

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Vol. I, No. 1

April, 1971

AF ACADEMY TEACHES STUDENTS UFOs REAL

There is no evidence that UFOs are extraterrestrial. So the U.S. Air Force (AF) has been telling us for nearly a quarter of a century. Yet, the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado, has, for several years, been teaching its budding young officers just the opposite -- that UFOs are *probably* extraterrestrial probes.

Major Donald G. Carpenter, Academy instructor, wrote Chapter XXXIII of the Academy's Department of Physics textbook, *Introductory Space Science*, Volume II, entitled "Unidentified Flying Objects." Its contents leave no doubt as to its belief in the validity of many UFO reports and cadets are still being taught its contents more than two years after the negative conclusions of the Air Force-sponsored University of Colorado UFO Project report and more than a year following the demise of the AF Project Blue Book, the official organ that had investigated UFO reports for more than two decades.

"The most stimulating theory for us," its author proclaims, "is that UFOs are material objects which are either 'Manned' or remote-controlled by beings who are alien to this planet. There is some evidence supporting this viewpoint."

Modern reports cited as evidence include some of the most startling cases on record.

- August 21, 1955. Kelly, Kentucky. About 8 p.m. Witnesses heard dogs barking and saw a bright UFO land. Then they saw a three and one-half foot tall creature with a round head, long arms, webbed hands and claws, approach. Grabbing shotguns, the observers expended about 50 rounds of ammunition at this and other creatures. One was knocked down, but got up and ran away.

- July 24, 1957. Kouril Islands. Russian anti-aircraft batteries fired on luminous, fast-moving UFOs, but no hits were reported.

- November 4, 1957. Fort Itaipu, Brazil. A large object emitting a "humming sound" shot a heat ray at two sentries. One collapsed, the other roused the rest of the troops, who were in a state of panic. "Both sentries were found badly burned... one unconscious and the other incoherent, suffering from deep shock."

- September 19, 1961. Near Portsmouth, N.H. Betty and Barney Hill saw a huge UFO, then had a two-hour mental blackout. More than two years later, while undergoing hypnoanalysis, both related a remarkable, science fiction-like experience of being abducted on board a spacecraft and minutely examined by its occupants.

- April 24, 1964. Socorro, N.M. Police Officer Lonnie Zamora saw a UFO resting on four stilt-like legs in a gulley. Beside the craft was a white, small "figure." The UFO took off, leaving a burned out area and four holes in the ground. An intensive AF investigation caused the case to be listed as "unidentified" in AF files.

"UFOs are a global phenomenon which may have persisted for many thousands of years..." Major Carpenter wrote. "UFO sightings... appear to extend back 47,000 years through time... One has the feeling that this phenomenon deserves... valid scientific investigation..."

The evidence cited here, too, is astounding. From the ancient Indian Book of Dzyan: thousands of years ago, a group of extraterrestrial beings orbited the earth, landed and began to colonize. One faction settled in one city, the second

(Continued on Page 2)

*UFO Research Newsletter, Vol. I,
No. 1. Published monthly by UFO
Research Associates (UFOR), P.O.
Box 34252, Washington, D.C. 20034
Editor: Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.
Annual subscription rates: \$7.00
(U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$8.00
(foreign, surface rate); \$11.00
(foreign, air mail). Single
copies: \$.50 (U.S., Canada and
Mexico); \$.70 (foreign).*

EDITORIAL STATEMENT

The *UFO Research Newsletter* is a publication devoted to a scientifically-oriented concept of UFO sightings and information. Every attempt will be made to be as discerning as possible in regard to reporting of both. Unless a flap occurs -- and space permitting -- we will report all sightings that come to us, with qualifying statements in those cases involving possible misinterpretation of natural phenomena, aircraft, satellites, etc., in order to give our readers as complete a round-up as possible of sighting information.

UFO Research Associates (UFOR) does not accept the contactee (i.e., those who claim meetings with space people or rides in UFOs) claims, though it keeps an open mind and will investigate such reports. In the past, contactee stories have been woefully lacking in documentation and authentication and have been circulated by individuals whose respectability has been in question. We do not deny that contact may have occurred and this, certainly, would be the first step in solving the mystery of UFOs. In this regard, occupant (i.e., creatures, humanoid or otherwise, seen in connection with UFO sightings) reports will be carefully analyzed. Some of these reports bear closer scientific scrutiny and are generally more reliable than the contactee stories. We do not intend to automatically dismiss contactee reports. If anything, we will investigate them even more thoroughly than other groups of reports because of their oftentimes sensational nature. By ignoring such reports, we could, one day, run into a case of the boy who cried "wolf" and overlook a case of great potential importance.

We believe that, after years of professional dedication to the subject and investigations of thousands of reports, the most reasonable hypothesis is that the hard-core percentage of unexplained UFO reports represent extraterrestrial vehicles, though we retain an open mind to other possibilities.

This newsletter, when feasible and space permits, will also act as an open forum for scientists and others interested in submitting articles of reasonable length to us. However, they may be subjected to rejection or editorial revision, as we intend to maintain as high a journalistic standard as possible. Opposing views will also be aired when they meet our standards.

Academy Textbook (Continued from Page 1)

in another and, soon, an incredible aerial war was launched between the two, which destroyed one city, horribly burning its occupants and causing an ecological disaster.

Other reports: (a) a University of Peking professor discovered granite carvings on a Hunan Province mountain and a Lake Tungting island reputed to be 47,000 years old that showed "people with large trunks" (here Major Carpenter suggests that the trunks could be breathing apparatus, obviously of space people); (b) the rope of a "demonship" was caught on a church spire in Ireland about 956 A.D. and its occupant attempted to free it; the townspeople seized him, but the bishop released him; (c) three men and a woman from "an airship or spaceship" were killed by a mob for being wizards in 10th Century France; (d) a respected farmer and former state legislator saw a huge airship with occupants that lassoed his cow at Yates Center, Kansas, on April 21, 1897 (see the editor's book *Mysteries of the Skies; UFOs in Perspective* (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1968)

for a detailed account of this incident); and (e) the highly publicized meteorite that struck the Siberian countryside in 1908 was possibly "an alien spacecraft that entered the atmosphere too rapidly, suffered mechanical failure, and lost its power supply and/or weapons in a nuclear explosion."

The textbook also states that "very few people" accept the Russian/American secret weapons theory and it is "quite doubtful" that UFOs are entirely psychological aberrations or that the unknown sightings could be due to "known and unknown natural phenomena."

"This leaves us with the unpleasant possibility of alien visitors to our planet, or at least of alien controlled UFOs...," Carpenter states in a startling conclusion. *"We should not deny the possibility of alien control of UFOs on the basis of preconceived notions not established as related or relevant to the UFOs."* (Italics original).

Perhaps even more startling are some of Major Carpenter's comments concerning a scientific look at the subject, particularly in view of the fact that the textbook was published many months after the November, 1966, starting date of the University of Colorado UFO Project.

"It is obvious that intensive scientific study is needed in [the UFO] area," the Academy instructor stated. "No such study has yet been undertaken at the necessary levels of intensity and support... A solution to the UFO problem may be obtained by the long and diligent effort of a large group of well-financed and competent scientists, unfortunately there is no evidence suggesting that such an effort is going to be made... [Editor's italics]. The best thing to do is to keep an open mind, and not take an extreme position on any side of the question."

SECRET RAND UFO DOCUMENT

A secret, in-house document from the Rand Corporation states that UFOs are real and are "a class of phenomena rather widely occurring today (and perhaps since earliest times) that is elusive, puzzling and often at variance with known scientific and technical experience."

Rand is supported mainly by Air Force contracts and, like its benefactor, one would not expect from it a highly positive statement on UFOs in the form of a publication. Rand Document No. 18154-PR was published on 27 November 1968 (after the University of Colorado UFO Project had finished its investigations and was working on the final writing-editing of its mammoth report) and is entitled "UFOs: What to Do?" Its author is George Kocher and the front page is stamped "For Rand Use Only; Do Not Quote or Cite in External Rand Publications or Correspondence."

Part I delves on the historical aspects of the phenomenon. After acknowledging that there "exists a great amount of misinformation" about UFOs in the public mind, Mr. Kocher covers in some detail the "miracle" at Fatima, Portugal, described by many scholars as an excellent sighting.

For six months in 1917 people were seeing UFOs. The big day was October 13. There were about 70,000 witnesses, "including a number of scientists, reporters, atheists, and agnostics, as well as faithful Catholics." Dr. A. Garrett, of the University of Coimbra, was an observer.

A rain storm had just ended and the crowd saw the "sun" through the clouds.

"I turned toward this [sun]... and I could see it like a disk with a clear cut edge, with a vivid rim, luminous and shining..." Dr. Garrett wrote. "It looked like a burnished wheel cut out of mother-of-pearl... [It] spun dizzily around... The sun... detached itself from the firmament and advanced, blood-red, towards the earth, threatening to crush us with the weight of its vast and fiery mass. These moments made a terrifying impression."

Robertson Panel Report

The author covers the beginning of the modern "flying saucer" era with the famous sighting by Kenneth Arnold over Mt. Rainier, Washington, on June 24, 1947, and the Robertson Panel report of January, 1953, in which the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) recommended that the Air Force negate UFO reports for what sounded like the implausible reason of national security.

"It was the CIA's recommendation, apparently, that was made policy," Kocher stated, "for the investigative procedures used since 1953 have been vestigial and the handling of the subject by the authorities tended to make witnesses look ridiculous. In spite of the unfavorable publicity accorded witnesses, reports persisted..."

The author concluded Part I by stating that "it is hoped that enough scientists will acquaint themselves with the subject so that progress can finally be made."

Kocher believes that "the historical aspects suggest an extraterrestrial explanation to UFOs" and that certain galactic considerations make it probable that we are subjects of extraterrestrial probes. A common negative reaction, however, is that, at least outside our own solar system, the nearest stars and planets are light years from us, thereby making it impossible for aliens to reach us. Kocher responds that this is a "shortsighted" view. What progress will we have made in the next 500, 1,000, one million or even one billion years?

"I suggest that if a way to circumvent the speed of light restriction is possible," Kocher explains, "it has already been found by someone in our galaxy... If it has been discovered..., we certainly would expect it to be used... Thus we may conclude that it is very likely that at least one, and probably many of the 100 million advanced planetary populations is capable of interstellar travel... Have any of them been here?... It appears that... UFO reports may contain, as a subset, actual observations of such craft."

Impressive Sighting Reports

The Rand author lists some impressive cases as back-up.

- June 1947. Tucson, Arizona. Shortly before noon. Witnesses saw nine erratic-moving discs darting in and out of a cloud, then disappear. Another UFO "three or four times as large as the little objects" emerged from the cloud followed by the others. All formed a V-formation and, with a sudden burst of speed, disappeared to the northeast.

- April 24, 1962. Springfield, Pa. About 7:45 p.m. A retired Lt. Col., his wife and others saw a circular UFO as big as a house pass over at about 50 feet altitude. A dome on top gave off "flashes of green light." There were "shafts of white light... directed downward from the base." About 25 minutes later it was seen executing a sharp 90-degree turn.

- July 4, 1967. Corning, Calif. About 5:15 a.m. Police officers saw a disc "with a bright light shining upwards" moving slowly. It was 50-100 feet in diameter and 15-20 feet wide. The UFO suddenly sped away to the south.

It is sightings like these, Kocher wrote, that caused him "to take the subject so seriously... It is hoped that the scientific and intellectual climate will change to the point where witnesses, particularly those having the best qualifications, can feel free to report sightings and know that they are being taken seriously."

Kocher offers the following for better investigative and reporting procedures:

- (a) establishment of "a central report receiving agency" manned by scientifically trained investigators;
- (b) the agency would be immediately accessible to investigate the reported sightings;
- (c) a network of scientists should be established to investigate sightings in their local areas;
- (d) to persuade "hidden" witnesses to

make themselves known, "the press should be encouraged to report sightings accurately and in a nonsensational manner"; and (e) "existing sensor records could be examined for anomalies, particularly if visual reports are made nearby."

"After a few years' operation in this mode," the Rand document stated, "it should be possible to study the resulting report statistics to draw generalities about appearance and behavior... and most importantly to anticipate times and locations of appearances [of UFOs]." (Italics original).

Kocher concluded that the UFO subject "would be much more convincing if data could be collected worldwide and if the most interesting reports could be intensively and completely investigated. I believe current reports justify the expanded data collection and analysis effort."

AIAA HITS CONDON REPORT

"We find it difficult to ignore the small residue of well-documented but unexplainable cases which form the hard core of the UFO controversy [italics original]," announced the UFO Subcommittee of the prestigious American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics (AIAA) in the November 1970 issue of the *AIAA Journal*. The AIAA also criticized the conclusions of the University of Colorado UFO Project (Condon) report.

The AIAA UFO Subcommittee was organized in 1967 for an in-depth probe of the UFO problem. NICAP and scientists supplied them with information and assistance. Its chairman is Dr. Joachim P. Kuettner, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Research Laboratories. Other members include scientists from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Martin-Marietta, Hughes Aircraft, Georgia Institute of Technology, McDonnell Douglas Missile and Space Systems, U.S. Army Electronics Command, Meteorology Research, Inc., and TRW Systems.

Of the Condon Report, the Subcommittee said, "It is not enough to read summaries, such as those by... Condon, or summaries of summaries, on which the vast majority of readers and news media seem to rely. There are differences in the opinions and conclusions drawn by the authors of the various chapters, and there are differences between these and Condon's summary... The UFO Subcommittee did not find a basis in the report for [Condon's] prediction that nothing of scientific value will come of further studies... There is little doubt that the short-time, one-shot approach of an *ad hoc* team is neither promising nor economical. This is especially true if the study team decides -- as the University of Colorado group did -- to concentrate on current rather than past observations. As the UFO statistics show, this results in the devotion of precious time to investigating the noise, rather than the signal."

The Subcommittee also questioned Condon's statement that no alien life "has any possibility of visiting Earth in the next 10,000 years." "When does one start counting?" it asked. Nor, it felt, did the Condon Committee make a serious attempt to discover "common attributes" in UFO reports.

"The Subcommittee also strongly feels that, from a scientific and engineering standpoint, it is unacceptable to simply ignore substantial numbers of unexplained observations and to close the book about them on the basis of premature conclusions," the scientific group remarked.

The AIAA scientists said they will publish further information in AIAA journals.

PULSAR STAR DISCOVERED

A new pulsar star discovered by NASA Explorer 42 satellite is "so different from most other pulsars that scientists are rethinking their ideas about what these mysterious stars are and how they came to be formed," stated the April 1, 1971, edition of *The Washington Post*. The star, estimated to be 10,000 years old, is sending vast "amounts of X-rays into space on each turn."

POWER BLACK-OUT AMONG SIGHTING REPORTS

UFOs that apparently caused a power black-out; took off from a field and passed very near a car at a speed of "at least 200 miles an hour" and "lit up the road"; lit up the ground with large searchlights; and "skipped across the top of... trees" were reported from four states during the last 10 months. Witnesses include a former radar engineer, banker and company president; a radio station general manager and engineer; a minister and a school principal.

At 10:30 p.m., June 24, 1970, a large, bright, orange object followed by "a smaller, twinkling light," was seen by four West Virginians near the small town of Hinton. It had four large searchlights, according to the October 4, 1970, edition of *The National Inquirer*.

"It looked to me as if the 'thing' was searching for a place to land as it lit up the ground for several hundred feet in every direction," said James V. Coste, former radar engineer for the U.S. Marine Air Corps during World War II, a banker and president of the Hinton Television Cable Company, who saw the object with his wife.

When the UFO disappeared, "it really left in a hurry."

"I can't tell you what it was we saw that dark night," stated Oliver Porterfield, a school principal whose wife was the fourth witness. "But I am convinced that we saw something very, very real -- something I will never forget."

Radio Station Personnel See UFO

A series of sightings in and around Middletown, Ohio, were reported by employees of WPFB Radio in September, 1970.

During the evening of September 1, Leon Turner, an engineer for the radio station, received a call from a youth who said he saw "strange lights near the station transmitter," stated the March 3, 1971, edition of *The Dayton News*. Turner then called Noah Gross, a minister who lives near the tower, and asked him to investigate. Gross and his family went outside.

"There's something right above the trees, hovering," Gross, who has his own show at the station, called back. "There's a red and green pulsating light, and like fire falling from the sky."

Upon leaving work, Turner decided to investigate himself. Near daylight, he saw the multi-colored object as "it skipped across the top of the trees at a high rate of speed."

The witness said he has seen the same or a similar object several times since.

Bill Hart, WPFB general manager, and his wife stated that they saw a red and green UFO one evening.

Power Black-Out After Object Sighted

Residents of Mt. Greylock, Raynham and Williamstown, Massachusetts, reported seeing UFOs in October and November, 1970. But the main sighting occurred at Williamstown at about 10 p.m. in November.

Two objects were seen. One had orange-red lights and a rotating white light in the center. Less than one-half hour later the nearby towns of Lee, Lenox and Pittsfield had an electrical power black-out.

The explanation: "an unexplained 'power-drain' or abrupt electrical power demand at a sub-station far exceeded its capacity and the 'tap-in' blew the circuits," stated Williamstown resident, Reginal E. Carles, in the March 3, 1971, edition of the Holyoke, Mass., *Transcript-Telegram*.

There have been a few reliable cases of whole towns being blacked out by UFOs. A Coast Guardsman told The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

(NICAP) that he and his shipmates watched the town of Freeport, Texas, black out for two minutes as a blue UFO passed over on the evening of March 19, 1966. There has been some speculation that the great Northeast power failure of November 9, 1965, was caused by UFOs, but, except for a few scattered sightings at the time of the black-out, there is no concrete evidence that this was the case. There are numerous reliable cases of UFOs apparently causing house and automobile and truck lights to go out, however.

UFO Overtakes Car

At about 4 a.m. in February, 1971, an unidentified witness was starting his car to head for a cow-milking chore in Buhl, Idaho, when he saw an "elongated, slightly flattened, egg-shaped object" rise from a pasture at a 45-degree angle, stated the February 10, 1971, edition of the Twin Falls, Idaho, *Times-News*. Both ends of the UFO were lit up.

The UFO disappeared and the motorist headed toward Buhl. Then he saw an object "with one oversized headlight" that lit up the road follow and overtake his automobile "doing at least 200 miles an hour and so close I thought it would hit me."

The frightened witness climbed Clear Lakes grade and saw it again. The UFO, about 20-30 feet long and 15 feet tall, passed over the car at tree-top height and disappeared.

These sightings and those listed in the "Sighting Capsules" section below are being investigated and further information, if any, will be reported in future issues.

SIGHTING CAPSULES

The following sightings have also come to UFOR's attention:

• February 1, 1971. Delia, Kansas. About 8:30 p.m. Fred Lundin. An object exploded, emitting a red light as it did so, and crashed near the witness' home. It "burned for several minutes, with a flame about 18 inches high leaping from it," stated the February 5, 1971, edition of the Topeka, Kansas, *Journal*. The next day metallic fragments were found and turned over to Sheriff Don Collins at Holton. A call to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in Houston, Texas, "dumped cold water" on the theory that it was part of the space capsule. A NASA official said that "the first two stages of the rocket fell into the Atlantic down-range, and the third stage hit the moon. Anything that might have dropped off in space would still be floating in space."

• February 3-6, 1971. Horseshoe Bend, Idaho. Evening. Mrs. Joan Adams and others. Witnesses saw "very large and bright" objects with "flashing red, blue and clear lights" that emitted light rays, according to the February 9, 1971, edition of the Boise, Idaho, *Statesman*. Mrs. Adams said that one object "went straight up into the sky until we couldn't see it, then came back down and got larger, then would disappear again. It had a continually flashing light." At one time, Mr. Adams saw a round object with a "red light at the bottom, with blue, green and white lights flashing around its circumference." Possible explanation: Planetary illusions.

• February 16, 1971. Malott, Washington. About 10:30 p.m. Company foreman Neil Yarnell and daughter. Witnesses saw a disc with one steady and one flashing light fly over Soap Lake Mountain, said the February 18, 1971, edition of the Wenatchee, Washington, *World*. Duration: six minutes.

McDONALD, THE SST -- AND UFOs (An Editorial Comment)

UFOR has received numerous clippings from around the country in regard to the relation between Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist at the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, the SST hearing and UFOs. An underlying tone seems to imply that Dr. McDonald is not a credible witness because of his scrutiny of the UFO problem. Some papers even stated that McDonald said that the 1965 Northeast black-out was caused by UFOs. We wish to set the record straight.

We have known Dr. McDonald for a number of years and have no doubt that he is a careful, conscientious scientist who does not make statements he cannot back up. And, to our knowledge, he has *never* stated that UFOs caused the Northeast black-out. He has said, however, that he keeps an open mind to this possibility, which is something quite different.

In early March, the Arizona physicist appeared before the House Appropriations Subcommittee to argue against funds for the controversial SST. Besides the general air pollution problem, he said, the SST could cause an increase in ultraviolet rays reaching the earth, possibly causing skin cancer. Rep. Silvio Conte (R-Mass.) then threw an irrelevant monkey wrench into the hearing by asking McDonald if he was the same professor who believed in flying saucers. McDonald replied, in effect, that "belief" was not the question, but a serious scientific study was. Unfortunately, the press made an unnecessary -- and, at times, inaccurate -- play of this.

"In Washington" columnist Ralph de Toledano: "Dr. McDonald had... warned that New York's power failures were being caused by UFOs..."

The Hagerstown, Md., *Herald*, March 5, 1971: "A man can be known by the enemies he makes. So can an idea... Last year [sic; these hearings were held on July 29, 1968] McDonald, in testimony before a Congressional panel, advanced the theory that unidentified flying objects could have been responsible for the massive power black-out in New York in 1965."

The Dothan, Alabama, *Eagle*, March 17, 1971: "There is, indeed, such a thing as losing a sale because of talking too much... According to *National Review*..., 'Dr. McDonald also stated that he suspected New York's power failures were related to unidentified flying objects shooting in from outer space.' [A] conclusion is that expert witnesses become less expert as they talk away."

Such implications as derived from these and other editorials can only serve to hurt both the anti-SST and pro-UFO causes. We believe, like McDonald, that funds should not be appropriated for the SST not only for the reasons McDonald cited but also because the tremendous amount of money necessary for its development could well be spent in other more pressing problem areas. We also believe that money should be spent on further investigations of UFOs because of their tremendous potential importance.

"As I repeatedly stressed to Rep. Conte," Dr. McDonald stated in the March 4, 1971, edition of the Tucson, Arizona, *Star*, "there is no relationship of any sort between UFOs and SSTs. Consequently, it was rather annoying to have such irrelevancies brought into that hearing."

Unfortunately, there still appears to be a feeling among a segment of the public and the news media that a scientist who is pro-UFO is anti-science. This makes it doubly difficult for conscientious, careful scientists like McDonald to get their ideas across. We suggest that, if those who are quick to condemn would take a hard look at the UFO subject, they might come away with a different, more objective perspective.

Vol. I, No. 2, of the *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing by May 15. Planned stories for this issue: (a) never before published, first-hand information on the famous Godman AFB, Kentucky, case of January 7, 1948, in which Air Force Captain Thomas Mantell was killed while chasing a UFO; and (b) a report on a UFOs and status inconsistency article in *Science* magazine.