

***The Fifth Horseman
of the Apocalypse***

***UFOs: A History
1957
November 3rd-5th***

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE
UFOS: A HISTORY

1957: NOVEMBER 3rd - 5th

by

Loren E. Gross

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"UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse."

- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

DEDICATION

This history series is dedicated to the memory of Francis R. "Dick" Scobee of Cle Elum, Washington, Mission Commander of the space shuttle Challenger and a "shirt tail" relative on my Mother's side of the family.

WANTED:

Any material related to the summer 1947 flying saucer wave.

Contact:

Project 1947
Box 391
Canterbury CT
06331

Acknowledgements:

I would like to thank pioneer UFOlogist Vincent Gaddis for the gift of his collection of UFO newspaper clippings covering the early years of the UFO mystery, as well as George Earley who took the time and the trouble to copy considerable material for my use from his UFO files, and Stanton Friedman, who was equally helpful by permitting access to his extensive library dealing with aerial phenomena. Furthermore, Lucius Farish has provided some vital items, good advice, and strong encouragement. Similarly, Dr. Richard Haines gave a lot of help, as did Lawrence Fawcett.

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Ander Liljegren's Arkivet for UFO Forskning in Norrköping, Sweden, is one of the world's best sources of UFO information and is highly recommended to anyone seriously considering research into the UFO mystery.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Barry J. Greenwood who provided so much material from his vast UFO collection, a collection which must equal or even exceed that of any major UFO organization.

Paul Cerny, active for more than 40 years in NICAP and MUFON, gave me a great variety of UFO material from his records.

Another big help was the UFO collection of Les Teece-Sinclair, of Elk Grove, California, which contained a number of rare items.

Considerable assistance was given by the Center For UFO Studies (CUFOS) which has a huge archive which includes the records and sighting reports of the defunct National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), and the critical "Ruppelt Papers."

Another source, of extreme importance, was the voluminous UFO research files of Dr. James McDonald at the Special Collections Division, University of Tucson.

Robert J. Gribble of Seattle, Washington, has some beautifully organized files. Fortunately he subscribed to the Luce Press Clipping Bureau in the 1950s.

Due to the efforts of the Library of Congress, the scrapbooks of Leon Davidson were put on microfilm and made available to the public.

It is suggested that anyone interested in UFOs pay a visit to the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library, Clarksburg, West Virginia. The papers of the late Gray Baker are available for inspection there.

Other names I should mention include Roderick B. Dyke, the editor of the U.F.O.R.C. Journal which evolved into the present day UFO Newsclipping Service, Dr. Willy Smith, Richard Hall, Karl T. Plock, Dominique Weinstein, and Dr. Michael Swords.

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UFOS A HISTORY

1957

NOVEMBER 3RD-5TH

3 November. Levelland, Texas. Just after midnight.

"I've just seen the darnedest thing."

The phone rang again. Officer Fowler lifted the receiver and heard a shaky voice on the other end of the line. A press report tells the story:

"'I've just seen the darnedest thing in a field I've ever seen.
It'll cut your lights out and stop your motor.'

"The Thing, said [Jose] Alvarez, was circling a cotton field, just above the ground, four miles east of here [Levelland], near the Lubbock highway...[and] on one of the circles, the Thing's light went out. It just disappeared." (1.)

When the "Thing" disappeared, electric power returned to the witnesses' car. The headlight functioned normally and the engine came alive. Able to move, Alvarez drove to the nearest telephone. (2.)

Fowler remembered: "He, [Alvarez] was so excited that when I asked what his address was he just hung up the phone." (3.)

Fowler convinced.

Officer Fowler was now convinced the situation called for an investigation. He had mobile units searching all the roads leading in and out of Levelland. He also notified Hockley County Sheriff Weir Clem and the Texas Highway Patrol. All that was hardly done when the phone jangled again on Fowler's desk. Another newspaper account tells us what transpired:

"...a man who identified himself as Jim Wheeler called and said he drove up on the Whatnik at the intersection of Highway 51 and a farm road eight miles north of here [Levelland].

"'It was just sitting there, all lit up,' he said.

"'I've never seen anything like it at all. You get close to it and it shuts your lights off and kills your motor.'

"He said it looked like it was 'lit up with neon lights.'

"The Thing's light was so brilliant no one could pick out any detail, like doors or windows.

"Wheeler said he started to get out of his car. When he did, Whatnik rose abruptly. At a height of about 200 feet, its lights went off. His car lights went back on.

"'It was so bright it lighted up the whole area,' he said.
(4.)

The press account continues:

"People elsewhere began seeing Whatnik in the sky.

"'I was answering the phone as fast as I could pick it up,' said Fowler.

"A sheriff unit, stationed at Anton, picked up the Thing in the sky east of Whitharral.

"Then Frank D. Williams of Kermit ran across Whatnik four miles north of town.

"He called from a pay booth, explaining it was sitting at the

intersection of the highway and a dirt road.

"Its light was going off and on," he said. Every time it came on, his car lights and motor would go off.

"He got out of his car, then the Thing rose swiftly to about 200 feet. Its lights went out and it disappeared. 'When it took off,' he said, like the others,' it sounded like thunder.

"Several people who sighted it in the air said its lights would blink off and on like a sign." (5.)

Officer Fowler told the press later: "...reports poured in from startled residents...[and that] at least 15 persons told of getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be flashes of light." (6.) Apparently some reports were unrecorded. For example, Donald Keyhoe mentions two names without providing details, a 'Wallace Scott and a Milton Namkin.' (7.) Also, UFO researcher Bob Gribble has come up with another name: Marion Smith. A search of the press uncovered his account. (See clipping)

3 November. About 13 miles east of Levelland.
(12:05 a.m.)*

A person who did not phone officer Fowler was a 19-year-old Texas Tech freshman Newell Wright who hesitated to tell anyone because he didn't want people to think he was crazy. Wright's encounter took place at 12:05 a.m. near the town of Smyer while he was driving toward Levelland. He knew something was odd:

"...when his amp meter jumped to complete discharge, then back to normal. He said the car engine quit 'as if it were out of gas,' and rolled to a stop and the lights went out.

Wright said he got out and examined under the hood of his car to check the motor, but could find nothing wrong.

"Then he turned around and saw the object in front of him, apparently in the road.

"He said it looked 'like an egg, only it was flat on the bottom.'

"Wright said he 'definitely saw a image, 'not just a light, but there were no port-holes, signs of propellers on the object, which he described as not as 'bright as neon.'

"Wright said he was 'scared' and got back in the car as fast as he could, then tried to start his car. The starter made contact but wouldn't turn the motor. (8.)

Viewed it 5 minutes:

"Wright said he sat there on the highway for what he thought was minutes watching the motionless, egg-shaped object.

"It looked about 75 feet long, but I don't know how close I was to it.'

What Is It? ...

Farmingtonian Observes Object

A Farmington mechanic today told how he was one of several motorists who saw a mysterious "big hunk of metal" turn into a ball of fire and disappear into the sky off a West Texas highway Saturday night.

Marion Smith, 46, who works at the Farmington Motor Co., said today the strange object he saw about 600 yards off the highway about nine miles north of Levelland, Tex., "was bound to have had humans in it."

Smith described the object as about 200 feet long and shaped like a dirigible. He said him and about a dozen other motorists' cars "just quit" on the highway as he was passing the "thing."

"It was gun metal color but when it took off it turned into a ball of fire and went so fast I couldn't tell which direction it went," Smith said.

He said his car started as soon as the object disappeared.

"Some of us went over where it had rested and could feel the ground was warm. There was a smell of gasoline or ozone in the area," he said.

Asked his opinion on the origin of the object, Smith said. "I don't know, but I can tell you one thing. There was bound to be humans in it."

FARMINGTON, N. MEX., TIMES

Circ. D. 3,849

NOV 6 1957

"'It wasn't brightly colored,' Wright continued. 'It was white with a little greenish tint, but that might have been caused by the windshield (which is tinted green)...[and seemed] to be made of an aluminum-like material.'" (9.)

Moreover:

"...he watched the object rise from the ground until it rose above the line of his windshield.

"...by the time he moved to where he could look higher into the sky through the windshield, the object was gone.

"'It could have been hidden by clouds because the night was overcast, the 19-year-old stated.'" (10.)

Quick departure:

"He said the object left the ground 'almost straight up,' veering slightly to the north and disappeared from view in a split instant.

"After it was gone, the car started normally, and he drove on ahead slowly seeing no signs of where the object had been on the highway." (11.)

3 November. Ronald Martin. About 5 miles west of Levelland. (12:45 a.m.)

An 18-year-old truck driver named Ronald Martin who lived at the Padgett Hotel in Levelland, was on State Highway 116, travelling toward town at about 12:45 a.m. when he saw a "big ball of fire" hovering in the sky approximately a mile and a half ahead of him. The thing dropped down and landed on the road some 300 to 400 yards away. The thing was a round-shaped fire ball that turned a bluish-green color as it settled to earth. Martin noticed that the thing was as wide as the paved portion of the roadway, and the glow from it so bright it lit up his truck cab.

At this time the truck's engine quit and the headlights went out. Martin said later: "I guess I sat there in the truck about 15 minutes too astounded to move." (12.)

The "thing" then changed back to its original color and took off straight up. The truck's headlights came back on and to Martin's amazement the truck's engine restarted by itself! Martin later related his feelings to the press: "One thing I can't understand is how it could stop that combustion engine and then start it again when it took off." (13.)

3 November. Grain combines. About 10 miles northwest of Levelland. (Time ?)

There was a fragmentary report that came in later that mentioned: "...a pair of grain combines, northwest of Levelland [about 10 miles], which were temporarily put out of action when an object flew past." (14.)

3 November. Sheriff Weir Clem. About two miles northwest of Levelland. (about 1:00 a.m.)

Numerous lawmen were now on patrol on the roads around Levelland trying to track down the mystery object. Sheriff Clem and his deputy were in one such car. Sheriff Clem recalled: "The moon was very bright. There were a few, thin, wispy clouds in the sky, but not enough to obscure the moon." (15.)

Sheriff Clem and deputy Pat McCullough were about two miles northwest of Levelland at about 1:00 a.m. when something a brilliant red lit up the pavement in front of them for about two seconds. (16.) Sheriff Clem mentions a beam

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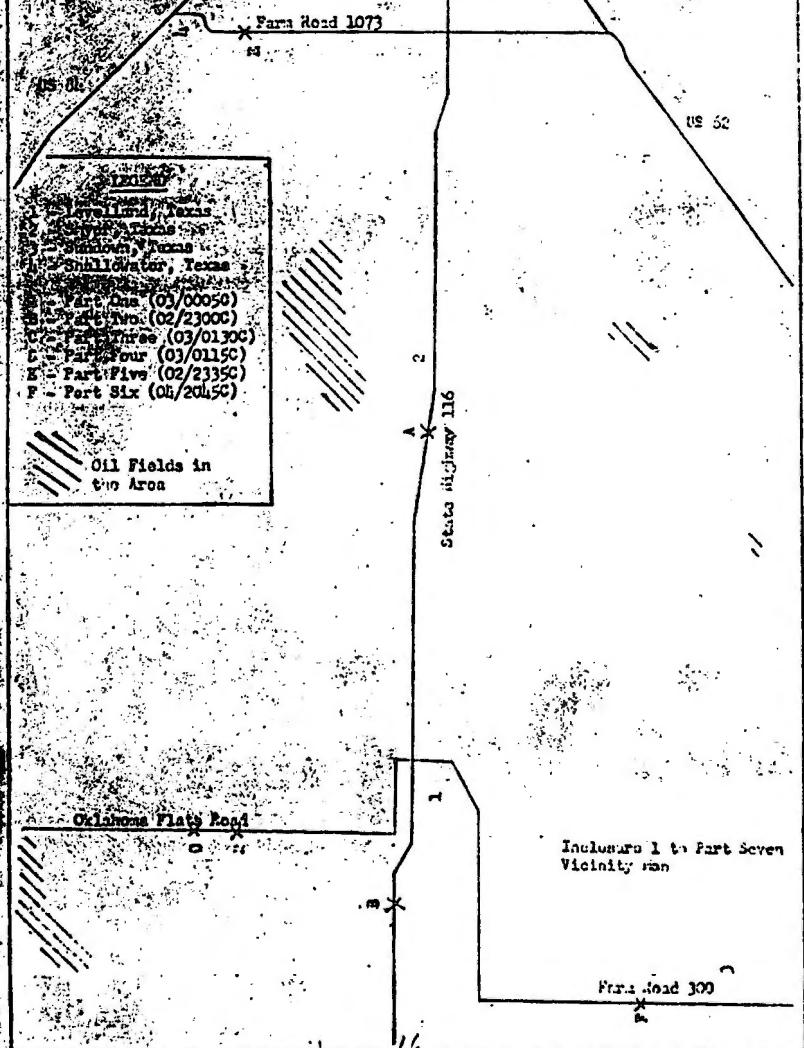
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM: 1006th AISS
TO: AFIS Colorado

PART NO:
AIISS-UFOB-385-57

Part Seven
Page 18 of 19



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of light:

"He described the bright beam as about six feet high, 50 yards wide and 350 to 400 yards long.

"He said he was three to four hundred yards from it.

"'It was there and gone like that,' the Sheriff said, snapping his fingers." (17.)

For the rest of his life Sheriff Clem believed he had seen some sort of object. He didn't say much more about his sighting until after his retirement in 1975 when he said: "The object was shaped like a huge football and had bright white lights. The blinding lights flashed on, it went right over the car and was gone. No living human could believe how fast it traveled. The Thing was as bright as day; it lit up the whole area." (18.)

In the same area at the same time were Highway Patrolmen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavia. They saw strange flashes in the sky at the time Sheriff Clem had his sighting. (19.)

3 November. Fire Marshal Roy Jones. North of Levelland. (about 1:00 a.m.)

Some indication of how much excitement was being caused was the fact that even Levelland's Fire Marshal, Ray Jones, was taking part in the UFO hunt. As it happened, Jones was driving somewhere just north of town when, inexplicably, the lights on his vehicle dimmed. His engine also acted up, almost stopping. At the same moment a streak of light was visible. (20.) This testimony is consistent with the idea that the Fire Marshal came near the "Thing," but not close enough to see it well, and at the same time not close enough to receive the full effect of whatever power was being generated by the UFO. This would go against the "nervous foot" theory to explain the trouble experienced by the drivers involved in this series of encounters.

3 November. James D. Long. West of Levelland about 5 miles. (1:15 a.m.)

A black Waco truck driver named James D. Long was driving about 5 miles west of Levelland at about 1:15 a.m. on the Oklahoma Flats farm-to-market road. He had just left Levelland on a run to a destination east of town. As his truck rolled along, something up ahead caught his eye. It seems "something" was sitting in the middle of the road, and here is an important point: Long said the "Thing's" lights were off. He was approaching a dark body. The object remained dark until the truck approached within 200 feet at which point the "Thing's" lights went on. (21.)

The "Thing," Long told the press, was about 200 feet long, oval-shaped, and glowed like a neon sign. The same moment the UFO lit up, Long's truck stopped because the vehicle's engine quit. Simultaneously the headlights went out.

Long bailed out of the truck and started to walk toward the big object that was blocking his way. Suddenly the UFO took off straight up, making a roaring sound as it shot heavenward. For some reason Long lost consciousness for a moment but he quickly regained his senses. Apparently the UFO was moving slowly, or had stopped, because when Long looked at it again, it wasn't that far away, perhaps some 200 feet in the air. At that point the UFO's lights went out. All this was too much for Mr. Long. He jumped back into his truck and tried to get it started. The engine acted normally when Long turned the key in the ignition. Now that the UFO was some distance away, its effect on the truck, if that was the case, was weaken. Without waiting for any further developments, Long raced back to Levelland to notify authorities. (22.)

3 November: Plainview, Texas. (2:00 a.m.)

"Sounded like a big wind."

The town of Plainview is some 50 miles northwest of Levelland. Perhaps what happened at Plainview Sunday morning has a connection with the "thing" reported at Levelland. In any case, the last sighting at Levelland was at 1:15 a.m. After that the object was not reported again. If it left, where did it go? Did it pass over Plainview? (See clipping)

Mystery Object Seen By Seth Ward Women

PLAINVIEW, TEX. HERALD

Circ. D. 6,863 S. 6,863

NOV 5 1957

Apparently Plainview was also briefly visited by the strange fiery object which has been skipping around the country during the past three days.

Mrs. Grady Fennell, 2619 College, in Seth Ward, says a brilliant light filled their bedroom about 2 a.m. Sunday — near the time the phenomenon was sighted near Levelland.

Mrs. Fennell said that she first heard something which "sounded like a big wind," and thought it was a car going by. Then the entire bedroom lit up.

By the time Mrs. Fennell reached the window, all she could see was "a big flash of light" which appeared to the northwest.

Naturally, Mrs. Fennell hadn't heard about the Levelland sightings at the time.

Incidentally, her husband dreamed about visitors coming down from Mars Saturday night.

Newsman Troy Morris

Word had reached the news room of The Levelland Sun-News where Troy Morris of the editorial staff was working the night shift. Curious about all the excitement Morris got in his car and drove out to the network of roads that surrounded Levelland. He spotted no mysterious objects but he did note that the sky was either clear, or nearly clear, which was important when time came to explain the "Thing." (23.)

Confusion spreads:

"Some of the police dispatchers in the neighboring towns had been monitoring Fowler's broadcasts early in the Whatnik search.

"'Levelland,' one would call gleefully, 'has something it can't catch and don't know what it is.'

"Finally, though when Fowler called for reserving the air for emergency messages only, the kidding ceased. Before the night was over, everyone involved was serious.

"Fourteen cars from Levelland, Hockley County, the state highway patrol and neighboring towns were on the prowl." (24.)

Now that the roads ringing Levelland were filled with police, the UFO failed to make any further appearances.

The scene now shifts to a remote area in New Mexico, a place about 200 miles to the southwest.

3 November. White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico. (about 3 a.m.)

The next incident involved a military police motor patrol consisting of two soldiers Cpl. Glenn H. Toy and Pfc. James E. Wilbanks.

The two men were making their rounds in their jeep when they had an "experience." Cpl. Toy reported to the Sergeant of the Guard:

"At about 0230-0300 Sunday morning I, and Pfc. Wilbanks were on patrol in the Range Area when we noticed a very bright object high in the sky. We were proceeding north toward South Gate and the object kept coming down toward the ground. The object stopped approximately 50 yards from the ground and went out and nothing could be seen. A few minutes later the object became real bright (like the sun) and then fell in an angle to the ground and went out. The object was approximately 75 to 100 yards in diameter and shaped like an egg. The object landed by the bunker area approximately 3 miles from us. The object was not seen again." (25.)

3 November. Levelland, Texas. (early morning)

By listening in to police radio conversations authorities at Reece AFB determined that no crashed aircraft was causing the excitement. Instead, the uproar concerned UFO activity, but that fact still incurred the interest of officials at the airbase. Provost Marshal Maj. Daniel R. Kester was sent to Levelland to cooperate with local civilian law enforcement agencies. Maj. Kester arrived on the scene shortly after the last UFO report was made. He questioned those witnesses then available and visited the encounter sites just outside of town. Only some basic information was gathered. The amount was much less than the amount of information that appeared in the newspapers the following day. A brief preliminary official military report was immediately forwarded to higher headquarters.

There may not have been much in the Major's report but the officer from Reece AFB admitted there was no apparent explanation for the Levelland case. The conclusion would trigger a more extensive follow up investigation. (26.)

3 November. Levelland, Texas. (late morning)

Apparently nothing much happened in Levelland the rest of the night, but the events that had transpired would not be soon forgotten.

3 November. Officer Fowler. (5:30 a.m.)

Columnist George Dolan wrote:

"He [Fowler] knocked off at 5:30 a.m., went home, told his wife about the excitement, then went to bed. She left not long afterward, with some friends, for Big Lake.

"Fowler didn't get much sleep. The phone kept ringing. He was afraid to take it off the hook or ignore the ring with his wife

on the highway.

"He talked with a fellow from Detroit and another from Albuquerque. He kept talking with people all over. They had heard his name on a report of the Whatnik sightings and wanted more information.

"Mrs. Fowler was half asleep when her husband gave her a brief rundown on the Whatnik hunt. She didn't think of it again until she and friends were on their way back from Big Lake." (27.)

3 November. Sunrise on Sunday.

News of the big, dog-carrying, Sputnik II was headlined in early editions of every newspaper across America. The UFO reports of the night before made good companion pieces. A great many people were quite ready to believe the UFO reports had some connection with the Russian space feat, even, perhaps, that Sputnik had touched down in Texas for a moment during its travels around the earth! UFO buffs found it hard to resist the notion that Sputnik might have caused the "aliens to do something dramatic."

That morning things were really jumping at Levelland:

"Whatnik's antics drew telephone calls from New York, Los Angeles, Detroit and many other parts of the nation Sunday. Phones jangled incessantly in the police department and the sheriff's office.

"Each caller wanted the inside dope.

"'What was it,' they would ask, really?

"Several demanded 'was it Sputnik?'

"People here generally seem to presume it's ours." (28.)

3 November. The Army produces even more of a problem.

Since the White Sands report was made on a military test range by military personnel the control of information should have been an easy matter for the Air Force. However the two MPs sought out the press and told their story. The soldier's Commanding Officer was no help either since he talked freely about the incident when questioned. It was a public relation disaster for BLUE BOOK. The press played up the "atomic" angle, which is understandable since the location was in the middle of nowhere:

"The first atomic bomb was touched off on the northern edge [of the Stallion Site area] on July 16, 1945.

"The Commanding Officer of the MPs said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of other similar sightings in other areas of the country...[the UFO was seen]... in the area of the now abandoned bunkers used by technicians who observed the world's first atomic explosion. The bunkers are of reinforced concrete and dirt and contain no equipment or personnel. The actual explosion site, now leveled and filled in, is several miles away.

"Officers said they believed excitement might account for some coloring in portions of the men's stories.

"Officials at White Sands Proving Grounds said the phenomena had nothing to do with any activity of the base." (29.)

3 November. A busy day.

Authorities wanted to ask more questions of the Whatnik witnesses, but even though Wheeler and Alvarez had said they lived in Levelland, investigators tried without success to locate them that morning. As for Williams

and Long, they lived in Kermit and Waco respectively and their whereabouts were also unknown. Sheriff Clem even asked Winkler County Sheriff I.B. Eddins to track down Mr. Williams in the city of Kermit, a request Eddins tried his best to comply with. He even had the Kermit radio station broadcast an appeal over the air.

Pedro Siado, however, was still around and he made himself available. It also helped when Ronald Martin came forward. No one was aware of his experience. (30.) And then an Airman 2/C Fred Smith showed up and informed newsmen he had travelled to Levelland to visit some relatives, and while driving on a road five miles east of town during the night (no time mentioned) he spotted a strange red light that was moving very low and very slow. The young Air Force enlisted man was sure the thing was not an airplane. (31.)

Investigators were more happy when Texas Tech Freshman Newell Wright walked into Sheriff Clem's office. Wright made his appearance at the urging of his parents who were teachers employed by the Levelland school system. Ill with the flu, Wright still managed to discuss his encounter with authorities and to answer questions over the phone when people all over the country called to make inquiries. One of the better reports, Wright's account made up for the difficulties in reaching other witnesses. (32.)

The star of the show was easy to find.

Sheriff Clem manned his desk all day in spite of being up late the night before, doing his best to help the newsmedia while attending to his regular duties. The editor of the Levelland Daily Sun-News, Orlin Brewer, explained Clem's importance this way: "...part of the reason that the incident gained so much attention around the country was that Clem claimed to have seen it. Sheriff Weir Clem was willing to talk about it. He was quoted a lot and that gave credibility to the story." (33.)

3 November. James Lee arrives.

NICAP had a member/investigator on the scene right from the start, a Mr. James Lee of Abilene who arrived early Sunday to tape record interviews. It didn't take Lee long to make a judgement. He announced the events of the previous night as "bona fide" UFO activity.

The press quoted Lee extensively. At the time, the NICAP "expert's" opinion was as good as any:

"It's an amazing, fantastic story,' he said. 'Those people out there saw somthing--there's no question about it. It was literally something out of this world.'

"Lee said he interviewed the witnesses separately and their stories all added up.

"The sheriff (Weir Clem of Levelland) told me personally that he had interviewed these people as they came in and none of them knew what the others had said. They all told the same story.'

"Lee said he considered the story told by Newell Wright Jr., a Texas Tech student, the 'most important and authentic of all.'

"Texan Lee said he had talked during the day with, [Donald] Keyhoe, who wanted to get a first-hand report on the matter. Lee is a member of Keyhoe's committee and is also a director of Interplanetary Space Patrol, which, says Lee, has members all over west Texas, plus some in Great Britain.

Fort Worth Press

Weather: Sunny, cool, occasional light rain today and tomorrow.

37, NO. 28

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1957

56 PAGES

HOME
EDITION
PRICE 5 CENTS

The Levelland Mystery

This Is REAL, Not Ours, Expert Says Of WTex Fireball

LEVELLAND, Tex., Nov. 4 (UPI) -- A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said today he believes a mysterious object seen in West Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, a member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena and a director of Interplanetary Space Patrol, a West Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee, who said he had spent a score of years investigating the mysteries of space, rushed here yesterday upon hearing of the latest object which was seen by at least nine persons in two states.

Lee felt certain the object was real and he was just as certain that it was not an American space object.

Coinciding with Russia's launching of its second earth satellite, the "thing" would have caused little more alarm if small green men had jumped out of it.

Saw It 'In Middle of Road'

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and a brilliant-red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Levelland area, including the sheriff, three persons at Midland and another man at Clovis, N. M.

One man, James D. Long of Waco, said he was driving on a farm-to-market road west of Levelland at 11:15 a. m. Sunday when he encountered the object sitting in the middle of the road.

He said it was oval-shaped, about 200 feet long and glowed like a neon sign. He got out of his car about 700 feet away to investigate but when he did the space ship suddenly took off with a roar straight down the road.

Long said his engine roughed and died and his headlights suddenly went out. When he got his car started, he hurried back to town.

Pasted Over Cars 'Like Thunder'

The other persons saw the object in the Levelland area a little earlier than Long. Both Pedro Escalante and Howard E. Wright both of Levelland, said the object passed over their cars with a roar like thunder. The engines on their cars died and the headlights went out.

The reason some of the reports might be doubted except for the fact that Sheriff Wier Clem, who was not looking for it, also found it.

The sheriff and his deputy, Pat McCullough, spotted the object streaking across the sky in front of their car.

"It lit up the whole pavement in front of us for about two seconds," Clem said. He called it oval-shaped and said it looked like a brilliant red sun.

The Ground Observer Corps at Midland reported that an unidentified mother and her two children saw "A large object of bluish color flying west and very low" early Saturday night.

Engines Died, Lights Went Out

One Escalante, owner of Radio Station KCEV in Clovis, N. M., said he "saw a streak of light like a fire ball" coming in a southeasterly direction about 8 p. m. Saturday.

"I think it's a space craft from one of the neighboring planets," he declared.

He said witnesses' report that their car engines died and headlights went off fitted perfectly with numerous previous reports about "flying saucers."

He said the object made the object "disturb the magnet field of balance" and will cause car engines to stall and compasses to wear errant.

Lee said he will make a report of his investigation to Washington.

Reporter: "Well, some of the eyewitnesses that saw it, what did they describe it as - in size, etc."

Sheriff: "James D. Long, a colored male from Waco, Texas, working here in the cotton harvest, he drove up on it settin' in the highway on the farm-to-market road we call the Oklahoma Flats Road that runs north and a little west of Levelland.

"And he said just as he drove up to this object, turned his car lights and drove up -- it was setting in the road -- his car lights shined on it just as plain as could be and he had made his stop and presumably to get out, and this thing lit up, and when it did, to take off, why his lights went out and his motor died."

Reporter: "Well, did his lights reflect from it as he drove up on it?"

Sheriff: "Yes, sir. And he said it was egg-shaped -- the best he could figure it looked like a big egg."

Reporter: "Was it spherical -- I mean by that, was it a solid object or did it appear to have windows or openings in it?"

Sheriff: "That he did not give us at all; he said it just looked like an egg-shaped, big oval egg-shaped object."

Reporter: "Any of the eyewitnesses who came that near to it, did they notice any other effect other than the noise and the light; in other words, any physical effect from it?"

Sheriff: "No, sir."



Part of a radio news broadcast aired by KFDA, Amarillo, Texas, on 3 November 57.

Interview of Sheriff Clem by a reporter for station KFDA.

"Lee was asked about the possibility that the mystery object might have been ball lightning, which is described by reference works as 'a ball or globe of brilliant light moving slowly a short distance above the surface of the earth, as if rolling on an invisible support a few feet high.'

"'Whatever it was showed every indication of being under intelligent guidance,' he said stoutly. 'It's objective seemed to be to land on the highway and interrupt traffic, then immediately leave that area and fly over to another highway leading into Levelland....It landed four times, and when observed it would take off to another location. In every case when a car or truck would approach it would fail to function and the lights would go out.'

"The possibility that engine failure might have been caused by ball lightning or static electricity was offered by Dr. Wayne Rudmose, Southern Methodist University physics professor, in an interview with the News.

"'You might build up enough conductivity in the air as the result of dust to cause the ignition spark to leak off,' he said. This, he explained, would cause the spark to ground rather than follow its normal course.

"But he added that the engines of today's cars are well shielded, and that it would take a terrific charge to cause them to stall..." (34.)

3 November. Midway between Odessa and Midland, Texas. (2:50 p.m.)

A Bill Bacon of Midland claimed he encountered his own "Whatnik" that Sunday afternoon:

"...a bluish-white object dropped down out of the heavily overcast sky about midway between Odessa and Midland, was visible about 15 seconds and disappeared in the fog." (35.)

Officer Fowler returns.

Reporters noticed: "Fowler, who works nights, turned up at the police station soon after noon today. 'I couldn't sleep,' he explained with a grin. 'My telephone has been ringing all morning.'" (36.)

NICAP and Levelland.

For NICAP, which was on the verge of obtaining Congressional hearings on the UFO problem, the Texas flap developed at incredible speed. Before Keyhoe & company could do anything the people of west Texas put pressure on their Congressman without prompting by any UFO organization. (See clipping)

The "Whatnik" was the talk of Levelland. Everyone in town, it seems, had their opinion as to the identity of the "Thing." Not all the citizens were on the "Men from Mars" bandwagon in spite of NICAP's James Lee assertions. Most notable was the editor of the Levelland Daily Sun-News, Orlin Brewer. Some 25 years later Brewer still believed the "Whatnik" was some sort of natural phenomenon. (37.)

Another doubter, surprisingly, was Texas Tech student Newell Wright: "I never did believe at the time I saw any kind of spaceship from outer space or anything like that." (38.) A 1982 press story on this subject continues: "Wright said people did not want him to say he thought what he saw was some-

thing from nature. Nobody that ever talked to me was ever satisfied to hear that because the other [space ship explanation] was more exciting." (39.) O. W. Marcom, Levelland Superintendent of Schools, weighted in with a similar opinion:

"I have thought about it and there must be some reasonable and logical reason for it. If three people saw it at three different spots, it must not have been imaginary. I definitely do not think it was from outer space or from Russia. A wild guess would be that it is from our government unless it were some natural phenomenon. I think it is utterly ridiculous to even think it was from outer space." (40.)

Whatever one's thoughts about the identity of the "Whatnik," it could not be denied that a sense of unease swept over the region. Detecting the mood of the public, Col. W.E. Matthews, Texas state coordinator for the Ground Observer Corps headquartered at Austin, announced that no special alert had been called, but, he added, reassuringly, that the GOC was on a 24-hour watch as always. (41.)

3 November. Cincinnati, Ohio. (no time)

"Huge object."

UFO buff Leonard Stringfield was now president of a new Ohio UFO group. He wrote:

"Cincinnati almost got top billing locally today. Huge object seen over Indian Hill then swoop away in a fast angular, vertical climb to the west. The Cincinnati report brought me and the local group into headlines and my phone hasn't stopped ringing." (42.)

3 November. Hynek's personal interest in UFOs.

Air Force scientific advisor J. Allen Hynek followed the "party line" in his dealings with the UFO mystery in keeping with his contract with the military, but his private thoughts may have been a different matter. During the big UFO flap of November, Sunday the 3rd, Isabel Davis of CSI cautioned the Stringfields:

"...it is desirable to soft-pedal, as much as possible, any association of Hynek's name with CSI. You know we've never let anyone know of his special interest in CSI. What we want to ask both of you [Dell and her husband Len] is this: If you get any inquiries about Hynek, will you please say as strongly as you can that you did not know anything about his connection with CSI? The point is that even though he has been consultant to the Air Force on saucers for so long, and even though Ledwith's picture has been in the papers as connected with Project MOONWATCH, and even though Ledwith expects to appear as co-author of the Hopkinsville report --nevertheless the less often Hynek is connected with any possible personal interest in saucers, the better for him and for us." (43.)

Considering the sharp criticism CSI was throwing at the military, silence had to be the best policy.

3 November. Scotia, Nebraska. (6:00 p.m.)

"Strange revolving aircraft paralyzes boy?"

According to the Lincoln Journal, near Scotia, something odd took place:

"What strange thing happened on the Groetzinger farm near here? It's a story of a strange revolving aircraft, the paralyzing of a farm boy, and a permeating odor.

"Roger Groetzinger, who was 10 in August, and his sister Deena, were milking the cows after 6 p.m. Sunday. An aircraft circled the barn and started toward the ground a short distance away. Roger told his sister: 'I think that plane is going to land,' and although Deena heard the loud hum, she continued milking while Roger ran toward the pasture where the craft seemed to be landing. Roger told his mother when he came to the pasture fence he saw what appeared to be an oblong craft --flat on the bottom --which revolved very fast at times and slower at times with a thick antenna extending above the center of it. He had the impression that it was of dark blue plastic-like material with some silver on it. As Roger took hold of the fence which he was going to climb to get closer to the craft, he told his mother, he found he was unable to move. He said it was somewhat as if he were asleep. The craft revolved just above the ground, about fence-high, then lifted. As soon as it gained a good altitude, Roger said, he was again able to move and ran to the house.

"His mother, Mrs. Olive Groetzinger, said when she returned from town soon thereafter, the farm, the barn and the house was permeated with heavy fumes which somewhat resembled vehicular exhaust fumes. Mrs. Groetzinger said she had absolutely no reason to doubt what Roger told her and he was thoroughly frightened. He said it wasn't a helicopter. She said he didn't read a lot but loves machinery and mechanics. The event was before the recent reporting of a space ship encounter at Kearney by a California man. Mrs. Groetzinger said the lad had been home during the week-end and had no access to radio or TV and knew nothing of mysterious sky sightings reported in Texas. She said she and the boy were frightened and had decided to say nothing until neighbors advised her to tell the editor of the weekly Scotia Register about the event. Editor M.G. Williams said Roger is a 'sharp' dependable farm boy." (44.)

Scotia is a small town about 10 miles to the southeast of Ord, Nebraska. A Mr. Bader, who forwarded the story above to NICAP, added at the end of his letter this statement: "Ord was the scene of several early morning events involving loud thumps and bent television antennas [?]." (45.)

The fact that the UFO wave in progress was much more than a regional story became clearer as the day passed. Reports were coming from places far from the plains of Texas. The Nebraska case above was a good example. Many reports were recorded all night and into the following day.

"Old" reports come in.

All the excitement prompted people to come forward to report sightings they claimed took place on Friday (the 1st), or Saturday (the 2nd).

A Bert Van Horn, who lived in Las Vegas, New Mexico, said he saw something very odd Friday afternoon. Van Horn first thought he was looking at a piece of paper but he noticed that the thing was moving into a strong wind at an astonishing speed.

Van Horn was at the Meadow City Garage when he spotted the object zipping past the building. The object was a bright silver disk without any sort of vapor, and when seen, the disk was heading south. Van Horn ran outside to get a better look, and that is when he saw it turn east before it moved out of sight. (46.)

Another Friday sighting was claimed by John Stewart of El Paso, Texas. While driving on a street near the William Beaumont Army Hospital, Stewart saw a strange elongated object, surrounded by a bright white light, speed overhead. The UFO went over the mountain foothills where it could no longer be seen. The time was between 7 and 7:30 a.m. (47.)

Yet another Friday report was made by a group of workers that were employed by the Heinz company in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. It was about 40 minutes after midnight when four workers left the Heinz plant in a station wagon and drove west on the road up McLellandsville hill. In the car was Mrs. Ethel Reeder, her brother Frank Martz, a Mrs. Janet Garling, and a Jesse Appleby. What they saw was something in the sky that they said was an "egg-shaped object with a greenish glow." A press report on the incident states: "The object, which appeared to circle about the area over which it was travelling, remained visible to members of the group until they reached St. Thomas. It then disappeared over the North Mountains." (48.)

And then there was R.T. Yates of Lubbock, Texas, who claimed he spotted an object like a shooting star, "only about 10 times bigger," about 9:15 p.m. on Saturday night while he was travelling the highway that connects the towns of Guthrie and Dickens. The thing, if it was a meteor, was the biggest he had ever seen. It came out of the southwest sky at a 60-degree angle at terrific speed but seemed to slow as it approached the horizon. Puzzled, Mr. Yates thought it might be Sputnik. (49.) It could well have been a meteor but if a brilliant UFO was flying around in the region, you would expect sightings like that reported by Mr. Yates'.

More on an important Saturday case.

Saturday night (November 2nd) there was an interesting case at Amarillo, Texas.* The witnesses, a young couple, did not leave their names with any authority, nor were they urged to do so. The man and woman remained unidentified but we do have the name of the lawman involved: Highway Patrolman Gilbert Ray of Canyon City, Texas.

The young couple had spent the day at Palo Duro Canyon and were returning

* This case was mentioned in my history booklet covering the time period of October 1st-November 2nd. This first account was brief. Since then more data became available.

to Amarillo when at about 8:00 p.m. (2½ hours before the Siado encounter on Route 116 outside of Levelland) they came upon an object blocking the road. Whatever it was, it couldn't be seen clearly because it was surrounded by a fog. Curious, the couple came to a stop and then drove slowly forward to get a better look at the object. The object glowed brightly but the witnesses didn't see any detail. As the car advanced, it entered the fog, and at that point the vehicle's motor died and the battery went dead. There is no mention in the two Amarillo papers of what happened to the UFO but we assume it left the scene. The couple were left stranded in the middle of the South Washington roadway and remained so until another motorist gave them a push into town. The couple had the battery recharged and then drove to the Amarillo Police station where they asked: "Where do you report flying saucers?" The desk clerk later described the two as about 20-22 years old and wearing red-colored coats. The man was about six feet tall and the woman a little over five.

Highway Patrolman Gilbert Ray was asked to check the area where the supposed encounter took place. He found no UFO but he did find that word of the incident had spread and people were gathered at the site, bumper-to-bumper in their cars, scanning the sky for the "Whatsit." Because this incident occurred hours before the series of Levelland reports, Amarillo police thought little of it at the time. Police files should place this case firmly in a time slot before Siado. (50.) (51.)

Finally, still reviewing "old" reports, there was an eerie tale from Ridgeway, Virginia, concerning a Mrs. Ruby Hairston. The woman was driving back from a weekend at Philpott Lake on Sunday night with four members of her family. She neared the North Carolina/Virginia state line on the Henry-Oak Level Road at 6:50 p.m. when an eerie light appeared. For ten minutes a strangely lighted object hovered over her car as she sped down the highway.. A press account states:

"'We couldn't see any direct light,' Mrs. Hairston said. 'Just the immense oval red glow that went on and off. It faded from bright red to a pale amber pink, then brightened again. It seemed to be moving with and ahead of us at an angle of about 45 degrees.' (52.)

We now return to the events of the evening of November 3rd.

3 November. Deming, New Mexico. (7:30 p.m.)

According to a story in NICAP's UFO Investigator:

"...a large brightly-lit object swept in over the area (city of Deming). It was seen by Robert Toby, radio station owner and GOC observer, and CBS cameraman Russell B. Day. As the UFO maneuvered through the clear sky, Day recorded its movements on 35 feet of film." (53.)

4 November. El Paso, Texas. (7:30 p.m.)

"Blue Egg."

BLUE BOOK scientific advisor Dr. J. Allen Hynek would eventually join the believers. As we have seen, he showed some interest in the activities of CSI New York, a low profile civilian group that seemed to have some competent

Pentagon Requested To Explain 'Object'

Representative J. T. Rutherford of value to the safety of the general of Odessa said Monday he didn't tell public," he said. know when he would receive re- Rutherford said he sent the teleports from the Pentagon on telegram at the request of a number tery objects spotted in West Texas of people in the area. He said he over the weekend. knew nothing of the object other

Rutherford sent a telegram than what he had been told. Sunday to Air Force officials re- Rutherford's telegram read. questing an explanation of the ob- "Request confirmation of denial jects.

The congressman said he had reports in West Texas. U. S. or received telephone calls "all day foreign. Such information impers- and all night" from residents in line for success of experiment if the area asking whether he had U.S. or appropriate if otherwise. received word from the Pentagon. Many responsible persons' state- "I feel the least I can do is re- ment too consistent to be taken, quest information from the Air lightly. Sure more detailed reports Force. It gives people encourage- been received from police, general ment to report such objects. There public and wire services. Appreci- might come a time when someone ate complete report in this subject will report something that will be at earliest convenience."

Odessa, Texas American. 4/11/57

members. Dr. Hynek was not that interested in NICAP's fight with the Air Force but he was becoming intrigued with some of the more interesting UFO cases and CSI was one way of obtaining more information. The military, he knew, was not always the best source of data. In later years he would write up some of his impressions. One case that fascinated him was the "blue egg" incident of November 4, 1957. Here is his account:

"Blue Book did not call the next two cases 'Unidentified' but 'Unreliable Report' and 'Psychological,' respectively. In both cases there appears to be no evidential justification for these evaluations.

"The first of these occurred two evenings after the famous Levelland, Texas cases. Blue Book attempted to dismiss the Levelland sightings as 'ball lightning' but oddly enough did not dismiss these strikingly similar ones in like manner.

"In the first case, occurring in El Paso, Texas, a thirty-five-year-old border inspector observed approaching his car an egg-shaped object with a bluish glow and with a whirring sound similar to an artillery shell. He did not see this object, however, until he got out of his car to investigate why it had stalled and why all his lights had dimmed and gone out. It was then that he noticed the 'blue egg' approaching him from the southwest at a thirty-degree elevation. It passed over his car at an altitude of one hundred feet and moved off on a westerly heading, while changing in altitude at irregular intervals. After it reached the Franklin Mountains, the object lifted vertically. The observer was at this time three miles southeast of the International Airport at El Paso and the time was 7:30 p.m.

"Once again, Blue Book conducted no further investigation and labeled the case 'Unreliable Report.' 'Insufficient' would have been appropriate." (54.)

Note that Deming, New Mexico, is about 80 miles west of El Paso and that a UFO appeared there at the same time (7:30 p.m.).

3 November. White Sands, New Mexico. (about 8:00 p.m.)

A second sighting near the A-Bomb bunkers.

Only 17 hours after the sighting of a mysterious, bright-glowing, body in the area of abandoned bunkers in an old A-Bomb test range at White Sands, a second sighting was made in the same general location. Another military police patrol, composed of Army Specialist 3/C Forest R. Oakes and Army Specialist 3/C Henry R. Barlow, caught sight of a brilliant light. Specialist Oakes told his Commanding Officer:

"On or about 2000 hours 3 November 1957 SP-3 Barlow and myself SP-3 Forest R. Oakes, saw a large bright light hanging approximately 50 feet over bunker. It took off at 45 degree angle and went up into the sky, then it started blinking on and off. Then

it disappeared. I would say it was two and three hundred feet long and just about as wide. It was very bright, as the sun. We were approximately 4 or 5 miles west of the light." (55.)

3 November. Springfield, Illinois. (evening)

Car lights dimmed:

"Dorothy L. Stevens, of Springfield, Illinois, was driving near Virden, about seven miles south of Springfield, when she saw 'a bright light in the south.' Her car lights 'dimmed like the old model Ts used to do, and the motor stopped.' After the light had departed the car again functioned properly. (56.)

3 November. Clifton, Arizona. (9:15 p.m.)

High speed round object:

"...at Three Way Drive-In at 9:15 p.m. an object...was seen by numerous people. Larry Parsons, 16, described it as being round, silver-colored, and traveling from the Southeast at a terrific rate of speed. 'It came across the horizon, crossed to the west, went through a cloud and disappeared over the horizon,' Larry said. Several others including Mary Chapman, gave the same description of the object." (57.)

3 November. Near Clifton, Arizona. (9:20 p.m.)

Like two hub caps together.

Five minutes after people at the Clifton Drive-in spotted something, a trio of hunters saw a similar object:

"...three deer hunters driving to Clifton through the Four Bar Mesa area at 9:20 p.m. saw 'a silver colored object cross the horizon from East to West, at terrific speed. They were Leon Aguinaga, Sr., son, Leon Jr. and Juan Fierro, all Clifton residents. Leon Aguinaga Sr. said, 'It was a shining silver like the moon. It crossed the horizon in front of us, turned and disappeared. It looked like two hub caps together,' he added. Fierro estimated it to be 6,000 feet up." (58.)

3 November. Wichita Falls, Texas. (9-10:00 p.m.)

Our source: "James F. Phillips went outside after a power failure and saw a lighted object traveling in a northwesterly direction. The lights failed for just a few seconds, but his shortwave radio continued to buzz until the object left the area." (59.)

3 November. Dyess AFB, Texas. (10:55 p.m.)

"Oddly lighted object."

Our source: "At 10:55 p.m. Tech. Sgt. Jack Waddell, USAF control tower operator at Dyess AFB, saw an oddly lighted object glowing neon-red near the San Angelo highway." (60.)

3 November. Amarillo, Texas. (11:53 p.m.)

Perhaps whatever was seen near the town of Canyon moved north because approximately four hours later something just as mysterious was reported in the air over Amarillo:

"A Navy pilot, reporting to CAA authorities at 11:53 p.m. as he flew over the city, saw an object in the southeast which he described as glowing brilliantly, then dim, low on the horizon, then high, moving swiftly, then slowly. The Navy pilot, flying northeast to Amarillo as called for in his flight plan, said that he was on a bearing of 40 degrees (northeast) and saw the object 80 degrees to his right, which would place it in the southeast quadrant. He was watching the gyrations of the object while he described it to the communicator on duty." (61.)

4 November. Ararangua, Brazil. (1:20 a.m.)

"An impossible red light."

Another aerial encounter occurred far to the south in Brazil. It involved pilot Jean Vincent de Beyssac of Crvzeiro do Sul Airlines. Our source states that Captain Beyssac:

"...took off from Porto Alegre in Southern Brazil on a trip to Sao Paulo and Rio aboard a C-46 cargo ship. During the day a cold front had passed and the sky was starlit over Porto Alegre.

"About 1:20 a.m. while flying over Ararangua, Santa Catarina, at 7,000 feet, he flew over a layer of Stratus. Suddenly, blinking his eyes in disbelief, he sighted an impossible red light to the left of his aircraft. He watched it curiously and joked with his co-pilot suggesting that they were at last seeing an authentic flying saucer. When the THING grew larger, Jean decided to turn left and investigate. Just before he pressed his rudder, the thing jumped a 45 degrees arc in the horizon and became larger.

"Jean started the pursuit. He was about midway on his left 80 degree turn when the thing became even brighter and at once he smelled something burning inside his ship.

"His ADF burned, his Transmitter burned, all at once!

"Then the 'thing' disappeared almost suddenly ---while his crew looked for fire. Scared, Jean turned on his emergency transmitter and told the Porto Alegre control what happened. He went back to Porto Alegre where he went home and got soosed.

"On that same day, Varig Air Lines issued an internal circular forbidding pilots to tell the press about their sightings of UAOs. This, according to airline bigshots, was to prevent the public getting too wise about certain things happening to some pilots..." (62.)

4 November. The Brazilian Fortress of Itaipu. (2:00 a.m.)

"Top-secret military incident."

It was a moonless night but the Brazilian Army sentries had no reason to be extra alert during their duty watch on the grounds of the Itaipu Fortress. The fortress was a defense installation with long range guns that protected

the coast of Sao Paulo state, Sao Vicente, near Santos.

At two in the morning things were very quiet. The garrison, for the most part, was asleep. The few men on guard were ordinary soldiers that probably never heard of Levelland, Texas.

A "new star" suddenly appeared in the heavens. The sentries stopped in their tracks when it became evident the "star" was actually a luminous body heading for the fortress at tremendous speed:

"In just a few seconds the UFO was flying over the fortress. Then it stopped abruptly in mid-air and drifted slowly down, its strong orange glow etching each man's shadow against the illuminated ground between the heavy cannon turrets. It hovered about 120 to 180 feet above the highest cannon turret and then became motionless. The sentries were frozen on the ground, their eyes wide with surprise, the Tommy guns hung limply from their hands like dead things. The unknown object was like a large craft about the size of a big Douglas, but round and shaped like a disk of some sort. It was encircled by an eerie glow." (63.)

A hum was heard which apparently was coming from the mysterious disk-like body, and then a terrific wave of heat hit two of the sentries:

"One of the sentries said later that, when the heat wave engulfed him, it was like a fire burning all over his clothes. He staggered, dazed, heat waves filling the air around him. It was too hot. He fought, and gasped and beat the air before him. He was suffocating. Then he blacked out and collapsed to the ground--unconscious.

"The other sentry got the horrible feeling that his clothes were on fire. A wave of heat suddenly enveloped him. Horror filled him and he lost his mind. He began to scream desperately, running and stumbling and crying from one side to another, as a trapped animal. He did not know what he was doing, but somehow he skidded into shelter, beneath the heavy cannons of the fortress. His cries were so loud that he awoke the whole garrison. (64.)

Soldiers throughout the entire fortress rushed to their battle stations, and then something else caused more confusion:

"...the lights all over the fortress collapsed suddenly as well as the whole electric system that moved the turrets, heavy cannons and elevators. Even the ones supplied by the fortress' own generators. The intercommunications system was dead too. Someone tried to switch on the emergency circuits but these were dead too. The strangest thing, however, was the behavior of the alarms in the electric clocks, which had been set to ring at 5:00 a.m. -- they all started to ring everywhere, at 2:03 a.m." (65.)

Panic gripped the men of the garrison. Soldiers ran about blindly. Then, abruptly, the situation changed:

"...the lights came on again and every man ran outside to fight the unexpected enemy who surely was attacking the fortress. Some officers and soldiers came in time to see an orange light climbing up vertically and then moving away through the sky at high speed. One of the sentinels was on the ground, still uncon-

scious. The other was hiding in a dark corner, mumbling and crying, entirely out of his mind. One of the officers who came first was a military doctor and, after a brief examination, he saw that both sentries were badly burned and ordered the men to take them to the infirmary immediately. They were put under medical care at once. It became clear that one of them was a severe case of heat syncope; he was still unconscious and showing evident signs of peripheral vascular failure. Besides this, both soldiers presented first and deep second-degree burns of more than 10 per cent of body surface --mostly on areas that had been protected by clothes." (66.)

There would be more to this story.

4 November. Johannesburg, South Africa.

More cylindrical objects over Africa.

(See clipping)

STRANGE OBJECTS REPORTED SEEN

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 4. — Some "strange objects," cylindrical in shape, which hovered at a great height in the sky and then "shot off," were sighted on Sunday for the second time in three days in the skies over Johannesburg.

On Friday, reports of the sighting of the objects brought a South African Air Force jet fighter into an unavailing search through the skies.

4 November. Elmwood Park (Suburb of Chicago), Illinois. (3:00 a.m.)

Back in the U.S. another headline-maker was in progress. Although many accounts of it appeared in the press, the best is one compiled by Air Force BLUE BOOK advisor Dr. J. Allen Hynek. (See letter) (67.)

4 November. Various counties in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Strange flying objects/mysterious lights were reported in the skies of McHenry County in Illinois. Also, something was seen in the counties of Walworth and Waukesha in Wisconsin. All we know for sure is that the things flashed green, purple, and red lights. In previously mentioned McHenry County eight police cars patrolled the back roads in an attempt to track down the objects. (68.) A Mr. Helmut Reuter of 73rd Avenue, Elmwood Park (the same place of the well publicized police report) later disclosed: "...that he saw

DEARBORN OBSERVATORY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

June 1, 1965

Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr.
Box 9494
FTD Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

[REDACTED]

Dear Major:

This is a report on the very old sighting of November 4, 1957, made by two police officers and a fireman riding in one patrol car at shortly after 3:00 a.m., in Elmwood Park, Illinois.

I monitored the making of this part of the NBC documentary on UFO's, as I did on the previous night at Elk Grove Village, on the evening of May 27, 1965. Fortunately, all three witnesses are still holding down the same jobs, but only two were available for interview on this evening. The names of the witnesses were Officer [REDACTED] Officer [REDACTED] and Fireman [REDACTED].

All men stated that the incident had been reported to [REDACTED] but that [REDACTED] had merely said that they had nothing on their screens. Here's another case where [REDACTED] failed to follow through and report a sighting.

Officer [REDACTED] was ill on the night of the filming for the documentary, but I did talk at length with Officer [REDACTED] and with the fireman [REDACTED]. Both are [REDACTED]. Before passing any final judgment, I would like to talk with Officer [REDACTED] if I ever get the chance. If there had been only one witness of the caliber of either of the two I interviewed, I would tend to dismiss the incident as the product of an over-wrought imagination. However, with three witnesses, with the two officers being on active duty, I feel that something was definitely sighted. Furthermore, the sighting occurred the day after the Loveland, Texas, cases, and the description is quite similar. However, it was determined that these men had no knowledge of the Loveland sighting of the previous day. They stated that after they came back to the station house at dawn, the morning Tribune had just been delivered, and in thumbing through the pages, they then came across an account of the Loveland sighting. They made a definite point of the surprise with which they met the Texas account.

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Elmwood Park, Ill., Nov. 4, 1957 Sighting

I re-enacted the entire incident with them, riding in the car with the fireman, while the NHC people were in the squad car ahead. The officer and the fireman's story agreed in the basic account, although they disagreed somewhat on sizes and on the height at which the object was observed.

At about 3:00 a.m., a squad car was patrolling the alley-way behind a row of stores on [REDACTED]. They had proceeded about two blocks down the alley (the total length of which was nearly a mile), when they perceived an open window in the back of one of the stores. They stopped to examine it with their spot light, but just then the snot light and their head lights dimmed very much, so much so that the officer said that a match would have been brighter. This being the case, they took a flashlight from the car and went out to examine the window and to look under the hood. At this time, they said they noticed a bright spherical object above and ahead of them. I questioned them very long on the size and appearance and the best I could get was that it was like an iridescent orange beach ball except much larger. The fireman said that whenever after that he bounced a beach ball, it always brought back this incident to him. As the object moved down the alley, but above the alley, the car lights came back on. The engine, however, never had failed but kept going the whole time. They trailed the object and whenever they turned their lights off, the object seemed to hover and, so to speak, watch them. As soon as they turned their lights on, the object moved off.

The men trailed down the alley for fully a half mile to the end of the alley where it met a cemetery. They paused at the end and turned their lights off. The object slowly descended and hovered just a few feet off the ground. Here Officer [REDACTED] kicked on the "brights" and the object ascended very rapidly "fifty or sixty miles an hour". It also took off westward. The officers now jogged right for a quarter of a block to join Belmont Street and pursued the object down Belmont Street. Here Officer [REDACTED] said that it cavorted from curb to curb back and forth as though "playing games with them". The fireman maintains that the object was higher up.

The color or brightness never changed throughout the entire episode, which lasted some ten or fifteen minutes. There is a stand of trees in the cemetery and along side Belmont on both sides. The object periodically became lost behind the trees. After about a mile and a half, they made a U turn and came back east on Belmont, having lost sight of the object. As they got back into Elmwood Park, the object approached them from the left from a stand of trees, passed over them and to the rear. They made another U turn and pursued the object again westward. Very soon after this, they said the object ascended to a great height.

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Elmwood Park, Ill., Nov. 4, 1957 Sighting

Officer [redacted] said to about five thousand (5,000) feet, but this may or may not be the case since I do not particularly rate his judgment about dimensions, or facts for that matter, very high. But both the fireman and the officer agreed that the object disappeared as though a person pulled a black shade up from the bottom, or as though one were filling the spherical object with a black ink. After it disappeared, high in the air in this manner, it did not reappear. Apparently, the only other witness to the incident was a dog which was disturbed and barked at the object somewhere along the route.

The story does not hang together very well. The men are [redacted] [redacted] but they certainly stand to gain nothing from having perpetrated a hoax and, in fact, it could cost them promotions.

The object was described as bright but not hard on the eyes, and very beautiful. After considerable coaxing and trying to get the idea of simulation across, they agreed that if I brought in a balloon painted a bright orange and of a size of about an ordinary room, and held it in the sky, that it would look very much like the object they remembered. It must be remembered that this sighting happened some eight years ago, and memories over that length of time have probably deteriorated considerably.

According to the men, the moon was out that night, but to the east, whereas the object at that same time was toward the west. The sky was basically clear, although there was a fog in the cemetery.

One primary incident occurred when the squad car had stopped at the end of the first long alley just before they jogged on into Belmont Street. The lights were out and the object was descending. At this time, it lost its circular shape and took on a cigar shape surrounded by a fogginess which seemed to emanate from the object itself. There was disagreement as to how much fog, if any, there was in the cemetery that night. The crucial time of the incident seems to have been when the officer kicked on the lights as the object was descending and had assumed a cigar shape. As soon as the lights came on, the object rose up rapidly, resumed its circular shape, and sucked up the fogginess around it.

One other high spot occurred apparently just before the second U turn when the squad car was going east on Belmont. The object came at them from the woods to the left, and according to Officer [redacted] came so close to the car that he could have reached out and touched it. The fireman did not agree, feeling that the object had always maintained a respectable distance.

Major Quintanilla

1 June 1965

Page 4

November 4, 1957, Elmwood Park, Ill., Sighting

The similarity to the Loveland case is striking and if we can believe (I think we can) that they were unaware of the Loveland sighting at the time they made theirs, it becomes all the more interesting. The object definitely passed in front of objects from time to time and the object could not be seen through the light. The object, or the illumination, was not transparent.

No sound or noise was ever associated with the object. It seemed to glow and its color was compared by both men to the color of a setting sun, but not as bright.

It is unfortunate that the incident did not occur to witnesses better trained as observers, and more articulate ones.

Other small items: [REDACTED] said that his "hair stood on end" when he saw the object, and the other officer said that [REDACTED] wanted to shoot at it, but was cautioned by Officer [REDACTED] not to shoot until he knew more about it.

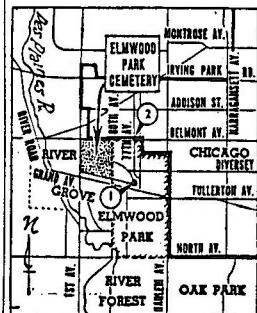
Meteorological conditions for this night should be checked to be compared with similar data from Loveland. Likewise, comparison should be made with the Lock Raven Dam case and the Swiss equivalent of the Lock Raven Dam case which occurred just two or three days before the Lock Raven Dam case.

I would recommend that all cases of luminous globes of light which apparently do not appear to be attached to a tangible object be collected and be examined for similarities of behavior and ambient conditons. We may have here, and I say just possibly may, have an indication of something new in atmospheric physics. Cases should be limited, however, to more than one-witness cases.

This case should not be closed until I have a chance to talk with [REDACTED]. I have a feeling that he may provide something which will either strongly corroborate the above or throw it out of court.

Sincerely,

J. Allen Hynek



Elmwood Park police station [1],
and where policemen saw object in
sky [2].

a red and orange, cigar-shaped object over the suburb west of his home about 3:15 a.m. Monday --almost the same moment that the four officers saw the sphere over the cemetery." (69.)

4 November. Itaipu Fortress, Brazil. (probably early morning)

The Commanding Officer of the Itaipu garrison issued orders forbidding any release of information concerning the "attack" hours before. Not even close relatives were to be told. Intelligence officers arrived to interrogate the soldiers and to impress upon them the need to keep silent if questioned by anyone else. The official report on the incident was given a high classification and sent to headquarters in the interior. (70.)

4 November. La Paz plays down "Little people from Mars" speculation.

Events threaten to spin out of control with the sustained series of impressive UFO reports by impressive witnesses. Dr. Lincoln La Paz tried to stop what he considered wild talk with a statement to the United Press news-service. (See teletype message below)

EX16A

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., NOV. 4--(UP)--THE SOUTHWEST'S LEADING METEORITICIST, DR. LINCOLN LA PAZ, SAID TODAY HE DOESN'T BELIEVE THE MYSTERIOUS CIGAR-LIKE OBJECT SIGHTED OVER WEST TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO LAST NIGHT CONTAINED "LITTLE PEOPLE FROM MARS OR VENUS."

LA PAZ, HEAD OF THE METEORITICS INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, SAID THE OBJECT WAS "EITHER MAN-MADE" OR COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO "METEORITIC PHENOMENON."

HE SAID STORIES OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A "SPACE SHIP" FROM ANOTHER PLANET MOTIVATED BY MAGNETIC FIELD FORCES "HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY SCIENTISTS." BUT HE INDICATED IT WAS "ENTIRELY POSSIBLE" THAT THE OBJECT WAS MAN-MADE.

LA PAZ SAID HE HAS RECEIVED CALLS TODAY FROM "THROUGHOUT THE AREA" MADE BY PEOPLE WHO REPORTEDLY SIGHTED THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECT. AMONG THEM WERE METEORITE WATCHERS WHO OBSERVED THE RED, CIGAR-SHAPED PHENOMENON THROUGH "BREAKS" IN AN UNUSUALLY CLOUDY SKY.

CIGAR-LIKE OBJECTS AND OTHER SUCH OBJECTS, GLOWING RED, GREEN, AND PRACTICALLY EVERY COLOR OF THE RAINBOW, HAVE BEEN SIGHTED OVER THE SOUTH WESTERN DESERT FAIRLY FREQUENTLY WITHIN THE LAST 10 YEARS. LA PAZ SAID ALL REPORTS, INCLUDING THOSE MADE TODAY, WERE FORWARDED TO THE OFFICIAL GROUP AT WRIGHT PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE IN OHIO WHICH IS INVESTIGATING SUCH PHENOMENON.

MG1229P

4 November. South of Orogrande, New Mexico. (1:30 p.m.)

The Stokes case. "Wave of heat?" Shades of Itaipu.

Yet another remarkable encounter case was to hit the newspapers. It concerned an incident that occurred on U.S. Highway 54 in New Mexico. The story would be bannered across the front pages of newspapers across the nation the following day. The prime witness in this case would be James Stokes who worked at the Air Force Missile Development Center at Alamogordo. It is significant that Stokes had no way of knowing about the "attack" at Itaipu, in Brazil. (See military report on Stoke's sighting and official map of the area). (71.)

4 November. Garden Grove, California. (5:30 p.m.)

A new worry for the Air Force was the appearance of UFOs in the skies over California. At Garden Grove a couple of kids said they witnessed the passage of a strange, egg-shaped, glowing body that was bluish-red in color, speeding across the sky toward Los Angeles. (72.)

THE CARBON BLACK CENTER OF THE WORLD

Barker, Texas, Thursday, November 7, 1957

Barker News Herald

Barker Tex News Herald

(AP, UP, NEA) 5 Cents

Space Craze Rocks Texas And Nation

By UNITED PRESS

It was El Paso's turn Thursday night watching bright objects in the sky Friday night, and in Dallas' Texas skies while a verbal battle between the sheriff's department rearranged between "experts" on unconfirmed a call from a person who identified flying objects and claimed to have seen one in the space were offered Texas citizens a date with Candy Barr.

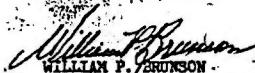
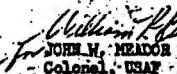
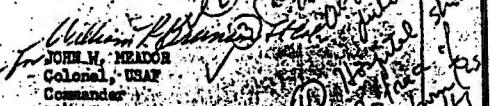
Numerous El Paso citizens were extremely skeptical. A trio of Houston University

professors, one each in psychiatry, psychology and physics, also attempted to prove once and for all the flying saucer theory concerning weird lights and objects in the sky.

But James A. Lee of Ardmore, an "expert" who has studied the phenomena for 20 years, predicted

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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY OR ACTIVITY REPORTING UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		REPORT NUMBER 1006TH ALISS-1006-57		
COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNED MOROGRANDE, NEW MEXICO, USA		DATE OR INFORMATION 4 Nov 57	SRI STATUS (if applicable)	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT 1006TH ALISS AT&T ATIC, Colorado		DATE OF COLLECTION 6 Nov 57	SRI NO.	CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARED BY AND FOR THE USE OF WILLIAM P. BRUNSON Lt. Colonel, USAF Operations Officer		DATE OF REPORT 12 Nov 57	SRI NO.	CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OF INVESTIGATOR OR SOURCE		EVALUATION E-3	SRI NO.	ACTIVE
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR DATA				
NOTE: If previous report, etc., is applicable, state it here.				
NOTE: Descriptive title, the individual reports for separate subjects.				
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT				
SUMMARY: (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 1120 unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List enclosures, including number of copies)				
I. CONTENTS:				
PART ONE: Description of Sighting by Mr. [REDACTED]				
PART TWO: Supplementary Investigative Efforts				
PART THREE: Comments of the Preparing Officer				
II. SUMMARY: This report contains information about an Unidentified Flying Object sighted by Mr. [REDACTED] on 4 November 1957 while driving south on US Highway 54, approximately eight to ten miles south of Orosgrande, New Mexico; results of supplementary investigative efforts; and possible identification criteria. SOURCE is an electronics technician (Instrumentation) with the High Altitude Test Division (Rocketsonde Branch) at the Air Force Missile Development Center, Alamogordo, New Mexico, and a veteran of twenty-four years service with the US Navy.				
III. INVESTIGATOR: Captain Patrick O. Shore, AO 1639638				
 William P. Brunson Lt. Colonel, USAF Operations Officer				
 John W. Heador Colonel, USAF Commander				
APPROVED:				
 [REDACTED]				
DISTRIBUTION OR ORIGINATOR (Except USAF and CIA. Indicate Dual Use and/or other info if applicable)				
M/OS D/I USAF Comdr, 1006th ALISS, 1 cy Comdr, ATIC, 1 cy DCS/Ops, Holloman Air Development Center, New Mexico				

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AF Form 112 (2-55) REplaces AF Form 112, 1 Oct 48. Office of the USAF

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

From (Agency) 100th AISS Ent AFB, Colorado	REPORT NO. AISS-UFOB-138-57	Part One PAGE 2 of 6 PAGES
NAME OF SOURCE: [REDACTED]		
Address: Alamogordo, New Mexico		
Age: 46		
Occupation: Electronics Technician (Instrumentation) High Altitude Test Division, Rocketsonde Branch Air Force Missile Development Center Holloman AFB, New Mexico		
Education: 2 years college		
Qualifications: 24 years, US Navy, Chief Petty Officer (Ret) Private Pilot		
<p>II. RELIABILITY: Although SOURCE claims to have had two sightings, and although he holds a GS-11 rating, he does [REDACTED]. He states that he jotted down in a pocket notebook, the details of the sighting he witnessed, and so is able to remember precisely what he saw; however, he later made somewhat contradictory statements. At first he stated that as the object passed at its nearest point, he felt "kind of a heat wave" and that when he reached home he found he had a severe sunburn. Subsequent medical observation disclosed that there was no trace of sunburn, and SOURCE later admitted that he had been in error on this point. By the time this interviewer was able to make arrangements to talk with SOURCE, he had been interviewed several times by reporters and had made a taped radio interview; he did not seem adverse to the large amount of publicity which followed. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] whereas in actuality he is a "technician". SOURCE, on several occasions, stated that he had had some doubts as to whether or not he should report his sighting; in order to resolve this question, he had telephoned his chief, who told him he saw nothing wrong in describing it. SOURCE was quite definite in his statements and appeared to have little doubt about any details of what he had seen.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2010 E - 7c 1310 (1130 PM Local)</p>		
<p>III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: At approximately 042010Z Nov 57, SOURCE was driving south in open countryside on US Highway 54 toward El Paso, Texas. He was alone in his automobile, a 1957 Mercury, and travelling around seventy miles per hour. The radio was tuned to an El Paso, Texas, station, which, according to SOURCE, gives good reception in a rather spotty area, where there are several dead spots. SOURCE stated that his radio began to fade out; simultaneously his car began to slow up, almost as though it were developing battery trouble. About this time, he noticed about six other cars (originally reported as ten) which had pulled off the road; their passengers had disembarked and were pointing skyward. SOURCE followed suit, left his car, and saw an egg-shaped object in the northeast sky, just below the Sacramento Mountains. SOURCE does not wear spectacles, nor did he observe it through binoculars. He estimated that it was 35 degrees from the horizon, and about 45 degrees from true North. It appeared to be lustrous, the color of mother-of-pearl, and with a faint, purplish tinge; there was no glow or corona. SOURCE stated that it was brighter than the dull sky background, although the brightness did not approximate that of an automobile headlight; at no time did its brightness change. SOURCE stated that the object appeared to be solid, rather than transparent, but could offer no theory about construction details. SOURCE estimated that the object</p>		

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE SPY ACT, 50 U. S. C. -31 AND -32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENTS, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM: 1006th AIRS Kirt AFB, Colorado	REPORT NO. AIISS-UFOB-138-57
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appeared to be solid, rather than transparent, but could offer no theory about construction details. SOURCE estimated that the object descended from an altitude of about 5000 feet to between 1500 and 2500 feet, turned west toward the San Andras Mountains, and disappeared at approximately 15 degrees from the horizon, and 270 degrees from true North (Refer to Figure #1). The object appeared to be between three and five miles ahead of the first car parked along the road. Approximately two minutes later, SOURCE observed the object make an identical appearance, although slightly south of the path of the first. SOURCE stated that the object appeared to be about the size of a pea held at arm's length; he stated he believed it to be about 500 feet long; he noticed no ports, heard no sounds, noticed no smoke or vapor trails, and said it was sharply outlined with nothing fuzzy about the silhouette. SOURCE stated that it did not appear to change shape at any time, did not stand still, did not flicker or seem to pulsate. As the object passed, SOURCE noticed a distinct rise in his body temperature, as though he had been exposed to a "giant sun lamp"; and later stated that he had incurred a sunburn. (This statement was later discounted). During this time, SOURCE discussed the phenomena with two other motorists, one of whom, as did SOURCE, made notes; the other allegedly took photographs of the object. SOURCE took down the names of these men, although he neglected to take down the license numbers of their automobiles. A subsequent search for the two men failed to disclose their whereabouts, nor could they be further identified. No other reports of such a sighting were made by anyone else. Although the day was dull with scattered clouds and a 2500 foot broken high overcast, SOURCE stated that he had observed the two flights of the object for a total of three or four minutes; he later estimated the speed of the object to be between 1500 and 2000 miles per hour. SOURCE has never been married. SOURCE stated that his car started again quite easily, although the battery had been steaming.

For you:

At these speeds and for
that long-time duration -
Through broken clouds - at
low levels !!!!?

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, IN U.S. CODE, TITLE 18, SECTION 793 AND 794, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OR ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.
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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1968

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) 1006th AISS Ent AFB, Colorado	REPORT NO. AISS-UFOB-L38-57	Part Three PAGE 6 OF 6
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COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. The opinion of the Preparing Officer is that SOURCE possibly witnessed an optical phenomenon for the following reasons:
 - a. The object does not remotely meet identification criteria for aircraft, balloons, meteors, stars or planets.
 - b. Although the reported color of the object is consonant with that of ball lightning, the fantastic speed of the unidentified object rules out that possibility.
 - c. The reported shape, lack of trail and sound, incredible speed and other reported conditions are in harmony with the theory of an optical illusion.
2. It would be manifestly impossible for SOURCE to have observed the object for as long as he stated if it were travelling at the estimated speed.
3. Due to the flat white sandy terrain, mirages cannot be considered unusual occurrences.

William P. Brunson
WILLIAM P. BRUNSON
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Operations Officer

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANINGS OF THE SPY TRADE ACT, 50 U.S.C. § 31 and 32 AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENTIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AF FORM 112—PA

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) :
1006th AISS
Ent AFB, Colorado

REPORT NO. 4-274-1

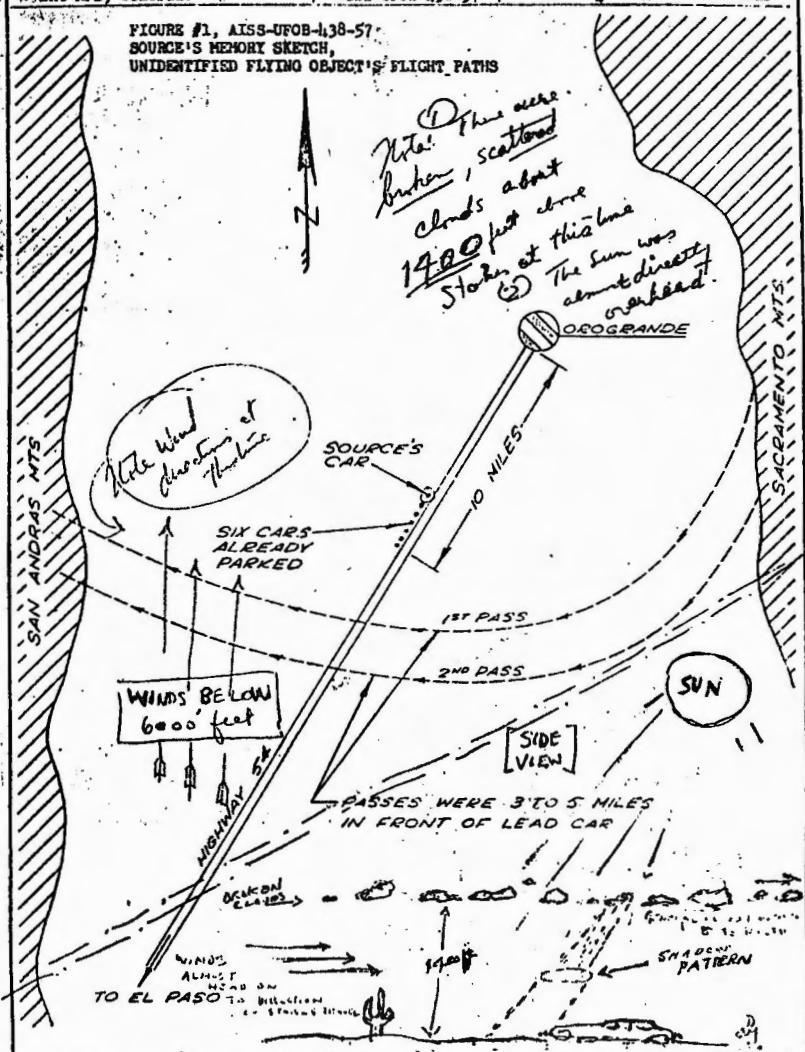
AIISS-UFOB-438-57

Part One

PAGE

PAGE

FIGURE #1, AISS-UFOB-438-57
SOURCE'S MEMORY SKETCH,
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT'S FLIGHT PATHS



NOTE. THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION RELATING TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE EPIPHALIA ACT, §§ 1, 33 AND 34, AND AN AMENDMENT, §§ 7 AND 8, OF THE REVELATION OF 1917 CONCERNING THE FAIR MANNER TO WHICH INFORMATION SO RECEIVED MAY BE USED OR DISCLOSED. IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL PERSONS WHO RECEIVE THIS DOCUMENT TO GUARD IT WITH CARE, AND NOT TO COMMUNICATE IT TO ANYONE EXCEPT THOSE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND AIR FORCE WHO ARE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE IT IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES ARMY AND AIR FORCE AGENT, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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(VAL-571CAENBRI)

Alamogordo Daily News

In Byline of Dependability

Alamogordo, New Mexico, Tuesday, November 5, 1957

Egg-Shaped UFO

Stalls Cars On

Highway

AFMDC Engineer

Reports

Strange Experience

Nov. 5, 1957

THE
KEARNEY
INCIDENT--
UP
TO
NOW--

NICAP-Chicago Affiliate

2926 Applegate Road

Glenview, Illinois 60025

L D 15

THE REPORT OF REINHOLD SCHMIDT

5 November. Kearney, Nebraska.

"Space ship visit."

A widely publicized hoax on November 5th helped to take the edge off building concern about UFO sightings. The story caused quite a commotion for a short time although the citizens of Kearney did not take the supposed "space ship visit" seriously. One local car rental operator in Kearney could not complain. He rented every vehicle on his lot to out-of-town newsmen. Other businessmen made their own efforts to make a buck although more in spirit of fun than anything else. A clothier on main street advertised: "SPACE SHIP SPECIALS," and an auto shop placed a sign in its window that announced: "SPACE SHIPS TUNED UP."

UFO skeptics across the nation welcomed the distraction. (See clippings)

Story "Weakening" Kearney Officials Announce Today

KEARNEY, Neb. (UP) — Authorities said today the story of a California grain buyer that he chatted with four men and two women in a transparent "space ship" Tuesday "appears to be weakening."

The report by Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, Bakersfield, Calif., caused a great stir locally and was the most dramatic of a host of unidentified flying object sightings reported around the country. Schmidt, who had authorities believing his story for hours, was discovered to be an ex-convict later, and this morning turned down a chance to take a lie detector test to verify the tale.

The grainbuyer was questioned through the early morning hours by suspicious authorities after Scotts Bluff County Sheriff Steve Warrick, Gering, Neb., heard the reports and notified officers here that Schmidt was an ex-convict. Warrick said Schmidt, formerly a Scotts Bluff County grain buyer, served time for embezzlement.

Join Interrogation

Throwing serious doubt on his story this morning was the discovery of a can of greenish oil in the rear of Schmidt's car. The oil was similar to oil found on the ground at the site where Schmidt said the "Whatinik" touched down near here. The oil found on the ground was at first thought to have come from Schmidt's "space ship" and was being tested at a college here.

A team of investigators from the Continental Air Defense Command headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colo., arrived here today to join in the interrogation, and police continued to check the spot where the "Whatinik" allegedly landed.

Schmidt, however, stuck to his story, despite the hightlong "heart to heart" talk with authorities.

Schmidt, a grain buyer for Val-U-Pak Co. of Brawley, Calif., appeared in Kearney late Tuesday, white-faced and shaken, and asked to see a minister. He said he was driving near Kearney on a grain-buying expedition when he spotted an object that looked like a Navy blimp.

He said the four men and two women in the object spoke English and German, wore conventional clothes and appeared to be in their 40s.

The salesman said his car engine died when he approached the object, which stood on four posts, about 25 or 30 feet from it," Schmidt said. "Two men came out and came toward me. One waved what looked like a flashlight which glowed for a second. I couldn't move. I don't know whether I was just afraid or what, but it was like being paralyzed."

Walls Transparent

Schmidt said the walls of the ship were transparent from the inside and contained a "maze of dials, instruments and wiring inside."

"I was in the ship 20 or 30 minutes," Schmidt said. He quoted the "spacemen" as saying "we'll have to be here a little while—you may as well come inside." They appeared to be working on the wiring, the salesman said, and did not offer to explain any of the equipment.

They spoke among themselves in German, Schmidt said.

Finally, he said, they told him to get out and the ship, propellers whirring, took off like a helicopter.

YORK, NEBR., NEWS-TIMES
Cir. D. 4,232

NOV 6 1957



WORDLY CLUE TO UNWORDLY PHENOMENON

KEARNEY, NEB.—R. O. Schmidt (right), Brawley, Cal., grain buyer who claims to have spent a half hour visit in a space ship, watches Police Chief Thurston Nelson (left) examine oily leaves found where Schmidt said space ship landed. Others are Dave Drage (second from left), Buffalo County deputy sheriff, and Yat Lunde, Kearney city manager.—AP Wirephoto

HE SAW 'EM

Space Men--Women, Too

KEARNEY, Neb., Nov. 6 (AP).—A strange tale of space ships and space men—and even space women—had this city of 12,000 scratching its collective heads today.

The loquacious tale teller was R. O. Schmidt, 48, a grain buyer, of Brawley, Imperial County, Cal., who vowed he not only saw the space ship but inspected it.

"TV PAL"

He said he spent a chatty, half hour with the crew, as a moving floor ferried them about the ship's interior. He said the crew of four men and two women spoke brok-

en English and high German, which he understands "to an extent."

By a strange coincidence, he said, one of the crewmen looked exactly like a hotel acquaintance with whom he has been watching television programs.

Schmidt catnapped at the jail between guided tours to the site, where skeptical officers joined him in a search for clues.

Police have found footprints (this spot is often used by duck hunters), and what appeared to be an oil spot (on one of the trips they

found a partly filled can of oil nearby).

IT WENT

Police Chief Thurston Nelson said this has been going on all night. Nelson said Schmidt has stuck to his story.

Schmidt said two of the crewmen debarked, searched him for weapons, assured him he was in no danger, and then let him look over the craft. When he left, he said, the ship took off and vanished.

Who else saw or heard anything in the area?

"Not a soul," said Nelson.

4 November. Borrego Springs, California. (6:00 p.m.)

According to the Los Angeles Times:

"Mr. and Mrs. A.A. Burnand, jr., belatedly reported sighting a light flashing at two second intervals, above ground level but lower than the mountains behind it, on the Borrego Springs desert at 6:00 p.m. Nov. 4. 'It was about twice the apparent size of the moon,' Burnand recounted. 'When it flashed, the rays shot out in all directions. It made you think of an explosion.'

"'It was like a huge beacon,' stated Mrs. Burnand. 'It's light was intense.' The couple agreed they heard no sound during the eight observed flashes. Weather Bureau officials could not account for the phenomenon." (73.)

4 November. Turmoil in the Pentagon?

The Air Force assumed it had enough regulations in place to safely channel UFO reports from official agencies directly into the BLUE BOOK system where they could be "processed," after which the official word on the case could be issued by the military Press Desk in the Pentagon. However, much to the displeasure of the High Command, the carefully crafted system of handling UFO information was in a shambles. NICAP had a man at the Pentagon waiting for official comment on the numerous fast-breaking UFO reports from around the nation. NICAP's man, "Brennard," phoned Keyhoe to update him on the Air Force's dilemma. Keyhoe later wrote:

"The Press Desk boys are sweating it out, waiting for word from 'upstairs,' Brennard told me. 'It's the leaks that hurt --they were griping about Army and Navy loud-mouths until they found out Air Force pilots had talked too, about a sighting near Selma, Alabama.'

"'If this keeps up,' I said 'they'll be in a jam.'

"'And they know it. Well, I've got to get back. They've hauled out a 'fact sheet' --must have had it on ice for just such a spot --and they're waiting an okay to shoot it.'" (74.)

The White Sands MPs had blabbed to the press before an official report had been filed, and the Jim Stokes story, at the time just unfolding, was a sterling example of how the BLUE BOOK-Pentagon arrangement was being circumvented.

In contrast, in the southern hemisphere the Brazilians were managing to keep the lid on the Itaipu "attack."

4 November. NICAP headquarters.

Activity being reported by the newswires was so great a NICAP secretary wondered out loud if the Air Force was prepared for the possibility a UFO would land make real contact. In her opinion people were unprepared. Did the military have a plan, she asked? And if they did, how good could such a plan be after the Pentagon insisted for so long there was nothing to the UFO problem? Keyhoe heard these remarks and replied by suggesting any disclosure by authorities would depend on when, and how, such a thing was done: "If they had to do it now, in all this excitement, it'd probably



"The trade of governing has always been monopolized by the most ignorant and the most rascally individuals of mankind."

—Thomas Paine

Clovis *Nel*

NEW MEXICO'S MOST

Vol. 29 No. 186

UP Leased Wires

CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO, MON

Clovis Man Sees Light Of * * * * *

Sputnik Number

* * * * *
**Space Craft Believed
From Neighbor Planet**

A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said Sunday he believes a mysterious object seen in west Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, Tex., a member of the National Investigations Committee on aerial phenomena and a director of Inter-Planetary Space Patrol, a west Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee rushed to Levelland, Tex., about 70 miles south and east of Clovis Sunday upon hearing of the latest object, seen by at least nine

persons in two states.

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and a brilliant red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Levelland area, including the sheriff; three persons at Midland, Tex., and Odie Echols Jr. of Clovis.

Sheriff Weir Clem of Hackley county said today no one else reported seeing the object since Sunday morning.

Clem said Lee told him "you folks have had it" — a visit from outer space. Lee left at 11 p.m. Sunday after completing his investigation.

Echols said that he was riding in the back seat of a family car with his wife, while Mr. and Mrs. Odie Echols Sr. were in the front seat. They were driving south on Prince St., and were going to the Country Club for dinner. Young Echols looked out the window of the car to "spot" 7th St. — helping his dad "drive" by telling him where to turn, when he saw an object flash across the southeastern sky.

He immediately called the attention of others in the car to the object, but in the meantime his eye had followed the fiery trail across the sky to a "bulky object" which made the trail. Echols said that it appeared to be moving more east than south and after

WS-Journal

CONSISTENT NEWSPAPER™

DAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1957

(10 Pages Today)

NATURAL THING TO DO

MOSCOW (UPI) — An unidentified Muscovite in a streetcorner interview took a philosophical approach to startling events of the past few days.

"Well," he said, "up goes Sputnik and down goes Zhukov. That's the way it is."

PRICE: Week Days — 5c; Sundays — 10c

"Whatsnik" In Texas Sky * * * * * * * * * * * * * **II Circling Earth**

Saucer Chief Says 'It's True'

WASHINGTON (UP)—The chief of the unofficial "Flying Saucer" investigating committee said today reports of a space ship visiting the Southwest seem to be bona fide.

nomena, said that "from all we've heard" the mysterious object said to have been sighted by at least nine persons in Texas and New Mexico was actually a space ship.

He said he was impressed particularly by reports that engines of automobiles died and their headlights went out when the object passed near them.

"That's just the way an electromagnetic force field would operate," he said. "This isn't the first time we've heard of such things happening."

Keyhoe, a former Marine pilot, is author of several books on flying saucers, including one entitled "Flying Saucers Are Real."

Amarillo, Texas.

Amarillo Globe-Times

4 November 57

scare some people." (75.)

4 November. Radio station KALG, Alamogordo, New Mexico. (7:45 p.m.)

"I did hear something odd tonight."

Terry Clarke, news reporter for station KALG, had just finished his 7:45 newscast, a memorable one since it dealt with the Levelland reports and the incident at White Sands. As soon as he went off the air the radio station switch board lit up. People were calling in to report some strange lights in the sky to the southwest of Alamogordo. The Air Force's Missile Development Center and the White Sands Proving Grounds were only ten miles to the southwest, so Clarke assumed some balloon launch or a rocket test was responsible. The reporter phoned a friend, Ken Prather, at Base Ops at the Missile Center to check on any activity there. Prather said there was nothing happening on the test ranges but he said he had heard something odd. It seems there was some talk about some sort of UFO encounter 30 miles south of the Proving Grounds on Highway 54. According to the rumor there had been the failure of a car's engine and radio.

With the news from Levelland still fresh in his mind, Clarke was very interested and insisted on knowing more. Prather didn't know the name of the main witness, a civilian, but a certain Major at the Missile Center was aware of the case details. Clarke obtained the officer's phone number from Prather and placed a call in the hope the Major would talk. Clarke was in luck. The officer confirmed the fact that a rocket engineer employed at the Missile Center had reported an encounter with a UFO while enroute to El Paso. Pressed for more information, the Major supplied the engineer's name: Jim Stokes.

Clarke took immediate action. First he told his girl friend he had to cancel a date that evening because he: "...wanted to get to him [Stokes] before the Air Force did." (76.) Clarke also wanted to contact the local Alamogordo UFO experts, Coral Lorenzen's APRO organization. He felt that the group might be able to offer some advice. That very morning Mrs. Lorenzen had been interviewed by KALG radio concerning the Levelland excitement. Mrs. Lorenzen was known to many people in town and her husband, like Stokes, worked at the Missile Center. In fact, many people at the Center called Coral the "flying saucer" woman.

Stokes calls Coral Lorenzen. (8:55 p.m.)

Not surprisingly Stokes also thought of Mrs. Lorenzen. He got in touch with Coral by phone. She asked Stokes to visit her home where he could tell his story to sympathetic listeners. Coral wrote later in one of her books:

"Mr. Lorenzen and I had known Jim [Stokes] casually. He is an electronics engineer and therefore he and my husband had a common interest. He had been in our home on occasion. The subject of UAOs [UFOs] had been touched upon very briefly." (77.)

Both Coral and her husband believed the incident was authentic. Coral remembered: "He [Stokes] was bubbling over with excitement that could not be feigned, for Jim is no actor." (78.)

4 November. Knoxville, Tennessee. (evening)

"Huge oval-shaped aircraft?"

Knoxville, which is a short distance from the nuclear plant at Oak Ridge, had a 'visitor' the evening of the 4th:

"In Knoxville a former naval aviator said his 11-year-old son saw a huge oval-shaped aircraft moving at a tremendous speed over West Knoxville last evening.

"A Knoxville police officer said several University of Tennessee students also reported seeing the glowing object at the same time, but the students could not be reached for comment.

"The former pilot, James Jeffries, gave this account of his 11-year-old son's experience:

"The boy described the aircraft as bigger than a jet and having more than one exhaust. He said it had a brilliant reddish-golden hue and sounded more like thunder than a jet.

"It was oval-shaped and had no visible wings,' Jeffries continued, 'The boy knows all military aircraft in the sky --he is a former sky watcher --and he said the object was moving pretty fast for its altitude.'

"Jeffries said his wife also heard the thunderous roar, but did not actually see the object. She said jets from nearby McGhee Tyson Air Force base fly over the home daily, but none of them ever sounded like that.

"Jeffries said he quizzed his son thoroughly after he learned his wife had also heard the noise." (79.)

4 November. 14 miles north of Dickinson, North Dakota. (about sundown)

"Mysterious cylinder."

According to the Dickinson paper:

"C.F. Patzer, long time Dickinson barber, reported to a Press newsman last night of seeing an object in the sky some 14 miles north of Dickinson about sundown yesterday evening.

"Patzer, along with his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pavel had been out watching ducks and noticed the strange object 'a long ways up over a hay stack in the vicinity of the Sadowsky ranch.'

"Patzer went on to explain that the four watched it through field glasses and that it seemed to slow down. After a short while, it gathered speed and went on its way. He said several farmers were working on a hay stack in the area and they also observed what Patzer said was not a jet or any other plane. It was bullet-shaped with different colors painted on the side. It had a black nose and looked to be more than 100 feet long.

"Patzer and party surmised the mysterious looking craft to be a satellite.

"They last saw it speeding south." (80.)

A crisis.

"Don, you won't believe this!"

Back in Washington D.C., at NICAP headquarters, Donald Keyhoe got a phone call from an excited Frank Edwards. It seems that the disarray in the Air Force's handling of UFO information --its public relations, had reached a crisis point:

"Don, you won't believe this! The Chief Air Force PIO at Los Angeles --Colonel Dean Hess --just revealed he's asked Secretary Douglas to open up with the truth about UFOs." (81.) (See clipping)

4 November. Seven miles north of Sundown, Texas. (8:45 p.m.)

"Swinging UFO."

Perhaps the oddest UFO reported during this November flap was the following:

"SOURCE was driving about seven miles north of Sundown, Texas on farm road 300 when he saw a red object the size of a basketball at arm's length in the northeast. The object appeared to be swinging in about a quarter mile arc from north to south. SOURCE stopped his automobile by the side of the road and watched the object for about three or four minutes. At the ends of the arc, SOURCE stated flame and sparks were given off, as if to start the object on its course back. The object appeared to be attached by a hose or cable to a larger stationary object. The stationary object appeared to be similar to a balloon. After three or four minutes, the object, still swinging, turned white and rose at a rapid rate of speed into the clouds and disappeared. SOURCE stated that it was pitch dark with no stars and no moonlight, thick, heavy clouds and a light rain. SOURCE had no opinion as to the possible cause of the sighting." (82.) (See drawing)

4 November. KALG radio and Terry Clarke. (9:45 p.m.)

Clarke was in a hurry to finish the interview with Stokes since he wanted to play the tape during the upcoming 10:00 o'clock newscast. It should be mentioned that Clarke, like the Lorenzens, noticed the flushed condition of Stokes' face. Stokes was restless and wouldn't sit down, but a cigarette helped calm him. The recording went ahead without any hitches.

After the Lorenzens and Stokes left the radio station, Clarke spent two hours trying to contact the witnesses Stokes claimed had shared the UFO experience. He especially wanted to talk with a "Mr. Duncan" who was supposed to have taken photographs with a 35 mm camera. The other fellow was said to have been employed at White Sand and his name was supposed to be Allan Baker. Clarke had no luck contacting either one. (83.)

Once Coral Lorenzen and her husband returned home, they thought a lot about the latest developments. Coral was amazed that something had happened so close to APRO headquarters. She called all the APRO members that lived in the local area and asked them to gather at her house the next evening so everyone could share opinions about the situation.



IS A “SPACE SATELLITE” WATCHING US?

JUST PUBLISHED!

EXPANDING CASE FOR THE UFO UNVEILS EVIDENCE LINKING SPACE LIFE TO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Have “beings” from outer space already set up the first earth satellite? Have others beaten us to the observation post that offers a view of everything happening everywhere on this planet?

The man who only a few years ago was ridiculed for speaking seriously about the launching of an “earth satellite,” M. K. Jessup, has just completed an astonishing new book: **THE EXPANDING CASE FOR THE UFO**. It contains an overwhelming mass of substantiated up-to-the-minute data pointing to one incontrovertible fact: **SPACE LIFE EXISTS**.

M. K. Jessup has long maintained that the scientific study of inexplicable aerial phenomena is too vital to be sneered into oblivion or double-talked out of existence. UFO sightings continue despite every official effort to squelch discussion.

As recently as March 10, 1957 the New York Times reported the encounter of a Pan American Airways plane with “a fiery object”!

Why do these reports persist? Where do these “objects” come from? M. K. Jessup provided some of the answers in his earlier pioneering work **THE CASE FOR THE UFO**. Now in **THE EXPANDING CASE FOR THE UFO** he marshals an impressive array of additional evidence.

You'll find startling information on these and many other questions:

- Has the moon been colonized by intelligent beings?
- Has the “missing link” to a final solution of the UFO riddle been found?
- What did the strange caves in the southwestern United States reveal?
- Has a space satellite been launched from Mars?
- What mysterious force lifted into place the 2,000-ton solid stone roof of the Black Pagoda of India?



Whether or not you are ready to accept all of Mr. Jessup's conclusions, you will find **THE EXPANDING CASE** a challenging and stimulating reading experience.

Vol. X-No. 23

4*

In Three Parts

PART I

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1956

"FLYING OBJ INQUIRY BY

Probe Call Comes From L.A.

The Pentagon is "greatly concerned" about the many reports of unidentified flying objects flitting about the country, and is "directing a very thorough investigation," Col. Dean Hess, Air Force public information officer here, said this afternoon.

The Korean war ace called the office of the Secretary of the Air Force last night to ask a thorough investigation "so the public may know" the real nature of the objects.

He was prompted by the rash of reports that "What-niks" were back in the Southland sky, as testified by some qualified observers.

The objects were described variously as "a ball of fire," "an orange jack-o'-lantern," "a powerful, mysterious light" and "a great, green light."

A number of the observations were reported about the time a high-level storm swept over the area, with green-hued clouds hurling lightning bolts. Some were tinged with red from the setting sun.

"I'm not going to be satisfied with one of these routine inquiries," said Col. Hess.

I am sure the American people would be receptive to information as to whether these objects are of terrestrial or celestial origin."

He said his request for an investigation was relayed to the Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, responsible for such inquiries.

It already has assigned teams to three reported sightings deemed deserving of further study. ADC said it had not decided whether to send investigators here.

LUCE PRESS CLIPPING BUREAU

New York, N. Y.
Chicago — Kansas City

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., MIRROR NEWS
Circ. D. 307,858

NOV 6 1957

War Hero Demands Probe by Air Force

An Air Force hero today demanded a thorough investigation of reported unidentified flying objects "so the public may know" their real nature.

Col. Dean Hess, Korean war ace and Air Force public information officer here, said he lodged his demand with the office of the Secretary of the Air Force, but has not received a reply.

He was prompted by the rash of reports that "What-niks" were back in the Southland sky, as testified by some qualified observers.

The objects were described variously as "a ball of fire," "an orange jack-o'-lantern," "a powerful, mysterious light" and "a great, green light."

A number of the observations were reported about the time a high-level storm swept over the area, with green-hued clouds hurling lightning bolts. Some were tinged with red from the setting sun. **CONT.**

MBER 6, 1957

5X

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ECTS' STIR PENTAGON

"I'm not going to be satisfied with one of these routine inquiries," said Col. Hess. "The duty officer presumably passed my demand along to the proper authorities.

"But I haven't had a call back, and I haven't been fired.

"The failure of the Air Force to acknowledge these reports questions the integrity of those calling them in."

"I am sure the American people would be receptive to information as to whether these objects are of terrestrial or celestial origin."

The Air Defense Filter Center at Pasadena said it received numerous reports of "unidentified flying objects."

It said the reports were sent through channels to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for evaluation and investigation as a routine matter.

At Los Alamitos Naval Air Station, the unidentified objects flitted about the sky almost continuously between

6:05 and 7:25 p.m.

"It was not a star and it was not a plane," said Lt. Richard Spencer.

At Long Beach Airport, Maj. Louis F. Baker, head of the meteorological unit, and Airmen Joseph Abramavage and William Nieland saw six saucerlike flying objects at 3:50 p.m.

"They were circular and resembled spun aluminum — in other words the surface was not shiny," said Abramavage. "They changed course instantaneously without loss of speed. They were moving apparently at the base of a cloud at 7000 feet directly over the airport."

Mrs. Charles Weitzel, 242 Driftwood Drive, Corona del Mar, at 6:04 p.m. saw an object like "an orange jack-o'-lantern" over the ocean. It vanished in a few seconds.

Van Nuys police received more than 50 calls around 7:30 last night reporting a falling object. Operators at Lockheed Air Terminal control tower also saw it.

AF FORM 1125-PART II
15 NOV 1961 JUNE 1968

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

1005th AISS
Ext AF3, Colorado

AISS-4700-356-57

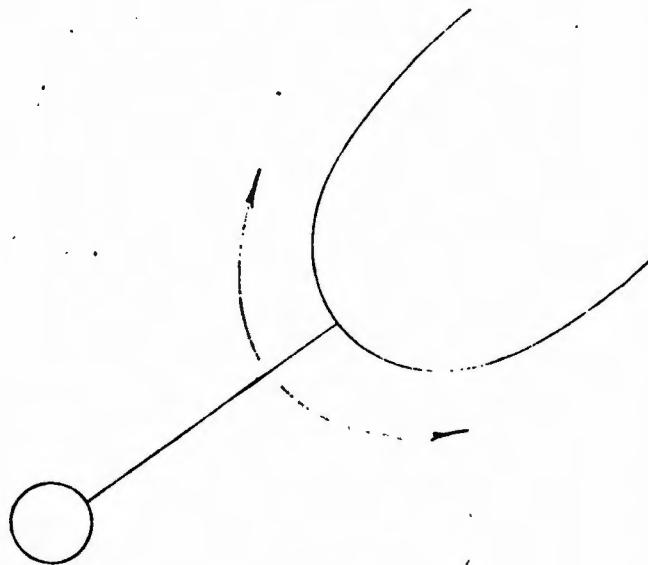
Part Six

11

19

Inclosure 1 to Part Six:

SOURCE'S Memory Sketch of object

*"Swinging
yo"*

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Defense Intelligence Agency or the Department of Defense. It is the responsibility of the user to evaluate its content and reach an independent conclusion regarding its value and suitability for specific applications. Reference herein to particular sources is made only as a means of illustrating certain concepts, and does not imply an official judgment as to the validity of those sources.

UNCLASSIFIED

4 November. Wichita, Texas. (between 9 and 10:00 p.m.)

House lights fail, radio buzzes.

The local paper told everyone:

"James F. Phillips, 1230 Thirty-fifth, reported sighting a lighted object traveling in a northwesterly direction in the sky Monday night between 9 and 10 p.m.

"Phillips said he went outside his house after an electrical failure while listening to the Voice of America on his shortwave radio.

"The object was said to be a grayish-blue blinking light. Phillips said he watched it for several minutes before it disappeared. He said his lights failed for just a few seconds but his radio continued to buzz until the mysterious object disappeared and then began broadcasting once more." (84.)

4 November. Kodiak, Alaska. (10:00 p.m. Alaska time)

Colored ball of fire. (See clippings)

4 November. Near Monroe, Louisiana. (10:00 p.m.)

"Gaseous body."

There was quite a few witnesses to the next reported appearance of a UFO, making it unlikely a hoax was carried out:

"Louisiana State Police...investigated the report made by four persons that they had seen a mysterious aerial object on Highway 80 East about 10 o'clock..."

"State Police headquarters here said the report was investigated but no evidence left by the object was found. Police also did not sight the object after arrival at the vicinity of the sighting.

"The four reporting the experience were Edward Henson, 26, of Swartz, Mary Lafferty, 18, of West Monroe, Pat Phelps, 18, of Monroe, and J.D. Yardough, 22, of Monroe.

"They told police they were returning to Monroe when a bright object near the ground in front and to the right of their vehicle suddenly rose very rapidly and vanished into the sky, within a matter of an instant.

"The witnesses could not define its shape or size, but one said it might have been about the size of an automobile. The outward appearance was described as 'gaseous.'" (85.)

4 November. Lubbock, Texas. (late in the evening)

The Air Force "investigates."

The official Air Force investigation "team" flew into Reese AFB late Monday evening. Plans were to begin work on Tuesday morning. Officers from Reese AFB had done some preliminary checking on Sunday but that was just to affirm the fact the incidents were worth looking into. Now the "UFO experts" were in town to do the job right, according to the press.

4 November. Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. (10:45-11:04 p.m. MST)

Ball of Fire Seen At Kodiak

KODIAK, (A.P.) — A Kodiak policeman and a 15-year-old girl said yesterday they saw an object resembling a bright ball of fire in the skies over Kodiak at about 10 p.m. Monday.

Policeman John Boucher, in a patrol car at the time, said he saw the object, shedding blue sparks and emitting intense light — fall on Kodiak island. It was described as about the size of four basketballs.

"I was near the Kodiak high school when I saw the school and schoolgrounds light up with a Greenish color," Boucher said. "I looked up and saw a large red ball falling rapidly. It had a short vapor tail chartreuse in color and was visible for three seconds before falling behind the school."

He searched for the object but could not locate it.

Dolores Gallagher, 15, said she also saw the object about 10 p.m. She was waiting in a parked car for her mother north of the city limits. "It seemed to be on a level with the car traveling from northeast to southwest and seemed very near," she said. "Blue sparks were coming from it and it was curving slightly downward. I was scared and thought that it would hit the car."

OTHER REPORTS

Officials at the Kodiak naval base said they received additional reports from civilian sources of an object seen in the sky Monday evening. Officials said they had not observed anything unusual at the base but had sighted a possible meteor at 6:24 a.m. yesterday. They reported no radio interference.

Boucher said his car radio was affected when the object disappeared.

Ketchikan, Alaska
Daily News
6 November 57

Greenish Vapor Seen Near School

KODIAK — A dazzling red ball of fire trailing a weird greenish-yellow vapor flashed over Kodiak Monday night, a Kodiak policeman reported to Navy headquarters yesterday.

Kodiak patrolman John Boucher, 28, said he saw the fiery object while on patrol on Mission road, site of a new school, at 10 p.m. Monday.

"I turned to go past the school when all of a sudden the whole area lighted up as if someone had turned on field lights," Boucher said.

"I jerked my head around just in time to see a flaming red ball whizzing out of the east. It skinned about 50 feet over the school. It was trailing greenish-yellow vapor. Then it disappeared."

"I attempted to radio the report to police headquarters but there was interference on my car radio. It was a steady 'dit-dit-dit' that went on for about two full minutes after I spotted the object. Jan Bueckers, the guard at the jail noticed the interference, too."

The strange object was also reported by two Kodiak school girls, Janet Torgamsen and Dolores Gallagher.

Official Navy comment today on the report was noncommittal.

The Navy admitted receiving the report but said no Navy observer had sighted the object.

Anchorage, Alaska
Anchorage Daily News
6 November 57

"Glaringly improbable assumptions."

In sharp contrast to what the Air Force called an "investigation," was the effort of Dr. James McDonald who looked into a November 4th Kirtland AFB case. The work was done some years after 1957, but the witnesses in the case were still available and were questioned extensively. Five telephone interviews were conducted and visits were made to Kirtland field to check lines of sight. McDonald even flew over the area in a private plane to check lines of sight from the air.

The Air Force's solution to the Kirtland mystery was that: "...a small, powerful private aircraft, flying without flight plan,...became confused and attempted a landing at the wrong airport." (86.) After examining the facts of the case, McDonald was appalled by the military's reliance on, as he expressed it, "glaringly improbable assumptions." (One would expect UFO "nuts" to be the ones to use such a tactic. Afterall, 'believers' don't have a leg to stand on, at least they don't according to the Pentagon)

After the Kirtland CAA tower operators, R.M. Kaser and E.G. Brink, talked to McDonald, the Tucson professor put together this account:

"The object came down in a rather steep dive at the east end of Runway 26, left the flight line, crossed runways, taxiways, and unpaved areas at about a 30-degree angle, and proceeded southwestward towards the CAA tower at an altitude they estimated at a few tens of feet above ground. Quickly getting 7X binoculars on it, they established that it had no wings, tail, or fuselage, was elongated in the vertical direction, and exhibited a somewhat egg-shaped form(Kaser). It appeared to be perhaps 15-20 feet in vertical dimension, about the size of an automobile on end, and had a single white light in its base. Both men were emphatic in stressing to me that it in no way resembled an aircraft.

"It came towards them until it reached a B-58 service pad near the northeast corner of Area D (Drumhead Area, a restricted area lying south of the E-W runway at Kirtland) [Nuclear storage?]. That spot lay about 3,000 feet ENE of the tower, near an old machinegun calibration bunker still present at Kirtland AFB. There it proceeded to stop completely; hover just above the ground in full view for a time that Kaser estimated at about 20 seconds, that Brink suggested to me was more like a minute. Next they said it started moving again, still at very low altitude, still at modest speed; until it again reached the eastern boundary of the field. At that point, the object climbed at an extremely rapid rate (which Kaser said was far faster than that of such modern jets as the T-38).

"The Bluebook report expresses the witness's estimate of the climb rate as 45,000 feet/minute which is almost certainly a too-literal conversion from Mach 1. My phone-interview notes include a quote of Brink's statement to me that... 'there was no doubt in mind that no aircraft I knew of then, or ever operating since then, would compare with it.' (87.)

McDonald then asked about the radar tracking. He learned:

"As seen on the RAPCON CPN-18, the unknown target was still moving in an easterly direction when the alert call came from the tower. It then turned southward, and as Kaser recalled,

moved south at very high speed, though nothing is said about speed in the Kirtland TWX of November 6, 1957. It proceeded a number of miles south towards the vicinity of the Albuquerque Low Frequency Range Station, orbited there for a number of minutes, came back north to near Kirtland, took up a trail position about a half-mile behind an Air Force C-46 just then leaving Kirtland, and moved offscope with the C-46." (88.)

5 November. Santa Fe, New Mexico. (12:15 a.m.)

Two Santa Fe residents, Joe Martinez and Albert Gallegos, got off work in the middle of the night and were driving home together when they noticed something odd in the dark sky. Whatever it was, it gave off a great light. The light displayed colors: red, green, and yellow. (89.)

5 November. Houston, Texas. (4:30 a.m.)

A newspaper story states:

"William Rush, said electrical interference from an unidentified flying object killed his car engine on Long Point Road near Silber Road about 4:30 a.m. Rush, who is manager of Yale St. Transport, said he first mistook the object for a red traffic signal. It was egg-shaped and glowed brightly. His car radio was blanked out with static. The object moved at high speed, Rush added." (90.)

5 November. New York City. (4:30 a.m.)

According to our source:

"There are few sections of Broadway from which one could watch a saucer hovering over an open field a few hundred feet away. One such section - perhaps the only one - is in the northern Bronx, just south of the Yonkers line, where the avenue is built up only on the west side, and the east side gives on the wide playing fields of Van Cortlandt Park.

"At about 4:30 a.m., on the morning of November 5, a truck driver for a rubbish-disposal company, Frank C. (he has requested us not to publish his name), was driving his garbage-collection truck down Broadway from Yonkers on his regular rounds. He had stopped at the bus shelter about two blocks north of the 242nd street subway terminus, and was talking to a bus driver there as he emptied the trash cans, when his attention was suddenly arrested by something strange in the air over the park. 'Look at that!', he exclaimed to the bus driver. Then, as he puts it, he 'froze.' He realized that he was looking at a flying saucer, no more than a quarter-mile away. Dully metallic in the dim light of the Broadway street lamps (dawn was not yet brightening the sky), it was of 'classic' shape: a flat, disk-shaped base surmounted by a derby-hat-like dome, with portholes. The dome was motionless, but the base was spinning, emitting a purring noise 'like a Hollywood muffler two blocks away.' The object was not luminous, and bore no lights. Its apparent size greatly exceeded that of the full moon, and it was hovering over the field at a height that seemed to be 'about that of a five-story building' --perhaps two of its own diameters. Mr. C. saw it in profile view, and could not see the under surface of the disk. He thinks he and the bus-driver

watched it for about half a minute. Suddenly, there burst forth from it a most brilliant yellowish light, that lit up every corner of the broad field, and the saucer took off 'just like a shooting star,' leaving the witnesses dazzled and gasping.

"An hour or so later, Mr. C. was in a diner with his helper, telling him of what he had seen. The other man was all for going back to look for traces in the ground where the UFO had been seen, but Mr. C. had no desire to go anywhere near it again. When we talked to him a month after the sighting, he told us, 'I stay far away from that park now.'

"Mr. C. has never heard of Adamski or Menger --unless he is deliberately concealing the fact, which we think is most unlikely. He seldom reads books, and was not acquainted with Long John's radio program. He does not drink. Although we can't claim to know him well, it is our understanding that no suspicion has ever been cast on his truthfulness. At present, we see no reason to doubt that this report is perfectly authentic --one of the most noteworthy UFO sightings in New York City that have ever come to our attention. We thank Harold Oksenkrug for informing us of it."

(91.)

5 November. Galesburg, Illinois. (4:30 a.m.) (See clipping below)

5 November. The San Andres Mountains, New Mexico. (4:34 a.m.)

A civilian radar technician by the name of Don Clark left for work very early in the morning. He was employed at the tracking station at Holloman AFB. As he walked to his car he noticed a strange cigar-shaped object 15° above the horizon due west of Alamogordo above the San Andres Mountains. That would put it 50 or so miles away if Clark guessed right. The "thing" did not move, so after about three minutes Clark went back into the house to get a camera, but when he returned the object had vanished. (92.)

5 November. Gulf of Mexico. (5:13-5:21 a.m.)

The Sebago case.

First contact. (5:10 a.m.)

The Coast Guard cutter Sebago, a 255 foot vessel with a complement of 135 men and Captained by Comdr. C.H. Waring, was conducting a routine search and rescue mission in the Gulf of Mexico.

At 5:10 a.m. November 5th the Sebago was returning to its home port of Mobile and was 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River when its long

Report Weird Flying Objects In Illinois

PAXTON, ILL., RECORD
Circ. D. 1,160

NOV 6 1957

Six Small Objects Hover In Sky At Hebron, Ill.

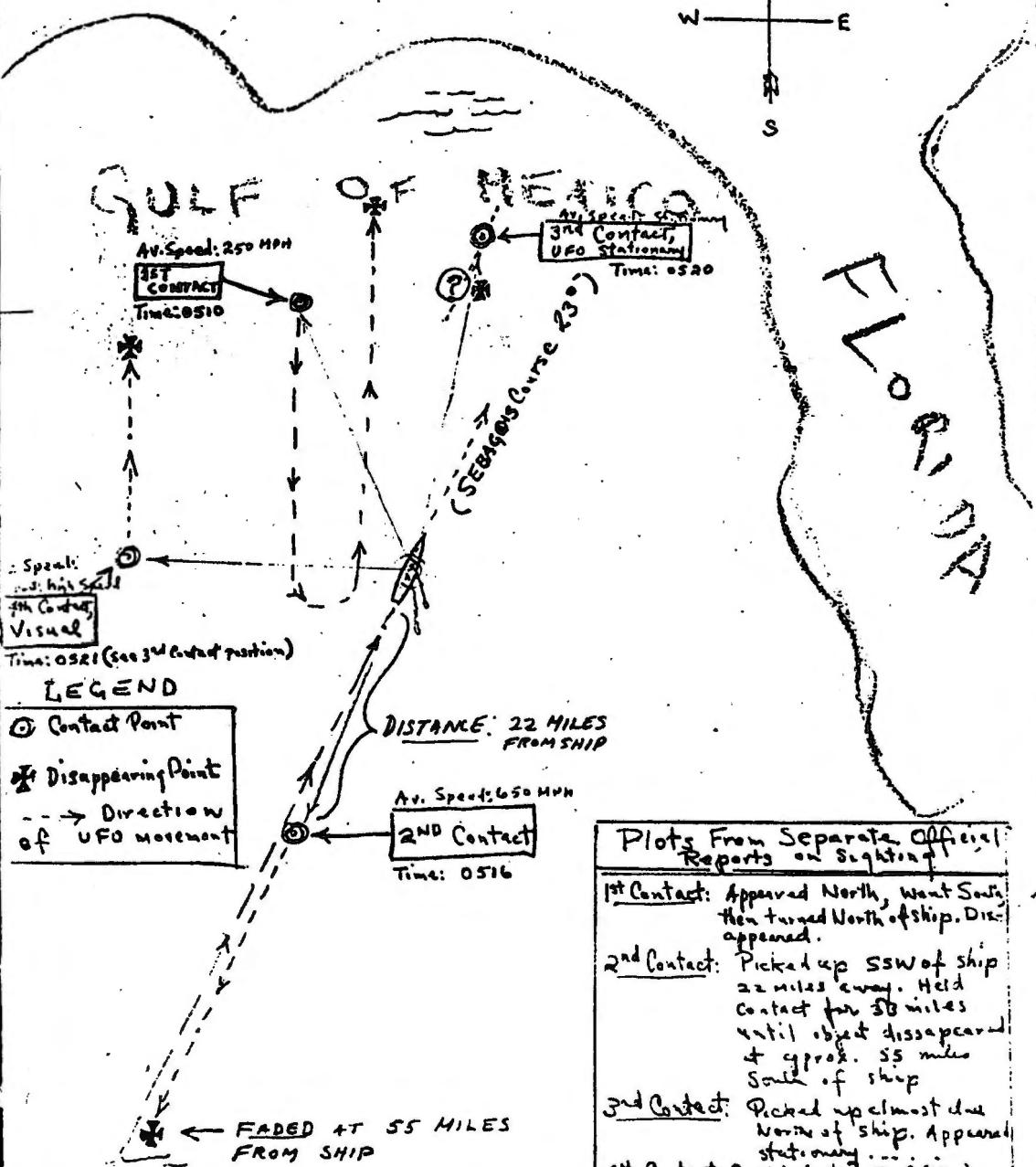
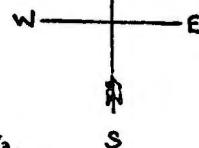
From many sections of Illinois came reports of seeing a weird flying object in the sky.

At Galesburg, a farmer's wife, Mrs. William Steagall, said that a "fiery orange" object hovered over the area in the pre-dawn hours Tuesday and then disappeared in a northwesterly direction. She said she spotted the cigar or egg-shaped object in the sky about 4:30 a.m. when she was awakened by the barking of a neighbor's dog.

LE - DISTANCE - SPEED PLOT OF JAG660
INCIDENT.

THREE(3) RADAR SIGHTINGS
OR ONE (1) VISUAL SIGHTING

C. T. Gregory
7 NW 57



Plots From Separate Official Reports on Sightings

1st Contact: Appeared North, Went South, then turned North of ship. Disappeared.

2nd Contact: Picked up SSW of ship 22 miles away. Held contact for 30 miles until object disappeared at approx. 55 miles South of ship.

3rd Contact: Picked up almost due North of ship. Appeared stationary ...

4th Contact: Due West to 31° (NW),

range radar picked up a sound and definite target 14 miles to the west. An Ensign by the name of Wayne Schotley was the navigator on duty at that hour and was on the wing of the bridge obtaining a fix with his sextant. Visibility was about 13 miles but Schotley noticed nothing unusual. (93.)

5 November. Gulf of Mexico.

Second contact. (5:13-5:14 a.m.)

A strange radar target, again sound and definite, appeared on the scope indicating an unidentified aerial object was only two miles from the cutter. The pip was moving northward. After only a few sweeps of the radar beam the target disappeared from the scope at 5:14 a.m. (94.)

5 November. Gulf of Mexico.

Third contact. (5:20 a.m.)

For a third time a strong blip appeared on the ship's radar. This time 22 miles astern. This target faded quickly. (95.)

5 November. Gulf of Mexico.

Fourth contact. (5:20 a.m.)

A strong blip was picked up for a fourth time seven miles ahead of the ship. This was the last radar contact. (96.)

5 November. Gulf of Mexico.

Visual confirmation? (5:21 a.m.)

The on again, off again, nature of the radar return suggested a "ghost blip" yet the image on the scope was quite strong. Three members of the Seabago were so curious they joined Ensign Schotley on the bridge so they could scan the sky for a solid body. Lt. Donald E. Shaffer, First Class Quartermaster Kenneth Smith, and radioman Thomas Kirk examined the morning twilight. At 5:21 a.m. all four men observed something that looked like a speeding "planet Venus" traveling north to south in a horizontal direction. Captain Waring would say later: "In about two minutes it went 33 miles straight away from the ship." (97.) None of the crew, to the Captain's knowledge, were aware of Levelland or other such reports that were being made. The course of the UFO, which the crew felt circled the Seabago, made those on board believe: "...they were being observed." (98.) The Coast Guard took the report seriously and passed the information on to Washington. A search aircraft was even dispatched to the area. The news media learned of the incident and requested radio interviews before the ship reached port. The request was granted. UFO reports were a hot topic and the story got a real big play in the press even though, as Ensign Schotley said, the UFO was just: "...a brilliant white object of no distinguishable shape." (99.)

5 November. Keesler AFB, Mississippi. (5:21? a.m.)

NICAP later learned of another possible witness:

"About this time, A/1C William J. Mey, an Electronic technician at Keesler AFB, Mississippi (about 320 miles to the north on the Gulf coast) spotted an elliptical UFO. In his signed report to NICAP, A/1C Mey gives the time as approximately 5:20 a.m. Looking south [Keesler is right on the Gulf coast], he saw the UFO approach on a northerly course at about the speed of a propeller

airliner, then accelerate rapidly and disappear into some clouds." (100.)

The radar target was last tracked by the Sebago 175 miles away moving north in the direction of the Louisiana coast. (101.) Did airman Mey make visual contact with whatever was on the radar screen?

The Coast Guard cutter case had to share the front page with the Stokes story and the White Sands MP reports. All this was adding up to some interesting speculation. The Associated Press news service observed: " "Sightings of strange objects have been reported from widely scattered sections of the United States since Sunday, most of them near secret military installations in the Southwest." (102.)

5 November. Alamogordo, New Mexico. (6:00 a.m.)

"My little regional kicker blossomed into world news."

Terry Clarke of radio station KALG was home in bed when his phone rang. He had quit work only three hours before after filing a newswire story on the Stokes case. It was now 6:00 a.m. Groggy with fatigue, Terry picked up the receiver. It was CBS news requesting photos to go with the Stokes dispatch. Five minutes later the phone rang again. This time it was the United Press wanting a follow up on the original story. Terry complained that he had sent out all he had. The UP caller, Nickie Tapino, explained excitedly: "Great story man! But we gotta have more." (103.) "What's the Air Force doing?" he asked. (104.) Clarke replied: "Hell, I don't think the general's up yet, but I expect to hear from Stokes as soon as they talk to him." (105.)

The station called soon after that saying that newsmen from all over the country were jamming the phone lines. Clarke now knew more sleep was out of the question. He quickly dressed, downed a cup of coffee, and then rushed to the studio. Working with his engineer, Jay Bundy, and the station's morning man, Don Hormell, they set up "beeper" interview recordings for inquiring reporters like Bill Crago of the Hollywood Mirror-News. (106.)

5 November. KALG radio station. (9:00 a.m.)

By 9 o'clock Clarke and his crew were 20 calls behind. A Canadian station called, as did Life magazine and Time magazine. Mutual Network newsroom in New York waited for its turn, as did NBC news, just to name the more well known agencies of the Fourth Estate. (107.)

Coral Lorenzen was busy during these early Tuesday hours. She called around and learned that Holloman AFB's switchboard was swamped by news agencies making inquiries and demanding an interview with Stokes. Coral was to stay with the case right on through the day and into the evening. (108.)

5 November. Congressman Walter Rogers.

Rep. Walter Rogers, representing the Texas Panhandle in Congress, was not that skeptical about the news reports about UFOs because of an experience of an old friend:

"Rogers said Tully B. Lucas Jr. of McKinney, a personal friend since college days, and Lucas' sister, saw a strange lighted object on a highway in the Texas Panhandle in 'about 1952' while driving from Tucumcari, New Mexico. to McKinney. Lucas told Rogers about it at the time.

"Lucas, who was driving the car, was so shocked that he turned the automobile off the highway into a ditch, Rogers said. Lucas said the car could not be started again, Roger recalled.

"I don't know what all of this is," Rogers said. "But I am not going to say it's not something from some other planet." (109.)

Spectacular UFO sightings bannered across the top of the front pages of the nation's newspapers were over-powering timid official comments. An increasing number of journalists were taking the UFO reports seriously.

The New York Daily News informed its readers: "The Air Force was sufficiently aroused to order its veteran saucer sleuths at Dayton, Ohio [BLUE BOOK], to make a 'slow, methodical investigation.' It said it was 'withholding judgment until all the facts are in.'" (110.) This "go slow" approach must not have been very impressive to John Q. Public. When the Stokes case hit the front pages, the Air Force was just beginning to investigate Levelland.

5 November. Air Force "Fact Sheet."

When the Air Force released its "Fact Sheet" on November 5th, which claimed the military's evaluations were made by "open-minded scientists and engineers," the CSI people were also ready to judge with severity. Examining the so-called "Fact Sheet," the CSI members said it was the: "...same old rigmarole about geese, kites, etc., reported as saucers; about the small number of reports that turn out to be Unknowns --'only 1.9 percent out of 250 reports in the first half of 1957.'" (111.)

The CSI UFO buffs were not dumb. They called the Air Force statistics real "shifty." For example, they noticed: "...how much more scrupulously exact that '1.9 percent' looks than '2 percent.' But 2 percent of 250 reports would be 5 reports, while '1.9 percent' of 250 figures out to 4 & 3/4 reports." (112.)

5 November. Wichita Falls, Texas. (about 10:00 a.m.) (See clipping below)

5 November. The Stokes case. (late morning)

An official statement announced:

"A public information officer at the Air Force Missile Development Center said James Stokes, the electronic engineer who reported seeing an unidentified flying object, would be questioned at length late this morning.

"Lt. Col. John McCurdy said he would question Stokes to try to determine 'the man's integrity' and veracity of his story.

"Stokes, who said he had a severe sunburn possibly received from proximity to the object, will be 'looked at' before it is decided whether medical examination is needed, McCurdy declared." (113.)

5 November. The Stokes interrogations. (about mid-day)

Stokes was summoned to Holloman AFB about mid-day

Women Report

Huge Bright Light

WICHITA FALLS, Tex., Nov. 5
(UPI)-- A housewife and her maid reported today seeing a huge bright light come through the clouds today about 10 a.m.

Mrs. Nathan Persky, wife of an oil well supply man, said she discounted the possibility it was the sun since it was raining and cloudy at the time.

She said she and her maid observed the object for perhaps 20 to 25 minutes as it moved back and forth in and out of the clouds. She described it as oblong or egg shape.

"I don't know what it was, but there definitely was something there in the sky," she said.

HARLINGEN, TEX., VALLEY STAR
Circ. D. 13,797 S. 12,922

NOV 6 1957

**NEWS RELEASE
PLEASE NOTE DATE**



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
Washington 25, D. C.**

FACT SHEET

NOVEMBER 5, 1957

NO. 1083-58

LI 5-6700 Ext. 75131

**AIR FORCE'S 10 YEAR
STUDY OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS**

In response to queries as to results of previous investigation of Unidentified Flying Object reports, the Air Force said today that after 10 years of investigation and evaluation of UFO's, no evidence has been discovered to confirm the existence of so-called "Flying Saucers."

Reporting, investigation, analysis and evaluation procedures have improved considerably since the first sighting of a "flying saucer" was made on 27 June 1947. The study and analysis of reported sightings of UFO's is conducted by a selected scientific group under the supervision of the Air Force.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Professor of Astrophysics and Astronomy at Ohio State University, is the Chief Scientific Consultant to the Air Force on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

The selected, qualified scientists, engineers, and other personnel involved in these analyses are completely objective and open minded on the subject of "flying saucers." They apply scientific methods of examination to all cases in reaching their conclusions. The attempted identification of the phenomenon observed is generally derived from human impressions and interpretations and not from scientific devices or measurements. The data in the sightings reported are almost invariably subjective in nature. However, no report is considered unsuitable for study and categorization and no lack of valid evidence of physical matter in the "case studies is assumed to be "prima facie" evidence that so-called "flying saucers" or interplanetary vehicles do not exist.

General categories of identification are balloons, aircraft, astronomical, other, insufficient data and unknowns.

Approximately 4,000 balloons are released in the U. S. every day. There are two general types of balloons: weather balloons and upper-air research balloons. Balloons will vary from small types 4 feet in diameter to large types 200 feet in diameter. The majority released at night carry running lights which often contribute to weird or unusual appearances when observed at night. This also holds true when observed near dawn or sunset because of the effect of the slant rays of the sun upon the balloon surfaces. The large balloons, if caught in jet streams, may assume a near horizontal position when partially inflated, and move with speeds of over 200 MPH. Large types may be

MORE

observed flattened on top. The effect of the latter two conditions can be startling even to experienced pilots.

Many modern aircraft, particularly swept and delta wing types, under adverse weather and sighting conditions are reported as unusual objects and "flying saucers." When observed at high altitudes, reflecting sunlight off their surfaces, or when only their jet exhausts are visible at night, aircraft can have appearances ranging from disc to rocket in shape. Single jet bombers having multi-jet pods under their swept-back wings have been reported as UFOs or "saucers" in "V" formation. Vapor trails will often appear to glow with fiery red or orange streaks when reflecting sunlight. After-burners are frequently reported as UFOs.

The astronomical category includes bright stars, planets, meteors, comets, and other celestial bodies. When observed through haze, light fog, or moving clouds, the planets Venus, Mars, and Jupiter have often been reported as unconventional, moving objects. Attempts to observe astronomical bodies through hand-held binoculars under adverse sky conditions has been a source of many UFO reports.

The "other" category includes reflections, searchlights, birds, kites, blimps, clouds, sun-dogs, spurious radar indications, hoaxes, firework displays, flares, fireballs, ice crystals, bolides, etc., as examples: Large Canadian geese flying low over a city at night, with street lights reflecting off their bodies; searchlights playing on scattered clouds, appearing as moving disc-like shapes.

The insufficient data category include all sightings where essential or pertinent items of information are missing, making it impossible to form a valid conclusion. These include description of the size, shape or color of the object; direction and altitude; exact time and location; wind weather conditions, etc. This category is not used as a convenient way to get rid of what might be referred to as "unknowns". However, if the data received is insufficient or unrelated, the analysts must then place that particular report in this category. The Air Force needs complete information to reach a valid conclusion. Air Force officials stressed the fact that an observer should send a complete report of a bona fide sighting to the nearest Air Force activity. There the report will be promptly forwarded to the proper office for analysis and evaluation.

A sighting is considered an "unknown" when a report contains all pertinent data necessary to normally suggest at least one valid hypothesis on the cause or explanation of the sighting but when the description of the object and its maneuvers cannot be correlated with any known object or phenomenon. In its Project Blue Book Special Report #14, released in October, 1955, the Air Force showed that evaluated sightings in the "unknown" category had been reduced to 3 percent at that time.

Previously "unknown" sightings had been 9% in 1953 and 1954 and in the previous years "flying saucer" sightings had run as high as 20% "unknowns." Project Blue Book Special Report #14, covered "flying saucer" investigations from June 1947 to May 1955. Latest Air Force statistics show the number of unknowns has since been reduced to less than 2%.

The following table presents the results of the evaluation of all reports received by the Air Force from the time that Project Blue Book, Special Report #14, was completed through June 1957. The table gives the percentage of all the reports received by the Air Force during each time period.

	1955 June thru December	1956	1957 January thru June
Balloons	27.4%	26.0%	26.4%
Aircraft	29.3%	24.6%	28.8%
Astronomical	20.1%	26.3%	24.4%
Other(Hoax, searchlight, birds, etc)	12.3%	6.0%	6.4%
Insufficient Information	8.8%	14.1%	12.1%
Unknown	2.1%	2.2%	1.9%
TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGHTINGS	273	778	250

Air Force conclusions for the ten years of UFO sightings involving approximately 5,700 reports were: first, there is no evidence that the "unknowns" were inimical or hostile; second, there is no evidence that these "unknwns" were interplanetary space ships; third, there is no evidence that these unknowns represented technological developments or principles outside the range of our present day scientific knowledge; fourth, there is no evidence that these "unknowns" were a threat to the security of the country; and finally there was no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, of a so-called "flying saucer" was ever found.

The Air Force emphasized the belief that if more immediate detailed objective observational data could have been obtained on the "unknwns" these would have been satisfactorily explained.

A critical examination of the reports revealed that a high percentage of them were submitted by serious people, mystified by what they had seen and motivated by patriotic responsibility.

Reports of UFOs have aroused much interest on this subject throughout the country and a number of civilian clubs, committees and organizations have been formed to study or investigate air phenomena. These private organizations are not governmental agencies and do not reflect official opinion with respect to their theories or beliefs based upon observed phenomena or illusions.

No books, motion pictures, pamphlets, or other informational material on the subject of unidentified flying objects have been cleared, sponsored, or otherwise coordinated by the U. S. Air Force, with the exception of the official press releases issued by Headquarters, USAF, in Washington.

The Air Force, assigned the responsibility for the Air Defense of the United States, will continue to investigate, through the Air Defense Command, all reports of unusual aerial objects over the U.S., including objects that may become labeled Unidentified Flying Objects. The services of qualified scientists and technicians will continue to be utilized to investigate and analyze these reports, and periodic public statements will be made as warranted.

SUMMARY

(Analysis Of Reports Of Unidentified Aerial Objects)

Reports of unidentified aerial objects (popularly termed "flying saucers" or "flying discs") have been received by the U.S. Air Force since mid-1947 from many and diverse sources. Although there was no evidence that the unexplained reports of unidentified objects constituted a threat to the security of the United States, the Air Force determined that all reports of unidentified aerial objects should be investigated and evaluated to determine if "flying saucers" represented technological developments not known to this country.

In order to discover any pertinent trend or pattern inherent in the data, and to evaluate or explain any trend or pattern found, appropriate methods of reducing these data from reports of unidentified aerial objects to a form amenable to scientific appraisal were employed. In general, the original data upon which this study was based consisted of impressions and interpretations of apparently unexplainable events, and seldom contained reliable measurements of physical attributes. This subjectivity of the data presented a major limitation to the drawing of significant conclusions, but did not invalidate the application of scientific methods of study.

The reports received by the U.S. Air Force on unidentified aerial objects were reduced to IBM punched-card abstracts of data by means of logically developed forms and standardized evaluation procedures. Evaluation of sighting reports, a crucial step in the preparation of the data for statistical treatment, consisted of an appraisal of the reports and the subsequent categorization of the object or objects described in each report. A detailed description of this phase of the study stresses the careful attempt to maintain complete objectivity and consistency.

Analysis of the refined and evaluated data derived from the original reports of sightings consisted of (1) a systematic attempt to ferret out any distinguishing characteristics inherent in the data of any of their segments, (2) a concentrated study of any trend or pattern found, and (3) an attempt to determine the probability that any of the UNKNOWNs represent observations of technological developments not known to this country.

The first step in the analysis of the data revealed the existence of certain apparent similarities between cases of objects definitely identified and those not identified. Statistical methods of testing when applied indicated a low probability that these apparent similarities were significant. An attempt to determine the probability that any of the UNKNOWNs represented observations of technological developments not known to this country necessitated a thorough re-examination and re-evaluation of the cases of objects not originally identified; this led to the conclusion that this probability was very small.

MORE

The special study which resulted in this report (Analysis of Reports of Unidentified Aerial Objects, 5 May 1955) started in 1953. To provide the study group with a complete set of files, the information cut-off date was established as of the end of 1952. It will accordingly be noted that the statistics contained in all charts and tables in this report are terminated with the year 1952. In these charts, 3201 cases have been used.

As the study progressed, a constant program was maintained for the purpose of making comparisons between the current cases received after 1 January 1953, and those being used for the report. This was done in order that any change or significant trend which might arise from current developments could be incorporated in the summary of this report.

The 1953 and 1954 cases show a general and expected trend of increasing percentages in the finally identified categories. They also show decreasing percentages in categories where there was insufficient information and those where the phenomena could not be explained. This trend had been anticipated in the light of improved reporting and investigating procedures.

Official reports on hand at the end of 1954 totaled 4834. Of these, 425 were produced in 1953 and 429 in 1954. These 1953 and 1954 individual reports (a total of 854), were evaluated on the same basis as were those received before the end of 1952. The results are as follows:

Balloons	16 per cent
Aircraft	20 per cent
Astronomical	25 per cent
Other	13 per cent
Insufficient Information	17 per cent
Unknown	9 per cent

As the study of the current cases progressed, it became increasingly obvious that if reporting and investigating procedures could be further improved, the percentages of those cases which contained insufficient information and those remaining unexplained would be greatly reduced. The key to a higher percentage of solutions appeared to be in rapid "on the spot" investigations by trained personnel. On the basis of this, a revised program was established by Air Force Regulation 200-2, Subject: "Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting" (Short Title: UFOB), dated 12 August 1954.

This new program, which had begun to show marked results before January 1955, provided primarily that the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron (Air Defense Command) would carry out all field investigations. This squadron has sufficient units and is so deployed as to be able to arrive "on the spot" within a very short time after a report is received. After treatment by the 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron, all information is supplied to the Air Technical Intelligence Center for final evaluation. This cooperative program has resulted, since 1 January 1955, in reducing the insufficient information cases to seven percent and the unknown cases to three percent of the totals.

The period 1 January 1955 to 5 May 1955 accounted for 131 unidentified aerial object reports received. Evaluation percentages of these are as follows:

Balloons	26 per cent
Aircraft	21 per cent
Astronomical	23 per cent
Other	20 per cent
Insufficient Information	7 per cent
Unknown	3 per cent

All available data were included in this study which was prepared by a panel of scientists both in and out of the Air Force. On the basis of this study it is believed that all the unidentified aerial objects could have been explained if more complete observational data had been available. Insofar as the reported aerial objects which still remain unexplained are concerned, there exists little information other than the impressions and interpretations of their observers. As these impressions and interpretations have been replaced by the use of improved methods of investigation and reporting, and by scientific analysis, the number of unexplained cases has decreased rapidly towards the vanishing point.

Therefore, on the basis of this evaluation of the information, it is considered to be highly improbable that reports of unidentified aerial objects examined in this study represent observations of technological developments outside of the range of present-day scientific knowledge. It is emphasized that there has been a complete lack of any valid evidence of physical matter in any case of a reported unidentified aerial object.

E N D

-3-

to hold a press conference. He was questioned in the presence of both the military and news media representatives. (See news clipping). It was the first interrogation.

Immediately afterward Stokes was ushered into another room to be questioned privately by Air Force authorities. (114.) We have this note on it: "One reporter told Coral Lorenzen Stokes was 'obviously agitated' as he left to be closeted with just the military." (115.)

The second interrogation, a closed door affair, worried Terry Clarke. He met with others at the radio station, the owner Wayne Phelps and station manager Bob Hoffman, to express his concerns about what Stokes might say after meeting with the military. (116.)

General L.I. Davis phones.

While the wire services, news magazines, major and minor dailies, and half the radio stations in America (it seemed), waited for some word from behind the closed doors, only Terry Clarke of KALG got any clue to what was happening. The Commander of the Missile Center, General L.I. Davis, phoned Clarke and asked that KALG's recording of Stokes' story that was broadcast over the air the night before be played for him personally over the phone. Clarke agreed. Clarke assumed that the Air Force men doing the interrogation wanted to compare what Stokes said earlier with what he was telling them now. Clarke never related the details of what General Davis said other than that part about the request, but the KALG reporter received the impression the Missile Center CO believed Stokes, however Clarke also felt the General would not admit to any personal opinion publicly. (117.)

When the meeting with Stokes was over there was only a few comments from the Missile Center's PIO, Lt. Col. John McCurdy. Unlike the usual BLUE BOOK treatment, there was no attempt to ignore or brush aside the incident, but then the Missile Center people had no connection with Wright Field. Here is McCurdy's statement as contained in a UP dispatch:

"A ranking Air Force spokesman said he is 'personally satisfied' that an electronic engineer actually saw an unidentified flying object which mysteriously made automobile engines stall.

"Lt. Col. John McCurdy, public information officer at the Air Force Missile Development Center said he became convinced the engineer, James Stokes, 42, had sighted such an object after lengthy questioning Tuesday. Stokes said he made notes of what he saw when his car stalled on U.S. Highway 54 at White Sands the previous day. He described the object as egg-shaped 'like a pull-out pistol target with rings around it.'

"Stokes said it was about two miles away at an altitude of 3,000 to 5,000 feet. He said 10 other motorists were stalled along the route when the object appeared briefly." (118.)

Terry Clarke quoted McCurdy saying the same thing but in a more convincing manner. McCurdy said he had to believe Stokes: "We have no choice... He's a recognized engineer and a retired Chief Petty Officer with 24 years experience in the Navy. He should know what he sees." (119.)

With official comment like that, interest in the UFO mystery could really take off. To make matters worst, McCurdy went on to call attention to yet another UFO report in the news without suggesting any prosaic explanation for it. He need not have said anything. A United Press story said: "Late

'Frankly, I Was Scared,' Says Stokes Of Experience With UFO

By BILLIE HOLDER

Daily News Publisher

"It all happened so fast that I don't know whether I can give you the answers you want or not," was the way that James Stokes, Alamogordo, opened an interview this morning relative to the unidentified flying object he saw yesterday afternoon near Orogrande. "The whole experience is weird, and very frankly I was scared to death, but I'll tell you what I can," he said.

Stokes reported that while driving on Highway 54 about 10 miles south of Orogrande yesterday afternoon, at 1:10, he noticed that his car radio began to fade out, and then the engine of his car slowed, and finally quit.

"There It Was"

"I thought it very strange, but did notice that other cars had pulled off, so I did, too, and the motor of my car quit entirely. I got out of the car and noticed another fellow pointing toward the sky, so I had a good look myself. There it was. Coming in from the northeast was the object. It swooped on toward Orogrande and headed out north. It disappeared quickly. We watched skyward, and it

came in once more on the same path, and headed out north once more. We watched it until it disappeared, and that is all there is to it.

"The object was rather egg-shaped, the color of an egg or perhaps 'mother of pearl' color, it was definitely a solid, material thing, but there was no noise, no smoke nor vapor trail."

Extremely High Speed

Stokes, a veteran of 24 years with the U. S. Navy and now retired from Naval service, is employed on a classified experimental project at Holloman. He said that he had lived in Alamogordo and had been employed at AFMDC for the past 18 months, and that this is the first time he had ever had such an experience.

"Judging from the distance the object covered and the extremely short time it took to cover it, I'd judge that it must have been traveling at a rate of Mach 1 or Mach 2," he said. "Again, I must point out that these are purely guesses, and that I was scared, that time was so short, but there were people from six other cars watching the same thing. The object appeared to be about 1,500 to 3,000 feet in altitude. I made this guess

based on the heights of the cloud formations that were floating overhead, and that the object flew into now and then. It must have been about 300 to 500 feet long and was of material —would have been something like 100-200 feet in thickness. There were no windows, or observation platforms visible on the object," he continued.

Stokes was reported to have been "sunburned" by the object. He said that he felt the rising of temperature and that his face was "slightly burned." However the burns were not serious and were not painful today. Outside of the heat from the object, Stokes said there was no pain from the burns.

He also pointed out again that there was no noise from the object. "When it changed directions it didn't turn, nor bank. It just went the other way," he said. "We were able to view it only about two or three minutes at the most," Stokes continued.

Stokes made notes on what he had seen, and even made a diagram of its location in relation to the mountains to the east and Highway 54. He said he talked with a Mr. Duncan of Las Cruces, who took pictures on a 35 millimeter camera. He also talked with an Allan Baker from White Sands Proving Ground, whose auto had also been stalled by the appearance of the object.

"I couldn't give any opinion as to what it was. I just don't know. First thought that came to my mind was that it was St Elmo's fire, but I had seen that before, and never in so large a form as this. I am convinced that it was a material object, that its color was egg-white, that no other colors were visible, and that it was a very fast-flying object," he said.

Tuesday [the 5th], McCurdy disclosed radar technician Don Clark, 32, reported he saw a 'stationary cigar-shaped object giving off an orange glow' in the San Andres Mountains at 4:34 a.m." (120.)

Clearly, Col. McCurdy was not in step with BLUE BOOK's policy of playing down UFO reports! Its possible he was reflecting the feelings of his boss, General Davis. It was another example of events moving too fast for the boys at Wright Field.

Donald Keyhoe of NICAP could hardly believe how bad the official handling of UFO reports had become by November 5th. Even at a high level there was confusion. Keyhoe noted that ATIC Wright Field (BLUE BOOK) was telling the news media: "We investigate all reports. We never know when one may turn up something new." (121.) At the same time, Keyhoe noted, the Pentagon in Washington was telling the press: "We don't investigate all reports." (122.)

5 November. Levelland, Texas. (11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

The Pentagon's "serious" investigation of the Levelland case.

The official investigator of the Levelland manifestations showed up in town on the 5th. He was civilian-attired and told Sheriff Weir he was the "official Air Force investigator" but otherwise refused to reveal his real identity. He did say he was from Air Defense Headquarters in Colorado via Reese AFB, but that's all. A uniformed Army man accompanied the official investigator, apparently serving as some sort of aide.

Fortunately for UFO historians a Levelland dirt contractor, R.B. (Bobby) Taylor, followed the "investigative team" for some time out of curiosity. The investigators didn't object. Said Taylor:

"All he did was take statements.

"He had a form four pages long to fill out. It was one of those regular Air Force forms with everything you could possibly think of to ask and then about 26 questions more.

"He asked for a map of county roads in the Levelland area so I went over next door and got a map from another contractor, Plains Oil Service Co.," Taylor continued.

"All he did was mark the four places on the map where it was supposed to have landed..."

"He didn't even bother to go out and look at the places the space ship or whatever it was landed.

"About the only thing he really appeared interested in that I could tell was the motors and lights being stopped --but whether he looked at any of the cars I don't know," Taylor said.

"He was dressed in civilian clothes, but I noticed he was wearing those black Air Force shoes. He had an Army guy with him and the Army guy was showing him a lot of respect.

"This civilian investigator was a young fellow about 28 years old," Taylor." (123.)

The Amarillo Daily News added:

"According to the Levelland Daily Sun the investigator dodged all attempts of newsmen there to interview him.

The Levelland

"WITHOUT OR WITH OFFENSE TO FRIENDS OR

Daily Sun News

"POES WE SKETCH YOUR WORLD EXACTLY AS IT GOES" — Byron

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 47

PRICE DAILY 5c, SUNDAY 10c

LEVELLAND, TEXAS

A (AP)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1957

ENTIRE WORLD ASKS ANSWER



OBJECT STALLED CAR—Texas Tech student Newell Wright Jr., at home with a case of flu, says the much-publicized Levelland phenomenon stalled his car near Smyer early Sunday morning.

when newsmen there were able to corner him the mystery man said he was authorized to say only that 'he is investigating' reports of a UFO in Levelland." (124.)

5 November. Levelland, Texas. (12:15 p.m.)

The anonymous official investigator from Colorado leaves Sheriff Clem's office after a half hour visit. He tells no one his destination. (125.)

5 November. Coast Guard press conference. (mid-afternoon)

So many people were trying to get through to Stokes, Keyhoe failed to reach him, but the New Mexico excitement was pushed to the background for a time by a new development. Very few people knew about the Sebago case as yet, and since it involved a Coast Guard vessel, it should have been easy for the military to keep it out of the papers. The last thing the Air Force needed was more big UFO headlines. A friend of Keyhoe's at the Washington Daily News, the Science Editor Sam Gordon, phoned NICAP to spread the word about a Coast Guard press conference being held at New Orleans to inform the news media about the radar contacts and visual reports of a UFO made by the crew of the cutter Sebago. (126.) Who authorized the meeting with the press? We don't know but it could have just been a local decision, otherwise it seemed to be a clear violation of the rule laid down during the "Special Briefing of General Lewis on October 4, 1956," which stated: "...public relations [was] rigidly assigned to the public relations experts at the Pentagon." (127.)

The Sebago story causes a sensation. (See clippings)

5 November. KALG newsroom, Alamogordo, New Mexico. (mid-afternoon)

"A note of anxiety."

As news of the Sebago swept the nation, Terry Clarke, still answering the phones at the radio station, noticed something: "...the tone of calls coming in from listeners and newsmen from across the country began to change. A note of anxiety crept into their voices. And I talked to more 'believers' that afternoon." (128.)

Underscoring the concern about the UFO wave was an official bulletin about a military radar alert. (See front page of the Fort Worth Press)

Morning editions of the newspapers in the Southwest featured the White Sands story, while afternoon editions bannered the Stokes and Sebago sensations. (See newspaper headlines)

5 November. Levelland, Texas. (2:30 p.m.)

The anonymous official investigator from Air Defense Headquarters reappears at Sheriff Clem's office. (129.)

5 November. Alamogordo, New Mexico. (afternoon)

"Bordered on hysteria."

When a huge balloon bobbed around over Alamogordo in the afternoon, the public reaction was so severe radio KALG had to broadcast bulletins to calm the city, informing its listeners the "UFO" had been definitely identified as a "Moby Dick," a huge, gas-filled plastic research balloon and not a craft from space. The flood of calls from local residents alarmed Clarke. He said: "Voices bordered on hysteria." (130.)

GIVE ONCE...

FOR ALL

NEW ORLEANS STATES

**RED
FLASH**
FINAL HOME

VOL. 78—NO. 263

Associated Press, International News
Service, AP Wirephoto, D&H Photo

Tuesday, November 6, 1957

PRICE 5c

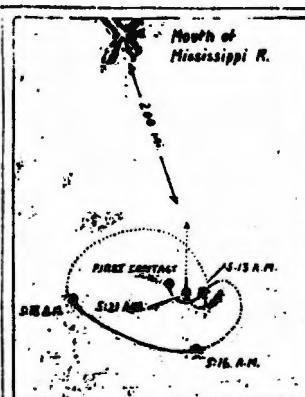
PLANET-LIKE OBJECT SEEN OVER GULF SOUTH OF N.O.

For 'Intensive' Probe
Crews in St. Bernard



COAST GUARD CUTTER SEABAGO—HER CREW SPOTTED OBJECT

Seabago Spots
'Planet' During
Routine Patrol



New Orleans States Photo
LOCATION WHERE MYSTERY OBJECT SEEN

Coast Guard
Awaiting
New Data

By WILLIAM HADDEN
The Associated Press
Editorial writer in charge
of science in Coast Guard
and space exploration

Red Scientist
Confirms Talk
Of Super-Fuel

MOSCOW 10 — A Sovi-

Guard Ship
Says Speed
1000-MPH

Coast Guardsmen on a cutter in the Gulf of Mexico south of New Orleans reported seeing a brilliant planet-like object hurtling through space at an estimated 1000 miles an hour today.

Both visual and radar contact was made with the object, it was reported.

At about the same time early workers in Baton Rouge said they saw an object flashing overhead.

The Coast Guard report came from the cutter Seabago, located early this morning about 200 miles south of New Orleans.

The object was seen for about three seconds at 5:21 a. m. but was tracked on the vessel's RADAR IN VENICE TOMORROW

Dr. E. P. Thompson, Tulane university astronomer, said today he has received confirmation from the American Institute that Sputnik II, the Russian earth satellite, is expected to be visible in this area between 6:18 and 6:30 a. m. beginning tomorrow.

radar screen for 11 minutes before that time and 16 minutes after then.

Please Be Ready to Meet Later

A Coast Guard plane was ordered to take off from New Orleans Airport, after the report was received at headquarters here, to meet the cutter, en route to Pensacola, Fla.

The message from the Seabago did not say exactly where the unidentified object had been seen.



Fort Worth Press

Weather: Cloudy with occasional rain through tomorrow; high in upper 50s.

VOL. 37, NO. 29

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1957

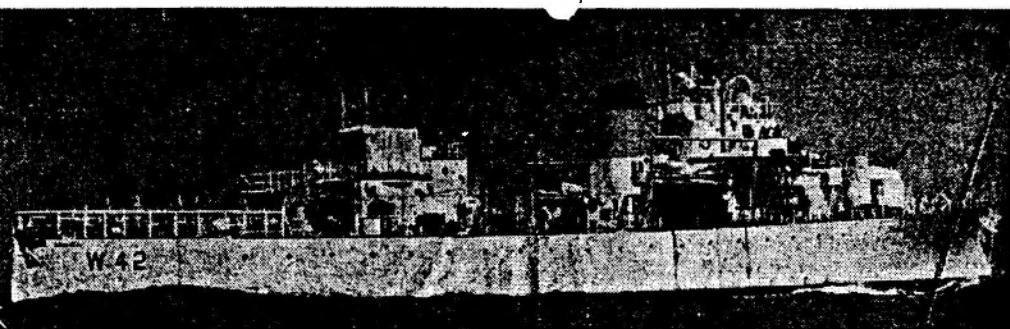
32 PAGES

HOME
EDITION
PRICE 5 CENTS

Coast Guard Trails Flaming 'Planet' in Gulf of Mexico

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5 (UPI) — The U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Sebago reported it spotted brilliant flying object in the sky this morning about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.
The unidentified object was first

In north Louisiana, four persons told state police they sighted a bright object about half the size of an automobile rising from the ground last night near Monroe.
The four persons said the hovering



W 42

THIS IS THE COAST GUARD CUTTER SEBAGO FROM WHICH OBJECT WAS SEEN

BULLETIN

NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 5 — All radar stations in the southern United States have been placed on a 24-hour alert to watch for unidentified flying objects.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 5 — The Coast Guard cutter Sebago reported sighting an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 6:21 a.m. CST today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed, the report said. The message said the object had been tracked on the Sebago's radar screen for 11 minutes before the visual contact and for 16 minutes afterward. During these periods, the object darted off the screen every few minutes but soon returned.

FLAMING PLANET
11/5/57
PENNY NEWS

Looked Like Planet Venus, Says Ensign

An ensign aboard the USS Schango described by marine radio today an object spotted from the cutter early this morning as a "brilliant white object with no distinguishable shape. The Coast Guard cutter was in the Gulf of Mexico, 200 miles below the mouth of the Mississippi river.

Following are the questions asked Ensign Wayne Schotley, deck officer, by Comdr. James N. Schrader of the Coast Guard search and rescue headquarters here during the marine radio interview:

Q. Give as detailed a description of the object as possible.

A. It was a brilliant white object of no distinguishable shape, sighted at an elevation of 31 degrees. It bore 270 degrees true from the Schango. The object was seen to move horizontally from south to north when it entered a cloud bank heading in a northwesterly direction. It was sighted three to five seconds.

A navigator on the wing of the bridge was taking morning star sightings and trained his sextant on the object. He did not get the altitude of the object, but trained his sextant on the star which appeared to be at the same height. Four people saw it visually.

Q. Who sighted the target?

A. The persons sighting the target were myself, Lt. (j.g.) Donald Schaefer, first class quartermaster Kenneth Smith, and Thomas Kirk, seaman radioman.

Q. Do you have the home-town addresses of those men?

A. Lt. Schaefer is from Greensburg, Pa. Smith is from Jacksonville, Fla. Kirk is from Brooklyn, N. Y., and I am from Redland, Calif.

Q. How good was the radar contact?

A. At 5:10 a. m. the target was noticed on the bridge radar scope at a range of 12,000 yards. The ship's combat information center confirmed the sighting. At that point it was reported falling astern rapidly. It was a good pip. (A radarman named Moore answered part of this question.) It was a very strong contact, considered good. It was observed at 246 degrees true, 12,000 yards.

Comdr. C. H. Waring, captain of the ship, was then questioned.

Q. Was there any speculation as to what the object was?

A. Negative.

Q. Was the general alarm sounded or was any warning given the ship's company?

A. The contact was so brief that it was not considered advisable to take any action.

Q. What effect, if any, was noticed on electrical or electronic equipment aboard the vessel?

A. No noticeable effect.

Q. Were there any vessels, planes or submarines noted during this period of patrol?

A. They observed a tanker bearing 246 degrees at 32,000 yards.

Q. Were there any other unusual appearances?

A. No.

Q. How was the weather?

A. The wind was north-northeast at 11 knots. The barometer was 30.00, dry bulb, 80 per cent, wet bulb, 89 per cent; cloud cover, 50 per cent; visibility, 13 miles at morning twilight.

Q. What was the general reaction aboard ship?

A. There was confidence it had been an actual sighting and keen interest in what they had seen. There was no great degree of speculation.

Q. Did anyone aboard have any previous experience in sighting unidentified flying objects?

A. No one aboard had seen anything of this type, except for one officer of the deck who had seen an unusual object on a previous patrol. That sighting was not considered significant enough to require a report.

Q. Could you identify the tanker?

A. No definite identification. It was believed to be an Alcoa ship and its course from memory was 156 degrees true, at a speed of nine knots.

Q. Was there any speculation as to the source of the power?

A. There were no vapor trails visible or any other means to identify the means of propulsion.

Q. Did any of the men aboard have the feeling of being observed by the object?

A. The course of the object up the side of the ship made people feel they were being observed. The appearance of the object was like the planet Venus in the skies.

Q. Was anybody aware of the recent sightings of a strange object in West Texas and New Mexico?

A. No, to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Can you estimate the speed of the object?

A. In two minutes, it went 33 miles straight away from the ship.

Q. Were there any members of the crew from New Orleans?

A. I do not have the names now, but there are some personnel aboard from New Orleans.

Q. Do you have any additional information on the feeling you described of being observed?

A. There was no definite feeling of being observed, merely the movement of the object.

Q. Could you describe the size and shape of the object?

A. The only description is that it was a bright point of white light without definite shape and resembling Venus.

Q. Do you think it was Sputnik II?

A. It is my personal opinion it was not.

Q. Do you think it was the rocket from Sputnik II?

A. I wouldn't know.

Q. Do you have the names of New Orleanians aboard the ship?

A. We have the names of three men but there are others. They are Melvin McCoy, ship's cook, Paul Matherne and Derwood Perrone, a quartermaster third class.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., STATES
Cir. D. 103,583

NOV 5 1957

Central Figures Tell of Sighting Mysterious Light

News Reporter Interviews Officers, Men on Cutter

By HENRY THOMAS

Coast Guardsmen who actually saw a mysterious object whizzing over the Gulf of Mexico early yesterday say they are just as puzzled as everyone else about the whole incident.

The five central figures in the incident that made national headlines yesterday, arrived in Pensacola early today aboard the cutter Seabago and immediately were deluged with questions by curious newspaper, radio and television representatives.

Ens. Wayne Schockley, officer of the deck at the time the mystery object was sighted, said he had no idea what "the thing" was and he wouldn't venture a guess. "That's a little out of my line," Schockley smiled.

The other men who saw the object soaring through the sky at speeds estimated at between 1,000 and 3,000 miles an hour were Lt. (j.g.) Donald Shaffer, the navigator; Seaman Thomas Kirk, the first to spot the object visually; Radarman James Moore who tracked the "whizit" on the radar screen, and Quartermaster Kenneth R. Smith.

ALL PUZZLED

But like Schockley, they also were puzzled about what they saw. After the 235-foot Seabago docked here in take on fuel, the five who played leading roles in the incident talked freely with newsmen about what they saw. They denied a widely circulated report that Air Force investigators had met the cutter when it docked here and quizzed the crewmen.

Schockley described the mystery object as "a brilliant white light, much brighter than any star, even a first magnitude star." The handsome, grey-haired officer said the light resembled the planet Venus but lacked the bluish quality characteristic of a planet.

Because of the intense glow, Schockley said he was unable to discern any particular shape of the object.

Contrary to published reports, the crewmen said the Seabago maintained radar contact with the object for only about a minute altogether.

The first sighting, which lasted only a few seconds, occurred at 5:10 a.m. Contact was reestablished at 5:13 but again was maintained for only a matter of seconds, Schockley said. The final contact was made at 5:20 a.m. and once again was "very short."

It was immediately following the last radar contact that the object was sighted visually.

Kirk was climbing through a hatch onto the bridge where a navigator was making routine morning star sightings when he sighted the rapidly moving object. "Look at that star, it's moving," Kirk exclaimed.

SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS

Schockley said he was somewhat dubious but looked up along with the others in time to see the brilliant object moving swiftly from south to north. It was visible for between three to five seconds, the men said.

Schockley, from Redlands, Calif., said he was on the bridge when he first noticed a "pip" on the radar screen. He contacted Moore in the radar room who informed him that he also had spotted some object.

Both men said the range on the first sighting was about 20,000 yards, and the object was moving from north to south—exactly opposite from the visual sighting and the last radar contact.

When the next radar contact was made three minutes after the initial sighting, the range had closed to about 12,000 yards.

Schockley estimated the object was no more than 1,000 feet in the air but he added that it would be difficult to establish an exact altitude.

Both Schockley and Moore said the first radar "pip" seemed to come from "a surface target." They said the "pip" was comparable to that made by a freighter shortly after the visual sighting.

Radarman Moore of Carrollton, Tex., said he calculated that the object was moving about 1,000 miles an hour when contact was first made and much faster, about 3,000 miles an hour, on the next radar sighting.

Schockley agreed with the enlisted man's estimates.

Asked about the reaction of the crew, Schockley said everyone was excited and "some were shook up."

He said he called the skipper, Cmdr. Clarence H. Waring, a native of Mobile, when the object first was sighted.

However, the officers said no general alarm was sounded because there was no indication of immediate danger to the ship.

WEATHER CLEAR

The weather was clear and the sea calm at the time of the sighting about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River. The hour was what seamen refer to as "morning twilight," about a half hour before sunrise.

The Seabago arrived at the NAS docks shortly after 7 a.m. and pulled out for its home port of Mobile about 10:30 a.m. Skipper Waring described the stopover here as "routine."

The cutter, which carries a complement of 121 enlisted men and a dozen officers, was swarming with newsmen during almost her entire stay here.

When asked if he had seen the object at any time, the husky skipper, Waring replied good-naturedly, "No, thank goodness."

HARRIED, AGREEABLE

"I wish I hadn't," laughed the harried but still agreeable Schockley.

But the troubles of Schockley and Radarman Moore are just beginning.

Both have been ordered to fly to New York today where they will appear on Dave Garroway's national television program tomorrow morning.

Meanwhile, S. B. Bradley Jr., Postoffice Box 52, Gonzalez, reported he saw a bright silvery light with reddish-orange streaks in it, traveling from southwest to northeast at tremendous speed around 7 p.m. Tuesday night.

Bradley said he had gone out into his yard and at that moment spotted the flashing object at an extreme altitude. He said it was visible for only about two seconds, that it went into the moon's hair, vanished in the reflection, then was visible briefly again as it emerged.

Bradley said there was no stream visible, but the object looked solid, with the fore part round and the overall shape oblong. He said it appeared to be six or eight times larger than a B-47 Bomber.

Simultaneously, Bradley said, there were NAS jets flying around, but at a much lower altitude.

Bradley said he served in the Air Force in both World War II and the Korean War.

PENSACOLA, FLA., NEWS
Cir. D. 23,460

NOV 6 1957

5 November. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

"Space network." "This is a serious invitation."

Caught up in the excitement some people in the deep south established a "space network." According to a Natches paper:

"Five Louisiana radio stations said today they would invite the unidentified flying object reportedly buzzing over Louisiana and Texas to land Friday night on the Louisiana State University campus.

And a sixth station, WIBR in Baton Rouge, is inviting the "space visitors" to take over its frequency for one minute.

"Manager Bob Earle said WIBR will go completely off the air at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and midnight, 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and noon tomorrow. Invitations are issued every 15 minutes to broadcast at that time.

"The 'space network,' radio stations WTIX in New Orleans, WLCS in Baton Rouge, KLOU in Lake Charles, KALB in Alexandria and KENT in Shreveport, will broadcast an identical invitation hourly to land in front of the LSU tower at 8 p.m. Friday.

"Asst. Manager Gene Nelson of WLCS, originator of the experiment, said the broadcasts would start at 4 p.m. today and continue through Friday.

"'This is a serious invitation,' Nelson said. 'We will all broadcast it on different frequencies at the same time.'

(131.)

5 November. Fort Itaipu, Brazil. (daytime)

An official coverup?

On the 5th the Colonel commanding Fort Itaipu issued orders that forbade any discussion of the "attack" experienced the day before. No one, not even close family members, were to be told about the incident. Army Intelligence spoke with each soldier, impressing upon them the need for secrecy. A report labelled Top Secret was prepared for the High Command. (132.)

5 November. Levelland, Texas. (3:00 p.m.)

At 3:00 p.m. the anonymous investigator leaves Sheriff Clem's office. He still tells little or nothing to newsmen. This time he informs the Sheriff of his destination. The investigator says he is going to Lubbock. (133.)

5 November. Long Beach, California. (3:50 p.m.)

"Flyniks clutter southland sky."

Of all the reports of this lot the first was the best. It was a sighting made at Long Beach Airport at 3:50 in the afternoon. A local newspaper tells us:

"Six unidentified saucer-shaped [there was a difference of opinion on the shape] flying objects were observed in the skies over Long Beach Airport Tuesday afternoon by three Air Force weather observers and 10 military personnel waiting to board a plane for Washington.

VALLEY TIMES LATE NEWS 5¢

MYSTERY SKY SPECTORS BAFFLE VALLEY VIEWERS

Many See Fireballs In Southland

Phantom lights in the sky first spotted over the Southwest United States have apparently traveled their way to the West Coast and the Valley with descriptions ranging from a "ball of fire" to a "great green light."

The Van Nuys public station was hit heavy by 20 calls last night between 8 p.m. and midnight as amateur residents called in their reports of the unknown. During afternoon hours at Lockheed Air Terminal three enginemen in Burbank said the lights seen by some Hollywood and Valley residents may have been "optical stains" produced while flying planes.

In Orange County Police and Army air bases were again on the alert because of the lights which swept over the Santa Monica Mountains around New Year's Day.

There were two sightings in Orange County and a hundred reports of lights in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains and Barstow Springs, San Diego County.

Mrs. Charles Whitt of Corona Del Mar, said she saw what looked like "an airplane" just above the mountains, however, just above the mountains, not over the ocean at 6:25 p.m.

Miss Virginia Koenig, Los Angeles Naval Air Station, reported that they saw unidentified objects almost continuously between 6:10 and 7:25 p.m. Lt. Richard Rappier, flying officer, was the observer from the ground.

"It was not a star and it was not an airplane," he said.

Lieutenant Spencer reported the object appeared to be "starred" and the color was not given in very good condition on Page Two.

Light colors, changing from bright to slow and back again.

Airport tower operator Louis D. Mitchell and a seurity on duty, hospitalized Charles Krueger, observed the object.

Mr. Krueger said the object

moved slowly across the sky in a north or northwesterly direction.

Three Air Force weather ob-

servers said they saw unidentified phenomena over Long Beach Municipal Airport.

All reported spotting an "unidentified flying object" at an altitude of about 4,000 feet at the time of a close bank about 8:30 p.m. yesterday.

The commanding officer of the weather observation post, Major Louis P. Baker, picked the observers with retired Captain Wilmot Thompson and William H. Johnson.

Like Alabamas

"They were streaks and glows like firecrackers," said Major Baker. "They changed colors, were apparently without noise, like speed planes, in a 'disappearing'."

Major Baker said the objects were larger than a "mid-engine Cessna aircraft and were in sight for about a minute and a half."

The military personnel waiting to be interviewed declined to identify any of the observers.

Peter Tharr, of Los Angeles, said he saw a red and white light at 7:15 p.m. near International Airport. Tharr, who conducts a night skywatch for the Roswell Observatory, said he could see the mystery light clearly with his naked eye for about 10 minutes although he had observed it through binoculars.

More Light

U. S. Weather Bureau officials said there was no atmospheric condition which would account for the reports.

Dr. Dimitrije Alter, head of the Griffith Park Observatory, said "unseen" air caused the Venus to shine brighter than Mars usually does.

He said the star Antares in the northeast also could be seen appearing brighter than usual.

"Airman Joseph Abramavage said he, Airman William Nieland and their commanding officer, Maj. Louis F. Baker, first spotted the objects at 3:50 p.m. Tuesday while observing cumulo-nimbus clouds for lightning.

"'We saw these objects darting in and out among the clouds at the base of the cumulo-nimbus. They were circular-shaped and shiny like aluminum. They seemed to have the ability to change course instantaneously with no loss of speed.'

"'Their movements were like those of planes in a mock dog-fight.'" (134.)

One of the other Airmen said the objects never merged, collided, or crossed the direct path of each other. (135.)

Moreover:

"Abramavage said the objects were at the base of the clouds which were 7,000 feet high. He estimated the linear distance to the objects from the observation point as about 10 miles. He said the six 'saucers' were at an angle of about 40 degrees.

"He said the objects always presented a disc to the observers and never an edge. He said they might have been spherical in shape.

"'Based upon my past observation of aircraft, I believe the objects were larger than a C-46,' Abramavage said. The C-46 is a two-engined Air Force transport plane.

"The airman said he and the other observers had discussed possible explanations of the phenomenon. They rejected the theory that the objects were sheet ice from the cumulo-nimbus pack, he said, because of the regular, circular shape of the six 'things.'

"'I just do not know what they were,' Abramavage said. 'I know what they were not --they were not balloons.'

"About 10 transient military personnel watched the objects before boarding a plane for Washington. Abramavage said the objects stayed in sight for a minute and half. The observers were directly outside the base operations building when they spotted the 'things,' he said.

"Officers at the base described Abramavage as an 'extremely competent observer.'" (136.)

"Was Abramavage warned?

Civilian UFO investigator Zan Overall followed up on the Long Beach case a couple of months later. Mr. Overall sought out Abramavage and asked a number of questions. Mr. Overall wrote:

"He said the account in the Los Angeles Times on the Long Beach sighting was essentially correct. He said they were a little off on their quotes. Wouldn't give any details as to where the quotes were off. At this point he said, 'I shouldn't be talking about this at all. It's under Air Force surveillance.' I decided not to go any further and closed on a friendly note, saying, 'Well, we'll find out some day, maybe 5 years from now, maybe 10, maybe 2 months.'" (137.)

Evidently the Air Force got to Abramavage. Many questions that Mr. Overall wanted answered could not be asked. The civilian UFO investigator would have to be satisfied with a few remarks Abramavage made when first contacted. Abramavage had said:

'There was a thunderstorm in progress, which the three of them [Abramavage, Major Baker, and an airman named William Nieland] were watching. He said he thought the UFOs might be natural phenomenon. He mentioned the possibility of sheet ice forming, etc., but agreed that Maj. Baker discounted this theory because of the sharp and regular outline of the objects.

'The observation was made with the naked eye.

'There was no wind on the ground but he didn't know about winds at the base of the clouds.

'The published account of the estimated size (larger than a C-46) was correct [Major Baker agreed with this].'" (138.)

5 November. Flat River, Missouri. (4:30 p.m.)

When on November 6th the Flat River Journal looked into a strange report of a UFO that was supposed to have overflowed the town that morning, a reporter for the paper learned:

"A check with the Air Traffic Communications Station at Farmington revealed that a similar object was reported seen by two airplanes at about 4:30 yesterday [the 5th]. The planes were at an altitude of 18,000 feet when they observed the phenomenon. Radar stations at Springfield and St. Louis showed nothing of an unidentified object, after considering the direction given by the pilots, determined that they must have seen the star [sic] Venus, which looked unusually bright and was visible from that altitude in the daylight.

"The sightings here coincided with disturbances in television reception and caused some alarm, and appeared to be very large." (139.)

5 November. KALG studios, Alamagordo, New Mexico. (late afternoon)

"Do they know something we don't?"

As the hours passed one problem loomed ever larger for reporter Terry Clarke. All day he had watched the biggest scoop of his career grow into a national news story but no one had yet tracked down the two witnesses Stokes had claimed observed the same UFO he had seen. This cast doubt on Stokes' credibility; however, Air Force officials still backed the engineer's story. It was suggested by some in the press corps that the military "knew something they didn't." (140.)

Speculation about the true feelings of the Air Force had to be effected by the news that same afternoon that the missile test center where Stokes was employed had named a certain Maj. Dwight Hillis as: "Center Co-ordinator of Unidentified Flying Object Reports." (141.)

Night of the saucers. The flap peaks.

5 November. East St. Louis, Missouri. (6:00 p.m.)

"Object sped away from airplane."

According to a major St. Louis newspaper:

"East St. Louis police received several telephone calls from persons who reported sighting a round, blue-green object at great height in the southeast about 6 p.m. The viewers said the object was stationary until an airplane neared it, whereupon it sped away, leaving a fiery trail." (142.)

5 November. Levelland, Texas. (6:30 p.m.)

"Well, I'm gone."

The anonymous investigator from Colorado Springs returned to Levelland and Sheriff Clem's office after spending over three hours in Lubbock. A reporter for the Levelland Daily Sun-News was with the Sheriff at the time. The reporter was full of questions, but, like before, the "mystery man" insisted the Air Force had not authorized him to say anything other than to admit he was investigating the Levelland reports. The Daily Sun-News man wrote: "Well, I'm gone, he told Sheriff Weir Clem, then he walked out into a dark, drippy night and drove away in an Air Force vehicle." (143.) The official investigation was over.

5 November. Mitchell, South Dakota. (6:30 p.m.)

"Changed directions abruptly."

Our source tells us:

"Four Mitchell people and a Pierre, S.D. man were witnesses to the sighting of three UFOs, according to Police Chief Don Licht, who reported seeing the objects himself. With Licht at the time of the sighting were C.R. Schlicht, who first spotted the objects; Schlicht's daughter, Joyce; Don Rounds, Pierre area safety coordinator for the State Highway Patrol, who was visiting the Lichts, and Mrs. Licht. Licht described the objects, seen at about 6:30 p.m., as having one large bright white light with smaller lights around it. There were 3 of the objects, he said. The objects themselves could not be seen because of the darkness, the police chief said. He added that the center object also had a red light above the white lights. One of the objects was a little behind and away from the other two, but all three held to a formation. They made no noise like an airplane, Licht stated, and changed direction abruptly, and when they did so, the lights grew brighter. Licht said the group watched the objects 15 to 20 minutes. They appeared from the west, went east, returned over Mitchell and then circled in the southeastern sky. (144.)

5 November. McMinnville, Oregon. (6:33-7:00? p.m.)

"Giant egg hovers over poultry farm." (See clipping)

5 November. Hedley, Texas. (about dusk)

Unidentified Flying Object In Yamhill County Vicinity Causes Reports To Sheriff

Talk of Sputnik II and the celestial canine today played second fiddle to Yamhill county's own mysterious aircraft which reportedly was sighted here Tuesday evening.

Report which had most widespread effects was a broadcast over Portland radio and television stations which gave the eye-witness account of Sam Kelchner, Rt. 1 Box 163, McMinnville.

According to Kelchner's report, a strange type of airship hovered over his house and farm for nearly half an hour. He said the first sighted the ship over his house at 6:33 p.m. Tuesday night and ran into his home to alert his family.

Kelchner, who operates a poultry farm, said the egg-shaped aircraft moved slightly southward and hovered over his farm as he and his family watched through binoculars. The strange ship moved and halted a second time before taking off swiftly across the darkened night sky.

Kelchner described the craft as having an orange glow with a lighter colored roof and said it appeared as "some kind of a ship." He said a glow from the ship illuminated the ground of his farm, according to reports.

It was perhaps the most spectacular of all reports of "flying saucers" and "space ships" which allegedly were seen in many areas of the county Tuesday night. Other reports also were heard in the vicinity of Amity.

Radio and telephone broadcasts received here prompted many telephone calls to police agencies and the sheriff's office teletype inquiry from Hillsboro.

Although many reports of foreign flying objects were heard in McMinnville Wednesday, many appeared to be rumors and many found it difficult to ascertain which if any were verified reports.

However, saucers and rocket ships became a dominant topic of conversation in many areas of the county, overshadowing the more concrete data of the Russian Sputnik which is circling the globe.

McMinnville, Oregon
The Daily Register.
6 November 57.

What Hovers Yonder Brothers

S. C. Kelchner reports that he and his family observed a large glowing object in the sky not 1000 feet from their home for thirty minutes Tuesday evening before it disappeared.

"I know it sounds crazy," Kelchner said, "But by Judas, it was there!"

Mrs. Kelchner described the objects as glowing and seeming to be covered with streaks of lightning, too.

"It had a long sword-like thing the full height of it and wings seemed to come from the sword part," Kelchner said. His first reaction on stepping outside to milk the cows at 6:33 that something was on fire, then he sighted the large egg-shaped mass hovering above two oak trees.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelchner were both concerned that their five children all in McMinnville schools would be teased and ridiculed today in spite of the fact that they had seen the strange sight.

John Orr, walking toward the Amity high school about 8:02 Wednesday morning pondering the thought that he was never fortunate enough to see any phenomenon glanced at the sky. Ahead and toward his left over Finley's ridge he observed a large gray object hovering near three or four fir trees. Second glance, there was nothing—but Orr is confident that "something was there". He had not heard the Kelchner report.

Amity, Oregon
Standard.
7 November 57.

"It scared the fool out of me."

Something hovered over another farm in Texas:

"W.V. Bain said he saw a mysterious light hovering over his farm about dusk. Bain lives 1½ miles north of Highway 287, halfway between Hedley and Lelia Lake. 'Just as I was walking out to the pick-up truck with my head down I noticed the ground lighted up. I looked up, and about 30 feet off the ground and about a mile to the west was this flickering mysterious light. I've never seen a light of that color before -- it was between a blue and a green and brilliant. It flashed on and off six times, to be exact, and left me weak,' Bain said. Bain's wife, Alma Jo, said she was busy in the kitchen and at the same time she noticed bright flashes come through her kitchen window. Bain also later learned that Paul McCarty, a neighbor living one mile north of him, reported his television suddenly went off the same time Bair reported seeing the light. 'It was just about enough to make a preacher of me,' he said. (145.)

5 November. Los Alamitos Naval Air Station, California. (6:05 p.m.-
7:25 p.m.)

"You Asked For It."

Apparent UFO activity in southern California extended to the Los Alamitos Naval Air Station. Sightings of something in the air was said to be almost continuous, but not much detail is given in press accounts, although news stories do mention a Naval tower operator, Louis D. Mitchell. Mitchell was apparently impressed by the sightings. Lt. Richard Spencer, a Navy pilot, went public with his observation saying that the UFOs seemed to pulsate, and were not stars or aircraft. Of special interest was the fact Lt. Spencer was invited to appear on the immensely popular television program "You Asked For It" hosted by Art Baker. The idea of the show was to respond to requests by the viewing audience. The producers took pride in satisfying the toughest of demands and a Lt. Spencer interview seemed to be an easy one. Would it? (146.)

5 November. San Diego, California. (6:10 p.m.)

TV set acted up.

Our source:

"An unidentified flying object that turned from white to red while hovering over a Dehesa home was reported to the sheriff's office here last night [the 5th].

"Lewis J. Flickinger, of Route 2, Box 818, Dehesa, said at 6:10 last night his television started acting up.

"He said he went outside and observed a strange object in the air which changed color as it disappeared." (147.)

Also:

"At Colorado Springs, the North American Air Defense Command reported it received 46 reports of unidentified objects from throughout the nation last night but only three, including one from Kearney, Nebraska [Reinhold Schmidt's] deserved further study." (148.)

5 November. Near Antioch, Illinois. (6:30-7:00 p.m.)

"I was never so scared in my life." His wife faints. (See clipping)

5 November. Suva, Fiji Islands. (6:30 p.m.) (See clipping below)

STRANGE LIGHT SEEN AGAIN OVER SUVA

For the third time within two weeks, a bright light was plainly visible in Suva last night, traversing the sky from the west to a point overhead and then retracing its path.

People in Victoria Parade stopped and watched the phenomenon at about 6:30 p.m. last night.

The Weather Office was unable to explain the light and a spokesman said he thought it might be from Nadi, but he doubted if the light would come so far as to be visible in Suva.

Some passers-by believed that the object may have been one of the Russian satellites.

Two Lami residents told the "Fiji Times" that on Thursday last at about 9 p.m. they saw a light behaving in a similar way.

Fiji Times. 6 November 57.

5 November. Portland, Oregon. (Sundown)

The city of Portland succumbed to a good case of mass jitters as the sun dipped below the horizon. After a day of spectacular UFO stories from scattered sections of the country, citizens nervously looked at the heavens and thought they saw a "bright moving object to the southwest" which authorities dismissed as Venus. The authorities were probably right. (149.)

Ringwood Residents Scared by 'Thing'

By DICK SPENCER

Beacon-News Staff Writer

A man who told this reporter "I was never so scared in my life," and his wife who fainted after seeing something she says she never wants to see again, are living today with the fear that what happened to them Tuesday night may happen again.

The object from the unknown that struck fear in the hearts of Larry Beaman, 20, and his wife, Marilynn, 18, residents of Ringwood, Ill., a small town near McHenry, was described by

them as a burning white ball
"that looked like the moon."

Beaman and his wife first saw the object about 6:30 p. m. Tuesday near Antioch, the northern Lake county. It followed their car and later almost landed behind a school building in Ringwood, about two blocks from Beaman's home.

"I never saw anything like it before in my life," said Beaman. "I ran back and got witnesses to come see this thing behind the school. I didn't want people to think I was lying."

Affects TV

At the same time Beaman was standing on a deserted Illinois highway surrounded by darkness watching the weird object, television sets in Ringwood began to dim and then lost their picture and sound altogether. This was at approximately 7 p. m.

Beaman and his wife told their story in the living room of their apartment late Wednesday afternoon. "I hope it

doesn't come back tonight," she said gazing out the window and up the street at the deserted school beginning to fade in early darkness.

Beaman said he and his wife first noticed the ball of white fire on his wife's side of the car as he drove. "We both looked out her window and saw it following alongside us at about 2,000 feet. It was a perfect ball in shape. It pulsed from white to yellow."

"It went out several times," said Marilynn Beaman. "Just like a light bulb. We estimated it would stay out for several minutes and then come back on. It did this several times."

She said by now they were driving on county highway P, seven miles of highway between Richmond, Ill., and Ringwood. "Then it went out again and I asked my husband to stop," explained Mrs. Beaman. "I wanted to see if it would return because we were so close to home I thought we could get some of our relatives to see it."

We pulled to the side of the road and stopped. We had our five month old baby in the car. We couldn't see it anywhere, then suddenly it flashed abruptly on and started coming for us."

Seemed to Grow

"It seemed to grow in size," said Beaman, "as it came for us. My wife screamed and I got the car going as fast as I could." He estimated the ball at its largest size as 30 feet in diameter.

As the Beamans sped into Ringwood they saw the weird ball settle "like it was going to land" behind the school. Beaman said he took his wife home with the child and then drove back up the road to the school. "There were trees and it was in them," he said. It was moving up and down, like a yo-yo, between the tops and base of the trees. I guess I was about 250 yards from the thing" and that was close enough."

"You couldn't watch it for any length of time," added Beaman, a quiet, soft spoken man who used deliberation in trying to clarify his descriptions. "It looked like a diamond the way it glittered. Like a welder's arc would be better. You just couldn't watch it."

Gets Witnesses

Beaman drove back to get witnesses. Back with him for the second time came his wife and neighbors. They stood on the road. "I wanted to find out what it was," said Beaman. "Then suddenly I didn't after I got there because I was scared."

"A sound like that of water being swished around in a washing machine was constantly around us while it was present," he said. "I couldn't see

any entrance to the thing and I couldn't see any wheels."

"It changed in shape as it came' near the earth, resembling half of a ball. Just like taking a perfect ball and cutting it in half" both the wife and husband agreed. They said only the top half glowed the same shimmering white.

The sight was too much for Mrs. Beaman. Before they could get her home she fainted. "I was mighty scared to go to bed last night," he added.

Beaman got Charles Tate, 26, of Ringwood and several other men. "We went back up there for the third time," said Beaman. "I was really scared but I wanted these other people to see this thing and they'd know I wasn't making this up."

"When we got there," said Tate, "it was leaving. It looked like a big red light and then it turned burnt orange and finally a purple hue and disappeared towards the southwest."

"When it got up over the trees again," remembered Beaman, "it returned to its original shape. Like a perfect ball. And its movements were darting, jerky like. It reminded me of the way a humming bird can hover for a second or so and then dart to another spot."

By now it was dark outside. "That's all there is to tell," Beaman said in closing. "I saw it. God knows what it was but I don't want to see it again."

"I'm not going out tonight," said Mrs. Beaman from where she sat beside her husband. "It's dark now. I feel better in here where it's light."

AURORA, ILL., BEACON-NEWS
Circ. D. 29,589 S. 30,893

NOV 7 1957

5 November. Portland, Oregon. (some time after 6:30 p.m.)

When local radio and television stations broadcast the story of Sam Kelchner of McMinnville, the phones started to ring off the hook at city police station while calls to the Oregonian newspaper office jammed the switchboard. Callers were in a high state of alarm and were reporting all sort of things: "a blue shadow on the moon;" "a brown, round ball with spokes flying into the moon," "an egg-shaped blue object flying from west to the southwest," "a green glow on the horizon," and even "Sputnik's dog falling from directly overhead." (150.)

5 November. Near Capron, Illinois. (6:45 p.m.)

Engine quits. Headlights go out.

Our source:

"At 6:45 p.m., Pat Walsh, 15, Garden Prairie, called the Boone County sheriff's office about a strange light in the sky. As soon as the light appeared, he said, the engine of his car quit and lights went out. He was driving near Capron."

"Pat said he saw the light for about 15 minutes. He said the light --a red one this time --blinked and was about as long as a semi-trailer truck and as wide as three men." (151.)

5 November. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. (evening)

"Captured several space ships and duplicated them."

Our source:

"A member [Robert Emerson] of the board of governors, [NICAP] said last night at a meeting in Baton Rouge, La., that the unidentified objects sighted in Texas and other western states may be developments of the United States.

"He also said there have been strong rumors that this country may have captured several space ships and duplicated them.

"'UFO sightings go back beyond man's ability to develop such an instrument,' he said, adding that his private opinion is that most UFOs are interplanetary ships originating from many points in the universe." (152.)

Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

"People were very, very, uneasy aliens might land." (See column by Steve Culpepper)

5 November. Coral Lorenzen's home in Alamogordo. (evening)

When local members of APRO met at Coral's home Tuesday evening, Stokes put in an appearance. The now famous New Mexico engineer acted strangely. Coral noted that Stokes: "...began to cautiously advance the theory that what he had seen was 'some kind of atmospheric phenomenon.' We [the APRO people present] all exchanged glances, but we did not press him on that point. (153.)

5 November. Las Cruces, New Mexico. (7:15 p.m.)

"A giant street light."

The local paper reported:

"A Las Cruces resident, Mrs. Q.U. McDowell said today that she

By STEVE CULPEPPER
Advocate staff writer

At around 7 p.m. on a cool November night in 1957, traffic started backing up on Dalrymple Drive next to City Park. It was the same night as the Dixie Horse Show Jubilee at LSU, but most people were not on their way to see horses.

About 5,000 people had driven to City Park to stare into the sky as two powerful anti-aircraft searchlights swept the low clouds in search of flying saucers.

For weeks, WLCS radio station had been broadcasting a general invitation to all spacemen to drop in on Baton Rouge, and promoters had laid out a large "landing grid" in the park in case they did. The crowds were advised to stay off the grid and to not panic if a saucer appeared.

A bakery provided a sound truck. A soft-drink company provided free samples. A car dealer showed off his 1958 models. Near the landing grid, a "large ribbon-decked welcoming committee stood by having their pictures taken by a LIFE photographer," according to a news story.

But behind the obvious promotion, there was something real in the night air: a current of genuine anticipation.

The UFO watch took place during a gust of UFO sightings in the Baton Rouge area. WLCS owner Lamar Simmons recalled that a number of people in town were "very, very uneasy" about the possibility that aliens actually might take the station up on its invitation.

That mood was shared by a number of people. After all, since World War II there had been regular outbreaks of UFO sightings in Louisiana and throughout the country, and many of those stories had been reported in the press. Popular entertainment — movies, books, television — made it seem all the more real.

Basically, flying saucers had become pretty commonplace.

For instance, in the same edition of the Morning Advocate that carried the story of the UFO watch, a small story on another page described a UFO sighting by a Watson family.

The father told a reporter that he realized something was "up" when cars started stopping in front of his home.

"I thought it was a wreck or something," the man said. What it turned out to be was an object, he said, "directly overhead, moving toward Baton Rouge. . . . It appeared to be white in the middle and to have a red ring around it, and it moved slowly toward Baton Rouge."

In those days it seemed possible to Adras Laborde to get to the bottom of the flying saucer business by inviting all of the nation's experts and credible UFO witnesses to Louisiana, where Laborde and the members of his Young Men's Business Club planned to hold a Flying Saucer Witness Convention.

"I had inquiries from people all over the country," Laborde said. "The Associated Press had carried it all over. I think we even had some inquiries from as far away as Canada. There was a general interest. We had statements, affidavits, from otherwise reputable people who just about swore that what they saw were flying saucers."

Laborde, who retired in 1977 after 32 years as editor of the Alexandria Daily Town Talk, said he doesn't remember why the convention never took off. "But I'm sorry we didn't go through with it," he said. "Maybe we had too many irons in the fire."

UFO fever was at such a pitch during the 1950s that even the Baton Rouge Parks and Recreation Commission climbed aboard.

For about five or six years BREC sponsored the Baton Rouge Unidentified Flying Objects Forum, which published a monthly newsletter and met at the Howell Park

"The launching of two Russian satellites has created an unprecedented interest in aerial phenomena," the editorial read. "It has created a tension which has made everyone alert for the sighting of any object. And it has shattered skepticism and produced in all of us a believing state of mind. Anything seems possible."

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Sunday Advocate.

30 August 92

saw a strange and luminous light illuminate the western sky over Las Cruces at about 7:15 o'clock last night. She said that the light flooded the sky with its brilliant golden glow and that it resembled a 'giant street light.' The light lit the sky for about ... [30? 80? minutes? News clipping not clear] and then vanished into a cloud bank in the southwestern rim of the sky, she said." (154.)

5 November. Pensacola, Florida. (between 7-8:00 p.m.)

"Like a big red hot coal."

Three people from Pensacola, Miss Ruth Colville and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brown, were in a car motoring near the mouth of the Escambia River when they spotted an orange-red object in the sky and watched it for 45 minutes. The thing was last seen on, or near, the surface of the water about a mile south of the mouth of the Escambia River. Mrs. Brown said the thing looked like a 'big, red hot coal'." (155.)

5 November. El Paso, Texas. (7:30 p.m.)

"Failure of engine and lights."

Our source:

"...a border inspector (35) saw an egg-shaped object giving off a blue light come towards his car after he had got out to investigate a sudden failure of engine and lights. It came from the southwest at a 35° angle, making a whirring sound like an artillery shell. It passed over his car at 30 meters altitude and moved off to the west, changing altitude at irregular intervals. The object lifted vertically when it reached the Franklin Mountains. The incident happened 5 kilometers Southwest of the International Airport. (156.)

5 November. South of Poplar Grove, Illinois. (7:30 p.m.)

Engine quits. Headlights go out.

Our source: "William Feitz, 17, Belvidere [Illinois], reported a similar [similar to the 6:45 p.m. Capron report] experience from south of Poplar Grove. He said his car engine and lights shut off when the light appeared." (157.)

5 November. Near Des Moines, Iowa. (no time)

A UFO bulletin reported:

"...a boy of 18 years reported seeing a UFO hovering in the western sky. He described it as a glowing orange, disc-shaped object, rotating clockwise. After a few minutes of observation it began moving off at a slow pace which soon was increased." (158.)

5 November. Near Sibley, Iowa. (no time)

Another item from a UFO bulletin: "...a man and woman, while riding toward Sibley, were followed by an orange light in the sky. No sound was heard. During certain periods of observation the UFO would stop and hover for a few seconds before moving on." (159.)

5 November. A ghost ship remembered.

Scanning the papers during this period was a joy for Frank Edwards, radio commentator and NICAP board member. There was so much UFO news it was hard to choose which story to read next, but one did catch his eye quicker than the others because it gave a big play to one of the minor items making the newswires. The Indiana newsman found that the Indianapolis Star on November 5th had bannered: "WHATSIT MYSTERY PROBED." The headline dealt with the October Fiji Islands case that involved a minister and some natives, an incident that told of a glowing white-colored circular object that hovered in the air near a Fiji fishing boat (The incident took place on October 16th). Edwards, who authored a number of books on the strange and unknown, recalled that the yacht Joyita was discovered drifting without a crew and passengers some time before in the same general area. Was there a connection? (160.) There was no reason to believe UFOs were that interested in boats, yet the November 1957 UFO wave does provide something that suggests that was a possibility.

"The strange case of the KC-13."

During the excitement of the Levelland flap that occurred a mysterious marine disaster in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The strait separates the state of Washington from Canada's Vancouver Island. Whatever happened in the coastal waters in November 1957 is still unexplained, and it does seem to have a UFO connection. Historian T.W. Paterson reviewed the case in a 1970s issue of the Victorian (B.C.) Daily Colonist. (See clipping below)

"The strange case of the "KC-13" goes back to November, 1957, when the Japanese freighter Meitetsu Maru steamed slowly through the darkness in calm seas, 30 miles off the west coast of Vancouver Island. For hours the Maru proceeded without sign of another ship when, suddenly, a wavering tower of light attracted her lookout's attention. Immediately ordering increased speed, Capt. Ohuchi headed for the scene, some four miles off, and, as his ship neared, he could see the blazing remains of a fishing boat. But it was not the fiery wreckage which held his eyes captive. It was the glowing, circular white light that hovered over the wreck at which they stared, hypnotized. As their freighter inched closer, the eerie light retreated swiftly in a great, upward arc, vanishing into the dark skies.

"After unsuccessfully searching for survivors, the Japanese radioed the alarm. Because the dying vessel was ablaze from bow to stern, Capt. Ohuchi made no attempt to have his men board and continued on to Vancouver as the United States Coast Guard and aircraft of the RCAF began an intensive search of the area. Aided by unseasonably fine weather, both forces covered more than 6,000 square miles of ocean.

"However, although numerous fishing vessels were in the area, none had picked up any survivors. Only one, in fact, had reported an incident which could have had any connection with the burned vessel: That report mentioned the strange white light which the Japanese merchantmen had seen, arching upward from the sea.

"All that the vast, two-day search uncovered of the vessel described as . . . of about 50 tons gross and about 70 feet long, was a medium-sized gasoline tank to which were attached some pieces of charred wood.

"In the way of further identification, all Capt. Ohuchi had been able to offer authorities were the figures "KC-13-ac" on the side of the burning hull.

"Fifteen years after, the mystery of KC-13 remains just that. For no Canadian or American fishing vessels had been reported as missing or overdue at the time of the loss, and the figures given by Capt. Ohuchi did not correspond with numbers of fishboats of either nation. The only tangible clue, the gas tank, was forwarded to the RCMP in Vancouver and eventually identified as having come from the Nanaimo fishing craft Jo-Joe

which went missing off Vancouver Island's west coast on Oct. 30, 1957.

"At first thought to be a company listing, KC-13-ac has never been identified. RCMP officials, when contacted in 1963, said they had no record of the white light. Up to that date, the Jo-Joe's owner had not turned up, and it had been assumed that he was lost with his boat. There was no mention of others having been aboard."

"Today, in 1972, the original questions are still to be answered: What was the cause of the fire that destroyed a 70-foot craft in minutes? And, even more intriguing, what was the mysterious white light that hovered over the scene, only to zoom away at the Meitetsu Maru's chance arrival?"

5 November. Hobbs, New Mexico. (7:30 p.m.)

Strange doings at Hobbs:

"At least four persons last night watched a mysterious ball of fire hover in the air southwest of Hobbs. Some of the observers were trained Civil Aeronautics Administration employees at the Hobbs Airport.

"One of the first to report the object was G.L. Carter of Atlantic Camp, about four miles south of Hobbs, who called police in the city.

"It is a light in the sky,' he said, 'and I think it needs checking.' "Police immediately called the CAA station five miles west of Hobbs. Nathon Dean, the communicator on duty, said that the object already had been reported to CAA by a clerk for Continental Air Lines in the same airport administration building a few minutes earlier, and was under observation at that time.

"The object was described on the CAA log:

'1930 hours (7:30 p.m.) ----Unidentified light sighted southwest of Hobbs, approximately 10 to 15 degrees above the horizon. Light is reddish-blue, yellow and white in color. Gradually lowering. Disappeared at 1940 hours.'

"Police identified the Continental Air Lines clerk who first spotted the light at the airport as Lene[?] Clmimlies [name not legible]. He was quoted as estimating the light as hovering at 1,000 feet above the earth, or about halfway between the ground and a cloudy overcast at 2,000 feet.

"As seen with the naked eye, Dean told police, the light appeared to have no positive shape and it moved at times and then stood still.

"William Neal Simpson, 1203 East Alston, acting chief communicator at the CAA station, today [Nov. 6th] said he believes the light seen from the airport last night 'quite possible was a refraction from a flare in the oilfields.' He added that this type of phenomena from reflected light is often seen under certain cloudy conditions. (161.)

5 November. Bilthoven, Holland. (7:40 p.m. European time)

From a Dutch source was this comment: "At 7:40 p.m. a strange torpedo-shaped object hovered over Bilthoven (Utrecht)....[it moved] from W.S.W. to an eastern direction." (162.)

5 November. Midland, Texas. (night)

"Cigar-shaped red light with a white rim." (See clipping)

5 November. New Orleans, Louisiana. (night)

"Astronomical wonders and other weird sights." (See clipping)

5 November. Hebron, Illinois. (night)

Six "somethings" above Hebron.

Our source tells us:

"Six UFO's were seen circling over Hebron during the evening. The descriptions indicated the objects seemed to be rotating and every once-in-a-while a flash of white, red and yellow would appear. The objects changed direction and color rapidly, moving like a flash. Hebron Town Marshall George Waples said he and 20 or 30 other residents watched about an hour as the objects drifted and darted above. 'They seemed like moving lights, pretty high up. The colors seemed to change regularly --red, green and amber. And the objects seemed to be turning,' he said. 'The first one --the largest one --came in from the southeast, fairly fast. It headed north toward Milwaukee and then seemed to veer east. The others seemed to be scattered about the sky with it.' (163.)

The Justice of the Peace at Hebron, Fred Mastin, told the press the objects would come on slowly: "...and then would speed up, in spurts, then slow down again and circled around." (164.)

5 November. Near Harvard, Illinois. (evening?)

"Follow that UFO!"

Reports came in so fast attempts to list them in the papers produced condensed accounts that could have used more explaining. The time of the event was also often omitted. A case in point was the chase of a UFO by police cars near the Illinois-Wisconsin State Line. The reason for the pursuit, apparently, was that the UFO passed a police car at a low altitude. (165.) The UFO must have been sailing along at a fairly slow speed if the officers thought they could overtake it. For what its worth, the UFO in this case escaped and was last seen heading toward Lake Geneva in Wisconsin.

5 November. Flat River, Missouri. (between 7:00-8:00 p.m.)

"A hundred feet long?"

According to the Flat River Journal:

"A mysterious glowing 'football-shaped' object was reported seen by numerous persons in the county area last night between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m., with no definite official report on the identity or description of the 'flying object.'

"The object was reported moving from east to west, apparently made no noise and was reportedly at least a hundred feet in length, with the brightest reddish glow coming from the lower side of the object." (166.)

"Space Visitors" Are Invited to L.S.U. To Talk, Sighted in Gulf

D.C. Roundup

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (AP) — Judging from past findings, the

NEW ORLEANS STATES
November 6, 1957

'Flying Saucers' Explained Here

Telephones jangled at police headquarters and newspaper offices last night with reports of flying saucers, astronomical wonders and other weird sights in the sky.

But the cause of it all was only a routine maneuver of military aircraft over the city, the air traffic control center at New Orleans Airport soberly reported.

A spokesman at the airport said the planes were both jets and the huge refueling tankers used for air-to-air refueling. He said a large number of planes from regional bases were involved.

One report from Jessie Rodriguez, night watchman with Commercial Solvents Corp. in Harvey, said the four lights were round, suggestive of a flying saucer.

Rodriguez said they started out in a "Y" formation, stood still five to 10 minutes, formed a vertical up-and-down position and then scattered toward the lake.

There were other similar reports and another that it was a diamond-shaped formation, rather than the "Y". Some said the lights looked like stars while others mentioned a "long fiery tail".

on 11-5

12—THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM, THURSDAY, NOV. 7, 1957

GOC Viewers Report Sighting Object Here

The "Whatin," an unidentified object sighted by hundreds throughout the South and Midwest, also has been spotted over Midland, members of the Ground Observer Corps here revealed yesterday.

The glowing, "cigar-shaped" object was viewed by three GOC team members Tuesday night, according to Leonard Measures, supervisor of the GOC post here.

"It first appeared as a cigar-shaped red light with a white rim around it, visible about two or three seconds in that position, then it turned so the round part of the object was toward us," Measures said.

The GOC supervisor said his group first estimated the distance of the object at 25 miles. However, later reports came in from other cities — even before the Midland report went over the air — and it was deter-

mined, through calculations, that the object was about eight miles southwest of the observation post. Measures

added, "It was flying at an altitude of about 250 feet and 'lit up' with a brilliant light that was visible, even at the ball park (where the GOC post is located)," Measures added.

"Immediately after this, we observed a ruby-red glow in the horizon about due west. This lasted about 60 seconds. We immediately alerted the Air Defense Command filter center in El Paso, and forwarded them a full report."

Measures said Jimmy Washburn, Frank Montgomery and Tom Fisher, all GOC members, saw the object with him.

"We are maintaining a 12-hour watch, from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., and will keep that schedule until we find out what it is," Measures said.

5 November. Various towns in Illinois. (See clipping)

There were several reports from Gibson City of sighting a weird flying object.

At Champaign, a woman who asked not to be identified said she saw a "cigar shaped" object in the sky several weeks ago. Officials of a number of northeastern Illinois communities Tuesday night reported seeing as many as six small objects hovering in the sky.

At Harvard, Richmond, Hebron and several other towns masses of people turned out to watch the unidentified objects overhead.

Six objects were reported seen circling over Hebron. At nearby Harvard, only two were reported.

The description indicated the objects seemed to be rotating and every once-in-a-while a flash of white, red and yellow would appear. The objects changed direction and color rapidly, moving like a flash.

Hebron town marshal George Waples said he and 20 or 30 other residents watched about an hour as a half dozen mysterious objects drifted and darted above. "They seemed like moving lights, pretty high up. The colors seemed to change regularly — red, green and amber. And the objects seemed to be turning," he said.

"The first one — the largest one — came in from the southeast, fairly fast. It headed north, toward Milwaukee, and then seemed to veer east. The others seemed to be scattered about the sky with it."

Report Seeing 'Whatniks' in Sky

Many residents of McHenry and Walworth counties reported seeing strange objects in the sky Tuesday night. They were reported as being of various colors — blue, green, red, yellow and amber.

Sheriff Harry Herendeen of McHenry county joined his patrol when it was reported that an object had landed near a school in Ringwood. However, a search failed to locate anything.

The sheriff and five squad cars were in Richmond for a time the same evening when objects were sighted directly above the truck weighing station on Route 12 between Richmond and Genoa City, Wis.

Don Liston, Richmond night policeman, said he saw the objects over the station about 8:30 p. m. They flashed green and amber lights, but made no sound. He estimated their height at 2,000 to 3,000 feet. They appeared triangular in shape to him, and sometimes were stationary and at other times moving at various speeds.

At Hebron, it is reported that many persons saw the drifting and darting objects.

Experts discount that the "whatniks" were "sputniks" or "flying saucers," but who knows? Boy pass me the vodka!

Richmond, Ill. Gazette

NOV 7 1957 11-5

Paxton, Illinois

Record

6 November 57

5 November. Augusta, Georgia. (evening)

'Mystery ball over atomic plant?' "Airbase alert?" (See clipping)

On 11/5/67

Wednesday, November 6, 1967 The 'Augusta Chronicle' 18

'Silver cigar' is seen here; AF alerted

An aircraft control and warning unit at Aiken, last night reportedly "contacted" an unidentified object on its radar screen and an Air Force alert was said to have been issued immediately.

While many Augustans had believed the object was a "red ball" visible in the direction of the Savannah River Plant, early reports of that as being "something out of the ordinary" apparently were disproved shortly before 1 o'clock this morning. A Chronicle staffer, sent out on a "survey," said he believed the "red ball" was a light atop a Jackson, S.C., water tank.

Meanwhile, however, two reports of a "long silvery, cigar-shaped" object were given. The Chronicle. One was from an 8-year-old Augusta girl, the other from a resident of Aiken.

The military unit at Aiken, officials of which refused to comment on their find, was notified of the "red ball" by a telephone operator at the atomic energy

(See SILVER, Page 3)

plant after he had been called by The Chronicle.

The operator, W. L. Hartley of Augusta, said he could not personally see the object. He added, however, that the antiaircraft artillery unit attached to the plant had alerted Dobbins Air Force base at Marietta. Planes based at Charleston, S.C., normally patrol the plant area.

Early viewers of the "red ball" said they saw it moving from south to north. Later, however, persons seeing it said it appeared to be stationary. From atop the News Building here the light appeared to be about five degrees above the horizon.

Report "Silvery" Object

The Chronicle newsroom received several calls concerning the light. Two callers, however, did not apparently see the same object viewed by the majority. Eight-year-old Jackie Ann Cheesborough reported through her mother sighting a "long silvery thing with black spots that looked like windows" over her home on Beckmans Road. The child, her mother said, was "extremely upset" by what she saw. A 9-year-old playmate, with her at the time, confirmed the story told by Jackie Ann. The little girl, her mother said, drew a picture of what she reportedly saw.

"It looked like a long cigar-shaped thing with black windows." Mrs. Cheesborough told The Chronicle.

Sees It Twice

J. T. James of near Aiken told the Chronicle's bureau there that he saw the object twice.

James also described it as "cigar-shaped." He said it appeared to be hovering about 15 miles south of Aiken the first time he saw it. Looking on with him, he added, were his wife, their children and two or three neighbors.

James said the object would appear "very bright, then change to amber color and go out completely occasionally."

He said the second time he viewed it, the object had changed its position entirely and appeared to be in the direction of Augusta. He said he and his family used a "cheap" set of binoculars, watching the object until it disappeared over the horizon.

"Clear As Crystal"

Carl Langley, a Chronicle staffer at Aiken, said he drove several miles east of Aiken about 10 p.m. but saw nothing out of the ordinary in a sky "as clear as crystal."

Gene Owens, who heads The Chronicle bureau in Horse Creek Valley, drove as far as the H-Plant barricade. Guards told him there, he said, that they had seen no object but had heard reports of one.

Early this morning, a "ham" radio operator called The Chronicle to report that several operators in this area had reportedly "had trouble" with their radio sets "losing power" at intervals. He also said they experienced "a lot of static and interference."

Still another operator said he had had "no trouble at all."

5 November. Eagle River, Wisconsin. (evening?)

"Shoots sparks."

Another of the many reports that stood out was the report of Kathy Bloom, 17, who witnessed a UFO with her parents at Eagle River, a location far to the north in Wisconsin. The UFO "shot sparks around the sky[?]." (167.)

5 November. Dunnotar, Transval, South Africa. (evening)

A foreign source states:

"...a large cylindrical object --the third UFO sighted in five days --tracked by searchlights of the local South Africa Air Force Station on the night of November 5th. The object withdrew behind clouds when the searchlight beams struck it, observers said. Air Force officials refused to comment." (168.)

The rest of the reports up to midnight have exact times.

5 November. Richmond, Illinois. (8:30 p.m.)

"Boy, pass me the vodka!"

A reporter marveled at the Tuesday night UFO activity:

"Many residents of McHenry and Walworth counties reported seeing strange objects in the sky Tuesday night. They were reported as being of various colors --blue, green, red, yellow and amber.

"Sheriff Harry Herendeen of McHenry county joined his patrol when it was reported that an object had landed near a school in Ringwood. However, a search failed to locate anything.

"The sheriff and five squad cars were in Richmond for a time the same evening when objects were sighted directly above the truck weighing station on Route 12 between Richmond and Genoa City, Wisconsin.

"Don Liston, Richmond night policeman, said he saw the objects over the station about 8:30 p.m. They flashed green and amber lights, but made no sound. He estimated their height at 2,000 to 3,000 feet. They appeared triangular in shape to him, and some times were stationary and at other times moving at various speeds.

"At Hebron, it is reported that many persons saw the drifting and darting objects.

"Experts discount that the 'whatniks' were 'sputniks' or 'flying saucers,' but who knows? Boy, pass me the vodka!" (169.)

5 November. Near San Antonio, Texas. (9:30 p.m.)

Car engine stopped dead. Headlights went out. Radio quits.

In a story headlined "S.A. MAN 'SEES' TEXNIK" we learn that:

"Lon Yarbrough Wednesday claimed he'd seen outside San Antonio the unidentified flying object that has puzzled Americans from Levelland to the gulf.

"Yarbrough, 39, a civilian cook at Lackland AFB who lives at 838 Marquette, said he saw the object in a field off the old Frio City road at about 9:30 p.m. Tuesday.

"Yarbrough said he was driving his 1957 Mercury home when his

radio quit playing. Then his lights dimmed. He looked across a field and about 200 yards away he saw what he described as a glaring white light --'like a big neon.'

"Then he claimed his auto engine stopped dead.

"He said he stared at the white light for about 10 seconds. He estimated it was 60 feet long and 'egg shaped.' Suddenly it shot up into the air, he said. At about 60 feet, he claimed, it leveled off and crossed the road just ahead of his car.

"It was headed southeast, he claimed. He said he could not estimate its speed.

"He said it made a 'whistling' noise when it went overhead.

"He said he felt a blast of hot air at the same time.

"The object remained visible for only a few seconds, Yarbrough said, then disappeared. He said he didn't know what happened or where the light went.

"When it disappeared, he said, his lights and radio came on again. He tried the auto's starter, the engine caught and he fled, he added. He said: 'I was scared. Fact is, I'm still scared today.'" (170.)

5 November. Near New Castle, Indiana. (10:10 p.m.) (See clipping)

5 November. Between Hobbs and Carlsbad, New Mexico. (11:00 p.m.)

"Car motor began acting up --coughing."

Yet another report of car trouble and UFOs:

"...an unidentified 21-year-old New Mexican clerk and a friend were returning to Hobbs from Carlsbad on highway 180. About 38 miles west of Hobbs, the two men noticed a 'reddish colored' light north of the road. 'Of course we both thought at first it was an oilfield flare that burns in that area, as it remained in sight for the next nine or ten miles,' the driver told the Hobbs Daily News-Sun, which printed the story the following day under eight-column double banner headlines.

"Then, while we were both watching it, the light suddenly rose straight up into the sky. We could not tell how high, because we could not judge how far away from us it actually was.' As they continued toward Hobbs, the object travelled parallel to them north of the highway. 'I was getting pretty scared about that time and kept speeding up, trying to get away from it. I finally reached a speed of about 90 miles per hour when the light suddenly turned toward my car and passed directly overhead while we were about a mile west of the Permian Basin Pipe Line plant. At the exact moment it was over us, my car motor began acting up --coughing and missing. At the same time the lights suddenly went out. Then the motor quit altogether. I put the car in neutral and coasted all the way to the Monument Road on highway 180. My friend kept watching the light and he told me it had passed over us and seemed to hover over the Basin Pipe Line Plant, remaining there maybe seven or eight minutes. I coasted nearly to a stop and then tried my starter. The motor caught and the lights came back on. I drove on into Hobbs.' The following morning, he said his car battery was dead and the dashboard clock had stopped." (171.)

The Harvard astronomer may think all the strange "whatniks" people have been spotting in the air these nights are mirages and "another flying saucer scare" but we expect those New Lisbon residents, for example, must feel a little differently about it. We know absolutely nothing for sure about what these strange objects might be (which is what we presume most people know about them, nothing) and all we can say is that if the government DOES know something about it, they certainly ought to speak up and tell us and right now. Seems there would be nothing to lose and everything to gain by such a disclosure.

* * * * *

On the surface it just seems impossible that several people could be so wrong since the reports of the New Lisbon residents who late Tuesday night observed a large hulk about the size of a house hanging motionless over them for a few moments at about tree-top height and then take off tally quite well with similar reports from Cambridge City and Greens Fork: Dave Barlow, one of the persons who saw it, said the object was so close he could have hit it with a BB gun. Marvin Wischart, assistant Straughn basketball coach, was another in the group who must think it's more than a mirage since the strange object focused a light down on the ground between his car and another in the group returning from the Straughn-Mt. Summit game. Anyway, it's made sky watchers out of some people who probably ordinarily never look up.

New Castle, Ind.
News-Rep.

NOV 8 1957

Cage Fans See Flying Objects Near New Castle

NEW CASTLE, Ind. — A group en route home from a high school basketball game reported Tuesday night a flying object which "looked like a big meat platter" hovered over their automobiles.

Mrs. Jasper Barlow, New Lisbon, said she and her two children, David and Sylvia, were driving home from a game between Straughn and Mount Summit when the object attracted their attention.

She said other cars in the party, including one in which Marvin Wischart, assistant basketball coach at Straughn, was riding, stopped while the frightened occupants gazed at the object.

Mrs. Barlow said the object had a "big light" on the bottom that flickered on and off. The object hung motionless above the car and made no noise. David said it was "close enough to hit with a BB gun."

Finally the object moved away, trailed by at least two smaller objects, Mrs. Barlow said.

At first the motorists feared the engines on their cars would stop, because they had read that happened elsewhere recently to vehicles near such objects. But Mrs. Barlow said the motor on her car was not affected.

GOSHEN, IND., NEWS
Circ. D. 7,483

NOV 8 1957

5-6 November. Long John's radio program. (late night)

The American public deserved better. After another spectacular day of UFO reports, authorities had yet to explain the mystery to people's satisfaction. The man on the street was becoming concerned --very concerned.

Before drifting off to sleep, one could tune into Long John Nebel's late night talk show out of New York. The radio program played a tape recording made by Reinhold Schmidt detailing the man's claims about encountering "space people" at Kearney, but that story had so many holes it was just entertainment. Where was the in depth news reports by the major networks?

Donald Keyhoe was not amused by Schmidt. The NICAP director knew that the wild tale would provide many newsmen with an excuse to switch back to a silly tongue-in-cheek tone when writing up UFO sightings. (172.)

APPENDIX

Last minute additions.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6,

Flying Lights Are Sighted By Hoosiers

UAW 6-57

Unidentified flying objects laced the sky over Indiana and Michigan Tuesday night.

A Wabash business man and his wife reported a glowing white light within a circle of small lights passed over their home three times.

Two women near Cambridge City and a man near Greensfork reported independently what appeared to be the same phenomenon over Wayne County.

Describes It

James Weesner, 30, assistant manager of a Wabash finance company, said a glowing white light passed three times over the barn at his home near Roann, disappearing between passes. He did not see the surrounding circle of lights the first time.

Weesner said the light was traveling too slowly to be on a plane, and the only sound was a low pitched, pulsating whine or hum, quite unlike the sound of a plane motor. His wife said she saw the same light.

These Are Triangles

Mrs. Lloyd Wickes and Mrs. Robert Wickes, living near Cambridge City, reported two triangular objects with lights passed over them toward the east, hanging almost motionless in the sky for a short time.

John Gilmer of Greensfork reported seeing similar objects some distance away, toward Cambridge City. The time, direction and details of his report tallied with that of the Cambridge City women.

Robert Hugel of Saginaw, Mich., said he was driving from Saginaw to Freeland on the Kochville Road when he saw an object in the sky.

Bright As Sun
Hugel told Saginaw police that the object was "a brilliant space ship, as brilliant as the sun, traveling over the southern hemisphere."

Bay City police spiked reports of space ships and sputniks over their area Tuesday night. Police said calls were received from numbers of worried residents.

But authorities said the people apparently saw only the reflection of a searchlight on a cloud bank. The searchlight was advertising the opening of a new store in Bay City.

Albuquerque, New Mexico
Albuquerque Journal

November 6, 1957

Man, Woman See Mystery Objects

A driver of a huge hauling van reported seeing a large mysterious light in the sky "about five miles southwest of Albuquerque Tuesday night.

He said it was "about the size of a house."

Delbert Boyd of Kellyville, Okla., driver of a Bokin Vans Line truck, said the mysterious light — which he saw about 7:45 p.m. — alternated bright and dim. It appeared to land southwest of the city, he said.

Boyd's sighting of a mysterious light was the second reported in the Albuquerque area Tuesday. Earlier an Albuquerque woman said she saw a round golden ball "brighter than the sun" in the western sky Monday evening.

Mrs. Dale Van Fleet, 2454 Del Sur SW, said she sighted the object after 7 p.m. and had gone outdoors to bring in the clothes just before a storm blew up. It was sprinkling at the time.

"The object just hung in the sky," she said. "It appeared larger than the full moon and was about half way up in the heavens."

She said after watching it outdoors for a few minutes she went indoors. Then becoming curious, she went to the window to look again. But it was gone, she said.

She said she saw it for about five minutes while outdoors.

ORANGE OR? Saucers 11/7/57 'Glow' in Michigan

BENTON HARBOR — Reports of a rainbow-hued flying saucer made the rounds here Wednesday.

Mrs. Dan Stoflo reported sighting an orange-reddish glow in trees near her farm home outside East Claire, eight miles east of Benton Harbor, about 7 p.m. Tuesday. Mrs. Stoflo said the light went right on up above the trees and moved off blinking under an orange halo.

At Lake Michigan Beach, Mrs. Virginia Jewell and Betty Ann Martin reported sighting a somewhat similar object around 7 p.m.

But they said the "object" gave off a greenish glow and hovered in the sky before darting off.

HOUSTON CHRONICLE *Mid-Classified***THERE WERE SOME SCOFFERS****Alvin Hunters Saw Whatnik in Colorado**

Chronicle Correspondence

Alvin—Current reports of flying objects, "whatniks" and mysterious lights have given some Alvin residents the opportunity of renewing an argument which started in the Colorado mountains near Gunnison.

While on a hunting trip recently, Alfred Farrell, Joe Dudley, Jephson and Charles Dudley, all of Alvin, and Bruce Looper of Texas City were startled by "the brightest light we've ever seen."

Watching an object hovering along the edge of a ridge, 11,000 feet high in the mountains, the hunters described it as round, flat, slightly cone-shaped and surrounded by red and green lights. They watched it through telescope sights on their rifles.

The four returned to their lodge and told the story to other Alvin residents in the party.

Sides were chosen with the scoffers arguing the believers.

During the past three days, the believers have strong support for their argument. Reports of similar objects have come from Alamogordo, N.M., Levelland, Texas, and from a Coast Guard ship in the Gulf.

Others in the Colorado hunting party were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Farrell, Mrs. Dudley, Mrs. Jephson, Mr.

and Mrs. Jesse Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Alexander, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Stricklin, Chester McKithan, Charles Sears, all of Alvin, and Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Ormsby of Center.

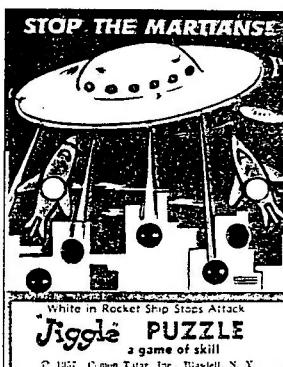
Left:

Interesting sighting that took place near the town of Gunnison in the Colorado Mountains.

Gunnison is southwest of Denver about 100 miles.

Below:

Game marketed in 1957 to keep kids happy during long road trips.



Ruidoso NM
News
Nov 8, 1957'

* * *

A couple of unusual reports: What d'ya know? Pat Henderson wrote the Ruidoso News a letter not long ago about concrentation. He submitted it to the Saturday Evening Post and the editors accepted it for use on their humor page, "Post Scripts." Pat is the Baptist minister at Tinsie. Mrs. Edith Johnson and Mrs. Bobbie Sain, returning from Clovis late Sunday, noted a strange glow in the low hanging clouds as they approached Roswell, and experienced some of the same queer things others who have been observing "whatniks" flying around Levelland and Central New Mexico. Their car lights sputtered and went out. The lights came back on and while they ate in a dining room in Roswell, had the lighting checked at a service station. The station told them there was nothing wrong with the lights. . .

Near Roswell, New Mexico
Late Sunday, 3 November 5

Belated report:

2 November. Near Littlefield, Texas. (11:00 p.m.)

The town of Littlefield is 30 miles directly north of Levelland. This incident was supposed to have taken place a half hour after the Pedro Siado encounter on Route 116 near Levelland that same evening:

"An Amherst couple, Mr. and Mrs. Comer Hall of Route 1, Amherst, revealed today an additional sighting Saturday night of the Levelland 'flying object.'

"Mr. and Mrs. Hall, 9½ miles north of Littlefield, reported seeing the object about 11 p.m. when they returned home from a wedding in Slaton.

"They described it as a fireball in the sky south and little to the east of Littlefield. It looked like an egg-shaped balloon but was much brighter than the lights of a plane, they said.

"To the left of the fireball, and a short distance away at the same height was a smaller, bluish-green object that seemed to come and go at intervals while the larger object remained 'very bright at all times,' Mr. and Mrs. Hall said. The second object was about a tenth the size of the fireball, they said.

"The fireball did not appear to be moving at a high rate of speed, but was 'traveling away from us most of the time,' they said.

"The object first moved west and then turned directly south, according to Mr. and Mrs. Hall.

"It appeared to be a few miles directly east of Littlefield when it was first sighted but may have been farther south, they said."

Source: Lubbock, Texas.
Lubbock Journal

7 November 1957

Hobbs Daily News-Sun

VOL. 30—NO. 151

HOBBS, NEW MEXICO WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 1967.

TODAY'S
NEWS
TODAY

DAILY 5 CENTS — SUNDAY 10 CENTS

'Thing' Stalls Hobbsans' Car, Exhausts Battery, Stops Clock

Strange Light Travels With Speeding Auto

Two Hobbs men, who refused to permit use of their names, last night reported a mysterious light hovering over their speeding car while the pair was returning to Hobbs from Carlsbad, causing the engine to stop and the lights to go out. It exhausted the power in the automobile battery, as well.

PROJECT 30073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	3. CONCLUSIONS
14 November	Vicinity Levelland, Texas	<input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
4. DATE-TIME GROUP	5. TYPE OF OBSERVATION	6. COURSE
14 NOV 100-130 MST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Ball lightning <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
7. SOURCE	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	9. COMMENTS
Civilian	ONE	After very extensive checks and detailed investigations by the Air Force and with complete collaboration with both Air Force and non-governmental scientists, it was concluded that the sighting was due to a very rare phenomenon called lightning.
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING	11. COMMENTS	
This case triggered off more than 300 similarly described reports within a 5-day period because of the nationwide publicity and sensationalism given by the press, radio and TV. Oval or round shaped object, generally bluish-white or greenish-white in color. The size and maneuvers of the obj varied with different (6) observers which ranged fm the size of a basket ball to 800 feet in length; although the majority reporting that the obj hovered above the ground. Most of the observers stated that the obj affected or stopped their cars ignition. Duration of sightings ranged fm 2 secs to 4 mins. Significant to note that all but one observer mentioned lightening or lightning flashes & the existence of rain or mist in the area.		

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Fiery Oval

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GREEN STREAK EDITION

The Phoenix Gazette

ARIZONA'S PROGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER

FINAL STOCKS... LATE SPORTS... RACE RESULTS

Vol. 78, No. 72

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46 Pages

Air Force Radar Seeks Mystery 'Object' In Sky

WASHINGTON Nov. 5 (INS)—The air force alerted its nationwide radar network today to watch for a "brilliant mystery object" that has been reported flying in a crazy pattern over Texas, New Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico, in the last two days.

Air force officials said the latest sightings have been placed in an unexplained category pending investigation, although they cautioned that 98 per cent of such reports have natural explanations and none has ever involved national security.

THE ALERT coincided with the skipper of the Seaboard, said the release of an official dispatch to middle of the Gulf of Mexico early today. U.S. Coast Guard headquarters reporting that the cutter Seaboard had contacted the strange object several times by radar over the

Comdr. Clarence H. Waring.
Turn to OBJECT on Page 1

