

the apro bulletin

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VOL. 24, NO. 10

TUCSON, ARIZONA

APRIL 1976

OFFICER HAS REPEAT SIGHTING



George Wheeler indicating the approximate position of UFO observed on Thursday evening, April 22, 1976. Picture taken May 27, 1976.

Thank You

Mr. Lorenzen would like to thank all of the members who called or sent cards during his recent hospital stay. Mrs. Lorenzen is also very grateful for the support and kind words and letters from many who realized the ordeal they both endured. We would like to clear up one point, however; Mr. Lorenzen did *not* suffer a heart attack. An angiogram (a catheter inserted into a vein and to the heart where dye is injected), performed on May 3, indicated 95% blockage of one artery feeding the heart muscle and considerable blockage of another. At 10 p.m. that evening Mr. Lorenzen was taken into surgery, two lengths of vein were removed from his thigh, and were used to "by-pass" the blockages. Surgery was over at 12:15 a.m. and he has made a remarkable recovery. He is not yet up to a full time schedule and it will probably be several months before he will be "his old self" again, so we will appreciate any consideration where letters requiring his attention are concerned.

Water-Pumping UFO's

Over the years, researchers have been intrigued by accounts of UFO sightings in the vicinity of or hovering over bodies of water and man-made water reservoirs in particular. One of the most recent cases to come to hand is only a one-witness case and although the observer was afraid, he appears to have remembered considerable detail.

This report comes from Mr. Jun' Ichi Takanashi, Chairman of the Modern Space Flight Association, and APRO's Representative for Japan. The witness has been given a pseudonym because he does not care to be identified at this time.

The incident took place in July 1973 and at the time, the witness, whom we shall call Masaki Kudou, does not recall the exact date. Kudou, who was a Sophomore at a University in the Kanto District, was employed during the summer as a night watchman at a lumber yard in a small industrial town on the south coast of Hokkaido.

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The report we are about to examine has been exhaustively investigated by several individuals including Robert Pratt, who did exceptionally thorough interviews with all individuals important to the case, and Mr. Jack Bostrak, a Professor of Biology at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls.

The important elements of this case are: (1) The primary witness reported a UFO in April 1975, thus making him a "repeater". (Some researchers, and Dr. J. Allen Hynek in particular, have reservations concerning the believability of witnesses where they claim more than one sighting. It is our contention that during heightened UFO activity in a particular area, an individual could easily have more than one sighting.)

(2) The object, or the glow from it, was seen by at least two other witnesses. (3) There apparently were electro-mechanical effects on an automobile and possibly on television reception, and (4) possible animal reaction.

At about 11 p.m. on April 22, 1976, George Wheeler, a relief policeman at the town of Elmwood, population 737, located in west central Wisconsin about 60 miles east of the Mississippi River, spotted an orange glow at the top of Tuttle Hill. Mr. Wheeler is a veteran of 30 years police work in New York state and Wisconsin, and the former one-man police force in Elmwood where he now performs as reserve officer, filling in for the present chief when necessary. He was also a combat pilot in World War II.

Thinking that the glow was a large fire, he drove to the top of Tuttle Hill, but when he arrived there he found a strange glowing object which he estimated was about 500 feet distant and hovering about 100 feet off the ground. He said it was between a limestone quarry and a farmhouse in the area. Wheeler later said that there were six bluish-white lights, windows or portholes on the side and he could see shadows as if someone was moving inside of it. In the middle of the side facing him there appeared to be some kind of a panel that was open and Wheeler said that inside he could see something which was revolving slowly

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New Lorenzen Book

"Encounters with UFO Occupants", by APRO's Director and Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen, is now in the book stores. It is published by Berkley Press, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y., 10016, and sells for \$1.95. We suggest that those who wish to purchase the book should order it at their local bookstore or order directly from the publishers. It will not be sold from APRO Headquarters.

Repeat

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and had fin-like parts on it similar to a turbine.

What Wheeler interpreted to be legs on the craft were partially extended from the main body of the object and there was a long, black, hose-like appendage on the bottom. The main part of the craft was silver in color.

All the while he was observing, Mr. Wheeler remembered some advice given him by Bostrak the preceding April when he had his first experience: if he should have a similar experience in the future, he should attempt to observe as many details as possible.

When Wheeler first saw the object as he arrived at the top of the hill he radioed the sheriff's department headquarters in Ellsworth and described what he was observing. Suddenly the object started to rise straight up at extremely high speed and at this time there was a bluish flash, whereupon the squad car, the lights, and the radio went dead. Wheeler claims that he doesn't remember any more until somebody asked him if he needed any help. He thinks he recalls saying something of this nature when he radioed the sheriff's office: "My God, it's another one of these UFOs or spacecraft." He estimates that he observed the object for perhaps 45 seconds, and recalls that it made a "whooshing" sound when it left. Although the main body of the craft was silvery in color, the top of it glowed an orangish-white, and so brilliant that it was difficult for him to look at that part because it was "like looking into the sun." He could not discern whether the hose-like appendage was touching the ground because it extended down to where it was obscured by trees.

The limestone quarry where the object was hovering is an active quarry, that is, it is still being worked. In the neighborhood, the nearest farm is that of the O'Bryan family and when Bostrak

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"UFO Report" Popular

Interest continues to mount in our new radio series, "U.F.O. Report", with more stations being added to our list of subscribers daily. APRO's Director of Public Relations, Hal Starr, who is writing and voicing the program, now has completed about 200 of these five minute shows, including some real "collector's item" stories. Besides the better stories in the APRO Bulletin and those previously in our files, the program has featured interviews with the late Dr. James McDonald, Atmospheric Physics Chair at the University of Arizona; an ex-U.S. Air Force security man in the Pentagon; Dr. J. Allen Hynek; an Air Force Colonel

who lost a plane in collision with a UFO; the late Dr. Leslie Kaeburn of U. of California; several astronomers reporting their sightings, the late Professor Willey Ley; and, "The father of modern space travel", Dr. Herman Oberth in Nuereburg, WestGermany. Several more sensational stories from Starr's file of audio tapes will be featured on future programs. We recently printed the beginning list of radio stations carrying our program, and we are especially anxious to find out how many members are hearing this program, what station they are getting it on, and where they live. Please drop us a note or postcard immediately with this information. It will be very helpful in our planning.

Please send old and new ZIP CODES with ADDRESS CHANGES.

Repeat

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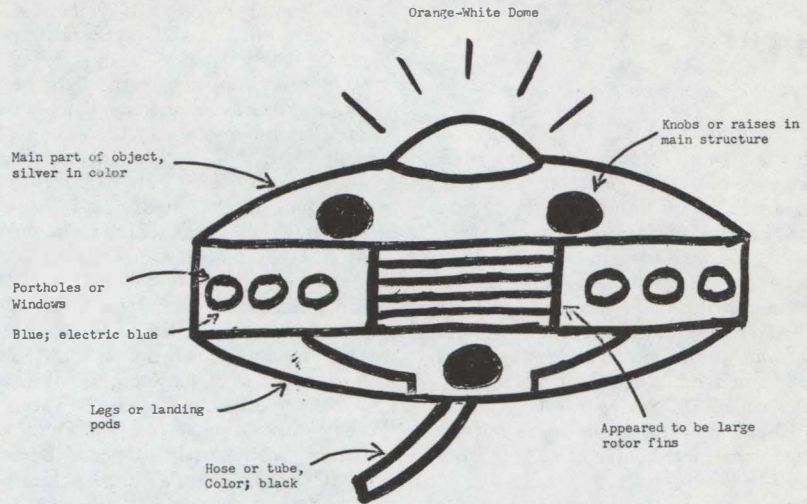
interviewed Mr. O'Bryan he said that he hadn't seen anything because he was watching television, and casually noted that he recalled the time because he was watching the Perry Mason show which comes on at 11 p.m. and that several minutes after 11, his television set quit for a short time. When Bostrak visited another farm with Wheeler they learned nothing from the adults, but the 9-year-old boy said something about his sister coming home from "some doings" in town and when she came into the yard the dogs did not act normally. Always before, the dogs would run up to her and jump up for attention and petting but on that night they would not respond to her calls and merely barked for some time.

The first person to see George Wheeler after the accident was David Moots, 36, a dairy farmer at Elmwood. Moots had taken the babysitter home a few minutes before that and he had seen Wheeler's squad car parked elsewhere with lights on, etc., so when he saw the car parked on the top of the hill with the lights out and blocking that lane of the road, he decided to stop. Moots said that Wheeler was trying to get out of the car and there seemed to be something wrong with him. Knowing that Wheeler had once had a heart attack, he thought he might be having another so he stopped and asked what was wrong. Moots said that Wheeler said that he'd been hit. He responded with a question: "Hit by a car?" Wheeler then said, "No, one of those UFOs."

When interviewed, Moots said that he'd heard that a lot of people had seen UFOs in the area before so that was no particular surprise but the being "hit" by a UFO took him aback a bit. He said that Wheeler appeared to be dazed, and because although he did not know him well, he had had sufficient contact with him to know that he was not acting normally.

A second witness to the incident is Mrs. Miles Wergland, a housewife who lives just outside of Elmwood to the North. She claimed that at about 11 o'clock she heard the cuckoo clock strike and got up to go to the kitchen to take some medicine when she happened to glance out the kitchen window and spotted a "bright orange moon-shaped" object on the hill (Tuttle). She said she observed it for a "few minutes", then went back to bed and did not even bother to wake her husband because she said she had seen strange things in the area before and he had merely told her to go back to bed, she was seeing the moon, without ever checking for himself.

The third witness to the actual object is Paul Fredrickson, who is administrator



What George Wheeler saw.

of the Heritage of Elmwood Nursing Home in Elmwood. Mr. Fredrickson was at his home when the police chief's wife called him and asked him to go to his front porch and look out the window and see what he could see. Fredrickson did as he was asked, and saw what he later described as "an orange glow, like a half-moon, like a moon cut in half" on Tuttle Hill. He said he knew it was not a house on fire as there were no flames leaping up. He went back to the telephone and by that time his wife had gotten out of bed and the two of them went back to the window and the thing was gone. Fredrickson feels that the length of time that he spent on the telephone might have been from 3 to 5 minutes.

In the course of the investigation, Mr. Pratt found that Mr. Fredrickson had had another experience along with his son in October, 1975, at which time they were in the same general vicinity, and driving home from the Nursing Home where Mr. Fredrickson had worked overtime. His son suddenly pointed out "something" coming up over the horizon. At the time, they were on Tuttle Hill and looking eastward "right over the top of our house". Fredrickson said his first impression was that it was the full moon rising but then realized it couldn't be because the object was rising very rapidly. He stopped the car and they got out, the boy getting a better look because Mr. Fredrickson was busy with braking, turning off on to the side of the road, etc. Mr. Fredrickson described it at first as a big orange light coming toward them, but when it was overhead it looked like the bottom of a huge, gray plate which he estimated was about 100 feet across. He thinks perhaps it may have been between 500 and 1,000 feet in altitude and when it was directly overhead they could hear a roaring sound much like the roar of a waterfall. The Fredrickson boy said that

the object gave off a blue and green beam from the side of it at one point, but this was while his father was engaged in stopping the car. The object faded into the distance rather quickly, they said; having originally come from the east, it disappeared into the west. Fredrickson did not make careful note of the date at the time, but feels it was around the 20th of October and that the experience took place between 10 and 10:30 p.m.

The next individual to become involved in the Wheeler incident was Police Chief Gene Helmer of Elmwood. He had been at home and monitoring the "police scanner" when he heard Wheeler say that he was watching a UFO. Helmer said Wheeler had started to describe the object but the radio went dead. The Sheriff's Department was trying to contact Wheeler by radio also, and Helmer tried to get Wheeler back, but to no avail. Helmer decided he had better go and see what was wrong when Wheeler came back on the radio momentarily and said, "Get somebody up here - I've been hit."

Helmer, who lives about a quarter of a mile from Tuttle Hill, left immediately and when he arrived at the scene, Moots was trying to soothe Mr. Wheeler. Helmer said that he had never seen a man as frightened as Wheeler was. He said further that he had worked with Wheeler under various trying conditions but had never seen him so upset. Another interesting aspect of Chief Helmer's interview was his description of the condition of the patrol car. Although they had had the car tuned up not long before the incident, it was necessary to replace all points and plugs in the car's engine. The starter is beginning to act up also, whereas they had had no problem with it prior to the incident.

Wheeler's wife arrived on the scene at

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Repeat

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about the time the Police Chief got there, as she had been listening to the police frequency on the Wheeler scanner. Wheeler was taken home and the family doctor, Frank Springer, was called. Mrs. Wheeler took her husband to Springer's home where he examined Wheeler and gave him a shot to calm him and help him sleep. After they got home, Chief Helmer arrived and questioned Wheeler for about an hour and a half. At about 1 a.m. Mrs. Wheeler called Dr. Springer and said that her husband was still quite upset and Dr. Springer instructed her to take her husband to the hospital.

Wheeler was in the hospital for three days where tests were taken but nothing could be found wrong with him. He stayed for three days, was released, but went back to the hospital for a second stay of 11 days because of headaches he was suffering, as well as nightmares.

Dr. Springer, who has been Wheeler's physician for 25 years, said that it was unusual for Wheeler to suffer headaches and the headaches he had which prompted him (the Dr.) to re-hospitalize him were continual and severe. Otherwise, however, Wheeler was rational and appeared normal.

One puzzling aspect of this case is the fact that although Wheeler recounted the entire experience to Helmer, who recorded it in writing, he could not recall any of the details of the experience later.

Water

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The incident, recalled to have taken place in July 1973, took place in the lumberyard, which is a deserted lonely place with only a few dark warehouses and chimneys in the distance. Kudou notes that the job isn't a particularly pleasant one as he was the only guard. After making his rounds of the lumberyard, he returned in his car to his parking place, switched on the car radio, lit a cigarette and was looking up at the clear night sky through the driver's window, when a streak of light ran across the sky.

Inasmuch as the light went out immediately, he thought it might have been a shooting star, but then the light re-appeared at the very spot where it had gone out, in the same fashion as a bulb would be switched on, travel some distance, then be switched off and on again. It looked to be the "size of a baseball" and orange in color. Kudou admits that he was quite frightened, but he did watch the light which moved to and fro in all directions within the limits

of one meter (no exact estimates are given - we don't know if this was at arm's length or what).

Suddenly, Kudou said, the light began a spiraling descent and when it was down to an altitude just above the dome of a cement factory in the distance, it began to send out what appeared to be intermittent green light rays in one direction which he calculated to be north.

At this point, Kudou noted, the whole episode seemed to be "science-fiction-like" and he was hoping that what he was watching would prove to be a dream or his imagination. After it had stopped its "signalling", the object or light began to descend over the waters of the bay, describing a large arc which was executed with startling speed. Because the bay waters were within his range of vision, Kudou was able to observe what transpired from that time on.

He said the light descended to an altitude of about 20 meters (75 feet) above the surface of the water and stopped, and then from the underside of the light came what appeared to be a glass-like transparent tube and when the leading edge of the tube touched the surface of the water, that part of the tube began to glow and appeared to be sucking up the bay water. Accompanying the projection of the tube to the water, was a sound which Kudou described to be like the sound of a cicada (insect) which emits sound like "min-min-min-min", but the sound accompanying the tube was not so monotonous and appeared to be lower in pitch.

Kudou at this point was very puzzled and quite frightened, and dropped his head down, and when he lifted his head again the object appeared to have finished its sucking action and was maintaining its position in the same place.

The next maneuver by the light was to head toward Kudou who became more frightened, and sat there glued to his seat watching it approach at about 50 meters altitude, becoming larger until it was "as large as a volleyball". The intensity of the light had diminished as compared to its light at a distance (or, Kudou said, it might have seemed so as the surroundings were lit up by its light so that it was like daylight) and was white instead of the original orange. He could now make out more detail and noted that it was as smooth and round as a pingpong ball, and he could now see what appeared to be small windows around the center of the object. In the central one and in another window two windows to the right, he saw two "eerie, shadow-like figures" which he said were "too small and deformed to be called the shadows of men".

Kudou said that at this point he bowed his head until it rested on the steering wheel between his hands which had been clutching the wheel all the time. But he was fascinated also and continued to look at the object and had the feeling that he

was bound hand and foot. As he watched he spotted what appeared to be three gasoline drums connected together lengthwise, hovering noiselessly in a blackish-dark-brown silhouette to the left of the lighted object. The lighted object with the windows began to move toward the elongated object, and then Kudou spotted three or four more round, white lighted objects, located to his left and to the right of the long object. Then the four or five round white objects appeared to be "sucked" into the long object which then began to move into the north, at tremendous speed.

Kudou recalls that as the object moved away he began to realize his whole body was numb, "just as after we sit for a long time for a yogi practice," and his car radio was emitting "meaningless sounds". His head was aching severely also.

Kudou thought that the experience lasted from 11 to 12 minutes although it felt as if it was much longer. He also said that he could not sleep that night after finishing his tour of duty on watch.

Mr. Takanashi cites the following similar incidents: On a sunny July morning in 1965 Mr. John Hembling, a geologist and exploration manager of a mining company and his companion, also a geologist, watched a mushroom-shaped object descend to less than 50 feet above a small glacial lake and lower a pipe-like instrument from its underside and dip it into the water. The object remained there for about 8 minutes before withdrawing it and flying away. (Canadian UFO Report, Vol. 1, No. 3, May-June, 1969, Pages 4-6). Another incident occurred in Langenschemmern, Wurttemberg, Germany where a retired electrician named Max Krauss saw a small transparent ball about 40 centimeters in diameter and containing eight spokes projecting from its dark nucleus. It floated along behind him for about 150 meters, stopped at one side of the road and elongated a "hose-pipe" from its inside and dipped its front edge into a pool of water formed at the edge of the road by the rainfall. The object remained there for a short while before drawing the pipe up and resuming its flight. (Flying Saucer Review, Vol. 18, No. 4, July-August 1972, Pages 15-17).

One other similar incident was received via mail from a lady who wishes to remain anonymous. The narrative is contained in Mrs. Lorenzen's book, "Shadow of the Unknown", Signet books, Chapter 11, "Airborne Anomalies". Incidentally, the book is now out of print so we present the entire narrative:

At Eagle Point, Oregon, in February, 1958, Mrs. M. walked to her kitchen window and looked out toward the road in front of her house. She saw a huge object hovering from 30 to 40 feet above

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Water

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a lake of backed-up rain water near the irrigation ditch there. The color of the object was amber "as if it was hot", she said, and it presented a huge and strange appearance. A funnel-like contraption extended down into the water below the object which itself was "like a disk", and appeared to be about 500-600 feet in diameter. The underside of the disk was flat except where the funnel was attached, and at the outer edges of this bottom portion were what appeared to be large round rollers "like huge marbles" spaced about 10 to 15 feet apart. Mrs. M. did not count these rollers but was certain that there were a large number of them.

She was not able to discern any configuration of the top of the object except that it was round and she got the impression that it merely sloped down to the edges; no dome was visible. She and her four-year-old son watched the object hovering there making a humming sound for a total of about 20 minutes, then the "funnel" retracted up into the object and only a huge bulge was left where it had been. After this operation was completed the whole bulk moved slowly straight up into the air until they couldn't see it anymore because of the limiting edges of the window frame. "As it lifted up", Mrs. M. said, "it seemed to take the fog with it." Then, she said, as soon as the UFO was gone the sun came out and shone brightly until about 4 P.M. that afternoon, when the fog closed in again.

This is a most interesting report because it indicates that the object witnessed by Mrs. M. was doing something in relation to the water on the ground. It is not likely that the water was being drained because it was only about two feet deep at the deepest point, and the object seemed to have been there long enough and had enough capacity (in relation to its size) to have nearly drained the pond if that had been the purpose. Mrs. M. said that she felt that the UFO could have contained "three or four of the measurements" of her house - it was that huge.

So here we have four reports from four widely separated areas (except that the Oregon and British Columbia cases are relatively close to one another geographically) involving objects hovering over bodies of water and extending some sort of appendage into it. In the Japanese case it seems obvious from the young man's description that the object was actually taking on water. In the other three cases there seemed to be no evidence that there was any amount of water taken. Perhaps in the British Columbia, Germany and Oregon cases only samples were taken, for whatever

reason, which is one of the puzzles at hand.

1975 UFO Wave In Arizona

by Ramond Jordon,
APRO Field Investigator

1975 may well prove to be one of the most significant years in the history of UFO studies. One of the major areas of UFO concentration during the year was Arizona and New Mexico. This article will briefly summarize only the more spectacular of the Arizona sightings.

The UFO activity started early in the year, January 13, at Childs, a remote hydroelectric generating station on the Verde River in central Arizona about 70 miles north of Phoenix. Most of the adult population of 10 in this small community had stories of UFO sightings. The most spectacular one involved the fairly close appearance of an apparently large, possibly cigar-shaped object which hovered for a few minutes perhaps less than a mile from the observers. It was described as "like a 747 airliner in the canyon" and "like a brightly lit Pullman car". Only very bright light coming from the "windows" was seen on this object. It seemed to rotate in a counterclockwise direction. While hovering, this first object released a smaller second object which was reddish and possibly disc-shaped. The first object then departed to the west in the direction of the power lines to Prescott. The second object, when released, dropped straight down to the power lines and followed them down to an island in the river about 300 yards from the observers. This second object released a third object which appeared as a faint red glow. This object beamed a white light down to the ground as if searching for something. It also periodically flashed a very bright "beacon" which lit up the whole canyon. The second and third objects then slowly proceeded up the Verde River toward Campe Verde until lost from sight behind a bend. They seemed to be carrying out a deliberate search. The same activity was again observed on the evening of January 25 by the same witnesses. Later that same evening, one of the observers saw the large object, or a similar one, pass overhead going down the canyon and heard a humming sound. No voltage discrepancies were noted by the automatic recording equipment during any of the incidents. According to some of the residents of Childs there is continuing UFO activity there although nothing as spectacular or frequent as the events in January.

Activity picked up again in March. The first incident that I investigated occurred

on the evening of the 9th at Alamo Lake in western Arizona. The witness, Stuart Hill, a young man from Prescott, was fishing from a remote camp site on the northern shore of the lake.

About 7:45-8:00 p.m., Stuart noticed a light quickly descend toward the lake at about a 60-70° angle from the southwest. The object decelerated, and hovered about 30-40 feet above the water about 150-200 yards from the observer. Hill immediately put out his lantern. He described the object's size as "huge-at least as long as a football field". It appeared to have the shape of a "flattened football" with a dome emitting very bright white light on top. No structure could be seen initially; only the lights. Under the white dome, arranged horizontally, were 3 rectangular red lights. These lights glowed individually in sequence, from left to right. Next, all three lights came on simultaneously. The lights increased in intensity until they were very bright during the simultaneous phase. The lights then repeated the sequence starting with the left. Each phase of the sequence took less than 1 second.

Immediately after the object started hovering a slight hum may have been heard. During the entire sighting a whine, "like a jet engine", was heard - very faint at first and building in intensity. No relationship was noticed between the noise and lights. The noise ceased just prior to the object's departure. Immediately before the departure of the object, the dome light went off and on and then the whole structure glowed a very bright orange for 4 or 5 seconds. The other lights could not be seen at this time. This intense glow from the object brightly illuminated the ground - "brighter than daylight". The glow shortly went out and the 3 red rectangular lights could be seen again. The object then departed with an instantaneous very high velocity at a 45° angle to the southeast and disappeared into the clouds. The entire sighting lasted from 1½-3 minutes.

When the UFO first appeared, Hill's dog barked and growled. It soon ran in fear to the tent and remained there.

The next two cases that I covered were also in March and each involved a single witness. However, the background of one of the witnesses and the recurrent sighting at the same location make these reports very interesting. The first sighting was made by a 46 year old professional pilot with a very responsible job and thousands of hours of flight time. Because of his job he wishes to remain anonymous. We'll refer to him as "M.A."

At 11:30 p.m. March 11, he was proceeding south on U.S. Highway 89 from Ash Fork to Prescott. While crossing the bridge over Hell Canyon, 18 miles south of Ash Fork, his attention was

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Arizona

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drawn to a large red glow and several smaller ones in the canyon to his right. He initially thought it was a train station. He very shortly realized this wasn't so and turned around and proceeded back to the bridge. Arriving there and looking down, he spotted the 3 or 4 small, dim red lights. The large red light was not seen this time. The canyon is about 450 ft. wide and 200 ft. deep with a sharp turn on the west about 1/8 mile from the bridge. A small tributary canyon enters the main canyon at the turn. Viewing something unusual late at night and being alone, M.A. was frightened and turned his car back and proceeded toward Prescott again. Suddenly, a white light arose from the side canyon and followed M.A.'s car about 100 feet to the right and slightly behind him at a low altitude (at about his 4 o'clock position). It swept a bright light back and forth across his car. M.A. accelerated to about 125 mph. The object followed for at least the next 2 miles crossing over M.A.'s left (or 8 o'clock position). Several miles from the bridge M.A. passed another car driving in the same direction at a much slower speed. In his mirror, M.A. could still see a bright light following him for several more miles. He could not swear it was not the car he had passed but didn't think so.

About 23 miles from the bridge, M.A. slowed to turn right onto the Willow Creek road by the Prescott Airport about 8 miles north of Prescott. Just as he was turning, he noticed to the left of the road a white light with a pulsating red light on "front". It followed him for several miles down the road after which he lost it. The area where he lost it is a built-up area on the northern outskirts of Prescott.

A second sighting at the same place occurred about 8 p.m. on March 28. Miss D.M., a young school teacher, thought she saw a "fire truck with very bright red and blue lights" travelling from her right, toward the highway as she was approaching the Hell Canyon bridge from Ash Fork (there is no side road here). The pattern of lights disappeared just as the object neared the bridge (possibly going under the bridge). The lights reappeared on the left side, moving very fast. They stopped just east of the bridge. All during the sighting the lights remained in an inverted "L" configuration. There was no change in color or intensity. There was a vehicle parked in a parking area next to the bridge. The observer was frightened, locked her doors, did not stop, and hurriedly proceeded to Prescott. She did not see the object again. The previous sighting was not publicized and Miss D.M. had no way of knowing of it.

There was then a brief lull in UFO activity until it seemed all hell broke loose in Sedona in May. Sedona is a small

town in a beautiful setting at the mouth of Oak Creek Canyon about 30 miles south of Flagstaff. The first event, although reported by only a single family, involved some strange phenomena even for UFOs.

On the evening of Monday, May 5 about 9:45 p.m., Mrs. Esther Beardsley heard a very loud "whirring" sound. It was very high-pitched and wavering in intensity. Both of her children — John 17 and Kathy 14 — also heard the sound. (Mr. Beardsley was out of town during each of these incidents.) All described it as a "weird, science-fiction type sound". Mrs. Beardsley said "the sound in those bad science-fiction movies is very accurate". When she first noticed the sound, Mrs. Beardsley was busy writing and realized that a strange noise kept getting louder. They looked out their back window and saw nothing. The Beardsleys' two dogs never seemed affected by the noise or any other, phenomena. Mrs. Beardsley then called the Coconino County sheriff's substation in Sedona. By the time she hung up, the noise appeared to be fading in the distance. Then her son Johnny spotted a huge, bright, white light hovering northwest of them. They could see no detail because of the intensity and "bright rays" of the light. By now, the sound had faded almost completely away. All of the witnesses said they were sure the object was not a star or a planet — "it was hundreds of times brighter than any star or planet". It remained stationary for about 15 minutes.

The sound returned again during the early morning hours of Tuesday, May 13. The sound was very loud and woke Johnny up. He also described a bright flash of light illuminating the inside of the house and fading slowly. He went and woke up his mother who agreed on the light and very loud sound. They looked out the back window and noticed that the back yard was flooded with a very bright light. The very bright light faded and it now appeared as if a searchlight beam was playing down on the willow tree in the back. The tree was blown over as if it was under a very strong downdraft. (No helicopter sound was heard.) The light and sound then faded and disappeared. The tree then returned to normal. The daughter, Kathy, remained asleep during this incident.

About a half hour later, the loud sound was heard again. This time the daughter was awakened and also heard the sound. Mrs. Beardsley again called the sheriff's substation. Mrs. Beardsley held the telephone to the window and dispatcher Darlene Keesler also heard the sound which she described as a "whoop, whoop, whoop... like a science-fiction movie". No light was seen on this occasion. The sound was heard for about 5 minutes and during the peak of loudness (or closeness), the Beardsleys

were afraid to go out.

On Thursday evening 11:05 p.m., just as they were getting ready to go to bed, Kathy spotted the UFO. At first, it just appeared as something hovering over Airport Road — a green light on the left and a red light on the right. The size appeared as the distance between a spread thumb and index finger at arm's length. Nothing was seen between the two lights at this time. It appeared as an illuminated baton. As Mrs. Beardsley and Kathy watched, it began to "gracefully and slowly slide" from right to left across Airport Mountain. Suddenly, without slowing, it changed direction 180° and returned to its original position. Mrs. Beardsley said she was "enthralled by its beautiful grace". On reaching its original position, it reversed direction as before and slid back to their left until it reached a position toward the end of their road and hovered, perhaps several hundred yards from them. Meanwhile, Mrs. Beardsley called her husband in Phoenix and the two children went out front in the road for a better view. At this time, Mrs. Beardsley said she saw a dome shape between the lights, Johnny said it was oval and Kathy didn't see anything between the lights. The craft then began to rotate — Mrs. Beardsley didn't know which way. It then stopped and seemed to "turn around" once about 90-180°. Perhaps the relative position of the red and green lights changed — the witnesses aren't sure. It then "put out" a white beam of light. Both Mrs. Beardsley and Johnny described this light as *extending out* rather than switching on instantaneously! (At the end of the phase, the light was described as being *retracted* rather than switching off!) The beam of light was described as having parallel sides (no spreading) and being as strong at the end as at the beginning. Johnny also described the beam as having an end to it — *clipped at the end*, rather than a beam ending with a circular cross section on the ground! Mrs. Beardsley remained inside viewing through a bedroom window at an angle and her view was also further obstructed by some trees. The white spotlight was played back and forth across the side of Airport Mountain — illuminating trees and bushes. After a short while, the beam started moving towards the children in the road. Mrs. Beardsley frantically screamed for them to get in. She had a feeling the light was searching them out. The children didn't need any further encouragement, almost breaking the door getting back in. As soon as the children were in the house, the white light was retracted. The object then turned around and slowly departed to the south. No sound was heard during this sighting.

(To be concluded in the
May Issue)