

the apro bulletin

VOL. 27, NO. 10

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

April, 1979

UFO MEET SLATED FOR SAN DIEGO

Sightings In The Philippines

*based on report by
Col. Aderito A. deLeon*

Although there is little detailed information available at this writing, preliminary reports in the form of wire service clippings and correspondence with Col. Aderito de Leon, APRO's Philippine Representative, indicate considerable UFO activity in that country in May and possibly earlier.

Sketchy reports from Bacolad indicated that a "mother ship" and satellite vehicles were seen there, that two or three of the smaller vehicles landed, and occupants appearing like "ordinary Caucasians" were observed alighting from them.

Another sighting, which received UPI wire service attention, took place near Davao around the 20th of May when American scientist Ron Kruppa, of the Film and Development Research for the Endangered Environment, and two Philippino assistants told Davao officials that they saw a round object moving over Mount Apo, at the edge of Davao, which is six hundred miles south of Manila.

Kruppa is in that area observing the habits of a rare, monkey-eating eagle. He looked into the sky to find out why the eagles were making an eerie sound and noticed an unusually bright starlike object in the north but almost directly overhead. He said it was "perfectly round like a big balloon" and gave off a strobe-like effect similar to a camera flash.

Later, around the 21st, a "disc-like object" flashing a "rainbow of colors" sailed over Legazpi City in Albay Province two hundred and twenty miles southeast of Manila. It was observed by residents and live coverage of the incident was broadcast by the local radio station manager who was also a witness. He said the object was "the size of a man's fist" and had an unearthly glow."

These cases are under investigation and further available details will be published in the Bulletin as they are received.

Top authorities will be gathering in San Diego for "UFO '79", a scientific examination of the enigma of our age, the unidentified flying object, often called the "flying saucer", according to Hal Starr who is acting as Chairman of the event.

Starr, APRO's Public Relations Director and an investigative reporter from Phoenix, Arizona, writes and narrates the daily radio program, "UFO REPORT", syndicated by a Hollywood firm in seven English speaking countries.

Among those committed to deliver papers and the titles of their presentations are:

Psychologist R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Counseling and Testing and an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Wyoming who will speak on "UFO Prophecies".

James A. Harder, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley and Director of Research for the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc. who will deliver a paper on "The Structure of Extra-Terrestrial Civilizations".

Nuclear Physicist Stanton Friedman, recently of General Electric and now an author and noted lecturer, who will present a paper on "UFO Propulsion Systems".

Mr. Cleve Backster of the Backster Research Foundation, Inc., one of the world's leading authorities on the polygraph or so-called "lie detector" whose research into determining plant reaction to animal emotion triggered extensive research in laboratories world-wide, will explain this phenomenon in his paper, "The Efficacy of the Polygraph in Determining the Validity of UFO Encounters".

Mr. L.J. Lorenzen, International Director of Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc. and a research and development engineer in electronics now directing his own company, will speak on "Recent Abductions by UFOs".

George Hunt Williamson, Ph.D., who holds doctorates in Anthropology and Archeology, one of the original discoverers of the so-called "landing fields" on the Nazca Plains in Peru 25

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body probing the UFO puzzle, will also reminisce about the beginnings of serious scientific studies as she, too, is presented as a guest of honor at the banquet.

Several other famous investigators, including scientists from other nations are being invited, but have not been confirmed as yet.

The symposium which will be held at The Royal Quality Inn, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, California 92106, begins Friday evening, November 16, 1979 with a "get-acquainted" party. All day Saturday, November 17th, the various papers will be delivered, followed by a roundtable discussion between the speakers and a question and answer period afterward. Saturday evening there will be a no-host cocktail party and banquet with a principal speaker to be announced. Displays, reading material, etc. will be available in rooms adjacent to the main meeting hall. On Sunday, November 18th, copies of papers delivered Saturday will be available and orders will be taken for cassette recordings made during Saturday's events. Sunday is free to those wishing to attend church, go sight-seeing around San Diego, take a bus trip to Mexico, which is very close, or cruise around the harbor in one of the many available cruise ships.

The entire symposium attendance is available on a first ordered-gets-confirmation basis for \$149.50 per couple. This includes three days and two nights at the hotel, the Friday evening gathering, all of the Saturday presentations, and the Saturday night cocktail party and banquet. Check out time at the hotel is not until 5 P.M. Sunday. Orders should be placed directly with the hotel by credit card via toll free telephone (800) 854-2933. The toll free number for California residents is (800) 532-3733. Those wishing not to use a credit card can make reservations by mail directly to the hotel, but a check in full must accompany the request. The hotel will send a confirmation by return mail.

Laporte Responds

San Diego *(Continued from page one)*

years ago, an early author in the UFO fields, and who now teaches at the University of California at Santa Barbara, will present a paper titled "Evidences of Pre-Historic UFO Encounters".

Major Donald E. Keyhoe, U.S. Marine Corps (Retired), one of the early pioneers of UFO investigations who headed The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, will talk briefly about the early days when he is presented as a guest of honor at the concluding banquet.

Coral E. Lorenzen, founder of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., the world's oldest civilian scientific investigative

In response to a letter from Phil Klass regarding the Helicopter/UFO encounter reported by P. Wayne Laporte in the Vol. 26 No. 8 Bulletin (Klass' letter was published in a subsequent issue of the Bulletin) Mr. Laporte points out that the confession of the Seattle teen-agers referred to by Klass rests on an aerodynamic impossibility.

Laporte cites experiments conducted by himself in the presence of witnesses, (T.D. Burns, David Bideo) which demonstrated that a candle-powered coat-size plastic garment bag would not lift a 2.5 oz. flare. He announced that he would send Klass a candle balloon and a railroad flare so that he could try it for himself.

In the meantime, Bob Gribble of Phenomena Research in Seattle had challenged Klass with respect to the existence of the purported confessions.

Klass now admits, with professed embarrassment, to being mistaken - that there were no such confessions.

He suggests, however, that in the Charlotte Police Helicopter case, a "flying saucer" balloon sold by Edmund Scientific Co. may have been employed. LaPorte points out that this still would not account for the radar returns acquired during that incident.

PRESS REPORTS

By Marion Cole

Oct. 21: Weekend Post, Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Eerie sighting of UFOs and strange beings who moved by gliding over the ground were reported and the finding of mysterious tracks in the Groendal Wilderness area near Uitenhage, have led to speculation that the region had been visited by cosmonauts from outer space. Investigations which seem fantastic are not easily dismissed. Credence was supported when sightings were reported by four schoolboys, a forest ranger and experienced bush trackers. Mysterious tracks were found in the area. Independent reports of seeing lights were made. The school boys - aged 12 - 16 were hiking when they came upon "figures". They first saw two "men" dressed in silver who were joined by a third. "They seemed to glide as though on a trolley". One looked directly at them and even his face appeared silver. They moved rapidly without leg movement to the top of the hill and disappeared. It was here that the strange footprints were found. These were oval in shape and approximately 18 cm long. Sometime thereafter an 18 year old youth disappeared and returned, exhausted, a day later, telling a wild tale of being "drawn by a light." He was disbelieved by all but one man who had himself seen unusual lights at the time and place described.

Oct. 22, '78: Brightly-lit objects were sighted recently over Charleston, West Virginia. The UFO's were sighted by citizens, police and flight controllers at the Chesapeake Airport. The objects, reportedly thick and brightly lit with red and green flashing lights were seen at various locales in the area between 8 and 11:10 PM. The phenomenon was observed by the Indianapolis Air Traffic Control Center for over an hour.

Oct. 24, '78: Soil samples at two area residences near Sedalia, Mo. have been listed as proof of a valid UFO sighting according to Ted Phillips. A four foot grassy area was left discolored. Several family members reported seeing a silver, oval shaped object rise from their meadow. The investigator who has been personally involved with investigations for the past 14 years has looked into over 500 such incidents. He reports that there are 5 to 7 such sightings daily in the US, and approximately 100 daily worldwide. Many of his cases have included related meetings with alien beings and he states that the Sedalia reports are in keeping with his previous investigations.

Oct. 31: Raleigh, NC

Wake County Sheriff's Deputies, David Waller and Andy Young did not report what they saw for fear of ridicule. At least NOT AT FIRST. But when a 3rd Deputy, Joe Gerrell (Genrell?) (sp?) reported a fast moving light to the South, the pair came forward with like stories. Both watched "it" for approximately 10 minutes. They described it as being very bright and erratic in movement. Now devout believers, they ask why not?

Oct. 27: Latrobe, PA

"Just like Close Encounters" was the way Mark Withrow described what he experienced. Telling his story with hesitation, he told of seeing a light that could not have been a plane. The semi-close encounter was soon reported by dozens who called him and the local newspaper. The lights, allegedly moving in triangular formation were steady and sort of white. All involved were relieved that they were not alone in their sighting.

Nov. 2: Star-Record, Dodge Center, MN

A newspaper columnist and his mother saw what they first identified as a "gigantic airplane" on this clear, star-lit night. Only a block away and circling in a narrow oval pattern, it approached, just above the tree tops as close as three houses away from where the observers stood. Both believed it to be about the size of a 747 and "definitely piloted". Five rows of lights were reported on the craft and the observers stated that "approach" lights were turned on during each pass toward the porch from where it was observed. Neither of the trained viewers heard any sound during the entire time. There were no reports of atmospheric disturbance on TV, radio, etc.

Nov. 3: Record Eagle, Traverse City, Mich.

Two Sheriff's Deputies and two school teachers saw two "objects in the sky". Described as spinning but stationary with red, green and white lights the sighting was added to one in which 3 objects were seen Northeast of the village on the same night. Sue Carmine, 26 year old science teacher stated "I know I saw a UFO". She had been studying the stars with binoculars, turned them on the objects and "could really see them". She declined to venture a guess as to the origin of the UFO's, but noted that the FAA reported no aircraft known to be in the area at that time.

Nov. 2: Citizen-Patriot, Jackson, MI

At least 20 persons reported seeing amber lights traveling in pairs between 9:30 PM and Midnight. Among the witnesses were city police officers, who checked for weather balloons and flares to no avail. Pilots flying that night reported nothing unusual. The speed of the amber lights was estimated as 15 to 20 MPH, and NO SOUND WAS HEARD.

Nov. 15: News, Indianapolis, IN

What produced the slow moving, flashing lights in

the early evening central Indiana sky, and left a 40 foot impression in a soybean field? A state trooper claims they were a troop of Army helicopters and another report indicates they were experimental aircraft. The sighting sparked only brief official investigation. The women who were frightened upon seeing the object hover in the soybean field were ignored when they called for help. They described "it" as being about 140 feet long, and like an inverted saucer. The beans were not uprooted, but twisted and matted. Skeptical officials said this could have been caused by helicopters but the witnesses stated there was NO SOUND. While a UFO investigator assured the frightened women that it was unlikely there would be a recurrence of the incident, they are taking all precautions.

Oct. 5: The Star, Sheffield, England

A frightened housewife told of an encounter with a UFO that sent her washer berserk and two schoolgirls made tape recordings when they saw flashing lights in the woods. They reported lights moving up and down and taped noises quite unlike any known airplane. When her washer began acting strange, the housewife said she saw a large object like an airplane without wings, as long as two buses, and making no noise at all. She reported two sightings differing in color of light. Officials state that landing aircraft at a distance are often mistaken for UFO.

Nov. 24: The Kuwait government is setting up a committee to investigate recent reports of UFOs sighted over the Persian Gulf city. It is to be composed of scientists, civil aviation officials and Interior Ministry representatives. The most recent UFO report came from a seven man repair crew at an oil field near the Iraqi Border, Nov. 10. They described a cylindrical body resembling a 747 with a red dome which landed 250 yards from the oil fields.

Oct. 8: Sunday Mail, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Retired RAAF Officer, Harold Bradley, 75, "doesn't really believe in flying saucers", but watched, with eight others as a UFO traveled for more than two hours, during a blackout along the Gold Coast. Admitting to scoffing and laughing about the subject, he refused to comment on what it was he saw.

Nov. 28: Guadalajara, Mexico

Authorities state two luminous objects were reported by residents and a police officer near this city. One object was sighted hovering about 30 feet over a police patrol car, and it emitted a red light that turned on the car's siren and made it spin. The officer said the object then descended rapidly and when he gave chase he sighted a second craft. Police stated they fired on the UFOs. The UFOs took off after emitting red light.

1952 Catalina Sighting

By Dave Kenney

In 1952, several hundred Boy Scouts and a number of adult staff members saw a huge disc-shaped object descend over their campground on Catalina Island, then watched it swiftly climb and disappear over the channel between Long Beach and the island. Although this sighting was reported to the Air Force by many of the witnesses, it was apparently never investigated by Project Bluebook and has--to my knowledge--never been included in any UFO literature or studies.

The object itself was a fairly common configuration--circular with a double-convex contour--but did have one characteristic worthy of note: The sky around the object was much darker than the sky itself, indicating the presence of a magnetic or gravitational field of sufficient magnitude to cause light refraction. This "electro-optical" effect may have some bearing on the nebulous appearance and lack of solid radar returns frequently associated with other UFO sightings.

This incident came to light as the result of a casual conversation involving UFO' I had with a fellow employee, Mr. Clyde Vrooman of Westlake, Village, Calif. Mr. Vrooman and I are both engineering specialists at Northrop Aircraft. His account of the event is as follows:

"The sighting occurred in 1952 during August--I cannot recall the exact date. I was 12 years old at the time and was attending a Boy Scout camp (Camp Fox) on Catalina. Camp Fox is about 4 miles east of the isthmus on the north shore of the island. The population of the camp consisted of approximately 300 Boy Scouts and about 50 adult camp staff members. The scouts were billeted in 15-man cabins which were arranged in a semi-circle facing the shore with a flagpole in the center.

"It was the custom of the camp director to stand next to the flagpole and have the scouts line up in front of their cabins for flag raising or lowering, special announcements, and various other formal ceremonies. At the time of the sighting--about 10:30 AM--the scouts had been ordered to "fall out" for an announcement. As I left the cabin, I could hear shouts of amazement. Their excited gestures quickly directed my attention to the source of the commotion.

"I was astonished to see a cigar-shaped object approaching the camp over the hills from the south. The slow moving object, which was vertically oriented when I first observed it, was slowly rolling to a horizontal position. As it approached, we now saw that it was actually circular in shape and had appeared to be cigar-shaped only when seen on edge. The object had a bright metallic appearance, similar to a spun aluminum pan. There were no protuberances or markings visible, except for what I assumed to be windows evenly spaced around its periphery. There was no sound and no

exhaust or vapor trails visible. However, the sky around the object appeared to be dark blue or purple--much darker than the sky itself. This "halo of darkness" extended out a relatively short distance and moved along with the object.

"As the object moved overhead, the huge circular shadow of the object was seen moving across the slopes of the nearby hills. Later, some of the scouts were able to remember specific landmarks encompassed by the shadow. The camp director subsequently paced it off and estimated it to be about 150 feet in diameter. Based on this, I judged the object to have been at an altitude of 500 to 800 feet when it passed over the campground.

"After passing overhead, the object started climbing, then accelerated rapidly and disappeared in an incredibly short time. It remained in a flat horizontal position until no longer visible. The duration of the sighting was from one to two minutes.

"Immediately after the sighting, the camp director ordered us to return to our cabins and to write down what we had seen with as much detail as we could possibly remember. He admonished us not to speak to one another until we had all delivered our written descriptions to him at the flagpole. This, of course, was done to obtain the most accurate report possible from each individual while it was still fresh in his memory. He then forwarded all our reports, along with his, to the Air Force.

"Several weeks later I received a letter from Col. Charles W. Bicking, USAF, March Air Force Base in California, who thanked me for the report. I assume the other scouts also received similar letters, but I never heard anything further from the Air Force, nor have I ever seen this incident mentioned in any UFO literature."

Clyde Vrooman
2937 Fairmount Avenue
La Crescenta, California

Dear Clyde:

I wish to express my appreciation in behalf of the United States Air Force for your interest in recording your observations of an unidentified flying object during your summer encampment at Camp Fox.

While the information from these reports may seem only meager to you, when combined with other reports, it may possibly indicate information which will be of great interest to our Intelligence Office.

You will be interested to know that your report has been forwarded to Headquarters, United States Air Force, and will become a part of the base material for research in this project.

Sincerely,
CHARLES W. BICKING
Colonel, USAF
Commanding

CE II Near Los Angeles

By
Richard Semock
Field Investigator

The following sighting was given to me by an associate who is on the technical staff at a large planetary research facility near Los Angeles, CA. The event was experienced in mid-March, but due to fear of potentially damaging professional ridicule, it was not reported earlier.

It was an unusual event inasmuch as UFO activities are known statistically to shun large population centers, preferring more deserted areas for their appearances. It was discreet of this object (or objects since there was no outline evident) however, in this situation to use a low-level intensity incandescent type light instead of the brilliant white and colored effects characteristic of other sightings in remote areas.

Whether this mode of operation is used in and around large population centers to minimize attracting attention will bear further research.

From the observer's standpoint, there was no loss of time continuity or displacement in space that would indicate a possible abduction and the sighting was rather quickly concluded in the space of about a minute.

This incident occurred late in the evening between 11 and 11:30 P.M., as Bill and his wife were occupied in the yard of their suburban home enjoying the mild spring weather characteristic of this part of southern California. An astronomy buff, Bill was busy setting up a telescope on an E-W axis for purposes of observing when suddenly he noticed at about a mile distant, two lights emerge from behind a large tree in a northerly direction toward the foothills. Where the lights had been prior to this is unknown but were first noticed in proceeding from behind this natural obstruction.

They were aligned horizontally and continued advancing toward the observer's position in a straight path and at a moderate pace. It occurred to him by degrees that this was not normal air traffic due to the growing comprehension that there was no sound heard typical of aircraft. Bill, by the way, spent some years in the Air Force as a radar operator and is therefore familiar with aerial objects and their identifying signatures.

Added to the lack of sound, was the strange source of illumination that appeared to be a non-directional incandescent source unlike the bright beams projected by aircraft landing lites. It was at this point that Bill called to his wife and they both watched as the two lites passed overhead in a long arc that changed course by 90 degrees to the left and headed east.

After passing overhead, a third light identical to the other two, was noticed behind them. It could

not be determined if these lights were attached to a single object since at no time was an outline seen. It might be added here however, that the lights seemed to move in the vertical plane relative to each other in a kind of 'bobbing' motion. Size and distance was difficult to estimate but the lights might have occupied an altitude between 500 and 1000 feet. The overall impression given, was one of passing a ship at sea at night, the movement and lighting being similar.

When the lights passed overhead, and were subsequently lost to sight in the nearby foothills without any aircraft sounds audible at any time, the realization was complete that this was indeed a strange and unidentifiable phenomenon. Bill and his wife had both concluded that the strange and disquieting absence of sound in connection with the lights marked it as something unusual and immediately tried to phone the sighting in to a local TV station but were unable to get through due to a news program being broadcast at that time and the station was accepting no calls. Had the lines been open, a corroboration might have been possible from another party or location.

There is also an airstrip and control tower nearby, but the possibility of contacting it was not considered until later, unfortunately. Shortly after the lights disappeared, a commercial aircraft flew overhead and was distinctly heard by both witnesses. No further effort to report the incident was made until three months later to this investigator.

New Zealand

(Continued from March Bulletin)

39 about 0257 : the plane was too high in altitude to begin its descent into Blenheim, so it did a two minute right hand orbit to lose altitude. Just before the orbit the passengers had been watching a pair of bright lights at the left of the airplane and DC was about to film them. He didn't get a chance to film them, however, because the plane turned, and when the plane had completed its turn the lights were gone. W referred to targets at 12:00 at 2 miles before the turn and at 12:00 at 10 miles as the orbit began. The plane apparently attributed these to fishing boat lights on the surface. (W radar could detect boats in the Cook Strait if they moved fast enough to exceed the minimum MTI speed.)

It was probably during or just after this orbit that G pointed out the planet Venus that was just rising and would have been visible at the altitude of the plane.

40 about 0259 : coming out of the orbit the plane asked if there was a target over Picton. W responded that there was no target over Picton. This was the last anomalous light seen during the flight. The plane landed at Picton at about 0310.

A Multiple UFO Close-Encounter Case

A chance encounter during one of his annual trips around the country by our Research Director, Dr. James A. Harder, has uncovered one of the more bizarre UFO stories so far reported in this bulletin. The subject, a professional woman in her forties, has for many years been interested in UFOs, and is a field investigator for APRO. She had never suspected, though, that her interest was in part motivated by the unconscious memory of several experiences she had had starting at the age of four.

It was during the course of a separate investigation that Dr. Harder asked our field investigator if she would like to try the "pendulum technique" for uncovering material in the unconscious mind. She did so, and it appeared that there was something that had happened to her at about the age six, involving some strange looking persons, and a UFO. On the basis of some additional questioning, Dr. Harder asked if she would like to remember more in hypnosis, and a session was arranged. The subject went into hypnosis easily, and started to remember more details in the regressed state so well that she suffered from intense fear and anxiety; after these emotions were allayed a description emerged of two aliens who had met her in some lonely place near her home, had told her that they were her friends, and that they had saved her life. She knew nothing about that, but was thoroughly frightened (in spite of their reassurances) which came through very strongly in the hypnosis. The thing that she remembered best was their eyes, which she described as being light blue, without any visible pupil or whites, about two inches in diameter, and protruding about one inch in a hemispherical fashion. She suddenly realized then why she had been afraid of insects all of her life. The eyes did not move, and reminded her of the eyes of "bugs".

After the subject had been calmed down and brought out of hypnosis, Dr. Harder arranged for additional sessions to help determine if what she had remembered was only a bad nightmare or an hallucination. Back in the conscious state, she remembered that she had been told by her parents that she had suffered from Bright's Disease, and had been told later that there was a 60% mortality involved.

During the second session, the subject was much more calm and could re-experience the events in the hospital when she was four. Dr. Harder asked her, "Did you have any favorite doctors while you were there?" In a voice similar to that of a child she replied, "Oh, yes! He came to see me at night." "How late at night?" he asked. "Very late, after the nurses went to sleep." Further questioning brought out the memory that he had come for three nights, had rubbed her feet and back, and

had given her candy. She could remember nothing special he had done. But when Dr. Harder used some special techniques, and put her even deeper into hypnosis, she started remembering additional details of his third visit. He had a small box, she said, that had two wires coming out of it. They went in "where I pee" but they did not hurt. Additional probing brought out the memory that there had been two additional wires from a small box that went to either side of her head near her eyes that gave her a tingling sensation.

She was certain that the "doctor" was a regular human being, and could remember his hands, etc, and other details. Nevertheless, she was discharged from the hospital cured. During this session Dr. Harder took note of her memory that she had somehow seen this "doctor" and also the aliens she saw when she was six, at some time later in her life. At a third session, conducted several months later, more details came out.

At that time, she remembered that during a vacation trip to Albuquerque she had lost about four hours time unexplainably, and that she and her woman companion in the car found themselves driving into town in the morning from a different direction and on a different highway. She was now in her mid-thirties. In hypnosis, she remembered another on-board experience, but was much less frightened. She reported that they had just thought her kidneys should be looked into. She reported that they asked for a urine sample, and gave her what could be interpreted as an X-Ray. She thought they were "very proud of themselves" for what a good job they had done. However, when asked for details of what the aliens looked like, she remembered that the "doctor" with whom she was talking was the same as the one she had seen in the hospital when she was four. She had a very good look at the others, which matched in the eye detail the aliens she had seen when she was six. We are reluctantly withholding these details until we can get additional confirmation from others who may have had experiences with this same type of UFO aliens.

The initial informaion about this case came to us several years ago, and our readers may wonder why we have not published it before this time. However, we have waited for confirmation from additional and similar cases that this one is not an isolated one nor is it the product of either a hoax or a delusion. The principal is a very stable and responsible business and professional woman who does not wish her experience to be known to her employer, because of the very responsible position she holds.

Some of the implications are new and startling: it is confirmation that UFO aliens have some means by which they can find their "experimental subjects" over long intervals of time. Even more interesting is the implied benevolent interest this group has towards their human contacts. This is

not the only instance in which seemingly miraculous medical intervention has been reported, however. It seems clearer and clearer that we must recognize that there are many groups of UFO aliens, and that some, likely covertly interested in the well-being of those with whom they come in contact, but unwilling to be known in any public way.

UFO Entities in Australia — 1977 — A Summary

By KEITH BASTERFIELD

Through the years there have been close to one hundred reported observations of unusual entities which the observers have linked to the UFO phenomenon. The Australian Entity Study Group (1) has collected these accounts and published them both as summaries, and in a few cases, as in depth investigated "Case documents". (2)

Last year there were five such observations which came to the attention of Australian UFO research organisations, and these provide a very good insight into the type of reports which have been received and investigated, going back in some cases to the 19th century.

The first report for 1977 came from Tasmania on the 3rd of February, when some children reported that they had observed a very unusual object in the sky at about 9:30 p.m. The children were at a youth camp, when one of them heard a noise, and upon looking up saw a stationary "something", which then moved behind some nearby trees. It appeared dome shaped and on it there were a row of "windows", about its middle. An area of disc-shaped light was seen spinning below it. There were also flashing white/yellow lights on the edge of the disc, and a red light on the dome top. One side of the center window revealed something which looked like a thin figure with a bump or rounded head. It seemed to be moving back and forth in this window.

Another child also noted the same object above the trees, and described it as being like "two saucers stuck together". It was spinning fast as she first saw it, then slowed down. A figure was visible in what were windows to her, before the object moved southward with a faint whining noise audible. The figure seemed to be thin with a largish rounded head above what the girl described as a high collar. There was an arm visible to the left. Finally the object went behind trees and passed from their vision. (3)

Several months went by before we encountered a rather exotic and quite out of the ordinary entity report, of a prolonged visit by alien beings to a Queensland prospector on the 22nd of June. (4)

It transpired that the prospector saw three lights in the sky at about 11 p.m. Said lights

landed near his camp near Bulloo River, in South-west Queensland. The man said that this was his fourth experience in five years in the same area, with such phenomena. In 1973 a group of sixteen objects hovered over him, before moving away, and in May 1974 a "cigar" hovered near the ground and he saw a "woman" in a window in it, and a "man" in the object's cockpit. Later, in 1976, a brilliantly lit object was seen and many things occurred which he did not wish to relate.

On the latest occasion (1977), he described how after the object landed, figures emerged, played games with lightning balls, and he watched as they materialised and dematerialised. They told him they came from Begua, although didn't elaborate where this was relative to the Earth. There were women dressed in summer type clothes and men dressed in grey business style suits. Both sexes appeared human though their skin was a blue-grey colour. The objects they arrived in were slim cylinders some 50 meters tall, with each one of the three supporting itself on five legs. After two days of stopping with him the visitors left in the ships, leaving no physical trace of their stay.

This account from a lonely prospector in the middle of nowhere reminded me of a gold prospector who lived near Tully, North Queensland, who in 1974 made some remarkable claims about finding a crashed spaceship and a cat-like entity. The story sounded very authentic when told by the prospector but lacked one iota of physical proof. However, that's another story in itself.

It wasn't until October during a number of West Australian close encounters that another possible entity report emerged. On the 16th of that month a disc shaped object was seen at close range in broad daylight near Meekatharra, by a group of twelve people, and although investigated by the RAAF, even *they* put an "unknown" tag on it. The following day a group of people, eight in all, drove out to the Mount Magnet rubbish dump, after two people claimed they had seen lights descending to the ground in that vicinity. The group saw "round, pulsating green and red objects" landed in a paddock about three kilometers from the town. A Mr. Freestone reported, "There seemed to be a mist around them . . . there appeared to be objects on the ground around them. You could distinguish them with the naked eye, but as soon as you put a spotlight on them they disappeared. The would be something like human size, they weren't animals". (5)

The last two entity reports for the year came from the Waimata Valley area, near to Gisborne, New Zealand. Firstly, about 3 a.m. on the morning of the 2nd of December, a farmer was wakened by the barking of his dogs. He grabbed a flashlight and went to investigate. Opening the back door he saw a landed object nearby. He picked up a rifle and walked towards it. The object had a metallic outer shell which glowed bright blue, and doors which opened into an intensely bright red interior.

Looking toward the dog kennels he saw two humanoid figures carrying one of the dogs between them and heading for the object. These entities were about 1.4 meters tall and wore close fitting metallic silver overalls and white, opaque helmets. The overalls were, he noticed, gathered at the ankles with elastic cuffs which extended over red glowing boots. On their hands were large, silver gauntlets with flared arm coverings extending half-way up to their forearms. The white helmets were rounded with large motorbike helmet features, and rose from shoulder to shoulder without markings or openings.

Alarmed, the farmer fired at one of the humanoids and apparently "winged" him. The entities dropped the dog, with the one injured entity running off into some nearby bushes, while the other one ran into the object. The doors were seen to fold shut and the entire thing left at great speed. The dog, which had appeared unconscious stood up groggily, then jumped around barking. The farmer said he later found markings and "ripple sole shoe" footprints at the site. (6)

This attempted kidnapping brings back memories of the October 1957 American wave of occupant cases where dogs were involved, and a case from near Clare, South Australia in about 1971 where an object reportedly shone a beam of light onto a dog, and beamed it up into the object which left, right in front of a farmer's nose. (7)

The same area of New Zealand was also involved in our last case which occurred on the 8th of December, when a smallish "man" was encountered on a road. It was wearing a silver suit, bright red boots, no helmet, and tried to flag down a car. Appearing some 1.45 meters tall, the entity waved frantically, and jumped up and down to attract the driver's attention. However, the car driver deemed it wiser not to stop! (8)

So, that was 1977, the year of the humanoids. What's in store for '78? We shall have to wait until the final score is in, early in '79.

NOTES:

- (1) The Australian Entity Study Group, c/o Keith Basterfield, 3 Park Lake Drive, Wynn Vale, South Australia, 5127.
- (2) Copies available from the AESG at the above address.
- (3) Details taken from the 1978 annual report of the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre, GPO Box 1310, Hobart, Tas 7001.
- (4) See "Psychic Australian" Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 4, Feb. 78.
- (5) "Daily News" Perth, 17, 19, 20 Oct. '77, and "West Australian" 19, 20, 21 Oct. '77. Also UFOR (NSW) newsletter no. 53, Mar. '78.
- (6) Details from "Xenolog", 33 Dee Street, Timaru, NZ.
- (7) Personal discussion with a friend of the farmer, who said that the farmer would deny the whole thing if approached directly, as he was afraid for the safety of his children.
- (8) Would you?