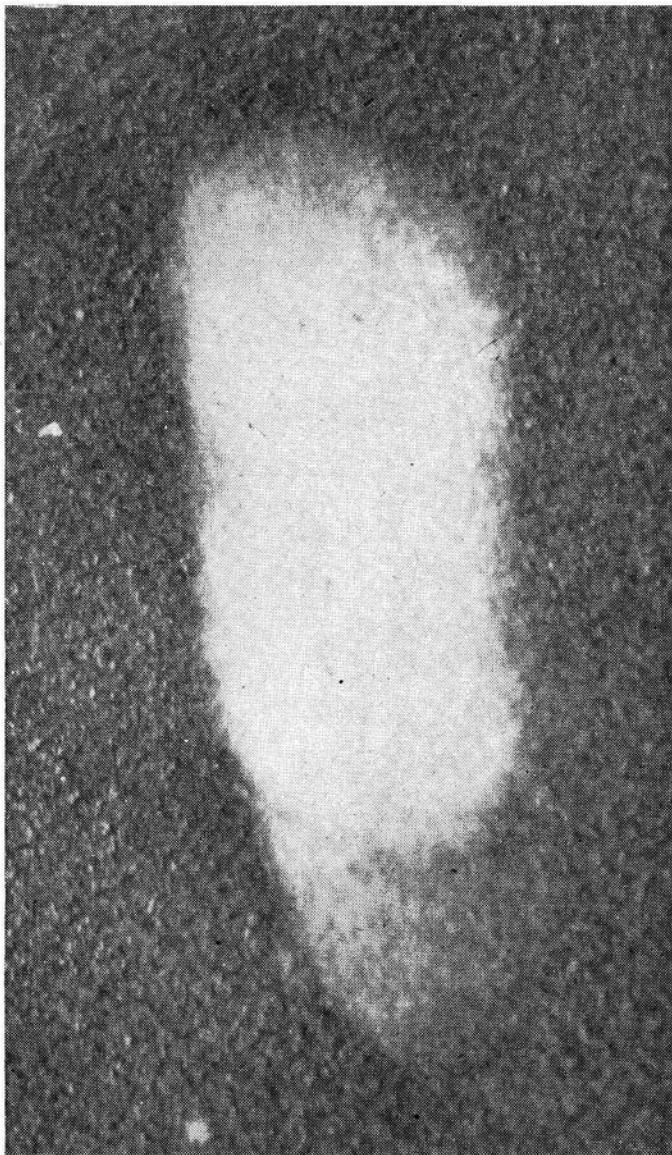


The Australian Flying Saucer Magazine

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AUGUST, 1953.



Saucer Snapped Over New York! (Story Page 2)

COVER SHOT

Our cover for August shows a balloonized-up view of the flying saucer sighted and photographed at 11 p.m. on July 28, 1952, whilst flying over New York City. The picture was taken by Mr. August C. Roberts, a Volunteer Air Defence Observer, of 443 Ogden Ave., 7, Jersey City, New Jersey, U.S.A. Mr. Roberts said that the object looked "like a shiny coin." A glowing red color in the sky first attracted his attention to it. Mr. Roberts said, then the object itself slid into view from behind the Empire State Building. It was a bright orange color at the centre, with a reddishbrown rim. Its rim was as wide as its edge was thick, he added, and when first seen by him, the object was only about 1000ft. from the ground, moving very slowly.

Rising slowly, it headed towards the Insurance Building a few hundred yards away, moving upwards, and to Mr. Roberts' left in a series of "short jumps," each jump covering about the object's own

length. Mr. Roberts was carrying with him at the time a small folding Kodak camera, and swiftly, giving one-tenth of a second exposure, he snapped the retreating object. The saucer drew slowly further away, finally disappearing into low cloud.

In the original picture from which this close-up of the object itself has been taken, the moon is visible, revealing the object photographed to be at least twice the apparent size of that body in the sky. Prints of the photo shown here were handed to the police by Mr. Roberts, and copies later went to both the U.S. Air Force in Washington, and the International Flying Saucer Bureau in Connecticut, neither of which after lengthy and exhaustive investigation, were able to detect any suggestion of re-touching or fakery. The white spots faintly noticeable are stars. Our copies were made available through the courtesy of the International F.S. Bureau, to whom we are very grateful.

EDITORIAL

Reports from here and abroad indicate that the saucer subject generally is hotting up.

In South Carolina and other Southern States in the U.S., events reached fever pitch recently with what one U.S. publication termed "the newest rash of saucer sightings and attempted landings." Rumours, reports and debunkings of both are on the upgrade, and assuming such quantities that orthodox investigations have a difficult time sifting the wheat from the chaff. From the astonishing conglomeration of conflicting reports and material, we, in Australia, can only view the situation in America at the present time with sympathy and a genuine concern, hoping that the obviously mounting hysteria will abate short of the position becoming critical.

It will be unfortunate if U.S. authorities continue their patently

ostrich-like policy of avoiding the issue, when a few simple statements could easily avert a nationwide panic of unrecadented proportions. Currently the situation is growing increasingly explosive, and like dry tinder, a single match might well set it off.

In Australia a gleam of commonsense emerged, following a rash of May sightings, in a Melbourne press report of May 19, which said that the Civil Aviation Department "believes there is some basis for reports of mysterious flying objects in the skies." However, this was to a large extent nullified by an almost simultaneously C.A.D. ban on the release of flying saucer reports made to it, designed, the Department said, "to encourage people who see flying saucers to make confidential, detailed reports."

The measure appears patently

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illogical, in that it seems far more likely to result in a trend towards public timidity in reporting sightings than towards "encouragement," actual observers of the objects obviously deriving more encouragement from the publication openly of the names of other reputable persons already recorded as witnesses of similar incidents. The latest suggestion, too, of official hush-hush methods seems the one thing that genuine investigators should scrupulously avoid if they are at all desirous of retaining public trust and confidence.

The Australian Flying Saucer

Bureau has not, to date, encountered one case of alleged "timidity" or "fear of ridicule" on the part of actual saucer eye-witnesses, and therefore can only regard such a complete ban with mystification concerning its "necessity". Isolated cases of eye-witnesses' reticence can be understood and accepted, but past experience shows that, to the contrary, observers fully realise, as adults should, the potential scientific value of their reports, and unanimously contribute facts and other details freely to both the Australian Press and investigators.

AUSTRALIAN FLYING SAUCER BUREAU NEWS

FURORE FOLLOWS FIRST ISSUE OF A.F.S.M.

In the midst of the furore caused by the flurry of mid-May Australian sightings which began a few brief days after the first issue of AUSTRALIAN FLYING SAUCER MAGAZINE hit the Australian public, came Press reports of a Civil Aviation Department ban on the release of flying saucer reports, and so great was the confusion reigning that for several days no clear idea could be obtained regarding the exact extent of the ban.

The President rushed an urgent request for its clarification to the Director-General of Civil Aviation in Melbourne, and in the meantime, for the first time in its not-so-brief existence, the Bureau came to an almost complete standstill, it being only possible to cope with the most urgent correspondence. Requests for the latest information re the position poured in from all over the country, New Zealand and America, creating an almost impossible situation, in that even telephone calls to the Sydney branch of the C.A.D. were unable to elicit reliable facts.

Things eased with the receipt of the following official reply from the Civil Aviation Department's headquarters in Melbourne, addressed to Mr. Jarrold, A.F.S.B. President:

"Receipt is acknowledged of your letter, dated 21st of May, 1953, in which you refer to a Press release indicating a ban of flying saucer report.

"You are assured that no such ban is intended by this Department, and it would appear that the Press, in this instance, has been misinformed. — J. E. Schofield, for Director-General of Civil Aviation, Melbourne."

THE WORKS OF CHARLES FORT

The President recently read, on loan from the Australian National Library, Parliament House, Canberra, THE WORKS OF CHARLES FORT. This single volume contains a magnificent collection of pre-1932 saucer reports, and strange terrestrial and interplanetary phenomena recorded over the past few hundred years, and is only available from the National Library in Canberra, on loan for monthly periods. It is unobtainable in Australia from ordinary book stores, but can be obtained from the Library free on request. Members and observers will be glad to know that recent negotiations with the U.S. appear likely to result soon in our obtaining a permanent Bureau copy for study, etc. In America, it is obtainable in book stores at a cost of five dollars, illustrated.

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Latest addition to the ranks of members is David Sloane, now attending Geelong College in Victoria. Bureau observers and members will remember David from Press mention of his Martian Theory and additional prophecy regarding the Monte Bello tests some months ago. David also has the honor of being the youngest Bureau member, and already he has forwarded several new sightings. Keep it up, David. Give him a big hand, folks!

* * *

Helpers living in the Sydney area are badly needed at Headquarters to ease some of the burden from the shoulders of the President. Owing to the remarkable fact that observers and members all live out of town and interstate he had to carry out the rather arduous duties associated with the Bureau entirely unaided for the past twelve months, and though uncomplaining, would welcome one or two voluntary assistants to help cope with a growing backlog of reports and other material scheduled for filing, copying, study and despatch to members.

He doesn't bite, so here's your chance, local supporters: Write him at 3 Ferguson Avenue, Fairfield, or call any evening or weekends. A warm and friendly welcome is assured.

A.F.S.B. MEMBERSHIP

Subscription is only 10/- for One Year, or 15/- for Two Years. AUSTRALIAN FLYING SAUCER MAGAZINE Rates are:—To A.F.S.B. members, four issues for 6/-. To non-members, four issues for 8/-. Single copies 2/-. Published by Edgar R. Jarrold every quarter, at Fairfield, N.S.W., Australia. (Note: New A.F.S.B. members receive a FREE copy of the current issue of AUSTRALIAN

FLYING SAUCER MAGAZINE.) As a non-profit organisation, dedicated to Research, all funds from membership subscriptions, sales of A.F.S.M. are used for printing costs, correspondence costs, Bureau maintenance, and research; while any surplus will go towards providing effective equipment. The more vital equipment we have, the greater will be our contribution to general global efforts aimed at elucidation of the mystery. Forward subscriptions and/or donations to Mr. E. R. Jarrold, President, The Australian Flying Saucer Bureau, 3 Ferguson Avenue, Fairfield, N.S.W., Australia.

* * *

OUR FIRST ISSUE: Single copies of our May, 1953 issue are still available. The May issue contained January to April, 1953, Global Sightings, Backsightings for Collectors (which may not be repeated), and the sensational February 19, 1951, Mt. Kilimanjaro Enigma, No. 1, of the detailed "OUTSTANDING SIGHTINGS" Series.

* * *

The President is happy to advise that since the May issue went to press, friendly contact has been established with the CIVILIAN SAUCER INVESTIGATION SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND. Exchange of sightings and important information have commenced, the first result of which has been that New Zealand reports have been pouring into headquarters. Correspondence from the C.S.I. President, Mr. H. H. Fulton, has been both informative and enlightening, and the President is looking forward with great interest to further detailed exchanges regarding research in the New Zealand area. The aims of our respective organisations seem identical, so that mutual friendship and co-operation seem assured, and likely to pay swift dividends.

OUTSTANDING SIGHTINGS

NO. 2: THE FARMINGTON AFFAIR

Spaceships Cause Sensation!

Thus shrieked the headlines of the Las Vegas, New Mexico "Daily

Optic" newspaper on March 18, 1950. The "Daily Optic" devoted eight columns of space to a story from nearby Farmington, a township of 5000 residents; a story that

fully half the town's population had the previous day sighted hundreds of spaceships soaring over head, from 10.15 in the morning until 11.15 a.m., and again at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

March 17 was a clear day in Farmington, with only a faint scattering of high cirrus clouds, and there were no strong winds. But at 10.15, the Farmington "Daily Times" was suddenly deluged with scores of reports that a mass flight of disc-shaped objects was rushing across the sky in solid waves. The hundreds of people witnessing their amazing flight, including residents, businessmen and police, were soon joined by the staff of the "Daily Times," whose advertising manager, Mr. Clayton Boddy, with a group of business associates, watched one flight go over. They said that the objects were definitely discs, and that they "tended to flutter." The objects streaked across Farmington at tremendous speeds, so fast that it was almost unbelievable, and one estimate placed the actual number at more than 500.

Most observers agreed that, further, the objects were silver-colored, and some witnesses added that the only differently colored one was an unusually rare one. This one seemed to be the only one of them flying at a moderate height, yet even in its case, observers swore it had gone from horizon to horizon in less than a brief three seconds.

An estimation of the object's size placed this at about twice the immensity of a B29 bomber.

For hours calls poured into the "Daily Times" office from people seeking an official explanation of the object's origin. Pilots and others noted, for one thing, that many of the aerial visitors performed right-angled turns, an impossible feat even for the latest model jet, rocket, or, in fact, any kind of conventional aircraft. A Farmington garage employee said that their speed was 10 times that of a normal, terrestrial jet-plane, and that although they appeared sometimes to be swooping directly towards each other in flight, at the very last second, one would veer upwards at right angles, whilst the other swooped

just as sharply downwards. Another witness, Mr. Edward Brooks, who had been a B2 tail-gunner in the U.S. Air Force, refuted the suggestion that the speedy objects might have been ordinary aircraft, because they were too manoeuvrable. Yet another observer reported the "Daily Times" the next morning, said, "They flew sideways, on edge, and at every conceivable angle, which made it easy to determine that they were saucer-shaped."

A few minutes after 11.30 a.m., Las Vegas observers glimpsed the objects, too, 12 witnesses viewing one there that sailed in the sky in clear view until midday. One of the witnesses, a Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve, estimated this particular one's height at approximately 20 miles. Not one observer described the least audible sound accompanying the object's speedy passage, nor was the slightest trace of even vapor trails visible. Almost simultaneously with the Farmington and Las Vegas viewings, reports came in from places as far away as South Carolina and Peru, confirming the New Mexican claims.

Las Vegas "Daily Optic" on March 18 waxed stern on the subject. A whole town couldn't be seeing things, it pointed out, adding caustically, "All previous explanations in the U.S. Air Force's considerable stockpile, that the things could be kites, balloons, reflections, debris from atom bombs being tested at nearby Alamogordo (about 110 air miles north), wind-blown merry-go-rounds, suggestibility, hallucinations, mirages, and postwar-psychosis, don't seem to cover the Farmington revelations. Darkly suspicious of conventional explanations," it concluded boldly and angrily.

The American population is not composed chiefly of children or idiots. Many of us are adult who are willing to embrace new concepts of time and space, without panic. Attempts to keep the public in the dark invariably have hurt the general welfare, not helped it. We can say, however, that it is high time the Government of the U.S. cast aside the cloak of evasion and secrecy surrounding these manifestations, and presented to the public findings

it has reached on such matters."

Both Washington and the U.S. Air Force maintained a discreet silence for the next fortnight, refusing, for reasons best known to themselves, the invitation, the only official statement published being a brief, cautious one issued by President Truman's secretary

on April 3, 1950, which stated simply that "the President knew nothing of any flying saucers being developed by this or any other country." The statement neatly side-stepped possible extra-terrestrial sources of origin by omitting to mention it altogether.

GLOBAL SIGHTINGS AND NEWS, APRIL TO JULY, 1953

Ongaonga, Near Hastings, New Zealand, April 21, 1953

A strange, threadlike substance fell from the sky, draping itself over fences and telegraph wires on April 16. It resembled closely matter seen to fall from flights of flying saucers over France last year. The substance was white, not unlike candy floss, and it disintegrated when handled.

President of the Civilian Saucer Investigation Society of New Zealand, Mr. H. H. Fulton, said that members had met and discussed the fall, but were puzzled by the fact that no reports of saucers having been seen were made. Mr. Fulton added that records showed that the Hastings-Napier area of New Zealand had the most concentrated saucer sightings of any New Zealand area. The C.S.I. hoped that some residents might still have a sample of the threads dropped, which C.S.I. would like to have for analysis.

(Reports from France last October described a flight of saucers which let fall bright, white threads which melted as soon as they were touched. Eye witnesses said that they had first appeared in the objects much like flakes of cotton wool, floating slowly to the ground. Observers who collected some, said that they at first looked like cotton wool or nylon, but soon became gelatinous, then melted and disappeared.)

Seoul, Korea, April 21, 1953

Four U.S. aerial observers in two separate reconnaissance planes over Korea's western front, at about 1 p.m., saw a white, round-

ed, delta-shaped object, 5 to 7 feet in diameter, flying at 60 to 70 m.p.h. over Communist territory in a vibrating motion. The observers could not estimate the object's thickness or depth.

Washington, D.C., April 25, 1953

An official U.S. Air Force publication, "Air Training," reported that more than 1000 flying saucer reports were received by the Air Intelligence Centre at Dayton, Ohio, during 1952.

The Magazine said that 20 per cent. of the unidentified aerial objects reported had been classified as "unknown." All Air Force personnel were asked to help solve the saucer mystery.

Hamburg, Germany, April 27, 1953

"Hamburg Welt Amsonntag" newspaper claimed that Germany had developed flying saucers "capable of flying twice the speed of sound" before World War II ended. It said that the first saucer flight had been made in February, 1945, and that there had been three separate models, two of which had been destroyed as the Russians advanced. The third, the newspaper said, had fallen into Russian hands.

Lausanne, Switzerland,

May 1, 1953

Professor Jean Louis Nicolet, noted Swiss mathematician and meteorologist, said he was convinced that flying saucers originated on the Earth, and furthermore, that they were being "operated in experiments to disrupt weather conditions." The Professor cited recent floods in Britain,

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Holland and Belgium as being "the result of artificial weather conditions probably created by saucers," and said that evidence he had accumulated on weather throughout the world for the past two years showed that the phenomenon "probably came from Russia," because that country had reported no unusual natural disasters recently. Professor Nicolet predicted that the next war will be waged by flying saucers causing hurricanes and thunderstorms to defeat the enemy, rather than atom bombs, "which could be done by sending sufficient numbers of saucers high above the earth to cause violent storms, thereby ensuring that no aircraft could leave the ground over a given area due to violent disturbances caused in the rarefied higher atmosphere by their presence, affecting lower levels as well." Professor Nicolet concluded that "the reason nobody has been a flying saucer in recent months" is that they have been so perfected that they now fly too high to be seen from the Earth, probably over 60,000 feet.

London, England, May 12, 1953

Sir Roy Dobson, Chairman of Avro (Canada) Aircraft Coy., denied reports circulating for the past few months that the firm was building a super-secret flying saucer. He said, so far as Avro (Canada) is concerned, there is no such thing as a flying saucer, but he confirmed that one top-secret project on which the firm was working was a "plane capable of taking off and landing vertically."

Mackay, North Queensland,

May 17, 1953

Captain B. L. Jones, an A.N.A. pilot, reported by radio that a "strange object, like a lighted glass dome" was manoeuvring around his plane, just south of the city. At 6.8 p.m., he reported to Civil Aviation Department Control Tower in Mackay, the object manoeuvred around his plane, a DC3 airliner, then crossed his path and disappeared west, travelling fast. This happened on May 10.

A check with the control tower at the airport showed that there were no other aircraft in the vicinity.

Mr. W. Overell, who was in charge of the control tower, said he saw the light apparently climbing from about 4000 or 5000 ft. west at a terrific rate, until it vanished, and Captain Jones, who still had it under observation then, said that it crossed his path again near Freshwater Point.

Frank Hines, a radio operator, saw it again at 3 a.m. the following morning at first as a light to seaward. There were no planes about, he said, and puzzled, he switched off the lights in the radio room in order to see it better. The object then shot straight upwards at terrific speed, and vanished.

Brisbane, Queensland,

May 18, 1953

A Brisbane newspaper reported that the Captain Jones sighting had been sent to Civil Aviation Department headquarters in Melbourne. Brisbane Civil Aviation Department officials said that they knew of no other aircraft that might have been in the Mackay area at the time of Captain Jones' plane. The newspaper said that a Civil Aviation Department's Security Officer in Melbourne, had reported sighting a "shooting moon" over Essendon Airport at 3 a.m. on May 18. His companion on duty at the other end of the airport had seen exactly the same thing, "a bright object, the size of a full moon," which travelled at terrific speed.

"A meteorlike object" was seen around Williamstown and Moorabbin, not far from Essendon, an hour later, all reports stressing an eerie silence which accompanied the object's passage.

The Civil Aviation Department said again that no aircraft were in the area at the time, and the Secretary of the Australian Flying Saucer Investigation Committee in Melbourne told newspaper reporters that "if it had been a meteor, it would have made a terrific hissing noise, and ended up after a couple of seconds with a mighty bang."

Metropolitan newspapers throughout Australia gave prominence to the reports, and a Sydney daily revealed that Captain Jones had been visited by Dr. Shaw, of the Civil Aviation Dept.,

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in Brisbane, to whom Capt. Jones had given an official report of the Mackay incident. It printed a copy of Capt. Jones' report.

In Melbourne, another large-circulation paper reported that, following the Essendon sighting at 3 a.m. of a fast-moving "bright object," another had been made in full daylight, of a "small silvery object" again over the airport. This time it was seen by Mr. Austin Smith, of Air Traffic Control, and several duty pilots, who described it as a shining object high up in the cloud to the north. No aircraft were in the area again.

Captain Jones said that he and his second pilot had seen the object for about five minutes. There was no possibility, he added (during the course of a radio broadcast) that it could have been a meteorite, the object climbed and dived, "yet not erratically," and its speed had varied between 200 and 700 m.p.h. whilst being viewed. Capt. Jones said that the object he had seen did not emit vapour trails or sparks.

In Rockhampton, North Queensland, a strange object was viewed through a theodolite by a meteorologist at Conner Park Aerodrome for a few minutes (roughly 10).

Apparently stationary, the theodolite showed it to be moving slowly in a southerly direction. It glittered as if reflecting early morning sunlight, and although first sighted about 8.35 a.m., it was still visible in the early afternoon, when it was suggested that it was the planet Venus.

**Melbourne, Victoria,
May 19, 1953**

The Civil Aviation Dept. announced that it had banned the release of flying saucer reports made to it. The announcement said that the department had received Captain Jones' sighting "but that it would not release the report or comment on it."

"We have decided," the statement continued, "that people will discuss sightings more freely if they know their reports will not expose them to ridicule." The department announced, too, that "it had examined every responsible report, but had not yet formed any conclusions."

Another Melbourne report the

same day, said that "the Department of Civil Aviation believes that there is some basis for reports of mysterious flying objects in the skies."

New Zealand papers carried reports of the Australian sightings, and the Civil Aviation ban under captions, such as "AUSTRALIANS SEE CDD SIGHTS IN SKY"; "PLEASE OF SAUCER REPORTS BANNED." Whilst other Australian newspapers contented themselves with hysterically reduced versions of anything that looked like a saucer report. Melbourne "Argus" reacted differently with a sane article, entitled "THE FLYING THINGS ARE BACK AGAIN," which, in five columns and two pictures, unhysterically and intelligently probed into the entire subject, listing uncontroversial facts in no uncertain fashion. In its summing up, "Argus" said boldly that, whether the fact was relished or not, saucers have long passed the joking stage, that "maybe they aren't spaceships from the planets."

**Melbourne, Victoria,
May 23, 1953**

At Surrey Hills, a group of people reported seeing a long, silver, rocketlike shape hurtling across the sky around midday. Estimated by one witness to be 100ft. long, the sun shone brilliantly on its sides as it flashed by. A long silver jet streamed beside it.

The witnesses said that its shape was long and pencil-like.

Very high up, it was in view four minutes, darting overhead, into a cloud, and then shooting back in the opposite direction again. It looked like an illuminated pencil as it travelled across the rays of the sun, and the observers agreed that they had never seen anything flying as high before.

A Melbourne astronomer said that the object could not have been a meteor. He said "a lot of things are seen every day. It is impossible to account for every phenomenon of the sky, or the objects which fly about it."

Although in this instance, a high-flying 'plane was over Melbourne at the time the rocket was reported, a Laverton official said that the 'plane was "so high that

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no one could have seen it." One witness said that he had seen a 'plane fly over just before sighting the rocket.

Melville Island, Northern Territory

May 26, 1953

An unidentified object, in level flight and trailing flame and smoke, was seen by natives. It was travelling at terrific speed and was sighted in broad daylight. The natives reported the presence of the object to Brother G. Clark, superintendent of the Mission Station on the Island, and Brother Clarke also saw it.

Brother Clark reported the incident to Australian Naval Intelligence, and revealed that the natives who reported the saucer had never previously heard of such a thing.

Bay of Plenty, Tauranga, New Zealand, May 28, 1953

Mr. R. Sanders, of Otumoetai, near Tauranga, was wakened shortly before 4 a.m. by a distinct and heavy buzzing noise. On investigation, he said, he saw a round, bright dot, about the size of Venus, moving north at a high speed. Its height was up to 30,000 ft., and Mr. Sanders watched the object for nearly half an hour. At 4.21 a.m. it disappeared, after maintaining a straight course from the time he first saw it. No aircraft was known to be in the area at the time.

Bay of Plenty, Tauranga, New Zealand, May 30, 1953

Another flying saucer reported over the Tauranga area last night. At 5.53 p.m., a bright-lit object, travelling fast, appeared over Papamoa. Travelling from east to west, it appeared to be at an altitude of about 8000ft. to 10,000ft., had no vapor trail, and moved soundlessly. Another Tauranga resident simultaneously reported seeing "a beautiful example of a shooting star." It was definitely a shooting star, this viewer said.

Palmerston North, New Zealand, May 30, 1953

An amateur astronomer reported seeing an unusual object in the sky over the city at about 11.10 a.m., when he was looking for the planet Venus, which was by then

clearly visible. He saw a small, bright blue object, which dived suddenly, rose again, and then made off rapidly with an irregular motion quite unlike that of an aircraft.

Later he saw a large number of filaments of a substance resembling spiderwebs floating down to earth, some of which he secured and examined under a microscope. They were white in color, and ashy in texture. A staff reporter of the "Manawatu Evening Standard" newspaper confirmed the spiderweb-like filaments, which he brushed into on his way back after lunch.

Melbourne, Victoria,

June 1, 1953

Australian Flying Saucer Investigation Committee announced four main saucer types, "none of which has been explained satisfactorily." They are—disc-shaped objects, seen by day, sometimes believed to rotate and change direction suddenly; long, cigar-shaped objects seen either by day or night; luminous discs seen by night, often said to be as large as the moon; and small luminous, ball-like objects, often hovering, sometimes in clusters.

Hamilton, New Zealand,

June 1, 1953

"Waikato Times" newspaper reported two sightings of strange objects in Waikato skies on May 29. A motorist, at 5.45 p.m., saw an unusual object streak across the eastern sky, travelling at a terrific speed. It was definitely not a 'plane, star, or meteor, he said.

Two women saw a similar object at 6 p.m. in the same section of the sky. The head of it was larger than the star Venus, they said, and it was long and pencil-shaped, though it appeared to have a slight curve. They reported that it travelled absolutely soundlessly, and at a great speed.

Napier, New Zealand,

June 3, 1953

Members of the Hastings Boy Scout Movement saw an unusual object just before they lit the Coronation beacon at the summit of Te Mata peak last night. It was first noticed at about 6.30 p.m.

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The object appeared to be about a chain long by three feet deep, and the Scouts estimated that its height was between 5000 and 8000 ft. It was moving fast in a north-easterly direction, and glowed with yellow and white colors.

Hamilton, New Zealand,

June 4, 1953

The "Waikato Times," referring to the June 1 Hamilton reports of a strange aerial objects, reported by a motorist and two women, said that three top-dressing pilots returning by plane to Rotorua from Edgecumbe also reported seeing a strange object, brilliantly lighted, flashing across the sky. It was nothing like a meteor, they said.

Mr. W. E. Trueman, of Claudelands, confirmed the May 29 sighting, which, he said, he and two car passengers also noticed at about 5.50 p.m., travelling horizontally along the skyline. It travelled at too great a speed to be an aircraft, Mr. Trueman said, and there was "no engine noise."

Another witness, Mr. J. Norris, also saw the object at the times stated. He reported that, "it was not very high, and left lightly discernible trail. It was very bright, appeared round, but travelled, I thought, slower than previous meteors I have seen in other parts of the world. It vanished suddenly, and did not dwindle."

Other witnesses included Mr. R. Hambling, a pilot for the Waikato Aero Club, who reported seeing "a glowing pencil-like shape" travelling in a northerly direction at about 5.45 p.m. on May 29. Mr. Hambling said that he was definitely of the opinion that the object was not a meteor.

Hamilton, New Zealand

June 5, 1953

Still further witnesses to the May 29 sighting at Waikato came forward, a Mr. D. Jenkins, who said that the object was a 'plane, low-flying, eerie in the unusual evening sky. And a woman, who described the object as a "bright one, with a smoky tail."

Southern Wisconsin,

June 11, 1953

A large, blue-white light was reported moving at a fairly low speed across the early morning sky. It looked like a second moon to the several eye-witnesses, who included aircraft "spotters," and it lit up the surrounding countryside as it passed overhead.

Observers from separate viewing points agreed that it seemed to be at an altitude of about 5000 feet.

Kingaroy, Queensland,

June 25, 1953

The Brisbane "Telegraph" radio news reported at 7 p.m. that a strange flying object had been sighted a number of times over the past three weeks in the vicinity of the Kingaroy airstrip.

Some of Kingaroy's most respected citizens had sighted it, the announcer stated, and all agreed that the object was not an optical illusion or a bird. First sighted by a taxi-driver who transports passengers to and from the airstrip, it was next seen by the caretaker of the airstrip.

The object was reported to be always seen early in the morning, soon after sunrise. The only actual description given of its appearance was that it was silvery in color.

Once a pilot flew his plane towards it, but the object "flew off at terrific speed toward nearby mountains."

Brush Creek, California,

June 26, 1953

Two local miners reported that on May 20, and again on June 20, a flying saucer containing "two little men" as occupants, landed near their mine. They told Deputy Sheriff Fred Preston, of Brush Creek, that both times the object landed "a broad-shouldered little man" emerged, scooped up a pail of water, and then returned, handed it to someone inside. The first occupant then climbed back inside and the object shot away.

The miners, Mr. John Black and Mr. John van Allen, described the object as 7ft. in diameter, 4ft. thick, and possessing a three-legged landing gear, which left marks as big as elephant tracks on the ground. The single occupant seen close-up wore a tweed-like material covering his arms and legs, they said, and over this

something resembling a knee-length trench coat.

Kyodo, Japan, June 27, 1953

A silver, disc-shaped object was seen over the Okinawan capital, Naha, at approximately 6 p.m. on June 21, and again on June 22 and June 25, at the same time and in the same position.

AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS SAUCER THEORIES



Mr. Barry Sheehy

AUSTRALIA: From Mr. Barry Sheehy (pictured), of Brisbane, Queensland, A.F.S.E., Brisbane Observer.

I think Saucers could come from Mars. It is a well-known scientific fact that water is scarce there, and there is evidence that living, intelligent creatures built canals with which to irrigate their crops, which without water could not survive.

There is evidence, too, that the remaining Martian water supply is gradually disappearing owing to Mars' low gravitation. With their home supply slowly vanishing,

and unable to obtain more of the scarce Martian commodity from any source nearby, would it not occur to beings obviously further advanced scientifically than ourselves, as witnessed by the marvellous network of emergency canals already effected to run tankers here to collect what we have in abundance for their own survival?

This would explain their reluctance to being seen, and their purpose detected, and although only meagre quantities could be transported to Mars at any one time, acute shortage of an essential commodity only increases its apparent value. Purification, desalting, and the removal of harmful bacteria, can easily be effected, and I think that the disc-type could well be water-carriers, while cigar-types may contain passengers. The discs could scoop water from isolated stretches of ocean automatically, and return to Mars without landing.

Water cannot be obtained from any of the larger planets, nor from Mercury; whilst Venus, the only possible source remaining, is too shrouded in cloud for surface details to be seen, some scientists even supposing it to consist of a vast dust bowl.

AMERICA: From Alan Stazer, Member of the International Flying Saucer Bureau. I think the "flying saucers" are from the solar system of Alpha or Xromima Cen-

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tauri. Most likely the third or fourth planet. The planet is probably about 4000 miles in diameter from two-thirds as big as the Earth. Some other reasons are that Centauri is too far distant for observation of such a small body as a planet. This star is of about the same size and the same spectral type (GO) as the Sun.—(Courtesy, January, 1953, "Space Review," U.S.A.)

AMERICA: From Dr. Maurice

Biot, Aerodynamics in the U.S.A.: My opinion is that the "saucers" have an extra-terrestrial origin. The saucer shape makes very little sense if the machine has to travel in the atmosphere, a disc has a high drag when whirling at high speeds through the air. But for space-travel, where there is no atmosphere to oppose it, a disc has significant advantage. The least improbable explanation is that the things are artificial and controlled.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.: Has an increase in reports of saucer sightings been noted as times when the planet Mars is at its closest point to the Earth, and have they been noted on more than one occasion? (From Mr. W. Davies, Official Bureau Observer for the Kojonup, Bridgewater, W.A., district.)

A.: Such increases have been noted on more than one occasion; in fact, before, during, and almost immediately after so many Martian approaches that such increases cannot reasonably be ascribed to merely recurring coincidences. Such instances are being closely investigated at the present time by the A.F.S.B., which already has considerable data to support the inference that Mars is connected in some way with saucer sightings and origin.

In addition to sightings of the so called "saucers," variegated atmosphere phenomena has been recorded repeatedly in connection with Mars and Martian approaches, dating back to mid 1800, and portion of A.F.S.B. research is being currently directed to completing gaps in past records, often difficult to uncover because of the time interval which has elapsed since such incidents were originally recorded.

Recent Martian approaches of 1950 and 1952 followed the same established pattern with outbursts of sightings occurring all over the world on both occasions.

The next Martian approaches will occur in 1954 and 1956, when

the Bureau expects further substantial increases in the number of global sightings recorded, and since even the record 1950 number of sightings approximately doubled in 1952, it seems reasonable to assume that the anticipated 1954 and 1956 reports will be the heaviest yet.

The President's considered view, formed from all the available evidence, is that during the latter year (1956), reports will reach a peak or climax during which almost anything may occur.

Should events of historic (or untoward) nature unfold during—or even leading up to the critical period, completely over-ruling even major issues of increased public confusion and speculation, will be a need for clear thinking and unity on the part of every member and supporter of the Bureau and allied organisations on whom, if the President's view is correct, greatly increased public responsibilities will inevitably, and unavoidably fall.

Q.: How many flying saucer reports have been registered at the Bureau so far during 1953? (From A Supporter, Malvern, Victoria.)

A.: 1953 reports registered so far were, at the time of this issue was being prepared: 23 U.S., 19 Australian, and 14 from Other Countries. As reported last January, this year is expected to be a light year for reports, somewhat similar to 1949 and 1951 (when Mars was previously at its furthest from us).

INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

A little bird whispered recently that Silas Newton and his associate, Dr. Gee (of BEHIND THE FLYING SAUCERS fame), were released from Court in America, following last September's fraud charges brought about by San Francisco reporter, J. P. Cahn, and that they are suing several people. The same source reports that Cahn has now "gone into smoke."

* * *

The Columbia "State Daily," January 29, 1953, reported that a 1000-dollar reward for the capture of an undamaged flying saucer was proposed in the General Assembly the previous day by Representative Buck, of Horry County, S.C., a scene of many recent sightings of strange aerial objects. The resolution said that members of the General Assembly would NOT be eligible for the reward, and a preamble read as follows:—

"Citizens have been aroused and plagued by the presence of a certain type of ghostlike aircraft commonly known as a flying saucer, which has been sneakingly hovering over the State.

"Many individuals have claimed to have seen, and in some instances, have been attacked by these monstrosities, and have described them minutely, and have elaborated on their design in detail. The vast majority of the citizens of this State have doubted the authenticity of the presence of these monsters over the State. The General Assembly desires to remove all doubt and inconsistencies relating to this unusual and unconventional aircraft."

* * *

QUARTERLY REVIEW of THE CIVILIAN SAUCER INVESTIGATION of NEW ZEALAND, in its May, 1953 issue, recorded the following: "Our organisation is as-

sured by overseas probers that positive information establishes the saucers, and THEIR OCCUPANTS ('CAPS' ours) as very real. The proof will be released very soon."

* * *

On March 12 of this year, Lowell Thomas announced that astronomers at Mt. Palomar Observatory had spotted on a photographic plate, an asteroid in the Urs Minor constellation, which is plummeting in our general direction. The asteroid is reported to be travelling very fast, and its future path and destination will be interesting to watch.

* * *

The International Flying Saucer Bureau in Bridgeport, Connecticut, quotes Coe Gardner (world traveller, at present lecturing in the U.S. on flying saucers) as predicting on a tape recording in their possession that the "big blow up" regarding the entire subject will come this year.

Gardner advises bluntly in addition, that the U.S. Government not only knows more about them than what it is letting out to the public, but that it will let loose with the whole story, which will shock many by the revelation that we are being watched by people from another planet.

* * *

The Australian Flying Saucer Investigation Committee in Melbourne on June 1, 1953, announced that, after three months' study, it had formed the conclusion that "some so-called flying saucers are real objects, and are not caused by meteors, hallucinations, or any atmospheric freaks." (Currently, the Committee consists of 12 members, including two industrial chemists, an electronic engineer, a civil engineer, and five astronomers. Two are women.)

BACKSIGHTINGS

Sydney, N.S.W., Sept. 8, 1952

Mr. R. Lewis, a breadcarter, reported seeing a saucer hovering over a park at about 8.45 p.m. He said it gave off a bright, bluish-green light, and that it had another bright light on top of it.

It seemed to stop for a time, move on quickly, and then stop again. After five minutes in the Belmore district, it moved off, he said, in the direction of Parramatta.

Singapura, Malaya,
April 29, 1952

Many people saw a bright, cigar-shaped object streak swiftly across the sky. One witness, at Johore Bahru, 13 miles to the north, reported that it flew very high, and seemed to turn back for two minutes before vanishing over the southern horizon.

Pedestrians in Raffles Place held up traffic in order to watch the object puffing vapor across the sky. It disappeared after an extra large puff.

An Editor and two newsmen said that they had seen about 10 narrow, silvery lines of vapor trail. The R.A.F. said that no aircraft or balloons were up at the time.

Carrabin, W.A., March 8, 1951

A publican and four of his customers saw an object "glittering like a diamond, and about the size of a 1000-gallon tank" spinning and hovering in the one place in the sky. Mr. H. King, the publican, said it was above the horizon, and a good height from the ground.

The object hovered several minutes, and then shot upwards at terrific speed, until it vanished.

Mr. King said that he was "sure it was not a balloon."

Monterey, California,
April 10, 1950

A chromelike flying saucer was seen by seven people cruising at a high speed over the city. It appeared to be about 30ft. in diameter, and was at an altitude of approximately 4000ft.

Santiago, Chile, March 1, 1950

The head of a Chilean Base in Antarctica, Commander Augusto Vars Orrego, reported that several of the explorers under his command had seen and photographed several discs wheeling above the lonely station during the bright Arctic night. He said they were wheeling and turning, one above the other at tremendous speeds. The Commander discounted the possibility of their being "optical illusions," the pictures corroborated what was observed. Commander Orrego added that whether the photographs would be published or not depended on his superiors, as they were the property of the Chilean Navy.

Petersborough, England,
March 28, 1909

London "Daily Mail" reported that two days earlier, on the 23rd of March, two policemen stationed in different parts of the city of Petersborough, had reported sighting an object moving over the city "with sounds like that of a motor, and carrying a light," at 5.10 a.m.

On the 27th, a Petersborough newspaper published an interview with one constable, in which he described the objects as long, narrow in shape, and carrying a powerful light.

London "Daily Mail" on May 17, 1909, revealed that "many other stories of unaccountable objects and lights in the sky had reached the office," but these were not printed, because, the "Daily Mail" said, "everything that was mentioned in them was unsatisfactory." Reports came from various places in England and Wales, some being from places far apart.

On May 20, the "Daily Mail" suddenly reversed its tactics and reported that a Mr. Lithridge, of Cardiff had, on May 18, told the following to a Cardiff newspaper, that at about 11 p.m., while walking along a road close to the Caerphilly Mountains, Wales, he had seen, on the grass at the side of the road, a large, tube-shaped construction, in which were two men in heavy fur coats. When the

occupants saw Mr. Lithbridge, "they spoke excitedly to each other in a foreign language," he said, and "sailed away. Newspaper reporters rushed to the place described by Mr. Lithbridge and found a scattering of newspapers and other debris there.

London "Weekly Despatch" for May 23, 1909, discredited the reports, chiefly because at that time, no terrestrial "airship" was known to possess such powers of flight. It listed just the same, reports from 22 other places for the week up to the 23rd, and 19 reports earlier in May and in March.

On May 26, it was discovered that the lights had been reported

on the same night, from places 350 miles apart.

Marseilles, France,
August 1, 1871

A "magnificent red-colored globe" was seen slowly crossing the sky. It was very high up, and was visible for about 20 minutes. It was luminous, and changed its direction whilst being viewed. It appeared at 10.43 p.m., and after moving slowly to the east for approximately 10 minutes, it stopped, moved northwards, and in another 10 minutes was still again, but this time only for a brief period, after which it turned east and disappeared.

THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE FLYING SAUCER POSITION.

By Albert K. Bender, Director of
I.F.S.B. U.S.A.

(Written exclusively for the AUSTRALIAN FLYING SAUCER MAGAZINE)

Many persons to-day feel that they are the one and only authority on flying saucers, and that they have the solution to the whole matter. This is foolish, because getting down to bare facts, there is no one who definitely knows what they are, or why they are here.

Everyone can imagine, everyone can create a hoax, but solving the actual mystery is what we must all strive to do. When the Governments of the world show interest and spend money on investigations in regard to saucers, the seriousness of the whole thing is much graver than we can begin to realise. Therefore, the time to start worrying is not yet to come—it is already upon us, and although we are not yet losing any sleep over it we may very well be doing it soon.

Some choice names are used for those who believe in this strange phenomena, but who do the dis-

believers go to when something serious happens. Naturally, to you or me, who have some knowledge of the saucer problem.

Saucers have not just been seen since the 1947 Kenneth Arnold affair, they have been sighted for many years before that; and the objects have appeared in various shapes and sizes. It will be noted, too, that the objects reported lately have been not just disc-shaped, they have been cigar-shaped, oval, semi-circular, completely round.

Back in the early centuries these space visitors no doubt explored the surface of the Earth, but figured then, that we were primitive and could do no harm. But now things have changed. We are no longer in the primitive stage, science is progressing with leaps and bounds, some of the new discoveries being dangerous ones, such as the atom and hydrogen

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bombs, which if not properly handled could destroy not only the world we live on, but the universe as well.

For this reason, we are being more closely watched now. And people able to travel through space, from one planet to another, must certainly have weapons, beside which our 38's must look like water pistols.

Let the visitors come in Peace. They cannot bring any more suffering than we have experienced here on Earth; but they almost certainly can bring us cures for cancer, heart disease, etc. They can perhaps show us even ways of prolonging life, which is so dear to all of us. It may take a saucer people to show us how to live like human beings.

OUR NOVEMBER ISSUE

An Article written by the President, entitled IS COMMUNICATION POSSIBLE WITH SAUCERS NOW?

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