

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

1958 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

by

Loren E. Gross

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"UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse."

-- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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 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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Tom Benson of New Jersey was kind enough to share some rare UFO news bulletins which might have been otherwise unobtainable.

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

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

Paul Cerny, active for more than 40 years in NICAP and MUFON, gave me a big stack of UFO documents from his personal files.

Another big help was the UFO collection of Les Treece-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 an enormous UFO archive which includes the records and sighting reports of the defunct National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), as well as 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 Arizona, Tucson.

The scrapbooks of the late Leon Davidson were put on microfilm and made accessible due to the efforts of Barry Greenwood.

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 GrayBarker are available for inspection there.

Other names I should mention include Roderick Dyke, the editor of the *U.F.O.R.C. Journal*, which evolved into the *UFO News clipping Service*; Dr. Willy Smith, Richard Hall, Karl T. Pflock, Dominique Weinstein, and Dr. Michael Swords.

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SPECIAL THANKS!

I would like to take special notice of Bob Gribble's gift of his news clipping collection and source notes for the years 1800-1996. Bob wanted his material put to good use and I will make every effort to do so. Many items from his collection form a vital part of this booklet, as they will, I'm sure, of subsequent booklets and any revisions of previous works.

Loren E. Gross

UFOs A HISTORY
1958
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

1 November. Bruce County, Canada.

"It certainly gave me an eerie feeling."

Four different constables 20 miles apart radioed descriptions of a strange aerial object beginning at 12:40 a.m. Constable Johnson was the first to see it: "I drew McCutcheon's attention to it as we were driving near Burgoyne." (1.) Johnson also added: "At 12:50 I called Walkerton and in a couple minutes they radioed from a car there that they had found it, too. It seemed to hover over one point. We kept an eye on it from Burgoyne to just north of Paisley. Then at 1:10, it blinked out." (2.) (See clipping below)

PULSATED, CHANGED COLOR

Flying Saucer Seen By 4 Constables

Special to The Star 1958

Walkerston, Nov. 1—Four provincial police officers of the Walkerston detachment reported sighting a "pulsating" object hovering in the sky over Bruce county yesterday.

P.C. John McCutcheon and P.C. Edward Johnston sighted the large stationary object as they were on patrol near Paisley. It was four to five miles east of them. They radioed headquarters and P.C. Douglas Washburn and P.C. William

Reis sighted the same object 12 to 14 miles away.

After comparing notes by radio they reached the unanimous conclusion that this was a flying saucer.

The officers reported back to their detachment headquarters that the object hovered about 3,500 feet above the ground. It was predominantly white but constantly changed to other shades and at times looked as if it carried four lights.

They all claimed the "thing" remained motionless for 20 to 25 minutes then went out like a light. "There were many colors," said P.C. Reis, "red, green, white, mauve and blue." He said the gradual change of color looked like the effect of stage lights.

The detachment also reported that Washburn and McCutcheon saw a similar object in the district about three years ago.

No other reports of yesterday's sighting were made to police headquarters, and the officers admitted they were too interested in watching the object themselves to think of finding other spectators.

1 November. San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina.

"Shape of a rugby football."

According to a story in the APRO bulletin:

"Senorita Elsa Yolanda Lizirraga, her father and her girl friend observed a strange orange-yellowish light. When first spotted it had the shape of a sphere, later taking the shape of a Rugby football. During the course of the 40-minute observation the object was seen as it ascended, turning into a tiny bright point of light in the distance, appearing later at a lower altitude. Descension was not observed, however; the object would merely appear again suddenly. A beam of light was visible coming from the upper hemisphere, and another from the lower half." (3.)

Early November. "Above the Arctic Circle."

"Extreme altitude." "Disappeared vertically."

According to a report found in CUFOS files:

"Early in November 1958 a contact was made suddenly with an object well within the range of the radar, but at the extreme altitude. The object only changed its position by decreasing altitude, then for a very brief period it remained stationary, afterwards it moved eastward at approximately 500 knots for about a distance of a 100 miles, then started to increase altitude and disappeared vertically. This action was checked also by an adjacent radar station." (4.)

2 November. Happy, Texas. (about 10:00 p.m.)

Ampere jumps. Motor dies.

Car Saucered And Blowed

HAPPY, Nov. 2—They're back. The season's first unidentified flying object was sighted about 10 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, 1958. Wayne Cole, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claudia Cole, spotted the flying object as he approached his farm home near here. Cole said he saw a blue light traveling about 100 feet above the ground 7 miles west and 7 miles south of Happy.

Cole said he drove under the object and as he did so the ampere meter on his car jumped from charge to full charge. The motor died as he moved directly under the object, he said.

The UFO then began to move off in a southern direction climbing at a terrific rate of speed, trailing a red stream of fire behind it, Cole said.

Late Edition
AMARILLO, TEX., NEWS
Circ. D. 43,139 S. 66,763
NOV 3 1958

2 November. Near Fairfax, Oklahoma. (12:50 a.m.)

Orange discs.

A statement in BLUE BOOK files says:

"While returning from Fairfax, Oklahoma, traveling north on State Highway 18, at 12:50 a.m., 2 November 1958, approximately one half mile south of the State Highway 18 and U.S. Highway 60 Junction, I observed some orange colored objects on the horizon directly ahead. Within a few seconds the objects were easily recognizable to be four in number, the shape of a disc, and traveling at a terrific rate of speed. I turned to my friend asked him to look at the objects, but by the time he looked, they had disappeared over the roof of the car. He tried to see them out of the rear window, but with no success. We were driving approximately 50 MPH, and although I slowed down, I did not stop. A day later we were discussing the objects, and we commented on the fact that we had heard no noise." (5.)

3 November. Virginia Beach, Virginia. (5:00 p.m.)

Long cylindrical object emits a stream of white smoke. (See clipping on page 3)

4 November. The Sheffield Lake case.

"An ugly fight."

Mrs. William Fitzgerald waited impatiently for an Air Force explanation for her close encounter with a UFO back on September 21st. General Fisher finally released the official conclusion at the end of October to Rep. Baumhart and the Congressman in turn notified the Sheffield Lake woman. Mrs. Fitzgerald, already greatly upset by her UFO experience, could hardly contain herself when she learned the military considered her sighting an

by her UFO experience, could hardly contain herself when she learned the military considered her sighting an "illusion." In a letter written on November 4th, the outraged woman complained to Rep. Baumhart, suggesting that the Air Force evaluator who examined her case must be "insane." She also requested a personal meeting with Baumhart so she could discuss evidence the Air Force mishandled her report to authorities.

(6.) The Sheffield Lake case was evolving into an ugly fight.

5 November. British House of Commons.

Mr. Roy Mason, Socialist M.P. for Barnsley, directed a question at the Secretary of State for Air. He asked the Secretary of State for Air what department within the Ministry of Air collated UFO reports and to what extent such information indicated possible visitations from other worlds in space.

In reply, the Secretary, Mr. George Ward, sent a written note to Mr. Mason:

'Thing' Dives, Hovers in Sky At Va. Beach

By CHARLTON HARRELL

VIRGINIA BEACH—What was that object in the western sky Monday just before dusk?

It acted as no known plane, or missile, has been seen to act around here, as far as this reporter knows, at least.

At 5 o'clock exactly, while driving west along Atlantic boulevard, at 40th street, I spotted what appeared to be a contrail in the western sky.

Whatever the object was, it dove steeply and fast out of the southwest, leaving a wide trail of white.

But the dive stopped abruptly several thousand feet above the trees, and the object just hovered there for minutes.

The thing seemed to be silvery or white, a long cylindrical object, and it also seemed to emit a stream of white smoke, as if hung in the darkening, pink sky.

After hovering, moving neither up nor down, forward nor back, for several minutes, the object began moving slowly southward, losing altitude. Then it stopped again, then moved more to the southwest, and finally, at the end of exactly 10 minutes from the time this reporter first noticed what seemed to be its vapor trail, it disappeared behind the trees in the southwest.

Motorists craned their necks as they drove along Atlantic boulevard, watching the phenomenon. A quick check of naval air facilities today failed to uncover the identity of the object.

Late Edition
NORFOLK, VA., LEDGER-DISPATCH
Circ. D. 96,385

NOV 4 1958

"If a report of an unidentified flying object has a bearing on the air defense of this country it is investigated and the results recorded. No staff are employed whole-time on the task. Although some of the objects have not been identified for lack of data, nothing suggests that they are other than mundane." (7.)

8 November. Praise for Richard Hall.

CSI New York official Ted Bloecher wrote a letter to Leonard Stringfield on November 8th. In it he expressed the group's view of the new man at NICAP:

"We were also tremendously pleased with NICAP's acquisition of Dick Hall. I recall your impressive remarks concerning Dick of more than two years ago, and he certainly has lived up to that advanced notice, and more." (8.)

Early November. Near Lafayette, Indiana. (2:00 a.m.)

"Not a figment of my imagination."

An engineering student attending Purdue University wrote to NICAP:

"I was returning to Lafayette about 2 a.m. from some town about 30 miles where I had a date. There had been no drinking at all so what I saw was no result of intoxication nor was I fatigued and subject to 'visions, dreams, or apparitions.' I do not remember what town I had left but my sighting took place I would estimate about half way back to Lafayette, about 15 miles still to go.

"It was an extremely clear night, very cold, and visibility seemed almost endless because the sky was unbelievably clear and there appeared to be literally countless number of stars above. Driving along, I noticed what seemed to be an unusually bright star. I continued watching it and to my amazement it moved with my car and with reference to the stars also. I couldn't believe it at first but it was following me or at least traveling in the same direction. At this point I

slowed down to 30 mph or so and the object, very, very, bright white in color, still was moving and was getting closer. At this I was already convinced beyond a doubt that whatever I seeing was very large, and very definitely not a figment of my imagination. I then did what could have been a very foolish act. As a believer in the 'Flying Saucer' theory my reasoning was that superior intelligence would have no reason in causing us harm or woe. Whatever their reason for being here, no one had suffered the worse and the possibility of direct communication was fascinating beyond words. With this being my thinking at the time I turned off the main highway onto a small dirt road which led to a farm house some several hundred yards from the main road. Being extremely dark down this road, and being alone, I ventured about only a hundred yards or so, the bright object in view all the time. I stopped the car, turned off my lights and sat in almost total darkness while the farmhouse from my position was between the car and the object. At this time the object, still on a very bright [sic] was still a mile or so away, maybe somewhat less. The farmhouse, as viewed to the left was no more than 300 feet or so away. With the motor off I sat there and soon realized that the object was coming closer. It seemed at this point to be about no more than 2-300 feet in altitude. I then began to turn my headlights on and off. I repeated this some times and, whether in response to this or not, the object glided silently to a point ABOVE THE farmhouse and not more than 30 feet above the roof [emphasis in the original] (9.)

He continues:

"I still could not make out detail. It now seemed oval in shape. [It was] Almost the width of the house, about 30 feet maybe. It made not one sound. I was still blinking my lights but it came no closer than the farmhouse. Then it started backing away and coming forward but still no closer than the house. It would back away for a few moments and then come forward. This continued for about ten minutes or so.

"Having had at the time far more technical training than average, I was, in my awe [sic], attempting to explain this experience in terms of my common sense and what good logic would predicate. Nothing would fit in that this object was real, had followed me for some distance and was now floating above a house. I might add at this point that I do not recall seeing a glow on the ground or the house, just the object itself.

"My lights would bring it no closer and it then began to move away from me, past the house and was getting farther away. I then started my engine, turned around on the shoulder and headed in my initial direction. The object was still in clear sight but moving away all the time. Eventually, though with not great speed, it completely disappeared. I did not see it again." (10.)

7 November. German rocket expert Hermann Oberth.

"We are being watched by the 'Uranidens.' "

Oberth, 64, father of modern rocketry, told reporters during an interview with a German newspaper that he believed the Americans were working on an "electric space ship" and that man would reach the moon in five years. UFO buffs were more interested, however, in the professor's remarks on the strange things being reported in the skies. The German space expert said he believed supernatural forms are watching the earth and have been doing so for a long time. He was quoted as saying: "I call these supernatural forms of life 'Uraniden' and believe they are very intelligent beings." (11.) Moreover Oberth said: "If you strike out everything in the flying saucer reports that has been proved humbug, there still remains two per cent of these that cannot be explained by earthly means." (12.)

11(?) November. Berkeley, California. (4:07 p.m.)

"We're a li'l hesitant about this item..." (See clipping on page 5)

Berkeley Daily Gazette
Berkeley, Calif.

Nov 12, 1953

So We Hear . . .

By "KACY" WARD 11/(ii)

We're a li'l hesitant about this item, for two reasons . . . First of all, it is personal . . . Secondly, we don't want to be classified as a 'crack pot' . . . Anyway, we've always figured flying saucers as figments of imagination . . . Now we are not so sure . . . Either we've seen one or experienced a fascinating optical illusion . . . It was 4:07 p.m. and we were standing in the patio on the lower terrace of our backyard, looking over the back of our home, wondering if leaves were in the roof gutters three stories up . . .

Suddenly there appeared in view, coming from the northeast and heading toward downtown Berkeley at, we estimate, no more than 10,000 feet up a good-sized "disk" . . . Our first thought was that it was part of one of the space sputniks; our second that it was a weather balloon . . . Then we realized no weather balloon at that altitude could be traveling that fast . . . Our next thought was that there had been a jet plane mishap and the pilot had bailed out, that we were witnessing a parachute drop . . . But, there was no one "hanging" from this disk . . .

If it wasn't a flying saucer we're danged if we know what it was . . . Absolutely no sound reached us and—whatever it was—the object must have been traveling at least 500 or 600 miles an hour . . . The sky was clear blue overhead and, far above, some military jets were making vapor trails . . . This "thing" was way, way below that level . . . Just a parachute-shaped disk flashing through the sky in level flight at a tremendous speed . . . Gave us quite a jolt, we must admit . . . If we hadn't seen it, we wouldn't believe it! . . . No, we don't believe in little men from Mars . . . But we do wish we had a logical explanation for what we did see . . . All we know for sure is that a sensation we don't want to experience again . . .

11 November. Topeka, Kansas. (1:35 a.m.)

Another "Sheffield-type" experience?

Mrs. Fitzgerald's struggle with the Air Force might have been quite different if the following story had been reported and publicized in mid-November.

Mrs. Kinney was the wife of a distinguished medical doctor. She also had some medical training herself and at one time served as a research technician working with the Dean of the Harvard Medical School, a Dr. Burnwell. Mrs. Kinney joined the Civil Air Patrol in 1951 and rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel. As part of her duties she did some teaching at national seminars and even addressed Congress on issues effecting the CAP organization.

Mrs. Kinney seems to have had little interest in the UFO mystery and it was only because of her husband her UFO experience was made available for study.

After reading Dr. J. Allen Hynek's book *The UFO Experience*, Dr. Kinney wrote a 13 page letter to the BLUE BOOK advisor relating in detail his wife's UFO experience. Mrs. Kinney reviewed the letter before it was sent and verified its accuracy. Dr. Kinney was living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the time he wrote to Dr. Hynek and was serving as the chief medical officer at a local U.S. Veteran's Hospital.

The incident:

Mrs. Kinney retired for the night at 12:15 a.m. Her husband was out of town. She was alone except for three family dogs.

At 1:35 a.m. a bright light flooded Mrs. Kinney's first floor bedroom:

"On wakening, she first thought a big military searchlight had somehow been moved into the yard and shone into the bedroom. The three spaniels dogs were snarling and cringing, looking out the east bedroom window toward the blinking light. The storm window had been left ajar, and the lower window-sash was clear up (these were the usual wintery-night positions; and ordinarily the two bold male hunting dogs leapt out in teamwork to confront any disturbance, while the bold female stood astride my wife in stout defense, but at this weird event the 3 only snarled, cringed, and looked. She read the clock. The blindingly bright light shone a coppery deep-amber color. No sound emerged. It seemed to sit on the concrete walk that arched through the yard, some thirty feet away from the window. It looked about 25 feet in diameter and circular in outline. Whatever it was, it puzzled her. She thought: 'It doesn't give out any heat or noise, but its too bright to look at.'

"She got into some slippers and her robe and headed for the nearby library to go out its doorway onto the porch for a good look at it. Leaving the bedroom, she looked at the bedroom light switch to make sure it had not been turned on. It had not. The bright as daylight bedroom was lit up only from the weird light outside. She reached the library, turned on the porch-light switch, opened the glassed French door, stepped onto the porch. The huge UFO or whatever at once rose up like a rocket straight and with unprecedented speed, disappearing toward the zenith within a couple of seconds.

"She came back into the library, turned off the porch-light, and got back into bed. A few moments went by. The phone rang. The nearest neighbor was phoning, 'Are you all right?' (13.)

The neighbor who was calling had been an Army nurse for 25 years and at the time of this incident was a RN for the Washburn University student-health clinic.

Dr. Kinney continues his account:

"My wife replied, 'Yes. Why?' The neighbor said, 'My (2 collie) dogs were snarling, looking at this huge bright light. It was going along the road, hovering, just gliding like a nun in robes would move, going toward your house. I thought that it was going to set fire to your trees, and to your house when it got so close. Then your porch light went on and it shot straight up and disappeared.' (14.)

11 November. Topeka, Kansas. (7:30 a.m.)

The best thing about the "Kinney case" is that it does not end with the sighting. Dr. Kinney tells us a number of things relating to it took place later that morning and even months afterward. At 7:30 a.m. on the 11th of November the phone rang again at the Kinney residence. Dr. Kinney explains:

"Two men working the control tower at Topeka's Municipal Airport, both well known to her, were phoning. Besides being active in the Civil Air Patrol as deputy wing commander, Lt. Col., my wife lived, they knew, under the main flight corridor, some six miles northwesterly from the airport. The tower men bantered [Asked?], 'What was

going on out at your house last night so late?" She played dumb, saying, 'Why, not a thing.' They bored in: 'What were you drinking? Who was there?' She still played dumb, saying, 'I don't know what you mean. What makes you ask?' They urged, 'Come on. You might as well tell us. We saw that bright light. It was on our radar. It must have been right by your house. Didn't you see anything?' She still played a Game and bantered, 'Did you find a dead body in the ditch. You're trying to pin something on me.' They turned to straight talk and said, 'Be honest. You must have seen something. It was 1:35 [a.m.]' So she leveled with them, narrating just what she had seen. They thanked her for telling." (15.)

There was no follow up to this UFO report. No Air Force officers came calling to ask about what Mrs. Kinney had observed, but then it would take some time before the military would learn the complete story. When The details of the case became known, the Air Force was *very* interested.

11 November. Topeka, Kansas. (evening)

Dr. Kinney goes on to say:

"By evening, my wife first learned of other effects of the UFO approach. Lights on that (East) side of the house would not turn on. Two radios on that side would not turn on. The two big refrigerators were not working at all. She checked the fuses in the basement and found that the ones for the east circuits were burned out, and their glasses broken. She replaced the bad fuses. The second-floor lights would not turn on, though their bulbs worked elsewhere. The two radios and two refrigerators did not work. She phoned our electrician, who promised to come after 8 a.m. next day. He found that the wiring upstairs on the east side was burned out. He replaced burned out wiring there and in the two radios. The refrigerators showed no damage: when he moved their motors. They both ran well. Both motors had stopped on dead center: nothing else amiss with them! (16.)

Eye injuries.

As a medical man, Dr. Kinney took special interest in the injuries apparently caused by the light given off by the UFO:

"Soon my wife noted other sequels. Snow fell. Its brightness blinded her. Subconjunctival hemorrhages came and kept recurring so that the whites of her eyes usually showed big red patches on one or both. Bright lights have continued [as of 1974] to give sharp photophobic discomfort; she wears dark glasses when outdoors in bright daylight, drives her car with its visor down to shut out the sky. She is half blinded when driving through sun-flecked woods, and the flickering of a failing fluorescent lamp 'drives me up the wall,' she says. The subconjunctival hemorrhages have grown much less frequent, so that nowadays they only recur a few times a year, usually after bright light has caught her off guard.

"The two male spaniels dogs who had watched out the window both developed cataracts. The female who had stayed closer to my wife did not develop cataracts of the eye-lenses." (17.)

Mrs. Kinney assumed that the men in the tower had notified their superiors so she made no effort to contact the Air Force. Evidently the tower men said nothing which would explain what took place about a month later. (See mid December)

12 November. The Sheffield Lake case (ongoing)

Meanwhile, Mrs. Fitzgerald wasn't having much luck in getting the Air Force to believe her close encounter. (See Major Tacker's letter below)

21 Se,

Air Force
Blue Book Files

12 November 1958

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

Your letter of 29 October 1958, addressed to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base concerning an unidentified flying object sighting on 21 September at Sheffield Lake, Ohio, has been referred to this office for reply.

The conclusion of Air Force investigators were that the combination of moving lights, the noise of a train and the prevailing weather at the time accounted for the sighting experienced by you that night.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Executive Officer
Public Information Division
Office of Information Services

Mrs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Sheffield Lake, Ohio

0242
OFFICE 1110 258112

1028 NOV 15 1958 42

14 November. Pulaski, Wisconsin. (2:30 a.m.)

"Oh my God!"

In the wee hours of the morning a Miss Rosemary Karcz had her own Fitzgerald/Kinney - type experience. She wrote a letter to Ray Palmer's magazine. Here is how the magazine reported her story:

"Rain was falling steadily and Miss Karcz was sleeping soundly on the sofa in the living room of her home when she was awakened by her dog 'Skipper' who was pressing his nose against her face and whining uneasily.

"She was surprised to see a bluish - white glow lighting up the living room and dining room. And across the dining room windows a bright light was flashing and she thought a prowler might be nearby or that the neighbor's house was on fire.

"Hurriedly she got up to investigate, her dog Skipper impeding her progress, meanwhile, with his fearful actions.

"When she arrived at the window and looked out she was terror-stricken.

"'Oh my God!,' she exclaimed.

"There in the sky, was a huge motionless object with a bright searchlight scanning the countryside. Though there was a steady drizzle the raindrops could not be seen because of the brightness of the light.

"'I've never in my life seen such a penetrating light,' she said. 'The spotlight on the Palmolive Building in Chicago is a drop in the bucket by comparison.'

"The light was bluish-white as seen in lightning. The metal roof of a barn on her property 'sparkled like a diamond.' Everything in the whole surrounding area was lit up bright as day.

"'The neighbor's pigs were carrying on something awful,' she said. 'They were squealing and rushing about in their shelter like mad. And Skipper's tail was thumping the floor quite hard; he was so frightened!'

"The object was described as looking like a 'top' but gave the impression that it might be more or less flat on the bottom although the underside could not be seen. The reason for this was due to the fact that the object was tilted toward the earth at about a 45 degree angle, its apparent 'front' side faced toward the observer.

"The object did not glow but Miss Karcz was able to make out the silhouette of the craft when its searchlight was either to the extreme right or left of its long rectangular slot-like window (the light moved from within the window). A window of the same type was seen on each side of the lighted window all of which were located in a horizontal position along the widest part of the object, its base. But not much was seen of the flanking windows because they were curved around the 'ship' and out of sight. A pale orange glow was seen inside of them, however, which hinted of the possibility that the whole interior of the base section might have been without any partitions, being used exclusively perhaps for the light along. Maybe the light can be maneuvered about so as to shine through any or all of the windows in case of necessity.

"When the powerful beam was shining straight at Miss Karcz then the craft itself could not be seen because of the brilliance of the light. The light seemed to emanate from a red-orange 'ingot' of blast-furnace intensity, and the arc of the dazzling ray covered a wide territory.

"'I've never seen such a light,' Miss Karcz exclaimed. 'I don't see how a light can possibly be so bright; it was blinding!'

"The object remained in sight for about three to five minutes after which it seemed to slip back and upward and was gone in about a second or two, the rain clouds hiding it swiftly from view. It had made no sound.

"Miss Karcz said the size of the objects was probably 200 feet or more in diameter. It was seen at an elevation of 45 degrees, and the consensus of opinion was that the unidentified object was well within half-a-mile away." (18.)

Mid? November. Los Angeles, California.

"Bull session."

No doubt tired of Southern California hosting Van Tassel-type gatherings, Idabel Epperson and Zan Overall arranged a meeting of some people of some credibility. The *APRO Bulletin* reported on the informal "bull session" in its January 1959 issue:

"They invited people who had previously indicated an interest in the UFO problem. Attending were Ward Kimball, head of Walt Disney's scientific project section, Dr. Leslie Laeburh, U. S. C. Medical Dept., Dr. Robert Baker, U.C.L.A. Astronomy Dept., Robert Bulkley of JPL, and others including personnel from Marquandt Aircraft and Ramo-Wooldridge.

"During the informal get together, various opinions were expressed and several agreed on the opinion that 'flying saucers are real and under intelligent control.' Ward Kimball told of private conversations with a Navy officer wherein that officer related a personal opinion that UFOs were related to certain disappearances of jet planes and pilots." (19.)

15?/17? November. Near Loa, Utah. (12:15? P.m.)

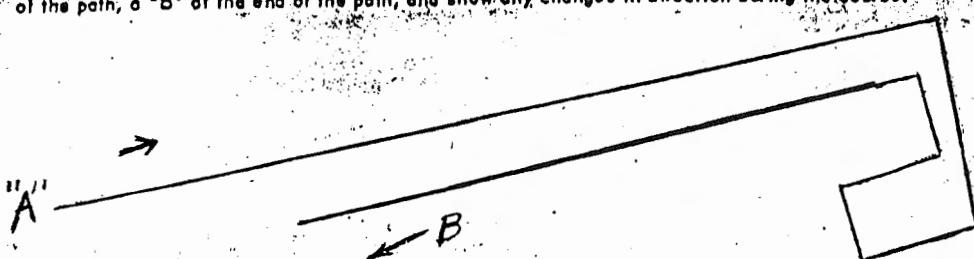
"Executed right-angle turns." Giant "pencil."

An ex-Air Force mechanic was working for the U.S. Post Office in November 1958 when he had a strange UFO sighting, a "vision" of something that resembled a giant, unsharpened, pencil.

The 38-year-old mail carrier was driving a Mail truck in the open countryside near Loa, Utah, a little after noontime on the 15th(or 17th) when some contrails drew his attention to the sky. The sky that day was clear and the atmosphere dry and windless. Glancing upward at the contrails, the mail carrier spotted a strange narrow cylinder in the southwest sky about 25 degrees above the horizon. The thing appeared solid and was sharply outlined. There was no sign of an engine [There is no mention in the witnesses' account of any surface detail]. The thing was dark-colored, maybe a dull gray. The only vapor trail present was some distance from the object. The size of the UFO could only be a rough estimate. The witness guessed the object's dimensions to be 30-40 feet long by 4-5 feet in diameter.

Whatever it was, it was slowly moving, and seemed so strange in doing so, the mail carrier felt he had to stop and watch. The performance was so odd two women driving by also pulled over to gaze at the sky show. The object's movements were as strange as its appearance. The thing moved fairly slow (It was in view 10 minutes) in a peculiar course by executing a number of right-angle turns (See witnesses' drawing) Eventually the UFO moved out of sight to the southwest. (20.)

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place on "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.



16 November. Two areas in Borneo (Indonesia). (no time)

"Smoke coming from door-like holes." (See clipping)

16 November. Sweden, Upland. (dusk)

Car stalls.

According to our source:

"The car in which two men were riding suddenly stalled. The headlights also went out. A circular blue object suddenly landed about 60 yards to their right. It was 17 yards long and 9 yards high and had a glowing yellow rim. The object took off after three minutes. The witnesses' car could now be started, so they investigated the landing area. They noticed a 'closeness' in the air and also noticed the grass had been pressed down." (21.)

17 November. Fort Smith, Arkansas. (no time)

"Boom, boom." Just above the treetops. (See clipping below)

'Flying Cigar' Seen

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Nov. 17 (Reuters)—Farmers in two areas of Indonesian Borneo have seen a "flying cigar" streaking through the sky, reports from Tarakan, East Borneo, said yesterday. The farmers said they saw smoke coming from door-like holes in the object.

By Van Buren Trio

'Booming, Glowing' Flying Saucer Seen

Strange thing blew into Van Buren Monday. A flying saucer. That's what it looked like to Mrs. Elizabeth Holland of 819 North Twenty-first street who saw it a couple of blocks away while looking out her front door.

"It glowed like an ember and was the shape of a saucer or plate except it was about five or six feet wide, I'd say," said Mrs. Holland.

"It was at the height of that brief storm when the rains blew in about noon that I first noticed it," she explained. "It was hovering just above the tree tops and was visible for about five minutes except for the two or three times that it just disappeared."

There was a sort of "boom, boom" noise, Mrs. Holland related, then her 17-year-old son, Calvin, called his mother

to the window before they and her 18-year-old daughter, Mrs. Mary Brigham, all went to the front door for a better look.

"Then it disappeared for about 15 minutes," she continued, "and we heard another 'boom, boom' sound. We all went to the door and there it was again in just about the same place in the sky except it was only about a block away."

Van Buren police, who had no reports of anyone seeing such an object, agreed that Mrs. Holland had a right to be "bewildered."

Ft. Smith, Ark., Southwest American
Circ. D. 160,111

NOV 19 1958

17 November. Gainesville, Florida. (11:15 and 11:25 p.m.)

"Disappears straight up." (See clipping)

19 November. Columbus, Ohio. (about 5:20 p.m.)

"Two discs, one above the other."

A Mr. Richard wrote Ray Palmer about a sighting his friend had. The letter says:

"Mr. Nelson was about to enter his home when his attention was directed to what he thought was a jet plane directly above him, but when he looked up he did not spot a plane, so he scanned the sky and looking south just above the house tops he saw an object approaching him, (slightly to his right and as the object came nearer the sound that first caught his attention, stopped abruptly and he heard it no more.

"The sky was cloudless and visibility was unlimited. As the UFO moved closer, he observed what looked like two discs, one above the other, or as he described it, two wings, one above the other. The sun shone red on the upper part of the object, while the lower part was silver in color.

"Mr. Nelson said the object did not deviate from a straight course or change color, and at times the two discs looked like they were attached to each other and seemed to be rotating like a top.

"No trails were observed, the object appeared to be at a high altitude and about half the size of a full moon.

"Mr. Nelson watched this UFO [until it went] out of sight to the north. We figured he observed it through an arc of approximately one hundred and fifty degrees for about two and one half minutes (estimated)." (22.)

19 November. The Swedish Air Force.

"In true U.S. Air Force style."

The APRO representative for Sweden, K. Gosta Rehn, describes his encounter with his nation's Air Force:

"On November 19th, 1958, I gave a very short account of a typical U.S. UFO case Swedish radio. I also explored the interplanetary aspect. With me appeared the captain in charge of the explaining-away research office. Interpolated in our talk was a tape recording of an interview with a UFO observer, a criminal investigator of the city of Visby (on Gotland, the Swedish island in the Baltic Sea). His name is Rrnst W. Akerberg. I had never heard --no one else had ever heard of his sighting before [a 1957 case]. It is no wonder. Reports very seldom appear in the papers although they, according to the captain, average 25 every quarter -2% unexplainable in the true U.S. Air Force style [The Americans used the exact same number]." (23.)

20 November. Solomons, Maryland. (about 5:00 p.m.)

"Materializing from both ends."

Gainesville (Fla) Daily Sun

11-18-58

NOV 17 Mysterious object sighted

Sid Robertson and Ray McKinney, Gainesville residents, reported a mysterious flying object to police last night. The object was said to be star-shaped, and orange in color.

It was seen at 11:15 and 11:25 p.m. about five miles out on the Glen Springs Road. The object was said to have disappeared while traveling straight upward.
cr: D.W. Richter

This next account is from someone who eventually became a NICAP officer:

"...on Route #2 at Solomons Island, Maryland, overlooking the Patuxent River, which is 2 miles wide at this spot, the far shore being St. Mary's County. Weather was beautifully clear at sunset. I was stepping outside of my father's oyster-packing plant when I (and at least 25 other persons at one time or another during the phenomena) noticed three long, narrow, reddish objects moving very, very slowly across the river toward St. Mary's County (at first they were traveling so slowly that it was difficult to distinguish the fact that they were moving; later, however, they traveled at a more rapid rate, but always slowly), gradually gaining speed until they seemed to separate and travel in 3 different directions. Then, suddenly, very close to us, only several hundred feet away, another of these strange objects began *materializing from both ends* (expanding outward from either side) before our astonished eyes. When it had narrowly expanded to the approximate length of the other 3 objects, it slowly began rising upward until it got up to an approximated 30 or 40,000 feet. Then, it disappeared, in a flash, and its place, was a perfectly round, silvery disc flying very rapidly out of sight to the northeast." (24.)

The witness to the phenomena described above was Gordon Lore Jr.

20 November. Near Pineville, Louisiana. (5:30 – 5:40 p.m.)

An unnamed witness reported a UFO through military channels. Some information, not much, is contained in a military teletype message which was found in BLUE BOOK files. The main part of the message tells of the sighting of an oblong yellow-white object the size of a half dollar at arm's length:

"(1.) THE OBJECT STOOD STILL FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES ABOVE THE TREE TOPS.

"(2.) THE OBJECT APPEARED ABOUT THREE FOURTHS OF A MILE AWAY OVER THE TREES. IT WAS OBSERVED FOR FIVE MINUTES IN ONE PLACE, THEN IT TURNED INTO A CLUSTER OF LIGHTS.

"(3.) APPROXIMATELY 2000 FEET.

"(4.) THE OBJECT MADE A 90 DEGREE TURN FROM THE OBSERVER'S LINE OF SIGHT AND THEN MADE ABOUT A HALF CIRCLE, WHICH BROUGHT IT ABOUT ONE FOURTH TO ONE HALF MILE FROM THE OBSERVER. THE FURTHER IT WENT THE FASTER IT APPEARED TO GO. AFTER WATCHING ITS FLIGHT FOR THREE OR FOUR MINUTES IT DISAPPEARED BELOW THE TREES. (25.)

21 November. Blanco Canyon, Floyd County, Texas. (morning)

Floyd County is about 70 miles northeast of Leaveland, Texas, which explains references in the following newspaper article. Air Force investigators looking into the famous UFO "landings" around Leaveland in November 1957 operated out of Reese Air Force, Lubbock, Texas. There is nothing in BLUE BOOK files about Blanco Canyon.

According to a front page story in the Floyd County *Hesperian*:

"The reports of the strange lights that played around the rim of Blanco Canyon at the TM Bar Ranch on the morning of November 21 and the

weird object that sailed swiftly and silently over the J.S. Hale place on the south side of the canyon in the same early morning hours, still have local people by the ears.

"Speculation on what 'it' was, how it got there and by what power it may have been propelled is still going the rounds.

"The *Hesperian* got into the spirit of the thing a week or so ago, and reporter-photographer Kenneth Rimmer spent a couple of hours prowling around in the canyon between the TM Bar headquarters where the Q.D. Williams family lives and the J.S. Hale place across the canyon on the hill southwest from them. The 'shots' above [photos in the paper] are added evidence that something strange occurred. At least they are evidence that some mighty force was at work sometime recently in Blanco Canyon.

"Reese Air Force base made an investigation of the phenomenon following the report is an established fact. Q.D. Williams, who was a bush pilot on one of the big ranches in the vicinity of Vernon before he took over the management of the TM Bar Ranch and moved his family there, said the Air Force had a crew of investigators at the ranch Saturday after the strange occurrence in the early morning hours of Friday.

"The 'visit' was really more than just an 'investigating crew,' it was an official maneuver with a guard thrown around the place.

"Williams was quizzed about what he saw. He said he told the Air Force officers that the 'light' or whatever it was traveled at an estimated rate of 2,000 miles per hour from the 'hill' where it was first sighted past a check point to the southwest.

"The Williams, awakened the Roy Fawver family and the J.S. Hale family the morning of the strange occurrence.

"Fawver got in his pick-up and 'made a run' for the point where the strange object was seen. When Fawver got there 'it' took off west at a rapid speed just as though the object knew someone was coming too close.

"J.S. Hale, who 'prodded around' in the canyon with the *Hesperian*'s reporter on his visit in January [This article was published in February, 1959] gave an angle the newsman had not heard before.

"Not only did the 'lights' or 'space ship' or whatever it was play around toward his place, it actually sailed over him as he lay on the ground under the fence near his irrigation well.

"It was the worst scare of my life," said Hale. Hale, who is an ex-airman, said he never had such a queer feeling in his experience.

"When the Williams' called the Hales, J.S. got up and saw a strange object from his doorway.

"Mrs. Hale was sick in bed but I called her to the door. I wanted her to see the strange object. I could hardly believe what I saw," he said.

"Getting to the pictures: Note the big tree trunks where the cottonwood giants lie bowled over, and the 'swath' cut, clearly visible, through the trees in the upper picture [Pictures not available].

"Hale was the first to see the pattern of the swath cut through the trees. The autumn was one of very little wind, and it is doubtful that the trees were bowled over by an act of nature.

"When J.S. first saw the fallen trees and the path cut through the big limbs he noted that the breaks were fresh. He confidently expected to find a plane a few hundred yards up the creek from the scene.

"It appeared that a low-flying bomber or some such had cut too close to the ground and had sheared off the big tree growth. However, there was no plane wreckage anywhere near the scene and no report of a missing plane from any nearby fields.

"Could the strange visitor have cut the path through the valley of the canyon?

How could it have happened?

"It seems quite apparent that a thing like that could not have happened but there is evidence that something did happen. Like the lights that played around the hills in a fixed pattern for thirty minutes and then 'too off.'

"The Williams and the Hales have been reticent about the occurrence. They have been leery of exaggeration that might get into the reports. They recall the Levelland officers who, a year ago, saw something similar in Hockley County and

Were victims of considerable skepticism. However, the experience they had is one that you can't keep from telling somebody about.

"And the giant pattern sheared through the trees on the bed of the canyon is in the same category. It could not have taken place. But there it is." (26.)

23-29 November. Papua, New Guinea. (night)

"Satellite-like light."

Back in July Olavo Fontes heard about a "mysterious space traveler" in a Polar orbit. He also learned that there were reports of a satellite-like object making repeated passes over Brazil. He suggested that there may be some correlation with a few satellite reports from Italy. The problem with that, is the fact that Italy does not line up with Brazil on any conceivable earth orbit of a Polar nature. However, an interesting fact is that western Australia and Papua, New Guinea, line up quite nicely

Natives and missionaries in Papua noticed a "mystery satellite" in late November. At Dogwa, for example, the object was viewed five times between November 23-29th. The "satellite" always came out of the northwest and moved to the southeast.

Among those fascinated with the object was the Rev. Norman Cruttwell who was stationed at Goodenough Bay. He even saw the object himself when some children began yelling and he managed to dash outside while the "satellite" was still in view. He said the thing was a "fuzzy white star-like body" passing over at a great altitude since it was higher than some cirro-stratus clouds. (27.) The Papua, New Guinea, story gets more interesting in the months ahead.

27 November. Athens, Tennessee. (night)

"Flying bowl." (See clipping right)

27 November. The Sheffield Lake case.

Mrs. Fitzgerald was not going to let the Air Force get away with such poor explanation for her unnerving experience. She wrote Major Tacker on November 27th to demand some clarification:

"Dear Major Tacker:

"Would you kindly specify what moving lights caused me to see an object 22 feet in diameter and 6 feet high hovering in my front yard?

"Your reference to the prevailing weather has also confused me somewhat. I stated in the report form that it had stopped raining some time before the sighting. I would appreciate it very much if you would explain these matters to me in a little more detail." (28.)

Journal
Knoxville, Tenn.

NOV 29 1953

Third UFO Sighted In Athens Area

Special To The Journal

ATHENS — A third unidentified flying object was reported here Thursday night, McMinn County Jail Dispatcher Ted Hyde reported.

Two UFO's were reported in the area Monday night.

Dispatcher Hyde said a score of people, including Athens and Etowah police and county officers, watched the object fly over the county at a high rate of speed, headed in the direction of Chattanooga.

Witnesses described the object as being bowl or saucer-shaped, with lights that became alternately bright and dim.

The Blanco canyon case as it was reported in the *Dallas Morning News*. (See clipping below)

The Dallas Morning News

Section
4

DALLAS, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1958

Local News . . . Editorials . . . Classified



TOLBERT'S TEXAS

Weird Light Frets Folks in Blanco

By FRANK X. TOLBERT

TIS THE SEASON FOR SEEING "flying saucer"-type apparitions in the clear winter air of West Texas' high plains. In recent nights folks at the T-Bar Ranch in historic Blanco Canyon near Floydada viewed some weird, glowing, oblong lights which played in circles at about 100-foot altitude.

Q. D. Williams, owner of the T-Bar, went out about 8:10 the other night to turn off an irrigation pump. About one-fourth of a mile away, that light was circling, taking about 10 seconds to complete each revolution, said Mr. Williams.

THE RANCHER CALLED his wife and two kids out to take a look. And they watched the light whirl for about 30 minutes, then peel off to the west and out of sight.

Williams phoned his nearest neighbors, J. S. Hale and Roy Fawver. They'd both seen the light. Fawver jumped into a pickup and tried to drive toward it. Before he got near it veered off to the west and over a canyon wall. The Williams have seen the light on three nights. And each time it was cold and clear. Reese Air Force Base heard of Mr. Williams' report. They sent down helicopters two nights for observations.

"If they saw anything they didn't tell me," said Q. D. Williams.

THE T-BAR RANCH was the scene of a running fight between U.S. cavalry and the Comanche Indians in the autumn of 1871. Also in the canyon, on the L-7 Ranch, is the grave of a Negro cook over which dancing lights have been reported by a number of sober cowhands in recent years.

29 November. Santa Cruz, California. (3:10 p.m.)

Elliptical objects zoom around the sky. "What is that?"

It was a nice clear day with feathery clouds and no wind. When first sighted the objects were about two inches by one and one-fourth inches in size [It is assumed at arm's length]. The objects were very bright, silver to white in color, like a pearl. The rear and bottom portions had a transparent appearance. A report to NICAP in CUFOS files states:

"Craft sighted first by Mr. And Mrs. D. Rawls and daughter, Jean. They were standing at the foot of my stairs looking up at me on the porch. They all saw it at the same time over my head. Mr. Rawls exclaimed, 'What is that?' I turned looked up and saw very clearly an elliptical object traveling about 250 to 300 mph heading southeast. It began to climb and speed up. We thought it was a weather balloon. Suddenly it appeared to split apart and there were two distinct disks. I called my neighbor next door. She came out on her back porch and saw both of the disks. Other neighbors joined us. The two disks climbed out of sight; estimated speed now about 900 mph. We continued scanning the sky and discussing the object for a few minutes; suddenly I spotted them heading west in tight formation; altitude about 30,000 feet. One appeared to stop, then shoot straight up. The other turned sharp right and headed north and disappeared. We watched the other disk still going straight up until we could no longer see it. (29.)

30 November. Cleveland, Ohio. (7:40 p.m.)

"Crescent formation."

A report listed in a NICAP bulletin states:

"A former Navy aircraft identification officer reported sighting six to eight unidentifiable objects moving in a crescent formation in the southwest sky at about 7:40 p.m. John W. Baker, a chemical engineer by training, stated the objects resembled pictures of UFOs he had seen. For about 15 seconds he watched them move across the sky at an estimated elevation of 25-30 degrees.

"They were very clearly defined," he told NICAP, "and moved in a constant shape of a crescent." (30.)

Late November. Between Datil and Pie Town, New Mexico. (daytime)

"Elevator-shaft-like beams."

UFO researcher Thomas Adams found this item:

"Between Datil and Pie Town and north of highway 60. Three men driving on a ranch road watched two teardrop-shaped objects connected by metallic elevator-shaft-like beams. The sighting - on a clear, cold day - lasted over ten minutes. The objects turned north and disappeared into the distance over Mt. Taylor." (31.)

30 November. Flying saucers groups plague Air Force.

Tom Gerber, of the Boston *Herald*, wrote up the Air Force's complaints about UFO buffs. Since Gerber was the *Herald's* Washington Correspondent, he may have had some connections with the military.

"Undeclared war."

Gerber wrote:

"The Air Force has opened undeclared war on phony organizations that capitalize on the 'mystery' of flying saucers....For 12 years now the Air Force has been castigated, abused, criticized, and verbally bludgeoned for hiding something from the public.

"More than 30 UFO organizations have been formed dedicated to worshipping...[the] unexplained percentage...[of UFO sightings].

"Top Air Force spokesmen won't acknowledge it publicly, but they are fed to the teeth with taking abuse and not fighting back.

"They have gone through such ordeals as listening for two hours to tape recordings of interviews with persons on Venus. Coincidentally, the alleged persons on Venus spoke English.

"The Air Force officers, with a combination of a grimace and a grin, don't hesitate privately to call UFO devotees members of the lunatic fringe.

"They have evidence that perhaps as many as 100,000 persons belong to these UFO organizations, reportedly are making a wad of money." (32.)

Moreover:

"The Air Force normally would have little truck with these outfits. But about 16 percent of the alleged 'sightings' the Air Force has investigated have turned out to be outright hoaxes --originated by members or officials of these organizations.

"To Air Force skeptics it's been a time-and-money wasting exercise. Atop the investigating process, the Air Force has had to answer thousands of letters on UFOs.

"In addition, the UFO problem has diverted money, personnel, and facilities from the Air Force's mission of defending the nation.

"For the past year, Air Force officials quietly have contacted members of Congress, government officials, and influential citizens in the battle against the thirty UFO organizations." (33.)

Gerber's article may have been intended to offset Bulkley Griffin's expose in the New England papers but Keyhoe figured it was aimed at him: "In one news story, based on a Pentagon interview, the reporter stated that Air Force officers were privately denouncing all UFO investigation groups. And I knew, from several sources, that NICAP was the main target." (34.)

1 December. Near Montebello, California. (no time)

"Blob chases truck." "White ray knocks out instruments and blisters paint." (See clipping on next page)

1 December. Near Grants, New Mexico. (2:30 – 3:00 p.m.)

Big cylinder circles and hovers. (See clipping on next page)

1 December. George Adamski's "train ride."

There was still a chance NICAP could make some headway with Congress. That possibility was not necessarily because the Keyhoe-led group was doing great things, but because many legislators on Capital Hill had other sources of information. For example, Senator Barry Goldwater, an experienced pilot, heard UFO stories from fellow aviators. (continued on page 20)

Albuquerque
Tribune
Dec 1 1958

Like Wingless B 52

Local Man Sights Strange Flying Object

A local paint firm truck driver reported today he sighted a strange object that looked like a wingless B-52 bomber-sighting, circling and hovering over an area about 15 miles east of Grants yesterday afternoon.

"It sure was no conventional aircraft, I know that," declared Bill Rice, of 202 High NE. He said he knew of several other persons in the area who saw the "thing," too.

Officials at Kirtland AF Base and the air traffic control tower there had no explanation today for the object. They said it seemed that what Mr. Rice saw could have been a large helicopter, but they knew of no helicopters in

Private Plane?

A Kirtland spokesman ventured a guess that the object could have been a private helicopter owned by one of the mining firms in the Grants area. He said the control tower here would not necessarily know of such flights.

Mr. Rice said he spotted the object between 2:30 and 3 p.m. after he had stopped his truck along the highway to make some minor repairs.

He said the strange craft

See LOCAL, Page 3

LOCAL MAN

Continued from Page One

looked like the fuselage and tail fin of a B-52 bomber. It had no wings or other tail surfaces, he added nor any propellers or other apparent means of power.

The object, which he held in view 15 or 20 minutes, circled slowly overhead twice. Price said, stopping once during each circle, over the same spot both times, to hover motionless for a period of time.

Streaked Off

Finally, he said, it streaked off at "great speed" northwest and disappeared.

Rice said the craft was making circles of about 15-20 miles and appeared to be "quite high" — about 10,000-15,000 feet, he estimated.

He said he later saw a real estate salesman in the area at the time showing some land to several persons, who told him they saw the object, too.

The real estate salesman said he was able to watch it through a transit, Rice said, but could offer no more explanation than he could.

Los Angeles Times

TUES., DEC. 2, 1958

TALL TALE TOLD

Flying Saucer Blob Chases 4 in Truck

Four Montebello teenagers may never have heard of the late Charles Fort, famed author-collector of the inexplicable, but they would have delighted that dedicated nonconformist with the tale they solemnly told police early yesterday.

The quartet were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sommer, both 19, of 1200 W Beverly Blvd., Connie Males, 18, of 2421 Via Lucia, and her date, Billie Cherry, who lives with the Sommer couple.

Each of them told Montebello police officers, Sgt. Richard Morgan and Larry Nelson, the following story:

A giant sphere with flashing green and red lights

chased their pickup truck along a desert highway 20 miles north of the Mexican border. It altered its shape into a king-sized blob and pursued them along the highway for 45 miles before giving up and flying off.

Blasted Truck With Ray
Before it did, however, it blasted the truck with "white ray" that stopped their watches, knocked out the instrument board and blistered the paint on the truck.

Miss Males, an art student, noted that the green light was of an "unearthly shade."

Morgan and Nelson noted the paint was not blistered on the truck.

They ended their report: "Anything can happen on this is improbable."

One danger to NICAP's plans was the contactees, especially George Adamski. Not only was Adamski the most notorious, his followers had even infiltrated NICAP headquarters.

Adamski had lost some momentum with his two follow up books, which critics blasted as mere second-rate science fiction, after his initial success with *Flying Saucers had Landed*. However, in December, 1957, a hoax letter written on genuine U.S. State Department stationery asserted that the government had "confirmatory evidence of Adamski's claims. A controversy developed over the authenticity of the document (foreshadowing similar debates over MJ-12 material). The State Department letter was eventually exposed as a fake when its perpetrators confessed, meanwhile the document gave Adamski's contactee career a big boost.

(35.) Adamski announced he was going on a world tour to spread his "space brother message."

Before Adamski arrived in London on the first stop of his lecture tour, he had committed a big blunder that NICAP gleefully publicized. According to Adamski, on December 1, 1958, a train he was on stopped 20 minutes out of Kansas City. There was no reason for the stop, the train just stopped, claimed Adamski. He said he got off and boarded a flying saucer that flew to the city of Davenport. A member of a NICAP Affiliate, Arthur Campbell of the "Kansas City UFO Study Club," investigated this supposed incident. Adamski's "proof" was an "unused train ticket," but Mr. Campbell thought he could around that by talking with the train crew. He was right. It wasn't hard to track down men that worked the December 1st Kansas City run. Mr. Campbell questioned the chair car attendants, the conductor, and the train's fireman. All of the train crew confirmed the fact that no stops were made. Signed statements were obtained. Adamski could no longer pretend to be an honest and persecuted man. (36).

2 December. Papua, New Guinea.

The Rev. Cruttwell becomes an official observer and investigator.

More reports of curious satellite-like lights in the heavens prompted Rev. Norman Cruttwell to write to the *Flying Saucer Review* which was based in London. The English missionary wrote later:

"I reported the Wamira fireball, and these satellite-like lights in the sky, asking for their opinion. The Editor [The Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench] was very interested, and asked me if I would act as their local observer and investigator for New Guinea in the International UFO Observer Corps. All it involved was reporting any further sightings to them, and trying, if possible, to interview the witnesses. Little realising what I was letting myself in for, I accepted, and started a UFO file. I never imagined that within a year my file would be bursting with reports." (37.)

3 December. Robert Gribble's APRG makes a bid to challenge Coral Lorenzen's APRO and Donald Keyhoe's NICAP.

The Aerial Phenomena Research group in Seattle, Washington, led by Robert Gribble, was very active in the Pacific northwest but its members became aware it needed to reach out to the whole nation if it wanted to learn more about the UFO mystery. The group contacted newspapers across the country asking for UFO data. Typical was a story in the *Springfield Daily News* on December 3rd, 1958. (See clipping on page 21)

3 December. Lykens, Pennsylvania. (8:00 – 9:30 p.m.)

UFO or a bright star? (See clipping on page 22)

4 December. Frankfort, Indiana. (5:30 p.m.)

"Bewildered reporter."

According to the *Frankfort Times*:

**THE SPRINGFIELD
DAILY NEWS,
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.,**

DECEMBER 3, 1958

APRG WANTS FULL LOCAL DATA ON UFO

**Asks Those Who Saw Ob-
jects in Sky Oct. 21
To Send Facts**

"Take me to your leader" may be something which is not fiction but could be an actuality, according to a scientific association head who today said that so-called flying saucers really exist.

Persons who from time to time have reported seeing strange objects in the sky today have an outlet for their reports and observations.

The Aerial Phenomena Research Group which maintains national headquarters in Seattle, Wash., has been studying "unidentified flying objects" for the past several years and today is looking for witnesses to this aerial phenomenon.

Several Greater Springfield area residents reported seeing what could be termed as "unidentified flying objects" in the northeast sky on Oct. 21. Sightings were made by several residents who said they observed the bright, rotating objects over the Ludlow area.

The APRG would like to have those residents write to the group at its 5108 Findley St. address in Seattle and to report on their observations so that studies may be made of these and other sightings.

The APRG said today "there is now sufficient information based on data compiled from eyewitness accounts that a high percentage of aerial phenomena such as those popularly described as unidentified flying objects are intelligently controlled craft whose ports of origin are outside the earth's atmosphere."

"Although the accounts considered in a four year study by the APRG did not contain scientific measurements," Robert J. Gribble, director of the group, said, "it was possible to establish certain valid conclusions by the application of statistical methods in the treatment of the data. Analyzed and arranged, the data did show a marked pattern."

"Of these patterns," he said, "it was concluded that a high percentage of the more than 5000 sightings in the last four years show the presence of technological developments outside the range of present-day scientific knowledge and therefore these objects are considered as spacecraft from other planets."

Four Watch 144 Ball in Sky At Lykens

By DANE WERT
Patriot-News Sunday Editor

An unidentified flying object had a comparative field day in the Lykens-Tower City area two and a half weeks ago, it was learned last night.

The brightly-lighted, round object, with vari-colored flames shooting from its edge when it moved, was watched by four persons for more than an hour and a half on the night of Dec. 3.

The object appeared to be about four miles up in the sky some 5 to 8 miles East of Lykens. It was perfectly round with a clear outline and was about the same size, comparatively speaking as a quarter held at arms length.

The night was clear. The observers were John McCormick, his wife Josephine, his daughter, Bernadette, 12, and his mother, Mrs. Kathryn McCormick, all of 725 E. Main St., Lykens.

McCormick, quiet and completely reliable, is a printer for the Sunday Patriot-News. He didn't mention seeing the strange object for fear of being ridiculed. Then, reports of a strange object over Harrisburg early last Sunday prompted him to mention his and his family's experience.

It went like this:

About 8 p.m. Dec. 3, McCormick went outside his house to burn some trash. With accom-

panier's concern for the weather, he glanced at the sky to check for chances of snow.

A bright, round object, much brighter and much, much larger than the thousands of stars visible on the perfectly clear night, immediately caught his attention.

He thought it might be the Russian rocket cone, visible in this area at times and called to his wife to come out and to bring his binoculars.

His wife brought the binoculars. His mother and his daughter watched.

With the aid of the binoculars, McCormick kept watching the object. "Golly, it's not moving," he commented. The "thing", for about a minute, was stationary.

"Then it started moving in a horizontal plane and as it moved, a broad, dark band moved across the face of the object and flames leaped out from the edge toward which the band moved.

The flames, or "shooting lights," were shades of red, blue and green in contrast to the white light of the object itself.

The fingers of flame or colored light reached out from the edge for a distance about equal to the radius of the object itself.

McCormick described the dark band like this:

"It could have been a band or wide bar that was fastened to the object, and rotated as the object rotated, or it could have moved around the object while the object itself was still.

"It was impossible to tell which of the two was happening. The 'thing' didn't have any markings on it and I couldn't tell if it moved or if the bar moved around it."

Then the object stopped again. No bar movement, no colored flames.

Then movement. Straight up this time — more flames, more bar movement. Then a complete stop. Then straight down. Then stop. To the left . . . Stop . . . To the right . . . Stop . . . Straight up . . .

And so on, for more than an hour and a half.

The McCormick family watched until their necks and eyes grew tired from looking up. Too awed to talk about it much and too tired to watch longer, they went back into the house to ponder what they had seen while the object continued its gymnastics in the sky.

Some time later, McCormick went back out to look again and the object had disappeared. He hasn't seen it since, and hasn't mentioned his experience except to this writer.

Perhaps there were others that same strange night who, like the McCormicks, watched in awe and have been silent for fear of being laughed at.

Anyone who hears John McCormick tell his story or anyone who knows John McCormick will not laugh.

They will be filled with a wonder tinged with the fear of the unknown and they will catch themselves watching the sky at every opportunity.

Late Edition
HARRISBURG, PA., PATRIOT
Circ. D. 41,549 S. 132,487

DEC 21 1958

"An 'unidentified flying object' was reported having been seen Thursday evening by Mrs. Irene Thomas, 457 Jefferson street. Mrs. Thomas telephoned the *Times* at 5:30 p.m. and said that she had spotted the orange-colored object flying to the north of Frankfort and traveling west.

"A *Times* reporter then drove to the west edge of the city and found much to his surprise that Mrs. Thomas was correct.

"The strange, flashing object moved west and turned south to be joined by another. The two then turned east, one behind the other.

"Appearing to be flying at a high rate of speed, the forward object stopped, climbed straight upward, then reversed its direction and when last seen was traveling northwest.

"The other stopped in mid-air, stopped flashing, turned from orange to a brilliant white and disappeared before the eyes of the bewildered reporter. (38.)

6 December. Anniston Ordnance Depot, Bynum, Alabama. (3:15 a.m.)

UFO moving low and slow near an ordnance depot.

UFOs may be just "figments" of one's imagination, but why do such figments visit weapon storage areas in the dead of the night? The following report was phoned to the Air Force OSI office by Loren W. Vaughn, Special Agent, CIC, Fort McClellan:

"[...deleted. (Witnesses' last name appears in other parts of the report)], civilian guard of Anniston Ordnance Depot, Bynum, Alabama, at approximately 0315 hours on 6 December 1958, was sitting in his patrol car eating his lunch when he thought he saw a light reflection out of the corner of his eye. When he looked towards this light, he saw an oval-shaped object, about 6 to 8 feet in diameter and about 4 feet in height.

"It was moving at approximately 10 to 13 miles per hour at an altitude of about 75 feet. Miller followed the object in his car for approximately one half mile with the lights of his car off, staying parallel and a little behind it. He then became scared and backed into a drive-way to turn around. Just before he turned to go in the opposite direction, the object stopped in mid-air and hovered over an igloo (warehouse) for a few seconds and then took off in a northeasterly direction at a terrific rate of speed comparable to a jet.

"It was a perfectly clear moon-lit night and the only light Miller saw on the object was the reflection of the moon. He saw no exhaust pipes, no propellers, and as far as he could tell, the object made no noise. While in flight, the object seemed to teeter somewhat from side to side. No further information at this time.

"Mr. [...deleted. (Miller?)] advised that he considers the information [...deleted. (Secret?)]." (39.)

7 December. *The Fitzgerald Report.*

The September 21st Sheffield Lake case refuses to go away.

Mrs. Fitzgerald's November 4th letter to Rep. Baumhart saying she was outraged at the Air Force's conclusion, charging that the military evaluator must have been "insane," failed to provoke much of an official response when her views were relayed to Major Tacker. Major Tacker's reply, in a letter to Mrs. Fitzgerald on November 14th, was merely a rehash of the official explanation provided earlier. Even though Mrs. Fitzgerald threatened to meet with her Congressman, the Air Force probably thought they had heard the last of the Sheffield Lake case.

A big shock for the Air Force.

The UFO Research Committee of Akron had quite a surprise for the Air Force. The Akron group investigated the Sheffield incident and claimed to have "documented every significant fact." Putting together their information, the group published a booklet they titled, *The Fitzgerald Report*. In the booklet the military was charged with "criminal mishandling" of the Sheffield investigation and that Air Force statements in regards to the case were "false and misleading." Copies of *The Fitzgerald Report* were sent to Congressmen, something that may have prompted Tom Gerber's November 30th article in the Boston *Herald* more than any current fear of NICAP. The Akron group made sure General Fisher got his own person copy and they enclosed a letter that challenged the Air Force assertions the military's UFO investigations were "fair, honest, and scientific investigations." The Akron people asked for assurances the Sheffield case would be looked at again, receiving a proper investigation. As a warning, the Ohio UFO buffs advised General Fisher a copy of *The Fitzgerald Report* and a copy of their complaints would be forwarded to Senator John Bricker. (40.) The situation was becoming serious. How the military would react was anybody's guess.

10 December. Ramming through the illusion explanation.

No direct connection with the appearance of *The Fitzgerald Report* is stated, but the timing makes us suspicious when we examine an internal Air Force memo generated on December 10th. Major Friend at BLUE BOOK advised Major Tacker that ATIC was standing by their initial judgement of the Sheffield Lake case. Note that none of the arguments made by Akron group were addressed. The Akron people were dismissed as "so-called private UFO investigators." A number of things the Akron investigators discovered had merit and should not have been ignored, but the Air Force was not going to let anyone question their handling of UFO cases. The military dodged Congressional scrutiny during the summer hearings so they weren't about to yield to some private citizens. (See Air Force memo on page 25)

11 December. The Central Intelligence Agency and UFOs.

The role of the CIA in regards to the UFO mystery is not something that can be easily explained because so much of what the agency does is highly secret. An "information report" filed on December 11th indicates the CIA's interest in "UFOs" along the USSR/India border area. (See the CIA report on page 26) The CIA may say it has no interest in UFOs, but as shown by this document there was *some* agency curiosity about such matters. The Soviet threat, at least, was real enough to force some attention, but where did the CIA draw the line?

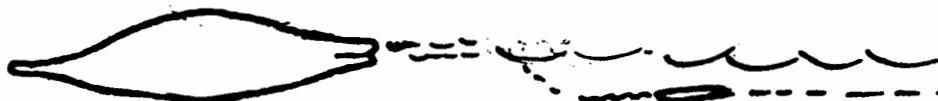
12 December. Tampa, Florida. (about 5:30 p.m.)

"Instructed by government authorities to write no further."

One would think that Florida would be swarming with UFOs since that was where the U.S. was launching so many long range missiles. A few UFO reports were coming in to NICAP and APRO, but why not more? Pay special attention to what is said in the last part of the letter that describes a December 12th Tampa, Florida, UFO sighting. (See letter on pages 27-28)

14 December. "The Commercial School." Argentina. (11:00 a.m.)

The city where the sighting was made was left out of the report but there is enough detail to include it here. It seems that the South American correspondent for Gray Barker's *Saucerian Bulletin*, Bernardo N. Passion, forwarded a story told by Arturo Italo Alvarez Prado a student at what is called a "Commercial School" in Argentina. A weird object was seen by the teenager the morning of December 14th. (See drawing of object below. Text continued on page 29)



C R SHEET												SUSPENSE			
ORIGIN OF BASIC				UNCLASSIFIED								DATE			
				<i>Hold until Mr. Fisher's letter is returned by ATIC</i>								ASSIGNED BY			
DATE				TYPE				NO.							
SUBJECT															
(U) UFO Sighting, Mrs. ██████████ (Shirfield Lake, Ohio)															
ROUTING															
Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)															
IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	
OIN-1				OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN		
OIN-IX				OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X		
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													AFOIN-Z		
													CABLES		
													M	FILE	
													B		
													R	DISPATCH	
TO: SAFIS-3, Attn: Maj. Tacker												DATE 10 Dec 1958			
FROM: AFCIN-4E												COMMENT NO. 1			
COMMENTS (use reverse, if necessary) <i>QD</i> 4E4/Maj. R. J. Friend/ac/6-9216/Bldg 828															
<p>1. It is evident the only explanation that will satisfy Mrs. ██████████ or the so-called private UFO investigators, is that she saw a space ship. To these individuals, including Mrs. ██████████, she saw a "flying saucer", and nothing we can say will change their way of thinking.</p> <p>2. According to the Lorain Coast Guard Station log, the weather throughout the early morning of 21 September 1958, was alternately misting and raining.</p> <p>3. Although Mrs. ██████████ claims a train did not pass her house at any time just prior to, or after, her sighting, a check with the Lorain railway station was made. It was determined a train did pass her house, going west, at about the time of her sighting, having a headlight that made a figure eight oscillation.</p> <p>4. ATIC retains its original stand on the conclusions in this case. Mrs. ██████████ was the victim of an illusion.</p>															
<p>DOWNLOADED AT 10-MINUTE INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED AUTOMATICALLY 10 YEARS. DOD DIR 5400.10</p> <p>2 Incls: 1. Ltr dtd 27 Nov 58</p>															
<p><i>H. K. GILBERT</i> H. K. GILBERT Colonel, USAF</p> <p>Classification Cancelled <i>Redacted</i> Auth. Director AF By <i>Redacted</i> DOD/11</p>															

(50)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
TELETYPE INFORMATION REPORT

CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]		DISSEMINATION CONTROLS [REDACTED]	
TDCS -3/380,949	DATE DRAFTED 11 December 1958	PRECEDENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROUTINE	PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]
COUNTRY USSR/India		[REDACTED]	
SUBJECT Unidentified Object Observed in the Sky			
DATE OF INFORMATION 6 December 1958	REFERENCES [REDACTED]		
APPRAISAL OF CONTENT (STANDBY) [REDACTED]			
SOURCE [REDACTED]			
<p>On 6 December 1958 between 1830 and 1840 local time source observed, by telescope, an artificial object having a continuous brightness of magnitude 3 (same as the Belt of Orion) cross his position [field of vision] while source was observing Mars. The object traveled north to south. There was no sign of disintegration, smoke, flame, or noise. There was no sign of any fall. Source did not photograph the object, but he is sure that the object was identical with Sputnik III. Subsequent observations proved negative.</p> <p><u>Headquarters Comment:</u> A preliminary check showed that Sputnik III was not within source's area of visibility at the time indicated, nor is the direction cited in agreement with computed orbits. The carrier rocket for Sputnik III reentered the earth's atmosphere on 3 December 1958 according to a Soviet announcement.</p> <p><u>Headquarters Comment:</u> Evaluation requested of Air and OSI</p> <p>Field Dissemination: None</p>			
DISSEMINATION CONTROLS [REDACTED]		CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]	

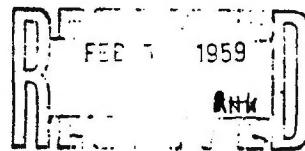
TO: ACIS AF NAVY XCL OHL STATE NSA

C Nov 78

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February 2, 1959

Major Donald E. Keyhoe
National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena
Washington 6; D. C.

Dear Major Keyhoe:

I appreciate your letter of January 26 and am glad to know that some organization is making a detailed check on aerial phenomena.

sealed
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#7
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rept. 1/2

On December 12, 1958 I was driving from Tampa to St. Petersburg with two little boys, ages 12 and 14, Peter Thompson and Donald Thompson, who live at 3714 Platt St., Tampa. We left their home and they said good-bye to their father and mother at the above address at about 5:15 p.m. and we reached Gandy Bridge going west about 5:30. As soon as we got on the bridge all three of us noticed the odd object in the sky. It was a brilliant silver color and at first looked about the shape of a toy top, but later appeared to be a little more elongated. It was in the western sky and was going from Tampa toward the Gulf of Mexico. It was moving slowly, about the speed of a helicopter. It was in view as long as we were on the bridge and until we reached the Pasadena section of St. Petersburg, which required at least half an hour. By that time the object had passed west over the Gulf of Mexico into the sunset.

We discussed it and had some difference of opinion as to the probable size of the object as it was so hard to estimate its altitude. I am under the impression that the object was about 100 feet across and about 4,000 feet altitude, but I am, of course, not technically trained in estimating such points.

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RECORDED INFORMATION
CROSS INDEXED

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REAL ADVICE

Major Donald E. Keyhoe

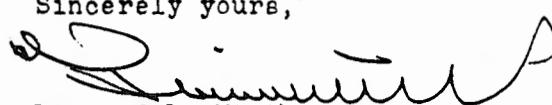
February 2, 1959

Later I was reading the St. Petersburg Independent of the following day, December 13th, which is an afternoon paper. I noticed the article to which you refer in the paper and since my observation of the object was much greater than that reported in the newspaper, I called them and asked for the city editor. The girl inquired as to what I was interested in and when I told her the flying object she said, "Oh, Mr. _____ is handling that" and connected me with someone whose name I do not remember. The gentleman was very polite but evasive and stated that he had had several reports concerning the object but had been instructed by government authorities to write no further articles or make no further comments about it whatsoever in his newspaper.

I inquired as to whether he was so instructed by the Air Force and he humorously replied that he could not even say what branch of the U. S. Government had told him to disregard reports on the object. I imagine that many people had called him up about it as it was very brilliant, very conspicuous and the sky was very clear.

I hope that this information can be of some value to you.

Sincerely yours,


Leonard L. Minthorne

llm/fk

Barker states: "Passion's sketch illustrates the object which came out of a cloudy sky, flew below the clouds for a while, and then shot upward, disappearing among them again. It was silver bright in color and made a hissing sound while passing overhead." (41.)

14 December. Amherst, Ohio. (early morning)

"Blue thing." (See clipping to the right)

14 December. Canoga Park, California. (6:00 p.m.)

A marketing consultant named Philip Kent was parked near the Reseda Drive-In waiting to enter. To kill some time he gazed at the sky and admired the stars. It was a clear night with just a slight wind. Scanning the heavens he suddenly noticed some objects he first thought were birds. The objects were at the 10 o'clock position and were traveling toward the Santa Susanna Mountains. As the objects drew closer, Mr. Kent could see that he was looking at a half-dozen or so of self-luminous, yellowish, circular bodies flying in an inverted "V" formation. Within 6-7 seconds the objects moved out of view. (42.)

14 December. "Mystery meteor/missile."

Thompsonville, Connecticut. (12:43 a.m.)
(See clipping on page 30)

Malborough, Connecticut (1:00 a.m.)
(See clipping on page 30)

New York City. (2:00 a.m.)
(See clipping on page 31)

16 December. St. Petersburg, Florida. (night)

"Pilot apparently uneasy about something."

A NICAP bulletin carried this item:

"A cigar-shaped object, its shape outlined by 'strange yellow-orange lights,' was reported by many St. Petersburg citizens on the night of December 16, 1958, after a B-47 stratojet crashed and exploded in Tampa Bay.

"No evidence that the object was linked with the crash has been produced. The AF investigation is classified, as in all such cases, but a conclusion as to the cause may be released later.

"The B-47 pilot, Capt. George E. Whitney, was 'apparently uneasy about something,' according to a public information officer at MacDill AF Base. Soon after takeoff, he radioed the tower he was returning to land.

"Ex-Coast Guard pilot Robert Mitchell, who was about to take off in his private plane, said he saw a bright white light on the extreme tip of the bomber's right wing. The B-47, began to stall, he said, then he saw a huge, bright red flash that seemed to come from the starboard wing, near the fuselage. The bomber slid in on one wing and crashed.

"Since local press stories of the 'cigar-shaped object' and the jet crash were printed side by side, some NICAP members have asked if a UFO could have caused the accident. The transcript of the AF pilot's report to the MacDill tower

Elyria, O., Chronicle Telegram

DEC 16 1958

UFO Seen By Residents

AMHERST — Two village men reported yesterday they saw an "Unidentified Flying Object" early Sunday morning as they were approaching the village on North Main St. They asked to remain unidentified.

One of the men said he looked out of an automobile window to his left and saw "a blue thing about 500-1,000 feet above the ground" flash by the car. He said the "flying saucer" was traveling at a high rate of speed and seemed to have a "fluorescent" glow.

He described the object as being circular but said neither he nor the driver of the car could see smoke or a vapor trail coming from the "saucer."

The man said he and the driver of the car had not planned to tell anyone of the sighting until they discovered "three major airports" had also sighted an "Unidentified Flying object."

SPRINGFIELD UNION, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

DECEMBER 17, 1958

Notes On the Night Watch**'Flying Saucer' Reported Sighted by Agawam Cop**

An Agawam police sergeant, who has proven to be a reliable witness in court cases, said he saw a "flying saucer or unidentified flying object" while driving in Thompsonville early Sunday morning.

Describes Object

Sgt. Romeo Borgatti revealed Tuesday night he saw a whitish-blue object moving horizontally across the sky. He described it as egg-shaped with a pointed tail and said it streamed a tail of flame which appeared to be propelling it.

Sgt. Borgatti said he viewed the object at 12:43 a. m. Sunday on Hartford Ave. in Thompsonville. He said he looked at his watch to record the time.

He said he was loath to discuss the matter, knowing he would be kidded, but changed his mind when he read that four other persons saw the same object at the same time.

Borgatti, who is also an amateur astronomer, said the object he saw was no natural phenomenon.

He said the "craft" moved soundlessly. He said he is certain the object was not a meteorite or conventional aircraft.

The Agawam policeman said he watched the object "for a full minute or a little less" as it traveled horizontally at an estimated 3000 or 5000 feet. He said it then turned upward and the light turned to a yellowish red. As the craft continued to rise, the light grew dimmer and disappeared, he said.

After he read in a Hartford paper that four other persons had seen the same thing, he said, he decided publicity might bring reports from other persons who had seen the object.

Borgatti said that on first viewing the object, he stopped his car and got out to watch. "Other people must have seen it," he said late Tuesday. "It gave off a brilliant light."

"It was weird to see that egg-like object flying across the sky with an exhaust flame but traveling in complete silence," he said.

THE HARTFORD TIMES,

DECEMBER 16, 1958

Marlborough Sky Object Also Sighted in New York

A sausage-like object first spotted at 1 a. m. Sunday in Marlborough, moving rapidly north and veering east was also seen at 2 a. m. in New York City.

Two Windsor couples, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wabrek of 148 Tobey Ave. and Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Rose, driving in separate cars said that they saw the mysterious glowing missile-shaped object running parallel to the road at a high rate of speed. It cut in front of one car and headed east. They described the low flying object as icy blue with a rear white glow which looked like engine exhaust. There was a bulge about one-third of the way back on the missile-like projectile. It disappeared as it turned, they said.

There were similar sightings in New York City which brought phone calls to Mitchel Air Force Base in Long Island and inquiries to the Associated Press. Authorities at the air base could not account for the object and the AP also had no explanation.

The Associated Press staff had to handle many of the calls which normally would have been directed to newspaper staffs. New York newspapers are on strike.

The object was also reported seen in Pleasantville, N. Y., but has not been seen since.

Mysterious Flying Object Sighted By Two Couples

An unidentified flying object, bathed in a glow that changed color from icy blue to a red-yellow, was sighted by two Windsor couples early Sunday morning while driving in Marlborough.

The object was described as missile-shaped with no visible windows or lights. It moved parallel to the road at a high rate of speed in a northerly direction and then cut to the east directly in front of one of the two cars.

Flying Low

Mrs. Paul Wabrek of 148 Tobey Ave., Windsor, said her husband was the first to sight the object. She said he watched it flying low and parallel to the travel of the car near Lake Terramuggus for several seconds before calling her attention to it.

Mrs. Wabrek said she noticed the object immediately when her husband mentioned it. She said it was moving at a low altitude. The object was missile shaped according to Mrs. Wabrek and was bathed in an icy blue glow which changed to a red-yellow as it moved away. When the object moved ahead of their car, Mrs. Wabrek said she noticed a round white light that appeared to be an engine exhaust. There were no other markings. She placed the time of the sighting at about 1 a.m.

Another couple, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus D. Rose, friends of the Wabreks', were in their car about three or four minutes ahead of the Wabreks. They said the object passed directly in front of their car on a new stretch of the road where trees had recently been cleared away.

Mrs. Rose reported a clear view of the object. It was described as a red-yellow in color and appeared to be moving at a very high rate of speed to the east.

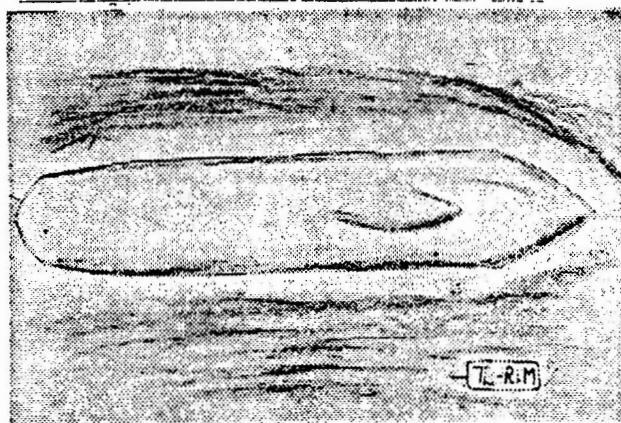
Looked Like Rocket

The object, they said, was missile-shaped, looking like a rocket. They noticed a bulge about one-third of the way back on the object just before it disappeared from view. They, too, reported seeing a white light at the rear of the object.

Neither couple reported any running or navigation lights of the type which would be visible on any aircraft, military or civilian. They said they heard no sound but that car heaters were on in the cars and could have drowned out the sound.

Mrs. Wabrek said the object could not have been confused with an unusually long-lived and brilliant shooting star which was observed about a half hour later. She said she observed the shooting star after arriving home.

THE HARTFORD COURANT: Tuesday, December 16, 1958



SKETCH OF 'MISSILE': Four persons, driving in two separate automobiles, saw a mysterious, missile-shaped unidentified flying object zip past their vehicles Sunday morning while driving through Marlborough. This sketch was made up from witnesses' descriptions by Richard L. Mourey and Tony Lloyd of The Courant (See story).

may reveal mechanical trouble which forced him to turn back. NICAP is asking the AF for a copy of the transcript, for the AF conclusions about the crash and also the UFO report. If an answer is received in time, it will appear in the February UFO Investigator." (43.) (See clipping about 'strange cigar' below)

17 December. Kajauni, Finland. (no time)

Another "strange meteor."

The following report was obtained from the Defense Intelligence Agency via a FOIA request:

"...a party of six persons sighted a remarkable light phenomenon in the southern sky above Kajauni (spelling uncertain). From a great altitude there fell earthward an orange-red sphere on the left margin [?] of which was a gap (notch). The sphere fell to the height of the treetops, where it glowed for a couple of minutes as is suspended and then plunged into the forest. The sphere appeared larger than the moon. No natural explanation for the phenomenon has been giveh." (44.)

17 December. Fornells, Menorca (Balearic Islands, Spain) (7:30 p.m.)

Had to be revived with cognac.

Another red-orange UFO was seen far to the south in the Mediterranean:

"Sr. Antonio Pedraza Galves, 55, a retired artillery sergeant, observed, when driving his motorcycle, going horizontally in the opposite direction at some 10 meters above the pines, an object resembling a missile of 2.50 meters by 0.30 meters, very bright, like a 'fantastic blaze' of orangey-red color. A buzzing sound 'comparable to that produced by a jet of soda.' Clear night. The observation lasted two minutes, and the object disappeared by moving away behind the trees. At the same time, independently, several farmers saw the phenomenon overhead. The principal witness was so impressed that he came home pallid, and had to be revived with cognac." (45.)

17 December. The Sheffield Lake case will not go away.

Major Tacker, under fire at his PIO post in the Pentagon, got some help from Col. Gilbert at ATIC. Apparently the possibility the Air Force might be asked to answer specific charges made by the Akron group in its *Fitzgerald Report* prompted a detailed study. Major points of disagreement were listed and considered one by one. (See Air Force document on pages 33-35) The bottom line to all this is that there could be no winner. The only person who could reasonably be sure of what took place that night back in September was Mrs. Fitzgerald but the Air Force was not about take her word for it.

18 December. Salt Lake City. (no time)

"Large lenticular-shaped objects."

A couple of "things" of an improbable size were reported high over Salt Lake City on the 18th. Estimates may have been way off, either that or the "things" were some kind of clouds. Sighted north of the Utah capital, the "objects" were said to have been at 70,000 feet and having a diameter of a half mile. A B-52 contrail was spotted in the vicinity and a comparison was made as to size. What puts this report in the UFO category was the claim the objects, or whatever, were motionless for one and half minutes and then, "...receded

Strange Lights Seen In St. Petersburg Sky

The Times last night received many phone calls asking about strange lights in the sky.

Viewed from The Times building, the lights appeared in the form of a cigar-shaped object, yellow - orange in color, traveling from the southeast to the northwest.

One witness said the lights appeared to be advertising suspended from a slow-moving plane, but this was not confirmed.

St. Petersburg,
Florida, Times.

17 November 58

UNCLASSIFIED



UFO Sighting, Sheffield Lake (Fitzgerald)

SAFIS-3, Attn: Maj. L. J. Tacker

17 December 1958

AFCIN-4E

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AFCIN-4E4g/Maj. Friend/ac/69216/Bldg 828

1. Reference the questions outlined in Mr. [REDACTED]'s letter of 7 December 1958, to M/Gen. Fisher. The ATIC will not recommend any disciplinary action be taken against the investigators. The ATIC feels that the investigation was adequate and intends no further investigation of this case. A staff study of the UFO Program is presently being prepared for presentation to the Commander of AFIC, this study does propose some improvement in the Air Force's UFO investigative capability, but was in no sense prompted by this case.

2. Reference the charges of criminal mishandling in Mr. [REDACTED]'s letter and in "The [REDACTED] Report," dated 21 September 1958, published by the UFO Research Committee of Akron, Ohio. T/Sgt L. A. Haisten and T/Sgt V. J. Hof are both trained investigators, Haisten having experience since 1948 and Hof since 1951. The following paragraph dealing with the specific charges will substantiate the competence of the investigators.

3. Omissions, errors and/or contradictions in "The [REDACTED] Report," dated 21 September 1958, and published by the UFO Research Committee of Akron, Ohio are as follows. Referenced page numbers are from the report.

a. (Page 1) No mention of the horror movie (Dracula's Daughter) which the witness was viewing just before the sighting. It is the opinion of the ATIC that this was a contributing factor to the emotional vulnerability of Mrs. [REDACTED].

b. (Page 1) Witness mentions for the first time that window curtains were made of heavy cloth.

c. (Page 3) The investigators did inform Mrs. [REDACTED] that approximately thirty (30) days would be required for the Air Force to get an answer to her. However, they made no statement concerning the extent of the material which would be made available to her.

d. (Page 3) T/Sgt Haisten questioned Mrs. [REDACTED] for approximately two to two and one-half hours. During approximately half of that time T/Sgt Hof and Mr. Durant, of the UFO Research Committee were not present. T/Sgt Haisten points out that many more questions than those listed were asked of Mrs. [REDACTED].

e. (Page 3) The Air Force investigators did not make a house to house check in the neighborhood. It has already been pointed out that these men have considerable experience, and in their opinion the evidence already collected precluded the necessity of continuing investigation at additional expense.

f. (Pages 3 & 4) It is assumed that Mrs. [REDACTED] is the Mrs. [REDACTED] of Lorain who was contacted by the Air Force investigators and indicated that nothing unusual occurred on the night of Mrs. [REDACTED] sighting. Mrs. [REDACTED] indicated to the

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

g. (Page 4) The investigators indicate that no one was home at the [REDACTED] house. Contact would certainly have been made with Mrs. [REDACTED] had this been possible.

h. (Page 6) The fact that this object was seen by another person from approximately the same vantage point does not rule out the illusion. The same illusion can be experienced by more than one individual if the conditions are right. Mirages, and the fact that there are so many successful magicians, is proof enough of this claim.

i. (Page 6) In obtaining a description of the item Mr. [REDACTED] admitted to the Air Force investigators that he showed Mrs. [REDACTED] a drawing from Blue Book for comparison. Small wonder that there is similarity between her description and the item in Blue Book.

j. The train time indicated here is not specified as EST or EDT. The Air Force investigators, however, recorded a train west bound at 2:54 EDT, the approximate time of the sighting, while the station master's log indicates that the eastbound train, mentioned in the [REDACTED] report, passed at 2:52 EST (3:52 EDT) or 52 minutes after the sighting.

k. (Page 8) The investigators point out that approximately 100 feet of track can be seen from the window of Mrs. [REDACTED] bedroom and that the train light would not be blocked by houses or trees.

l. (Page 8) The primary job of Haisten and Hof is investigation; they may or may not offer a conclusion as a result of their findings. The responsibility for the analysis of all UFO cases lies with the ATIC. In no instance should investigators hazard a conclusion for official publication as Air Force representatives.

m. (Page 8) The Air Force conclusion stated that it was a combination of the lights which was responsible for the illusion experienced by Mrs. [REDACTED] Air Force investigators were informed that the light on Chief Schott's ship is pencil-beamed.

4. The following statements align themselves with the alleged charges of blunders committed by T/Sgt Haisten and T/Sgt Hof. Page 9 of "The [REDACTED] Report."

a. The investigators indicate that the light can be seen from Mrs. [REDACTED] window.

b. There was no claim that the light was reflected from clouds but was possibly shown directly on the home of Mrs. [REDACTED] Sgt Hof states he made no commitment concerning the impossibility of the light shining on Mrs. [REDACTED] house.

c. The impression of the investigators is that the light on Chief Schott's ship is of the spot light variety. A light source would not be nearly as noticeable in the lighted town as at the unlighted area of Mrs. [REDACTED] home.

d. Mrs. [REDACTED] did admit seeing a red glow on the night of the sighting; however, she attributed this to reflections from the Ohio Edison Plant to the WNW of her home. It is significant to note that Mrs. [REDACTED] s home is approximately 3 miles to the west of Mrs. [REDACTED] placing Mrs. [REDACTED] between Mrs. [REDACTED] and the Ohio Edison Plant.

UNCLASSIFIED

e. No one was home to be contacted at the Grego house.

f. The report plays with words here. Mist is visible water vapor or rain of very small droplets. The weather was obtained from the log of Chief Schott. The Ohio Edison Plant is northwest of Mrs. ██████████ house and also a source of smoke, there was no specific claim that the smoke came from the U. S. Steel Company plant.

g. (1) The Air Force investigators did not feel a house to house check was necessary in view of evidence already obtained and expense involved.

(2) Mrs. ██████████ had already constructed a model made of paper plates and a bowl which was shown to the sergeants along with a verbal description.

(3) T/Sgt Haisten obtained information concerning the motion of the object from Mrs. ██████████. This was during the period Mr. ██████████ was absent with T/Sgt Hof.

(4) The sergeants did take notes during the investigation and interview. However, it should be noted that the trained interrogator is taught not to take, or to take a minimum of notes. Witnesses are more prone to free talk if they feel there is no record requiring exact recount on their part in the future.

(5) The ATIC feels that it should once again be pointed out that the apparent purpose of the UFO Research Committee, like most private organizations, is to discredit the U. S. Government and particularly the United States Air Force.

(6) The UFO Research Committee is claimed to be a scientific organization. However, there are no indications of a high level of education within the organization.

(7) The ATIC stands firmly behind the investigators in this case. True there were some additional phases of investigation which they could have carried out, i.e., house to house check, but this would have resulted in additional expense to the Air Force when in the judgment of these experienced men the collected evidence was sufficient.

1 Incl:

Ltr dtd 7 Dec 58,
w/report of
UFO sighting

H. K. GILBERT
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E4

C
O
P
Y

DOWNGRADING AT 2 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 30 YEARS

rapidly." (46.) Making this incident more curious was the fact a very similar sighting was reported some ten days later. (See December 27th.) Likewise, a huge thing was reported very high over Oacoma, South Dakota, at 5:40 a.m. on December 18th. (47.)

18 December. Hartford, Connecticut.

"Sky Awareness."

The December 14th "meteor/missile" incident, and perhaps Bulkley Griffin's exposé in the New England newspapers, revived interest in the UFO mystery for people living in the northeast. (See article by Dave Gibson on page 37)

18 December. Springfield, Massachusetts.

"What happened to BLUE BOOK?"

To counter the new "sky awareness," apparently, officials at Westover AFB told the press it was on the job and that the 99th Bomb Wing intelligence team was conducting interviews of UFO witnesses. At the same time Westover officials reassured the public that "most UFOs turn out to be U.S. aircraft."

Most curious, assuming it was the Westover officials and not the *Daily News* reporter, was where the UFO information was being sent: "All of the data collected by local investigators is then transmitted to Washington, D.C. where experts in the UFO field screen all of the material and corroborate local reports with reports from other areas." (See *Daily News* article on page 37) "What happened to BLUE BOOK?" It's common knowledge among UFOlogists that a copy of every official UFO report is routed to Washington, but nothing is known of the fate of such material. Are the reports just filed away, or is there another "BLUE BOOK-type" organization in the Pentagon? Was BLUE BOOK at Wright Field just a public relations operation?

18 December. Levy County, Florida. (evening)

An Atlas missile launch and a mysterious "low-flying plane." (See clipping on page 38)

19 December. Sensational series in the *Newark Star-Ledger*.

A staff writer for the Newark, New Jersey, *Star Ledger*, really got on the "UFOs are real" bandwagon. John Lester of the *Star-Ledger* polled 1,000 highly trained government radar personnel throughout the United States. It took a month to do and the results astonished him.

Mysterious objects tracked regularly.

Lester learned that UFOs are tracked regularly by radar personnel all over the nation:

"Traveling at fantastic speeds—sometimes thousands of miles per hour—these objects execute perfect 90-degree turns, steep vertical climbs, even abrupt, hovering stops in defiance of all known laws of aerodynamics, the radar men report.

"When more than one are involved they fly in a pattern and, when there are many, in a pattern within a pattern [Many latter day UFOlogists are not even aware of the "pattern within a pattern" design of UFO formations.]"

"In addition, they invariably stay just ahead of Air Force planes sent up to intercept them.

"This has led most of these skilled technicians—Civil Aeronautics Authority employees, their official title is Airways Operation Specialist—to conclude that Flying Saucers do exist. At the very least, they say, there is something 'out there' that can't be explained in any conventional manner.

"Eight out of ten of approximately 1,000 polled during the past month by

SPRINGFIELD DAILY NEWS, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Air Force Has Fun DECEMBER 18, 1

WESTOVER AFB officials today said that most of the "unidentified flying objects" which have been investigated by Air Force intelligence officers have been identified following exhaustive checks, and usually turn out to be U. S. aircraft.

Early Sunday morning, some persons in the Hartford area and an Agawam police sergeant reported seeing "an egg-shaped object flying across the sky with an exhaust flame but traveling in complete silence."

The sighting was made in the Thompsonville, Conn. area at about 12:43 a. m.

Sgt. Romeo Borgatti of the Agawam police said he saw the object while driving in that town and that he watched it for a minute and observed it traveling "horizontally at an estimated 3000 to 5000 feet before it turned upward and the light turned to a yellowish red. It continued to rise and the light grew dimmer," he said and later disappeared.

Borgatti said the object "streamed a tail of flame which appeared to be propelling it."

An amateur astronomer, he said it was "no natural phenomenon."

Westover officials said that a detailed policy is followed

Identifying UFO's

in investigating reports of such objects.

Locally, members of the 99th Bomb Wing intelligence team begin the investigation by interviewing persons who claim to have seen such objects. Checks are made of all other bases in this area to see if reports of sightings have been made there as well as to what aircraft have been flying at that precise time.

Location of all aircraft are pin-pointed with checks also made of the activity of commercial aircraft during the times of the sightings.

Other checks are made with radar installations to see if objects have been picked up on radar screens which might identify the appearance of any "strange" objects.

In addition, weather officials are contacted to see if any observation balloons have been launched which could have created the effects of "saucer-like" appearances.

All of the data collected by local investigators is then transmitted to Washington, D. C. where experts in the UFO field screen all of the material and corroborate local reports with reports from other areas.

THE HARTFORD TIMES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1958

'Saucer' Support Stronger

Meteor Revives Sky Awareness

By DAVE GIBSON
Times Aviation Writer

It's been some time since we've had a "flying saucer" incident to get excited about, but the "missile-shaped" object-turned-meteor sighted by two Windsor couples last Sunday proved one thing: The UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) are not about to be forgotten.

Talk to a lot of John Q. Publics about UFOs, and many of them seem to begrudge the experts who tell them they're all due to some types of natural phenomena.

"They can say what they want to, but there's no reason why there can't be highly intelligent beings from other worlds flying through space" is a typical remark.

The door is thus not being closed in many people's minds, although to the "hard-headed" such thoughts appear to be made up of fantastic romanticism.

TO REACH HERE from worlds outside the solar system (most experts feel advanced life on the Sun's other planets is highly unlikely) would require travel at around the speed of light — 186,300 miles per second.

The flight problems to this generation of earthlings are almost overwhelming. But, even so, the fact remains that scientists now feel the day

for such speeds and trips will come. Flying saucer sighting became news starting 11 years ago, and the Air Force has been investigating them since. It has consistently insisted the checks show that there is nothing to bear out claims reported saucers are man-made or piloted.

But one organization has fought the Air Force point of view—the NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena) with headquarters in Washington. It insists that the Air Force is withholding evidence which would prove that flying saucers actually exist. It has also claimed that super-secret Congressional committee hearings have been held on saucers, but the findings have never been made public.

This column recently reported the formation of another "flying saucer" group, the Aerial Phenomena Investigations Society of Western New York, made up of persons in the scientific field. Located at Olean, N. Y., it welcomes any reports by letter, care of Robert Barry, Olean's civil defense director.

DEC 18, 1958

Just What Did They See

By PAUL FERGUSON

GULF HAMMOCK — The search for a mysterious aerial object—either a mis-

sile or a plane—was suspended last night by Florida Highway Patrol Trpr. Jake Creavey after several hours of unsuccessful searching.

The search started with a call to the Levy County sheriff's office at Bronson, then spread to Ocala, back north to Cross City and hit a dead end in a large swamp just

east of this hunting area and saw milling community.

AN UNIDENTIFIED caller told the Levy sheriff's office there was a plane about to crash over the swamp southeast of here. The radio operator relayed the call to the highway patrol in Ocala shortly after the air force fired an Atlas missile at Cape Canaveral. When the call was relayed to the highway patrol station in Cross City the "airplane" seemed to disappear from the picture and the missile took the plane's place.

Trpr. Creavey was dispatched to this community in southern Levy County, accompanied by a state game warden and a Sentinel reporter. They began to patrol that part of the swamp accessible by car.

Creavey almost called off the search at 9:30 p.m., when an unidentified man from Dunnellon, attracted to the area by the fast spreading rumor, told him of a man who lived in the swamp who saw a low-flying plane shortly before the Atlas was fired from Canaveral.

SOON THEREAFTER a brilliant flash lit the sky, he related. Whether or not this was the plane exploding or the glare from the Cape as the missile was fired is unknown.

At about 10:15 another report of a low-flying plane spurred Creavey's interest in the search. This report came from a state employe of the tick eradication program.

Unable to negotiate through the swamp, Creavey decided to call off the search at 10:30 and plans to contact the CAA to see if any small planes are missing.

In Levy County?

the *Star-Ledger* are of this opinion.

"The others were undecided or noncommittal.

"The approximately 1,000 polled, considered a fair cross-section of the 12,000 currently on active duty, were from airfields in New York, Newark, Boston, Miami, Chicago, Los Angeles, Fort Worth, and other major cities throughout the country.

"Some were from fields in the Hawaiian Islands.

"Each is an expert operator of the super-sensitive electronic 'eye' known as radar. This is the device responsible for precision-safe take-offs and landings of all aircraft and/or a constant search of the sky for unscheduled or unidentified planes—or anything else that might interfere with normal flight plans or endanger national security.

"Of the total number whose opinions were tabulated, fully half reported they had seen—"tracked" is their term—unidentified flying objects on their radar screens one or more times and in many instances the objects were observed simultaneously by people in the vicinity—sometimes by thousands.

"All are certain the things were not meteors, weather balloons, cloud formations, hallucinations or anything else of this nature.

"About 60 per cent —three-out-of-every-five— of the remaining 500 who've never personally tracked a UFO are of the same considered opinion because of their confidence in radar and the knowledge and skill of their co-workers." (48.) (See full article on page 40)

The *Star-Ledger* poll of radar experts was a powerful endorsement of Keyhoe and NICAP. It makes any excitement over the Sheffield Lake case seem like a waste of time.

19 December. Dunellen, New Jersey. (12:50 a.m.)

LOOK! LOOK! Cops spot something "unusual, odd and eerie."

One of the best cases of this time period took place at Dunellen, New Jersey. A concise account and a signed illustration can be found in NICAP's *UFO Evidence*. (See below) (49.)

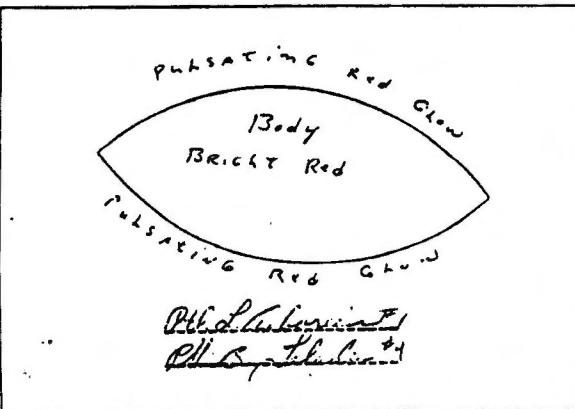
A letter to CSI New York has some additional details and a sketch of the sighting's locale. (See pages 41-43) The news story in the *Star-Ledger* that is referred to in the letter contributes no additional information.

December 19/20 of 1958 was a cloudless night in Dunellen, New Jersey. At 12:55 a.m., Patrolmen LeRoy A. Arboreen and B. T. [redacted] were on night patrol, cruising west on Center Street. From an area elevated about 15 to 20 feet they had an unobstructed view to north, south, and west.

In a signed report to NICAP, [9] Patrolman Arboreen (ex-Navy man and graduate of the New Jersey State Police Academy) described the experience:

"This object came at us from the west. At first it looked like a red hot piece of coal about the size of a quarter held at arm's length. In a matter of seconds it was as large as a ruler held at arm's length. That is when it came to a complete stop. . .

"The shape of the object was distinct. (See illustration.) The body of the object was solid bright red and it gave off a pulsating red glow completely around the object. The object hovered a few seconds, then made a left turn and again hovered for a few seconds, then went straight up like a shot. We watched it until it completely faded beyond the stars."



Radar experts track mysterious flying objects

By JOHN LESTER
Staff Writer

Mysterious objects believed to be flying saucers—some tracked regularly by highly trained government radar personnel stationed throughout the United States, the Star-Ledger learned yesterday.

The radar experts—who control the nation's air traffic—have no proof that the objects skimming over the radar screens are flying saucers. But they point out that these objects perform maneuvers of which no known aircraft is capable and no human being could withstand.

Traveling at fantastic speeds—sometimes thousands of miles an hour—these objects execute perfect 90-degree turns, steep vertical climbs, even abrupt, hovering-stops in defiance of all known laws of aerodynamics, the radar men report.

When more than one are involved they fly in a pattern and, when these are many, in a pattern within a pattern.

IN ADDITION, they invariably stay just ahead of Air Force planes sent up to intercept them.

This has led most of these skilled technicians—Civil Aeronautics Authority employees, their official title is

Airways Operation Specialists—to conclude that Flying Saucers do exist. At the very least, they say, there is something "out there" that can't be explained in any conventional manner.

Eight out of every ten of approximately 1,000 polled during the past month by The Star-Ledger are of this opinion.

The others were undecided or noncommittal.

THE APPROXIMATELY 1,000 polled, considered a fair cross-section of the 12,000 currently on active duty, were from airfields in New York, Newark, Boston, Miami, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Worth and other major

cities throughout the country.

Some were from fields in the Hawaiian Islands.

Each is an expert operator of the super-sensitive electronic "eye" known as radar. This is the device responsible for precision-safe take-offs and landings of all aircraft and/or a constant search of the sky for unscheduled or unidentified planes—or anything else that might interfere with normal flight plans or endanger national security.

Of the total number whose opinions were tabulated fully half reported they had

seen—"tracked" is their term—unidentified flying objects on their radar screens one or more times and in many instances the objects were observed simultaneously by people in the vicinity—sometimes by thousands.

ALL ARE certain the things tracked were not meteors, weather balloons, cloud formations, hallucinations or anything else of this nature.

About 60 per cent—three out-of-every-five—of the remaining 500 who've never personally tracked on UFO are of the same considered opinion because of their confidence in radar and the knowledge and skill of their co-workers.

The Air Force consistently has pooh-poohed reports of flying saucers—ever since it began a study of the UFO situation 11 years ago. The era of so-called modern sightings began June 24, 1947.

The Air Force policy has been criticized by several groups, including the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, in Washington.

Headed by Major Donald Keyhoe, USMC, retired, the NICAP board includes Gen. Albert Wedemeyer; Rear Admiral Delmar S. Fahrney, "the father of the Navy guided missile," and Gen. William E. Kepner, formerly of the Air Force.

MANY FOREIGN coun-

tries, including England, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan and Russia, have shown interest in exploring UFO reports. These countries have established or are planning to establish UFO observatories in the near future and have invited the United States to join them in pooling all findings.

The attitude of Canada in respect to the UFO situation is typical of the majority in this group.

When its UFO observatory was established near Ottawa several years ago an official government statement explained that its defense research scientists "have never" discredited or discounted the existence of flying saucers.

Meanwhile, the United States, although standing pat on its original policy, has greatly intensified UFO investigations.



Cigar-shaped saucer is described as emitting white-hot exhaust. Blunt nose appears darker in color than fuselage in which are rows of windows or lights, as in illustration.



Another cigar-shaped type also trails exhaust but is more elliptical. No windows have been reported in this one although entire center area seems to glow brightly in contrast to outer edges.



Shaped like two saucers fitted together, the above type UFO often has been reported sighted nearest the earth, sometimes at tree-top levels. Measuring approximately 80 feet long and 30 feet thick, it is ringed by what appear to be portholes or lights.



The UFO that inspired the term 'Flying Saucers' with a skipping motion and usually is seen or tracked in formation with similar discs.

146 Harrison Avenue
Westfield, New Jersey
December 20, 1958

Miss Isobel Davis, Secretary
Civilian Saucer Intelligence
67 Jane Street
New York City, New York

Dear Miss Davis:

Shortly after midnight on December 19, 1958, two policemen, on duty, had a look at what appears to be a U.F.O.

I checked both of these men out thoroughly with their friends, acquaintances and the Dunellen Chief of Police: Findings: Completely honest and without bias, also trustworthy.

I was asked to look into their story by a reporter friend on the Plainfield Courier-News staff, and thought it might be a good report for your C.S.I. files..

I shall forward a Newark Star Ledger Clipping as soon as I get it from a friend.

REPORT FILED AT DUNELLEN POLICE HEADQUARTERS 12:53 AM, FRIDAY, DEC. 19, 1958.

Patrolman Bernard Talada, of 215 Second Street, along with partner Leroy Arboreene, also of the Dunellen Police Department, while on routine tour of duty, saw what p^rports to be a typical U.F.O., of the glowing cigar shaped variety.

On talking to Talada, he described it as follows.(Paraphrased):

"As we cruised toward Bound Brook on Center Street, about 12:50 AM, I saw a cherry red glow in the sky and called my partner's attention to it thinking it was a fire. It moved toward us, going East to South, hesitating and then South to East again. We observed it for over 40-50 seconds, getting out of the car after driving a half a block, viewing it, and watching it manuever. It finally swept the horizon and disappeared behind the mountain. It was lower than the cloud bank, and embossed upon the cloud bank (as a distant background to it.) It was 100 feet long, less in width, like a big cigar but without the sharp cigar ends, spherical not metalic as we know it. (He made clear it was not a reflection but a clearly defined light or glow)."

At 4:30 PM, Saturday, December 20, 1958, I talked to his partner Mr. Leroy Arboreene. This is his statement(paraphrased).

"We were cruising near a wooded area in Dunellen, with my partner driving the car. It was after midnight. Suddenly he slammed on the brakes, and shouted LOOK! LOOK!. Through the windshield of the car, we saw a cherry red object five or six miles away heading towards us. We stopped the car and got out, and observed an object shaped like an eye, or pregnant cigar. The center appeared solid and emitted a solid red glow. The outside or perimeter was a duller red, undulated or pulsated. The object stopped and seemed to hover or hesitate over what would be Bound Brook. It turned left quite suddenly, and disappeared Northwest over the low range of the Watchung Mountains. Its speed was incredible, those last few seconds.

-2-

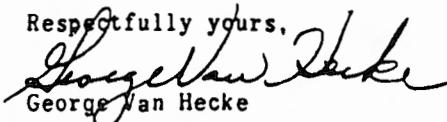
As far as the dimensions, it was anywhere from 80 to 100 feet long, 40 feet high, and appeared to be planed rather than three dimensional. The night was clear, no clouds to speak of except in the far distance. We observed the craft or whatever it was for a period of from 35-45 seconds. We are definite and most certain that we did not see reflected light or other explainable phenomena."

"We were misquoted in the Newark Star Ledger only in this respect, we did not say we saw a flying saucer, but merely that we saw something that was unusual, odd and eerie."

I myself contacted a local astronomer in the Plainfield area and inquired about temperature inversion and natural weather phenomena, that these men might have seen. He could tell me of nothing of that naturee, that might occur at this time of the year.

I hope this report is self explanatory as far as it goes.. I will send a clipping as soon as I get it.

Respectfully yours,


George Van Hecke

GVH/mer

~~STATE HIGHWAYS~~

~~R.R.~~

*1 → Position when FIRST
SIGHTED.

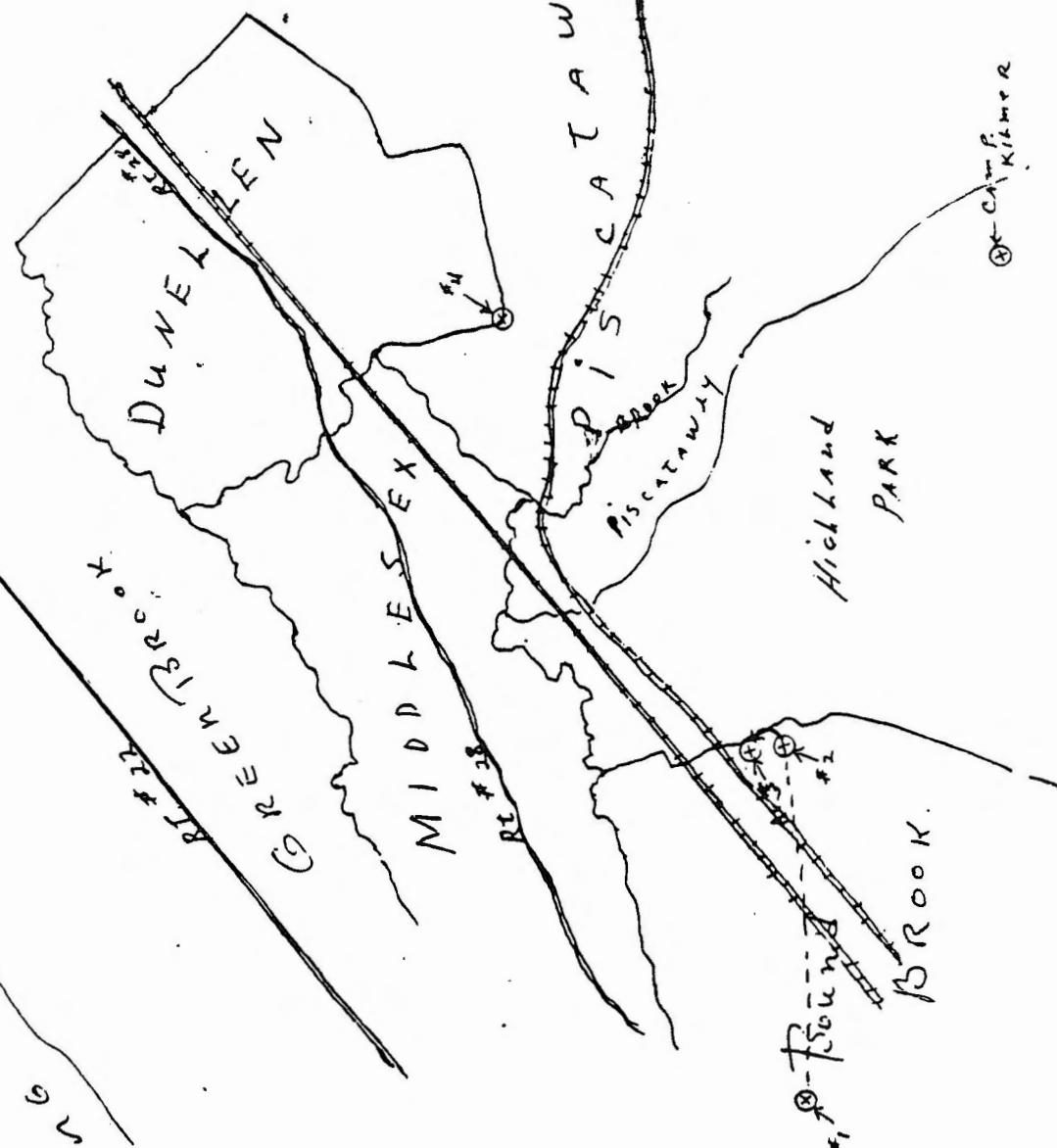
*2 → Position where object stopped.
*3 → Position where object stopped
AFTER it STOPPED. Then stopped
STRAIGHT UP.

*4 → Our position with patrol car.



Mt's

SW



Off B. Lakota #4
Off S. Lakota #1
Dun. Police Dept.
Dunellen, N.J.
July 17, 1959
④ Camp Kimber

20 December. Domsten, Sweden.

"The attack by the lead-grey loaf-men." (See Swedish news clipping on page 45)

Widely reported, the "little creature" incident we will now consider enjoyed some notoriety among UFO buffs because of its odd claims concerning the alleged physical nature of the "little creatures" which were characterized as being soft, jelly-like, things that lacked extremities. One immediately wonders how such a creature could operate the controls of its spacecraft. Coral Lorenzen of APRO, who was highly sympathetic when it came to "Little Men" reports in contrast to Keyhoe and NICAP, published the Swedish story in the APRO Bulletin and in UFO books she later wrote.

The Swedish case could have debated endlessly but fortunately a final denouement was possible 30 years later after an 18 month investigation by Swedish investigator Clas Svahn. The investigation of this hoax proved more interesting than the supposed UFO encounter: the combined military/police inquiry, the controversy in the press, the use of hypnosis (As Mr. Svahn points out, it was probably the first use of this interrogation technique), the possible influence of George Adamski, the resistance of Coral Lorenzen to strong indications of fraud, and even the possible effect of the Tom Trick cartoon strip. (See pages 46-50)

20 December. Lampasas, Texas. (12:30-2:30 a.m.)

"They're real."

Was the phenomena "Ghost Lights" or UFOs?

Its hard to say what happened at Lampasas. Maybe it was a hoax, but the fact that Mr. Richardson "hunted up" a highway patrolmen seems a risk someone clowning around might not be willing to take. One should also note that *only* the young couple claimed to have seen the lights. Another thing of special interest, is that there is no mention of any material body emitting the strong blue-white rays, a puzzling aspect that might have some connection with the assertion the couple made about the lights "coming out of the ground and sinking back in." (See clipping on page 51)

21 December. Fort Hood, Texas. (about 3:30 p.m.)

Just north of Killeen, Texas, is the military reservation of Fort Hood where there are "Q" sites, nuclear weapon storage areas guarded by Army personnel. Luminous phenomena visited the "Q" areas in 1949 causing some excitement. Again in early November 1957 strange lights were reported at Fort Hood. Military police were only able to approach within 300 yards of the lights before the lights/thing moved away. It was night time and no one could see if there was a solid body behind the lights. The Army men did say the lights were hovering about 100 feet above the ground.

Since security is tight in regards to nuclear storage, good information about UFO activity at Fort Hood and places like the Pantex plant near Amarillo is hard to collect. The following account was found in CUFOS files with a date of "19 February 59" and the note, "Fort Hood Report." On the photocopy available, the letter writer is not identified but he makes it plain he does not want the information traced back to him. The data then is second-hand and from an "unnamed" source. The letter writer got the story from a friend who had recently been discharged from the Army after a tour of duty at Fort Hood. The friend was motivated to tell his UFO story because he other members of unit were told they had seen "some ice crystals" and that made everyone quite angry. For what's it worth, here is the report:

"Report: 36 personnel, out on simulated reconnaissance duty in the late afternoon (2 p.m. to 4 p.m.) December 21, 1958, at Fort Hood. One of the men saw (time not known exactly, but believe around 3:30 p.m.) a round, flat dark object with a half dome situated on top in the center of the object. He immediately called it to the attention of the other men (35 others). They all wondered what it might be, and don't know yet. The object was hovering, motionless about 300 feet (estimated) above the ground to the Northwest of them. It was a fairly clear



om 12/23/58

De båda tefatsskådarna Stig Rydberg och Hans Gustafsson har fått sina berättelser bandade och lyssnar nu på resultatet tillsammans med ingenjör Sven Schalén och dr Ingéborg Kjellin.

(Foto: H. W.)

A #2046 Hälsingborgarnas berättelse övertygar helt tefatsexpert

Den svenska representanten för den amerikanska tefatsorganisationen Nicap, ingenjör Sven Schalén vid Saab i Linköping, besökte på onsdagen Hälsingborg. Han lyssnade därvid till Stig Rydberg och Hans Gustavssons berättelse om sina nättliga upplevelser vid Domsten. Sammanträffandet äskedde hos dr Ingéborg Kjellin som tidigare gjort en undersökning av de båda ynglingarnas psyke och trovärdighet.

Det är inte tu tal om annat än att både Rydberg och Gustavsson är fullkomligt uppriktiga i sin berättelse, säger ingenjör Schalén då Nyheterna kontaktar honom. Det finns inget som tyder på att de båda skulle ha hittat på hela historien om någon nu trott det.

— Även om de två själva är övertygade om att de varit med

om den märkliga upplevelsen, kan det då ändå inte vara fråga om någon form av hallucination eller optisk vilsa?

— Jag har mycket svårt att tro på synvillor i det här fallet, säger ing. Schalén. De bådas upplevelse har varit så intensiv att det må-

(Forts. på sid. 5)

Hälsingborgarnas

Fortsättning från sidan 4.

te röra sig om en faktiskt händelse.

Deras upplevelse är heller inte unik. Det finns åtskilliga tefatsobservationer som har beröringspunkter med den utanför Hälsingborg. Det gäller speciellt de trebenta landningsställen och varelsernas utseende. Nåja, utseende är kanske för mycket sagt då det här närmast rör sig om mycket diffusa skepnader.

Organisationen Nicap som har tagit som uppgift att sammantällda alla uppgifter om sådant som populärt kallas flygande tefat, har visat stort intresse för de båda hälsingborgarnas berättelse. Nicap kommer nu via ingenjör Schalén att få ta del av uppgifterna. De kommer därpå att analyseras av amerikanska experter på området. Om domstolen därmed blir bekrätna på vad de hälsingborgarnas grister strax före jul må vara osagt.

===== AFU Newsletter 33 =====
 == Hoax exposed after 30 years ==
 =====

Swedish APRO case never occurred

by Anders Liljegren and Clas Svahn

One of Sweden's internationally most wellknown UFO cases has been revealed, 30 years later, as a hoax. On Dec. 31, 1958, Stig Rydberg and Hans Gustafsson reported in Helsingborgs Dagblad, a south-Swedish newspaper, that they had witnessed a luminous, landed saucer and some very strange little creatures, near Domsten (1). The case immediately caught the attention of major Swedish newspapers, as well as the Swedish radio.

This, in 1959 quite unusual, contact story soon spread to the international arenas, with reports in APRO Bulletin (2), Fate (3), Saucerian Bulletin (4), Flying Saucer Review (5) and UFO-Machrichten (6).

But the global fame of the case came through Coral Lorenzens books "The Great Flying Saucer Hoax" (1962) and its revised paperback edition in 1966 (7). The story is detailed in numerous current books and magazines. Unfortunately, these authors contributed the case to BUFORA's recent "Phenomenon" book (8) as an example of Swedish UFO lore, before we learned it was a hoax.

The hoax was exposed after an 18 months investigation by Clas Svahn, who applied journalistic investigative techniques. He used the phone to interview a large number of participants, and made several trips to southern Sweden. Background details from newspapers, archives and correspondence files were collected as work proceeded.

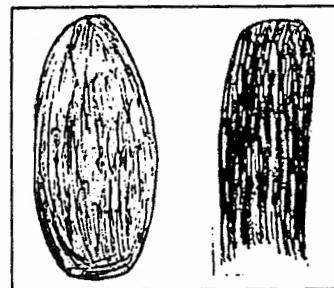
The final results were published in April 1989, in a heavily documented report from AFU (9). This article is but a short English summary of that 88 pages long report.

The story

Interested readers are referred to the Lorenzen books, and other sources mentioned in the notes, for more detailed versions of what allegedly happened. Let's just give a short summary, to jog your memory:

Stig Rydberg and Hans Gustafsson, claimed they had been driving from Höganäs to Helsingborg, on the coastal road near Öresund (the water between Sweden and Denmark). It was 3.00 a.m. on a December morning, a foggy night. They decided to stop for relief. In a glade to the right of the road they saw a strange light. They approached. The light had the shape of a saucer, on a tripod. Nearby, three or four loaf-shaped, 130 cm tall, lead-gray creatures were moving about.

As they approached, Stig and Hans were caught by the creatures who tried to pull them towards the saucer. The beings were quick in their responses to Stig's and Hans' attempts to escape. They communicated with buzzing sounds, were soft to the touch, but still very strong.



The unearthly, loaf-shaped creatures as sketched by Rydberg and Gustafsson.

Finally, Stig managed to get loose and back to the car. The beings concentrated their efforts on Hans, by now hanging in a horizontal position desperately clinging to a pole. Stig sounded the car's horn. As this happened the creatures loosened their grip of Hans (who fell to the ground) and ran into their saucer. The saucer took off with a whistling sound, towards Denmark.

Terrified the two young men sat, crying, in the car for about 15 minutes, before continuing. In the morning they told the story to close family members, who generally would not believe them. Finally, on Dec 30, they decided to report to the local newspaper, Helsingborgs Dagblad.

Media interest

Journalist Kjell Lüsch took down their story and brought a photographer to the glade near Domsten. The two men claimed that a shallow impression in the sand was a trace left by the saucer.

Journalist Lüsch got a generally good impression from the two, and so, after a conference with his editor-in-chief, he decided to publish the story -- but with many reservations. At that moment, strange as it may seem, Stig and Hans had not told Lüsch about their fight with the entities, and the incident was only vaguely dated to "a fortnight ago" (i.e. about Dec. 16-17).

On the new year of 1958/59, the story made headlines all over Sweden. On New Year's Eve, Stig and Hans were interviewed on the national radio's evening news. In the January 2 edition of Helsingborgs Dagblad, the fight and abduction attempt were mentioned for the very first time. Why delay their reporting of such an important phase in such a horrible story, asked skeptics.

Many tried to find rational explanations for what the two young men allegedly had seen. Explanations ranged from marsh gas and a flock of sheep to a whirlwind phenomenon.

The Polish vessel Morska Wola had grounded in bad weather

sea. Domsten on the morning of Dec. 15, and had been on the rocks until noon on Dec. 18. Bright lights from the vessel were visible from the shores. Had the young men mistaken lights from the ship?

When Stig and Hans learned about this theory in the newspapers, they gave - for the first time - a more precise dating: December 20. Was the date just a rationalization?

Controversy

Stig and Hans became the center of an open controversy, in the media, for about a month. A local doctor, Ingeborg Kjellin, vouched for the young men's mental sanity.

On Jan. 7, Sven Schalin, representative for NICAP in Sweden, taped an interview with them. He believed in the case, showed Stig and Hans some of the recent books on the subject and related some of the classical cases involving EM effects. At the end of the interview Stig hinted that his wish was to make a tour in space with "the good ones", not the creatures from Domsten. As time would show, his wishes would "come true"...

Schalin's long report to NICAP was never published. NICAP had no interest in "little men stories".

The story was by now a national fame and military UFO investigators at the Defence Staff's Air Defence department were pressed for answers. Was there some kind of espionage involved? A combined military/police investigation took place in Helsingborg on Jan. 9, 1959.

Three military investigators came from Stockholm: Captain Lennart Bunke, psychologist Michael Wächter and telecommunications expert Sture Risberg. The team was aided by interrogation specialists from local branches of the security police. The incident site was visited two times during a 12 hours long investigation. The tapes resulted in a 14 pages long report. The security police, SAPD, released the report in 1987.

The group found weak points in the story, but no definitive answers. Could the weak pole support a man hanging horizontally, as the men had claimed? Stig claimed that the object "did not light up the surroundings". In that case, how could he see Hans hang from the pole as he came back to the car? When a reconstruction took place, late in the evening, Stig was caught with a contradiction and made a rather strange change to his story.

This made the investigators suspicious. On the other hand, the young men stubbornly kept to the main line of the story. During a pause in the interrogation a tape recorder was, unknowingly to the men, recording their conversation while alone. The tape revealed no negative things that could break the story.

Hypnosis?

On Jan. 11, the case was investigated by a private team of two Helsingborg doctors, Lars-Erik Essén (a skin disease doctor) and William Hellsten (an orthopaedist), using hypnosis. This is probably the first time use of

hypnosis in UFO investigations. Much has been made of this, despite the wellknown fact that hypnosis is no "truth serum".

In fact, the type of hypnosis employed in this case, "hypno analysis", is only a very light form of hypnosis. A kind of relaxation technique. Dr. Essén was against hypnosis where, contrary to hypno analysis, the subject has no free will of his own. During hypno analysis a strong mind could decide for himself what to say, and not to say, so the method was no guarantee at all against untruthful stories.

In their reports to the press, the two doctors vouched for the case in general - but not for the creatures observed. They were probably misidentifications, they theorized. In a letter Essén stated that he had no faith in any stories about contacts with extraterrestrials.

Privately, the three doctors Essén, Hellsten and Kjellin all had side interests in flying saucers and the occult. Essén was a member of the board of the Parthenon book company, and had, about one month before the Domsten affair, written a letter of recommendation, for the Parthenon group, to George Adamski. The good doctors could hardly be called impartial in this case.

On January 16, the Defence Staff released its report. The verdict was negative, based mainly on the psychologists investigation of the two men's backgrounds. Stig was relieved from military service due to agoraphobia. The detailed findings of the military were published in Lorenzen's books, so we won't repeat them here.

Other weak points

Several other weak points were found in the police/military investigation, as well as during our follow-ups in 1987-89. For instance:

1. The two men gave conflicting versions on the incidents prior to the saucer sighting, particularly in their time estimates.
2. Stig and Hans claimed they had been in the company of two young girls in the evening before the incident. Strangely, they could not identify these girls. Probably, they never existed.
3. Hans told the police that, prior to the incident, they had been to "Yengatan", a street-name in Höganäs that never existed.
4. A check of the weather situation for the early hours of Dec. 20 shows that there could have been no fog. Instead there was a drizzling rain during the morning hours. The choice of Dec. 20 as the date was bad luck. Weather journals from three surrounding stations show a definite pattern: There was fog on the mornings of Dec. 18, Dec. 19 and Dec. 21 - but none at all on Dec. 20.
5. Stig is too precise in his estimates of the distances between the tripod legs of the saucer: 2,0 - 2,15 - 1,70 meters. Only one impression was found in the sand. Then, how could he reasonably know the exact distances between the other legs...?

The merry-go-round

What happened after the initial weeks does not strengthen the story. Immediately, Stig and Hans started a tour of heavy drinking, on nightly trips on the Öresund ferries.

After publication of the story, they actively sought ways to get attention - and money. They toured south Sweden, visiting Lund, Malmö, Landskrona and Stockholm to appear before audiences. Rydberg to a newspaper: "One cannot deny that there is a certain fascination to have experienced something so out of the ordinary". In another newspaper he claimed they had received some 5-6,000 letters during the first two weeks, a rather too obvious exaggeration. There is also a tendency for embellishment of the story, for example with EM effects, when they were told such effects had occurred in other cases.

In Stockholm they met ufologist K. Gösta Rehn on five different occasions. Rehn was APRO representative for Sweden. He had reported the case to Coral Lorenzen in a letter as early as January 1, 1959. Rehn wrote a series of personal reports to Coral Lorenzen and APRO.

Rehn describes, in one of his letters, how on January 23 he tries to have Stig and Hans, "talk" by feeding them liquor. Obviously they are more used to spirits than Rehn, they resist this crude attempt to get to the truth. "Apparently they could stand an awful lot", Rehn wrote.



Gustafsson and Rydberg as caricatured by one of the Stockholm newspapers.

Late in January, Stig and Hans made friends with a priest, Algot Englesson, a prominent local ufologist with a preference for the philosophical contactee stories. They spent an afternoon with Englesson's family and received, as a gift, the three newly published contactee books. Englesson was another board member of the Parthenon book company.

New contact

It seems as no coincidence, then, when a few weeks later Stig and Hans appear before a Copenhagen audience with a new, completely different contact story: Driving around in Helsingborg one day (no date given), they allegedly met at mysterious man who took them for a tour on the Öresund in a small boat. A saucer came down and took them for a ride into space, where they chatted with nice-looking space people dressed in "ski suits".

The story was obviously a Swedish variant of Adaaskis contact. Moone believed in it (except, perhaps, Englesson?). In Copenhagen, Rehn questioned Stig and Hans separately, and got completely different versions of what had happened while in space.

Rehn faithfully reported the new "contact" in his letters to Lorenzen, who promised a note of this new turn of events in her Bulletin. The note never appeared.

In spite of the very strong indications of the fantasy-prone minds of the two young men, Rehn still preferred to view the first Domsten incident as genuine. Rehn's faith was not even rocked by Rydberg's attempt, in June 1959, to "sell" him a set of UFO photos. Rehn didn't buy the story, but reported it to Lorenzen.

Despite these - and other - strong indications of fraud, Rehn and Lorenzen held on to the first story and used it (with no comments on the aftermath) in two Swedish books (by Rehn) and two English books (by Lorenzen).

Obviously, with the early publication of the story in the APRO Bulletin for January 1959 (other articles were set aside) APRO had made an investment in the case.

Rehn had a more difficult task to persuade Brinsley le Poer Trench, editor of the Flying Saucer Review in London. Trench first learned about "the second contact" from a Danish correspondent, and then refused to publish Rehn's detailed story, except for two very short versions.

Alcoholism

Today, both Rydberg and Gustafsson are dead - due to alcoholism. The Domsten affair took its toll on both of them. "They both became nervous and irritated", says Hans' brother Bengt. In the end, before Hans untimely death, Stig and Hans became enemies.

When Claes Svahn investigated their backgrounds he found that both had a shattered private life. Stig divorced his wife in May 1958. Hans divorced his wife in February 1960, but love had ended long before the Domsten affair.

Hans Gustafsson died in 1960. In his short lifetime of only 26 years he had lived in more than twenty places. On Nov 12, 1960, he shared a litre of snaps with friends, before making a ferry tour on the Öresund. More spirits were consumed and Hans climbed to the upper deck, where he fell off and disappeared, with no witnesses.

Stig Rydberg died in 1984. He was a drinker from early years, and resumed alcoholism after his divorce and the Domsten affair. Rydberg was found dead, age 56, in his apartment on March 4, 1984. He had been beaten up and left lying in the cold of a street, where he caught a severe pneumonia that finally ended his life.

The confessions

In the summer of 1960, shortly before his death, Hans Gustafsson met his brother Artur. Hans then confessed that the story had been a hoax. Hans was very regretful over the affair. The ground impressions were made with a

bottle. Hans planned to tell the story to a newspaper, but died, shortly afterwards.

AFU's report on the case was reviewed in an article by Helsingborgs Dagblad on April 15, 1989. Two days later, Christian Johansen confirmed that he, too, knew the story was a hoax. Both Christian, and his mother, had been told the truth, but sworn to secrecy. As they read that the two men were dead, and that the hoax had been exposed, they finally felt free to disclose the facts.

Christian was only 14 years old when he sold tickets for lectures by the Doosten men: "The flying saucer was good business. I remember that they collected good money for their participation in a radio programme. These guys had acting talents. Especially one of them. He could dupe anyone."

The background

That this hoax occurred at this particular time and place is no wonder. Inspiration was available in the newspapers and magazines, in the book stores and on the radio. Other hoax stories (particularly two "photo cases", each of which involved two young men) occurred in Sweden and Denmark immediately after the Doosten affair.

The space age was born not more than one year before, when Sputnik was sent to the heavens on Oct 4, 1957. This released a global interest in everything seen in the sky.

At the same time the Parthenon book company was founded in Helsingborg, where Stig and Hans lived. Parthenon published the Swedish edition of Leslie/Adaaski's "Flying saucers have landed" in 1957, and Adaaski's "Inside the space ships", in 1958. The last weeks of 1958 also saw Daniel Fry's "The White Sands incident" to complete a trio of "educational books". The books were reviewed and advertised in many of the south-Swedish newspapers.

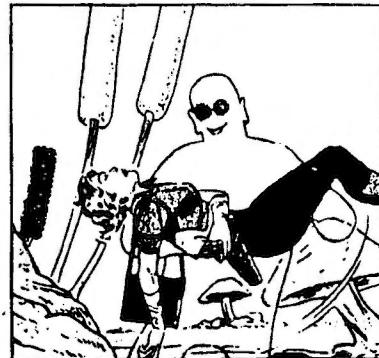
In October 1958 the German saucer enthusiast Karl Veit visited Helsingborg on invitation by the Parthenon group. Karl Veit, publisher of UFO-Nachrichten, told his lecture audiences, in no unsure words, that friendly visitors from other planets were worried over our nuclear bombs. The lectures were advertized and reported in south-Swedish media. Maybe Stig or Hans sat in the audience?

Inspirations for the story

On Oct. 3, 1958, Helsingborgs Dagblad published a local ghost story. A "ghost light" was reportedly seen, near a windmill a few km from Doosten by two motorists, late on a foggy night. The readers were encouraged to go to the windmill to see the light for themselves. Maybe Stig and Hans did, and continued to spin on that yarn...

Another interesting piece for the Doosten hoax scenario was found in a "Tom Trick" science fiction cartoon series published in the Oct./Nov. issues (1958) of a wellknown Swedish weekly magazine:

Tom Trick and Pamela Parker land on a distant planet. Pamela is kidnapped (floating in a horizontal position) by a semi-transparent, greyish figure, seemingly made of rubber. The creature has quick reactions.



Tom Trick returns to his spaceship (resting on a tripod like the Doosten saucer) where four similar creatures wait for him. They communicate with snorting sounds. As Tom reaches for one of them his arm is soft, like a sponge. They probably have no skeletons, Tom thinks.

Then, a most revealing parallel to the Doosten affair: Tom presses a device and a high-pitched, whistling sound is heard. The sound scares the creatures. They tumble out of Tom's spaceship, holding their sensitive ears.



Conclusion

The hoax status of this Swedish "UFO case" has been proven, beyond any doubt. Although the two "witnesses" are dead, we have three people who attested that the main "percipients" had confessed the case as a hoax.

By checking different versions of the story against each other, and against known facts (such as the weather) we spotted many, very grave, indications of a hoax.

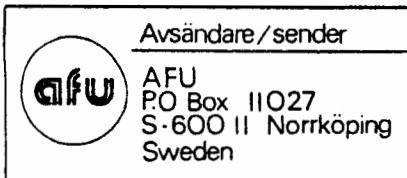
The Doosten story has implications for future ufology, not only in Sweden. It tells us that we cannot be sure of even a case that (seemingly) received a very detailed investigation, from many different parties.

The essential thing is evidently to check on the personalities of main witnesses. Are they known as jokers, unreliables or alcoholics by their friends and neighbours? The story's never better than the man who tells it.

The Domsten affair implicates that we have a need to go through most of ufology's "basic" cases to see if they still stand up to our expectations. How many of ufology's dearest cases would still be valid after a detailed analysis such as the one performed in this case?

Notes:

1. For a map of the area see page 4 this issue.
2. K. Gösta Rehns: A Saucer - Two Men - And Little Creatures. APRO Bulletin, Jan. 1959, pp. 1, 7-8.
3. Douglas Hunt: The Flying Jelly-Bag Horror, Fate, Jan. 1960, pp. 68-71.
4. A Saucer - Two Men - And Little Creatures. Saucerian Bulletin, n. 21. (Reprinted from APRO BULLETIN).
5. Late News: Swedish Contact Report. FSR, March/April 1959. Also: Editor's comment. FSR, Nov/Dec. 1959.
6. UFO-Schock in Schweden: Negative Raumwesen. UFO Nachrichten, nr 31, März 1959.
7. Coral Lorenzen: The Great Flying Saucer Hoax. New York, 1962, pages 56-61. Coral Lorenzen: Flying Saucers. The startling evidence for the invasion from space. Signet pocket, 1966, pp. 60-64.
8. John Spencer & Hilary Evans: Phenomenon. Futura, London, 1968, paperback edition, pp. 61-62.
9. Clas Svahn & Anders Liljegren: Domstensfallet. Archives for UFO Research, 1989, 88 pages, some 40 illustrations. In Swedish only. Available to collectors on an exchange basis, or by sending 90 SEK to AFU, Box 11027, S-600 11 Norrköping, Sweden. For detailed source references (more than 200) we refer readers to our Swedish report.



Friedrich Jürgensson dead

The Swedish-international painter, archeologist and parapsychologist Friedrich Jürgensson died in October 1987. He was born in Odessa, Russia 1903 and lived in Estonia, Berlin, Palestine and Italy before coming to Sweden in 1945. In 1959 he started to catch strange voices on his tape recorder. Voices that he claimed were from the spirits of the dead. For many years he cooperated with parapsychologist Hans Bender of Freiburg who analyzed Jürgensson recordings and claimed them as original paranormal phenomena.

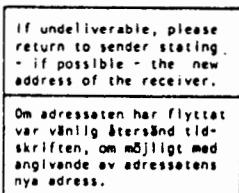
In a book published in 1964, "Rösterna från ryggen" (The voices from the sky), Jürgensson offered his theory that UFOs were connected to his spiritual voices and were in fact "the ships of the dead". He claimed to having overheard voice communications between such ships as they traversed Sweden at a speed of 25 miles per minute!

"In reality (the UFOs) are transcendental airplanes belonging to a higher dimension. These ships and radar discs have wrongly been thought of as interplanetary spaceships..."

Sources: Friedrich Jürgensson: Rösterna från ryggen. 1964, pages 125-128. Obituary by Claude Thorlin in Sökaren, nr 10/1987, page 21. See also Gordon Creighton: Gobbledygook. Flying Saucer Review, vol 18, no. 6, pp. 23-27.

B Föreningsbrev

PRINTED MATTER
REDUCED RATE



ON SPIVEY-TAP ROAD

Lampasas Couple Victims of Mysterious Fast-Flying Lights

Unidentified Flying Objects!

Ghost Lights!

You may not believe in them but you would have a hard time convincing Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Richardson that they don't exist.

The Richardsons say they have been "victims" of fast-flying lights for about the past six weeks, always in the same general area and the same general time (12:30 to 2:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings).

Latest episode with the lights ended with a wrecked automobile and cuts and bruises suffered by Mrs. Richardson Saturday night, after the lights "chased" them a short distance.

It all began the Saturday before Christmas when the youthful couple were headlight-hunting rabbits about 10 miles north of Lampasas on the Spivey-Tapp Road, close to School Creek, the couple related.

That night they spotted six, blue-white lights, approximately four times the size of a headlight on a car, hanging about 75 feet in the air. The lights were about a quarter of a mile from the road Richardson said, and in brushy country.

"We didn't pay much attention to them," Franklin said, "but after noticing them for a while, they began moving around so that sometimes they looked like a string up and down, sometimes they would blend into one light and sometimes they would dance crazily without pattern."

"The lights would jump and race and blink off and on," said Mrs. Richardson. "We watched them for a while and suddenly two of them broke loose from the rest and approached us very rapidly," she stated.

"They came within about 150 feet of our car and then stopped and sank slowly into the ground. Shortly afterwards, two lights came up through a pasture, skimming the tree tops and, although they were out of range of a .22 rifle, they lit up the interior of the car," Mrs. Richardson stated.

On subsequent trips, the couple said, they saw lights coming out of the ground and sinking back into the earth.

Peculiarly enough, we would only see the lights on Saturday night and between 12:30 and 2:30 in the morning—always on clear nights."

Saturday night, January 24, the Richardsons pulled up and parked on the road purposely to see if they could spot the lights again.

"We hadn't been there but just a few minutes when we spotted a high light about 20 miles north and to the east of us. The light hopped across the mountain and in nothing flat it was directly east of us. Without slackening speed the light made a right angle turn and headed directly for us," Franklin said.

"I was driving," said Mrs. Richardson, "and I started the car and was trying to get out of there."

"I looked over my shoulder and saw the light to the right and in back of us, real close," she said. "I was trying to get away from it and trying to watch the road and the light at the same time when we approached a curve and I hit the brakes."

"The loose gravel made the braking car swerve to the right and it bounced off a tree and crossed to the left side of the road and hit another tree," she said.

The car was severely damaged and Mrs. Richardson suffered cuts and bruises and has been in bed much of this week.

"I brought my wife into the hospital early Sunday morning for treatment and when she was okay, I hunted up the highway patrolman and we went back to the wreck," Franklin said.

"When we got back there I saw two of the lights but neither one was close enough to get a good look at," he said.

The Richardsons described the lights as "blue-white, very similar to the mercury vapor lights used in some street lighting. There were no direct rays and there was nothing solid around the lights—just the brightness, without reflection or rays."

Several friends of the Richardsons have shown curiosity about the lights and a small excursion is planned to the vicinity late Saturday night by the young couple, his parents and several of their friends.

"This time I'm taking my deer rifle and I'm going to try to get a shot at one to see what will happen," Richardson said.

The Richardsons have been accused of daydreaming at night, having one too many and seeing mirages but they know what they saw and invite anyone who wants to go, to be with them Saturday night—one the Spivey-Tap Road.

At any rate, the young couple would be hard to convince that the lights are hallucinations, vapors, St. Elmo's fire or other figments of imagination, because to them—THEY'RE REAL!

LAMPASAS, TEX.
RECORD

Circ. W. 1,786

12/20

1/2 JAN 29 1959

day. The half-dome was brilliantly lighted from within, it appeared. It was about a quarter mile from them or less, and was comparable to a 'Nash Rambler' [a small 1950s automobile] in size. It was observed for 22 minutes (it wasn't till immediately prior to its departure that someone thought of getting to the area over which the object was hovering. (and no one had a camera). During the 22 minutes, three things occurred: 1.) about 4 minutes (more or less) after sighting [the object], an almost blinding shaft of whitish light shot to the ground from the bottom of the craft. It was thick nearest the object, and tapered to about a six inch thickness at the ground. The light was on for more than 5 minutes, remaining steady, or fixed. It did not waver and looked like a 'Roman pillar of marble,' smooth-sided, no aberrations. 2.) As this light suddenly went out, or was turned off (so suddenly that 'a couple of the guys jumped') the object was immediately surrounded by a light pinkish-like glow (enveloped), which lasted until the object departed, when at that time the pinkish-cloud seemed to be drawn into the bottom of the object, very slowly, though there was some disagreement about this. Some of the men thought it 'dissipated.' During this glow, red and green 'lights' revolved in or on the half dome on the top of the object, 'as though they were fixed on opposite sides of a swiftly revolving pole. 'They were a little more brilliant than street traffic lights, and much larger, about the size of watermelons from where they were watching. (the dome was about half the width of the flat, round bottom part, estimated to be perhaps 20 feet in diameter and about half that in height) 3.) The object then began to sway back and forth, about 2 or 3 minutes before it departed, while maintaining the same fixed position (altitude). It was at this time that pinkish glow seemed to withdraw into the object. When it first formed, by the way, it seemed to extend about ten feet from the edges, and work in toward the object.

"An instant before its departure, it again ceased all motion. There was no sound that they could hear during the observation. Nor could they recall seeing any protrusions or apertures (although the other 33 men might have noticed something, we'll probably never know) The dark 'rim' did not reflect the light emanating from the half-dome, nor from the shaft of light from underneath. They could not tell whether it was metallic or not, but it was solid.

"When it stopped [?] motion for an instant it seemed to shrink, though my friend said that although some thought it did shrink, he is of the opinion that it receded at tremendous speed. It went to the northwest, and then veered to the southwest (it was about the size of a pea at this time until it disappeared from sight, or out of range). Two men had glasses, but didn't think to use them (this doesn't hold up, to me, at least, and I said so, but he remained definite. Maybe so, but it doesn't seem possible. Perhaps he hasn't told me everything either).

"The men watched for some minutes after it had gone, but saw no sign of it, and resumed their activity, though they talked of what they saw. A Lieutenant had them questioned and fill out the forms." (50.)

21 December. The Air Force reacts to the *Star-Ledger's* radar poll.

"Considerable interest."

As can be imagined, the *Star-Ledger's* poll of radar personnel caused a stir. The *Ledger*' Washington Bureau learned that the Top Brass in the Pentagon had read the article with "considerable interest." The military responded quickly but PIO chief Major Tacker operating out of Air Force Secretary Douglas office had a problem dealing with the issue. The usual talk about natural phenomena and aircraft detected under adverse weather conditions seemed feeble when faced with the data the newspaper had collected. Major Tacker had to finally take the ultimate fall-back position which was the assertion that no tangible evidence existed of flying saucers. Here the story in the *Star-Ledger*:

"Those mysterious objects which are being tracked regularly throughout the country by trained government radar personnel 'probably are nothing more than natural pheno-

mena,' the Air Force declared yesterday.

"In that category, it said, would be lightning, meteors, and meteorites, and cloud formations. The Air Force said it was satisfied they could not be 'flying saucers.'

"Top brass at the Pentagon read with considerable interest the story in this newspaper pointing out that these strange objects which are being picked up by skilled radar technicians of the Civil Aeronautics Administration travel at fantastic speeds and execute 90-degree turns and steep vertical climbs. This has caused the technicians, the *Star-Ledger* poll disclosed, to believe that flying saucers do exist.

"Maj. Lawrence Tacker Jr., executive officer in the office of Air Force Secretary Douglas, told this newspaper that he would like to have more detailed information on any reports of CAA watchers who tracked the objects.

"He pointed out that frequently many modern aircraft under adverse weather and sighting conditions are reported by persons who see them through binoculars as unusual objects and 'flying saucers.'

"When observed at high altitude, reflecting sunlight off their surfaces, or when only their jet exhausts are visible at night, aircraft can have appearances ranging from that of a disc to a rocket in shape, he said.

"Maj. Tacker, who will submit another report next month on unidentified flying objects, emphasized 'that in 11 years we have not had one tangible bit of evidence to substantiate the existence of flying saucers or interplanetary space ships. We don't deny, however, the possibility of the existence of life on other planets.'" (51.)

Note that Maj. Tacker suggested no explanation for the mysterious radar returns trained radar technicians were tracking. He could have mentioned temperature inversions but that would be addressing the main point of the *Star-Ledger* poll, and that, apparently, was something way too hot to handle. It was a lot better to talk around that subject and dwell on images detected by the human eye.

21 December. Tucson, Arizona.

Dr. James McDonald "deplores ignorance."

More bad news for the Air Force, although they did not know it at the time, was the increased activity of a senior physicist for the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, a Dr. James E. McDonald. The 38-year-old scientist had become convinced UFO reports had significance and was stepping up his investigation into the mystery. Dr. McDonald would prove to be the Air Force's most formidable foe for a decade. (See clipping on page 54)

22 December. The *Star-Ledger* strikes again.

The Air Force had yet to recover from the *Star-Ledger*'s poll of radar technicians when the New Jersey newspaper blasted the military a second time. Staff writer John Lester polled 50 commercial airline pilots who, as it turned out, expressed their disgust and frustration with Air Force methods and conclusions. Comments by the pilots were startling: "bordering on the absolute ridiculous," a "lesson in lying and intrigue," "Big Brother." (See article on page 55) After the appearance of the airline pilots article, four hundred more pilots joined the list of the original 50! (52.) This was an awesome response to the Air Force's policy of brush-offs and denials but there was always the fall-back position of "no tangible evidence." Writer John Lester was ready for that too!

23 December. Flying saucer bagged by the Air Force?

The *Star-Ledger*'s star reporter had played his cards with skill. The two articles about radarmen and airline pilots generated doubts about the Air Force's credibility. Now he would play his ace.

Who was the "top Washington official?"

A news story that evokes thoughts about the later Roswell controversy was headlined on December 23rd: "FLYING SAUCER CAPTURED, U.S. AIDE CLAIMS." The fact that Lester's source was anonymous weaken his sensational story but his earlier articles made the improbable assertion much more acceptable.

He Welcomes Reports

*[Star Sun
12/21/58]*

Physicist Admits Curiosity About 'Flying Objects'

Dr. James E. McDonald Believes They Have Significance; Deplores Ignorance

By DON CARSON

Unidentified flying objects . . . are they only hallucinations or are they of scientific significance?

Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist for the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, says he has no definite answer to the question.

Put what he terms "an unorthodox curiosity" has taken him into a study of the UFO's "for reasons that are not clearly apparent to me."

"I can't believe that all these reports," says Dr. McDonald, "are just deceptions. I'm sure that there is scientific significance to some of them."

Dr. McDonald, who came to Tucson

in 1954 to assist in the university's weather research program, finds the investigation of the mysterious objects a difficult one.

"Science as a whole has tended to ignore the field," he says, "and it is certainly a regrettable situation. I suppose the main reasons for the neglect are the lack of proper data and the ridicule that sometimes follows the man who sees an unidentified object."

Dr. McDonald plans to continue his part-time research in the field, but the difficulty in locating witnesses of the celestial events and acquiring accurate data from the few who either call or write him has prompted him to develop several rules.

If you should spot an "unidentified flying object," he asks you to do the following:

"1. Stay in one spot, if possible. Mark the spot and the object with reference to some stationary point, such as a telephone pole, a tree branch or a roof top. If this is done I will be able to recreate the scene if I investigate.

"2. Check the time of day. This is important in correlating your report with others.

"3. Note the direction of the object from your position. Try to get a compass bearing.

"4. Estimate the angular diameter of your sighting. A good rule of thumb for this is to hold three fingers in front of the object at arm's length. This will give an approximate five degrees. Then pull your fingers from in front of the object and try to break it down in less than the five degrees. Another method of accomplishing this would be to hold a coin in front of the object."

McDonald admits it is very easy to be deceived by an object in the sky. "The most experienced observer may be tricked," he says. "My wife and I once mistook two bronze-colored kites for strange objects."

Running down flying object reports has brought Dr. McDonald descriptions that ranged from "fire balls" to "a whining, metallic object that sped about 500 feet above the ground at about 500 mph."

Despite the many inaccurate reports and his own deception, Dr. McDonald plans to continue his research in hopes that some day it may bear fruit.

The 38-year-old Iowa State graduate had his interest aroused in 1947 when the first flying saucers were reported from Tacoma, Wash.

Since his arrival in Tucson he estimates he has checked into "a few dozen" reports. The time he spends on the investigations is usually short, but one sighting (last April) prompted him to question 75 people.

He says he has "solved" only one of the reports—what he feels was a green flare set off in the university area."

"I was extremely lucky on that one," he explains. "I got calls from several people in different parts of the city. And all their facts were roughly the same."

Over the long haul, Dr. McDonald gets many reports that "seem to hang together internally but can't be explained."

But if observers follow his suggested procedures, some of the mysteries of unidentified flying objects may be solved.

Tucson, Arizona Star

21 December 58

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1958

THE NEWARK STAR-LEDGER, MO

Pilots call Air Force secrecy on flying saucers 'ridiculous'

By JOHN LESTER
Staff Writer

A group of more than 50 top commercial airline pilots, all veterans of more than 15 years with major companies, yesterday blasted as "bordering on the absolute ridiculous" the Air Force policy of tight censorship, brush-off and denial in regard to unidentified flying objects—flying saucers.

One termed the Air Force policy "a lesson in lying, intrigue and the 'Big Brother' attitude carried to the ultimate extreme."

Each of the pilots has sighted at least one UFO, the majority several.

All have been interrogated by the Air Force and most expressed disgust and frustration at Air Force methods and conclusions.

"We are ordered to report all UFO sightings," one said. "but when we do we are usually treated like incompetents and told to keep quiet."

"This is no fun, especially after many hours of questioning — sometimes all night long. You're tired. You've just come in from a grueling flight, anxious to get home to the wife and kids. But you make your report anyhow and the Air Force tells you that the thing that paced your plane for 15 minutes was a mirage or a bolt of lightning.

"Nuts to that. Who needs it?"

Another said he was certain many pilots "forget" to report UFO sightings rather than un-

dergo Air Force quizzing and them, at Air Force insistence, ridicule. He said he is sure to say nothing for publication because he has lost much valuable information.

The Star-Ledger has their names, however, and it was pressed themselves freely, they agreed that they could be released if and when the "strictly withheld because in most instances employers had directed" One of the pilots was re-

fused permission by his company to appear on a recent nationwide telecast.

Another was ordered to "cease and desist" after he'd appeared on two recent network telecasts with his company's expressed approval.

In referring to the UFO tracking by Civil Aeronautics Authority radar men stationed around the country, as reported in this newspaper last Friday, one of the pilots explained "the Air Force can't afford to admit radar is correct without also admitting its own attitude has been incorrect from the beginning."

This pilot also pointed to a Joint Chiefs of Staff order giving top radio priority to UFO reports anywhere in the world, and specifying that any pilot who fails to maintain absolute secrecy afterwards is subject to a maximum of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$10,000.

"If the whole UFO business is to be taken so lightly, as the official Air Force policy suggests, then why are the Joint Chiefs so serious and obviously so concerned about it, and why are they going to all that trouble?"

In respect to the Joint Chiefs' order, none of the pilots were asked to reveal details of any of their sightings or questioned about them in any way.

Flying Saucer Captui

By JOHN LESTER
Evening News Staff Writer

The U.S. Air Force has captured at least one and possibly two flying saucers—unidentified flying objects from outer space—a top Washington official told the Evening News today.

It also is "believed on excellent authority" that France has at least two, England one, Russia one, "and there's a distinct possibility" the Brazilian Air Force has another.

The highly placed Washington source, who refused to be identified, said a rumor to the effect the USAF has a saucer "stashed away at a secret base has persisted for quite some time, but no one has been able to confirm or run it down as far as I know."

HOWEVER, the fact that the Air Force "is known" to have

designed its own saucer-type craft according to flying saucer specifications "lends definite credence to the rumor."

It would be "virtually impossible," he pointed out, for the Air Force to duplicate such a craft unless "it had one in its possession."

The Air Force saucer, he said, has been undergoing "tests and experiments" at the Wright Patterson Base in Dayton, Ohio, but to date it hasn't been able to come anywhere near the high speeds and fantastic maneuverability of UFO's sighted by competent pilots and others and tracked by skilled government radar men thousands of times.

FURTHER credence is given the rumor, the Evening News Washington source said, by the Air Force's "original anxiety" to "get a UFO by any possible means."

Military pilots, he said, were ordered to accomplish this by shooting one down or, if necessary, "even ramming it and bailing out."

Comic Dictionary

WEATHER BUREAU

A governmental agency that compiles data on weather conditions on the basis of which unreliable forecasts are made.

No. 12,987—22 PAGES

HARRISBURG, PENNA., TUE

The Evening

THE EVENING NEWS

'ed, U.S. Aide Claims

Added to this, it was pointed out, are public statements by William Lear, a world authority on aerodynamics and winner in 1950 of the coveted Collier Trophy for outstanding contributions to aviation.

The Collier award was presented by President Truman. In these statements, carried by the wire services several months ago, Lear disclosed that this country soon would be turning out saucer-type craft that eventually would attain speeds up to 10,000 miles an hour.

AUTHORITY for the report that England has a flying saucer is Lord Louis Mountbatten, it was learned.

No one is willing or able to be quoted on reports that France, Brazil and Russia also have flying saucers in their possession could be reached, although a wire service story from London yesterday said the Soviets plan to build a jet-powered saucer in the near future.

The Soviets have admitted, the story said, that in recent

tests a model of the planned craft have proven "extremely maneuverable."

This newspaper also learned yesterday of the existence of a special Senate sub-committee (as yet unnamed) and two congressional committees, one of which is working on space legislation and related matters, all formed for the purpose of investigating "the UFO problem" from every conceivable angle.

THE SENATE group, headed by Sen. John McClellan (D. Ark.), has had the matter under study for the last 18 months.

It's expected this committee will go into action after a powerful congressional body, just after the first of the year, launches a study of the government's guided missile program.

Word is the latter investigation has been sparked by a bitter feud between Wernher von Braun, the scientist heading the program, and Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy over certain delays in the schedule of firings and the "general confusion" that has surrounded the U.S. missile program from the beginning.

ing News

DAY, DECEMBER 23, 1958

WEATHER: Cloudy
tonight; Wednesday
colder, rain or snow.

PRICE SEVEN CENTS

While the capture claim was impossible to verify, the readers of the story could look forward to what Lester mentioned about Congressional action on the UFO problem. Hopefully, in the near future, the public would learn the truth.

The identity of the "government aide" is still unknown as of this writing (1999). One can't help wondering if the person really existed, and if so, was he really a credible source of such sensitive information.

Canadian scientist Wilbert B. Smith, who wrote the famous "more secret than the H-Bomb" memo, happened to write a short essay for the November-December 1958 issue of England's *Flying Saucer Review* titled: "Why I Believe in the Reality of the Spacecraft." Scanning Smith's writings meant for public consumption tells us little. While Smith was willing to share many thoughts, he drew the line at a certain point. He wrote that he could not be: "...specific as I would like to be with respect to material given me in confidence or which came to me through 'classified' channels." (53.)

23 December. Major Tacker writes Mrs. Fitzgerald.

Major Tacker's December 23rd reply to Mrs. Fitzgerald's angry inquiries could only inflame her all the more. Not only was Tacker's letter an insult in regards to its brevity, it insisted Mrs. Fitzgerald had just seen a light and not a solid object. (See letter on page 59)

24 December. Air Force denies capture.

"With as much vehemence as I can."

The attack on the Air Force's final fall-back position of no physical evidence triggered an instant reaction by Major Tacker: The Newark *Star-Ledger* reported on the 24th:

"WASHINGTON ---The Air Force yesterday lost no time in denying that it has captured one or two flying saucers. There is no basis for such a report, Major Lawrence Tacker Jr., executive officer in the office of the Air Force secretary, declared.

"He termed as 'pure rubbish' a story published in The *Star-Ledger* yesterday based on information supplied by a top Washington official and which told of the of the capture.

"Let me say with as much vehemence as I can that we have never had a flying and we do not have one now,' Tacker commented." (54.)

There is quite a difference, of course, between having a "captured" flying saucer and having a craft you designed yourself. Maj. Tacker inserted some words that caused some confusion which was, perhaps, his intention. The *Star-Ledger* article continues:

"He [Tacker] also said the Air Force has not designed its own saucer-type craft and there was no truth to the statement that it was undergoing tests at Wright-Patterson base at Dayton, Ohio." (55.)

The Air Force and Congress.

The Major's remarks about Congressional interest were short and simple which hardly does justice to complexity of the UFO problem and Keyhoe's struggle to get his day in court:

"Asked if it wasn't true that a Senate subcommittee has had matters of unidentified flying objects under study for some months and that he had been consulted, Tacker recalled that a staff member of the committee had called on him some months

215c,
Case 1958

UNCLASSIFIED

23 December 1958

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of 27 November 1958 concerning your unidentified flying object sighting of 21 September 1958.

According to the Lorain Coast Guard Station log, the weather throughout the morning of 21 September 1958 was alternately misting and raining.

Also, a check with the Lorain railway station disclosed that a train passed your house, going west, at the time of your sighting. This train had a headlight that made figure eight oscillations. It is the opinion of the Air Technical Intelligence Center investigators that this was the light you observed.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Executive Officer
Public Information Division
Office of Information Services

Mrs. [REDACTED]

Sheffield Lake, Ohio

DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification Cancelled

([REDACTED])

Auth. [Signature]

By [Signature]

D. [Signature]

ago.

"He told me that the permanent investigating committee headed by Sen. McClellan had received inquiries from various parts of the country from persons who thought they had seen flying saucers and who thought the committee should try and find out about them. We told the staff member that we had investigated all such reports we had received and in not one instance had we found any evidence to justify the belief that flying saucers existed."

"Another staff member told *The Star Ledger* that the visit to the Air Force was occasioned by a complaint from Maj. Donald Keyhoe, USMC retired, that the Air Force was withholding information on flying saucers. The staff member said Keyhoe had no substantiation for his claims. [No mention here of the fact Keyhoe was denied an appearance before the committee to present his case]."

"The committee, he added, does not have the matter under study now [The possibility future inquiries were under consideration was not addressed]." (56.)

Were the *Star-Ledger* UFO articles "restricted?"

We have noted the fact that the Monon train case of October 3rd, and Loch Raven case of October 26th, failed to make the national news wires for some reason. Except for a single mention in a New England newspaper and another one in Pennsylvania, current files of UFO clippings show no national distribution of the *Star-Ledger* UFO series. We can't say if this is totally true without an exhaustive survey, but it appears to be true. Norbert Gariety, editor and publisher of *S.P.A.C.E.*, a UFO bulletin, operating out of Coral Gables, Florida; learned of the *Star-Ledger*'s "50 pilots tired of official silence" story so late that only a brief reference to it was made in the bulletin's February 1959 issue, and then the information didn't come easy. Gariety commented:

"The above report was supposedly carried on a Canadian newscast, on the evening of December 24, 1958. The report came to *S.P.A.C.E.* headquarters via a correspondent, who had received the report second hand, and therefore we do not have the station, or the personality making the announcement. Any reader who may have heard the newscast, or any reader in the Newark area with additional information, please forward the information to *S.P.A.C.E.* headquarters." (57.)

Gariety was very active in monitoring the news services. In fact, about 90% of his UFO bulletin consisted of stories quoted from news clippings!

24 December. Uxbridge, Ontario, Canada. (morning)

"Like a 20,000-watt light bulb."

UFO or not, it put on quite a display. According to a press account:

"A brilliant light which descended from the sky over Uxbridge 'slowly like a spider in a web' was seen early Wednesday morning by two Toronto men who fear, if they reveal their names, they will be ridiculed by people who laugh at flying-saucer reports."

"One of the men, who said he is a science graduate of the University of Toronto, described the mysterious light as 'like a 20,000-watt bulb in an aluminum disc.' He said it appeared to descend slowly from a height of about 4,000 feet, rose again, then shot rapidly out of sight across the western horizon."

"He said he was told it was probably crystallized vapor trails from an aircraft, but added: 'I've flown in many aircraft and never saw vapor trails like that.'

"There were no other reports of the light being sighted from either Uxbridge or nearby Balsam. Officials at Malton airport said they knew of nothing being in the air at that time." (58.)

24 December. Liverpool-Milton area, Nova Scotia, Canada. (4:30 p.m.)

"It wasn't Santa Claus." (See clipping below)

Mystery Light In Sky Viewed In Liverpool Area

MILTON — Although Santa Claus is expected to race through Nova Scotian skies late tonight, something unexpected in the form of a stationary yellow shiny light was reported to be hovering over the Liverpool - Milton area Monday afternoon.

Driving through Milton late Monday afternoon, Liverpool residents Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burrows noticed the object described by Mr. Burrows as "about eight feet long, rectangular in shape and emitting a yellowish shiny light." He did not know how far it was from the ground.

HIDDEN BY CLOUD

Mr. Burrows said it was slightly west of the setting sun and stayed in position for at least 10 minutes, while the Burrows watched from their car.

Then a cloud obscured it.

Mr. Burrows, a grounds wood superintendent with the Mersey Pulp and Paper Company, summoned a nearby resident, Mrs.

Coles, who also reported seeing the light.

Several other residents in the area are reported to have witnessed it also.

Captain Donald Cook of Riverport said he and his wife sighted a strange object in the sky yesterday afternoon at about 4:30.

Captain Cook said the object looked like an inverted "V" at first and later turned into the shape of a cigar. He said the intensely luminous shape was visible in the north western sky for 10 to 12 minutes.

THE HALIFAX CHRONICLE-HERALD

The Halifax Chronicle-Herald stands for Maritime Progress and Development, and is dedicated to the service of the people that no good cause shall lack a champion and that wrong shall not thrive unopposed.

4 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1958

24 December. East of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. (9 or 10 p.m.)

Eerie yellow light. Mysterious dirigible-shape object.

A member of Bob Gribble's Seattle UFO group conducted an interview and obtained the following information. The witnesses wanted their identity kept confidential (names on file).

This sighting involved an entire family. It included the 35-year-old man, his wife, and their two young sons, age not given. The family was in an automobile at the time of the sighting, traveling on Marsh Road that runs along the boundary between Summit and Portage Counties just east of the city of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The weather was clear and cold. Snow blanketed the ground. The landscape was rural. While driving along someone in the car called everyone's attention to a light in the sky above a nearby hill:

"It was described as an eerie, flickering or pulsating light, yellow-white in color, and seen at some point in the observation to be at the center of a dark body. The family tried to rationalize this unusual object as some kind of Christmas decoration, perhaps a 'Star of Bethehem' rendition erected by a farmer, and they were all curious as to how it was suspended so high in the air (estimated 1,000-1,500 feet 1976 interview, '400-600 feet above the hill' 1989 interview). Since [...] knew of a road that would take them to the top of the hill, and as the object had not moved from its position over a period of observation approaching five minutes, they decided to drive right up underneath it for a closer look. From this vantage point they saw that the

light was below the 'thin dirigible-shaped' body, slightly illuminating the dark mass with its glow. [...deleted] likens the flickering light to that from a carbide lamp (acetylene gas flame). The Christmas decoration idea vanished as they realized that this object was not in any way attached to the ground. The family had the car windows rolled down at this point in order to look out and up at the hovering object. [...deleted] remembers a low hum or 'motor' sound, [...deleted] recalls only silence. After about fifteen minutes of total observation, the object 'shot straight up' and receded into the sky at a very high velocity. The witnesses were all startled by this rapid departure, as they were only expecting it to be some kind of blimp-like craft. The light dimmed out as it receded upward, and they were left once again alone on the hilltop; somewhat shaken by the experience. The [...deleted] family drove home without seeing the mystery object again, and there was no indication in the days following that anyone else had seen and reported it." (59.)

Third (?) week in December. Kansas Civil Air Patrol meeting.

"Why didn't you tell me sooner?"

The remarkable UFO encounter experienced by Mrs. Kinney back on November 11th was not forgotten. At the next Kansas wing (state) Civil Patrol meeting, Mrs. Kinney sought out the Air Force's liaison officer, Major William Littell. Based at McConnell AFB at Wichita, Major Littell's duties included attending C.A.P. functions. Mrs. Kinney knew she had a good story to tell. There was the blinding light, the eye injuries, her three snarling, cringing dogs, and later the discovery of the burned out electrical circuits. Mrs. Kinney, however, had never made any sort of official report about the incident. She had assumed the control tower operators she had talked with over the phone that day had briefed their superiors. Apparently the control tower people had not reported anything and Major Littell had a good reason for being aware of that fact. Major was astonished when he heard Mrs. Kinney relate her story, and when she finished, he exclaimed: "Why didn't you tell me sooner? I'm doing all the UFO investigating for Kansas." (60.) For reasons we can only guess at, it took Air Force officials many days to digest the significance of Mrs. Kinney experience. (Learn the amazing climax to this case by consulting the 1959 period)

(?) December (?) 1958. Japanese Air Chief: "No comment."

Some Japanese UFO buffs obtained an interview with General Sadagu Sanagi, Chief of Staff, Air Self-Defense Forces, whose office was in the Defense Agency building in Tokyo. Our source does not make it clear how the interview was arranged, but it seems the General really wanted to talk about the need to build up Japan's Air Force. The UFO buffs, however, quickly asked about the UFO problem. The General became evasive. He claimed he wasn't too familiar with the UFOs, and in fact had no interest in the subject. The remarks by the General triggered a lot of excited comment among his visitors. The General ended the interview with a few hurried words, acknowledging that if UFOs were real then the issue would indeed be important, however, he said: "...did you know our connecting USAF [He's talking about the close relationship with the American military. The translation here is not the best] had announced that saucers do not exist, therefore, I say 'no comment' on this matter, unfortunately." (61.)

25 December. Fairgrov, Michigan. (7:00 a.m.)

Glowing object hanging in the sky.

According to a Saginaw newspaper:

"A phenomenon suggestive of flying saucers has been experienced by Mrs. Frances Lenger, 69, of 4932 Slack Road.

"She said at about 7 a.m. Christmas morning her kitchen became brightly illuminated by a glowing object which appeared to be 40 rods from the house,

and some 40 feet above the ground. Mrs. Lenger is convinced it wasn't the moon.

"Mrs. Lenger said the object disappeared during the time she kindled a fire in the kitchen stove.

"There have been no other such reports, Wurtsmith Air Force Base reported yesterday." (62.)

26 December. Bulkley Griffin's four article series on the UFO mystery.

Griffin's investigation into the UFO mystery was picked up by various New England newspapers and published as a four part series. Different newspapers ran the series at different times. The clipping below is from a Holyoke, Massachusetts, paper.

DECEMBER 27, 1958

Air Force Not Seeking Truth of Flying Saucers

This is the third of four articles about the unidentified flying objects and Air Force information on them, written in the light of our discovery of space travel.

By BULKLEY GRIFFIN

WASHINGTON—The bulk of government information on the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) never reaches the public. This is because the Air Force, which has made itself the sole source of this information, withholds it.

Sightings Not Reported

To start with, so-called security regulations clamp down on many areas. The public is not told of sightings by military pilots, nor sightings over most military establishments, nor sightings over places like the White House or atomic energy facilities, nor sightings by our far-flung defense radar network.

To these great areas of silence the Air Force has added others. In a regulation this year (AFR 200-2) it is decreed that no sighting near an Air Force base—these bases dot the nation—shall be given the public if the object sighted is possibly an unfamiliar one. It is easy to see that this covers every valuable sighting.

The Air Force, in a letter last May to the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, stated it does withhold information from the public, but does so chiefly to protect individuals from troublesome notoriety. No one seems to have asked the Air Force why it can't give pertinent details of most sightings without revealing names.

Consider how the Air Force speaks to the public today. It employs infrequent, generalized statements. Specific sightings are virtually never mentioned, much less described. This is a good way of dulling public curiosity.

An all-important fact in the general picture is that the Air Force apparently is not making an earnest search for the truth. It would seem that the best way, and possibly the only method today, to get at the truth of the reported instantaneous reversals of flight, the quick turns and great speeds of UFOs, would be to track the UFOs with scientific instruments. In such manner one could at least learn actual speeds and angles of turn. Without going into details, the evidence is that the Air Force is making no such attempt, and never has made any serious such effort.

Spotters Discouraged

One result of the widespread skepticism, both in the Air Force and among the public, touching the flying saucers, is that airline pilots and other experts have been discouraged from reporting sightings. Capt. William B. Nash, Pan American Airways pilot writes: "It is very true that because of the general Air Force attitude—or rather its 'official' attitude—many pilots have been discouraged from relating their experiences."

Capt. Robert Adickes, TWA pilot, referring to the public climate, writes that he doesn't wish "to be subjected to the harassment, ridicule and vilification from crackpots again." Both Adickes and Nash had significant UFO sightings.

Veteran airline pilots are the best practical experts there are in assessing sights in our atmosphere. Capt. Nash is one of these experts who will stand up to be counted. He states: "I am still of the opinion that the avalanche of evidence on this subject points one way and indicates one answer: That the UFOs are extra-terrestrial and under intelligent control."

Monday: The evidence.

Holyoke, Massachusetts
Transcript-Telegram
26 December 58

28 December. George Earley not tranquilized.

One of best UFOlogists in the nation lived in New England. His name was George Earley and in a letter to the editor on December 28th he demonstrated how effective he could be. (See clipping below)

28 December. Near Portglenone, Ireland. (afternoon)

"Flying object cuts tree?"

A row of trees marking the property line between two farms was no barrier to a "low-flying UFO" if we can believe Irish farmer Joseph Bennett. (See clipping below)

UFO Divides Irish Folk

BELFAST, Northern Ireland Then I saw this thing, big and black and about seven feet across. (AP) — The Irish were divided Wednesday about Joseph Bennett's unidentified flying object. Some said it must have been a flying saucer. Others retorted it was just an Irish fairy tale. Whatever it was, says farmer Bennett, it made him duck, and, it cut his oak tree in two—10 feet from the ground. "Yesterday afternoon I was out walking in my fields," he said, "when suddenly there was a strange noise in the sky. I thought it was a rush of wind."

"It came hurtling through the air, about 20 feet above the ground. It came from the south and traveled northwest. Then it hit a 30-foot high oak tree, splitting it in two. In a matter of seconds it disappeared into the sky."

In Portglenone (population 450) nobody would believe Bennett's story at first. "All right," he said, "come and see my tree."

Trent Nonweiler, lecturer in aeronautics at Queen's University,

Investigator Trent Nonweiler measured the oak at the point of the break. He found the trunk to be two feet in diameter. Such thickness would indicate considerable force would be needed to snap the trunk, however some tree rot was also discovered which suggested a strong wind could have done the damage, nonetheless Mr. Nonweiler wondered about: "...four marks on the bark and one on a large branch, all in a direct line." (63.) Also curious, was the "cleanness of the break." (64.)

29 December. Army directives.

NICAP member Larry Bryant often sought UFO information by placing ads in military publications. He never asked for classified data and felt it was his right to make such requests. As one can guess, authorities were not very comfortable with Mr. Bryant's activities and wanted to discourage him. On December 22, 1958, Mr. Bryant had managed to get a UFO information request published in the Fort Monroe *Daily Bulletin*.

Mr. Bryant's ad was rescinded. Two Army Counter Intelligence agents paid him a visit and told him the advertisement was in violation of two Army directives. We have no details. We will list them for the record:

"1. DA (Dept. of the Army) Letter 6 Aug. 1957 – Subject: Unconventional Aircraft.

"2. U.S. Continental Army Command Intelligence Directive

THE HARTFORD COURANT:

Sunday, December 28, 1958

Report Unusual Sights To Washington

To the Editor of The Courant:

The meteoric explanation advanced by Astronomer Brown for Sunday's (Dec. 14) UFO sighting may tranquilize a few readers, but closer examination of the sighting reports shows several questionable aspects.

The UFO was apparently first sighted by Agawam Police Sgt. Borgatti at 12:43 a.m. Sunday. Sgt. Borgatti whose job demands he be an accurate and reliable observer, is an amateur astronomer and stated that the UFO was not a meteor or conventional aircraft.

The Wabrek-Rose sightings in the Marlborough area took place about 1 a.m. The Courant's account pointed out that "Mrs. Wabrek said that the object could not have been confused with an unusually long-lived and brilliant shooting star which was observed a half hour later . . . after arriving home."

The next reports, and there were also quite a few of them according to the AP, came from the New York City area at about 2 a.m.

Just how, Prof. Brown, can a meteor stay up this long, taking some 70 minutes to travel less than 250 miles?

I don't say that this UFO was manned by Martians, but considering that a recent University of California biochemical study of the universe—sponsored by the AEC—estimated that "there are, conservatively, 100 million habitable planets to be found in the universe," it seems that man should divest himself of his arrogant belief that humankind is unique and alone in the universe.

I suggest that all UFO sighters forward complete observation reports to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Ave., Washington 6, D.C.

George W. Earley
Bloomfield.

27 May 1958, paragraph 2 B (5)." (65.)

29 December. Another sample of Bulkley Griffin's UFO articles. (See below)

SPRINGFIELD UNION, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
USAF KEEPS MUM DECEMBER 29, 1958

ABOUT SKY VISITORS

Strange Refusal to Tell Public Anything About Flying Saucers

(This is the last of four articles about the unidentified flying objects and Air Force information on them, written in the light of our discovery of space travel.)

By BULKLEY GRIFFIN

WASHINGTON — The public can't reach any informed conclusion regarding the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) unless the Air Force, sole source of official information, gives all the facts it properly can. The Air Force is not doing this; a few glaring examples will be cited.

Observers Agree

Radar-visual sightings, where one or more persons see an object visually at the same moment and at the same spot that a radarscope sees it, are the hardest to explain away. One of the earliest such sightings, July 19, 1952, involved the radars at the Washington National Airport; strange objects were observed for several hours. The man in charge of traffic control at the airport that night was Harry G. Barnes, a senior air route traffic controller for the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Mr. Barnes said at least two pilots, contacted by radio at different times, saw unknown objects where the radar had them, and pilots and radar agreed exactly as to the movements of the objects. Barnes said the weather was good and the radar in perfect order.

What Pilot Saw

Next to visual-radar sightings, those by veteran airline pilots

are the most difficult to explain away. Capt. Larry W. Vinther, Mid-Continent Airlines pilot, on Jan. 20, 1951, climbed after a strange light. The Kansas City Star quoted him: "I had just turned my head from watching him (the UFO) go past our wing when there he was again, flying right beside us about 200 feet to our left, going in the same direction we were." Vinther said, "You can't turn an airplane around that fast at that speed."

The Air Force today explains away that sighting by suggesting Vinther saw a B36 "believed to be in the area at that time." No mention is made of the essential evidence, the alleged impossible reversal of flight. Again, is this poor data or deliberate suppression?

Capt. Clarence S. Chiles, Eastern Airlines pilot, had a famed sighting over Alabama July 24, 1948; he said a large lighted object rushed by 700 feet to the right of his plane, rocking his plane with the air turbulence it created.

What Rocked the Plane?

The vital evidence here is the turbulence, which would prove the object came close and was no hallucination. Chiles at the time told newspapers of the turbulence; the Air Force itself in 1949 quoted Chiles to this effect, and in 1955 a former chief of the official Air Force UFO investigation repeated there was turbulence that rocked the Chiles plane.

Yet today the Air Force hands out a report which states: "No disturbance was felt from air waves." This statement, presented without attempt at justification, seems inexplicable for an honest Air Force gathering and presentation of facts.

29 December. Near Pleasant Hill, Illinois. (daytime)

"The saucer belched thick black smoke."

A letter to Ray Palmer's magazine said:

"On December 29th, 1958, my fiancee, Ina Spann, and I were driving to St. Louis, coming back from Pleasant Hill, Illinois, on State Route 96, having just celebrated my birthday in the smaller town.

"About midway between the towns of Pleasant Hill and Atlas, Ina cried, 'Oh, Look!' and pointed to the sky. I looked and saw, above us and to the left, two U.F.O.'s, darting at great speeds above a barren field which contained a grove of trees on its far side.

"I can't say how high they were nor how large. To me, they appeared the size of a silver dollar held at arms length. Their color was silver. This last may be wrong, however, because they also gave off a bright light. Too bright, in fact, to have been reflected on a day so heavily overcast as this was.

"My wonder increased as I saw that the objects seemed to be carrying on some sort of battle, although there were no flashes of light and no sort of noise which would indicate that they were using some sort of weapons familiar to us. Also there was no noise of propulsion such as is heard when an airplane passes over.

"Although it was cold we got out of the car, in order to see better as this silent battle was fought in the skies.

"The objects remained in view for about fifteen minutes, during which time I did not see a single car pass.

"As we watched, the saucers dodged and attacked one another, always at speeds which were faster than any jet airplane I have ever seen. I think the turns they made would have killed a human being. During one sharp turn, in which the object was banked, I could see that it was definitely round and flat and with no markings of any kind. No markings, at least, that I or my fiancee was able to discern.

"Finally, near the end of the fifteen minutes, we watched one saucer speed north and on a collision course with the other saucer, which was not moving, and which made no visible effort to avoid the certain disaster.

"Suddenly there was a sound like muffled thunder and the onrushing saucer belched a thick black smoke from its leading edge. It came to a dead stop then rushed away to the east, trailing a gray smoke. The other saucer gave chase and soon both were out of sight and beyond the grove of trees.

"Ina and I stood looking at the spot where we had last seen them for perhaps a minute before getting back in to the car and driving on. During that time the saucers did not return.

"Later that night, when we were back in St. Louis, I called the *Globe-Democrat* and gave them my story. The reporter I talked to said he would look into it.

"As you may have already guessed, I have heard no more about the incident though I thoroughly read every issue of the paper for a week after that.

"But that is the story and I am glad I was part of it. I now know, even though I have no proof, that the flying saucers are real, no matter what anyone says to the contrary.

Edward E. Bolling
2565 North Market Street
St. Louis, Missouri (65.)

Violent maneuvers by UFOs have been reported before. It is not clear if such activity is just a game, a test of the craft's controls, or something else we cannot even imagine. The famous example is the sky show over Farmington, New Mexico, on March 17, 1950. One witness said he saw saucer-shaped objects: "... charge each other head-on only to veer away at right angles at the last second, avoiding a collision." (66.)

Late 1958. Peake, Australia. (4:00 p.m.)

"Dropped like stone."

UFO investigator Michael Hervey uncovered this case:

"When we lived at Peake, my son, Kym, and I saw a UFO at approximately 4 p.m., late in 1958. It came from the north, not very fast, and looked like a pearly white disk. It stopped overhead for a while, hovered and then dropped like a stone. Just as it was about to crash it shot off again, only to stop above my husband who was reaping in a nearby field at the time.

"Our neighbors didn't believe us at first, but there was a report in the newspapers the following morning that a strange object had been sighted that night over Osborne." (67.)

31 December. More on the Fitzgerald case.

"Not adequate or honest."

The UFO Research Committee of Akron had written to the Air Force on December 19th charging that the military's investigation of the Fitzgerald case had not been "adequate or honest," and even suggested that Washington authorities may not be aware that people working for project BLUE BOOK may be misleading them. (68.) General Fisher replied to the Akron group on December 31st concerning the allegations. The General made it clear the official findings had been "thoroughly reviewed" by Air Force headquarters and the High Command was completely satisfied. The results of the Fitzgerald investigation were not to be changed. (69.)

Neither the Akron group, or Mrs. Fitzgerald, were going to take General Fisher's comments as the final word on the incident.

Late December. An Air Force "UFO Program."

Congressional interest and disputes with civilian UFO organizations pushed the Air Force into an offensive move. It was evident the Air Force had a public relation problem. A Staff Study to examine the situation was authorized and quickly completed. The study exaggerated the difficulties with civilians and made at least one glaring mistake. According to the Staff Study some "49" civilian UFO groups with an anti-Air Force agenda were at work (Few organizations were large like APRO and NICAP. The vast majority were tiny "clubs" with just a hand full of dedicated members). Actually only NICAP posed any kind of threat and the Staff Study exposed its poor research by erroneously stating ex-BLUE BOOK Chief E.J. Ruppelt was "affiliated" with the "political adventurist" Donald Keyhoe, creating a "formidable team" capable of making a lot of trouble for the Air Force. (70.) The Staff Report urged a new effort it called the "UFO Program." The "program" would correct certain faults in the way BLUE BOOK operated. This had to be news to Major Tacker who always answered public inquiries by insisting the Air Force never did anything wrong! The study said the Air Force was much too slow in its investigations and its investigators were not prepared to handle complex cases. A quick reaction team of 18-20 agents, well equipped with hardware, was recommended. One "radical" suggestion was that the Air Force automatically investigate UFO reports *made to the press* (The current policy was to investigate only those UFO reports officially reported to the Air Force. The few exceptions seem to be those incidents so sensationalized they couldn't be ignored). The conclusion of the study was an admission the Air Force needed to boost its credibility. (71.)

The "real" silence group.

We know something about the people at ATIC and how they carried out their duties. It is at that level, the BLUE BOOK level, that ideas like the "UFO Program" were born and discussed. A step up to a higher level, the Pentagon, is a place we know little about and it is where the real power resides. Air Force *headquarters* dropped the proposed UFO Program apparently: "... deciding not to spend more money on a phenomenon that was no threat to the national security and that seemingly had no scientific value." (72.)

FOOTNOTES:

- (1.) Walkerton, Ontario, Canada. *Herald-Times*. 6 November 58.
- (2.) Ibid.
- (3.) Passion, Bernardo. "Report From Argentina." *APRO Bulletin*. January 1959. Page 6.
- (4.) "1958, November." (Radar Cases) Calgary, Alberta, Canada. 2 October 60. Dew Line Radar. Certified by Alberta Unit #1 (NICAP?) Signature on report not readable. CUFOS files.
- (5.) May be located in Air Force BLUE BOOK files by the date: 2 November 58.
- (6.) "Stranger Hovers." *Flying Saucer Review*. Vol. 5, No. 1. January-February 1959. Page 7.
- (7.) "Come Off It Mr. Ward." *Flying Saucer Review*. Vol. 5, No. 1. January-February 1959. Page 2.
- (8.) Letter: To: "Len & Dell (Stringfield). From: Ted (Bloecher). CSI New York. Photocopy in author's files.
- (9.) Letter: To: NICAP. From: Allen Iskinitz. 14 March 67. "1958 November." CUFOS files.
- (10.) Ibid.
- (11.) Frankfurt, Germany. 7 November 58. (UPI)
- (12.) Ibid.
- (13.) Letter: To: J. Allen Hynek, Chairman, Dept. of Astronomy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. 602201. From: Dr. Robert J. Kinney. 926 Pueblo Solano NW, Albuquerque, NM. 23 August 74. Photocopy in author' files.
- (14.) Ibid.
- (15.) Ibid.
- (16.) Ibid.
- (17.) Ibid.
- (18.) "Saucers in the News." *Flying Saucers*. Ed. Ray Palmer. Issue #30. July-August 1958. Pages 77-78. Investigator: Bernard Chartier, Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- (19.) *APRO Bulletin*. January 1959. Page 6.
- (20.) May be located in Air Force BLUE BOOK files by the date: 15 November 58.
- (21.) Rodeghier, Mark. *UFO Reports Involving Vehicle Interference*. Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Ill., October 1981. Page 15.
- (22.) *Flying Saucers*. Ed. Ray Palmer. Issue #34. May 1959. Pages 14-15. Witnesses: John Nelson, Columbus, Ohio. Letter writer: Richard Smith, Columbus, Ohio.
- (23.) Rehn, Gosto. "Report From Scandinavia." *APRO Bulletin*. January 1959. Page 4.
- (24.) NICAP Report Form. Sighting by Gordon I.R. Lore Jr., Solomons, Maryland. 1 June 60. CUFOS files.
- (25.) May be located in Air Force BLUE BOOK files by the date: 20 November 58.
- (26.) Floyd County, Texas. *Hesperian*. 12 February 59. Front page.
- (27.) Cruttwell, Rev. E.G. "Flying Saucers Over Papua." *Flying Saucer Review*. Special Issue No.4. August 1971. Page 7.
- (28.) May be located in Air Force BLUE BOOK files by the date: 21 September 58 (The Sheffield file).
- (29.) *NICAP Bulletin*. January 1959. Page 2.
- (30.) Ibid, Pages 2-3.
- (31.) Adams, Thomas. *Pardon the Intrusion, or UFO's Over, On & Under the State of New Mexico*. Project Stigma, Paris, Texas. 1992. Page
- (32.) Boston, Massachusetts. *Herald*. 30 November 58.
- (33.) Ibid.
- (34.) Keyhoe, Donald. *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, N.Y., 1960. Page 246.
- (35.) Clark, Jerome. "Adamski, George." *UFO Encyclopedia* 2nd Edition. Volumne 1: A-K. Omnigraphics, Inc. Detroit, MI, 1998. Pages 33-34. (It was Jan Aldrich who pointed out to me how the fake letter had given Adamski's career a big boost and foreshadowed later debates over the MJ-12 material)
- (36.) "Claims and Counter-Claim." *Australian Saucer Record*. Vol. 5, No. 2. Page 13.
- (37.) Cruttwell, Rev. E.G. "Flying Saucers Over Papua." *Flying Saucer Review*. Special Issue No. 4. August 1971. Page 7.
- (38.) Frankfort, Indiana. *Times*. 5 December 58.
- (39.) Air Force BLUE BOOK files. OSI Records. Letter: To: Commander 3800 Air Base Wing, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. From: Lt. Colonel Roy A. Lange, District Commander, 8th OSI District, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.
- (40.) Durant, Robert J. *The Fitzgerald Report*. Published by The UFO Research Committee of Akron. Akron, Ohio, 1958. Page 15,

- (41.) "Report From South America." *Saucerian Bulletin*. Ed. Gray Barker. Clarksburg, West Virginia. Vol. 4, No. 1. May 1959. Page 22.
- (42.) NICAP Report Form. Sighting by Philip M. Kent. Canoga Park, California. 30 December 58. CUFOS files.
- (43.) *NICAP Bulletin*. January 1959. Page 1.
- (44.) *Just Cause*. Ed. Barry Greenwood. March 1986. No. 7. Page 3.
- (45.) Olmos, Vicente-Juan Ballester. *A Catalogue 200 Type-1 UFO Events in Spain and Portugal*. Valencia, Spain. Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Ill., April 1976. Page 6. (First-hand, Eduardo Buelta, BOF)
- (46.) APRO Bulletin. January 1959. Page 6.
- (47.) According to a note by Bob Gribble, there is a mention of this in "SAUCERS" magazine, Spring 1958 issue, page 12. I do not have this issue so I cannot provide any more detail -Loren E. Gross.
- (48.) Newark, New Jersey. *Star-Ledger*. 19 December 58.
- (49.) *The UFO Evidence*. Ed. Richard Hall. National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington D.C., 1964. Page 5.
- (50.) CUFOS files are arranged by date so one should consult "December 21, 1958." There are two words barely visible at the top edge of page one of this two page report. Sloppy photocopying was probably the cause of the words being missed. The two words no doubt would aid in identifying the paperwork.
- (51.) Newark, New Jersey. *Star-Ledger*. 21 December 58.
- (52.) Fowler, Raymond. *Casebook of a UFO Investigator*. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1981. Page 183.
- (53.) *The Wilbert B. Smith Collection - Five UFO Papers by Smith and a Canadian Government Memo on UFOs: "...more secret than the H-Bomb."* W.L. Moore Publications, Burbank, California. Page 1.
- (54.) Newark, New Jersey. *Star-Ledger*. 24 December 58.
- (55.) Ibid.
- (56.) Ibid.
- (57.) *S.P.A.C.E. Bulletin*. Ed. Nobert F. Gariety. No.26. February 1959. Page 1.
- (58.) Toronto, Ontario, Canada. *Toronto Daily Star*. 27 December 58.
- (59.) UFO report prepared by Jerold R. Johnson of Austin, Texas. Interviews on 2 September 76, and 21 January 89. Witnesses' names on file. The witnesses lived in Canyon Lake, Texas, at the time of the interviews. Gribble UFO Collection.
- (60.) Letter: To: J. Allen Hynek. From: Dr. Robert J. Kinney. (See footnote #13)
- (61.) *Olympic UFO Review*. Ed. P.W. Oppermann. Vol. 2, No. 1. Saginaw, Michigan. January 1959. Pages 9, 20. Japanese source given as: *UFO News Report, Japan*. No date of interview mentioned. It is assumed the interview took place in December 1958.
- (62.) Saginaw, Michigan. *News*. 27 December 58.
- (63.) *Flying Saucer Review*. Vol. 5, No.2. March-April 1959. Page 7.
- (64.) Ibid.
- (65.) *Flying Saucers*. Ed. Ray Palmer. FS-10 Issue #34. May 1959. Pages 8-9.
- (66.) Portales, New Mexico. *Portales Daily News*. 17 March 50.
- (67.) Hervey, Michael. *UFOs Over The Southern Hemisphere*. Horwitz Publications, London, Melbourne, Sydney, 1969. Page 153.
- (68.) *The Fitzgerald Report*. Page 15. (See footnote #40)
- (69.) Ibid.
- (70.) Jacobs, David. *The UFO Controversy in America*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington & London, 1975. Pages 164-165.
- (71.) Ibid, Page 164.
- (72.) Ibid. Page 165.

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Flying Saucers And Rockets Most Popular Canadian Toys

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's a space age Christmas across Canada this year, with moon rocket and flying saucers among the most popular purchases for youngsters.

The Canadian Toy Manufacturers Association says medium-priced toys and playthings are more popular than ever, and sales may reach \$80,000,000 in retail value.

A Canadian Press survey shows youngsters can expect some of these things from Santa this year: Do-it-yourself missile sets, a Japanese-made transistor radio shaped like a missile with an earplug receiver phone, dolls with well-stocked wardrobes including high-heeled shoes, girdles and brassieres, a radio-controlled toy bus, and toy bears that blow bubbles, rabbits that drink soda pop, elephants that play drums and dancing denizens of all types.

OLD FAVORITE

But no matter how popular space-age and mechanical contraptions are, rootin'-tootin' revolver shootin' outfits seem the most popular purchases for boys.

On the adult side, sales clerks at Winnipeg say men are not so bashful about buying lingerie for women as they used to be. Lingerie, furs, cosmetics and jewelry lead in the gifts men buy for women, and men will still get dressing gowns, slippers, shirts, socks and pyjamas for their women.

Appliances such as electric polishers, cleaners and dish washers rank high in gifts for the housewives.

In Ontario stores are staying open longer and hiring more help to cope with a predicted five- to 10-per-cent increase in Yule spending. Cameras and high-fidelity record players are popular gifts.