chenarides, her younger brother Roger, and their mother Mildred Anderson are vacationing in a cabin on Movil Lake, Minnesota. The two women see a glowing red, domed disc with large windows hovering above the boat dock 50 feet away. Silhouetted in the windows are three entities who seem to be looking at them. The women shut off the cabin lights for a better look, and the UFO switches off its own lights. Anderson runs out of the cabin toward the object, which lifts and disappears rapidly. ("[The 1962 Occupants Case](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 21, no. 2 (Sept./Oct. 1972): 6)
- 1962**, August 2 — Around 12:00 midnight. Air traffic control operators at Cambá Punta Airport [now Doctor Fernando Piragine Niveyro International Airport], near Corrientes, Argentina, see an unidentified light approaching the airport. They call the airport manager, Luís Harvey, who arrives from home in a hurry and sees the light circling at high speed. Harvey orders a landing strip freed up but the light, apparently a spherical object, comes down, hovering and revolving a few feet above the same spot on the runway for 3–4 minutes, emitting strong blue, green, and orange flashes. Then it climbs and vanishes at staggering speed. ("[Argentina Confirms Navy Pilots' Sightings to NICAP](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 6 (Oct./Nov. 1962): 4; Gordon W. Creighton, "[Argentina 1962: A Massive UFO Visitation](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1964): 10, 11; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1962*, The Author, 2005, pp. 18–19; Patrick Gross, "[Camba Punta, Argentina, August 2, 1962](#)")
- 1962**, August 7 — Midnight. A contract worker at the not-yet-operational Titan II launch complex of the 570th Strategic Missile Squadron near Oracle, Arizona, sees a brilliant light descending over the site. He is joined by a colleague as the light gets larger. Both men go inside and contact Davis-Monthan AFB outside Tucson, which sends out two jet interceptors. When the aircraft arrive, the light takes off to the north and disappears rapidly. After the jets circle and head back, the light returns, descends toward the silo, and takes off vertically. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 235–236; Nukes 220–221)
- 1962**, August 17–19 — Evening. Walking home, diamond prospector Rivalino Mafra da Silva sees two small beings, about three feet tall, digging a hole near Duas Pontes, 17 miles north of Diamantina, Minas Gerais, Brazil. On August 19, Mafra da Silva and his sons are in bed when they are awakened by sounds and see a shadowy figure, apparently floating in the room. In the morning, he and his son Raimundo see two humming balls floating outside. They merge into one larger ball that moves toward Rivalino, enveloping him in yellow smoke. Raimundo says: "Then the yellow smoke dissolved. The balls were gone. The ground below was clean as if the dust had been removed by a big broom." He tells his story to Lt. Wilson Lisboa, chief of police at Diamantina, who conducts a search for 10 days. Only a few drops of blood are found. ("[The Brazilian Abduction: Boy's Story Unshaken](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1962): 10–12; Clark III 418–419; Brazil 123–127; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#))
- 1962**, Late August — 2:00 p.m. [Ann Druffel](#) and Aileen Cummings are at Long Beach, California, when they see a small rectangular cloud over the Santa Catalina Channel. Its vapor appears to churn and it doubles in size, then elongates to 20–30 times its original size. (Ann Druffel, "[Santa Catalina Island Recurring 'Cloud Cigars](#),'" in *Proceedings of the 1976 CUFOS Conference*, Chicago, 1976, pp. 63–64; Ann Druffel, "[Santa Catalina Channel Cloud Cigars](#)," *IUR* 31, no. 1 (January 2007): 12–13)
- 1962**, Late August — 7:00 p.m. Three witnesses are driving in a rural area about 87 miles from Salta, Argentina, when two of them (the third sleeps through the event) see a light against the mountains to the west that grows larger and moves about 300 feet above the road ahead of them. It is a domed disc with flashing reddish-pink, green, and white lights around its perimeter. The object illuminates a truck ahead of them. The truck stops, and the two witnesses get out of their car and hide in some bushes to see what happens next. The object appears to be nearly 100 feet wide and 150 feet above the truck. The truck's lights go out and the object takes off to the north at a high rate of speed, climbing out of sight within seconds. They drive up to the truck, whose drivers are throwing dirt into its smoking engine compartment and are more concerned about an insurance claim than a UFO encounter. (Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, pp. 12–13)

- 1962**, August 26 — 12:05 a.m. Geraldo Bichara, 18, is standing guard at the Escola de Sargentos das Armas in Três Corações, Minas Gerais, Brazil, when an electrical blackout occurs in the city. Suddenly he is paralyzed by a light beam from an unseen object, apparently for a few minutes. In 1980, Bichara undergoes hypnosis and discovers that the incident was an abduction in which he is taken aboard a UFO by beings wearing pumpkin-colored jumpsuits and subjected to a medical examination. He attempts to flee at one point and grabs his rifle lying nearby, but he is still paralyzed. After about 2 hours he is returned to the guardhouse. (Brazil 60–66; [“Caso Giraldo Bichara.”](#) Grupo de Amigos que Estudam Mistérios e Ufologia, May 2014)
- 1962**, August 26 — 12:30 a.m. Walter T. Jones Jr. watches a triangular formation of 6 white lights and one green light pass silently over Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for 3–5 minutes. ([“Another ‘Mother’ Ship?”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, July 1963, p. 3)
- 1962**, August 27 — The US launches Mariner 2 to Venus, the first successful robotic space probe. En route to Venus, Mariner 2 measures the solar wind and interplanetary dust. As it flies by Venus on December 14, it scans the planet with its pair of radiometers, revealing that Venus has cool clouds and an extremely hot surface. (Wikipedia, [“Mariner 2”](#))
- 1962**, August 29 — Afternoon. A U-2 spy plane flying over Cuba spots an SA-2 surface-to-air missile site under construction at La Coloma, eight Komar-class guided missile patrol boats, and a cruise missile site at Banes. (Kenneth Michael Absher, *Mind-Sets and Missiles*, US Army War College, 2009)
- 1962**, August 30 — 7:35–7:55 p.m. While having supper at an outdoor restaurant near Port-au-Prince, Haiti, three men, one of whom works for Techint Engineering Company, watch a UFO that approaches and hovers for 20 minutes. The engineer has a portable theodolite with him, and they set it up and track the object. It is a silvery-gray disc, like two rounded hubcaps together, and is spinning on its axis. It has an antenna on the top and exhaust ports all around its mid-line, and it is surrounded by gaseous emissions that run through all the colors of the spectrum. The object flips to a vertical alignment, showing its base, and then tips over so that its original topside is on the bottom. The object silently accelerates and disappears in 5 seconds. Project Blue Book concludes that the men were watching the planet Venus. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1962](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 33–34; Swords 298–299)
- 1962**, September — California contactee [Gloria Lee](#) takes channeled blueprints for a spaceship to Washington, D.C., to show to government officials. She gets nowhere, but while in town she gets messages from her space contact J.W. saying that the space people are upset with human wars and nuclear weapons. J.W. orders her to go on a fast for peace until he sends a “light elevator” to take her to Jupiter. Her fast lasts from September 23 to November 28. No one pays attention. After about 66 days without eating, Lee’s husband, aircraft engineer William H. Byrd, summons an ambulance to take her to George Washington University Hospital. She dies there on December 3. Lee continues to channel post-mortem information through a medium named [Nada-Yolanda](#) (Pauline Sharpe) in the Miami-based Mark-Age MetaCenter. (Clark III 682–683; Tristan, [“The Airline Stewardess Who Starved Herself to Death for Aliens.”](#) Bizarre and Grotesque, December 18, 2016)
- 1962**, September — Thomas M. Comella, writing under the pseudonym “Peter Kor,” proposes that UFOs originate, not from space (as he apparently thought when he favored the extraterrestrial hypothesis in the December 1955 issue of *Fate*), but from a reality “so strange that it cannot be confined to our three-dimensional world.” (Clark III 877; Thomas M. Comella, [“Why the Real Saucer Is Interplanetary.”](#) *Fate* 8, no. 12 (December 1955): 17–23; Peter Kor [Thomas M. Comella], “The Solution to the Flying Saucer Mystery,” *Flying Saucers*, September 1962, pp. 68–74)
- 1962**, September 1 — The USSR publicly announces an agreement to supply arms and military technicians to Cuba. Construction begins on SS-5 IRBM sites in Guanajay. (Wikipedia, [“Cuban Missile Crisis”](#))
- 1962**, September 5 — U-2 photos reveal for the first time the presence of MiG-21 jet fighters in Cuba.
- 1962**, September 15 — Construction begins on Soviet SS-4 MRBM sites at San Cristobal, Cuba.
- 1962**, September 15 — 5:00 p.m. Two bright discs are seen over Oradell, New Jersey. At 6:00 p.m., former Navy flying officer [J. J. McVicker](#) sees two discs just across the state line near Oradell. At 7:50 p.m., [Victor Cipolla](#) sees a glowing object descend toward Oradell. Two other witnesses see one round object with a fin on top and another under it darting back and forth near Oradell Reservoir. At 7:55 p.m., three teens see and hear a bright, oval object land in the reservoir with a loud splash. A moment later, it lifts off and climbs silently at high speed. ([“Disc Landing Reported in New Jersey.”](#) *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 6 (Oct./Nov. 1962): 3–4; “Saucer ‘Flap’ in Northern New Jersey,” *Saucer News* 9, no. 4 (December 1962), pp. 14–15; UFOEv, [p. 140](#); Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1962](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 48, 49; [Sparks](#), p. 292)
- 1962**, September 18 — 5:00–5:15 a.m. Six police officers in five separate locations in northeast Ohio observe UFOs moving generally to the northeast or east, but in two of the observations the objects take off at high speed. State

policeman David McCurry sees two white, oval-shaped objects near Minerva, Ohio. (UFOEv, [p. 62](#); “[Police in Four Counties Sight UFOs: Ohio State Patrolman David McCurry’s Eyewitness Testimony, 1962](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, June 21, 2024)

1962, September 20 — Construction begins on Soviet SAM sites at Los Angeles, Chaparra, and Juguani, Cuba.

1962, September 29 — A CIA U-2 mission over the Isle of Pines and Bay of Pigs, Cuba, reveals additional Soviet SA-2 and cruise missile sites. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [p. 183](#); Kenneth Michael Absher, *Mind-Sets and Missiles*, US Army War College, 2009)

1962, Fall — Arlene Cook is awakened by her young, terrified son, at their home in Anaheim, California. He says something is in his bedroom, so they go to investigate and see a half-dollar-sized light on his bed. The spot stays visible when she puts her hand on the bed or when she removes the covers, but she can find no source for the light. It then just switches off and does not return. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Trick of the Light](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 8)

1962, Fall — Patricia Ellingson is seeing “glowing, flame-like lights” in her bedroom in Azusa, California, every evening. She thinks they appear only when she is mentally calm. The lights are the size of a quarter, sometimes switch off abruptly, and other times fade out slowly. At times they do not appear for months, and she feels sad when they are not there. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Trick of the Light](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 8)

1962, October — The CIA and USAF instruct Lockheed to study a high-speed, high-altitude drone concept. [Kelly Johnson](#) specifies speeds of Mach 3.3–3.5, an operational altitude of 87,000–95,000 feet, and a range of 3,500 miles. It would make a one-way trip, eject its camera payload at the end of the mission for recovery, then self-destruct. It has a double-delta wing similar to the A-12’s wing design. The Q-12 is to be air-launched from the back of an A-12 and uses key technology from the A-12 project, including titanium construction and radar cross-section reduction design features. Johnson wants to power the Q-12 with a ramjet engine modified to operate at high temperatures for at least 90 minutes at high altitude. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed D-21](#)”)

1962, October 2 — Night. A Boeing security guard at an unidentified Minuteman missile site near Moore, Montana [likely the M-01 launch site that is part of Malmstrom AFB complex], sees a tear-shaped object with a blue top and a red bottom. (“[Flying Objects Reported in Separated Areas](#),” *Helena (Mont.) Independent-Record*, October 3, 1962, p. 7)

1962, October 2 — Night. Airmen on security patrol at Larson AFB [now Grant County International Airport] near Moses Lake, Washington, see a white light hovering a few hundred feet in the air near where the ICBM storage bunkers are located. It silently shoots into the air as the guards approach it. (“[Flying Objects Reported in Separated Areas](#),” *Helena (Mont.) Independent-Record*, October 3, 1962, p. 7; Nukes 145–147)

1962, October 7 — New U-2 flights show there are now 19 Soviet SA-2 missile sites in Cuba.

1962, October 10? — Twilight. Residents of Spring Park Road in Jacksonville, Florida, watch small fireballs with fuzzy outlines moving around their houses. Some house lights dim and others go out entirely as the lights move about. J. P. Baker sees a fireball moving through a field behind his house. He goes inside to tell his wife, and she looks out the kitchen window and sees a brilliant “round ball, big as a No. 2 wash tub” and pinkish in color. It hovers outside the window less than 6 feet away, then floats around the corner of the house. One man sees a light moving along utility wires. Another woman reports a glow moving through her house; at one point it envelops her and her hand tingles. Gladys Faucette on Cascade Road sees a brilliant glow descend to within 3 feet of the ground. An electrical circuit goes out about the same time. (“[Glowing Lights Invade Home](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1962, p. 1; “[Great Balls of Fire! We Had a Glow On](#),” *NICAP Reporter* 1, no. 4 (January 1963): 4; Covert 56)

1962, October 12 — Dawn. An object like an orange or yellow meteor is observed over Forbes AFB [now Topeka Regional Airport], Topeka, Kansas. Its flight path is curved upward, with an occasional jerky motion; it moves quickly at first but slows down as it reaches the zenith. It is visible for 5 minutes before fading out. [[Blue Book documents](#)]; Nukes 145)

1962, October 14 — A U-2 (loaned to the Air Force by the CIA because the CIA U-2s have better surveillance capabilities) piloted by USAF Major [Richard S. Heyser](#) out of Laughlin AFB, Del Rio, Texas, takes 928 pictures on a path selected by DIA analysts, capturing images of what turn out to be an SS-4 MRBM construction site at San Cristóbal, Pinar del Río Province [now in Artemisa Province], in western Cuba. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; “[U-2 Pilot’s Cuba Photos Made History](#),” *Wilmington (N.C.) Star-News*, October 9, 2005)

1962, October 15 — The CIA’s National Photographic Interpretation Center reviews the U-2 photographs and identifies objects that they interpret as medium-range ballistic missiles. The CIA notifies the Department of State. National Security Advisor [McGeorge Bundy](#) chooses to wait until the next morning to tell the President. Secretary of Defense [Robert McNamara](#) is briefed at midnight. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”)

- 1962**, October 16 — 6:30 p.m. [Kennedy](#) gathers a select group of advisors known as the ExComm (Executive Committee of the National Security Council) to discuss a strategic response. [McNamara](#) presents him with three basic options: a political option of approaching [Castro](#) and [Khrushchev](#); a naval blockade to stop Soviet ships carrying weapons to Cuba; and “military action directed against Cuba, starting with an air attack against the missiles.” The ExComm’s initial discussions focus on a massive US military assault on the nuclear installations and other bases in Cuba, and whether the Soviets would counterattack in Berlin or elsewhere. Kennedy rejects an attack, favoring a quarantine to buy time to negotiate a missile withdrawal. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”)
- 1962**, October 17 — A U-2 takes the first photo of an IRBM site under construction in Cuba. (“[The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962: The Photographs](#),” National Security Archive)
- 1962**, October 22 — 7:00 p.m. President [Kennedy](#) addresses the American public for 18 minutes and announces his plan to implement a naval blockade of Cuba. US military alert is set at DEFCON 3, and [Castro](#) mobilizes all of Cuba’s military forces. US ambassador to the Soviet Union [Foy D. Kohler](#) delivers a letter from JFK to [Khrushchev](#), saying, “the one thing that has most concerned me has been the possibility that your government would not correctly understand the will and determination of the United States in any given situation, since I have not assumed that you or any other sane man would, in this nuclear age, deliberately plunge the world into war which it is crystal clear no country could win and which could only result in catastrophic consequences to the whole world, including the aggressor.” (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; John F. Kennedy, [Letter to Chairman Nikita Khrushchev](#), October 22, 1962)
- 1962**, October 23 — [Khrushchev](#) writes to [Kennedy](#), rebuffing his demand that the Soviets remove the missiles, which the Soviet leader insists “are intended solely for defensive purposes.” Kennedy writes back, bluntly reminding Khrushchev that he started the crisis by secretly sending missiles to Cuba. As US ambassador [Adlai Stevenson](#) explains the matter to the United Nations Security Council, US ships already are moving into position in the waters around Cuba. Soviet submarines menacingly move into the Caribbean as well, positioned as if they might try to break a blockade. But Soviet freighters bearing military supplies headed for Cuba stop in their tracks. (Nikita Khrushchev, [Letter to President John F. Kennedy](#), October 23, 1962; John F. Kennedy, [Draft letter to Chairman Nikita Khrushchev](#), October 23, 1962)
- 1962**, October 23 — 5:00 p.m. R. O. Christensen is duck hunting near the Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area in Utah when he hears what sounds like a flock of ducks approaching. He looks west from his blind, he notices a silvery round globe about 3 feet in diameter moving from the west at the speed of a jet aircraft. It seems to be trailing some gray or silver cobwebby material. After it passes overhead, it swerves to the southeast and accelerates to a tremendous speed and disappears in 1–2 seconds. (Olsen, sec. 3, p. 82; ; [Sparks](#), p. 293)
- 1962**, October 24 — [Khrushchev](#) sends an indignant letter to [Kennedy](#), accusing him of threatening the Soviet Union: “You are no longer appealing to reason, but wish to intimidate us.” (Nikita Khrushchev, [Letter to President John F. Kennedy](#), October 24, 1962)
- 1962**, October 24 — A Soviet spacecraft, Mars 2MV-4 No. 1, intended to make a flyby survey of Mars, is destroyed in Earth orbit due to a problem with the rocket that has launched it. (Wikipedia, “[Mars 2MV-4 No. 1](#)”)
- 1962**, October 25 — The US raises the readiness level of SAC forces to DEFCON 2. For the only confirmed time in US history, B-52 bombers go on continuous airborne alert, and B-47 medium bombers are dispersed to various military and civilian airfields and made ready to take off, fully equipped, on 15 minutes notice. The Soviet arms freighters turn back toward Europe, but the oil tanker *Bucharest* approaches the US quarantine zone, directly headed for Cuba. Two American warships, the [USS Essex](#) and the [USS Gearing](#), prepare to intercept it, which could have led to war. Instead, [Kennedy](#) decides to let the *Bucharest* through the quarantine because it isn’t carrying any contraband. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; McGeorge Bundy, “[Record of Action of the Fourth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Security Council](#),” October 25, 1962; Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”)
- 1962**, October 26 — [Castro](#) sends a letter to [Khrushchev](#), urging him to launch a nuclear first strike against the US, which the Soviet leader disregards. Instead, Khrushchev sends a letter to [Kennedy](#), in which he offers to work with him to deescalate the conflict and ensure that they do not “doom the world to the catastrophe of thermonuclear war.” The CIA reports that the construction of Cuban missile sites is continuing and accelerating. [Robert Kennedy](#) meets secretly with Soviet Ambassador [Anatoly Dobrynin](#) and agrees after a phone call to the president that the removal of US missiles from Turkey is negotiable as part of a comprehensive settlement. (Fidel Castro, [Letter to Chairman Nikita Khrushchev](#), October 26, 1962; Nikita Khrushchev, [Department of State Telegram Transmitting Letter to President John F. Kennedy](#), October 26, 1962; Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; Daniel Ellsberg, *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, Bloomsbury, 2017, chapter 12–13)
- 1962**, October 26 — 6:15 a.m. Mrs. Alvie Frank sees several flat, glowing objects moving slowly about 11 miles south of Monte Vista, Colorado. (“[Variety of Objects in Colorado](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1963, p. 1)

- 1962**, October 26 — 7:16 a.m. Bessie Rogers of Fort Collins, Colorado, spots a large, black parachute-shaped object weaving back and forth over the mountains somewhere between the south end of Horsetooth Reservoir and Masonville. It flies around for about 10 minutes, disappears, and then returns. (“[Variety of Objects in Colorado](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1963, p. 1)
- 1962**, Late October — Day. Two Air Force B-52 Stratofortress bombers are returning to Loring AFB [now the Loring Commerce Centre] near Limestone, Maine, following an Operation Chrome Dome mission. They are on final approach to landing when a huge, metallic-gray, cigar-shaped UFO descends over the flight line and hovers for a few minutes. It stretches halfway across the aircraft ramp area, which would make it half a mile wide. Jet engine mechanic Sgt. Christopher Smith is watching the scenario from the ground and notes that the UFO is silent and has no lights or visible openings. After the second B-52 lands, the UFO silently zooms away toward the east and disappears. All the ground witnesses and the flight crews do not talk about the incident afterward and act as if nothing happened. (Nukes 132–136, 138–139)
- 1962**, October 27 — A U-2 piloted by Maj. [Rudolf Anderson](#) is shot down over Cuba. However, [Kennedy](#) correctly concludes that [Khrushchev](#) has not himself given the order to shoot down Anderson’s plane. The incident prompts both leaders to realize the situation is spiraling dangerously out of control. Khrushchev sends another letter to Kennedy, in which he demands that the United States withdraw missiles from Turkey as part of the deal. JFK responds by offering to promise not to attack Cuba after the Russians withdraw. In the evening, [Robert Kennedy](#) tells Soviet ambassador [Dobrynin](#), “You have drawn first blood.... The president had decided against advice ... not to respond militarily to that attack, but he [Dobrynin] should know that if another plane was shot at ... we would take out all the SAMs and antiaircraft.... And that would almost surely be followed by an invasion.” However, he also says that the US already plans to remove its missiles from Turkey but cannot say so publicly. This is the moment when both nations step back from the brink of war. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; Nikita Khrushchev, [Letter to President John F. Kennedy](#), October 27, 1962; Anatoly Dobrynin, [Cable to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, meeting with Robert Kennedy](#), October 27, 1962; John F. Kennedy, [Letter to Chairman Nikita Khrushchev](#), October 27, 1962; Daniel Ellsberg, *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, Bloomsbury, 2017, chapter 12–13; Christopher Klein, “[How the Death of a US Air Force Pilot Prevented a Nuclear War](#),” History Stores, October 28, 2019)
- 1962**, October 28 — In a speech aired on Radio Moscow, [Nikita Khrushchev](#) announces the dismantling of Soviet missiles in Cuba and does not insist on his demands concerning the removal of US missiles from Turkey. (Wikipedia, “[Cuban Missile Crisis](#)”; Nikita Khrushchev, [Letter to President John F. Kennedy](#), October 28, 1962)
- 1962**, October 28 — 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Ellen D. Sylvester is driving with her three children in Norwood, South Australia, east of Adelaide, when they see an orange glow on the ground, perhaps 2–3 miles away. It has three legs, round windows, and the boy remarks that he can see people in it. One of the “men” gets out and descends to the ground. He appears to be doing something to one of the landing legs. He seems to have some trouble in making it retract, which finally he overcomes. He is about 6 feet tall, as his head reaches the outer fringe of the craft. He wears a helmet like a gas mask. He returns to the UFO, which begins to move slowly away, then very fast, and disappears in a northerly direction. Total time of observation is 40 minutes. (Keith Basterfield, “[‘This Is One of the Most Remarkable Cases of a Flying Saucer...’ Adelaide, 1962](#),” Unidentified Aerial Phenomena—Scientific Research, September 22, 2014)
- 1962**, October 29 — Defense Department Assistant Secretary [Arthur Sylvester](#) admits that withholding evidence on UFOs from the public is necessary if the means justifies it. He cites USAF “administrative practices” Air Force Regulation 11-30, where withholding information “in the public interest” is allowed, and AFR 11-7, which states that sometimes information requested by Congress may not be furnished “even in confidence.” (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, [p. 86](#); UFOEv, [p. 106](#))
- 1962**, October 29 — Vera Rogers sees a round, shiny object flying low over Fort Collins, Colorado. The object, heading south, makes a soft, whirring sound followed by a popping noise. (“[Variety of Objects in Colorado](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1963, p. 1)
- 1962**, November — Evening. A French businessman is driving along a minor road in Var department, southeastern France. It is raining heavily. Rounding a bend, he sees a group of figures in the road 260 feet ahead. He slows down to drive around them and sees that they are actually bizarre animals with the heads of birds and covered in plumage. Terrified, he speeds ahead and stops about 500 feet further ahead. Turning around, he sees the entities heading toward a luminous, dark-blue object hanging in the air over a field on the other side of the road. It resembles two plates upside down. The entities are sucked into the bottom of the object. He hears a “clack,” and the UFO takes off at “prodigious speed.” (Lyonel Trigano, “[Strange Encounter in Var](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1968): 18; Clark III 280)

- 1962**, November 1 — The Soviet Union launches Mars 1, an automatic interplanetary station, in the direction of Mars with the intent of flying by the planet at a distance of 6,800 miles. It is designed to image the surface and send back data on cosmic radiation, micrometeoroid impacts, and possible organic compounds. After five months, communications cease 90 days before it is scheduled to reach the planet. (Wikipedia, "[Mars 1](#)")
- 1962**, November 13 — Two IBM engineers, C. D. Jackson and [Robert E. Hohmann](#), present a paper at the American Rocket Society annual meeting in Los Angeles, California, noting the alleged extraterrestrial signals detected by [Nikola Tesla](#), [Guglielmo Marconi](#), and [David Todd](#) between 1899 and 1924. They speculate that the signal source was 11 light years away, perhaps the Epsilon Eridani system. (C. D. Jackson and Robert E. Hohmann, "An Historic Report on Life in Space: Tesla, Marconi, Todd," paper presented at the 17th Annual Meeting of the American Rocket Society, Los Angeles, November 13–18, 1962; Michael D. Swords, "[Radio Signals from Space, Alien Probes, and Betty Hill](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 4 (July 2005): 10–15)
- 1962**, November 15 — Stanford astronomer [Carl Sagan](#) presents a paper at the American Rocket Society annual meeting in Los Angeles, California, that explores models for the distribution of technical civilizations in the galaxy. Using [Frank Drake](#)'s equation to suggest that 0.001% of stars in the sky have a planet on them on which an advanced civilization resides, Sagan suggests the nearest such advanced civilization is several hundred light years away from earth. From there, he explores the feasibility of interstellar spaceflight as a means for traversing such distances. The paper ends in consideration of the possibility of extraterrestrial contact with Earth in the past, including the ancient Mesopotamian myth of [Oannes](#) (Apkallu), a mythical being who taught mankind wisdom. [Berossus](#) describes Oannes as having the body of a fish but underneath the figure of a man. (Carl Sagan, "[Direct Contact among Galactic Civilizations by Relativistic Interstellar Spaceflight](#)," *Planetary and Space Science* 11 (May 1963): 485–498; Carl Sagan, [[handwritten draft of paper](#)]; Wikipedia, "[Adapa](#)"; Stanton Friedman and Kathleen Marden, *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*, Weiser, 2007)
- 1962**, November 17 — 9:00 p.m. [Frederick L. Swindal](#), ex-Marine captain, and his wife Virginia are sitting on the front porch of their farm between Brooksville and Dade City, Florida, when they see an object with three lights flying at a high altitude from the northeast. At first they assume it is an airplane, but it stops and hovers for 5 minutes. The lights then move southeast at a high speed, and Swindal realizes that the lights are apparently on three different objects. They bounce up and down somewhat and vary the distance between each other. They are in sight for 3–5 minutes. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 82–83; UFOEv, [p. 140](#); [Sparks](#), p. 293)
- 1962**, November 23 — The [Hills](#) attend a meeting at the parsonage of their Unitarian church in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where the invited guest speaker is USAF Capt. [Ben H. Swett](#), who has recently published a book of his poetry. After he reads selections of his poetry, the pastor asks him to discuss his personal interest in hypnosis. After the meeting breaks up, the Hills approach Swett privately and tell him what they can remember of their strange encounter. He is particularly interested in the missing time of the Hills' account. The Hills ask Swett if he will hypnotize them to recover their memories, but Swett says he is not qualified and cautions them against going to an amateur hypnotist, such as himself. (Clark III 584)
- 1962**, November 30 — Two teenage boys in Lethbridge, Alberta, see an elliptical object hovering near a school building and decide to throw rocks at it. The object is about 8 feet in diameter and glowing blue. Their stones seem to ricochet off the UFO and forcefully returned, landing on structures behind the teens. (CUFOS case file)
- 1962**, December — [Kennedy](#) closes the Cuban Project, the CIA's Operation Mongoose. (Wikipedia, "[Operation Mongoose](#)")
- 1962**, December 1 — Evening. A husband and wife in East Point, Georgia, are watching the first-quarter Moon through a 6-inch reflector. In the dark area, well away from the terminator, the man sees a bright-red spot light up. It gets so bright that he points it out to his wife. She notices it starting to move across the illuminated portion of the Moon, then continues passing in a straight line across the blue Georgia sky, faster and faster until it is gone. (Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 15)
- 1962**, December 7 — A full-scale mockup of the Q-12 drone is ready at Groom Lake, Nevada, and has already undergone preliminary tests to measure its stealth quality. However, the CIA is not enthusiastic about the Q-12, mostly because the agency is overextended at the time with U-2 missions, getting the A-12 up to speed, and covert operations in Southeast Asia. The USAF, however, is interested in the Q-12 as both a reconnaissance platform and a cruise missile and the CIA finally decides to work with the USAF to develop it. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed D-21](#)")
- 1962**, December 12 — 4:30 p.m. Five schoolgirls in Amagasaki, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, see a brightly glowing UFO. All five students independently sketch a Saturn-shaped object. (UFOEv, [p. 124](#))
- 1962**, December 18 — 2:20 p.m. Night watchman Francesco Rizzi is reporting for work at a mill on Via Santa Valeria in Milan, Italy. In the center of the mill's courtyard he hears a swishing sound and turns to see a domed metallic disc

12–15 feet in diameter with portholes hovering 3 feet above the ground. A door opens at the bottom and a small man just over 3 feet tall and wearing a luminous coverall emerges. The man motions Rizzi to come nearer, but he is frozen with fear. Another small man comes out of the disc, but they both return, the door closes behind them, and the object takes off in a cloud of white smoke. Rizzi reports the sighting to a colleague, the police, and the press, and soon loses his job. (IPinotti 130–131)

1962, December 21 — Ali R. Diaz is aboard a DC-3 tourist plane on a vacation trip to Angel Falls, Venezuela. He obtains color film of a UFO rising from the base of a mountain. The film shows a yellowish teardrop-shaped object rising across the face of Auyán-tepui plateau. The UFO seems to oscillate from side to side until it is lost in clouds. The falls and mountain provide location points throughout. (“[Angel Falls UFO Film 1962](#),” UFO History Group YouTube channel, August 30, 2014; UFOEv, [p. 96](#))

1962, December 22 — About 3:00 a.m. At Ezeiza International Airport [now Ministro Pistarini International Airport] at Ezeiza Partido in Greater Buenos Aires, Argentina, tower operators Horacio Alora and Mario Pezzutto are watching an Aereolíneas Argentinas plane that is about to take off. It is also seen by an approaching DC-8 jet operated by Panagra, whose captain asks what the object is at the end of the runway. Alora sees a large, round, glowing object that has evidently descended when he is watching the airliner. The UFO immediately rises about 30 feet, hovers, then accelerates on a northeast course. (UFOEv, [p. 119](#); Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1962](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 75–76)

1963

1963 — Astronomer [Donald H. Menzel](#) and science writer Lyle G. Boyd publish *The World of Flying Saucers*, a skeptical overview of UFO sightings and a contemptuous treatment of UFO groups. (Donald H. Menzel and Lyle G. Boyd, *The World of Flying Saucers*, Doubleday, 1963)

1963, January — The A-12 fleet at Groom Lake, Nevada, is now operating with J58 engines built by Pratt and Whitney, allowing for speeds up to Mach 3.

1963, January — Night. Brothers Rosauero Antonio, Ricardo, and Victor Domingo López discover a burned area of grass in a field just over a mile from their house in Cañada de Alzogaray, near Burruyacú, Tucumán, Argentina. The burn is in the shape of two rings (each a foot wide and 10.8 feet in diameter) where the grass is burned down to its roots to a depth of 3–4 inches. They find a carbonized residue and whitish powder. Some days previously, a neighbor named Juan Gerónimo Pera, his wife, and children, had seen a luminous oval-shaped object that landed in the field. (Oscar A. Uriondo, “[Preliminary Catalogue of Type 1 Cases in Argentina](#),” *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, no. 12 (December 1972): 11)

1963, January 11 — At 11:00 p.m., at San Pietro Vernotico, Italy, farmer Antonio de Luca is awakened by restless animals and goes out to calm them. Fifteen minutes later he sees a domed disc some 132 feet long land in the village square. Dark figures are moving inside the transparent dome. He tries to approach but is paralyzed at 30 feet away. It ascends in the direction of Brindisi to the north, emitting a vertical beam of green light. (Vallée, *Magonia*, [p. 290](#); Gordon W. Creighton, “[The Italian Scene—Part 4](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1963): 12; Center for UFO Studies, [HUMCAT Index 1963](#), p. 3; Pier Luigi Sani, “[UFO in Italia: Analisi e commento del periodo 1955–1972](#),” *UFO Rivista di Informazione Ufologica*, no. 8 (April 1990): 21–22; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1963](#), The Author, 2005, p. 8; Mario Desiati, “[Quando i cieli Pugliesi erano pieni di UFO](#),” *News Fortiane*, no. 16 (July 2009): 7–8)

1963, January 17 — A formation of objects passes over Entre Ríos province, Argentina, and discharges angel hair. Vitreous particles are recovered, which consist of an “amalgam of silicon, boron, calcium, and magnesium.” (Gordon Creighton, “[Argentina, 1963–64](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 15; Brian Boldman, “[Angel Hair Physical Analyses: A Review](#),” *JUFOS* 9 (2006): 104)

1963, February 11 — The CIA establishes a Domestic Operations Division for its clandestine services, conducted within the US against “foreign targets.”

1963, February 15 — 7:10 a.m. Farmer Charles Brew and his son Trevor are in a shed, milking a herd of cows near Moe, Victoria, Australia. Charles sees an object descend very steeply out of the east from a low cloud during a heavy rain, at about a 45° angle. The UFO is about 25 feet in diameter, and about 9–10 feet high. The lower portion, about 3 feet high, is rotating in an anticlockwise direction and is bluish. The upper portion appears to be stationary, battleship-gray in color, with a transparent dome on top. Protruding out of the dome is something resembling a broom handle. A sound, described as swishing or burbling, is heard by both Charles and Trevor, and

it throws the nearby cows and horses into a panic. Keith Basterfield thinks the event might have been caused by a funnel cloud. (NICAP, “[Rotating Object and Animal Reaction](#)”; “[Hallucinated Cows?](#)” *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1963): 23; “[Saucer Panics Cattle](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July 1963, p. 1; “[The Case of the Frightened Cows](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, September 1963, pp. 1, 3–4; “[Flying Machine over Farm](#),” *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 8 (June 1965): 10; Bill Chalker, “[Tully Saucer Nests of 1966, Part Two](#),” *IUR* 23, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 15–16; [Sparks](#), p. 293; Swords 388–390; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold Case Review, Moe, Victoria: The RAAF Investigation](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, January 29, 2015; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold Case Review, Moe, Victoria: The VFSRS Investigation](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, January 29, 2015; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold Case Review, Moe, Victoria: The McDonald Investigation](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, January 29, 2015; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold Case Review, Moe, Victoria: My Analysis](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, January 29, 2015; Keith Basterfield, “[Moe, Victoria: Questions to Trevor Brew](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, March 6, 2015; Keith Basterfield, “[The 1963 Moe, Victoria, Sighting: James E. McDonald Audio Interview with Charles Brew](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, September 15, 2016)

1963, February 23 — 9:45 p.m. An oval object is seen in the sky above Highcliffe, Dorset, England. Emerald-green in color and surrounded by a glow, it hangs in the sky for 10 minutes before witnesses see two smaller objects emerge from it. These fly away and disappear over the English Channel. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[Satellite Objects and Cloud Cigars](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2004): 10)

1963, March — Austrian ufologist [Luis Schoenherr](#) offers a paranormal explanation for UFOs, saying that they either emanate from an unobservable fourth dimension or are time machines. (Luis Schoenherr, “[UFOs and the Fourth Dimension](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 2 (March/April 1963): 10–12; Luis Schoenherr, “[UFOs and the Fourth Dimension, Part 2](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1964): 16–20, 23)

1963, March 3 — The [Hills](#) are invited by their Unitarian church to discuss their UFO experience. They speak about it for the first time publicly. (Clark III 584)

1963, April — An article by [J. Allen Hynek](#) appears in the *Yale Scientific Magazine*. (J. Allen Hynek, “Flying Saucers I Have Known,” *Yale Scientific Magazine* 37 (April 1963): 6–9, reprinted in Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1963](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 42–62)

1963, April 30 — [Adamski](#) arrives in Copenhagen for another scheduled lecture tour of Europe at the invitation of Hans C. Petersen. He attends the Skandinavisk UFO Information Congress in Frederica, Denmark. (“[Final Years](#),” The Adamski Case, June 11, 2009)

1963, May 15 — Sandia National Laboratories conducts the first of four top-secret, dry-surface plutonium-dispersal tests at the Tonopah Test Range in Nevada, as part of Operation Roller Coaster. The other tests are on May 25, May 31, and June 9. The intent is to investigate exposure of animals (dogs, sheep, and burros) to plutonium dispersal in a non-nuclear scenario. (Wikipedia, “[Operation Roller Coaster](#)”; Lt. Col. J. L. Dick, et al., “[Operation Roller Coaster: Interim Summary Report \(II\)](#),” Department of Defense, September 1963)

1963, May 24 — An A-12 piloted by [Kenneth S. Collins](#) crashes near Wendover, Utah. The CIA thinks it might have been due to pilot error and contracts with a well-known Boston, Massachusetts, psychiatrist with a specialty in hypnosis (unnamed, but possibly Benjamin Simon, of [Betty and Barney Hill](#) fame later). After a lengthy investigation it is determined that a tiny, pencil-sized part called a pilot tube, a device that controls the airspeed indicator, froze when the A-12 entered a cloud, causing the aircraft to stall. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed A-12](#)”; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 190–197)

1963, May 31 — [Adamski](#) allegedly has a private audience with Pope [John XXIII](#) in Rome, Italy. The pontiff is seriously ill and dies three days later. Adamski claims that he has received a “Golden Medal of Honor” from the pope, but skeptics note that the medal is actually a common tourist souvenir made by a company in Milan, and that Adamski displays it to his friends in a cheap plastic box—which is how it is sold in tourist shops in Rome. Adamski says his meeting is at the request of the extraterrestrials he is in contact with in order to ask for a “final agreement” from the pope because of his decision not to communicate directly with them anymore and to offer John XXIII a liquid substance in order to save him from the gastric enteritis that he suffers from. (Lou Zinsstag and Timothy Good, *George Adamski: The Untold Story*, Ceti, 1983; Colin Bennett, *Looking for Orthon*, Paraview, 2001, p. 189; “[Vatican Visit](#),” The Adamski Case, October 7, 2019; Marc Hallet, [A Critical Appraisal of George Adamski: The Man Who Spoke to the Space Brothers](#), The Author, 2016)

- 1963**, Summer — [Allen H. Greenfield](#) and [Rick Hilberg](#) start publishing *Saucer Album* in Cleveland, Ohio. It becomes *UFO Magazine* in mid-1964 and continues through the summer of 1970. After a few years' hiatus, it returns as *UFO Magazine News Bulletin* in early 1974 and continues at least until February 1979. ([Saucer Album](#) 1, no. 1 (Summer 1963))
- 1963**, June 15 — 8:39 p.m. In the Indian Ocean southwest of India, 3rd Mate R. C. Chamberlin of the SS *Thetis* sees in the northwest a luminous disc travel at 1.5 times the angular speed of a satellite. Tim Printy suspects it is the Thor Agena stage used for the launch of several small satellites from Vandenberg AFB in California the same day. ([Sparks](#), p. 294; Tim Printy, "[The 701 Club: Case #8388, June 15, 1963](#)," *SUNlite* 5, no. 2 (March/April 2013): 25–29)
- 1963**, June 16 — Russian cosmonaut [Valentina Tereshkova](#) becomes the first woman in space, flying a solo mission on Vostok 6 and spending nearly three days in orbit. (Wikipedia, "[Vostok 6](#)")
- 1963**, June 26 — Around 1:00 a.m. Enrico A. Gilberti Jr. and his wife Janet are awakened at their home on 344 Commercial Street, Weymouth, Massachusetts, by a loud roar. They look out the window and see a Saturn-shaped object moving slowly above the treetops 100 feet off the ground and 300 feet away. Gilberti describes it as "two hamburger buns one on top of another with a sandwiched piece of meat protruding around." It is about 30–40 feet across and has two brilliant lights. The UFO follows some power lines across a field and disappears to the northeast. "The roar was deafening." Neighbors hear the noise but do not see anything. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1963](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 84–85)
- 1963**, June 26 — Four glowing greenish objects with halos are seen by a technician and many others at Pinecrest, California. Three objects moving westerly are approached by a similar object from the west. The fourth object stops and hovers as the three approach, split formation, and continue west. Then the fourth object continues east. (UFOEv, [p. 140](#))
- 1963**, June 28 — 9:30 p.m. A man is driving along the Lyndoch-Gawler Road near Sandy Creek, South Australia, when he comes across a blood-red, glowing object, 25 feet across and 12 feet high, in the road ahead. He is within 12 feet of it when he hits the brakes. The object turns a lighter reddish-yellow and rises up into the air several hundred feet. It turns on its side and speeds away. This and other UFO incidents cause Sen. [Jim Cavanagh](#) to ask the federal government to make its UFO dossier public, but Minister for Air [David Fairbairn](#) refuses, saying that the vast majority of reports are explainable. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: January–June 1963](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 86–87)
- 1963**, July — The CIA has synthesized many of the findings from its psychological research into what became known as the "KUBARK Counterintelligence Interrogation" handbook, which cites the MKUltra studies and other secret research programs as the scientific basis for their interrogation methods. [Donald Ewen Cameron](#) regularly travels around the US teaching military personnel about his techniques (hooding of prisoners for sensory deprivation, prolonged isolation, humiliation, etc.), and how they can be used in interrogations. Latin American paramilitary groups working for the CIA and US military personnel receive training in these psychological techniques at places such as the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. (In the 21st century, many of these torture techniques are used at US military and CIA prisons such as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Abu Ghraib, Iraq.) In the aftermath of the 1975 congressional hearings, major news media mainly focus on sensational stories related to LSD, mind-control, and brainwashing, and rarely use the word "torture." This suggests that the CIA researchers are, as one author put it, "a bunch of bumbling sci-fi buffoons" rather than a rational group of men who have run torture laboratories and medical experiments in major US universities; they have arranged for torture, rape, and psychological abuse of adults and young children, driving many of them permanently insane. (Central Intelligence Agency, "[KUBARK Counterintelligence Interrogation](#)," July 1963; Wikipedia, "[Unethical human experimentation in the United States](#)")
- 1963**, July 2 — Nineteen-year-old NICAP member [John P. Speights](#) of Raleigh, North Carolina, writes a letter questioning the Air Force's treatment of UFOs to Rep. [Carl Vinson](#) (D-Ga.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Vinson forwards it to USAF along with his own request for information on Blue Book. The Air Force treats the request gingerly because of the implication of a congressional hearing and prepares a reply to Vinson on July 18, but there is no evidence that it is sent. USAF Maj. [Maston M. Jacks](#) does reply to Speights on August 5. (Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963](#), The Author, 2005, pp. 19–20; US Air Force, Foreign Technology Division, "[Congressional Correspondence on the U.S. Air Force UFO Program, Congressman Carl Vinson](#)")
- 1963**, July 16 — Farmer Roy Blanchard of Charlton, Wiltshire, England, discovers a strange crater on the ground overlapping his potato and barley fields. It is about 8 feet wide and 4 inches deep. A hole in the center is 3 feet deep and less than a foot in diameter. All vegetation inside the circle is burned, leaving only bare earth, and there

are four slots in the ground around it, each about 4 feet long and a foot wide. A small piece of metal is found. Astronomer [Patrick Moore](#) states that a “shrimp-sized meteorite” has caused the crater. But a military investigation shows no burn or scratch marks or any trace of an explosion. (Waveney Girvan, “[The Wiltshire Crater Mystery: The Meteorite That Never Was](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1963): 3–7; “[Postscript to the Charlton Crater: What Mr. Salwood Saw](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 9, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1963): 8; Charles Bowen, “[Back to Charlton](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 12; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963*, The Author, 2005, pp. 12–16; UFOFiles2, [p. 116](#); Nick Redfern, “[The Curious Caper of the Charlton Crater, Part 1](#),” Mysterious Universe, September 28, 2015; Nick Redfern, “[The Curious Caper of the Charlton Crater, Part 2](#),” Mysterious Universe, September 28, 2015; Matthew Richardson, “[The Charlton Crater](#)”)

1963, July 20 — An A-1 piloted by [Louis Schalk](#) briefly achieves a speed of Mach 3 for the first time. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [p. 201](#))

1963, July 22 — 8:30 p.m. Michael Holland, 12, and two friends, Paul Lightfoot and Keith Kerfoot, are playing on a tip of wasteland opposite Redgate Drive in Parr, St. Helens, Merseyside, UK. They notice a silvery, shining object that descends and stops at 70 feet altitude. It has a red flashing light on top like a police car light. Something like a periscope emerges from it, swivels around, returns, and the object goes up quickly into an oddly tinted cloud that moves against the wind. (“[Was This the Charlton Saucer? A Contemporary Sighting in Lancashire](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 3 (May/June 1964): 24–25)

1963, August 1 — MP [Patrick Wall](#) inquires in the House of Commons about the Charlton Crater of July 16. Secretary of State for Air [Hugh Fraser](#) responds that no further investigation is warranted, and Secretary of State for War [Joseph Godber](#) replies that the army is concerned only whether the crater contained an unexploded bomb. (Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)

1963, August 1 — Evening. A former RAF pilot and flight instructor sees a triangular UFO that lingers for a long time over Garston, Hertfordshire, England, then climbs out of sight. Thousands of other people in the London area, including an air traffic controller four miles away and future UFO researcher [Timothy Good](#) in Beckenham, London, also see the object, which has a tetrahedral shape and glassy appearance when seen through binoculars. A USAF F-100 Super Sabre from RAF Bentwaters [now Bentwaters Parks] in Woodbridge, Suffolk, and another plane from the De Havilland Aircraft Company are sent up to investigate but cannot get anywhere near the UFO, which is at an estimated 90,000 feet. An amateur astronomer in Bushey, Hertfordshire, takes a clear photo. The official explanation is a balloon. (UFOEv, [p. 141](#); Good Above, [p. 149](#))

1963, August 4 — 11:30 p.m. Ronnie Austin and Phyllis Bruce are driving east on State Highway 15 past the Mount Vernon, Illinois, airport when they notice a bright white round object about 20° above the southwest horizon. It seems to be keeping pace with them for several miles. Suddenly it moves about 600 feet in front of them and to the left. When Austin drops Phyllis off at home in Wayne City, it is hanging in the southeast. They continue watching it about 15 minutes, then Austin leaves for home. As he turns east on a gravel road, it shoots ahead of him, taking on an orange hue. At one point it comes within 100 feet of his car, swerves upward, and passes above him as the car radio makes a whining noise and the car engine almost fails. The object then moves behind him from west to east. When he arrives home, it is hovering about 900 feet to the southeast. Ronnie is so shaken, he is given a sedative. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Austin, and brother and sister also see the light, which finally becomes indistinguishable with a star by 1:10 a.m. (NICAP, “[The Wayne City Car Chase \(EM RA Traces\)](#)”; Jeffrey Liss, “The Light That Followed a Car,” *Fate* 16, no. 11 (November 1963): 26–35; [Schopick](#), pp. 81–88)

1963, August 5 — The Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty is signed by the USSR, UK, and US governments in Moscow, Russia, before being opened for signature by other countries. The treaty formally goes into effect on October 10. The treaty prohibits all above-ground tests of nuclear weapons. (Wikipedia, “[Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty](#)”)

1963, August 7 — The first flight of the USAF version of the A-12, the Lockheed YF-12 interceptor, takes place at Edwards AFB in California. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed YF-12](#)”)

1963, August 8 — In [Bob Considine](#)’s syndicated column, [Jackie Gleason](#) firmly repeats his conviction that UFOs are interplanetary: “All I know is that they are there and have killed at least one pilot who tried to investigate them—a boy flying an F-51—and have landed in several places.” (“[Gleason Repeats UFO Belief](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 9 (June–September 1963): 4)

1963, August 10 — 9:32 p.m. Several airmen of the 91st Bombardment Wing at Glasgow Air Force Base [now closed] near Glasgow, Montana, are walking in the parking lot when a bright light appears above them, bathing everyone in an orange glow. It is coming from a disc-shaped object with a dome that has some odd characters carved in it. The object moves up, then to the right, then down and left. It makes a square, then an X within the square,

- stopping at all points before moving again. The underside of the object is a large panel of blue light. They watch it for 3 minutes, then it disappears. (“[Out of the Past](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 2 (April/May 1985): 3)
- 1963**, August 20 — 9:30 p.m. Italian President [Antonio Segni](#)’s personal driver encounters a UFO near the entrance of the Castel Porziano Presidential Estate in Rome, Italy. When he sees a metallic domed disc with portholes moving in front of him in the driveway ahead, the driver stops the Fiat 2300 immediately. The UFO, about 65 feet diameter, passes a few feet above the car, making a hissing noise and causing the body to vibrate and the instruments to go crazy, then reverses course and passes over the car again with the same effect. It then tilts 90° and darts away to the west. It leaves behind a smell of heated metal. (1Pinotti 148–151; “[Quando gli UFO arrivarono anche in Italia](#),” *Oggi Notizie*, November 26, 2011; Giulio Mancini, “[UFO sulla tenuta del Presidente a Castelporziano: Coinvolti gli USA](#),” *Canaledieci*, November 21, 2022)
- 1963**, August 22 — Test pilot [Joseph A. Walker](#) reaches an altitude of 353,200 feet (66.9 miles) in an X-15 rocket plane. (Wikipedia, “[Joseph A. Walker](#)”)
- 1963**, August 28 — After the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, [J. Edgar Hoover](#) singles out Rev. [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) as a major target for COINTELPRO. Soon after, the FBI is systematically bugging King’s home and his hotel rooms, as they are now aware that King is growing in stature daily as the leader among leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. (Wikipedia, “[COINTELPRO](#)”)
- 1963**, August 28 — 7:00 p.m. José Marcos Gomes Vidal, 7, and his friends Fernando, 12, and Ronaldo Gualberto, 7, are in the Gualbertos’s backyard in Sagrada Familia, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, to wash a coffee strainer in a cistern. Suddenly, Fernando notices a glow coming from the top of an avocado tree. When he looks up, he sees a UFO hovering above the tree’s branches. The craft, which is spherical and has a pair of antennas on top, is completely transparent. It holds four human-like passengers sitting inside, one of whom sits in front of a machine that appears to be a control panel. The passengers are about 6 feet tall and dressed in spacesuits. They all have only one eye like a cyclops. Three of them are thin and bald, while the other looks like an overweight woman with blonde hair. The UFO shoots out two rays of yellow light. One of the cyclops appears between the lights, slowly floating down onto the ground. Once his boots touched the earth, the creature begins to walk toward José, who is completely unaware of what is happening since he is still collecting water. Fernando panics and tackles José, who falls to the ground, and Fernando gets back up and faces the cyclops. Now all three boys are aware of the visitor. The cyclops moves his head and makes hand signals. It speaks a few sounds in a strange language. The creature then turns around and stares back at the UFO. Fernando, spotting a brick on the ground, picks it up and aims it at the cyclops, who turns around and shoots Fernando’s hand with a yellow light from a triangular crest on his chest. Fernando drops the brick, and all three of the boys become calm and frozen. For a few more minutes, the cyclops speaks to them, then it points one of his fingers at the moon and begins to walk back toward the UFO. José asks if he will ever come back. The cyclops shakes his head affirmatively, plucks a plant from the ground, and then waves his hand at the UFO, which shoots out two rays of yellow light again. The cyclops slowly floats back up into the vehicle, and the UFO takes off eastward and disappears out of their sight. (Brazil 66–72; Tristan, “[The Alien Cyclops of Sagrada Familia](#),” *Bizarre and Grotesque*, March 24, 2016)
- 1963**, September — Lt. Col. [Robert J. Friend](#) leaves Project Blue Book and is replaced by Maj. [Hector Quintanilla](#). (*Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 25–27; [Sparks](#), p. 14)
- 1963**, September 7 — Capt. [Swett](#) gives a formal lecture on hypnosis to a meeting at the Unitarian Church in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. After the lecture, the [Hills](#) tell him that Barney was going to a psychiatrist, Duncan Stephens, whom he likes and trusts. Swett suggests that Barney ask Stephens about the use of hypnosis in his case. At his next therapy session, Barney mentions his UFO encounter to Stephens, who recommends Dr. Benjamin Simon, a well-known psychiatrist in Boston, Massachusetts, with much experience in hypnosis.
- 1963**, September 12 — Patrick Loreno and 18 other men aboard Texas Tower 2, a USAF radar station 110 miles east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts [decommissioned later in the year and sunk], spot an object 3 miles from their location. They report the sighting to the Coast Guard and request an investigation, but the object sinks before a boat can get there. The object has a controlled light and smoke or steam appears on its surface. The men watch it for 20 minutes. There is no record of a ship or a submarine in the area. (“[Texas Tower Men See Light](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May 1964, p. 8; Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, p. 53)
- 1963**, September 14 — Day. The Danish tender *Kristine Maersk* is 92 miles off Oporto, Portugal, when a starlike light appears at 25° altitude. It approaches the ship, descends about 10°, and turns a phosphorescent green. Ahead of it are 10–15 orange or red lights, ending with a purple light, most of which change positions. Second Officer Knud Rasmussen observes the object through binoculars for about 25 seconds. (“[Portugal: UFO at Sea](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1964): 23–24)

- 1963**, September 14 — 3:15 p.m. US Forest Service instructor [Edward A. Grant](#) and his son see a round object over Susanville, California, that at first seems to be a balloon, but is moving erratically. The movements are very fast and the direction changes very definite. They watch it pass overhead for several minutes. Suddenly, a long cylindrical object with fins along its sides appears from the north and passes overhead toward the south. The round object moves very rapidly to intercept the long object, ejecting a yellowish-brown trail, and merges with it. (Olsen, sec. 3 pp. 84–85; Herbert S. Taylor, “[Satellite Objects: A Further Look](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 4; [Sparks](#), p. 295)
- 1963**, September 14 — [Jacques Vallée](#) meets [J. Allen Hynek](#) for the first time at his residence in Evanston, Illinois. He moves to Chicago and begins actively assisting Hynek in his UFO work over the next few months, helping him analyze Project Blue Book data. (Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science: Journals 1957–1969*, North Atlantic, 1992, pp. 71–80; Clark III 1213)
- 1963**, September 19 — Adm. [Roscoe Hillenkoetter](#) writes to astronomer [Donald H. Menzel](#), saying that his book *The World of Flying Saucers* has “effectively put to rest all surmises about flying saucers being from ‘outer space.’” The letter is in the American Philosophical Society library in Philadelphia. (Christopher D. Allan, “[Admiral Hillenkoetter: From Believer to Skeptic](#),” *IUR* 20, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1995): 17; American Philosophical Society, “[Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, Correspondence, 1961–1965](#)”)
- 1963**, September 19 — 6:50 p.m. More than 140 residents of Wonthaggi and South Dudley, Victoria, Australia, observe a mystery object like an orange beach ball maneuver in the sky for 25 minutes. At first it hovers, then it begins moving slowly and silently, putting on sudden and intermittent bursts of speed, before disappearing in an easterly direction into the Bass Strait. During the 25 minutes that the object is visible, TV sets malfunction in South Dudley, Wonthaggi, and Inverlock. TV sets variously display white screens, gray screens, double images, or snow and lines. Still other sets go completely blank. After the UFO leaves at 7:15, all TV sets resume normal operation. (“[UAO’s Upset TV Reception](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May 1964, pp. 1, 6; [Schopick](#), pp. 109–111)
- 1963**, September 19 — 8:00 p.m. Four children in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, see a bright, oval object hover in a field and drop something. Approaching the site, they are confronted by a man about 10 feet tall dressed in a white “monk-like” suit who holds out his hands and makes unintelligible sounds. The children flee, and one girl is admitted to the hospital in shock. (Vallée, *Magonia*, p. 294; Mark Cashman, “[Behavioral Classification System for UFO Occupants](#),” *IUR* 24, no. 1 (Spring 1999): 18)
- 1963**, September 25 — 4:20 a.m. Police officer Galen Anderson is patrolling the streets of Sunnyvale, California, in a squad car when a radio call from other officers alerts him to a UFO. The object is moving east to west at an elevation of 45° and at the speed of a propeller-driven aircraft. The leading edge is brightly illuminated and the main body grayish with a small point of light visible on it. The object makes a turn toward the northwest, is momentarily visible edge-on, then quickly disappears from view after 45 seconds. Probable failed Atlas E rocket launch from Vandenberg AFB in Santa Barbara County, California. (“Big ‘Flying Squid’ Spotted over Area,” *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury-News*, September 26, 1963; “[Widely Seen UFO in Calif.](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1963, p. 5; UFOEv, p. 63; Tim Printy, “[NICAP’s ‘The UFO Evidence’: Under Review](#),” *SUNlite* 4, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 2012): 7–8)
- 1963**, September 27 — Blue Book releases a statement on the [Hill](#) case, claiming insufficient information, although they strongly suspect the UFO is the planet Jupiter. (Clark III 581)
- 1963**, September 27 — Night. Fred Johnson steps outside his home in Eureka, Montana, to investigate why his dogs are barking. He sees a lighted object streak across the sky, leaving a brownish-blue trail. The object stops in the southeast and hangs in the sky for the rest of the evening, until he goes to bed. He calls his neighbors, who also witness it. It resembles an undersized moon and appears to be hundreds of miles away. (“[Sight Object in Sky](#),” *Tobacco Valley News* (Eureka, Montana), October 3, 1963, p. 1; Loren E. Gross, [The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963](#), The Author, 2005, p. 59)
- 1963**, October — Maj. [Hector Quintanilla](#) is appointed director of Project Blue Book. He is assisted by Sgt. David Moody, who is particularly hostile to UFOs and tends to label every report as “possible” this or that. ([Sparks](#), p. 14; Clark III 922–923)
- 1963**, October — A Lisunov Li-2 airliner on the Guangdong to Wuhan, China, air route is chased by three luminous UFOs for 115 minutes. The pilots provide a minute-by-minute report by radio to the Chinese Civil Aeronautics Administration. After landing, the crew is debriefed by air traffic control, and the passengers are told not to discuss the incident with anyone. (Wendelle Stevens and Paul Dong, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, pp. 44–45)
- 1963**, October — 9:30 p.m. Five members of a family in Millersport, Ohio, see what seems to be an airplane on fire, but the house-sized object approaches and hovers about 300 feet away. They see a dark disc with a dome and antenna

on top and three ball-shaped protrusions on the bottom. Around the rim are evenly spaced openings that emit fiery beams. In the dome, several large windows are visible in which a figure can be seen, at least by the mother. The dome rotates as the object hovers, and it makes a low humming noise. It finally rises slowly and makes a small circle in the air before speeding away. (Michael Swords, [“Close Encounters of the First Kind: Do We Really Care? Part Two,”](#) The Big Study, February 15, 2012)

- 1963,** October 4 — 1:00 p.m. Connecticut State Representative [Luther B. Martin](#) sees a delta-shaped, silvery object leaving a flare-like trail at Hartland, Connecticut. A row of black markings is visible along the blunt forward edge as the object passes from south to north. He estimates its speed at 2,000 mph. ([“UFO Sightings Centered in Western U.S.,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 10 (Dec. 1963/Jan. 1964): 3)
- 1963,** October 12 — 3:30 a.m. Driving in a blinding rainstorm on the road between Monte Maíz and Isla Verde, Córdoba, Argentina, Eugenio Douglas feels heat and a prickly sensation all over his body. He sees a brilliant light in front of him. Temporarily blinded, he loses control of his truck and ends up in the ditch. Shaken but not injured, he gets out of the vehicle and looks up at the road, which he finds is blocked by an oval-shaped object at least 30 feet high. A door opens on the side and three huge “robots in human form” emerge. They wear helmets with short antennas and are 12–15 feet tall. Douglas takes a few shots at them with his revolver and runs away. The robots return to the UFO, which chases him down the road and eventually flies away. The next day, police find large footprints near the abandoned truck. (“Robots Terrorize Truck Driver,” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1964, pp. 1–2; [“World Round-up,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1964): 29–30; Gordon Creighton, [“Argentina, 1963–64,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 16–17; Charles Bowen, [“Reflections of an Editor,”](#) *BUFORA Bulletin*, no. 1 (September 1981): 6, 9; Preston E. Dennett, [“UFO: Don’t Shoot!”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 299 (March 1993): 3, 5; Carlos Demaría, [“Caso de Eugenio Douglas en Monte Maiz, Cordoba en 1963,”](#) *Visión OVNI*, March 23, 2002; Clark III 280; Loren E. Gross, [“The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963,”](#) The Author, 2005, pp. 64–65; Roberto Banchs, [“Monte Maíz, Cordoba: La Vision Fantasmagorica de E. Douglas \(11 Oct 1963\),”](#) *Visión OVNI*, November 10, 2008)
- 1963,** October 21 — 9:30 p.m. Yolié del Valle Moreno and her family at Trancas, Tucumán, Argentina, observe six strange objects for 40 minutes in the back courtyard of their house. One UFO hovers at ground level above some railroad tracks, while another with a dome and portholes is near another house. They can see some 40 humanlike figures (silhouettes) moving around within two bright lights linked by a prolongation or tube. When witnesses flash a light at the object, the house is flooded with a strong beam. The temperature rises inside the house and the inhabitants smell a strong sulfurous odor. All six objects are about 24 feet in diameter, have a white and a red beam of light, and leave a cloud of white smoke that does not disperse for 4 hours. Beneath the space where one of the objects has been rocking back and forth, the witnesses find innumerable white balls one-quarter-inch in diameter piled into a cone 3 feet high and within a circle 28–30 feet in diameter. They consist primarily of calcium carbonate. (Gordon Creighton, [“Argentina 1963–64, Part II,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): 23–24; Oscar A. Galindez, [“Trancas, after Seven Years,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 17, no. 3 (May/June 1971): 14–20, 32; Loren E. Gross, [“The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963,”](#) The Author, 2005, pp. 66–74; Carlos Iurchuk, [“Los Asombrosos Fenomenos de Trancas por el Dr. Oscar Galindez,”](#) *Visión OVNI*, January 1, 2009)
- 1963,** October 23 — 11:00 p.m. Driving south of South River, New Jersey, on State Route 18, a man glimpses something like a flashlight off to his left, and three figures, 3–4 feet tall, cross the road in front of him. They are dressed in “tight-fitting silver-gray one-piece suits” that “seem to glow once they hit the headlights.” Their heads are found, but the witness can see no other features. They begin quickly “fluttering” across the road, faster than the “fastest sprinter.” (Center for UFO Studies, [\[case documents\]](#); Clark III 278)
- 1963,** October 31 — Eight-year-old Rute de Souza hears a strange roar and watches a silvery object coming towards her house near Iguape, São Paulo, Brazil. It soars above her, hits a palm tree, gyrates a bit in the air, then falls into the Rio Peropava near the opposite shore. She runs to get her mother and uncle, who also hear the sound. They see the river boiling up in the spot, followed by an eruption of muddy water and mud. Fishermen, including Tetsuo Ioshigawa, also view the event. The UFO is estimated to be 25 feet in diameter. Divers, both equipped and unequipped, fail to find any wreckage in the river, which is only 12 feet deep. ([“Disc Submerged in Brazilian River,”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, January 1964, pp. 1–2; Harry E. Rieseberg, [“A Submerged UFO?”](#) *Exploring the Unknown* 6, no. 2 (December 1965): 64–67; Sanderson, [InvRes, pp. 74–76](#); Brazil 517)
- 1963,** November — 5:00 p.m. A man and his daughter are driving just north of Andover, New Jersey, when they see three strange lights in the sky. They are perfect ovals possibly a quarter mile high. The lights take off at a great speed in “perfect unison” toward the north. (Center for UFO Studies, [\[case documents\]](#))

- 1963**, November 1 — A member of the CIA-trained 35th Black Cat Squadron, Republic of China pilot [Yeh Changti](#) is flying an American U-2 reconnaissance aircraft to spy on China's nuclear program when he is shot down by an SA-2 missile over Shangrao, Jiangxi, and held in mainland China until 1982. Yeh is incarcerated for four years and undergoes numerous interrogations. Although some claim he was tortured, Yeh later says he was treated humanely. After the outbreak of the Cultural Revolution, he is released and sent to work on a farm, before being transferred to work at Hanyang Arsenal in Wuhan. (Wikipedia, "[Yeh Changti](#)"; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 216–218)
- 1963**, November 3 — The [Hills](#) give a presentation at the Two State UFO Study Group in Quincy Center, Massachusetts. One of the attendees tape-records the session. Another speaker at the session is Capt. [Ben Swett](#) of Pease AFB, himself a practicing hypnotist, who tells them he thinks hypnotic regression is a good idea. (Clark III 584)
- 1963**, November 12 — The crew of the Argentine Naval auxiliary transport, [ARA Punta Médanos](#), sees a large UFO off its stern [in the Atlantic Ocean?]. It is moving at high speed; when it appears, the needles of the ship's magnetic compass suddenly and simultaneously swing off course, pointing towards the UFO, which is about 6,000 feet away. The compasses return to normal after the object leaves. ("[Argentine Navy Discloses Important E-M Case](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 6; [Schopick](#), pp. 3–4; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963*, The Author, 2005, pp. 79–80; [NICAP case files])
- 1963**, November 16 — Evening. Four teenagers—John Flaxton, Mervyn Hutchinson, Jenny Holloway, and another youth—are in Sandling Park near Saltwood, Kent, England, when they see a moving reddish-yellow "star" above the woods. It comes down at an angle of 60°, then vanishes. Moments later, they see a bright, golden light in a field about 240 feet away, floating 10 feet above the ground, and seemingly 15–20 feet across. It seems to move along with the teens for a short while. It disappears behind trees, then a dark figure shambles out of the woods. It is all black, about the size of a human but without a head and has bat wings. The teenagers run away. Other witnesses come forward to report strange lights and giant footprints in the woods. (Charles A. Strickland, "[Sightings at Saltwood, near Hythe, Kent](#)," *LUFORO Bulletin* 4, no. 5 (Nov./Dec./Jan. 1963–1964): 2–3; "[The Saltwood Mystery: Strange Happenings in Kent](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1964): 11–12; A. Cecil Harper, "[A Saltwood Sighting](#)," *BUFORA Journal and Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (Summer 1964): 12; Rob Morphy, "[Bat Beast of Kent \(England\)](#)," *Cryptopia*, March 5, 2010; Nick Redfern, "[Did Mothman Visit the UK in 1963?](#)" *Mysterious Universe*, July 11, 2013; Nick Redfern, "[An Update on a Sinister Winged Monster](#)," *Mysterious Universe*, June 14, 2018; Theo Paijmans, "The Headless Horrors of Sandling Road," *Fortean Times* 374 (Christmas 2018): 30–31; Clark III 779)
- 1963**, November 20 — 6:00 p.m. Capt. J. Murray and three members of the crew of the Aberdeen collier *Thrift* see a flashing red light as they are traveling south in the North Sea from Aberdeen to Blyth, Northumberland, England. It passes within a mile of their port side, 15–30 feet above sea level and suddenly disappears 3 miles astern, presumably into the water. The collier, which puts about and makes for the object's vanishing point, has 2 radar contacts on its screens, but they disappear as the ship approaches. They search for 3 hours but find no wreckage. ("[Mystery at Sea](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1964): 22; Janet Gregory, "[UFOs Ahoy!](#)" *Flying Saucer Review* 17, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1971): 29–30)
- 1963**, November 22 — President [John F. Kennedy](#) is assassinated in Dallas, Texas, by [Lee Harvey Oswald](#). (Wikipedia, "[Assassination of John F. Kennedy](#)"; Wikipedia, "[John F. Kennedy assassination conspiracy theories](#)")
- 1963**, Winter — A series of at least three incidents at Walker AFB [now closed] at Roswell, New Mexico, involve unidentified aerial craft maneuvering silently above an Atlas missile silo designated Site 9, northeast of Sunset, New Mexico. Three former missile personnel at the base—Jerry C. Nelson, Bob Caplan, and Gene Lamb—relay their experiences to *Florida Today* reporter Billy Cox in June 2001. (Billy Cox, "[UFO's Haunt Missile Crews](#)," *Florida Today*, June 27, 2001; "[Affidavit of Jerome C. Nelson](#)," June 25, 2010; Nukes 147–152)
- 1963**, December 10 — 11:30 p.m. A large, bright, dome-shaped UFO lands at RAF Cosford in Shropshire, England, seen by two student cadets returning late from leave. It bathes the area in intense green light from a height of 10 feet, then disappears behind a hangar. Scorch marks are later found where the object had been. ("[A Landing at Cosford? More Confusion at the Air Ministry](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1964): 17, iv; "[The Cosford UFO: The Mystery Deepens](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 3 (May/June 1964): 31–32; "[The Lesson of Cosford](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1964): 1–2; Loren E. Gross, *The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse: UFOs, a History: July–December 1963*, The Author, 2005, pp. 85–86; Good Above, pp. 56–58; Nick Redfern, "[UFO Landing or Much Ado about Nothing?](#)" *Mysterious Universe*, October 20, 2016)
- 1963**, December 14 — 1:00 a.m. Leslie Immelman and W. T. Muller are driving about 12 miles north of Parys, South Africa, when they see something in the road that looks like an antelope. They turned back to investigate and saw that it was an apparently large dog. When they turn the car back toward the east, Immelman notices that the whole area has lit up so much that all the boulders and potholes in the road are visible. Suddenly a strange bright object

appears ahead of them and approaches at high speed. Thinking it will hit the car, they both jump out, but the object dives over the car, ascends 50 feet, and hovers for 2 minutes. It is round and about 50 feet in diameter, glowing with an orange light and with a big blue light on one side that is illuminating the area. A long “fiery tail” protrudes from the blue light, emitting electrical sparks. Immelman can hear a low hum. The object shoots away to the south, changes course to the east, then returns to the car. This repeats 5–6 times before it disappears for good. (“[On the Road to Vereeniging](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 3 (May/June 1964): 27–28)

- 1963**, December 14 — The [Hills](#) have an initial meeting with Benjamin Simon, a well-known hypnotist in Boston, Massachusetts, recommended to them by Dr. Stephens. It is clear to Simon that the Hills believe they have seen a UFO, but which may have been an experimental aircraft. This has set in motion an anxiety-provoking psychological experience whose sources it might be possible to uncover through hypnosis. (Clark III 584)
- 1963**, December 27 — At Bank’s Stables on Ivy Chimneys Road in Epping, Essex, England, trainee riding instructor Pauline Abbott, 16, is riding her horse into the riding yard when the animal stops and refuses to move. She hears a “squelching” noise coming from the field and sees a shiny white UFO on the ground. It is about 8 feet long, 3 feet high at the center, and has what looks like a window on one side that is brighter than the rest of the object. It takes off, flies horizontally for 100 feet, and disappears. Grass is found flattened over a circular area. Abbott finds marks forming a square with 8-foot sides within an 11-foot circular depression that contains a 3-foot central circle. (“[Landing in Essex](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1964): 22–23; G. G. Doel, “[The Epping Sightings](#),” *BUFORA Journal and Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (Summer 1964): 5–6; J. Cleary-Baker, “[Evaluation by BUFORA Evaluating Officer](#),” *BUFORA Journal and Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (Summer 1964): 6–7)

1964

- 1964** — MKSEARCH is the name given to the continuation of the MKUltra program. The MKSEARCH program is divided into two projects dubbed MKOFTEN / CHICKWIT. Funding for MKSEARCH commences in 1965 and ends in 1971. The project is a joint project between the US Army Chemical Corps and the CIA Office of Research and Development to find new offensive-use agents with a focus on incapacitating agents. The purpose of the project is to develop, test, and evaluate capabilities in the covert use of biological, chemical, and radioactive material systems and techniques for producing predictable human behavioral and/or physiological changes in support of highly sensitive operational requirements. (Wikipedia, “[Project MKUltra](#)”)
- 1964** — [Ray Stanford](#) founds Project Starlight International to document the existence of UFOs. He establishes a Laboratory for Instrumented Research on a 400-acre site northwest of Austin, Texas, that includes two buildings. Equipment eventually includes radar, a laser system, magnetometers, a gravimeter, microcomputer, microphones, video equipment, and still cameras. In the event of UFO activity, the Operation ARGUS (Automated Ring-up on Geolocated UFO Sightings) computer kicks in and automatically telephones all volunteers within the computed visibility radius of the UFO. Volunteers attempt to locate and photograph the UFO visually. On June 8, 1977, the FCC licenses its Raytheon Model 1700 radar system with the call sign K12XBJ. (Margaret Sachs, *The UFO Encyclopedia*, Putnam, 1980, pp. 259–260; Ray Stanford, “[A Technological Approach to UFOs: A Status Report on Project Starlight International, June 30, 1977](#),” *IUR* 2, no. 8 (August 1977): 5–7; Douglas Dean Johnson, “[The Ray Stanford UFO–Alien Legacy](#),” *Mirador*, April 8, 2024)
- 1964** — British writer [W. Raymond Drake](#) writes *Gods or Spacemen?*, the first of a series of books espousing his view that the world’s folklore, mythology, and religion are replete with references to space beings who came to Earth in several waves: the Uranids hundreds of thousands of years ago; the Saturnians centuries later; and the Jupiterians who landed near Crete. (W. Raymond Drake, *Gods or Spacemen?* Amherst, 1964; Wikipedia, “[W. Raymond Drake](#)”; Clark III 108; Jerome Clark, “[Vimanas Have Landed: Ancient Astronautics in Ufology](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 27–28)
- 1964**, January — Lionel Beer begins publishing *Spacelink*, a newsletter of the Isle of Wight UFO Investigation Society. It folds in April 1971. ([Spacelink](#) 1, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1964))
- 1964**, January 1 — Many witnesses in Shanghai, China, see a huge cigar-shaped UFO flying toward the southwest. MiG fighters are scrambled in pursuit but fail to intercept it. The official explanation is that it is a US missile. (Wendelle Stevens and Paul Dong, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, p. 45)
- 1964**, January 4 — [Barney Hill](#) has his first hypnosis session with Benjamin Simon. The sessions will continue until June 6. The Hills undergo sessions separately, and for the most part are instructed not to remember their experiences afterwards. Barney’s sessions are particularly intense. However, by the end of the sessions, although they disagree with Simon on the nature of the experience, both the Hills and Simon agree that the therapy is successful. The

stress and anxiety are gone. Simon submits a statement to the Hills' insurance company, which initially declines to pay, until Simon explains that he was treating them for what will later be called PTSD. (Clark III 584–585; [audio excerpts from the complete hypnosis sessions conducted by Benjamin Simon on Barney Hill, 1964], in “CEIV: An Audio History of Alien Abduction and Animal Mutilation 1957–1976 Guide,” [part 1](#), [part 2](#))

- 1964**, January 16–17 — [Hynek](#) and [Vallée](#) meet with Blue Book's Capt. [Hector Quintanilla](#) and T/Sgt. David Moody at Dearborn Observatory in Evanston, Illinois. Quintanilla seems uninterested in science and Moody seems bored. (Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science: Journals 1957–1969*, North Atlantic, 1992, [pp. 84–86](#))
- 1964**, January 23 — The landing craft *Loellen M.* is in the Gulf of Carpentaria between Cape Grey and Groote Eylandt, Northern Territory, Australia, when a crew member notices the compass is malfunctioning (“haywire”) and the vessel is off course. He notices an odd phosphorescence in the water on the starboard side about 6 feet away from the ship. It is a ghostly, pulsating white light that is rotating in a clockwise direction. It seems to be “miles across.” As the light wheel moves to the ship's port side, another rotating light approaches the ship's starboard side. This undoubtedly involves some unusual bioluminescence, but it is significant that it is the first “unknown” in the RAAF's UFO files. (Australian UFO Files, A703 580-1-1 Part 4 645645, [pp. 269–271](#); Bill Chalker, “[The ‘First’ Official ‘Unknown’: The Electromagnetic Light Wheel near Groote Eylandt](#),” Project 1947 (1996); Swords 390; Bill Chalker, “[The Great USO Show of Oz](#),” TheOzFiles, August 26, 2022; Bill Chalker, “[The Rising USO Tide](#),” TheOzFiles, October 25, 2024)
- 1964**, January 25 — The London UFO Research Organisation merges with the British UFO Association (a consolidation of several UFO groups in the UK) to form the British UFO Research Association. It begins publishing a new magazine, *BUFORA Journal*, in the summer. (“[Editorial: The Problems Facing Us](#),” *BUFORA Journal and Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (Summer 1964): 2)
- 1964**, February 3 — 2:00 a.m. Doris Player wakes up to see her bedroom illuminated near Gum Creek, South Australia, about 100 miles north of Adelaide. The light is coming from a circular object hovering about 200 feet above her garden. Suddenly a 5-foot 3-inch being wearing blue-green coveralls, a brown balaclava, and an open brown jacket appears. He wears elbow-length, black gloves with a cord going from his helmet to his left shoulder. He has a red face and a big nose and holds a black box that buzzes and clicks as he points it. The light goes out, and when her eyes adjust to the darkness, she sees that the entity has also disappeared. (Center for UFO Studies, [HUMCAT Index 1964](#), p. 2; Colin McCarthy, “[The Plympton Story](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 16, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1970): 32, 34; Mark Cashman, “[Behavioral Classification System for UFO Occupants](#),” *IUR* 24, no. 1 (Spring 1999): 19–20; Thomas Brisson, “[UBO's \(Unidentified Box-like Objects\), Part 2](#),” Vomanomalous, July 15, 2014; “[Documentary on UFO's, Adelaide, Australia, Part 1](#),” MaS7eRjEd3ye YouTube channel, February 5, 2009, at 6:05)
- 1964**, February 10 — “The Bellerro Shield” episode of *Outer Limits* airs on ABC-TV. It features an alien with wraparound eyes. UFO skeptic [Martin S. Kottmeyer](#) alleges that this episode influenced [Barney Hill](#)'s hypnotic recounting of events, although Betty Hill says they had never watched it. (Clark III 589; Internet Movie Database, “[The Bellerro Shield](#)”; Martin Kottmeyer, “[Entirely Unprejudiced: The Cultural Background of UFO Reports](#),” *Magonia* 35 (January 1990); Martin Kottmeyer, “[The Eyes That Spoke](#),” *The REALL News* 2, no. 7 (July 1994))
- 1964**, February 21 — Night. Senior Constable Payne and Constable McMillan are traveling in their police car in Para Hills, South Australia, when they notice a light flash to their left. As it approaches, it reminds Payne of a “big glass bowl with a terrifically strong light in it.” The spherical object is estimated to be about 8 inches in diameter. It zig-zags rapidly, slows down, and then accelerates at a great speed. The object originates from the west before it quickly turns north and vanishes. (“[Two Police Officers Watch UFO](#),” *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 8 (June 1965): 12)
- 1964**, February 29 — President [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) holds a press conference to announce that the US has repeatedly broken the Soviet's world record for air speed by a secret aircraft called the A-11—a fictitious name for the Air Force's YF-12, a twin-seat version of the Lockheed A-12 built as an interceptor. He says the A-11 can fly more than 2,000 mph at an altitude of 70,000 feet. The YF-12A is announced in part to continue hiding the A-12, its still-secret ancestor; any sightings of CIA/Air Force A-12s based at Area 51 in Nevada can be attributed to the well-publicized Air Force YF-12As based at Edwards Air Force Base in California. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [pp. 232–233](#))
- 1964**, March — [Allen H. Greenfield](#), [Rick Hilberg](#), and Dale Rettig begin publishing the *American UFO Committee Review* in preparation for their first Congress of Scientific Ufologists meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Greenfield publishes the journal in Atlanta, Georgia, for seven issues, until fall 1966. ([American UFO Committee Review](#) 1, no. 1 (March 1964))

- 1964, March 7** — [Betty Hill](#) has her first hypnosis session with Benjamin Simon. Betty's account closely matches her dreams from 2 years earlier, and her account is consistent with Barney's. Many abduction elements come to light: telepathic commands, semen extraction, a rectal probe, skin scrapings, a pregnancy test with a needle, the Star Map. The aliens are 5 feet tall with gray skin, oddly shaped heads, and broad foreheads. Simon discounts the possibility of an alien abduction and prefers to think that Betty's dream influenced Barney's memories. The Hills do not agree. (Wikipedia, "[Barney and Betty Hill](#)"; Stanton Friedman and Kathleen Marden, *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*, New Page Books, 2007, [pp. 92](#), [99–103](#), [111–112](#), [123–124](#))
- 1964, April 1** — The UK Air Ministry, Admiralty, and War Office are consolidated into a new Ministry of Defence. The Air Ministry becomes the Air Force Department, within which is a secretariat called S4 (Air) that deals with, among other things, UFO reports from the public. Another office, Defense Secretariat 8, is created under the authority of the Secretary of State and also has authority over UFO reporting. (Wikipedia, "[Ministry of Defence \(United Kingdom\)](#)"; Good Above, [pp. 58–59](#))
- 1964, April 3** — 9:00 p.m. R. Wold, a graduate student in anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, and three others are heading west on County Highway C about one mile west of Monticello, Wisconsin. They notice two blinking red lights in the distance that they think might be police cars. However, they are too far above the ground and begin approaching. The object slows down to a hover behind some telephone wires about 300 feet from the car. By this time they have stopped the car and can see four red lights in a rectangular formation and one white light in front of the others, but no underlying structure. The object passes slowly beyond them, so Wold turns the car around and tries to chase the lights but they disappear to the east. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 88–89; [Sparks](#), p. 296)
- 1964, April 11** — 6:30 p.m. Physiotherapist Warren B. Ochsner and his wife and two children are having a picnic on a hill about 10 miles northwest of Homer, New York. They see an unusually wide vapor trail in the sky stretching from northeast to southwest. At the far end of the white trail is a smoky, spiral portion about one mile long. The vapor trail drifts off. After 10 minutes, Ochsner notices that the spiral portion is still visible, having moved a bit to the west. With binoculars, he sees wisps of smoke streaming out of it. It changes from a horizontal to a vertical position with greater smoke activity. It stops and hangs there for 2–3 minutes before sinking into the clouds. After another 3 minutes, they see a horizontal pencil-shaped object moving from left to right on the horizon. A flash of white light erupts from its end and shoots forward a short distance then stops. It becomes thick in the middle, a cloud of smoke emanates from it, and it shoots backward rapidly. Again it hovers and changes to a saucer shape. It then divides into two parts, one above the other. The top object slowly recedes into the distance, while the bottom object heads downward at a 45° angle, divides in two again, with the top part fading away and the bottom part assuming a vertical pencil shape, which fades away. The whole display takes 45 minutes. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 89–92; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 60–61](#); Herbert S. Taylor, "[Satellite Objects and Cloud Cigars](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2004): 7–9; [Sparks](#), p. 297)
- 1964, April 20** — Early morning, During Operation Deep Freeze VII, six members of a US Coast Guard aircraft sight a V-formation of 9 glowing-white objects speeding at an estimated 35,000 feet altitude. They are flying in a C-130 turbo-prop transport from McMurdo Station, Antarctica, with supplies. The right-side observer first sees the objects approaching at about 460 mph from above and to their right side. When they come abreast of the airplane, they slow to its speed. After a short time, they fly above the airplane and take up position above and to its left side. The pilot attempts to radio the ground but the radio is dead, and their radar also stops working. When the pilot tries to switch to auxiliary power, it too is not functioning. At one point the airplane's engines stop (the oil begins to congeal in the cold air). Instead of losing altitude, it maintains "a steady altitude and course." The airplane allegedly continues flying in complete silence, then it enters a "strange haze" (like a white-out) with the air filled with static electricity. There is electrical arcing from one observer's body to metal inside the fuselage. The haze vanishes after about 20 minutes. The power suddenly returns, and the crew can restart the engines in sequence. The airplane has covered a distance of 305 miles during the 45–50 minutes at indicated airspeed of 184–218 knots. (NICAP, "[C-130 Crew Encounters UFO / EME to Radio and Radar](#)"; "[1964 Antarctica UFO Report](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 3 (March 1981): 1–3; Richard F. Haines and Dominique F. Weinstein, *A Preliminary Study of Fifty Seven Pilot Sighting Reports Involving Alleged Electro-Magnetic Effects on Aircraft Systems*, NARCAP Technical Report 3, April 5, 2001, pp. 23–24)
- 1964, April 22** — 9:00 p.m. Marie Morrow, Ruth Ovelette, and Morrow's son are driving west about 10–15 miles east of Lordsburg, New Mexico, when a brilliantly luminous object sweeps about 10 feet above their car from behind, illuminating the interior and emitting a whirring, whining sound. The UFO then rises but maintains its course along the highway before veering toward the north and vanishes. (Wendell Faught, "[Plain Talk](#)," *Deming (N.Mex.) Headlight*, May 7, 1964, p. 1; "[Huge Light Buzzed Car in New Mexico](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, May 1964, p. 10; Clark III 1091–1092)

1964, April 24 — 10:00 a.m. Dairy farmer Gary Wilcox of Newark Valley, New York, is driving a tractor on his property when he sees a shiny object on the inside edge of a nearby patch of woods. He gets off the tractor and approaches the object, which is egg-shaped, 20 feet long, 16 feet wide, and four feet high. It is hovering two feet above the ground and making a sound like a car idling. He touches it and feels a hard metal. Two figures suddenly appear from under the object. They are 4 feet tall and 2 feet wide, dressed in seamless silvery garments. Each carries a tray filled with alfalfa, roots, soil, leaves, and brush. Wilcox hears a voice say, “Do not be alarmed. We have talked to people before.” They ask him what he is doing, and Wilcox says he is spreading manure. One humanoid asks if he can have some and converses some more about space exploration. They claim they are from Mars. After a while, the UFO takes off in a horizontal direction. Wilcox notices some small depressions where the figures were standing, as well as a thin, red, jellylike substance. (Olga M. Hotchkiss, “New York UFO and Its ‘Little People,’” *Fate* 17, no. 9 (September 1964): 38–42; Berthold E. Schwarz, “[Gary Wilcox and the Ufonauts](#),” in Charles Bowen, ed., *UFO Percipients*, special issue no. 3 of *FSR*, September 1969, pp. 20–27; UFOEv II 474–476; Clark III 795–799; Marcus Lowth, “[The Gary Wilcox Occupant Encounter: The Fertilizer Case](#),” *UFO Insight*, December 27, 2018; Story, [pp. 246–249](#))

1964, April 24 — Around 5:50 p.m. Socorro, New Mexico, police officer [Lonnie Zamora](#), while chasing a speeder, hears a continuous roaring sound and sees a brilliant blue “cone of flame” in the sky to the south-southwest. The bottom of the flame is out of sight behind a hill. Thinking there has been an explosion, he tries to pursue it, turning off to the right on a rough gravel road, but loses sight of it while trying to get the car up a steep hill. By the time he reaches the top, the sound stops and the flame is no longer visible. He then notices a metallic object in a ravine about 450 feet away. At first, he thinks it is an overturned car, but then he sees “two figures in what resembled white coveralls, pretty close to the object on the northwest side, as if inspecting it.” One seems to turn in a startled way as if he hears Zamora’s car approaching. The figures are small, and the object is oval-shaped and positioned so its long axis is horizontal. Zamora loses sight of object as he drives through a dip in the road. He radios headquarters that he is investigating a possible car accident. He stops a second time and gets out, hearing 2–3 loud thumping noises like a door shutting hard. He walks three steps to the front of the car to possibly 50 feet away from the object when he hears a very loud roar increasing in volume and sees a smokeless blue-orange flame coming from beneath. He notes a red insignia or lettering on the side of the object. Zamora thinks it is going to explode and runs away, putting the car between him and the object and dropping to the ground. He feels some slight heat from the flame. The roaring noise stops, and Zamora looks up to see the UFO flying away to the southwest at a level height, just clearing an 8-foot dynamite shack. He runs back to the patrol car and radios headquarters, just as the object climbs slowly and goes past Box Canyon or Six Mile Canyon Mountain (about 6 miles away). The entire incident takes place in less than 2 minutes. Police Sgt. M. S. Chavez arrives, and they find burning brush (including a badly damaged creosote bush) where the UFO has been, as well as four asymmetrically placed, trapezoidal imprints 12–16 inches long, 6–8 inches wide, and 4–6 inches deep. An FBI agent, [D. Arthur Byrnes Jr.](#), who has heard about it on the police radio, speaks with Zamora in the evening. He notifies army intelligence at White Sands Missile Range, who sends Capt. Richard T. Holder. Military police arrive and collect samples, working by flashlight. The next morning, Holder gets a call from a colonel at the war room of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, asking for a report. T/Sgt. David Moody from ATIC and Maj. William Conner from Kirtland AFB check the area for radioactivity on April 26. [Hynek](#) arrives on April 28 and interviews Zamora and Chavez. [Richard H. Hall](#) and [Ray Stanford](#) arrive for NICAP and obtain some metal traces on a rock in the landing area; they take the sample to NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, where metallurgist [Henry E. Frankel](#) agrees to analyze the material. His tentative analysis suggests a zinc-iron alloy, perhaps from a zinc pail. In 1966, Blue Book chief Maj. [Hector Quintanilla](#) writes in a classified article in *Studies in Intelligence* that “This is the best-documented case on record, and still we have been unable, in spite of a thorough investigation, to find the vehicle or other stimulus that scared Zamora to the point of panic.” Some investigators think the case might involve a test of a Lunar Surveyor module from White Sands. (Wikipedia, “[Lonnie Zamora incident](#)”; NICAP, “[Lonnie Zamora / Socorro Landing Case](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 297; “[UAO Landing in New Mexico](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May 1964, pp. 1, 3–10; “[Physical Evidence: Landing Reports](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 1, 4–5; Coral Lorenzen, “UFO Lands in New Mexico,” *Fate* 17, no. 8 (August 1964): 27–38; Hector Quintanilla Jr., “[The Investigation of UFOs](#),” *Studies in Intelligence* 10, no. 4 (February 1966): 95–110; Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 92–97; Clark III 1083–1093; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 165–166](#); Philip J. Klass, *UFOs Explained*, Random House, 1974, pp. 105–114; *Hynek UFO Report*, [pp. 223–229](#); Good Above, [pp. 343–345](#), [371–373](#); Story, [pp. 341–344](#); Lorenzen, *Encounters with UFO Occupants*, Berkley Medallion, 1976, pp. 8–11; Ray Stanford, *Socorro ‘Saucer’ in a Pentagon Pantry*, Blueapple, 1976; “[The Socorro, New Mexico, Landing: Additional Witnesses?](#)” *IUR* 3, no. 9 (September 1978): 15; Robert Barrow, “[An Incredible Admission: What Did the Air Force Mean?](#)” *Pursuit* 12, no. 1 (Winter 1979): 10–12; ClearIntent, [pp. 139–141](#); Kenneth Eugene

Firestone and Ronald L. Firestone, "[Socorro, New Mexico: Revisited](#)," Ground Saucer Watch, 1981; Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Times, 1987, pp. 62–66; Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science: Journals 1957–1969*, North Atlantic, 1992, [pp. 100–104](#); Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneeus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, [pp. 78–80](#); David E. Thomas, "[A Different Angle on the Socorro UFO of 1964](#)," New Mexicans for Science and Reason, 2001; UFOEv II 177–182; Paul Harden, "[The 1964 Socorro UFO Incident](#)," *El Defensor Chieftain*, August 2, 2008; Kevin D. Randle, "[Socorro UFO Landing Analysis](#)," A Different Perspective, November 22, 2009; Kevin D. Randle, "[The Socorro Symbol: Resolved?](#)" A Different Perspective, October 15, 2016; Kevin D. Randle, "[No Socorro Solution by Chief of Project Blue Book](#)," A Different Perspective, November 7, 2017; Kevin D. Randle, "[Zamora vs. People](#)," A Different Perspective, November 9, 2017; Kevin D. Randle, *Encounter in the Desert: The Case for Alien Contact at Socorro*, New Page, 2017; Justice Fodor, "[Ray Stanford and His NASA-Goddard UFO-Metal Cover-Up Claim](#)," Alien Expanse, February 14, 2019; Kevin D. Randle, "[Expedition Unknown in Socorro](#)," A Different Perspective, October 19, 2022; Center for UFO Studies, [[correspondence](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [case files: [Files 1 and 4R](#), [Files 2](#), [Files 3](#), [MiscR](#), [Zamora](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [[Clippings1](#), [Clippings2](#)]; John Greenewald, "[Official Files on the Socorro UFO Landing, April 24, 1964](#)," The Black Vault, August 20, 2023; "[Policeman Lonnie Zamora in 1996, '74 & '64 on Witnessing a Landed Tic-Tac Shaped UFO in Socorro, NM](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, October 2023; Graff 187–191; Covert 70; William J. Granger, "[The Socorro Incident: Time for a Second Look](#)," *SCU Review* 5, no. 1 (January 27, 2024): 12–18)

- 1964**, April 25 — Morning. J. D. Hatch is driving on US Hwy 70 between Mescalero and Tularosa, New Mexico, when a bright oval object descends and seemingly lands on the other side of Round Mountain east of Tularosa. (Clark III 1092)
- 1964**, April 25 — Evening. Two motorists driving on US Hwy 84 between Abiquiu and Espanola, New Mexico, see a strange object that is definitely not an airplane fly straight toward their car before shooting away. All they can see is a blue-flamed exhaust. (Clark III 1092)
- 1964**, April 25? — Night. Two Spanish-speaking people 9 miles away from Golden, New Mexico, watch a light come down from the sky and leave three "smelted" circles some 2 feet in diameter and separated from each other by 20 feet. They mention this story to James Scartacinni, 15, and his grandfather visit the site the next day and find the circles, which they estimate must have been subjected to a temperature of 2,300° F. They return to town and call the state police, who notify the military. Almost immediately, men in uniform cordon off the area, dig up the burned areas to a depth of one foot, and carry the material away. ("[Hunting Old and New UFOs in New Mexico](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982):12)
- 1964**, April 26 — Around 1:00 a.m. [Orlando Gallegos](#) steps outside his father's ranch at La Madera, New Mexico, to chase away some horses in the yard. He sees a peculiar structure in the Rio Vallecitos creek bed some 900 feet away. It looks like a butane tank "as long as a telephone pole" about 14 feet in diameter, metallic, and shooting blue flames out of holes in the sides. As he watches over the next minute, the flames subside. It is still there when he goes inside, where no one else believes him. It is gone the next morning, but state police (including Capt. [Martin E. Vigil](#), [David Kingsbury](#), and Albert Vega) investigate and find the ground still smoldering and scorched with four depressions, one of them 8 by 12 inches in size. The charred area is in the shape of two overlapping circles and about 20 feet across. [Hynek](#) is refused authorization to go visit the site. ("[Mystery Object Report Is Told](#)," *Albuquerque Tribune*, August 27, 1966, p. 1; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, [pp. 222–223](#); Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 54–55; "[Hunting Old and New UFOs in New Mexico](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982):12–13; Clark III 1092; [Sparks](#), p. 298; Covert 70)
- 1964**, April 28 — Early evening. A round, whitish object hovers then darts away over Anthony, New Mexico. State policeman [Raúl Arteche](#) sees it moving west over the Port of Entry near El Paso, Texas. He says it looks like the object [Lonnie Zamora](#) saw. ("[Other Recent Sightings](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 7)
- 1964**, April 28 — Early morning. Don Adams is driving in Edgewood, New Mexico, when his car stalls. He sees a glowing, greenish object 100 feet overhead and fires six rounds from a .32 pistol at it with no effect. He can hear the bullets bouncing off. It silently moves away to the north. ("[Other Recent Sightings](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 7; "[Green Object at Edgewood](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, September 1964, p. 3)
- 1964**, April 30 — A B-57 pilot at Holloman AFB, Alamogordo, New Mexico, radios to the control tower that he is watching an egg-shaped, white UFO with markings that match the Socorro object. He continues to watch it as it lands at the base. [Coral and Jim Lorenzen](#) insist they heard the story from a reliable source. In addition, a ham radio operator claims to have heard the exchange between the pilot and control tower. Holloman AFB denies the incident occurred. Shortly afterward, an airman walks into a clothing store in Alamogordo and spins an incredible story of a UFO parked in a hangar under heavy guard at Holloman. A couple days later, he returns to the store and

- denies everything. (Coral Lorenzen, "[UFO Landing at Air Force Base](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, July 1964, pp. 1, 3–4; Coral Lorenzen, "[UFO Lands at Air Force Base](#)," *Fate* 17, no. 10 (October 1964): 45–52; Clark III 332)
- 1964**, April 30 — 10:30 p.m. Several children living in Canyon Ferry, Montana, see a lighted, egg-shaped object the size of an automobile land about 150 feet away, then take off. The witnesses are Linda Davis, 11, and children of the Harold Rust family. It leaves four 8 x 10 inch rectangular indentations in the ground, 4–8 inches deep, about 13 feet apart, and a burned area. ("[Kids Called Hoaxers by U.S.A.F.](#)" *APRO Bulletin*, July 1964, pp. 1, 5; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, pp. 223–224; [Sparks](#), p. 298)
- 1964**, May — NICAP publishes its special 184-page report, *The UFO Evidence*, but due to a printing delay, copies are not actually available until late June. Copies are sent to the media and to every member of Congress on July 1. Edited by [Richard H. Hall](#), it consists of a summary of hundreds of unexplained reports studied by NICAP investigators through 1963. Sightings are systematically broken down by witness category and special types of evidence. Individual chapters are devoted to sightings by military personnel, pilots and aviation experts, and scientists and engineers. Another chapter is devoted to evidence of intelligent control and another to physical evidence or interactions, such as electromagnetic effects, radar tracking, photographs, sound, physiological effects. Another section examines observed patterns, such as descriptions of shape, color, maneuvers, flight behavior, and concentrations of sightings. House Majority Leader [John W. McCormack](#) (D-Mass.) requests two copies, one for his Capitol Hill office and another for his state home office. (Richard H. Hall, ed., *The UFO Evidence*, NICAP, 1964; Wikipedia, "[National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena](#)"; Richard Hall, "[NICAP and Lessons from the Past](#)," *IUR* 17, no. 3 (May/June 1992): 17, 24; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 324–326)
- 1964**, May 5 — 8:30 a.m. Alfred Ernst, a farmer near Comstock, Minnesota, sees a luminous UFO like a child's top from about 1,500 feet away. It rises straight up and disappears into the overcast sky after a few seconds. Ernst and his brother find a crater-like depression, about 3 feet in diameter and 6 inches deep at the center, at the spot where the object was sitting. A series of smaller holes form an X around the larger depression. The earth seems burned on the perimeter of the hole and a whitish substance is found. ("Mystery 'Ship' Lands," *Barnesville (Minn.) Record-Review*, May 7, 1964; "'Space Ship' Was Possibly Lightning," *Barnesville (Minn.) Record-Review*, May 21, 1964; "[Physical Evidence: Landing Reports](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 5; Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 56–58)
- 1964**, May 13 — 10:15 p.m. Mrs. [M. Walter McKarley](#) and her children see a large round object that appears in their headlights after they pull into a driveway at Rio Vista, California. It seems to be resting on the ground about a quarter of a mile away. Higher in the sky is a small star-like object (probably Venus). As they drive away, the large object seems to pace their car for a short time. It then moves swiftly to the left and disappears behind a water tank. ("[Physical Evidence: Landing Reports](#)," *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 6; Ann Druffel, "[Mercury: A Possible Clue to UFO Propulsion? Part 1](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 196 (July/Aug. 1984): 15–17)
- 1964**, May 15 — Between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Two targets are simultaneously tracked on surveillance and FPS-16 radars at Stallion Site, the most northerly range of the Army-controlled Holloman–White Sands complex a few miles east of San Antonio, New Mexico. The targets are north of the radar site, performing "perfect, precise flight maneuvers" in tandem, involving separations and rejoins and "up-and-down 'pogo' maneuvers." One radar operator obtains a visual sighting of two brown-colored, football-shaped objects that are flying at very low altitude and are lost from view behind buildings at the site. The two targets are displayed as skin paints. However, IFF transponder codes are also received on two different frequencies alternately. (NICAP, "[UFO Auto-Tracked, Sends Phony IFF](#)"; Lorenzen, *FSHoax*, pp. 225–226; Coral Lorenzen, "UFO Lands at Air Force Base," *Fate* 17, no. 10 (October 1964): 45, 48)
- 1964**, May 19 — 7:00 a.m. Mike Bizon, 10, sees a square or spindle-shaped, bright-silver UFO on the ground in Hubbard, Oregon, while he is leading a cow out to pasture. The cow, normally eager to be let out, acts very reluctant and nervous. The object is resting on four legs in an adjacent wheat field. It rises slowly off the ground to the height of a telephone pole, then zooms straight up emitting a soft beeping sound. Bizon smells an odor like gas fumes. Three imprints in the shape of an equilateral triangle are found in an area of flattened wheat about 4 feet wide. (Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 53–54)
- 1964**, May 20–23 — The First All-Union Conference on Extraterrestrial Civilizations is held at the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory on Mount Aragats in Armenia on the initiative of astrophysicist [Nikolai Kardashev](#). It brings together many Soviet astronomers to assess the likelihood of communicating with intelligent life in outer space. Kardashev believes that Project Ozma in the US is incapable of detecting intelligent signals on the hydrogen line and that Russian efforts should focus on infrared and millimeter-wave ranges of the spectrum. He also proposes a three-tiered hypothetical method, the Kardashev scale, to measure the evolution of extraterrestrial

civilizations based on the amount of energy consume and manipulate. Type I (planetary civilization) with “technological level close to the level presently attained on earth”; Type II (stellar civilization), “a civilization capable of harnessing the energy radiated by its own star”; and Type III (galactic civilization), “a civilization in possession of energy on the scale of its own galaxy.” Various extensions of the Kardashev scale have since been proposed, including the use of metrics rather than pure power. (Wikipedia, “[Byurakan Conference](#)”; Wikipedia, “[Kardashev scale](#)”; Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory, “[Extraterrestrial Civilizations](#)”; Nikolai S. Kardashev, “[Transmission of Information by Extraterrestrial Civilizations](#),” *Soviet Astronomy* 8, no. 2 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 217–221; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, pp. 84–85; Graff 179–181)

1964, May 21 — 4:30 a.m. At Altus AFB, Oklahoma, Missile Site 7, southeast of Ranchland, Texas, a large bright light is seen directly over the facility below 10,000 feet. The light is bright enough to light up the silo cap. Its apparent size is as large as a basketball held at arm’s length. The object is first noticed hovering over the south fence of Site 7 for 8–10 minutes. (NICAP, “[Light Hovers over Missile Silo](#)”; Nukes 159–160)

1964, May 24 — [James P. Templeton](#), using a Pentacon camera with Kodacolor X stock, takes a photo of his 5-year-old daughter Elizabeth when his family is picnicking on the marshes at Burgh by Sands, Cumbria, England. When the film is developed, a man, encased in a white spacesuit and helmet, is clearly visible behind Elizabeth’s head. Templeton and his family claim they had seen no one when the photo was taken. He tells the Carlisle police, who are puzzled. Kodak is intrigued enough to conduct an inquiry. They rule out a double exposure. However, one possibility is that the image is an overexposed view of the back of Templeton’s wife. After the photo receives some local publicity, Templeton gets a call from someone describing himself as an investigator. Templeton agrees to meet with him and an associate and visit the marsh. Two men dressed in dark business suits show up and drive him to the site. They refuse to give Templeton their names, referring to themselves only as “9” and “11.” They are mostly interested in finding out if any nearby animals had been agitated. Then they insist that the figure was just a passerby, get angry, and drive away, leaving Templeton stranded and having to walk home 5 miles away. (Gordon W. Creighton, “[The Mysterious Templeton Photograph](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1964): 11–12; Jenny Randles, “[The Riddle of the Templeton Photograph](#),” *IUR* 20, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1995): 12–15; “[The Templeton photograph](#)” [in color], *Flying Saucer Review* 46, no. 2 (Summer 2001): inside cover; Jenny Randles, “Casebook: The Solway Spaceman,” *Fortean Times* 196 (May 2005): 29; Andy Roberts and David Clarke, “Farewell to the Solway Spaceman?” *Fortean Times* 286 (April 2012): 28–29; Jenny Randles, “Moderations, Part One: Lost and Found Files,” *Fortean Times* 292 (September 2012): 29; Clark III 1126–1127; Patrick Gross, “[The Solway Firth Photograph, 1964](#)”; “[The Solway Firth Spaceman Mystery](#),” Very Nearly Interesting YouTube channel, June 2023)

1964, May 26 — 7:43 p.m. [Paul Wańkowicz](#), RAF pilot and ex-Smithsonian satellite tracker, sees a thin, white ellipsoid, estimated at 15–20 feet in length at 1,000 feet altitude, at Cambridge, Massachusetts. It flies straight and level from nearly overhead to the east-northeast, where it disappears behind the roof of a Sears Roebuck store as viewed from his car in the parking lot to the south. He briefly loses sight of it as it passes behind cumulus cloud cover. No noise or trail. The tops of cumulus clouds are at least 3,500 feet altitude, thus the UFO’s speed is at least 700 mph and length 50–70 feet. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 96–98; NICAP, [[Blue Book documents](#)]; [Sparks](#), p. 299)

1964, May 26 — 10:00 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. [Terry Balliet](#), their family, and two neighbors see two UFOs in the northwest sky near Palmerton, Pennsylvania. One is a large, stationary, dome-like object emitting hazy whitish light from the underside. A smaller disc-like object is intermittently visible maneuvering around the larger one. It finally merges with the large object, which moves away to the east. The large object is seen twice more in the evening, moving back and forth from east to west. (“[Other Recent Sightings](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 7)

1964, May 26 — 11:00 p.m. Rev. H. C. Shaw sees a yellow-orange light shaped like the bottom of a ball in a field at Pleasant View, Pennsylvania, and chases it down the road for two miles. ([Sparks](#), p. 299)

1964, Summer — 10:00 p.m. A meteorologist at Westford, Massachusetts, sees a bright lightning flash 5 miles to the south. At the same time, his car headlights and the headlights of an approaching car go out, as well as his radio. No thunderclap is heard. He notes that the sky is clear and there are no thunderstorms in the entire Boston area. (“[Astronomers and UFO’s: A Survey, Part 2, Sightings](#),” *IUR* 2, no. 4 (April 1977): 4)

1964, June — 2:00 a.m. A young couple is driving home from a dance at a small place north of Santa Barbara, California, when a circular, glowing object silently appears above their car. They stop to watch. It is about 100 feet high and 40 feet in diameter and seemingly emits some heat. It hovers for 2 minutes then speeds off ahead of them, lighting up the valley as it goes and apparently traveling about 1,800–2,400 mph. (“[Correspondence](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1982): 3)

- 1964, June** — 6:30 p.m. Bert Gammie, his mother, and his daughter Lynn are driving along the northern shore of Green Lake, British Columbia, when they see a light above a mountain across the lake to the south. Soon they notice it is moving and is now almost directly overhead. He stops the car and gets out for a closer look. The object is circular, dull metallic, and has a series of vents in the tail trailing white, blue, red, and orange exhaust. They watch it for 3 minutes moving slowly to the north at about 50 mph and making a whistling noise. It makes a sharp right-angle turn, proceeds west, and disappears from sight. Gammie reports the sighting to the RCAF in Vancouver, and a senior air force officer visits him later and shows him a bulky portfolio of glossy UFO photos, many of them showing detailed features. Gammie tells him that the UFO he had seen did not exactly resemble any of the photos, and the officer tells him that the RCAF would not admit to interviewing him if the case receives any publicity. (“[That Awful Looking Shooting Star](#),” *Canadian UFO Report* 3, no. 5 (1975): 14)
- 1964, June** — *BUFOI* magazine (Belgian UFO Information) is launched by a George Adamski group in Anvers, Belgium, and edited by May and Patrick Morlet. It runs until 1979. ([BUFOI Magazine](#), no. 1 (June 1964))
- 1964, June 2** — 4:00 p.m. Charles Keith Davis, 8, is outside his grandmother’s home in Hobbs, New Mexico, when a small, tan, top-shaped object with a soot-like trail appears and hovers above the boy’s head, enveloping him in a cloud. He starts crying and screaming, and the object shoots straight up and disappears. His hair is singed and his face and ears are swollen and burned, although he does not feel any pain. They take him to the hospital, where doctors notice the soot embedded in his flesh. The burns respond well to treatment and he stays 5 nights in the hospital. (“[Hobbs Boy Says ‘Ball of Fire’ Burns His Face](#),” *Hobbs (N.Mex.) Daily News-Sun*, June 2, 1964, pp. 1, 5; “[Child Burned in New Mexico](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, November 1964, pp. 1, 3; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 191–192; “[UFO Retrospective](#),” *Flying Saucer Digest*, no. 128 (Winter 1995): 4–5)
- 1964, June 2** — 10:30 p.m. Mrs. Bruce A. Holmes is driving about a half block from her home at 1105 McKinley Avenue in Sunnyvale, California, when she sees a blimp-shaped object hovering 150 feet in the air about one block away from her. The object has a square box area underneath it with light shining downward. She runs into her house to get her husband and they both watch the object, which is moving slowly to the east at a 40° angle. Suddenly it zips to the left behind a tree at high speed, then back across the same path and to the right, behind another tree. When it moves back to the center, another object has joined it. They continue toward the east and disappear. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 98–99)
- 1964, June 8** — 9:30 p.m. Helen Reed is in her back yard about 2.5 miles west of Lawrenceville, Illinois, when she looks up and sees a strange object near the shed behind her barn about 10–15 feet above the ground. It has a number of circular lights around its perimeter and a blue light on top, and it seems to be 12–15 feet in diameter. She watches it move slowly east several hundred feet, make a sharp left turn, move a few hundred feet north, make a sharper turn, and return to about 50 feet away, where it hovers silently a few seconds. She notices that its yellow lights are quickly rotating counterclockwise. The object finally disappears to the north after 10 minutes. (Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 98–99)
- 1964, June 14** — 8:35 p.m. Charles Englebrecht, 18, is watching TV at home in Dale, Indiana, when the house lights and TV suddenly go out. He notices that a small, bright orange-colored, basketball-sized object has landed in his back yard. As he goes out the side door and tries to approach it, he feels a tingling sensation and has difficulty moving. After a few seconds the sphere takes off and goes over the nearby barn. Several items in the backyard have been moved (lawn mower, chicken feeder). He smells sulfur or burning rubber and find three imprints in a triangle with the dimensions of 2 feet by 4.5 feet by 4.5 feet. (NICAP, “[The Dale Landing Case](#)”; “[Glowing Object at Dana being Probed](#),” *Kokomo (Ind.) Tribune*, June 15, 1964, p. 9; “[U.S. to Probe Strange Object](#),” *Rushville (Ind.) Republican*, June 16, 1964, p. 1)
- 1964, June 27** — Teenage UFO buffs [Allen H. Greenfield](#), [Rick Hilberg](#), and Dale Rettig hold the first Congress of Scientific Ufologists in Cleveland, Ohio. It becomes an annual meeting and changes its name to the National UFO Conference, which runs until 2005. (Wikipedia, “[National UFO Conference](#)”; “[Ufologists to Meet](#),” *Lexington (Ky.) Herald*, June 22, 1964, p. 20; Story, [p. 91](#); David Halperin, “[Cleveland 2015: ‘Congress of Scientific Ufologists’ 50th Reunion](#),” davidhalperin.net, June 25, 2015; National UFO Conference, “[Congress of Scientific UFOlogists](#)”)
- 1964, June 30** — 1:00 a.m. [Beauford E. Parham](#) is driving near Lavonia, Georgia, on his way back from a business trip when he notices a brilliant light in the sky. It is moving towards his car at a 45° angle. In an instant it appears right in front of his headlights, no more than 5 feet away and a foot above the ground. Shaped like a giant top, it emits a “hissing sound like a million snakes.” The amber-colored UFO has a sharp, steeple-like cone rising from its top midsection. It moves above his car leaving a strong odor of embalming fluid and a gaseous vapor that leaves an oily substance over his car, even after repeated washings. After several passes over his car, it starts spinning and takes off vertically. Parham now notices his arms are beginning to burn. He immediately reports his sighting to the mayor of Lavonia, then personnel at the Anderson Regional Airport in South Carolina, where he

meets local FAA officials who check his car for radiation. They get readings from the oily stains, as well as both his arms from the shoulder down. (“[Man Claims Car Buzzed by an Unknown Object](#),” *Greenwood (S.C.) Index-Journal*, July 3, 1964, p. 5; NICAP, “[Lavonia / Tallulah Case \(Radiation\)](#)”; “[Wave of Close-Range Sightings Reported](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 11 (July/Aug. 1964): 1, 3; Joseph L. Ferriere, “[Great UFO Sightings of the 60’s](#),” *Controversial Phenomena Bulletin*, no. 9, May/June 1965): 18; [Schopick](#), pp. 71–72; Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 5–7; Clark III 678–680)

- 1964**, July 7 — Around 9:00 p.m. Three members of the [Henry Ivester](#) family in Turnerville, Georgia, are watching TV when sudden interference prevents them from further viewing. They go out on the front porch and see an object moving silently above the trees 300 feet away. It stops to hover a few feet above a neighbor’s garden across the highway. Its bottom side is fully visible; on the dark upper side are three lights: red, clear, red. The red lights are blinking. As the object ascends, the lights go out. A brilliant green light then shines from the bottom, illuminating the trees. A foul odor “like embalming fluid or brake fluid” hangs in the air after the object leaves. (“[Unearthly Objects Hovering in Sky?](#)” *Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution*, July 17, 1964, p. 23; [Schopick](#), pp. 72–73; Clark III 679; “[An Interesting UFO Story from Georgia](#),” *The Paranormal Effect*, October 3, 2010)
- 1964**, July 12 — Assistant Professor Vyacheslav Zaitsev is aboard a Tupolev Tu-104 airliner above Bologoye, Tver Oblast, Russia, when he sees a huge disc with a domed cabin suddenly appear below the aircraft, fly a parallel course for a while, then swerve abruptly and speed away. (Felix Ziegel, “[Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” *Soviet Life*, no. 137 (February 1968): 28; “[Russian Scientist Confirms Important Cases](#),” *UFO Investigator* 4, no. 5 (March 1968): 6; Good Above, [p. 220](#))
- 1964**, July 14 — After 11:00 p.m. *Atlanta Constitution* reporter [Tom Winfield](#) sees a top-shaped, misty-orange object circling above the southeast section of Gainesville, Georgia, at about 500 feet. It stops and hovers a few moments then shoots up out of sight. He takes a photo, but nothing registers on the film. (“[Unearthly Objects Hovering in Sky?](#)” *Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution*, July 17, 1964, p. 23)
- 1964**, July 15 — MP [Arthur Henderson](#) in the UK House of Commons asks the former Secretary of State for Air [Hugh Fraser](#) about cooperation between the RAF and USAF in UFO investigations. Fraser says he is aware of the US Project Blue Book, and that 10% of the cases are insufficient evidence. (Good Above, [p. 60](#); Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1964**, July 16 — Shortly after noon. Five boys (Edmund Travis, Randy Travis, Floyd Moore, Billy Dunlap, and Gary Dunlap) are playing around an apple tree at Conklin, New York, when they notice a shiny, dome-shaped object in a field along the roadside. Looking for the source of a whistling sound, the boys spot a 3-foot-tall humanoid figure crouching in a tree about 150 feet away. It is dressed in a shiny black uniform, short-sleeved shirt, and black helmet. The whistling appears to emanate from his stomach. The boys throw stones and apples at it, but the figure is too far away. After about 15 minutes, the figure, moving stiffly, falls backwards out of the tree and floats slowly into the bushes. They can see it crawling through the weeds back to the UFO. A round, flattened area is found in the field where the grass is crushed and bushes are broken. In the middle is dried, yellow moss that apparently has been subjected to great heat. Three depressions are where the UFO legs apparently were. (“[Water Boys for ‘Spaceman’](#),” *Binghamton (N.Y.) Evening Press*, July 17, 1964, p. 3; Story, [pp. 86–87](#); Clark III 296–297; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), July 10, 2007)
- 1964**, July 16 — 11:15 p.m. Northern Air Service pilot Kenneth Jannereth is flying at 4,500 feet 15 miles south of Houghton Lake, Michigan. He sees four lights coming up behind him to his left, speed up, and begin to overtake him. Two more lights join the others and stay on his wing about 200–300 feet away, following him for 5 minutes. They are flying in an echelon formation, stepping up to the rear. Suddenly they begin to dim and drift away. (NICAP, “[Maneuvering Echelon Formation Closes on Airplane](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 299)
- 1964**, July 20 — 4:45 a.m. [Joseph J. Winkel](#) is driving east through a wooded area on State Highway 101 about 2 miles west of Littleton, Illinois. He notices a shadowy, cone-shaped object about 60 feet in diameter with reddish-purple flames coming from its end. It climbs to about 1,500 feet and levels off, coming directly toward him, then makes a sharp turn upward and nearly levels out again at 3,500 feet. The sparks turn bluish-yellow, making a ball of fire, and a few seconds later it shoots out of sight. Around the same time, a USAF Airman 1st Class sees a similar cone of light as he is driving east on US Highway 30 about 7.5 miles west of Clinton, Iowa. (“[UFO Sighting Wave Persists](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 12 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 5; Jacques Vallée and Janine Vallée, *Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma*, Henry Regnery, 1996, [pp. 40–41](#); Olsen, sec. 3, pp. 100–101, 103; [Sparks](#), p. 299)
- 1964**, July 20–21 — Evening. Many witnesses, including four police officers, in Madras, Oregon, see umbrella-shaped UFOs for more than 7 hours. The objects alternately hover and move at high speed, usually glowing red while stationary and changing color while accelerating. A daylight witness sees four clam-shaped objects moving silently in formation. (“[UFO Sighting Wave Persists](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 12 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 5)

- 1964**, Late July — 4:30 p.m. Richard H. VanPelt and his teenage son are driving on Beeler Road south of Shawnee High School in Lima, Ohio, when they see a Saturn-shaped metallic object hovering above Breese Road 600 feet away. It is about 1,200–1,500 feet in the air and has a revolving ring around its center. It suddenly starts to move to the southwest, then tips on end and with tremendous speed goes straight up and out of sight. (Richard H. VanPelt, [“Letter,”](#) *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 3 (June/July 1984): 2)
- 1964**, July 27 — 8:50 p.m. Engineer Louis Daubert sees an unusual metallic object as he is driving on a rural road 17 miles northwest of Norwich, New York. It is spherical with a diameter of 25–30 feet and has a luminous ring surrounding it. It remains motionless for 4–5 minutes, then emits three blinding flashes of light and disappears. ([“New York and Montana Flurries,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 12 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 6; Olsen, sec. 3, p. 101; [Sparks](#), p. 299)
- 1964**, August — 7:00 p.m. Raimo Blomqvist is visiting with his parents at their summer cottage at Kallavesi lake, Finland, when he suddenly notices a strange, colorful ball of light coming from the sky. The light approaches and turns out to be an oval glowing object. While it is hovering above the shallow water of an island he sees something fall from the object and hears a sound resembling hot metal touching cold water. The object shoots straight upward. Blomqvist recovers a 2–2.5-inch piece of stone. In 1975, Blomqvist contacts UFO investigators and gives them the stone. The fragment is x-ray analyzed at Åbo Akademi University in Turku, which states that it appears to be volcanic. Analysts at the University of Turku look at it with a mass spectrometer and conclude it is mostly iron, not a piece of ore, not volcanic, not a meteorite, and not machined, although it has been subjected to a temperature of around 650° C. ([“Fragment Fell from UFO,”](#) *APRO Bulletin* 26, no. 6 (December 1977): 1, 3; [“Foreign Forum,”](#) *IUR* 3, no. 3 (Mar. 1978): 2)
- 1964**, August — Midnight. Air Policeman Arthur McEnaney and other guards see a round UFO hovering above a four-silo Atlas complex near Francis E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne, Wyoming. (Nukes 159)
- 1964**, August 9 — 9:00 p.m. Baltazar Flores, Franciso Perez, Ruben Lozaya, and Elpidio Salas are camping near the Cerro Viejo, Sonora, Mexico, where they plan to explore for minerals. Suddenly a “dark, cloud-like object” approaches at high speed. As it passes by, the trees shake and they hear an explosion. They return the next day and less than 2 miles from their campsite they find a compact, gelatinous mass of green-turquoise color about 8 inches long. When they poke it with a stick, the stick becomes covered with a sticky substance like chewing gum. They report the incident to the authorities, but no one is interested. One of the witnesses returns 3 days later and finds most of the mass gone, with some residue on the rocks and grass. ([“Strange Gelatinous Fall in Mexico,”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, November 1964, p. 1; Clark III 1102)
- 1964**, August 10 — 5:16 a.m. Aircraft Commander Capt. B. C. Jones and Navigator 1/Lt. H. J. Cavendar are in a parked USAF C-124 transport plane on Wake Island in the Pacific Ocean. They see a reddish, blinking light approach the runway, stop, and reverse direction several times over a period of 2 minutes. (UFOEv II 53)
- 1964**, August 11 — 5:30 p.m. John Dodson, 15, and Frankie Jimenez, 14, are walking near the railroad tracks south of State Highway 281 east of Defiance, Ohio, not too far from the General Motors foundry. They see a slowly rotating whitish disc apparently hovering above a GM water tank. The object has a lighted flange-like base, a dome on top, and is making a whirring or hissing noise. It begins to move horizontally at a moderate speed, then shoots up vertically and disappears. ([“Maney Reports Boys’ Sighting,”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, November 1964, p. 5)
- 1964**, August 15 — 8:15 a.m. Edward J. Haug and C. R. Bubb are camping on the southeast side of Benson Lake in Yosemite National Park in California when they hear a sound of rushing air. They look up and see three silver spheres moving in a parallel course from east to west at a fantastic speed, disappearing in 3–4 seconds. (Olsen, sec. 3, p. 102–103; [Sparks](#), p. 300)
- 1964**, August 18 — 12:35 a.m. USAF Major D. W. Thompson and First Pilot 1st Lt. J. F. Jonke are flying a C-124 transport with the 31st Air Transport Squadron, 1607th Air Transport Wing, 200 miles east of Dover AFB in Delaware at 9,000 feet over the North Atlantic. A blurred reddish-white glare appears ahead and 500 feet below them on a collision course. Thompson takes evasive action, and the light makes a right turn and disappears. Air traffic control shows nothing on their radar in that location. (NICAP, [“Object on Collision Course with C-124,”](#); J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 50–51; [Sparks](#), p. 300; Tim Printy, [“The 701 Club: Case #9053,”](#) *SUNlite* 5, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 2013): 33–34)
- 1964**, August 22 — 9:35 p.m. [Robert D. Briele](#), an engineer for WFBR-AM radio, and a friend watch a lighted triangular object pass directly overhead in Baltimore, Maryland. Through binoculars he can see a steady white light at each corner. A small green light is also on one corner and a red light in the center. The object moves slowly and silently from northeast to southwest, disappearing in 10 minutes. ([“UFO Sighting Wave Persists,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 12 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 5)

1964, August 30 — Night. Clifford Runyon and Connie Thies are driving from Tipton to Bennett, Iowa, when they see a cigar-shaped object with two bright lights hovering 500 feet up in the eastern sky. The UFO climbs as they drive toward it, and their radio goes out and the car engine sputters. (“[UFO Sighting Wave Persists](#),” *UFO Investigator* 2, no. 12 (Sept./Oct. 1964): 5)

1964, September 4 — Declassified documents show that from 1962 through 1964, the CIA has spent a total of \$2.6 million to finance the campaign of [Eduardo Frei Montalva](#) for the presidency of Chile and spent \$3 million in anti-[Salvador Allende](#) propaganda “to scare voters away from Allende’s FRAP coalition.” [Richard Helms](#) coordinates the action. The CIA considers its role in the victory of Frei a great success. They argue that “the financial and organizational assistance given to Frei, the effort to keep [Julio Durán](#) in the race, the propaganda campaign to denigrate Allende—were ‘indispensable ingredients of Frei’s success,’” and they think that his chances of winning and the good progress of his campaign would have been doubtful without the covert support of the US. Thus, in 1964 Allende loses once more as the FRAP candidate for president. (Wikipedia, “[Salvador Allende](#)”)

1964, September 5 — Early morning. Donald Schrum and his friends are bow-and-arrow hunting in an isolated area of Placer County, California, near the Loch Leven Lakes in the vicinity of Cisco Grove. Schrum becomes separated from his companions. At sunset on September 4 he decides to sleep in a tree for the night. Later he sees a white light zigzagging at low altitude and, thinking it is a helicopter, jumps out of the tree and lights fires to attract its attention. The light turns toward him and stops about 50–60 yards away. The object’s strange appearance frightens Schrum, so he climbs back up in the tree. After a while two humanoid beings and a robot-like creature approach the tree. From then on, Schrum is in a state of siege as the beings try to dislodge him from the tree. At one point a white vapor emanates from the robot’s mouth and Schrum blacks out, but wakes up again, nauseous, and begins lighting matches and throwing them down to frighten the beings away; they back away. Finally, he shoots an arrow at the robot; when it hits, there is an arc flash and the robot is knocked backwards. This is repeated two more times, and the humanoids scatter each time. A second robot appears and a vapor renders Schrum unconscious. When he awakes, he discovers that the two humanoids are climbing up the tree toward him, so he shakes the tree and throws things down at them to ward them off. The same actions are repeated all night. Near dawn, more beings approach and “large volumes of smoke” drift up and he blacks out. He awakes hanging from his belt, and the creatures are gone. Later, when reunited with his companions, Schrum finds that one of the other hunters, who also have gotten lost and separated from their camp, saw the UFO. (NICAP, “[Cisco Grove / Alien Encounter](#)”; “[California Man Is Beseiged \[sic\] by ‘Occupants](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, July/August 1966, p. 5; Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 17–23; *Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 210–212; Lorenzen, *Occupants*, pp. 137–140; *Sparks*, p. 301; Richard H. Hall, *Uninvited Guests*, Aurora, 1988, pp. 248–249; Richard F. Haines, *CE-5: Close Encounters of the Fifth Kind*, pp. 362–365; Ted Bloecher and Paul Cerny, “[The Cisco Grove Bow and Arrow Case of 1964](#),” *IUR* 20, no. 5 (Winter 1995): 16–22, 32; Noe Torres and Ruben Uriarte, *Aliens in the Forest: The Cisco Grove UFO Encounter*, The Authors, 2011; “[Aliens in the Forest: The Cisco Grove UFO Encounter](#),” Noe Torres YouTube channel, December 10, 2011; “[Eyewitness Discloses Startling 1964 Alien UFO Encounter](#),” Noe Torres YouTube channel, January 29, 2012; Clark III 236–240)

1964, September 14 — 10:55 p.m. Astronomers Luis Ferro and Renato Matteassi at the San Miguel Observatory, Buenos Aires, Argentina, watch an object with the apparent size twice that of the Moon passing across the constellation Lyra. The central portion is white and green, while the rear looks like half-rings of blue. Its speed is estimated as three times the speed of sound. They watch it for 3 minutes moving toward Jupiter. (Gordon Creighton, “[Argentina 1963/1964: Part IV](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 28)

1964, September 15 — 8:27 a.m. USAF Lt. Robert Jacobs is officer-in-charge of photo-optical instrumentation for the 1369th Photographic Squadron at Vandenberg AFB [now Vandenberg Space Force Base] near Lompoc, California. His crew films an SM-65F Atlas missile launch where a UFO allegedly causes the ICBM’s warhead to malfunction over Big Sur, California. At the time of the filming, apparently no one knows anything about a UFO sighting. But the next morning, Jacobs is ordered to report to the office of Maj. [Florenz J. Mansmann](#), First Strategic Aerospace Division, his commanding officer, where he is shown the film and told to forget it ever happened. Kingston George, the project engineer for the experiments and who probably never saw the film, “identified” the object as “nothing to do with UFOs” in an article in the *Skeptical Enquirer*. Before Mansmann’s death, and 40 years after the actual event, the major confirms the UFO incident in writing. The controversy centers on the opinions of some researchers who suggest that the telescope imaging system is not adequate enough to produce the results described by Jacobs and Mannsman. However, several other researchers have shown that, with the viewing conditions at the height of the equipment used, and the imaging systems operating at

that shoot, the incident could have occurred as described. (NICAP, "[The Big Sur Filming / UFO Disables Dummy Warhead?](#)"; Robert Jacobs, "[How a UFO Destroyed an American Rocket](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 29, no. 1 (October 1983): 23–24; T. Scott Crain Jr., "[UFO Intercepts Rocket](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 225 (January 1987): 5–6; T. Scott Crain Jr., "[UFO Filmed Circling Atlas Rocket](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 245 (September 1988): 10–11; Kingston A. George, "[The Big Sur 'UFO': An Identified Flying Object](#)," *Skeptical Inquirer* 17 (Winter 1993): 180–187; Bob Jacobs, "[Deliberate Deception: The Big Sur UFO Filming](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 249 (January 1989): 3–8; [Letters], James Oberg and Bob Jacobs, *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 251 (March 1989): 20–21; Robert Hastings, "[A Shot across the Bow: Another Look at the Big Sur Incident](#)," *IUR* 31, no. 1 (January 2007): 3–11, 20–24; Mark Rodeghier, "[Image Resolution of the Optical System at Big Sur](#)," *IUR* 31, no. 1 (January 2007): 20; Robert Hastings, "[Answers on Big Sur](#)," *IUR* 31, no. 4 (Mar. 2008): 18; Robert Hastings, "[Deep Denial or Disinformation?](#)" UFOs & Nukes blog, May 5, 2009; Robert L. Hastings, "[UFOs Are Stalking and Intercepting Dummy Nuclear Warheads during Test Flights](#)," UFOs & Nukes, August 23, 2011; Nukes 187–217; Robert Hastings, "Big Sur UFO Film: Government Whistleblower Reveals He Watched It," [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), UFOs & Nukes blog, February 12, 23, 2024; "[UFO Attacks Nuclear Missile Warhead: The Big Sur UAP Incident / 3D Animation](#)," Mac Mave Studios YouTube channel, June 24, 2024)

1964, September 16 — 6:55 p.m. Several teenagers at Little Hulton, Greater Manchester, England, watch a noiseless, pearly white triangular object traveling with its base forward toward the north. ("[Manchester Disbeliever's Testimony](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1964): 25)

1964, September 18–24 — Numerous high-speed UFOs are reported and tracked on radar in an area between Surabaya, Malang, and Bangkalan, Java, Indonesia. Antiaircraft batteries and Air Force pilots reportedly open fire on them, even though officials suspect they could be British aircraft from the *HMS Victorious* protecting Malaysia. (Good Above, [p. 429](#); Rahadian Rundjan, "[Mencari UFO di Langit Indonesia](#)," *Historia*, June 19, 2017)

1964, Late 1964 — Deputy Missile Combat Crew Commander 1Lt. Philip E. Moore is on duty in Site 7 (east of Hagerman, New Mexico), one of the 579th Strategic Missile Squadron's underground Atlas missile launch facilities at Walker AFB [now closed] in Roswell, New Mexico. He gets a call from an adjacent missile silo around 10–15 miles away, saying that a UFO is hovering and maneuvering over their site. Maj. Dan Gilbert sends three enlisted crew members—T/Sgt. Jack Nevins, Airman 1C Bob Garner, and Airman 1C Mike Rundag—above ground to see what is going on. They see a silent light that moves very quickly (instant stop and instant go) back and forth between Site 6 and Site 8. Gilbert goes up and sees the same activity. (Robert Hastings, "[Three Former U.S. Air Force ICBM Launch Officers Speak Out about UFOs](#)," UFOs and Nukes blog, October 6, 2013; Nukes 152–157)

1964, October — An engineer and three technicians at the Wallops Flight Facility on Wallops Island, Virginia, see a triangular-shaped object speed in from the north, make a 90° turn, and disappear in under a minute. They all agree that it moved faster than a jet. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 48–49)

1964, October 7 — 11:10 p.m. R. Shannon and his wife see a blood-red triangle in the sky above Dulwich, London, England. They watch it for 10 minutes before it begins revolving swiftly, almost to a blur, then explodes silently and disappears. (R. Shannon, "[Dulwich De-Materialisation?](#)" *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1965): 28)

1964, October 11 — 4:00 p.m. Engineer David Hanson, accountant Vincent Flaherty, and a third friend are in Brockton, Massachusetts, when they hear two sonic booms and see two jet fighters leaving contrails. Behind them is a whitish, dome-shaped object. When it catches up with the jets, the object descends slowly and levels off onto a horizontal path. Finally it accelerates up and out of sight in seconds. ("[Disc Chases Jets](#)," *UFO Investigator*, May/June 1966, p. 4; Raymond E. Fowler, *Casebook of a UFO Investigator*, 1981, [p. 31](#); UFOEv II 155; Powell, *Scientist*, 66)

1964, October 22 — *Flying Saucer Review* editor [Waveney Girvan](#) dies, and [Charles Bowen](#) takes control and oversees the magazine until 1982, its most influential period. (Charles Bowen, "[Our Friend Waveney Girvan](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 10, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1964): 5; Clark III 498)

1964, October 29 — 12:00 midnight–3:00 a.m. Irene Page watches a sparkling ball of light that maneuvers around her yard, illuminating her property in Brimfield, Massachusetts. When she first sees it, the TV set fades, and lights in the room blink on and off several times. ("[Flashing UFO Seen Three Hours](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, July/Aug. 1965, p. 7)

1964, November — 2:00 a.m. An informant of [Leonard H. Stringfield](#), a PFC at Fort Riley, Kansas, is on guard duty at the motor pool with three other soldiers of the 1st Army Division when they are summoned by the officer of the

day to join him by a vehicle in a remote area on the base described as a training area in Camp Forsyth. After parkin the vehicle by the side of the road, they hike about a half mile across an open field. Ahead, the searchlight beam from a Huey helicopter plays down on the field and is focused on a large, round object resting on the ground. About 10 other Army personnel are already on site, including a major general. The PFC is ordered to patrol the grounded craft by circling around it and to “shoot anyone if they tried to force their way to the craft.” He is sharply told to keep this incident secret. The helicopter circles overhead while personnel check the craft with instruments. On several occasions during his 2.5 hours of guard duty, the PFC gets close to the metallic craft and it seems warm. The craft is stuck in the soil at a tilt, is about 35–48 feet in diameter and 12–18 feet high. In the middle of its smooth, aluminum-like surface is a black band made up of squares, each jutting out about 10 inches. A fin-like device protrudes from the rear and beneath it is an aperture that may be an exhaust valve. The next day, he hears that UFOs had been seen in the area prior to the landing. (Leonard H. Stringfield, “[Retrievals of the Third Kind, Part 3](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 25, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1979): 8, 10–11)

- 1964**, November 3 — 8:15 p.m. A barking dog alerts the caretaker of the Butano Creek Girl Scout Camp near Pescadero, California. He goes outside and sees a bright light maneuvering erratically in the northeast. He flashes an SOS signal at it with a flashlight, and the light silently moves toward him. He flashes more SOS signals and it moves even closer, hovering above some trees a half mile away and moving back and forth. It lights up the sky like a full moon. The caretaker and another employee run into a cabin to get their wives. The four watch for a while longer, then flash another SOS. The light approaches again, then retreats, dims, and takes off. (Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, p. 242)
- 1964**, November 5 — [J. Allen Hynek](#) writes to a citizen interested in the Socorro, New Mexico, case and affirms his opinion that [Lonnie Zamora](#)’s story was “told by a man who obviously was frightened badly by what he did see.” He says he cannot dismiss it as a hoax or hallucination. (Bill Murphy, “[The Swamp Gas Aftermath: Some Notes from the Gerald Ford Files](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 2 (July 2010): 12–13)
- 1964**, November 9 — 8:00 p.m. Trevor Foss responds to his son’s call to watch a light in the northern sky over Kailoa Station, Gisborne, New Zealand. Through night binoculars he sees a ball of light traveling south toward him. It takes 5 minutes to reach the southern horizon and has rotating light beams that project downward and to the rear, as well as 6 jet-like blue flames. (“[Farmer Observes Sphere](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1965, p. 8)
- 1964**, November 14 — Midnight. Astronomers at the San Miguel Observatory, Buenos Aires, Argentina, see an elongated, flat, reddish-orange object crossing the sky from east to west and then back again at a speed 4.5 times that of a satellite. (“[Mystery Object over Argentina](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January 1965, p. 2; Gordon Creighton, “[Argentina 1963/1964: Part IV](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 28)
- 1964**, November 19 — 9:00 p.m. The [USS Gyatt](#) destroyer is stationed in the Atlantic Ocean about 220 miles northwest of Puerto Rico for training exercises when its radar detects a target approaching the island from the northeast. Anomalous targets that respond to an IFF code have been detected on radar on November 16–18, although no other aircraft are in the training area. The ship relays a message to Roosevelt Roads Naval Station [now José Aponte de la Torre Airport] in Ceiba, Puerto Rico, which then contacts Lt. Cmdr. K. H. Woodsbury, pilot of an F-8C aircraft of Utility Squadron Eight that is already flying in the neighborhood at an altitude of 30,000 feet. The aircraft reports a stranger closing in very fast. The pilot describes the object as delta-shaped and about the size of a fighter. Its color is black or gray and it has no contrail or lights except for a light source emitting from the tail during periods of acceleration. The pilot pursues the object but cannot intercept. The target accelerates out of sight in a wide starboard turn climbing through 50,000 feet at about an 18°–20° angle in excess of Mach 1. The commanding officer of the squadron, T. D. Fosdick, summarizes: “There is no reasonable explanation for this target. Its speed, acceleration, ceiling and ability to decelerate exceed any aircraft I have ever seen or heard of.” During the encounter the SPS-49 radar is jammed for a short period of time. A final radar encounter takes place in the Caribbean on November 24. (NICAP, “[U.S.S. Gyatt Tackles Bogey](#)”; [Sparks](#), p. 302; Powell, *Scientist*, 93)
- 1964**, November 21 — The FBI sends [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) a “suicide package” note that contains audio recordings of his sexual indiscretions and a letter telling him, “There is only one way out for you.” The FBI’s COINTELPRO program is also targeting [Malcolm X](#). (Wikipedia, “[COINTELPRO](#)”)
- 1964**, November 22 — 10:45 p.m. Private pilot [George Henry Lissauer](#) is driving near Georgetown, South Carolina, when he sees two large, silvery, oval-shaped UFOs, each accompanied by 6–8 smaller objects. The formations are moving slowly at about 3,000 feet altitude. After 2–3 minutes, the smaller objects go into the larger objects and disappear. Lissauer goes directly to Myrtle AFB [now Myrtle Beach International Airport] and reports them. (“[Increased Landings Hint New UFO Phase](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 3 (June/July 1965): 2; Herbert S. Taylor, “[Satellite Objects: A Further Look](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 3)
- 1964**, November 25 — 12:45 a.m. A 29-year-old woman sees two lighted objects land on a hilltop near New Berlin, New York. Through binoculars she can see some 9–11 humanoid beings apparently engaged in repair work on a round

object with landing struts for four hours. Some of them are holding boxes filled with unusual gadgets. The next day, she and her husband and father-in-law find two equilateral triangular imprints on the site, as well as a cable with some thin aluminum strips and insulation. Around 4:55 a.m., one UFO shoots straight up and abruptly disappears, while the other rises straight up a minute later and follows the other one. (Berthold E. Schwarz, "[New Berlin UFO Landing and Repair by Crew](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 21, no. 3–4 (November 1975): 22–28; Covert 26)

- 1964**, November 26 — 11:00 p.m. A family of five in Adams, Wisconsin, is returning home from Thanksgiving dinner when an extremely bright light appears over their car, completely shutting off its headlights and radio. The father jumps out of the car and looks straight up into the light, shading his eyes with his hands, but he is persuaded to come back. Suddenly the light disappears and the electrical systems return. No one talks about the incident for 16 years, when the father says the light was "motionless like a floodlight of gigantic proportion." ("[Recently Reported](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 10 (October 1981): 5; "[Out of the Not-Too-Distant Past](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 6 (Jan./Feb. 1982): 13–14)
- 1964**, November 28 — The US launches Mariner 4, a probe designed to conduct closeup observations of Mars and transmit them back to Earth. It captures the first images of another planet ever returned from deep space, and its depiction of a cratered, dead world largely changes the scientific community's view of life on Mars. Initially expected to remain in space for eight months, Mariner 4's mission lasts about three years in solar orbit, terminating on December 21, 1967. (Wikipedia, "[Mariner 4](#)"; Walter Sullivan, "[Mariner 4's Final Photos Depict a Moonlike Mars](#)," *New York Times*, July 30, 1965, pp. 1, 9)
- 1964**, November 30 — The Soviet Union launches the Zond 2 probe to Mars, but loses communications with it long before its flyby. (Wikipedia, "[Zond 2](#)")
- 1964**, December — *New York Times* Science Editor [Walter Sullivan](#) writes the best-selling *We Are Not Alone*, an in-depth study of the search for life on other worlds, from the Orgueil meteorite of 1864 to Project Ozma and experiments on the building blocks of life in the primordial atmosphere. (Walter Sullivan, *We Are Not Alone*, McGraw-Hill, 1964)
- 1964**, December 19 — 3:50 p.m. Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland tracks two large targets on radar moving at 6,900 mph. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 46–47; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, p. 87; [Sparks](#), p. 303)
- 1964**, December 21 — 4:50 p.m. Kenneth Norton Jr., 14, is looking out his bedroom window in Staunton, Virginia, when he sees a "fast-moving object without wings or tail structure." He describes it as cigar-shaped and about 125 feet in diameter, in view for 5 seconds. (*Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch*, January 15, 1965; "[Saucer' Reports Are Flying](#)," *Staunton (Va.) Daily News Leader*, January 15, 1965, p. 2; Clark III 493)
- 1964**, December 21 — 5:00 p.m. Driving east on US Highway 250, Horace Burns is approaching Fishersville, Virginia, when an enormous cone-shaped object appears from the north and descends slowly in a gradual slant. Just before it crosses the highway 200 feet in front of him, the UFO narrowly misses power lines. It is so huge that when it passes nearly in front of him, it fills his entire windshield. The UFO comes down gently and lands in a field to Burns's right. Meanwhile, Burns's car engine has shut off. The object appears to be at least 125 feet in diameter and 80–90 feet high. After 60–90 seconds, it rises up several hundred feet, makes a sound like rushing air, and shoots off to the northeast, vanishing from sight. A high level of radioactivity is detected at the site December 30 by investigators German professor [Ernest G. Gehman](#) and engineer Harry M. Cook. They obtain a Geiger counter reading of 16–18 milliR/hr. Two Blue Book investigators—T/Sgt. David N. Moody and S/Sgt. Harold T. Jones—visit the site with Gehman on January 12 and take further readings (1.5 milliR/hr on Burns's left rear car door). They dispute Gehman's earlier results, but a possible 11x–12x drop in radiation level in 13 days possibly indicates a radionuclide with a 3–4 day half-life. ("[Saucer' Reports Are Flying](#)," *Staunton (Va.) Daily News Leader*, January 15, 1965, pp. 1–2; NICAP, "[Car Engine Fails after Object Lands](#)"; "Gigantic UFO Lands near Staunton, Virginia," *FSIC Bulletin* 2, no. 1 (Oct. 1964/Feb. 1965): 1–4; "[Huge UFO at Staunton, Va.](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, May/June 1965, p. 6; "[Opposition Flap 1965](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 3 (May/June 1965): 3–4; Donald B. Hanlon, "[Virginia 1965 Flap](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1966): 14–16; UFOEv II 36–37; Clark III 491–494, 950; [Sparks](#), p. 303; Jacob Fife, "[The Story of the Alleged 1964 Fishersville UFO Landing and the Chaos That Ensued](#)," WHSV-TV, Harrisonville, Virginia, April 25, 2023; John Greenewald, "[Project Blue Book: The Alleged 1964 UFO Landing in Harrisonburg, Virginia](#)," The Black Vault, May 22, 2024; Project Blue Book, [[case files](#)])
- 1964**, December 22 — A D-21 drone (renamed from Q-12 in its transition to Project Tagboard) mounted on an M-21 begins captive flight-testing at Area 51 in Nevada. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed D-21](#)")

1964, December 22 — The first flight of an SR-71 Blackbird takes place at Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California, piloted by [Robert J. Gilliland](#). The SR-71 reaches a top speed of Mach 3.4 (~2,588 mph) during flight testing. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird](#)")

1965

- 1965?** — A-12 pilot [Ken Collins](#) continues to test A-12s at Groom Lake, Nevada. One night (in 1964 or 1965 maybe), he is awakened by base commander Col. [Hugh "Slip" Slater](#) and asked to take an A-12 up to find a Russian reconnaissance balloon that is floating in American airspace in a westerly direction with the prevailing winds. Collins is tasked with finding the balloon visually and using radar. In the air, he realizes it is a wild goose chase because, flying at 2,200 mph, even if he sees the balloon briefly it would be behind him in a second. He identifies an object on radar 350 miles away. He circles it as closely as he can, which is a circle with a radius of 400 miles. He never makes visual contact and returns to Area 51. [Jacobsen](#) says that this Soviet violation of US airspace has "never been declassified." (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 195–196)
- 1965** — USAF Gen. [Curtis LeMay](#) writes in his autobiography that some UFOs are not explained very easily: "There is no question about it. These were things which we could not tie in with any natural phenomena known to our investigators." He expresses his dislike of NICAP's position that USAF is trying to muzzle the media. "There were some cases we could not explain," he writes. "Never could." (Curtis E. LeMay, *Mission with LeMay*, Doubleday, 1965, pp. 541–543)
- 1965** — Less than 20% of the public believes in UFOs, according to polls and private Air Force and NICAP estimates. This soon rises to 33% by July. (Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, p. 94)
- 1965** — John Harney begins publication of the *Merseyside UFO Research Group Bulletin* in Liverpool, England. ([Merseyside UFO Research Group Bulletin](#), no. 2 (June 1965))
- 1965** — Jean-Pierre D'Hondt founds Groupement Nordiste d'Études des OVNI in Lestrem, Pas-de-Calais, France. It publishes *Recherches Ufologiques* from 1977 to 1983. ([Recherches Ufologiques](#), no. 1 (1977))
- 1965** — Jacques Bonabot, Jean-Gérard Dohmen, and Roger Lorthioir found Groupement pour l'Étude des Sciences d'Avant-Garde in Bruges, Belgium. It publishes *Bulletin du GESAG*. (Margaret Sachs, *The UFO Encyclopedia*, Putnam, 1980, p. 135)
- 1965** — G. J. Kok and S. Sluis found the Werkgroep Nederlands Onderzoek Bureau voor UFOs (later UFO-Workgroep Nederland) in Uithuizermeeden, Netherlands. It publishes *Tijdschrift voor Ufologie*. (Margaret Sachs, *The UFO Encyclopedia*, Putnam, 1980, p. 215)
- 1965** — Tomezo Hirata founds the Japan UFO Research Association in Kobe, Japan. It publishes *JUFORA* from 1967 to 1991.
- 1965** — Ross Liverton reports a ring of bare earth, 8 feet wide, in the ground on Waiheke Island, New Zealand, where a UFO is seen. It remains visible for 4 years. The site contains some unidentified whitish material that resolves into fibers during a soil immersion test. Vallée says the material is "vegetal in nature." (Vallée, *Invisible College*, pp. 36–37; Ted Phillips, "[Landing Report from Delphos](#)," *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, no. 9 (February 1972): 10)
- 1965** — [Jerry Kroth](#), a fifth-grade teacher in an elementary school near Ann Arbor, Michigan, is handed a sheet of shape-memory material by a girl student in his class, who tells him that her father said she should show it to him. The material resembles a sheet of aluminum foil 4 feet wide and 5 feet long but is only as thick as 20-pound stationery paper (0.081 millimeters). He squeezes it and attempts to puncture and cut it but it snaps back to its original shape. (Jerry Kroth, *The Roswell Foil*, Genotype, 2017; "[How One Man Became a Believer in UFOs](#)," *Roswell (N.Mex.) Daily Record*, July 7, 2024)
- 1965** — A couple is driving on a country road in Buenos Aires province, Argentina, when their car engine begins to fail, so they pull over in front of a tree. They notice an object behind the tree that emits a luminous ray toward them that bends at three places, vertically and horizontally, to avoid the tree. The woman's cheek feels as if something is probing her. (Jean Bastide, *La Mémoire des OVNI*, Mercure de France, 1978; "[Beam of Light with Three Corners](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 6 (Dec, 1983/Jan. 1984): 4)
- 1965** — A short color film of a "huge, windowed, hovering craft" with three smaller objects attached to it "as a kind of tail" is taken by a converted RAAF aircraft during a photo-mapping flight over central Australia. A door on the large object opens—two vertical panels and two horizontally aligned panels slide apart—and the three smaller objects fly inside. A US Air Force sergeant with a top-secret clearance is shown this clip at a CIA screening in Texas in 1967. He says the filmed image of the UFO is extraordinarily clear, filling the entire screen. (Budd Hopkins, *Missing Time*, R. Marek, 1981, p. 253)

- 1965, January 5** — 5:56 p.m. NASA engineer [Dempsey Bruton](#), head of the Wallops Flight Facility on Wallops Island, Virginia, observes a round, bright-yellow light rising from the horizon. The apparent size of the object is that of a nickel held at arm's length. As the object reaches an overhead position, it disappears. The length of observation is approximately 8–9 seconds. The witness claims that his wife and brother-in-law also see the object. (NICAP, "[Bright Yellow Light Flies Ahead](#)")
- 1965, January 11** — Mrs. Paul Zimmerman Gearhart and her two sons see a triangular UFO that flies slowly out of the southeast and then "suddenly plunged into the sea some miles offshore" at Tillamook Head, Oregon. It leaves behind two trails of fire. (*Seaside (Oreg.) Signal*, January 12, 1965; Sanderson, *InvRes*, [p. 50](#))
- 1965, January 11** — 4:20 p.m. At least 12 persons, including six Army Signal Corps communications system specialists, at the Munitions Building at Nineteenth Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., observe 12–15 white oval objects maneuvering erratically at 12,000–15,000 feet altitude above the US Capitol Building. Two delta-wing jets, apparently from Andrews AFB in Maryland, are seen in pursuit, but the objects easily outmaneuver them. Among the witnesses are Paul M. Dickey Jr., Edward Shad, Sam Webb, Jack McBride, and Sam Marrone. The objects are also tracked on radar. The Defense Department denies the incident, but the witnesses publicly maintain their story. The Pentagon forces a TV crew about to interview the witnesses to shut down that evening. (NICAP, "[Over a Dozen Ovals Chased by AF Jets](#)"; *Washington Post*, January 13, 1965; "[UFOs over D.C.](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1965, pp. 1, 5; Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 47–48; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, [pp. 67–68](#); UFOEv II 79)
- 1965, January 12** — 1:00 a.m. Donald E. Flickinger, an agent of the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, is driving near Lynden, Washington, when he sees a low-flying object, 30 feet in diameter, that avoids collision with his car at the last moment. He gets out and sees it hovering for one minute, then it flies off at high speed with a sound of rushing air. He learns that nearby Blaine Air Force Station [now closed] is tracking the UFO. (NICAP, "[Driver Avoids Collision with 30' Object](#)"; *Sparks*, p. 303; "[New Sightings Put AF on Spot](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 4)
- 1965, January 12** — 10:58 a.m. The Kiwi Transient Nuclear Test is conducted at Area 25 of the Nevada Test Site as part of Project NERVA. The nuclear rocket engine code-named Kiwi is allowed to overheat until it bursts, sending fuel hurtling skyward. Deadly radioactive fuel chunks as large as 148 pounds shoot up into the sky and last as far away as a quarter mile. A radioactive cloud rises up to 2,600 feet, then drifts out over Los Angeles, California, and out to sea. The AEC calls it a "safety test," but the USSR says it violates the test ban. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [pp. 309–310](#); Wikipedia, "[NERVA](#)"; "[Kiwi TNT: An Explosive Nuclear Rocket Test](#)," Historian Alan B. Carr YouTube channel, January 6, 2023)
- 1965, January 12** — 6:30 p.m. A NASA public relations employee named Milliner and her husband are walking toward their house when they see a bright yellow object moving swiftly over the Wallops Flight Facility at Wallops Island, Virginia. They watch it for 2 minutes. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 48)
- 1965, January 12** — 8:20 p.m. A Mrs. Jubert in Custer, Washington, sees through her window what seems to be the landing lights of an airplane apparently coming into her yard. She herds her three teenage girls outside in the opposite direction. The four lights merge into one intense white light, which moves in a straight line toward the house, lifts several hundred feet and clears a clump of evergreens, then dips down on the far side and touches the ground. A border patrol officer also sees the object after he is alerted by radio. He is buzzed by the UFO, which is low enough that he stops his car, gets out, and watches it move out of sight. Where the object lands in 16 inches of snow, they find a large circular imprint about 10–12 feet in diameter. The ground beneath the melted snow ring shows evidence of having been scorched. Oval-shaped tracks 8 inches long and 8 inches apart, in a single file, are found leading from the landing site to the evergreens, where they disappear. One month later, the circular area still shows traces. (NICAP, "[Case 188s](#)"; "[New Sightings Put AF on Spot](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 4; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, [pp. 54–55](#); J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 152–153](#); Ted Phillips, [Physical Traces Associated with UFO Sightings](#), CUFOS, 1975, p. 34)
- 1965, January 14** — Around 12:00 midnight. Old Dominion college student James Myers sees a diamond-shaped object rise from the ground to 1,500–2,000 feet near Norfolk, Virginia. He loses sight of it behind a church and when it reappears it looks round, bright, and silvery. ("UFO Spotted by Student," *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, January 18, 1965, p. 2; Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 49)
- 1965, January 15** — 9:45 p.m. Mathew Rybczyk is watching TV at his home in Manchester, New Hampshire, when the set goes blank. Going outside to see if the antenna is damaged, he sees a flashing light moving across the tree line

to the east and making a humming noise. When the light disappears, the TV set comes on again. (*Manchester (N.H.) Sunday News*, January 17, 1965; [Schopick](#), p. 148)

- 1965**, January 15 — 10:00 p.m. Charles Knee Jr., a former newsman, is driving on State Highway 4A between Wilmot and Enfield, New Hampshire, when the radio suddenly stops, the lights on the car go out, and the engine quits. He loses control of the car and pulls to the side of the road and then hears a loud humming sound like a high-frequency electrical whine. He opens the car door, steps out, and sees a bright light below the cloud cover at around 2,000–5,000 feet altitude. It seems to hover for a moment and then takes off to the south. As the light leaves and the whine dies away, the headlights and radio come on and the motor starts by itself. The whole thing lasts about 15–20 seconds. (*Manchester (N.H.) Sunday News*, January 16, 1965; [Schopick](#), pp. 148–150)
- 1965**, January 19 — NICAP Acting Director [Richard H. Hall](#) meets with a CIA agent and passes on some UFO case information and other materials to OSI for preparation of a paper on UFOs. Hall is given a direct phone number for the agent's office. He uses the phone line only once to "report some high-quality UFO sightings to the CIA." He is also given a CIA security clearance without his consent or knowledge. A January 25 CIA memo confirming the meeting shows an inordinate amount of interest in NICAP, given the CIA's mandate for acquiring foreign intelligence. (ClearIntent, [pp. 231–234](#); Richard H. Hall, *Uninvited Guests*, Aurora, 1988, [pp. 11, 354–358](#); Good Above, [pp. 349–350](#))
- 1965**, January 19 — [Hall](#) also meets for 90 minutes with retired Navy Capt. [John Lawrence Counihan](#) who is on the staff of Sen. [Thomas J. Dodd](#) (D-Conn.). Counihan says that the Committee on Astronautics and Space Science would be considered "nutty" if it took up hearings, but it might be willing to consider an informal briefing by NICAP. (Swords 306)
- 1965**, January 19 — 6:15 p.m. [William Blackburn](#), a draftsman at a General Electric plant, is chopping wood at an archery range east of Staunton, Virginia, in an area known locally as Brands Flats. He sees two saucer-like shapes in the sky at 2,000–4,000 feet altitude. The larger one seems to be about 80 feet across. The smaller one, 20 feet across, descends quickly and silently and lands 45–55 feet away from Blackburn. A door opens, making a slight noise and revealing an interior light. Three figures, each 3 feet tall and wearing tight-fitting metallic-looking suits, emerge. They have reddish-orange skin and piercing eyes. One has an extra-long finger on its left hand. They speak in an unintelligible language, then return to the UFO. The door closes so perfectly that an outline cannot be seen, and the object takes off. The entire episode lasts only 5 minutes. Blackburn sees no traces in the snow, but thinks the object and humanoids are hovering. (NICAP, "[Two Humanoids Approach Witness](#)"; "[Local Man Claims He Saw Spaceman](#)," *Waynesboro (Va.) News-Virginian*, January 23, 1965, pp. 1–2; Center for UFO Studies, [HUMCAT Index 1965](#), p. 7; Donald B. Hanlon, "[Virginia 1965 Flap](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1965): 14–16; UFOEv II 476–477; Clark III 196)
- 1965**, January 23 — 8:40 a.m. Two separate cars driving in different direction stall out near the intersection of US Hwy 60 and State Route 614 in Lightfoot, Virginia. One of the drivers, [Thomas F. Mains](#), sees a lightbulb- or mushroom-shaped object 75–80 feet tall and 10–25 feet wide, hovering over nearby field about 4 feet off the ground. It is metallic gray, with red-orange and blue lights and is making a vacuum cleaner noise. It suddenly accelerates horizontally to the west against the wind and disappears. (NICAP, "[UFO Hovering over Field Stalls Cars](#)"; "[UFO Reported Seen near Williamsburg](#)," *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch*, January 24, 1965, p. 1; "[Langley Team Investigating UFO, But Report Unlikely](#)," *Newport News (Va.) Daily Press*, January 26, 1965, p. 3; *Hynek UFO Report*, [pp. 177–178](#); [Sparks](#), p. 304)
- 1965**, January 25 — Night. Policeman Woody Darnall, his family, and several neighbors see a glowing object hovering on a mountainside near Marion, Virginia. It seems to explode and take off in a shower of sparks. A group of Marion residents and state forest officials climb to the area and find several treetops bent over and one green tree on fire where the UFO was seen. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 52)
- 1965**, January 25 — Night. Nine persons near Fredericksburg, Virginia, see a UFO that resembles a "Christmas sparkler." One witness says it looks like a spinning top spitting sparks out of the bottom as it moves up the Rappahannock Valley at treetop level. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 52)
- 1965**, January 26 — Evening. Rev. H. Preston Robinson and others in Marion, Virginia, watch an object hovering 600 feet above the city. The object makes a steady buzzing sound and has several lights on its round bottom. Spinning clockwise, it shoots out of sight at fantastic speed. It emits a ball of fire as it disappears. (Harold H. Deneault Jr., "UFOs Return to Washington," *Fate* 18, no. 7 (July 1965): 52)
- 1965**, January 26 — Evening. Steven Houffer, 16, and six friends are driving on US Highway 250 near Brands Flats, Virginia, when they see a small man walking toward the road from a field. He sits down and peers intently at passing cars. Houffer stops the car and he and his friends get out. When they approach, the being runs up a hill. Two other entities appear and run in the same direction. They are all about 3.5 feet tall, wear silvery one-piece garments, and leave no footprints. Police officers conduct a search with local photographer Charles Weaver, but

find nothing. Some time later, Houffer and Weaver see a “glowing aluminum barn,” which they go down to investigate. Weaver is walking around inside when something hits him on the head. The two turn to run after Weaver snaps a photo. In the light of the flashbulb, they see a little man standing by the barn. The photo is allegedly confiscated by government agents. A local man, Donald Cash, 6 feet tall, confesses to dressing up in overalls to pose as an alien, although his story does not completely match the details of the account. (“[UFO Posses Hit](#),” *Staunton (Va.) Daily News Leader*, January 28, 1965, pp. 1–2; Jerome Clark, “[Two New Contact Claims](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 3 (May/June 1965): 20–21; “[Fed Up with Play: Green Man Confesses](#),” *Staunton (Va.) Daily News Leader*, January 31, 1965, p. 1)

- 1965**, January 27 — 6:00 p.m. NASA research engineer A. G. Crimmins Jr. observes an object at Plum Tree Island Wildlife Refuge, near Poquoson, Virginia, that is approximately 75 feet across and 10–15 feet in height. The object has 3–7 lights colored red and orange and appears to rotate. It moves approximately a quarter mile west of its original position on a zigzag course and then appears to land on the ocean shore. It remains still for about 5 minutes, then takes off to the north and turns right to depart to the east at a high rate of speed. Crimmins watches it through 20x binoculars. The same object is apparently seen by retired USAF Maj. John R. Nayadley, another NASA research engineer, who observes a V-shaped object with blinking red-orange lights over Hampton, Virginia. (NICAP, “[Zig-Zagging Object Lands / Takes Off](#)”; “[New Sightings Put AF on Spot](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 4; UFOEv II 156)
- 1965**, January 27 — 11:15 p.m. [Donald Keyhoe](#) and NICAP board member [Joseph Bryan III](#) appear on the *Les Crane Show* and are questioned skeptically by [Crane](#), who ridicules both men and NICAP, which he pronounces “kneecap.” (Donald E. Keyhoe, “[The Crane Show Fiasco](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 6; Powell, *Keyhoe*, 327–328)
- 1965**, January 29 — In Monterey, California, Mayor George Clemens and his family see a bright light performing acrobatics in the northern sky. It hovers, then shoots straight up about 500 feet, fades, drops down, and hovers again. Then it drops toward the water and disappears. The Coast Guard finds nothing. (Sanderson, *InvRes*, [p. 50](#))
- 1965**, January 30 — 2:00 a.m. TV repairman [Sid Padrick](#) is walking along Manresa Beach near his home in Watsonville, California. He hears a jet-like noise and sees a huge UFO moving slowly towards him. He hears a voice saying, “We are not hostile,” and inviting him aboard. He enters the craft and sees a human in a flying suit who calls himself “Xeno” and gives Padrick a tour of the ship and other crew members that culminates in a deeply spiritual experience. Padrick reports his experience to Hamilton AFB [now closed] on February 4 and receives a 3-hour visit from Maj. [Damon B. Reeder](#) on February 8, and perhaps other officers after that. (Jerome Clark, “[Two New Contact Claims](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 3 (May/June 1965): 20–21; Clark III 869–871; Good Above, [pp. 293–298](#); Good Need, [pp. 247–251](#); Lorenzen, *Encounters with UFO Occupants*, Berkley Medallion, 1976; “[Contactee Loses Court Case](#),” *UFO Investigator*, April 1971, p. 1; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), August 19, 2008; Marcus Lowth, “[Sidney Padrick’s California Beach Encounter with ‘Xeno’](#),” *UFO Insight*, October 12, 2017; Curt Collins, “[1965: UFO Contact in California](#),” *The Saucers That Time Forgot*, December 30, 2021)
- 1965**, January 31 — 6:15 p.m. [William E. Bolson](#) and two other musicians sight two discs hovering over some high-tension power lines between Kent and Renton, Washington. The UFOs appear to be connected to each other. (“[Musicians Spot UAOs](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May/June 1965, p. 1)
- 1965**, February — [George Langelaan](#), ex-secret service officer and author of the short story “The Fly,” gives a lecture at Mourenx, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France, and declares that the Russian and US secret services have collaborated on the UFO problem and concluded that the objects are extraterrestrial. (Good Above, [p. 133](#))
- 1965**, February 3 — 8:45 p.m. A man sees a light on the beach near Penguin Street, South New Brighton, New Zealand, and gets out of his car to observe it. He hears a modulated whistling sound and sees an object, 22 feet wide, rise from the beach to an altitude of 60 feet. He returns with other witnesses and a dog that gets restless at a spot where grass is flattened. Another witness sees the UFO as it is rising above the suburb. (“[Sighting Reports, New Zealand](#),” *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, May 1965, p. 15; Vallée, *Magonia*, [p. 305](#))
- 1965**, February 8 — 12:47 a.m. Susan Crowley is driving home along Harmony Lane in Elk Grove Village, Illinois, when she notices a large domed disc silently hovering above her house. She jumps out of the car and goes inside to wake up her husband, but by that time the object is gone. (*Cook County (Ill.) Herald*, February 11, 1965; “[Flying Object Reported over Elk Grove Village, Illinois](#),” *NICAP Reporter* 3, no. 8 (May 1965): 7; “[UFO Hovering above a House Witnessed by Susan Crawley, February 8, 1965](#),” *Eyes on Cinema* YouTube channel, September 2023)
- 1965**, February 11 — Night. A Flying Tiger Line cargo aircraft (Flight F-169) en route from Anchorage, Alaska, to Tachikawa Airfield, Tokyo, Japan, encounters three gigantic, glowing, red UFOs, at least 200 feet in diameter, about 4 hours out of Anchorage. The aircraft radar also picks them up about 5 miles off the wing. They pace the

- plane for 30 minutes, then speed away at 1,380 mph. (NICAP, "[Radar/Visual over Pacific Ocean](#)"; "[Three Huge UFOs Pace U.S. Airliner](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 2 (April/May 1965): 1; Richard H. Hall, *Uninvited Guests*, Aurora, 1988, pp. 249–250; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, pp. 128–129; UFOEv II 56)
- 1965**, February 11 — The Pentagon sends Blue Book chief Maj. [Hector Quintanilla](#) to Richmond, Virginia, on a debunking tour. Stressing delusions and hoaxes, he tells reporters that not a single UFO report is genuine. His press conference display includes false UFO photos and fake debris. "I am a facts man," Quintanilla says. "I cannot explain why people want to see UFOs." ("[AF Misleads Senator](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 2 (May/June 1965): 4)
- 1965**, February 16–18 — Astronauts [Neil Armstrong](#), [Richard F. Gordon Jr.](#), [Buzz Aldrin](#), [David Scott](#), and [Rusty Schweikart](#) visit Sedan Crater and Buckboard Mesa at the Nevada Test Site to practice carrying out geological observations in preparation for a moon landing. (Nevada National Security Site, "[Apollo Astronauts Train at the Nevada Test Site](#)," July 2019)
- 1965**, February 26 — 3:00 p.m. [George Adamski](#) takes his last film of a spaceship at [Madeleine Rodeffer](#)'s house in Silver Spring, Maryland. (Clark III 41; Good Above, pp. 374–377; Douglas Curran, *In Advance of the Landing: Folk Concepts of Outer Space*, Abbeville, 1985, pp. 42–48; Rene Erik Olsen, [[George Adamski photo analysis](#)], Adamski Foundation; Marc Hallet, *A Critical Appraisal of George Adamski: The Man Who Spoke to the Space Brothers*, The Author, 2016)
- 1965**, February 27 — The first conference of Australian UFO organizations takes place in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia. It is arranged by W. Howard Sloane of the Ballarat Astronomical Society to share information and remove some of the stigma of UFO research. The conference is held at the Ballarat Municipal Observatory in Mount Pleasant. Representatives of the Perth UFO Research Group, the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society, the UFO Investigation Centre NSW, and the Flying Saucer Research Society of South Australia are in attendance. Witnesses include Rev. [William Gill](#) and Charles Brew. Former Air Marshal [George Jones](#) attends, and the RAAF is represented by B. G. Roberts, senior research scientist at the Operational Research Office, Department of Air. Roberts says that the RAAF has determined that 90% of reports are explainable, but that only those that might be a threat to national security are worth investigating and "there are no documents, files, or dossiers held by the Department which prove the existence of 'flying saucers.'" The researchers quiz him on the 1953 Drury photographic case, but Roberts is unaware of that one. Jones insists on keeping an open mind about reports like those by Gill and Brew. (Swords 391–392; "[First Australian Convention of UFO Groups](#)," *Australian Flying Saucer Review* (UFOIC), no. 8 (June 1965): 13–15)
- 1965**, March 2 — 1:55 p.m. John F. Reeves, 65, retired, while walking in the woods east of Weeki Wachee Springs, Florida, sees a bluish-green and reddish-purple object 20–30 feet in diameter, 6 feet thick, saucer-shaped, and with an outer rim and a stairway, two 2-foot windows on top, landed on the ground on four 4-foot legs about 2,000 feet away. He approaches to 100 feet. After watching the object for 10 minutes, he sees a robot-like being about 200–300 feet away, about 5 feet tall, wearing a gray-silver uniform, glass dome headgear, wide-spaced eyes, and pointed chin. It walks to 15 feet away from Reeves, stares at him for 1.5 minutes, points a box or 6–7-inch black object at Reeves that emits a flash 3 times, then walks back to the landed vehicle and climbs in. The object has Venetian blind-like blades on the rim that open and close; the rim starts rotating counterclockwise, the landing gear retract, then it takes off with a whooshing-rumbling sound and disappears vertically in less than 10 seconds, dropping two sheets of paper with indecipherable writing, and leaving indentations and footprints in the ground. The case is investigated by MacDill AFB in Tampa. [Richard Hall](#) supervises the investigation for NICAP and concludes it is a hoax. (NICAP, "[Landed Object and Entity Case / Hoax](#)"; "[The Florida 'Landing' Incident](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1965, pp. 1, 3; Joan Whritenour, "[UFO Lands?](#)" *Interplanetary Intelligence Report* 1, no. 1 (May 1965): 4; "[Project Blue Book](#)," *Interplanetary Intelligence Report* 1, no. 2 (July 1965): 8; Clark III 209–218; Jerome Clark, "[Passport to Moniheyra](#)," *IUR* 20, no. 3 (May/June 1995): 10–19; [Sparks](#), p. 304)
- 1965**, March 5 — Two Air Force radar technicians are repairing the height-finder antenna at Benton Air Force Station [now Ground Equipment Facility QRC] in Ricketts Glen State Park near Red Rock, Pennsylvania, when they see a small, saucer-shaped object land nearby. As they approach it, a beam of light comes out and strikes both of them. That is the last thing they remember, and they fail to report to the command post. Their equipment is left behind at the antenna, but air police cannot locate the men. Pennsylvania State Police assist in a search of the area. About 16 hours later, a state trooper locates the two men walking along State Route 487 south of Lopez, about 10 miles away. They seem dazed, so they are taken to a hospital in Williamsport, where they are found to be dehydrated and confused. No alcohol or drugs are found. They are then taken to an Air Force hospital at Stewart AFB [now Stewart Air National Guard Base] in Orange County, New York. Trace amounts of alpha radiation are found on their clothing and strange marks are on their necks. AFOSI special agents interview them, but the men

cannot remember anything. After 2 weeks in the hospital, they are released back to their unit. ("[Pennsylvania Abduction from Air Force Base](#)," Filer's Files, September 9, 1999; Good Need, [pp. 251–252](#))

- 1965**, March 8 — 7:40 p.m. J. H. Martin, an instrument maker for the National Bureau of Standards, and his two sons observe in Mount Airy, Maryland, six lights he estimates to be 1,000 feet away and moving at a speed of 20 mph with no sound. They appear as three pairs of lights, all with the same intensity. They are comparable to a traffic signal. The lights pass between the barn and the house at an estimated altitude of 100–500 feet, flying in a straight line toward the hills two miles away. They are in view for approximately 3 minutes. (NICAP, "[Six Lights Just Miss House](#)"; [Sparks](#), p. 304)
- 1965**, March 15 — Around 1:00 a.m. James W. Flynn is deep in the Everglades in his swamp buggy, somewhere east of Immokalee, Florida, with his four hunting dogs. He sees a hovering object like an upside-down cone about 200 feet above some cypress trees slightly over a mile away. It moves back and forth from its original position. Through binoculars it looks 25 feet high and 50 feet in diameter, with square windows emitting a yellowish glow. Around its base an orange-red glow extends downwards and illuminates the ground some 75 feet around the rim. Some 40 minutes into the sighting, Flynn decides to approach it in his buggy. A high-pitched ringing sound bothers one of his dogs. He stops 600 feet away and walks, waving his arms, toward the UFO, which is hovering 4 feet off the ground. A blast of wind from the object nearly knocks him off his feet. He continues, and at 75 feet from the UFO he waves his arms again. The object beams a light like a "welder's torch" that hits his forehead. He blacks out twice. When he wakes up he is temporarily blinded. In the morning he finds a symmetrical circle of burned ground. The tops of trees are burned. Flynn makes his way to the home of Henry Osceola (or Henry Billy) later in the day and arrives at his own home in East Fort Myers on March 17 and spends 5 days in the hospital with damage to his right eye, bruises, burns, deep muscle tissue damage, and loss of hearing. His eye damage is permanent. The landing marks and burned trees are verified by the Lee County sheriff's office. (NICAP, "[Everglades / James Flynn Case](#)"; "[Man Reported Injured by UFO](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 6; "[Man Injured in UAO Encounter](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, May/June 1965, pp. 1, 3; "[Increased Landings Hint New UFO Phase](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 3 (June/July 1965): 3; Jim and Coral Lorenzen, "Burned by UFOs," *Fate* 21, no. 10 (October 1968): 36, 40–43; Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, pp. 12–16; Lorenzen, *UFOs: The Whole Story*, Signet, 1969, pp. 192–195; Clark III 438–440; Patrick Gross, "[UFO in the Everglades, USA 1965](#)")
- 1965**, March 17 — 10:00 p.m. Walter Jacobs, steward on the freighter *Iron Duke*, sees a bright orange object with a dent on top and a knot on the bottom as the ship is approaching the Margaret Brock [Cape Jaffa] Lighthouse off Kingston, South Australia. He takes a photograph, but it is apparently a hoax. He never actually saw the object at the time, finding it only after the prints are developed, contradicting his verbal testimony. A camera lens reflection from the moon caused the object in the print, and the steward took immediate advantage of the situation and had the radio operator send telegrams to the papers. There is no sighting event. ("['Moon Object' Pictures](#)," *Newcastle (N.S.W.) Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate*, March 23, 1965, via *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 8 (June 1965): 28; "[UAO Photographed Clearly in Australia](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1965, p. 1; "[Film Taken of S. Aust. Sky Object](#)," *Panorama* 4, no. 2 (1965): 12, 19; "[The Jacobs Photo of UFO over Adelaide](#)," *Panorama* 4, no. 3 (1965): 7–8; Keith Basterfield, "[The Brock Lighthouse Pictures: A Hoax Revealed](#)," *ACOS Bulletin*, no. 14 (June 1978): 4–5; Keith Basterfield, "[The 1965 Margaret Brock Lighthouse Photographs](#)," Unidentified Anomalous phenomena—Scientific Research, October 23, 2018)
- 1965**, March 18 (or 21) — 7:06 p.m. Capt. Yoshiharu Inaba is flying a TOA Airlines Convair 240 from Osaka to Hiroshima, Japan, at an altitude of 6,500 feet. Just after the aircraft passes Himeji, Hyogo, an elliptical luminous object appears and follows the plane. Inaba makes a 60° turn to avoid a collision, but the object makes a similar maneuver then follows along the plane's left wing for about 56 miles. Emitting a greenish light, the object affects the automatic direction finder and the radio. As copilot Tetsu Majima radios the Matsuyama control tower, he hears frantic calls from Joji Negishi, the pilot of a Tokyo Airlines Piper Apache, who says he is being chased by a luminous object over Matsuyama. The object shoots away and disappears. (NICAP, "[Object Paces Japanese Airliner](#)"; "[UFO Encounters over Japan](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 1 (March/April 1965): 6; Timothy Green Beckley, "Saucers Chase Japanese Airliner," *Fate* 18, no. 8 (August 1965): 32–35; [Schopick](#), pp. 150–153; Good Need, [p. 253](#); Patrick Gross, "[Aircraft–UFO Encounters, Japan, March 18, 1965](#)")
- 1965**, April 4 — 4:05 a.m. A/2C Corum, a weather observer at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi, along with student R. Pittman. Watches a black, 40-foot-diameter, oval object with four body lights. It flies in and out of clouds for about 15 seconds. (NICAP, "[40' Black Oval Object 500' Away](#)"; UFOEv II 53)
- 1965**, April 12 — Soviet astronomer Gennady Sholomitskii sends a telegram to the *Information Bulletin on Variable Stars*, announcing his discovery that radio emissions from stellar object CTA-102 are variable. The announcement

creates a worldwide sensation with the implication that the emissions are caused by an extraterrestrial civilization. However, that explanation is rejected when the radio source is later identified as a quasar, a rotating neutron star with variable emissions, a term coined by [Hong-Yee Chiu](#) in May 1964 to describe these objects. (Wikipedia, "[CTA-102](#)"; Walter Sullivan, "[Russians Say a Cosmic Emission May Come from Rational Beings: Natural Origin Indicated](#)," *New York Times*, April 13, 1965, pp. 1, 29; Rebecca A. Charbonneau, *Mixed Signals: Communication with the Alien in Cold War Radio Astronomy*, diss., Christ's College, University of Cambridge, June 2021, pp. 71–74; Rebecca A. Charbonneau, "[This Month in Astronomical History: April 2023](#)," American Astronomical Society, April 5, 2023)

- 1965**, April 20 — John Carstairs Arnell, scientific advisor to the Canadian Chief of Air Staff, prepares a four-page "Suggested Statement by the Minister of National Defence," [Paul Hellyer](#). It reiterates the US opinion that UFOs do not constitute a national security threat because most sightings involve natural phenomena seen by unreliable witnesses. (Chris Rutkowski, *Canada's UFOs: Declassified*, August Night, 2022, pp. 16–23)
- 1965**, April 24 — 5:30 p.m. [Ernest Arthur Bryant](#) is walking toward Scoriton Down near Scoriton (or Scorricon), Devon, England, when he sees a saucer-like object approach him. It stops nearby and a door opens. Three beings appear and beckon to him. He approaches the saucer. Two of the three beings appear to be nonhuman, but the third seems to be a youth in his teens. The youth speaks with an accent that Bryant thinks might be Russian and calls himself Yamski. He says that he is from Venus, and then remarks that he wished "Des" was there, as he would understand what is happening. At the close of their conversation, he says that in a month he will return and bring proof of "Mantell." Ufologists who eventually hear the story immediately associate Yamski with [George Adamski](#), the controversial contactee who died on April 23. Adamski was of Polish background and had a noticeable accent. If this were Adamski, he has lost any signs of aging. Adamski's friend [Desmond Leslie](#) was a coauthor of his first book. Captain [Thomas F. Mantell](#), piloting an F-51, had been killed in 1948 when he began chasing what he thought was a UFO. According to Bryant, the saucer returns June 7 and leaves some items, including several pieces of metal, allegedly from an F-51. He reports the story to the British UFO Research Association, which launches an investigation. The various items Bryant turns over to the two investigators (a turbine fitting, metal parts, a broken bulb and fitting, a phial containing silver sand, and a piece of paper on which the words "Adelphos Adelpho" are written) prove to be mundane and irrelevant to the F-51, according to aeronautical engineer [Leonard G. Cramp](#). In spite of problems with the story, one of the investigators, Eileen Buckle, rushes into print with a book, *The Scoriton Mystery*. Shortly afterward, Bryant unexpectedly takes ill and dies from a brain tumor on June 24, 1967. The other investigator, Norman Oliver, visits his widow. She says that she is familiar with the story in the book, as her husband had presented it to her first as the script for a science fiction novel. It is only after the investigation is well along that she realizes her husband was trying to sell the story as a real event. She indicates that the supposed items related to Mantell were purchased at a naval surplus store. Alice Wells, head of the Adamski Foundation, dismisses the Scoriton story from the beginning, as does Desmond Leslie. Between their rejection and Oliver's uncovering of the hoax, few remain to support Bryant except Buckle. (Clark III 1040–1044; Story, pp. 324–326; Eileen Buckle, *The Scoriton Mystery*, Spearman, 1967; Norman Oliver, *Sequel to Scoriton*, The Author, 1968; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), August 19, 2006)
- 1965**, May — [Hayden C. Hewes](#)'s Interplanetary Intelligence of Unidentified Flying Objects publishes the first issue of the *Interplanetary Intelligence Report*, which lasts through September/October 1966. ([Interplanetary Intelligence Report](#) 1, no. 1 (May 1965))
- 1965**, May 1 — Pilots [Robert L. Stephens](#) and fire control officer Daniel Andre reach a speed of 2,070 mph in a Lockheed YF-12A at Edwards AFB, California. The YF-12A also reaches an altitude record of 80,257 feet. (Wikipedia, "[Robert L. Stephens](#)")
- 1965**, May 6 — 9:10 a.m. The crew of the USS [Hassayampa](#), a US Navy fleet oiler, in the Philippine Sea notices an aircraft approaching. At 9:14 a.m., the SPS-6C air search radar detects four targets at ranges up to 22 miles for the next 6 minutes at extremely high speed (3,500 mph), making various maneuvers. As seen through binoculars, they appear as three lighted objects, one of 1st stellar magnitude the others 2nd magnitude. The objects hover directly over the ship for 3 minutes. There is no IFF response. One object to starboard appears larger on radar. The objects depart to the southeast at extremely high speed. (NICAP, "[Radar/Visual by U.S. Flag Ship in the Philippines](#)"; [Sparks](#), p. 305; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 93–94)
- 1965**, May 24 — 12:05 a.m. John Burgess, James Tilse, and Eric Judin are playing cards at the Epsom Retreat Hotel near Epsom, Queensland, when their attention is drawn to something on or near the ground. It appears to be a disc-shaped object with banks of lights underneath it to their southeast. Tilse estimates its diameter to be 30 feet, Judin as 20 feet, and Burgess as 6 feet. In the moonlight, its color seems to be charcoal. At times, it seems to approach them, then recede. Finally, it rapidly rises to about 300 feet, then it accelerates away to the northeast. Burgess and

Judin hear a buzzing sound. Total duration is 40 minutes. Two days later, a circular depression is found nearby close to a telephone line. Tilse says that “tops of trees appear to be burned.” (“[Queensland Report](#),” *Panorama* 4, no. 3 (1965): 17–18; “[Increased Landings Hint New UFO Phase](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 3 (June/July 1965): 1–2; “[The James Tilse Report](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1965): 13–14; Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., *Strange Effects from UFOs*, NICAP, 1969, p. 63; “[UAO Buzzes Hotel in Australia](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, Jan./Feb. 1966, p. 3; Keith Basterfield, “[Cold Case Investigation: Eton Ridge, Queensland, 24 May 1965](#),” Unidentified Aerial Phenomena—Scientific Research, June 13, 2012)

1965, May 28 — 3:25 a.m. An Ansett-ANA DC-6b airliner piloted by Capt. John Barker is flying over Bougainville Reef off the coast of Queensland, Australia, when it is paced for 10–15 minutes by an oblate UFO with exhaust gases coming from it. The copilot and a stewardess also see the object. Barker takes photos of the UFO, but when he lands in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, he is not allowed to have the film processed until he returns to Australia. When he eventually arrives in Brisbane, he is flown directly to Canberra where both the film and the flight recorder are confiscated. The Directorate of Air Force Intelligence in Canberra later denies that any such incident took place. However, an official statement by Barker to the RAAF surfaces, in which he says: “I had always scoffed at these reports, but I saw it. We all saw it. It was under intelligent control, and it was certainly no known aircraft.” (NICAP, “[Flattened Sphere Buzzes DC-6 / Photos Confiscated](#)”; Good Above, pp. 168–170; UFOEv II 128, 283; Keith Basterfield, “[Bougainville Reef, 28 May 1965, Cold Case Investigation, Part One](#)” and “[Part Two](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, August 5, 2012; Keith Basterfield, “[Follow-up Research on the 28 May 1965 Bougainville Reef Aircraft Encounter](#),” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, October 7, 2013)

1965, June — Systems analyst [Jacques Vallée](#) publishes *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, which generates particular excitement for its sober, scientific treatment of the UFO phenomenon. Well reviewed, it plays a significant role in the renaissance of interest in UFOs as scientists express a willingness to examine the UFO problem. It is the first book by a working scientist to argue for the extraterrestrial hypothesis. (Jacques Vallée, *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, Regnery, 1965; Clark III 1213)

1965, June — 6:30 p.m. Mrs. J. Whitehead is in the garden at her cottage in Flasby, North Yorkshire, England, when a large disc-shaped object passes over, making a slight swishing noise. On the underside are three “windows” in a triangular formation. She feels a strange calming sensation as the UFO passes by. (Jenny Randles, “[Fake Photographs, Real Sightings](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 11)

1965, June 4 — During the [Gemini 4](#) mission, astronaut [James McDivitt](#) spots an object that he describes as a “white cylindrical shape with a white pole sticking out of one corner of it.” He takes two photos of it. His partner, [Ed White](#), is asleep at the time. McDivitt maintains that it was some unknown but man-made piece of debris, while [James Oberg](#), flight controller at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, argues that it is most likely the Titan II second stage of the craft. (“[‘Object’ Astronaut Sighted Still Unidentified](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 3 (June/July 1965): 3; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, pp. 212–213; “[The Gemini IV Photograph](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1965): 3; Condon, pp. 205–207; James Oberg, “[The Gemini 4 UFO](#),” *Saga UFO Report*, Fall 1981; Good Above, pp. 378–379; “[Gemini 4 Astronaut James McDivitt UFO Sighting](#),” SpaceTimeForum YouTube channel, June 9, 2013; Center for UFO Studies, [case documents]; Lee Spiegel, “[NASA UFO Files Revealed on Science Channel Special](#),” *HuffPost*, March 27, 2012; Patrick Gross, “[NASA Photographs of Unidentified Objects](#)”)

1965, June 5 — 11:30 p.m. Josephine Brundage is driving 4 miles north of Kent, Washington, when her car suddenly comes to a stop, the headlights fail, the radio stops playing, and the car’s clock and her wristwatch stop running. She sees a bright orange, lens-shaped object with a dome descend and hover 8–12 inches above the hood. It revolves clockwise at least 10 times. Brundage feels “hypnotized” as she watches it. When the disc flies away, the headlights and radio come on immediately and she is able to start the car again. (NICAP case file; “[‘Flying Object’ Encounter Reported East of Kent](#),” *Kent (Wash.) News Journal*, August 11, 1965; “[UFO Stopped Josephine Brundage’s Car and Hovered over the Hood of It on June 5, 1965, near Kent, WA](#),” Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, October 1, 2024)

1965, June 7–8 — 7:50 p.m. Meteorological officer Jorge Stanich is performing a routine observation at the Argentinian Deception Station on Deception Island in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica, when he notices a stationary, bright, yellow light at an altitude of 25° above the horizon. He estimates its distance at 1.2 miles. The object is visible for 5 seconds. Six and a half hours later, at 2:20 a.m., he again sees a stationary light in the northwest at an altitude of 40° above the horizon for 4 seconds. (Daniel A. Perisse, “[Deception Island UFO Sightings](#),” *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, pp. 142–146)

- 1965**, June 18 or 20 — 4:20 p.m. The Commander of the Chilean Aguirre Cerda Research Station [destroyed in 1967] on Deception Island in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica, [Mario Jahn Barrera](#), together with Chilean Air Force pilot Lt. Benavidez, a meteorologist, and seven other witnesses, observe a UFO that maneuvers rapidly on an oscillating course for 25 minutes. (Good Above, [p. 309](#); Daniel A. Perisse, “[Deception Island UFO Sightings](#),” *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, p. 146)
- 1965**, June 25 — The Phoebus 1A nuclear rocket engine is tested at Area 25 of the Nevada Test Site as part of Project Rover. It runs at full power for 10.5 minutes. Unfortunately, the intense radiation environment causes one of the capacitance gauges to produce erroneous readings. When confronted by one gauge that says the hydrogen propellant tank is nearly empty, and another that says it is a quarter full, and unsure which is correct, the technicians in the control room choose to believe the one that says it is a quarter full. But the tank is indeed nearly empty, and the propellant runs dry. Without liquid hydrogen to cool it, the engine, operating at 2,000° C., quickly overheats and explodes. About a fifth of the fuel is ejected and most of the rest melts. The whole decontamination effort takes 400 people two months to complete, and costs \$50,000. (Wikipedia, “[Project Rover](#)”)
- 1965**, June 25 — Frank Stavano and 24 other witnesses hear a loud, inexplicable explosion at his father Joseph’s farm near Carrollton, Ohio. Two days later, Joseph Stavano is cutting hay when he discovers a strange circular formation from which the wheat is completely missing in the center for a diameter of 26 feet; at the edges the stubble is bent or broken outward at an angle of 20–30° from the horizontal. No other path leads into the circle but his own. Soil samples show no evidence of explosives or other foreign matter. (“[Photograph of Carrollton, Ohio, Ground Mark Received at CUFOS](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 6 (October 1980): 1–2)
- 1965**, Summer — Night. A prospector who lives in a cabin on a hill in the vicinity of Apache Junction, Arizona, is startled by a high-pitched electrical sound. A bright light then fills his cabin, hurting his eyes. After 2 minutes the light goes out and the noise seems to fade to the north. The next morning, he makes a systematic search of the area around his cabin and he finds in front of the porch a “tiny spindle-shaped bright yellow object with a bright red stripe down one side, about an inch long.” He keeps the artifact for 5 years before reporting the incident to APRO in 1970. The [Lorenzens](#) give the object to University of Arizona metallurgical engineer Walter W. Walker for analysis. Walker determines that it is a manufactured object with a wire made of an iron-manganese alloy at its core, surrounded by fibrous insulation and a sheath made of polycrystalline calcite. He concludes that the object is unusual but not extraterrestrial. (“[New Physical Evidence Case](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, January/February 1970, pp. 1, 3; Walter W. Walker, “[The Apache Junction Physical Evidence Case](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May/June 1970, pp. 1, 4)
- 1965**, July — [Hynek](#) writes a letter to the Air Force calling for a systematic study of UFOs. He writes that “enough puzzling sightings have been reported by intelligent and often technically competent people to warrant closer attention than Project Blue Book can possibly encompass at the present time.” (J. Allen Hynek, “[Are Flying Saucers Real?](#)” *Saturday Evening Post*, December 17, 1966, p. 20)
- 1965**, July — 12:30 a.m. An airman serving with the Air Force Security Service at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas, is outside his barracks when he notices a light moving toward the west. At first he thinks it is a high-altitude aircraft, but after 4–5 seconds the light makes a 90° turn to the south. After another 10–15 seconds it abruptly turns east, then after a similar interval it turns again to the west. Soon it seems to be stationary, but he notices the light is growing dimmer until after 10 seconds it is no longer visible. Throughout the sighting he can hear no engine noise, and until the end the light maintains a consistent brightness. ([NICAP Nocturnal Light cases](#))
- 1965**, July — 11:30 p.m.–midnight. Talking on the phone in her second-floor bedroom in Lake Forest, Illinois, Pat Harvey sees a flash and hears a commotion or “rustle” outside. When she finishes the conversation, she looks out the window toward her neighbor’s lawn and sees a transparent bubble of light about 100 feet away. Inside the globe are several individuals who look like normal human beings, though slightly shorter (5 feet tall) and with skin that looks tanned. They are lying down in a somewhat haphazard arrangement. There are no visible instruments or seats. The object bobs up and down slightly, and the beings’ arms are moving in a way that reminds Harvey of “rowing motions.” (Clark III 277; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), June 21, 2008)
- 1965**, July 1 — 5:45 a.m. Maurice Masse is farming just north of Valensole, Alps-de-Haute-Provence, France, when he is startled by a whistling sound and sees an elliptical object resting on four legs some 200 feet away from him in his lavender field. Squatting on the ground near the object are two figures about the size of 8-year-old boys, apparently looking at a lavender plant. Masse approaches them to about 20 feet and the figures stand up. They are dressed in gray-green overalls and have smooth, pumpkin-like heads. Their eyes are large and slanted, their mouths have no lips and look like little holes. He hears some grunting sounds, and Masse hints that there is a telepathic communication. One of the figures points a pencil-like object at Masse and he is paralyzed. They enter the UFO through a door and the object shoots off at enormous speed with a whistling sound. It takes Masse another 20 minutes to regain control. Tracks left by the landing gear are found later by Masse and confirmed by

gendarmes. (Wikipedia, [“Rencontre de Valensole”](#); NICAP, [“Humanoids near Elliptical Object with Legs on Ground”](#); GEIPAN, [“Valensole \(04\) 01.07.1965”](#); [“Flying Saucer Left Tracks on Farm, Frenchman Says,”](#) *Lancaster (Pa.) New Era*, July 3, 1965, p. 1; [“Landing in France,”](#) *APRO Bulletin* (July/Aug. 1965): 1, 4; Charles Bowen, [“A Significant Report from France,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1965): 9–11; G.E.P.A. Investigation, [“The Significant Report from France,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 5–6; Aimé Michel, [“The Valensole Affair,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 7–9; Bernard E. Finch, [“Comment on the Valensole Affair,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): 14–15; Luis Schönherr, [“The Valensole Questionnaire,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1966): 32–33; Luis Schönherr, [“Luis Schönherr’s Questionnaire,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 21; G.E.P.A. Representative, [“A Tentative Reply to Luis Schönherr’s Questionnaire,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 22–23; Aimé Michel, [“Valensole—Further Details,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 24–25; Aimé Michel and Charles Bowen, [“A Visit to Valensole,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 14, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1967): 6–12; Charles Bowen, [“Keeping Watch on Valensole,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1969): 7; Jacques Lemaitre [Pierre Guérin], [“A Plan for Valensole,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 15, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1969): 8–12; Kim Hansen, “UFO Casebook,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 66–69; UFOEv II 477–480; Good Above, pp. 133–134; Patrick Gross, [“Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind: Valensole, France, 1965”](#); Clark 1205–1207; [“Valensole, l’Indicible Secret: Un Aspect Peu Connu de Cette RR3,”](#) Les Voies de l’Esprit YouTube channel, June 30, 2022; [“What’s the Weirdest Case You’ve Ever Studied? Jacques Vallée Talks UFO Landing in Valensole, 1965,”](#) Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, November 6, 2023; Estelle Moutet, [“Valensole Film: Dominique Filhol Interview,”](#) UAP Check, January 31, 2024; Éric Maillot, [“Analyse clinique de la RR3 de Valensole \(1\): État de stress psychotraumatique,”](#) December 2023)

- 1965, July 2 — 7:15 p.m.** Five garrison members of the British Antarctic Station B [abandoned in 1969] on Deception Island in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica, have a UFO sighting while conducting routine meteorological observations. The witnesses see a light in the north quadrant, zigzagging, hovering, and accelerating at times, and maintaining altitudes between 20° and 45° above the horizon. The light is green and red, at times yellow, and is observed for perhaps 15–20 minutes. The edges of the light resemble those of a bright star. ([Schopick](#), pp. 153–155; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, p. 162; Good Above, p. 309; Daniel A. Perisse, [“Deception Island UFO Sightings,”](#) *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, p. 146; Richard H. Hall, [“UFO Sightings at Scientific Stations in Antarctica, July 1965”](#))
- 1965, July 3 — 5:03 p.m.** Two meteorologists at the Argentine Orcadas Base on Laurie Island in the South Orkney Islands, Antarctica, observe for 15 seconds a round, bluish-white object moving east to west on a parabolic path. Two variometers (magnetic field measuring instruments) register sudden and strong disturbances. ([Schopick](#), pp. 153–155; Daniel A. Perisse, [“Deception Island UFO Sightings,”](#) *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, pp. 147, 153; Richard H. Hall, [“UFO Sightings at Scientific Stations in Antarctica, July 1965”](#))
- 1965, July 3 — 7:20 p.m.** The meteorologist and eight other witnesses at the Chilean Aguirre Cerda Station [destroyed in 1967] on Deception Island, Antarctica, watch for a total of 20 minutes a bright and apparently solid object zigzagging from the east quadrant to the south quadrant. It maintains an altitude above the horizon between 35 and 20 degrees. It is white and star-like with some orange hues. (Daniel A. Perisse, [“Deception Island UFO Sightings,”](#) *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, pp. 147, 153–154; Richard H. Hall, [“UFO Sightings at Scientific Stations in Antarctica, July 1965”](#); Good Above, p. 309)
- 1965, July 3 — 7:42 p.m.** 17 people (including three visiting Chilean personnel) observe a lens-shaped disc that maneuvers erratically across the sky for about an hour at the Argentine Deception Station in the South Orkney Islands, Antarctica. The object changes colors (red, yellow, green, orange, blue, white) as it zigzags from a position about 30° above the horizon in the north-northwest. The object hovers, accelerates, reverses direction, and changes its luminosity. At times it goes behind some clouds, but it is also seen in front of some cirrus clouds. Finally, it disappears to the northwest, decreasing in size and gaining altitude. Cpl. Uladislao Duran Martinez takes 10 color photos through theodolite and field glasses. ([“Chile, Argentina Confirm UFO Films,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 2; Dan Lloyd, [“Things Are Hotting Up in the Antarctic,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1965): 4–5; [Schopick](#), pp. 155–159; Daniel A. Perisse, [“Deception Island UFO Sightings,”](#) *MUFON 1987 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Mutual UFO Network, 1987, pp. 147, 154; Richard H. Hall, [“UFO Sightings at Scientific Stations in Antarctica, July 1965”](#); Good Above pp. 309–310; Condon, pp. 99–100)
- 1965, July 6 — 6:52 p.m.** Chief Mate Torgrim Lien of the Norwegian ship [TT Jawesta](#) watches a star-like UFO through binoculars in the North Atlantic Ocean about 900 miles southwest of the Azores. He, the captain, and other officers see an intense blue, fiery tongue of light approaching the ship at tremendous speed. As it gets closer, he

sees it is a cigar-shaped UFO with a row of square windows. It passes above the stern of the ship at a height of about 900 feet, just below the clouds, in 30–40 seconds. Possible re-entry of the Soviet Kosmos 69 reconnaissance satellite. (“[Cigar’ Passes a Few Hundred Feet above Norwegian Ship](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1966): 32)

- 1965, July 9 — 4:30 p.m.** A white cylindrical object is seen flying over Santa Maria Island in the Azores islands, Portugal. All electric clocks at the Santa Maria Airport stop when the object passes overhead. Weather personnel and other witnesses all agree that the UFO is at an altitude of 24,000–30,000 feet. At no time does it make any sound. According to witnesses, the clocks stop at the same time the UFO reaches the zenith directly over the airport. Attempts to identify it are unsuccessful. (NICAP, “[Clocks at Airport Stopped When UFO Passes Over](#)”; “[The Portuguese UAOs](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, Sept./Oct. 1965, p. 7; “United Press International Reports on Two UFOs,” *Fate* 18, no. 11 (November 1965): 59–61; [Schopick](#), pp. 160–162)
- 1965, July 9 — 10:00 p.m.** Connie Wolferd and other residents of Bunker Hill, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, watch a clam-shaped object, about 10 feet in diameter, with red lights around its rim hover above some nearby trees. Wolferd is sitting on the porch listening to the radio when it suddenly stops functioning. The living room lights flicker (although fluorescent lights in the kitchen and bathroom do not), and a neighbor’s loud TV suddenly stops. She hears something making a “bleep-bleep” sound, looks up, and sees the object. Neighbors find the leaves of nearby trees are singed. (“[Bunker Hill Girl Tells of Seeing Unidentified Flying Objects in July](#),” *Lebanon (Pa.) Daily News*, August 10, 1965, p. 20; [Schopick](#), pp. 177–178)
- 1965, July 12 — 4:30 a.m.** Laura de Freitas Machado Fernandes gets up to go to the well for some water at her home in Porto, Portugal, near the Porto Airport. She notices a luminous red object shaped like a cardinal’s hat coming from the west at high speed. It stops in mid-air and hovers above some nearby woods, rocking back and forth. She rushes back to warn her husband, Manuel Fernandes. They notice that their radio set has started making a loud noise. They estimate the object is about a quarter-mile away. Its top part is orange, and on its brim is a flickering red light. They watch it for 3 minutes before it takes off to the north at full speed. The radio goes back to normal. (“[Mystery in Sky: Clocks Stopped](#),” *San Francisco (Calif.) Examiner*, July 12, 1965, pp. 1, 6; “[The Portuguese UAOs](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, Sept./Oct. 1965, pp. 2, 7; “United Press International Reports on Two UFOs,” *Fate* 18, no. 11 (November 1965): 59–61; [Schopick](#), pp. 162–167)
- 1965, July 15 — 11:00 a.m.** An object descends near the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex in Tidbinbilla, Australian Capital Territory, interfering with its tracking of Mariner 4. It is also observed by control tower operators at Canberra Airport. Researcher [Keith Basterfield](#) concludes that the object is the planet Venus. (“[Airport Staff See Glowing Object in Canberra Sky](#),” *Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald*, July 16, 1965, p. 1; “Sky Object Could Have Been Venus,” *Canberra (A.C.T.) Times*, July 16, 1965, p. 3; “[Mariner Men Goggle at Glowing Creepy](#),” *Vancouver (B.C.) Sun*, July 16, 1965, p. 19; “[Mystery of UFO Spreads](#),” *San Francisco (Calif.) Examiner*, July 16, 1965, p. 2; Graham Gambie, “[I Talk with Men Who Saw ‘That Thing’](#),” *Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald*, July 18, 1965, pp. 5, 30; “[Canberra Incident](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1965): 18–19; Randall C. Hecker, “Did UFO Sabotage Mariner IV?” *Fate* 20, no. 5 (May 1967): 32–37; [Schopick](#), pp. 167–169; Keyhoe, *Aliens from Space*, Signet ed., 1974, p. 106; Keith Basterfield, “[An Extraordinary Incident: Or an Extraordinarily Poorly Investigated Event](#),” *Journal of the Australian Centre for UFO Studies* 2, no. 2 (March/April 1981): 4–6; Bill Chalker, “[The 1965 Canberra Airport ‘UFO’/Mariner IV Myth](#),” *Journal of the Australian Centre for UFO Studies* 2, no. 2 (March/April 1981): 6–7)
- 1965, July 17 —** Witnesses see a UFO land on a beach near Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay. It remains on the ground nearly 2 minutes, glowing bright red. Then it takes off vertically and silently, and stops and hovers above the Rio de la Plata for several minutes at an altitude of 35 feet. Finally it flies away horizontally. It leaves a mark on the beach “similar to a retractable mechanical foot.” (*La Nación* (Santiago, Chile), July 18, 1965; “[UFO Sighted in South America](#),” *Butte Montana Standard-Post*, July 18, 1965, p. 5; UFOEv II 316)
- 1965, July 19 — 5:30 p.m.** [Denis Crowe](#), an aircraft artist, is strolling along a beach at Vaucluse, New South Wales, when he encounters a glowing disc resting on legs. It is about 20 feet in diameter and 9 feet high. The top and bottom are silver gray and the rim in between is glowing greenish-blue. A hollow area at the very top seems to be a glass dome. There are no windows or antennae. Dogs in the neighborhood all bark at it. When Crowe is 50–60 feet from the object, it takes off with a sound like air forced from a balloon. He watches it for about 10 seconds until it disappears into the clouds. After the object takes off, the dogs are strangely silent. (NICAP, “[Glowing Disc on Legs Freaks Dogs](#)”; “[UFO Lands on New South Wales Beach](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 6; Bill Chalker, *The Oz Files* (1996), p. 111; Bill Chalker, “[Tully Saucer Nests of 1966, Part Two](#),” *IUR* 23, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 16–17; Good Above, p. 531)
- 1965, July 20 —** Early morning. Carlos Videla Zamudio (or Zamandio), a civil engineer staying in a hotel in Chañaral, Atacama, Chile, is awakened by a loud noise, looks out the window, and sees an intensely red object about 36 feet

in diameter land on the sand. After 4–5 minutes it takes off with a violent noise, hovers briefly at 30 feet, and disappears. (“[Nombreux atterrissages](#),” *Lumières dans la Nuit*, no. 78 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 2; “[OVNIs sobre Chile](#),” *Boletín Informativo de DIOVNI*, no. 3 (April/June 1966): 6–7; Oscar A. Galíndez, “[Great UFO Activity over Argentina](#),” *Australian Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 9 (November 1966): 30, 32; UFOEv II 317)

- 1965, July 26** — 9:35 p.m. Astronomers Robert Vitolniek, Ian Melderis, and Esmeralda Vitolniek at the Baldone Astrophysical Observatory in Latvia are observing noctilucent clouds when they see a star-like object drifting slowly westwards. Through binoculars the light seems to be sharply defined, and through a telescope it looks like an array of three greenish lights around a larger, central sphere. After 20 minutes, the three smaller lights move away from the central one, and they disappear into the distance at 10:00 p.m. (Felix Ziegel, “[Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” *Soviet Life*, no. 137 (February 1968): 27; Hobana and Weverbergh 286–287; James E. McDonald, “[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 60–61)
- 1965, July 26** — Night. Adilon Batista de Azevedo, 14, leaves home with two friends to go to a movie theater on the outskirts of Carazinho, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. When they pass a vacant lot on Rua David Canaberra between the Rua 15 de Novembro and the Rua Alexandra de Motta, they see a light beam coming from a cloud illuminating an area about 33 feet in diameter and hear a buzzing noise. The other boys run, but Adilon remains and sees an oval-shaped object landing in the vacant lot and hovering about 3 feet off the ground. Another smaller object descends and hovers next to the first. Two beings about 5 feet tall emerge from the larger object and walk around it. They are wearing dark clothing and light helmets. After 5 minutes, 3 others emerge from the smaller object and converse with the others. The beings reenter the objects, which take off several minute apart. Adilon gets a headache that remains with him for 5 days. Possible helicopters? (“[Research in Brazil](#),” *SBEDV Boletim*, no. 45–47 (July/Dec. 1965): 7–9; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), April 6, 2008; Brazil 73–74)
- 1965, July 28** — 9:40 p.m. A USAF Reserve major and his wife observe a manta ray-shaped object fly almost directly overhead at Carswell AFB [now Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base], Fort Worth, Texas, below 1,000 feet altitude. The object moves at a constant speed on the same course. The object is approximately 40 feet long and has two brilliant white lights pulsating off and on once every second. It is completely silent and flies directly through the Carswell control zone at low altitude. The sighting is verified by three other persons on duty. The report states: “This sighting was a positive observation, under ideal circumstances, of a definite object of an unconventional nature—possibly of foreign origin, which could be a threat to national security.” (NICAP, “[RAPCON Fails to Identify Low Flying Manta Ray](#)”)
- 1965, July 31** — 1:05 a.m. Wynnewood, Oklahoma, police officer Lewis Sikes, 29, reports a UFO to the northeast. A little later, simultaneous radar fixes are obtained at Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City and Carswell AFB [now Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base], Fort Worth, Texas. Both Tinker and Carswell track the object to a point 15 miles southwest of Tinker when it disappears. A few minutes later, it is tracked to a point 29 miles south of Tinker when it is lost again. (NICAP, “[Gnd/Visual and AF Radar](#)”)
- 1965, August 1** — 1:30–4:30 a.m. Various personnel from Francis E. Warren Air Force Base west of Cheyenne, Wyoming, report more than 70 UFOs near the base’s ICBM Minuteman I launch control facilities (LCFs) and launch facilities (LFs, missile silos). A Lieut. Anspaugh logs the reports and incoming telephone calls for three hours. The reports begin with a “large circular object emitting several colors but no sound” seen by civilians over Cheyenne itself at 1:30 a.m. This results in an alert at the base for all personnel to be on the watch for anything suspicious. Five objects are spotted over the Sioux Army Depot [now closed] in Sydney, Nebraska, at 1:45 a.m. Two UFOs are seen over the Echo LCF southeast of Pine Bluff at 1:48 a.m. Nine more objects are sighted at 2:50 a.m. The Echo LCF reports six UFOs stacked vertically. A Strategic Air Command team at the H-2 LF northeast of Gurley reports a white UFO directly overhead at 3:00 a.m. The Sioux Army Depot reports five objects going east at 3:35 a.m. Reports of white, round- or oval-shaped objects in various formations, continue solidly at the H-2 LF for the next 40 minutes. At 4:05 a.m., the Warren base commander calls to say that the Quebec LCF southwest of Chugwater has nine UFOs in sight: four to the NW, three to the NE, and two over Cheyenne. Sightings continue to be reported the next two nights at missile sites assigned to Warren AFB, for a total of 148 objects seen by 143 combat defense force airmen, missile maintenance men, and NCOs. The sheer scope and blatant ostentation of the UFOs’ reported aerial displays over a sensitive atomic missile base is remarkable. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 209–211; Robert L. Hastings, “[Remarkable Reports from the Missile Field](#),” *IUR* 32, no. 1 (August 2008): 8–14, 23–27; Robert L. Hastings, “[Yet Another Nuclear Missile Launch Officer Talks about UFOs at F. E. Warren AFB](#),” *UFOs and Nukes*, February 5, 2012; Robert L. Hastings, “[Three Former U.S. Air Force ICBM Launch Officers Speak Out about UFOs](#),” *UFOs and Nukes*, October 6, 2013; *Nukes* 223–238)

- 1965**, August 1 — 8:08 p.m. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol starts receiving 25–30 visual sightings of UFOs, many by police and highway patrol troopers from Purcell north to Norman to Chandler and back south through Meeker and Shawnee, Oklahoma. The sightings continue through dawn and vary from one to four objects that start and stop, often having a red color and varying to a white and blue luster. (“Ardmoreites Spot Flying Objects in Sky,” *Daily Ardmoreite*, August 2, 1965, pp. 1, 2; “Additional Strange Objects Reported,” *Manhattan (Kan.) Mercury*, August 3, 1965, p. 2; “[Oklahoma’s Great UFO Mystery Is Still Unsolved](#),” *Harrisburg (Ill.) Daily Register*, August 3, 1965, p. 2; “[Southwest in Controversy over Sightings of UFOs](#),” *Canandaigua (N.Y.) Daily Messenger*, August 4, 1965, p. 8; NICAP, [\[case documents\]](#))
- 1965**, August 1 — 9:08 p.m. Four objects, bluish-white with a red haze, are seen from the control tower at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. T/Sgt [John R. Lang](#), 34, is the watch supervisor. All the objects appear at approximately 22,000 feet altitude. One is moving south, and another is moving north at speeds of 150–200 mph. Two of the objects appear stationary. The 746th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron reports radar contact with one object at 10,000 feet in the vicinity of Norman, Oklahoma, 20 miles south of Tinker AFB. The duration is 90 minutes. An Air Force weather observer, who wishes to remain anonymous, looks at a UFO through his 40x-telescope at Oklahoma City. It is tilted about 45° then straightens out. “It looked like Saturn with a flat top and flat bottom.” (NICAP, “[Four Lights Observed, Radar Contact on One](#)”; “[UFOs Leave Local Radar Tracks](#),” *Wichita (Kan.) Beacon*, August 2, 1965, pp. 1–2; “[Radar Didn’t Detect UFOs Spotted in Area](#),” *Minneapolis Star*, August 3, 1965, pp. 1, 4)
- 1965**, August 1 — Night. A TWA Boeing 707 airliner flying west of Topeka, Kansas, picks up 12–15 targets on Air Intercept Radar flying toward them at high speed on a 50-mile scope. They change to a 20-mile scope and observe the objects approaching in formation. The pilot, copilot, and engineer all witness this clearly. The aircraft passes the objects but cannot see them visually. Two films of the scopes are taken. (NICAP, “[707 Picks Up 12–15 Targets](#)”)
- 1965**, August 1 — Night. Two rookie police officers in Caldwell, Kansas, speed toward the airport to investigate local sightings when they see an egg-shaped machine about 300 feet long hovering above the ground. They try to get closer, but it disappears behind a hedgerow and shuts its lights off. They return the next day, but find no traces. (“[Caldwell Officers Are ‘Believers’ Now](#),” *Wichita (Kan.) Beacon*, August 2, 1965, p. 1; Jerome Clark, “[The Greatest Flap Yet?](#)” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): 27–28)
- 1965**, August 2 or 3 — 1:30 a.m. Mr. A. L. Smith, accompanied by his 14-year-old son Alan and three other witnesses, watch an unusual, multicolored UFO over Tulsa, Oklahoma. The UFO is slowly moving toward the witnesses. Still several hundred yards away, it pauses briefly and hovers. At that precise moment, Alan snaps a photograph with his inexpensive camera, using ASA 64 film. Alan decides not to try for a second shot. He takes his camera inside the house and runs back outside just in time to see the object rapidly flying away into the night sky. The photo is a probable fake of a color wheel for an aluminum Christmas tree. (NICAP, “[The Smith / Tulsa Photo Case](#)”; “[First Night Color Shot of Flying Saucer Bared](#),” *Oklahoma City Oklahoma Journal*, October 5, 1965; Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, pp. 164–165; Hayden Hewes, “The Tulsa, Oklahoma Photo and Analysis,” *Official UFO*, April 1976, pp. 16–17, 49–51; Michael D. Swords, *GrassRoots UFOs: Case Reports from the Timmerman Files*, Fund for UFO Research, 2005, p. 147; Larry Robinson, “[The Tulsa Photo](#),” *MidiMagic*, October 25, 2016; Patrick Gross, “[Project Blue Book Case 9966](#)”)
- 1965**, August 2 — Project Blue Book puts out an official USAF press release declaring the majority of the sightings on August 1 are “most likely” due to the planet Jupiter and the stars Rigel, Capella, Betelgeuse, and Aldebaran, “clearly visible in the eastern sky.” But astronomer Robert Risser of the Kirkpatrick Planetarium in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, counters that Jupiter and the four stars are “on the opposite side of the earth” at the time of the sightings. (“[Mystery Flying Objects ‘Seen’ in Eight States](#),” *Los Angeles Times*, August 3, 1965, p. 1; Clark III 388)
- 1965**, August 2 — 2:30 a.m. Unidentified blips show up on the Weather Bureau radar screen at the Wichita Municipal Airport [now Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport] in Kansas and continue intermittently until after 6:00 a.m. Most of the sightings are in the vicinity of Wellington, Kansas. The altitude ranges from 5,000–20,000 feet. Wichita meteorologist John Shockley tracks several UFOs on the Weather Bureau radar flying at altitudes of 6,000–9,000 feet. His assistant [Ellis Pike](#) notes that they look just like airliner blips. They brighten and dim on the screen, moving at 45 mph. At least four citizens see colored glows in the southern sky during the early morning hours. One says: “They were red and exploded in a shower of sparks and at other times fluttered like a leaf in the clear sky.” (NICAP, “[Weather Radar Blips and Sky Glows](#)”; “‘UFO’ Reports from Texas to Hutchinson,” *Hutchinson (Kan.) News*, August 2, 1965, p. 1C; “Radar Scope Blips Still a Mystery,” *Hutchinson (Kan.) News*, August 2, 1965, p. 1C; Condon, pp. 158–160)

- 1965**, August 2 — 3:00 a.m. KXWI-TV news photographer Robert Campbell hears on his radio a conversation between Oklahoma and Texas highway patrolmen that a UFO has been tracked on radar and is streaking towards the Texas border. Campbell takes his 4-by-5 Speed Graphic camera and drives into Sherman, Texas, where he locates Chief of Police Peter McCollum. Together they search for the object and soon see it hanging stationary one mile east of Bells on US Highway 82. The object has a “Mercury capsule” shape at one end, possibly rounded at the other end. Several distinct bands circle the cylinder, with disc-shaped embossments on the surface. He takes four camera exposures, two minutes each at three-minute intervals. The negatives are carefully examined by USAF scientific advisers and astronomical experts. No acceptable explanation can be found for the object recorded on the negatives. (NICAP, [“The Sherman, Texas, Photo Case”](#); [“Sherman 1965,”](#) Texas UFO Museum and Research Library, February 5, 2014; Patrick Gross, [“The Sherman Case, Texas, USA, 1965”](#))
- 1965**, August 2 — The crew of the Russian steamship *Raduga* in the Red Sea watch a fiery sphere emerge from the water 2 miles away, causing an enormous pillar of water to rise and collapse. It hovers above the surface at an altitude of 490 feet. A motorboat with six Arab fishermen is in the area and also sees the object, which is apparently 200 feet in diameter. The object shoots straight up, and the boat is hit by a strong wave that overturns it. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 59–60)
- 1965**, August 2 — As they patrol near Eagle Mountain Lake, two Tarrant County, Texas, deputy sheriffs see an object as bright as burning magnesium land. An extensive investigation by police finds no traces. ([Sparks](#), p. 306)
- 1965**, August 3 — 12:37 p.m. Los Angeles County Highway Accident Investigator [Rex Heflin](#) takes four clear Polaroid photos of a hat-shaped UFO on a lonely stretch of road near Santa Ana, California. The object is silent, and a beam of white light is rotating beneath it. He radios his supervisor, but the radio goes dead. One of Heflin’s coworkers offers to send the photos to *Life* magazine; he does, but *Life* declines to use them. Soon, someone from NORAD shows up demanding the prints and Heflin turns them over. They are not seen again. The photos are most likely a prank hoax by Heflin using a hubcap, complicated by flawed photographic analyses and investigations. (NICAP, [“Santa Ana / Rex Heflin Photos”](#); [“UFO Skeptic Has Pictures of Saucer?”](#) *Los Angeles (Calif.) Evening Citizen News*, September 21, 1965, p. 1; [“Calif. Man Snaps UAO Photo,”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, Sept./Oct. 1965, pp. 4, 6; [“Air Force ‘Shoots Down’ Saucer Photo,”](#) *Los Angeles (Calif.) Times*, October 27, 1965, p. 2; [“Photo ‘Hoax’ Label Questioned,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 5 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 8; [“The Heflin Story,”](#) *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 6 (Jan./Feb. 1966): 7–8; [Schopick](#), pp. 170–174; Ralph Rankow, [“The Heflin Photographs,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 14, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1968): 21–24; John R. Gray, [“More Light on the Heflin UFO Case,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 15, no. 2 (March/April 1969): 24–28; UFOEv II 284–286; Condon, [pp. 84–85, 437–455](#); Robert J. Kirkpatrick, [“The Heflin Case: Then and Now,”](#) *IUR* 11, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1986): 10–13, 23; [“Heflin’s 1965 Photos Finally Validated,”](#) RR0; Ann Druffel, Robert M. Wood, and Eric Kelson, [“Reanalysis of the 1965 Heflin UFO Photos,”](#) *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 14, no. 4 (2000): 583–622; UFOEv II 284–286; Ann Druffel, [“Goodbye, Rex Heflin,”](#) *UFO*, August 2006, pp. 52–63; Mary Castner, unpublished document; Jean Claude Néglaïs, [“An Analysis of the Santa Ana \(Rex Heflin\) 1965 UFO Photographs,”](#) UFO Fotocat Blog, June 15, 2024)
- 1965**, August 3 — Before 12:00 midnight. Three young men watch a triangular object with a light at each of its points move from north to south along the Jura Mountains from Biel/Bienne to Vignelz, Canton Bern, Switzerland. Suddenly it stops, changing color from yellow to dark red, makes a 180° turn, then takes off “like lightning” toward the east where it vanishes. ([“Bright Pointed Triangle Again,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): iv)
- 1965**, August 4 — 1:30 a.m. [Don Tenopir](#), 44, is driving a truck on State Highway 15 about 25 miles south of Abilene (near Elmo, Kansas), when all his lights go out. They come back on intermittently. A UFO passes just above his truck with a wind-like sound and hovers about 100 feet in front of him. Tenopir stops his rig, and the object slowly rises and takes off to the southwest. It seems to be 14–15 feet in diameter, 2 feet thick with a 4-foot hump in the middle, and orange-colored. It is shooting off rays in spurts. He stops in Abilene to report his sighting to *Abilene Reflector-Chronicle* reporter Ed Corwin. ([“Beatrice Trucker Joins UFO Viewers,”](#) *Beatrice (Nebr.) Daily Sun*, August 5, 1965, p. 1; Jerome Clark, [“The Greatest Flap Yet?”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): 29–30; [Schopick](#), pp. 175–177; UFOEv II 206)
- 1965**, August 4 — Night. Radar operators at Calumet Air Force Station [now operated by Keweenaw County] near Phoenix, Michigan, track 7–10 objects in V-formation traveling from southwest to north-northeast at about 9,000 mph over Lake Superior. The same night, radar targets at Duluth, Minnesota, are chased by USAF jets. ([Sparks](#), p. 306; Center for UFO Studies, [\[case documents\]](#))
- 1965**, August 8 — 11:30 p.m. A luminous UFO is allegedly photographed in Beaver, Pennsylvania, by James Lucci, 17. According to estimations by witnesses, the diameter of the UFO is around 42 feet. Lucci is photographing the full moon with his brother John, 23. According to them, a shining object appears from behind a hill. James manages to

take two shots before the flying object leaves. His friends encourage him to send the photos to the *Beaver County Times*, where they are analyzed and declared authentic. However, both the Colorado project and UFO researchers determine the photo is a hoax created by holding a plate up next to the moon with a fist (probably John's) and blurring it with motion. ("[New UFO Photos Prove Genuine](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 1–2; Condon, pp. 83–84, 455–457; Philip J. Klass, *UFOs—Identified*, Random House, 1968, Plate 1, pp. 70–71, 143–144; Mark Cashman, "[The End of a Photographic Case](#)," *IUR* 23, no. 4 (Winter 1998): 21–23)

- 1965**, August 9 — 6:00 p.m. A professional astronomer and his wife, along with three others, are driving eastward on Long Island, New York, when they see a silvery disc heading slowly south. Its base has a ring of bluish-white lights that make the object appear to rotate. It has a white light on top. After accelerating, the object becomes a white, starlike object far to the east. It moves up and down for another 5 minutes, then rapidly moves south and disappears over the Atlantic Ocean. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 75–76)
- 1965**, August 10 — 8:00 p.m. Boeing aerospace engineer Francis C. Jennings and his wife are reclining in lawn chairs in their backyard on 9th Avenue West in Seattle, Washington, when they see two silvery discs hovering to the north. They remain motionless for several minutes, then the uppermost one departs rapidly upward and out of sight to the northeast. After another few minutes, the second object also speeds away in the same direction. At about 9:20 p.m., June Webb notices a reddish disk-shaped object near the horizon above the western part of Seattle. The object begins to rise, disappearing into a low cloud bank. It then reappears, moving rapidly in an arc to the north and disappears in another cloud bank. (UFOEv II 158–159)
- 1965**, August 11? — 3:30 p.m. David Gibson is sitting in the front yard of his house in Waverly, Iowa, with his father and sister. They hear a high-pitched whine and see an object descending to the south. The silvery UFO is about 15–20 feet in diameter and looks like two saucers put together. It lands on a tree-lined hill out of view and the whining sound fades away. Gibson walks about a half-mile to take a look and briefly sees a "being," about 3–3.5 feet tall, watching him from behind a tree at the top of the hill. It quickly vanishes and he hears a rush of air. He reaches the spot but sees no footprints. About 40 feet south of the tree he finds a burned area about 15–20 feet in diameter and three rectangular impressions in the shape of a triangle. (Jerome Clark, "[Iowa's Bashful Humanoid](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 21, no. 3/4 (November 1975): 52–53)
- 1965**, August 12 — 11:15 a.m. Maj. Jack D. Bond is sitting in a passenger seat of a T-29 aircraft on a heading of 300° and descending from 4,000 feet to 3,000 feet near Springfield, Ohio. He sees a UFO ascending and descending that is slightly higher than the T-29. It appears to be 5–7 miles away and moving in a general direction of 90°. The object's speed is highly erratic during the 3 ascents and descents that the object makes. On its third descent the object appears to level off and accelerate at a speed of 690 mph or more. Project Blue Book evaluates this sighting as a solar mirage, even though the position and time of day rule that out. (NICAP, "[Object Has 3 Ascents and 2 Descents](#)"; Clark III 388–389)
- 1965**, August 13 — 9:30 p.m.? Leonard Chalupiak has just put his car into his garage at Baden, Pennsylvania, when he sees a disc-shaped object about 300 feet in diameter flying in front of the moon toward the north at about 50 mph and 2,300 feet away. It is surrounded with orange lights that weaken as a blue light comes on, which is intense for about 3 seconds. Then all the lights disappear and a sort of "shock wave" that shakes the tree leaves commences. The witness goes into his house and calls the Air Force. About 20 minutes later his vision becomes hazy, his eyes grow painful, and he gradually loses vision in both eyes. He notices his entire body is sunburned. A medical examination indicates exposure to ultraviolet radiation. His vision returns gradually over several days. The Air Force labels it a hoax, perhaps confusing it with the Beaver, Pennsylvania, hoax photo of August 8. (NICAP, "[Object Crosses Moon / Medical Effects on Witness](#)"; Vallée, *Magonia*, p. 313)
- 1965**, August 16 — 10:45 p.m.–12:20 a.m. A woman leaves her house on the northwest edge of Sedalia, Missouri, to drive to a drug store. As she is returning home, she sees an unusual figure in the ditch to her right. It turns and waves at her, then stumbles as it climbs out of the ditch. Something (a large bird?) flies up in the air a few feet from the car. She steps on the gas and goes home, where her husband asks her where she has been because it is now 12:25 a.m. In 1977, she undergoes hypnotic regression with hypnotist Ron Owen and recalls an abduction experience where she undergoes some type of examination. (Center for UFO Studies, [HUMCAT Index 1965](#), pp. 46–47; Clark III 278–279; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), August 25, 2008)
- 1965**, August 18 — 9:50 p.m. Michael S. Henry and another college student are driving 3 miles south of Noblesville, Indiana, when a large red lighted object swoops down on their car. The radio and ignition go dead. The UFO looks like a top, with a large, gray cone and a flat or slightly domed top. (Herbert S. Taylor, "[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part Two](#)," *IUR* 34, no. 1 (Sept. 2011): 15)
- 1965**, August 19 — 3:00 a.m. Thelma B. Schumaker and her mother, Mrs. W. H. Blackburn, are awakened by an explosion in their backyard in Mount Airy, North Carolina. The sound seems to rise and travel west. They see a bright golden cigar hovering in the north. The object moves to the right then to the left, then up and down, left

again, then disappears behind some high oak trees. The next morning, the witnesses find a 6-inch-wide circle of depressed sod that is worn down to the soil. The circle is 12 feet in diameter. (Ted Phillips, [Physical Traces Associated with UFO Sightings](#), CUFOs, 1975, p. 37)

1965, August 19 — 8:20–9:00 p.m. Harold Butcher, 16, is milking the cows in his father's barn in Cherry Creek, New York, and listening to radio station WKBW. Just outside, a 3-year old bull is tied by its nose to a metal pipe. Harold hears the bull make a noise "like I have never heard come from an animal before." Looking out the window, he sees the animal is bending the pipe. Simultaneously, he sees a metallic-looking, football-shaped UFO about 50 feet long and approximately 20 feet thick hovering just above the trees an estimated 450 feet from the barn. Slowly, the object descends behind a maple tree, emitting a red vapor from around its edges and a "beep-beep" sound. Meanwhile, the radio is emitting static, even though WKBW usually has a clear signal. Harold calls the house on an intercom, then runs outside. As he approaches the bull, the UFO rises and moves behind some clouds "as fast as a snap of my fingers" emitting red vapor toward the ground, then bounces back to the ship as it hovers about 10 feet in the air. The noise also increases to a level approximating a sonic boom as it goes up. As the UFO disappears, the clouds turn green. Inside, the boy's mother, Mrs. William Butcher, notes that there is "definite interference" in her radio reception. Harold's brother, Robert, also goes outside and the two boys see that the UFO has reappeared, this time hovering over a pine grove. It ascends again, emitting the red vapor and turning the clouds green. Others in the house include William Butcher Jr. and Kathleen Brougham, a friend. They do not see the object. It returns twice at 8:45 and 9:00 p.m., finally disappearing to the southwest. Trooper E. J. Haas and a fellow officer arrive on the scene shortly thereafter. As they all walk out to inspect the area of the initial sighting, they notice a pungent odor. Harold and the young daughter suffer from upset stomachs. Mrs. Butcher says the cows produce only one can of milk that evening, as opposed to their usual two and a half cans. Harold discovers a purple, oily-smelling liquid and gives a sample of it to the state police, who turn it over to Capt. James A. Dorsey and five others from Niagara Falls Air Force Base [now Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station], who come to investigate the report the following afternoon. When NICAP investigator Jeffrey Gow arrives on the scene, he notices the foot-tall grass in the area "seemed to be bent over in long curved sweeps." Radar targets are picked up between 8:00–8:30 p.m. by an AN/FPS-6 Long Range Height Finder Radar of the 763rd Radar Squadron at Lockport Air Force Station [now closed] near Shawnee, New York. The target is sighted near the upper limit of the radar. (NICAP, "[Close Encounter Has Radar Evidence](#)"; NICAP, "[Cherry Creek \(Butcher\) Trace Case](#)"; Center for UFO Studies, [[case documents](#)]; "[Landing Probed by NICAP, AF](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1965): 7; "[The Cherry Creek Incident](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Nov./Dec. 1965, p. 7; [Schopick](#), pp. 178–184; *Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 170–172; UFOEv II 57–58; Robert A. Galganski, "[Incident at Cherry Creek](#)," *IUR* 21, no. 3 (Fall 1996): 3–12, 27–29; [Sparks](#), p. 307; Randle, *Levelland*, 2021, pp. 118–124; "[Harold Butcher Talks about Witnessing a UFO Landing near a Dairy Farm in Cherry Creek, 1965](#)," Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, August 26, 2023)

1965, August 30 — [Hynek](#) writes to Lt. Col. John Spaulding in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force to suggest that the Pentagon work with the National Academy of Sciences to establish a panel of physical and social scientists to study the UFO phenomenon. (Center for UFO Studies, [[Hynek correspondence](#)], p. 1; Swords 306)

1965, September 3 — Around 1:00 a.m. Exeter, New Hampshire, Police Officer [Eugene F. Bertrand Jr.](#) comes across a woman parked on State Highway 101. "She was real upset," he says, "and told me that a red glowing object had chased her." Around 2:00 a.m., while walking home to Exeter on Route 150 (Amesbury Road) near Kensington, New Hampshire, teenager [Norman J. Muscarello](#) is terrorized by a large object with four or five bright red lights that approaches from nearby woods and hovers over a field. Horses are spooked. Muscarello gets a ride to the Exeter police station, pale and shaken, and reports the incident at 2:24 a.m. Officer Bertrand drives him back to the field along Route 150 to investigate. When he is called to investigate Muscarello's report, the earlier incident causes him to pay attention. At first Bertrand and Muscarello see nothing, but when Bertrand flashes a light around the field around 3:00 a.m., a huge dark object with red flashing lights rises up over the trees, moving back and forth, tilts, and comes toward them. They both see pulsating red lights that dim from left to right then right to left in a 5-4-3-2-1 then 1-2-3-4-5 pattern. Each cycle takes about 2 seconds. The object hovers for several minutes, and everything is silent except for the dogs and horses. Then it darts, turns sharply, slows down, and begins to move away. Another patrolman, [David R. Hunt](#), pulls up and sees the pulsating lights and the UFO. Bertrand says the lights are always in a line and at a 60° angle; when the object moves, the lower lights are always forward of the others. In the daytime, the police station calls Pease AFB [now Pease Air National Guard Base] in Portsmouth to reconfirm the incident. By 1:00 p.m., 2–4 police officers arrive to interview the three witnesses at length. Journalist [John G. Fuller](#) investigates the case during the next month. He finds a huge gap between media coverage and local perceptions. [Raymond Fowler](#) finds that the local advertising plane operated by Sky-Lite

Aerial Advertising Agency of Boston was not running between August 21 and September 10. (Wikipedia, "[Exeter incident](#)"; "Unidentified Flying Object Witnessed by Exeter Police," *Exeter (N.H.) News-Letter*, September 9, 1965, p. 1; "[UFOs Panic Police, Motorists](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 1, 3–4; "[The Exeter, N.H. Case](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Nov./Dec. 1965, pp. 7–8; John G. Fuller, "[Outer-Space Ghost Story](#)," *Look*, February 22, 1966, pp. 36–42; John G. Fuller, *Incident at Exeter*, Putnam's Sons, 1966, pp. 11–17, 67–72, 79–82; [Testimony of Raymond E. Fowler], *Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearing of the US House Armed Services Committee, 89th Cong., 2d Sess., April 5, 1966, pp. 6010–6042; [Schopick](#), pp. 197–199; [Sparks](#), p. 307; Jean Fuller, "[The Exeter Incidents](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 13, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1967): 25–27; Philip J. Klass, *UFOs—Identified*, Random House, pp. 14–19, 276; *Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 154–166; Raymond E. Fowler, *Casebook of a UFO Investigator*, Prentice-Hall, 1981, pp. 34–43; Robert Sheaffer, *The UFO Verdict*, Prometheus, 1981, pp. 111–119; "[Tale of an 'Exeter Terrestrial'](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1983): 12–14, excerpted from Exeter Area High School newspaper, *Talon* 5, no. 1 (1981); Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 69–72; Martin Kottmeyer, "The Exeter File," [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), Rational Examination Association of Lincoln Land; UFOEv II 182–183; John F. Schuessler, "[The Exeter, N.H. UFO Case, September 3, 1965: Briefing Document](#)," October 2002; Michael D. Swords, *GrassRoots UFOs: Case Reports from the Timmerman Files*, Fund for UFO Research, 2005, pp. 143–145; Martin Shough, "[Exeunt Exeter? Should This 1965 New Hampshire Classic Finally Shuffle Off the Stage?](#)" April 2012; Clark III 440–444; Center for UFO Studies, [[case documents](#)]; Center for UFO Studies, [John G. Fuller tape-recorded interview transcripts, [part one](#), [part two](#)]; Patrick Gross, "[The Exeter Cases, 1965](#)"; "[Incident at Exeter: Norman Muscarello and His Frightening 1965 UFO Encounter](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, January 6, 2024; "[Norman Muscarello and Other Eyewitnesses Recall the 1965 UFO Incident in Exeter, New Hampshire](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, May 3, 2024)

- 1965**, September 3 — 11:00 p.m. Brazoria County Sheriff's Deputies [Billy E. McCoy](#) and Robert Goode are patrolling Highway 36 between West Columbia and Damon, Texas. They see a dark-gray triangular object, 150–200 feet long and 40–50 feet thick at the middle, with a long, bright, pulsing, purple light on the right side and a long blue light on the left side. It approaches swiftly to within 150 feet from the highway and 100 feet in the air. Purple light illuminates the ground beneath the object and the interior of the police car, and the object casts a shadow in the moonlight. Goode feels heat on his left arm; an alligator bite on his left index finger is suddenly relieved of pain, later healing rapidly but unnaturally. They drive away in fear but return later that night to find the object still there. (NICAP, "[Dark Grey Disc Shadows Police Car](#)"; "[UFO Heads Toward Lawmen](#)," *Brazosport Facts* (Freeport, Texas), September 6, 1965, pp. 1, 10; "[Ellington Probes UFO Seen by Local Deputies](#)," *Brazosport Facts* (Freeport, Texas), September 9, 1965, p. 1; "[UAO Pursues Police](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Sept./Oct. 1965, pp. 1, 3; Keyhoe and Lore, *UFOs: A New Look*, 1968, pp. 7–8; Rhonda Moran, "[The Night of the UFO](#)," *Brazosport Facts* (Clute, Texas), September 13, 1995, pp. 1C, 7C; UFOEv II 41–44; Clark III 355–357; [Sparks](#), p. 308; Michael D. Swords, "[Damon, Texas Comments, by Request from Kandinsky](#)," *The Big Study*, March 26, 2011; "[Damon 1965](#)," Texas UFO Museum and Research Library, February 5, 2014; Marler [77–78](#); Patrick Gross, "[Damon, Texas, September 1965](#)"; "[UFO 'a Football Field Long' Hovered above the Car of Brazoria Deputies Billy McCoy & Bob Goode, 1965](#)," Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, August 22, 2023; Powell, *Scientist*, 66)
- 1965**, September 6 — 9:30 p.m. Capt. Marcelo Cisternas is piloting a DC-6b at 8,500 feet for LAN Chile Flight 904 in northern Chile when he sees a zigzagging object change course and approach his airliner. The UFO follows the aircraft for 13–14 minutes at a distance of 1.8 miles. It is emitting a light of an intense color that shifts to radiant white. Cisternas checks with control towers in Arica and Iquique, but no other flights are expected in the area. ("[CAUS Gains DIA File Release](#)," *Just Cause*, new ser., no. 7 (March 1986): 1, 2; Good Above, [p. 311](#))
- 1965**, September 10 — 8:30 a.m. Farmer Antônio Pau Ferro is working on his farm in São João, near Garanhuns, Pernambuco, Brazil, when he hears a noise and sees two metallic objects descending from the sky about 26 feet away. They touch the ground in a uniform motion, let two humanoids about 2.5 feet tall exit, then rise up again to 16 feet and hover. The beings approach Ferro, then move back to the two UFOs. They pick up a tomato and examine it. The objects descend and envelop them, then take off with a whining and then a low sound. (Clark III 523; Brazil 76; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), May 17, 2008)
- 1965**, September 14 — 1:00 a.m. Engineer Paul Green is riding a motorcycle south of Langenhoe, Essex, UK, near Langenhoe Hall Lane when he hears a high-pitched humming to the east and notices a pinpoint of blue light moving in his direction. The humming becomes a loud buzzing, and his engine sputters and dies and the headlight goes out. The light resolves into an enormous domed disc that tilts and slowly descends. The underside of the disc has numerous round items. Green walks toward the object, but he feels paralyzed as the flashing blue light becomes intense, fluctuating in rhythm with his heartbeat. He feels a tingling like an electric shock. The object seems to land in an area with farmhouses. Green notes that another cyclist has had a similar problem, but with

- some difficulty he gets his cycle started. The next day he notices that his hair and clothes are imbued with static electricity. (Bernard E. Finch, "[The Langenhoe Incident](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 3–4)
- 1965**, September 16 — Just after 12:00 midnight. Constables John Lockem and Koos de Klerk are patrolling on the Pretoria-Bronkhorstspuit highway in South Africa when their police van headlights suddenly illuminate a domed, disc-shaped object sitting on the road. The UFO is copper colored and about 30 feet in diameter. Within seconds, the object lifts off the road, emitting tongues of flame from two tubes or channels on the underside. Flames from the macadam road surface shoot up in the air about 3 feet as the UFO departs, blazing long after it is out of sight. Later investigation shows that part of the road is caved in as if from a heavy weight, and the gravel is separated from the tar in a severely burned area about 6 feet in diameter. Lt. Col. J. B. Brits, district commandant of Pretoria North, tells the media that the incident is considered "as being of a highly secret nature and an inquiry is being conducted in top circles." Samples of the road surface are taken for analysis by a leading scientific agency; the report is never made public. (Philipp Human, "[Two Policemen See Saucer on Main Road](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 9–11; "[Police See UFO Blast Off from Highway](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1965): 5; "[Landing in Africa](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Jan./Feb. 1966, p. 1; Ed Pitlo and Edgar Sievers, "[Was It a Landing at Silverton?](#)" in Charles Bowen, ed., *The Humanoids*, special issue of *FSR*, Oct./Dec. 1966, pp. 71–72; Keyhoe and Lore, *UFOs: A New Look*, 1968, pp. 23–24; [Schopick](#), pp. 187–192; UFOEv II 183–184)
- 1965**, September 17 — A UFO is seen hovering above Medina del Campo, Valladolid, Spain, for several hours. Heliodoro Carrión takes off in his light plane and goes to 15,000 feet. An Iberia Airlines jet passes him on the way up at 24,000 feet. Carrión estimates the UFO is at least 4 times larger than the jet. ("[More Sightings over Spain](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Jan./Feb. 1966, p. 1)
- 1965**, Late September — 9:15 p.m. Two French submarines, the *Junon* (S648) and the *Daphné* (S641), escorted by the logistic support vessel *Rhône*, are anchored off Fort-de-France, Martinique, when a large luminous object the color of a fluorescent tube arrives slowly and silently from the west. Michel Figuet on the *Junon* goes into the coming tower and gets six pairs of binoculars that he distributes to companions. There are 300 witnesses, including four officers on the *Junon*, three officers on the *Daphné*, a dozen French sailors, and personnel of the weather observatory. All witnesses aboard the *Junon* see the object as a large ball of light or a disc on edge arriving from the west. It moves slowly, horizontally, at a distance estimated at 6 miles south of the ships, from west to east. It leaves a whitish trace similar to the glow of a TV screen. When it was directly south of the ships the object drops toward the earth, makes two complete loops, then hovers in the midst of a faint halo. Figuet watches the object vanish in the center of its glow "like a bulb turned off." The trail and the halo remain visible in the sky for a full minute. At 9:45 p.m. the halo reappears at the same place, and the object switches on again. It rises, makes two more loops, and flies away to the west, where it disappears at 9:50 p.m. (Jacques Vallée, "[Estimates of Power Optical Output in Six Cases of Unexplained Aerial Objects with Defined Luminosity Characteristics](#)," *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 12, no. 3 (1998): 348–350)
- 1965**, September 23 — [Lambros D. Callimahos](#), a cryptologist with the National Security Agency, presents a paper on "Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence" at a conference on military electronics in Washington, D.C. (Nick Redfern, "[UFOs, Aliens, and the Thoughts of the National Security Agency on Extraterrestrial Life](#)," *Mysterious Universe*, August 23, 2022)
- 1965**, September 23 — A major blackout in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, coincides with the appearance of a glowing, disc-shaped UFO hovering low over the city. Witnesses include the governor of Morelos state, Emilio Riva Palacio; [Valentín López González](#), the mayor of Cuernavaca; 24th military zone chief Gen. Rafael Enrique Vega; Joaquín Díaz González, president of the Lion's Club; founder of the Folkloric Ballet of Mexico, [Amalia Hernández](#); and future Mexican President [Luis Echeverría](#). The power only fails as long as the UFO is there. (Frank Edwards, *FS Serious Business*, Bantam ed., 1966, p. 145; [Schopick](#), pp. 192–196; Antonio Huneus, "[UFO Sighting by Mexican President Luis Echeverría](#)," *OpenMinds*, October 6, 2011)
- 1965**, September 27 — 5:15 p.m. A research chemist sees an aluminum-colored, cigar-shaped object pass across the northern sky in front of his car near Columbus, Ohio. The object silently moves from east to west, banking slightly once to the southwest. Continuing his drive home, he watches the object disappear behind the horizon after 30–40 seconds. Newspaper reports mention sightings of a cigar-shaped UFO that night in Westerville, Ohio. (UFOEv II 160)
- 1965**, September 28 — USAF Director of Information Gen. [Eugene B. LeBailly](#) writes to the military director of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board, saying that Gen. [Arthur C. Agan](#) has found Project Blue Book to be a worthwhile program and that the Air Force should continue to investigate UFOs "to assure that such objects do not present a threat to our national security." The project will remain at the Foreign Technology Division (Wright-Patterson AFB). He also requests that a "working scientific panel composed of both physical and social scientists be organized to review Project Blue Book—its resources, methods, and findings." (Maj. Gen. E. B. LeBailly,

[“Unidentified Flying Objects \(UFOs\).”](#) memorandum for military director, Scientific Advisory Board, September 28, 1965)

- 1965**, Fall — 10:30 a.m. A Chesapeake & Ohio train is moving 8 miles south of Fostoria, Ohio, when the fireman and engineer see a large cigar-shaped object in the sky a considerable distance away. It is dark in color and positioned at a 45° angle from the horizon. It appears to be creating its own cloud screen. Suddenly a small object falls out of the tail and descends slowly in a fluttering fashion. Near the ground the small object stabilizes, emits coal-black smoke from its top, and then rises upward faster and faster. Three more objects leave the large one, each taking 10–12 minutes. They go off in different directions. After the last one leaves, a white cloud forms around the large object, which remains in the sky with other normal white clouds. (Herbert S. Taylor, [“Satellite Objects and Cloud Cigars.”](#) *IUR* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2004): 3)
- 1965**, October — The Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre is formed in Hobart, Tasmania, by Robert Burge. It publishes the *TUFOIC Newsletter* for many years, but the organization folds in December 2015. ([TUFOIC Newsletter](#), no. 7 (1971); Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, [“Australian Ufology: A Review.”](#) *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 25)
- 1965**, October 1 — The Swedish Defense Staff transfers the responsibility for UFO investigation to the Swedish National Defence Research Institute [now the Swedish Defence Research Agency] in Sweden, where it remains. Few civilian reports are classified as secret, but sensitive reports by the military are restricted. (Swords 367–368)
- 1965**, October 2 — [John G. Fuller](#) summarizes the Exeter sighting in his “Trade Winds” column in the *Saturday Review*. He writes to his editors beforehand that “reliable, but off-the-record information from the Pease AFB indicates frequent radar blips and fighters are *constantly* scrambled to pursue these objects. This information is not official, but it comes from a reliable source.” (John G. Fuller, [“Trade Winds.”](#) *Saturday Review* 48, no. 40 (October 2, 1965): 10, 16)
- 1965**, October 7 — Up to 12 luminous UFOs are seen flying over Edwards Air Force Base near Lancaster, California, and at least one F-106A interceptor is scrambled from George AFB [now closed] at Victorville at 5:09 p.m. after 3–4 hours of observation. All of this action is captured on classified US Air Force audiotapes that have been declassified and are available to the public along with official documentation. (NICAP, [“UFO Alert at Edwards AFB”](#); [“The Edwards AFB Incidents of Oct. 7, 1965 \(Fran Ridge, NICAP\).”](#) NICAP Official YouTube channel, October 11, 2020)
- 1965**, Mid-October — 9:30 a.m. [Bill Hertzke](#), a ranch hand on the Circle J Ranch near Cochrane, Alberta, is on his horse in a pasture when he sees an object like a small airplane parked on the ground. It is silver-gray with swept-back wings, about 16 feet long, a wingspan of about 12 feet, and its fuselage is about 4-5 feet deep. He rides over and examines it. The exterior is irregular, “like a waffle.” A transparent dome covers the cockpit. Through it he can see complicated instruments (knobs, dials, and switches), a TV screen, and two transparent (like Plexiglas) bucket seats. There are no visible motors, propellers, jets, insignia, or identifying marks of any kind. It has an exterior door about 2 feet wide and 3 feet high that is open about 2 inches. His horse is extremely skittish, so he ties it to a tree and returns on foot. He spends 10–15 minutes examining it and can see no landing gear (although it seems to be suspended 18–20 inches off the ground) or seams of any kind. He realizes he can go inside the door but is a bit too scared to even touch the object, and has to return to chores anyway. (Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, pp. 87–102)
- 1965**, October 21 — 6:10 p.m. Five witnesses are in a car near Saint George, Minnesota, returning to their homes in Gibbon from a bow-hunting trip. [Arthur A. Strauch](#), a Sibley County deputy sheriff, is the first to spot a strange object that seems to be 2,000 feet above the ground and a quarter of a mile distant in the northwest sky. After watching for about 10 minutes from the car, the group drives down the road about a half mile and stops. Strauch observes it both with the naked eye and through 7x35 binoculars. At first they hear no sound, but as the object flies over them, Donald Martin Grewe describes the sound as a “whistling whine.” Strauch snaps a photograph just as the object begins to move. The object then flies into the wind for several hundred feet, then stops for a few seconds, at which time its lights change from bright white to dull orange, alternating several times. It then moves toward the southeast at a high rate of speed and disappears out of sight. (NICAP, [“The St. George Multiple-Witness Photo Case”](#); [“Deputy Snaps UAO Color Photo.”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, Nov./Dec. 1965, pp. 1, 3; Story, pp. 351–352; Patrick Gross, [“The St. George Multiple-Witnesses Sighting and Photograph, USA, 1965”](#))
- 1965**, October 22 — Afternoon. Geof Gray-Cobb, a Canadian technician working with the Deep Space Instrumentation Facility [now the Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory] in Gauteng, South Africa, in tracking [Mariner 4](#), is present when the spacecraft’s signal strength begins rising at a point when it should not have. The team alerts the Jet Propulsion Lab. The signal strength is now so high that the instruments are clicking as they max out. Gray-Cobb says the “raw radio energy” is coming in indecipherable “blips and dashes.” Nothing can be seen visually.

Eight minutes later, everything goes silent. JPL later asks them to point their dish in the direction it was pointing when they picked up the signal. They do, but forget to correct for the earth's rotation. Nonetheless, they get the signal again, which means it is a local source. Nothing is visible in the sky, but a sound sweep reveals that the source is a perfect circle 2° in diameter. The team directs a packet of radio pulses at the source, but it falls silent. Two months later, Gray-Cobb discovers that the pages for the event are gone from the log; the tape recording of the event is also missing. The manager tells him that two men with "authorization" had come three days after the event to confiscate the tapes. (Michael D. Swords, "[Gazing at the Moons](#)," *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 16)

- 1965**, October 22 — Evening. José Camilo Filho is walking through a field near the city cemetery in Canhotinho, Pernambuco, Brazil, when he runs across two little men only 3 feet high with whitish hair sitting next to a tube 4 feet tall and resting on the ground. When they see Camilo, they jump up in a disorganized fashion, colliding with each other. One picks up the tube and the other points a straw at Camilo, who runs ahead. He decides to return and take a closer look, but the men and tube are gone. (Gordon Creighton, "[The Humanoids in Latin America](#)," in Charles Bowen, ed., *The Humanoids*, special issue of *FSR*, Oct./Dec. 1966, p. 45; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), July 27, 2008; Brazil 75)
- 1965**, October 23 — Night. KEYL-AM radio announcer James F. Townsend, 19, is driving on State Highway 27 four miles east of Long Prairie, Minnesota, when he slams on his brakes to avoid hitting a rocket-like device resting on three legs or fins. As his car skids to a stop 20 feet from the object, the vehicle's motor and electrical system die. The object looks like it is made of stainless steel, stands 30–40 feet high, and is 10 feet in diameter. In a circle of light under it, Townsend sees three things that resemble beer cans with "tripod legs and three matchstick arms." They have no eyes, but Townsend feels as if they are looking at him. He gets out of the car to try to knock one over, but they come over to him and they stand there looking at him. Eventually they turn around and "scoot under the ship," disappearing into the light beneath it. An ear-splitting humming sound emanates from the UFO, which assumes a bright illumination and shoots off. The Todd County sheriff and UFO investigators assume that Townsend, a deeply religious man, is sincere. ("[Space Things' Stop His Car](#)," *Minneapolis Star*, October 25, 1965, pp. 1, 4; [Sparks](#), p. 308; "[Little, Little Men' in Minn.](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Nov./Dec. 1965, p. 8; Clare John Jansen, "Little Tin Men in Minnesota," *Fate* 19, no. 2 (February 1966): 36–40; Clark III 280; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), January 5, 2008)
- 1965**, October 25 — The [Betty and Barney Hill](#) story is publicly revealed in an article by reporter [John H. Luttrell](#) in the *Boston Traveler* newspaper. He has obtained a copy of the tape recording at the Quincy Center UFO group, as well as a tape of an interview the Hills gave to UFO investigators after they completed their therapy. UPI picks up the story the same day. The Hills are caught completely by surprise. (Clark III 585)
- 1965**, October 27 — The Air Force issues a press release that gives two basic explanations for the Exeter, New Hampshire, sightings: Some stem from a high-altitude SAC exercise out of Westover AFB [now Westover Air Reserve Base] near Chicopee, Massachusetts; others are explained by temperature inversion that causes the appearance of stars and planets to dance and twinkle. Around the same time, [John Fuller](#) hears from an Air Force pilot that pilots have been ordered to shoot down UFOs when possible, but the objects appear to be "invulnerable" and can outmaneuver any aircraft. (John G. Fuller, *Incident at Exeter*, Putnam's Sons, 1966, [pp. 201–202](#), [205–206](#))
- 1965**, Early November — The USAF Scientific Advisory Board meets in Houston, Texas, to discuss the UFO investigation and the possibility of an independent study. (USAF Scientific Advisory Board, [Special Report of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee to Review Project "Blue Book"](#), Brian O'Brien, chairman of the Advisory Board, March 1966)
- 1965**, November — 2:00 a.m. Aaron David Kaback is on duty at the motor pool in the Army's Fort Riley Military Reservation in Kansas when the duty officer takes him to a remote area of the base where they see a landed UFO with an Army helicopter flying above it. He contacts [Leonard Stringfield](#) about his story. A subsequent investigation by Citizens Against UFO Secrecy finds many discrepancies in Kaback's account and very little credibility. ("[Ft. Riley Landing: Hoax or Delusion?](#)" *Just Cause* 1, no. 6 (September 1978): 11–14; Clark III 603–604; Kevin D. Randle, *A History of UFO Crashes*, Avon, 1995, [p. 201](#))
- 1965**, November 5? — Day. Mauritz Löugren and a friend see a triangular-shaped object moving back and forth for 20 minutes over Luleå, Sweden. It disappears silently to the west at great speed. ("[World Round-Up](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1966): iii)
- 1965**, November 9 — 5:16 p.m. The Northeast power blackout, a significant disruption in the supply of electricity, affects parts of Ontario, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. Over 30 million people and 80,000 square miles are left without electricity for up to 13 hours. The cause of the failure is the setting of a protective relay on one of the transmission lines from the Sir

Adam Beck Hydroelectric Power Station No. 2 in Queenston, Ontario, near Niagara Falls. Prior to and coincident with the blackout, there are a number of reports of unusual lights in Syracuse and Niagara Falls, New York, and Holliston, Massachusetts, and there is speculation that the blackout is related to UFO activity in some way. But there is no evidence of a direct connection. (Wikipedia, "[Northeast blackout of 1965](#)"; "[New Clues to UFO Electrical Interference](#)," *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 5 (Nov./Dec. 1965): 3–4; "[The Question of the Power Blackouts](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Nov./Dec. 1965, pp. 4–6; John G. Fuller, *Incident at Exeter*, Putnam's Sons, 1966, pp. 230–235; [Schopick](#), pp. 201–203; Condon, pp. 110–115; Yurko Bondarchuk, *UFO Sightings, Landings, and Abductions*, Methuen, 1979, pp. 130–137; Michael D. Swords, *GrassRoots UFOs: Case Reports from the Timmerman Files*, Fund for UFO Research, 2005, p. 145; Chris Rutkowski and Geoff Dittman, *The Canadian UFO Report*, Dundurn Press, 2006, pp. 99–102)

1965, November 10 — Before dawn. Actor [Stuart Whitman](#) is staying in a hotel in Manhattan, New York City, during the Northeast power blackout. He hears a "sound, like a whippoorwill whistling outside my twelfth-story window." He steps to the window and sees 2 luminous UFOs hovering nearby, one orange, the other blue. He hears voices from the UFOs in his head, telling him they are fearful of earth because humans are messing around with "unknown quantities" that might disrupt the balance of the universe. They claim the blackout is a small demonstration of their power and ask Whitman to do what he can to fight malice, prejudice, and hate on earth. The objects disappear. ("[El Paso Blackout Recalls New York Experience to Actor](#)," *El Paso (Tex.) Herald-Post*, December 24, 1965, p. 4; Jerome Clark, "[The Greatest Flap Yet? Part IV](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1966): 10; Clark III 1280–1281; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), July 25, 2008)

1965, November 26 — 8:00–9:00 p.m. Numerous power outages around St. Paul, Minnesota, are accompanied by observations of white or blue lights in the sky. ("[Power Outages Accompanied by Flashes](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, Jan./Feb. 1966, pp. 3–4; [Schopick](#), pp. 199–201)

1965, November 30 — 3:30 a.m. Seaman Ian Kinsey is on watch at Canadian Forces Base Cornwallis [now Cornwallis Park] in Nova Scotia. As he is passing a window, he sees a lighted yellow oval object resting on the beach. Five minutes later a sliding door on the object's side opens, emitting a white light. Then a smaller, cigarette-shaped UFO enters the larger object through the door. The bigger object rises, pushing rocks and logs away from the center of the beach. It cruises slowly over a mountain and disappears. (Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., [Strange Effects from UFOs](#), NICAP, 1969, pp. 59–61)

1965, December 5 — During the [Gemini 7](#) mission, the astronauts mention a "bogey." [James Oberge](#), based on his trajectory analysis of the mission, describes the astronauts' comments as referring to booster-associated debris and not a reference to some sort of UFO. Astronaut [Frank Borman](#) later confirms that what he saw was not a UFO. When he offers to go on the television show *Unsolved Mysteries* to clarify, the producers tell him, "Well, I'm not sure we want you on the program." (Wikipedia, "[UFO sightings in outer space](#)"; Condon, pp. 207–208; Good Above, p. 378)

1965, December 9 — 4:47 p.m. A large, brilliant fireball is seen by thousands in at least six states and Ontario, Canada. It streaks over the Detroit, Michigan–Windsor, Ontario, area, reportedly drops hot metal debris over Michigan and northern Ohio starting some grass fires, and causes sonic booms in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, metropolitan area. It is generally assumed and reported by the press to be a meteor after authorities discount other proposed explanations such as a plane crash, errant missile test, or reentering satellite debris. However, eyewitnesses in the small village of Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, claim something has crashed in the woods. A boy sees the object land; his mother [Frances Kalp](#) sees a wisp of blue smoke rising from the woods and alerts local radio station WHJB. Another observer reports feeling a vibration and "a thump" about the time the object reportedly lands. Others from Kecksburg, including local volunteer fire department members (Carl Metz and Paul Shipco), report seeing an object in the shape of an acorn and about as large as a Volkswagen Beetle. Writing resembling Egyptian hieroglyphs is also said to be in a band around the base of the object. A reporter and news director for WHJB, [John J. Murphy](#), arrives on the scene of the event before authorities have arrived, in response to several calls to the station from alarmed citizens. He takes several photographs and conducts interviews with witnesses. His former wife Bonnie Millslagle later reports that all but one roll of the film is confiscated by military personnel. WHJB office manager Mabel Mazza describes one of the pictures: "It was very dark and it was with a lot of trees around and everything. And I don't know how far away from the site he was. But I did see a picture of a sort of a cone-like thing. It's the only time I ever saw it." Witnesses further report that an intense military presence, most notably the US Army, secures the area, orders civilians out, seals the area within 2 hours of the event, and then removes an object on a flatbed truck. The military claims they have searched the woods and can find "absolutely nothing." The official explanation of the widely seen fireball is that it is a mid-sized meteor, as suggested, for example, by University of Michigan astronomer [William P. Bidelman](#). However, speculation as to the identity of

the Kecksburg object (if there was one—reports vary) include an alien craft; debris from [Kosmos 96](#) ([James Oberg](#)), a Soviet space probe intended for Venus that fails and never leaves the Earth’s atmosphere (now seen as unlikely); a General Electric Mark 2 Reentry Vehicle launched from Johnson Atoll in the Pacific Ocean on December 7 by the Air Force as a spy satellite ([John Ventre](#) and [Owen Eichler](#)); and a secret Corona spy satellite, [KH-4A 1027](#), launched from Vandenberg AFB [now Vandenberg Space Force Base] on December 9 ([Bob Wenzel Gross](#)). (Wikipedia, “[Kecksburg UFO incident](#)”; “[U.F.O. Starts Many Fires](#),” *Spokane (Wash.) Spokesman-Review*, December 10, 1965, p. 1; Stan Gordon, “[The Military UFO Retrieval at Kecksburg, Pennsylvania](#),” *Pursuit* 20, no. 4 (Winter 1987): 174–179; Stan Gordon, “[An Update on the Kecksburg, Pa., UFO Crash/Retrieval Case](#),” *Pursuit* 22, no. 1 (1989): 34–36; Stan Gordon, “[The Kecksburg UFO Crash: An Interim Report](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 37, no. 1 (Spring 1992): 2–5; Kevin D. Randle, *A History of UFO Crashes*, Avon, 1995, pp. 95–120; Leslie Kean, “[Forty Years of Secrecy: NASA, the Military, and the 1965 Kecksburg Crash](#),” *IUR* 30, no. 1 (October 2005): 3–9, 28–32; Robert R. Young and Leslie Kean, “[Kecksburg Controversy](#),” *IUR* 30, no. 3 (May 2006): 25–28; Leonard David, “[Is Case Finally Closed on 1965 Pennsylvania UFO Mystery?](#)” Space.com, November 24, 2009; Matthew Dinkel, “[Acorn from Space: The Kecksburg Incident](#),” Pennsylvania Center for the Book, Fall 2010; Peter Brookesmith, “Rockets, Reptiles, and a Resurrection,” *Fortean Times* 360 (December 2017): 28; Clark III 340; Good Need, pp. 255–258; “[Five Decades Later, the Kecksburg UFO Is Identified \(Probably\)](#),” *Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette*, December 6, 2015; Center for UFO Studies, [[case documents](#)]; “[Missile, Reentry Vehicle, Mark 2](#),” Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum; “[The Mystery of the UFO Crash in Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, on December 9, 1965](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, September 2023; Stan Gordon, “[The Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, UFO Recovery 58 Years Ago Today and Still No Answers](#),” Stan Gordon’s UFO Anomalies Zone, December 9, 2023; Robert R. Young, “[Metamorphosis: Claimed Witness Accounts of the Great Lakes Fireball of December 9, 1965](#),” in Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 229–238)

- 1965**, December 13 — An amateur astronomer in Fort Worth, Texas, watches a UFO through several different telescopes. It has a recessed ring with small dark objects attached around its edge and a dark cross on its bottom. It moves from directly beneath the Moon and past Arcturus, then suddenly disappears. (Michael D. Swords, “[Gazing at the Moons](#),” *IUR* 32, no. 4 (October 2009): 14)
- 1965**, December 15 — 8:45 p.m. C. M. W. Martyn of Worcester Park, southwest London, England, watches a “candle-wax white” triangular object, about 130 feet wide and completely silent, pass over his home toward the northwest at about 1,200 mph. (“[Surrey Deltavolant?](#)” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1966): 35)
- 1965**, December 20 — 11:45 p.m. Edward A. Bruns is driving his father’s 1962 Ford pickup truck, heading west just south of Herman, Minnesota. He sees a bright, oval-shaped object hovering several feet above the road. It covers the entire road and is shaped like two saucers with a dome on top. A window-like structure surrounds the dome and emits a green light. Suddenly the truck engine stops, the headlights go out, and the vehicle lifts up, spins violently to the right, ending up in a ditch on the other side of the road. Stunned, Bruns stares at the UFO, which makes a whistling sound, emits sparks, shoots upward, and disappears. He runs home, scared and nervous. His father goes to the site of the crash but cannot get the truck out. A reporter later confirms seeing the truck in the ditch with a complete “absence of skid marks in the snow to account for how it got there.” (Donald E. Keyhoe and Gordon I. R. Lore Jr., [Strange Effects from UFOs](#), NICAP, 1969, p. 50)
- 1965**, December 26 — 3:15 p.m. Jacqueline Wingfield and Lisbet Mortensen are driving near Cappoquin, County Waterford, Ireland, when they see a curved, elongated disc flying low and silently in front of them, followed by a plume of material. Wingfield stops the car and Mortensen takes one photo as the object moves away. The photo shows that the plume has a darker edge with a coarser grain than the rest of the image. (Charles Gibb-Smith, “[The Cappoquin Sighting](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1966): 4–6)

1966

- 1966** — [Jacques](#) and [Janine Vallée](#) publish *Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma*, a general survey of the present state of the UFO problem. The first section gives an analysis of UFO patterns by examining UFO features, the second part deals with sighting frequencies, and the third part analyzes cases according to type. (Jacques and Janine Vallée, [Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma](#), Regnery, 1966; Clark III 1213)
- 1966** — Cornell University astronomer [Carl Sagan](#) coauthors a book with Russian astrophysicist [Iosif Shklovsky](#) on *Intelligent Life in the Universe* (an expansion of Shklovsky’s 1962 book, *Вселенная, жизнь, разум*) in which he speculates that Earth might have been visited by aliens many times in the past few billion years, at least once in “historical times.” Discussing the biological as well as astronomical issues of the subject, its unique format—

alternating paragraphs written by Shklovsky and Sagan—allows them to express their views without compromise. (I. S. Shklovskii and Carl Sagan, [*Intelligent Life in the Universe*](#), Holden-Day, 1966; Michael D. Swords, “[SETI/ETI and UFOs](#),” *JUFOS* 5 (1994): 142–145; Graff 177–179)

- 1966** — Roger A. MacGowan and [Frederick I. Ordway III](#) publish *Intelligence in the Universe*, discussing cosmology, biological origins and evolution, SETI within and outside the solar system, and speculations on intelligence. (Roger A. MacGowan and Frederick I. Ordway, *Intelligence in the Universe*, Prentice-Hall, 1966; Michael D. Swords, “[SETI/ETI and UFOs](#),” *JUFOS* 5 (1994): 145–146)
- 1966** — Francis Schaefer founds the Cercle Français de Recherches Ufologiques in Forbach, Moselle, France. From 1975 to 1984 it publishes *Ufologia*. (*Ufologia*, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1975))
- 1966** — [Vladimir Rubtsov](#) writes the first article published in the Soviet Union that takes UFOs seriously and encourages readers to submit their observations. (Vladimir Rubtsov, [“Guests from Space or Atmospheric Phenomena?”], *Znannia ta Pratsia*, 1966, no. 9; Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1966**, January 7 — 4:10 a.m. Police Constable Colin Perks is checking business property along Alderley Road in Wilmslow, Cheshire, England, when he hears a high-pitched whine. He sees a greenish-gray glow in the sky about 300 feet away and 35 feet in the air. It comes from a glowing elliptical object about 30 feet long and 20 feet wide that remains stationary for 5 seconds before moving away quickly to the east-southeast. (R. H. B. Winder, “[Wilmslow P.C.’s Report](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 2 (March/April 1966): 3; J. Cleary-Baker, “[Police Constable Observes a UFO](#),” *BUFORA Journal and Bulletin* 1, no. 9 (Summer 1966): 5; UFOFiles2, [pp. 73–75](#); Jenny Randles, “Perks of the Job,” *Fortean Times* 344 (October 2016): 29)
- 1966**, January 7 — 3:27 p.m. High school student Gary Finch is driving on the Wilmer-Georgetown Road about 3 miles southwest of Georgetown, Alabama. He sees a large silver ball about 15–20 feet in diameter that descends then hovers about 5 feet above the road. On top of it is a cone with a large green light, and it is making a whining sound. As he approaches it, his car engine cuts out and his watch stops. After 1–2 minutes, it disappears in a gradual climb. (“[Mobile Reports Flying Objects](#),” *Selma (Ala.) Times-Journal*, January 13, 1966, p. 10; NICAP, “[E-M Effects on Car and Watch](#)”; [Schopick](#), pp. 75–76; [Hynek UFO Report](#), [p. 42](#))
- 1966**, January 8 — Night. A luminous, disc-shaped object cruises low from north to southwest among the buildings of Valencia, Venezuela. At 10:00 p.m., two similar objects are seen flying at a higher altitude. (“[More S.A. Sightings](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March/Apr. 1966, p. 8)
- 1966**, January 11 — 7:40 p.m. A nurse and others together in a car near Myerstown, Pennsylvania, see a luminous disc, like one saucer inverted on top of another, at relatively close range as it hovers above their car. After about 5 minutes, the object suddenly accelerates and speeds away. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 102–103](#))
- 1966**, January 11 — 10:00 p.m. The third mate, helmsman, and bow lookout of the [SS Morgantown Victory](#) see a cigar-shaped object approach the ship when it is north of the Japanese coral atoll Marcus Island [now Minamitorishima] in the North Pacific Ocean. The object approaches the starboard beam of the ship from the horizon and then turns almost 180° to avoid going over the ship. It approaches the ship within 1 mile at an elevation of 400 feet and hovers for 30 seconds, then crosses in front of the ship and makes another directional change. The object is glowing with an orange-yellow color and a long, fiery tail. The body appears to have two lights on top. Its length is estimated at 200–250 feet and its height at about 35–40 feet. It is visible for 3 minutes. The master of the ship thinks that a plane has crashed in the ocean and he orders the ship to turn to conduct a search. Two turns are made and nothing is found in the searches. (NICAP, “[Cigar-Shaped UFO Approaches Morgantown Victory](#)”; “[Three in Crew of GAA Ship Tell of Sighting of ‘UFO’](#),” *Sealift Magazine*, June 1966, pp. 3, 21)
- 1966**, January 12 — Pilots [Alvin S. White](#) and [Carl Cross](#) reach a speed of 2,020 mph in a North American XB-70 Valkyrie at Edwards AFB, California. (Wikipedia, “[North American XB-70 Valkyrie](#)”)
- 1966**, January 12 — [Carl Sagan](#) sends a letter to Maj. [Harold A. Steiner](#), assistant secretary of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board, to request certain UFO information be available for inspection and discussion at the February 3 meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee to review Project Blue Book. He requests documents on the Trindade Island photos, the Kelly-Hopkinsville encounter, the February 1949 Project Sign report, and the 1953 Robertson panel. His request is cleared with [Brian O’Brien](#). ([Letter](#), Carl Sagan to Harold A. Steiner, January 12, 1966)
- 1966**, January 14 — 5:55 p.m. After his 11-year-old son runs into the house in Weston, Massachusetts, and says a flying saucer is outside, an associate laboratory director at Massachusetts Institute of Technology goes outside with the rest of the family and sees an erratically moving bright light. They observe it through binoculars for 5–10 minutes. (J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, [pp. 43](#), [52–53](#))

- 1966, January 17** — A B-52G Strategic Air Command bomber collides with a KC-135 tanker during mid-air refueling at 31,000 feet over the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Spain. The tanker is completely destroyed and the B-52G breaks apart, killing 3 of its 7 crew members. Of the four Mk28-type hydrogen bombs the B-52G carries, three are found on land near the small fishing village of Palomares, Spain. The non-nuclear explosives in two of the weapons detonate upon impact with the ground, resulting in the contamination of a 0.77-square-mile area by plutonium. The fourth, which falls into the Mediterranean, is recovered intact after a 2 ½-month-long search. Some 800 individuals with no hands-on expertise improvise search and decontamination procedures. More than 1,400 tons of radioactive soil and plant life are excavated and shipped to the Savannah River plant in South Carolina for burial. (Wikipedia, "[1966 Palomares B-52 crash](#)"; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 297–300)
- 1966, January 18** — 4:55 p.m. Two surveyors are taking readings at China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station [now Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake] in the western Mojave Desert, California. The surveyor using a theodolite hears a hum, looks up, and sees a UFO flying nearly straight at him from an angle of 35°–40° and from almost exact north. It passes directly overhead at less than 150 feet, then dives smoothly, turns to the east, then comes to within 10 feet of the sloping ground. The surveyor observes the object through the theodolite until it is lost in front of a lava flow about 2 miles away. Both observers (the other one is in a truck) say it is moving at 150 mph and it is a dull black color and very quiet. They attempt to report the sighting, but the radio is garbled. Their truck has difficulty starting, and the theodolite exhibits an odd change in the gravity reference indicator, requiring it to be re-leveled. ("[A Professional Observation](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982): 7–8)
- 1966, January 19** — Around 9:00 a.m. A banana grower, George Pedley, is driving a tractor about one half mile from a farmhouse at Tully, Queensland, Australia, owned by Albert Pennisi. Pedley's attention is drawn by a hissing sound, clearly heard over the noise from the tractor's engine. He looks about for the source of the noise and sees an unusual object about 75 feet away. It is some 30 feet in the air, rising vertically, and is shaped like "two saucers face to face." It is light gray in color, dull, and non-reflective. He estimates its size as 25 feet long by 8–9 feet deep. The hissing diminishes as the object rises to a height of 60 feet, then departs, climbing at about an angle of 45°, extremely fast, to the southwest. The duration of his observation is only 5–6 seconds. The object appears to be always rotating. After its departure, Pedley finds a clearly defined, nearly circular depression in swamp grass, in a water-filled lagoon, at the point where he first saw it. The marking is about 32 feet long by 25 feet wide. The grass on the surface of the water is flattened in a clockwise direction. Royal Australian Air Force intelligence officers find a variety of circles in the area, ranging from 8 to 30 feet in diameter. Within each circle the plant roots are pulled completely out of the soil, as if the ground has been subjected to an intense rotary force. ("[University Will Check 'Flying Saucer Nests](#),'" *Canberra Times*, January 24, 1966, p. 9; "[US Navy Tests on 'Saucer Nests](#),'" *Canberra Times*, January 25, 1966, p. 10; "[No Light Shed on 'Nests](#),'" *Canberra Times*, January 26, 1966, p. 3; "[Flood Caused 'Saucer' Reeds to Die](#),'" *Canberra Times*, January 27, 1966, p. 4; "[The Tully 'Nests': How Freakish Can Whirlwinds Be?](#)" *Australian Flying Saucer Review* (Victorian Edition), no. 5 (July 1966): 3–7; "[UFOs No Strangers to Tully](#)," *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 9 (November 1966): 15; "[1966: Tully...After Tully](#)," *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, no. 9 (November 1966): 16–21; Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, "[Australian Ufology: A Review](#)," *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 26–27; Bill Chalker, "[The 1966 Tully Saucer 'Nest': A Classic UFO Physical Trace Case](#)," 1997; Bill Chalker, "[Tully Saucer Nests of 1966—Part One](#)," *IUR* 22, no. 4 (Winter 1997–1998): 14–20; Bill Chalker, "[Tully Saucer Nests of 1966, Part Two](#)," *IUR* 23, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 17, 31; Clark III 1136–1138; Bill Chalker, "[George Pedley, the UFO, and the Tully 'Saucer Nest': A Tribute](#)," TheOzFiles, September 7, 2022; "[The 1966 Tully, Australia, UFO Landing and 'Saucer Nest' Discussed by George Pedley & Albert Pennisi](#)," Eyes on Cinema, October 2023; Bill Chalker, "[The Tully Thing](#)," TheOzFiles, April 25, 2024)
- 1966, January 19** — 7:55 p.m. Two luminous objects pass over Acarigua, Venezuela, one from the north, the other from the east. When the paths of the two objects cross, the lights go out in the entire city. ("[More S.A. Sightings](#)," *APRO Bulletin*, March/Apr. 1966, p. 8)
- 1966, February 3** — A six-member Ad Hoc Committee to Review Project Blue Book, headed by University of Rochester optical physicist [Brian O'Brien](#), meets at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. All but one (astronomer [Carl Sagan](#)) are members of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board (psychologist [Launor F. Carter](#), industrial psychologist [Jesse Orlansky](#), rocket scientist [Richard W. Porter](#), computer engineer [Willis Ware](#)), and none have any sympathy with the idea that UFO reports represent anything extraordinary. Also attending is Lt. Col. [Harold A. Steiner](#), assistant secretary to the Scientific Advisory Board. They receive a briefing from [Quintanilla](#), review the Robertson Panel report, and examine a few UFO cases. The group recommends that Blue Book "be strengthened to provide opportunity for scientific investigation of selected sightings in more detail and depth than has been possible to date." Furthermore, USAF should negotiate contracts "with a few selected universities to

provide scientific teams to investigate promptly and in depth certain selected sightings of UFOs.... The universities should be chosen to provide good geographical distribution.” They also conclude that “perhaps 100 sightings a year might be subjected to this close study, and that possibly an average of 10 man-days might be required per sighting so studied. The information provided by such a program might bring to light new facts of scientific value.” The group recommends that Blue Book data be given “wide unsolicited circulation among prominent members of the Congress and other public persons.” The Air Force ignores their recommendations. (USAF Scientific Advisory Board, [*Special Report of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee to Review Project “Blue Book,”*](#) Brian O’Brien, chairman of the Advisory Board, March 1966; Jacobs, *UFO Controversy in America*, Signet ed., 1976, pp. 176–177; William Poundstone, *Carl Sagan: A Life in the Cosmos*, Henry Holt, 1999, pp. 92–93; Clark III 1191; Powell, *Keyhole*, 334; Graff 200–201)

1966, February 6 — 6:05 a.m. Mr. and [Mrs. Kenneth R. Gulley](#) see a tadpole-shaped object about 14 feet long and 2 feet wide with eight yellow-and-red, neon-like lights at 250–500 feet altitude in Nederland, Texas. It casts a pulsating red glow on the lawn. Her house and street lights go out as high-frequency sound assaults the witnesses’ ears. The object blinks out when aircraft pass overhead, then comes on again afterward. It departed to the west about 1.5 miles to the vicinity of the airport, where an aircraft’s landing lights light up the UFO. Then it disappears in a slow climb. (NICAP, [“House Lights Go Out When ‘Tadpole’ Flies Over”](#); [Sparks](#), p. 309; J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine ed., 1974, pp. 103–104)

1966, February 6 — Around 8:00 p.m. Several persons in the barrio of Aluche, Madrid, Spain, allegedly see an unusual flying object. Looking out a window, Maria Ruiz Torres watches an object descending. She sees a “gigantic eye” looking at her through a porthole. Another witness, Juan Jimenez Dias, thinks he sees a door open in the craft. Other observers include soldiers at a nearby ammunition dump. Motorist [José Luis Jordán Peña](#) gets a close, extended view of the object, which he characterizes as “enormous.” Jordán Peña sends Spanish ufologist [Antonio Ribera](#) a sketch of the UFO, which has three legs and a curious symbol on its underside—something like two reverse parentheses with a vertical bar positioned between them. No other witness mentions anything like this. In 1992, Jordán Peña confesses to hoaxing his sighting, including the landing marks and physical traces, in order to prove his theory that paranoia is much more widespread in Spain than psychiatrists are willing to admit. (Antonio Ribera, [“The San José de Valderas Photographs,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 15, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1969): 3–10; [“Background of ‘Ummo’ and the Sightings,”](#) *CUFOS Bulletin*, Spring 1977, pp. 2–3; Clark III 1183; Scott Corrales, [“The UMMO Experience: Are You Experienced?”](#) *Strange Magazine*, January 31, 2001; Alain Moreau, [“UMMO: Une imposture?”](#) *Les Cles de l’Inexplicable*; Covert 26–27)

1966, February 27 — A nationally broadcast public affairs interview program, *The Open Mind*, presents a panel discussion titled “Are Flying Saucers Only Science Fiction?” Princeton University history professor [Eric F. Goldman](#) is moderator. Panelists include astronomer [Donald H. Menzel](#), plant physiologist [Frank B. Salisbury](#), journalist [John G. Fuller](#), psychologist [R. Leo Sprinkle](#), and astronomer [J. Allen Hynek](#). Menzel calls the Exeter police officers “hysterical subjects,” although he cannot remember their names and is unfamiliar with the case. ([“Notable Broadcasts of the Past: The Open Mind NBC Public Affairs Presentation, February 27, 1966,”](#) *Journal of UFO History* 1, no. 2 (May/June 2004): 3–6)

1966, March — Kathleen Reeves and a friend are walking on a rural road near their homes in Toledo, Oregon, when they think they see a neighbor’s field on fire. The fire seems oddly dome-shaped. They continue walking and see another smaller, duller light. Kathleen thinks it might be a prank, so she throws a rock at it. Suddenly, a group of much larger lights come on all around the small one. Frightened, the girls run home. Over the next few months, through October, the Reeves home experiences such poltergeist phenomena as whirring or sawing noises, rose-colored lights inside, small rings of light that crawl over the bedroom walls, and light beams. (Michael D. Swords, [“A Trick of the Light,”](#) *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 8)

1966, March 5 — The D-21 is first launched from an M-21 off the coast of California. The drone is released but stays close to the M-21’s back for a few seconds, which seems like “two hours” to the M-21 crew. (Wikipedia, [“Lockheed D-21”](#))

1966, March 6 — 2:00 a.m. Ivan de Almeida and other medical staff at the Lourenço Jorge Municipal Hospital in Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, watch an oval object with a bright red-orange light that shines on the ocean waters below. After 2 hours it climbs up slowly, dims, and disappears. (Olavo T. Fontes, [“Report from Brazil: The First UAO Sightings in 1966,”](#) *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1966, p. 5)

1966, March 6 — 11:00 a.m. A woman is driving in Missouri with her St. Bernard dog sleeping in the back seat. Suddenly the dog begins barking and jumps into the front seat, then whimpers and tries to hide under the seat. She sees a bright, blue-white beam of light that extends about one foot over each side of the road ahead. The road beyond seems distorted, as if by heat waves. The car enters the beam and it slows from 50 mph to about 10 mph. She

looks up through the windshield and sees a metallic, domed, disc-shaped object hovering about 1,000 feet up, from which the light is coming. She pushes the accelerator to the floor, but the car does not respond. After passing through the beam, the car runs smoothly again, and she drives away, not looking back. Her eyes bother her for three days afterward. (Carl Sagan and Thornton Page, eds., *UFO's: A Scientific Debate*, Cornell University, 1972, p. xxviii)

- 1966**, March 12 — 10:40 a.m. A security guard at the Fábrica Nacional de Motores in Duque de Caxias, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, alerts 10 employees to a mysterious light that is approaching the factory. It descends to 1,500–1,800 feet and hovers above the plant. The object is approximately 18 feet in diameter and emits a brilliant white light that makes it difficult to look at directly. It periodically flashes even brighter. Plant director Col. Jorge Alberto Silveira Martins calls the Army and Air Force. After 30 minutes, the object dims and moves away at tremendous speed before the Army trucks arrive. (Olavo T. Fontes, “[Report from Brazil: The First UAO Sightings in 1966](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1966, p. 5)
- 1966**, March 14 — 3:30–5:30 a.m. Washtenaw County sheriff’s deputies Buford Bushroe and John Foster see highly maneuverable disc-shaped UFOs with flashing red and green lights over Dexter, Michigan. They call in a report that sets off a two-and-a-half hour chase that stretches over three counties and out over Lake Erie. Police from five jurisdictions are involved. Selfridge AFB [now Selfridge Air National Guard Base], near Mount Clemens, reports tracking UFOs on radar over Lake Erie. (UFOEv II 184–185; O’Connell 177; Patrick Gross, “[Michigan 1966: Sheriffs Watch High-Performance Discs, Also Tracked on Radar](#)”)
- 1966**, March 16 — 5:45 p.m. Many people see a white, oval object crash into the Atlantic Ocean close to the Ilha Cagarras off Ipanema, Brazil. Some see a few smaller white parachute-shaped objects fall from it. A thorough search turns up nothing in the sea or the island itself. (Olavo T. Fontes, “[Report from Brazil: The First UAO Sightings in 1966](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1966, pp. 5–6; Lorenzen, *UFOs over the Americas*, Signet, 1968, p. 54)
- 1966**, March 17 — 4:25 a.m. Police Sgt. Neil Schneider and Deputy David Fitzpatrick see top-shaped objects making sharp maneuvers over Milan, Michigan. They alternatively hover, rise and fall quickly, dart around at jet-like speed, dimming and brightening periodically. Two objects are operating together, while a third UFO hovers at a lower altitude. (UFOEv II 185; O’Connell 177; [Sparks](#), p. 310)
- 1966**, March 20 — 7:30 p.m. After his dogs start making a racket, [Frank Mannor](#) and his 26-year-old son Ronald see strange lights over a swampy area in Dexter Township, Michigan. They walk over to the area for a look, taking about 30 minutes, and see a pyramid-shaped object with a rounded top, corrugated surface, and blue, red, and white lights. Mannor’s son-in-law Bob Wagner, back at the house, sees the object light up and rise to 500 feet, then come down again making some noise. Washtenaw County sheriff’s deputies David Fitzpatrick and [Stanley McFadden](#) arrive about 9:00 p.m. drive towards the swamp on Quigley Road. They see a brilliant light that dims and then reappears. By this time a crowd has gathered. One man reports that when two flashlights appear in the distance, the object seems to react by flying away at high speed. At another point the object passes directly over the Mannors with a whistling sound like a rifle bullet ricocheting. It remains in the swampy area for 30 minutes. (“[Washtenaw Sheriff Trails Flying Saucers](#),” *Detroit Free Press*, March 22, 1966, pp. 3A–4A; “[Expert to Probe ‘Saucers’](#),” *Detroit Free Press*, March 23, 1966, p. 3A; J. Allen Hynek, “[Statement on the Dexter and Hillsdale UFO Sightings Made to the Press...on March 25, 1966](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 7–8; “[‘This Thing Like a Ball of Fire’...Just Gas?](#)” *Detroit Free Press*, April 3, 1966, p. 14A; “[The Michigan Cases](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1966, pp. 1, 3–4; “[Swamp Gas Answer Disproved](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 7 (March/April 1966): 5; Paul O’Neil, “[A Well-Witnessed ‘Invasion’—by Something](#),” *Life* 60, n. 3 (April 1, 1966): 24–31; *CBS Reports: UFO: Friend, Foe, or Fantasy* [extract], May 10, 1966; Charles Bowen, “[Michigan Furore](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1966): 4–6; UFOEv II 185–186; O’Connell 175–177, 184–185; [Sparks](#), p. 310; Center for UFO Studies, [case documents]; Patrick Gross, “[Hillsdale, Michigan, 1966: The Infamous ‘Swamp Gas’ Case](#)”; Raymond Szymanski, *Swamp Gas My Ass*, The Author, 2021; Doug Martin, “[Eyewitnesses to 1966 Dexter UFO Sighting to Share Their Story for the First Time](#),” *Dexter (Mich.) Sun Times News*, August 12, 2024)
- 1966**, March 21 — 10:32 p.m. Cynthia “Pinky” Poffenberger and 16 other Hillsdale (Michigan) College students at the McIntyre dorm see a football-shaped object with red, green, and white pulsating lights descend from the sky and pass close to their dorm. It settles in a hollow in the Slayton Arboretum about 1,500 feet away. Some 87 students collect to watch the UFO, then they notify Civil Defense Director William Van Horn, who arrives with police. From the dormitory, the landed lights appear yellowish-white, dimming and intensifying. Only student [Barbara “Gidget” Kohn](#) stays most of the night, watching the lights vanish, reappear, and recede. Around 5:10 a.m., Kohn sees a lighted object move away and disappear from sight. Radiation is later detected at the landing area of about 330–600 microroentgens/hr, roughly 10–20 times the background level. (O’Connell 177–180, 185–188; Clark III

950; [Sparks](#), p. 311; Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science*, North Atlantic, 1992, pp. 173–176; Center for UFO Studies, [[case documents](#)]; Jack Butler, “[UFO: In 1966, Hillsdale Had Its Own Close Encounter](#),” *The Collegian* (Hillsdale College), March 19, 2015; “[Students Present ‘Aliens in the Arb’ Documentary](#),” *The Collegian* (Hillsdale College), April 7, 2022; “[Aliens in the Arb](#),” Elizabeth Oxaal YouTube channel, April 2022; Graff 204–206; “[Hillsdale, Michigan, College Girls and Residents Talk about Witnessing a UFO in 1966](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, January 7, 2024)

1966, March 22 — Morning. Contactee [George Hunt Williamson](#) sees three large UFOs with brilliant, flashing, blue-white lights hover above him for one minute in Key West, Florida. He hears a familiar buzzing in his head. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Little Walk in the Strange Life of George Hunt Williamson](#),” *IUR* 26, no. 2 (Summer 2001): 14, 32)

1966, March 22 — 10:00 p.m. Several people standing outside the Waterfront Playhouse in Key West, Florida, during an intermission, see three UFOs ringed with flashing blue-white lights hovering nearby. They zoom off over the Gulf. (“[Keys Theatre-Goers Report ‘Flying Discs](#),” *Miami (Fla.) Herald*, March 24, 1966, p. 3-C)

1966, March 23 — 5:05 a.m. As Sheppard AFB (near Wichita Falls, Texas) civilian instructor William E. “Eddie” Laxson is driving west on US Highway 70 eight miles south of Temple, Oklahoma, he finds the road blocked by a wingless aircraft, shaped like a fish, in the road. It is about 75 feet long, nearly 8 feet high, 12 feet wide, with a Plexiglas bubble on top, and bright lights forward and aft. Laxson stops his car about 300 feet away and walks to within 50 feet, noticing a designation on its side like “TLA138” or “TLA738” or “TL 4768.” He sees a “man” wearing a baseball cap or mechanic’s hat climbing up steps or a ladder on the object. Soon after it lifts off with a hissing or high-speed drilling sound and heads off southeast at about 700 mph. There are no landing traces. Laxson finds another witness, truck driver C. W. Anderson, parked a mile down the road. Laxson thinks it is some kind of military vehicle. (NICAP, “[Wingless Craft Blocks Road / ‘Man’ Observed](#)”; “[Air Force Quizzes Temple Man on ‘Flying Fish-Shaped Object](#),” *Lawton (Okla.) Constitution*, March 24, 1966, pp. 1–2; “[It’s ‘Flying Saucer’ Time Again! Spring Erupts with Sightings of Those ‘Mysterious Objects](#),” *Lawton (Okla.) Constitution*, March 25, 1966, pp. 1–2; “[Two Close Encounters](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, May/June 1966, p. 4; Donald B. Hanlon, “[Questions on the Occupants](#),” in Charles Bowen, ed., *The Humanoids*, Special Issue 1 of *FSR*, October/November 1966, pp. 64, 66, 70; *Hynek UFO Report*, pp. 208–210; Clark III 681–682; [Sparks](#), p. 312; Center for UFO Studies, [[case clippings and documents](#)])

1966, March 23 — 5:00 p.m. At least a dozen adults and children in Trinidad, Colorado, see two disc-shaped objects with domes flying in-line, traveling with a bobbing motion over the terrain. (“[Discs at Trinidad, Colorado](#),” *APRO Bulletin*, March/April 1966, p. 1; James E. McDonald, “[Statement on Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” in *Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Hearings, US House Committee on Science and Astronautics, 90th Cong., 2nd Sess., July 29, 1968, pp. 51–52)

1966, March 23 — 11:50 p.m. John T. King sees a yellowish, elliptical object with a dome-like projection on top just off the ground near Bangor, Maine. It has a yellow-orange light in the center, a bluish light on the right, and a white light on the left. When the object moves toward his car, the car lights dim and his radio stops playing. King says he can hear the elderberry bushes scraping as it approaches and hovers 50 feet away. Frightened, he takes his .22 magnum pistol and fires it four times at the UFO, which glows brightly and takes off at high speed, making a “zinging” sound like the recoil of a spring. (“[Close-Range Sightings Increase](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 7 (March/April 1966): 3)

1966, March 23–25 — [Hynek](#) spends three days in Michigan, interviewing witnesses in Dexter and Hillsdale, finding the reports contradictory and vague, and encountering a media frenzy. He participates in a police UFO chase that turns out to be the star Arcturus. A photograph taken by Deputy David Fitzpatrick on March 17 is obviously a time lapse of the Moon and Venus. He interviews two Hillsdale students, Sara Robeck and Jo Wilson. William Van Horn tells him that he at first thought the lights were marsh gas until they rose into the air 150 feet and he seemed to perceive a “convex-shaped” solid mass between two lights. (O’Connell 183–190; Graff 205–207)

1966, March 25 — [Quintanilla](#) needs quick answers, so he schedules a press conference at the Detroit Press Club for [Hynek](#) to make a statement. Hynek, disappointed with the quality of the sightings and suspecting a mundane explanation, announces: “It would seem to me that the association of the sightings with swamps, in these particular cases, is more than coincidence. No group of witnesses observed any craft coming to or going away from the swamps. The glow was localized there.... It appears to me that all the major conditions for the appearance of swamp lights were satisfied.” The swamp gas theory doesn’t go over very well with the witnesses, the media, or the public. (“[Termed Marsh Gases by Air Force Expert](#),” *Lansing (Mich.) State Journal*, March 25, 1966, p. 11; “[Gas Theory Belittled by Viewers of UFOs](#),” *Lansing (Mich.) State Journal*, March 26, 1966, p. 1; William B. Trembl, “[Findings on ‘Saucers’ Draw Sharp Reactions](#),” *Ann Arbor (Mich.) News*, March 26, 1966; “[Swamp Gas Answer Disproved](#),” *UFO Investigator* 3, no. 7 (March/April 1966): 5; J. Allen Hynek, “Swamp