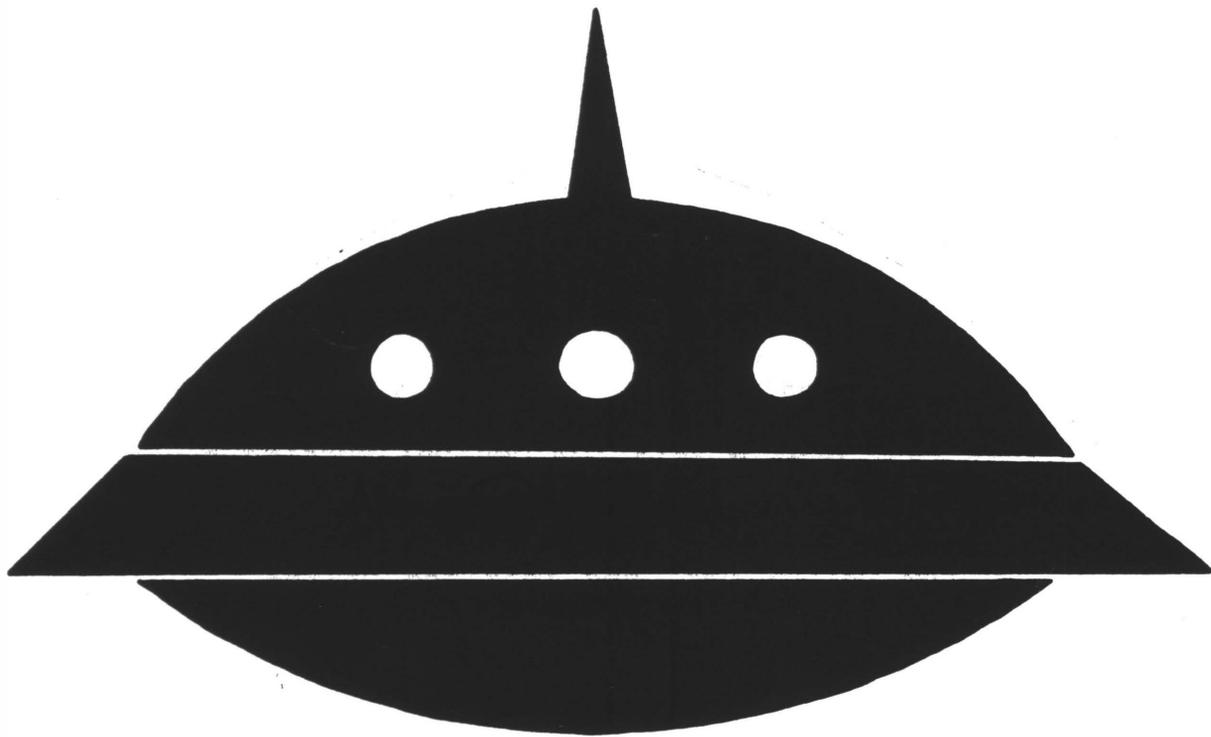


THE BEST OF THE
ORIGINAL



UFO MAGAZINE

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UNU

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A WORD BEFORE WE BEGIN

After we concluded our series of booklets chronicling the UFO phenomenon in the 20th century in 2009 we decided that it was high time to take a look at a publication that was near and dear to us, our "original" *UFO Magazine*. The publication started out in 1962 as a small newsletter containing UFO sightings and various related news stories, and gradually developed into a magazine covering the entire UFO scene with extensive coverage of sightings as well as speculative articles penned by many of the leading UFO writers and researchers of the time. We continued up until our dear friend and mentor Allan J. Manak suggested that *UFO Magazine* join forces with his *Flying Saucer Digest* in mid-1970 and produce what has turned out to be one of the longest running publications that the UFO field has seen.

The publication that you now hold in your hands contains some of our favorite items from those years when the UFO field was still filled with a sense of wonder and awe that seems to be quite absent from the ufology of the 21st century. Believe me when I say that it was a tough job keeping the size of this publication within practical limits, as it could easily have run to three times its final size.

As is our custom, we are running the following articles and news stories in chronological order with only minimal editing in an effort to give some flavor of those times now so long passed. Please remember also that what follows are the views of the respective writers at the time that the articles were originally written and no doubt their views today could be quite different from what it was 40-plus years ago.

Over the years several of our readers have asked if the *UFO Magazine* that is currently being published is somehow related to our old publication. The answer to that question is indeed that the two are totally unrelated, except in title. That is why we refer to ours as the "original" *UFO Magazine*.

Once again many thanks to Carol Hilberg for her tremendous help in bringing this publication to print.

Rick Hilberg
January 25, 2010

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1964 - THE LINK - Allen Greenfield

For some years there has been a feeling among certain UFOlogists that the UFO phenomenon is linked with certain natural holocausts which strike at the world of man. There have been dark hints of UFO connections with airline crashes, explosions, volcanic eruptions, etc. On most of these allegations, unfortunately, few attempts have been made to provide proof one way or the other. Because of this fact, most serious American researchers have hesitated to "stick their necks out" (or their noses in) on this subject.

However, in the Spring of 1962 a group of Japan's leading UFOlogists of the Cosmic Brotherhood Association (CBA) stuck their necks out and came up with some important facts which all UFOlogists should be grateful for.

This is not the first time CBA or its Chief Counselor Yuseke J. Matsumura have tackled something that the rest of serious UFOlogy has been afraid to involve itself with. In June of 1958 and several times thereafter, CBA attempted to contact who - or whatever flies the UFOs. Because of their impression, CBA has frequently been labeled a contactee group, and many of its findings have been immediately dismissed by their Western counterparts as outright hoaxes. I think, however, that this is due to the old problem of the language barrier; American UFOlogists understand no Japanese, while the CBA people write in somewhat faulty, child-like English.

So when CBA published its first issue of BROTHERS in 1962, it was for the most part ignored in the Western World as being nothing worthy of study. It was written in a style which was permeated with such phrases as "---who is a real contact man---" or "many statements and words spoken" etc. This, to the bigoted UFOlogists, was enough to drop the whole matter. BROTHERS was therefore ignored.

But inside the shell of somewhat quaint language lies one of the most important links between UFOs and natural catastrophic events on record. It concerns the relationship between earthquakes, UFOs, and other unusual aerial phenomena. I elected to review the material CBA has presented because it is my feeling that this demands some attention by North American investigators - attention which it has not received until now.

As early as the year 1816 a relationship between earthquakes and UFO reports has been noted. CBA reports that in this year (1816) a huge moon-shaped object was sighted glowing in the sky at the time of an earthquake in Great Britain. In December of 1896 (the 17th) an extremely brilliant lightning flash coincided with an earthquake in Hartford, England. An excellent report from Nicosia, Cyprus records that on January 20, 1941 following an earthquake two objects, one red, the other probably white (described by CBA only as "bright") were seen heading east following the earthquake. The objects were sighted separately.

On February 11, 1957, five flying objects were sighted over the earthquake stricken town of Mansfield, Midlands, England. They were tadpole-shaped. The following day two more objects were seen. In Algeria on September 19, 1854 an object of great brilliance which shone "like the sun" was sighted at midnight. One hour later, at 1 a.m. the area was hit by a severe earthquake.

On October 8, 1957 an earthquake struck in the state of Illinois. Just before the 'quake struck a brilliant UFO was seen in the sky. Earlier in that year, on January 4, the town of Aleppo, Venezuela witnessed a violent flash in the sky (described by CBA as "like the sun"), accompanied by an explosive sound. Long red UFOs then flashed over the town.

These facts present us with a myriad of questions and theories. CBA seems to feel there are two points which must be studied relative to the apparent earthquake-UFO connection:

- (1) Do they (UFOs) have an interest in the earthquake, a fluctuation of terrestrial magnetism within the Earth's crust ?
- (2) Do they (UFOs) cause the earthquakes ?

The latter question poses somewhat uncomfortable implications. Nevertheless it seems to me that the presence of the UFOs at the scene of a disaster might be strictly for observation - and when all is said and done, this could be only a long series of coincidences. However in view of other information given in the SBA article, this seems highly unlikely.

What follows is the CBA record of UFO-earthquake incidents taken from the year 1960. In

reading over this listing it occurred to me that if this is the result of a typical year, then anyone who could compile and publish a five or ten year record would be able to prove the UFO-earthquake relationship beyond any reproach. As it is, this record of a single year is enough to convince most.

<u>DATE OF EARTHQUAKE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>RELATED UFO SIGHTING</u>
January 14	Peru	January 13
January 14	Kanto-area Japan	same day
January 31	Various - Japan	same day
February 11	Santa Cruz Islands	February 6
February 11	New Zealand	same day
February 14	Indian Ocean	February 6
February 18	Alaska	February 14
February 25	Solomon Islands	same day
March 10	Alaska	March 6
March 23	Japan	same day
April 15	Japan	April 14
May 6	Japan	same day
May 18	Fiji Islands	same day
May 22 -23	Chile	May 21 - 24
July 22	Idaho	July 1
August 7	Idaho	August 8
August 18	Santa Cruz	same day
August 19	California	August 16
September 19	Santa Cruz	September 18
September 26	Japan	September 27
September 29	Mariana Island	same day
October 11	W. Colorado	September 28
October 15	Aleutian Islands	same day
November 10	New Guinea	same day
November 26	Japan	same day
December 2	Chile	December 3
December 15	San Francisco Bay	December 7

Frankly, a few of these associations I can't see for various reasons. Some are three or more days apart, while others are too divergent in location for them to be considered related. But on the whole, the evidence here indicates a true and very real relationship between UFOs and seismographic disturbances. You will note that a very large portion of the reports occurred in Japan. No doubt this is partially due to the fact that a Japanese group compiled the list. Nevertheless Japan IS an area with a high number of earthquakes. It is also, oddly enough, an area of great UFO activity and public interest. Is this a coincidence? The CBA report would seem to show that it is not!

If we accept the hypothesis that the relationship between the earthquake and the UFO is one of interest rather than cause on the part of the "Ufonauts", then we are led to the question of why. Are we being "checked up on" as to how we - as humans - react to a holocaust? If so newsreel films I have seen of panic and confusion, combined with looting and anarchy in the wake of disaster would not create a very favorable impression. But this, of course, is pure speculation and supposition. The only thing we can be fairly sure of is that there is some type of relationship involved here.

What about the other supposed UFO relationships? If the earthquake phenomena is related to the UFOs in some way, what about such things as airline disasters, unusual aerial phenomena (such as ball lighting) etc? The CBA article does not go into this in great detail, but does make a few tantalizing inferences which only makes me more curious about these various possible relationships between the "natural" phenomena and the UFO.

For instance on November 26, 1930 at about 1 a.m. a number of Tokyo residents witnessed a "strange light" in the sky. At 3:50 a.m. Yodosuka City residents noted a display of strange lightning

which "covered the sky". The display was abruptly cut off at the appearance of an earthquake. (Hearing this report sets me off with conjured images of the "Ufonauts" taking photos [the lightning being the flash bulbs] of a city which they knew was soon to be "changed" by the imminent 'quake - pure speculation on my part, of course!)

CBA has set the pace. Let us examine the statistics on these alleged (alleged?) relationships, and see what we can come up with. The UFOlogists of the Orient continue their work. It is high time we begin ours! Source: Volume 2 Number 4 issue.

1964 - UFO ZOOMS UP FROM HIGHWAY

On Friday, May 15 a UFO was seen to take off from the side of Rt. 90 near Ashtabula, Ohio. The Highway Patrol reported that a man from California called from a pay station a short distance from the take off point to report the object. He said it was as big as a tractor truck. The caller said the object changed color, turning to a bright orange color, hovered about eight feet off the ground and then took off and soared to about 300 to 400 feet.

At this point the flame color became a blur and the object zoomed into the sky. This all happened about 11:30 p.m.

The motorist said a driver of a semi-trailer rig also saw the UFO and stopped to look. A source that is always reliable told UFO MAGAZINE that after the sighting several Air Force cars were seen parked near the reported landing area with their lights on. Source: Volume 2 Number 4 issue.

1964 - THE SOCORRO SIGHTING

Socorro, New Mexico is a good place for a flying saucer. Right on the edge of White Sands missile range on the wide open New Mexico desert, just 30 miles northwest of the site of the world's first atomic blast.

Lonnie Zamora, a city policeman, spotted an egg-shaped object about a mile from Socorro April 24, 1964. The UFO was landed in a draw on its four girder-like legs. Zamora was attracted to the object while he was after a speeding car. He then gave up the chase and drove over to the spot where he saw it come down to investigate for himself.

Zamora said the saucer was about as big as a car, and shiny like aluminum. He also told of spotting an object like a pair of white coveralls near the object. He said he could see no one in them. (some claim that Zamora saw two small men, but was told to hush-up about this by the Air Force) The object then quickly took off, and shot off out of sight. Source: Volume 2 Number 4 issue.

1964 - MONTANA UFO LEAVES MARKS

The sheriff's office at Helena said it is investigating marks left on the ground by a UFO April 29. Newsmen and investigators looked over the area east of Helena where the object was sighted along the shoreline of Canyon Ferry Lake on the Missouri River.

They found four holes about 13 feet apart, 6 to 8 inches deep and 8 to 10 inches across. The holes smelled like diesel fuel, according to one newsman. A circular spot was seared into the top of the underbrush.

An eleven-year-old girl sighted the object and described it as a "bright glow". The Air Force has said it all was a prank by some youths to scare the girl. The AF can't discredit Lonnie Zamora so they resort to smearing children! Source: Volume 2 Number 4 issue.

1964 - THE CONGRESS CONCEPT - Allen Greenfield

From the time I entered active organizational UFOlogy, I have had one burning dream; this being a serious convention of UFOlogists and serious UFO hobbyists, completely devoid of the crackpot elements. Finally, after much planning and organizing, the first Congress of Scientific UFOlogists was held last June (1964) in Cleveland, Ohio. For me, it was a dream become reality.

Before going in to details on this historic event, it might be well to first deal with the question of the value of this kind of thing. Some have hailed the Congress and the concept of a congress as a great step forward. However I have also heard it called just so much "horn tooting". Actually, previous to

the Congress, almost all the people I proposed it to were, at best, sympathetically pessimistic. I did receive full support from Rick Hilberg and members of the Cleveland UFOlogy Project. But on the whole my initial proposal was met with apathy and skepticism.

The first time I ever discussed the possibilities of a serious convention with a fellow Ufologist was back in the summer of 1961. At this time I had a brief conversation with Ronald Brown, then president of a small UFO group, of the congress idea. His comments were the first in a long chain of disclaiming answers, to the effect that a convention on a national level would simply not be feasible. From that point on until the spring of 1963 I said nothing further about my idea, though at no time abandoned it. In 1963 I wrote an open letter to some UFO researchers in which I openly advocated a convention in concrete terms for the first time. It received little comment, but did succeed in getting the ball rolling, particularly in the all-important Cleveland area where the Congress was ostensibly to be held the following summer. This gave us over a full year to drum up support for the event, and by this time we already had considerable interest in Cleveland UFO circles, thanks to Rick Hilberg's untiring efforts.

Why Cleveland? For one thing, I consider this city to be the most active center of serious UFOlogy in the country! Jim Moseley noted after the Congress, the enthusiasm for UFOlogy in Cleveland has no parallel in the East. Even the news media are remarkably fair in their coverage. With the possible exception of Southern California, Cleveland (and the rest of Ohio) is something special, despite the fact that many Cleveland researchers are quick to disclaim this for some unknown reason. At any rate, Cleveland was the locale we picked, and as things turned out, it was a shrewd choice. The local cooperation was unimaginably good.

By August of 1963 the Congress was beginning to shape up. A nationwide conference call was held in the hope of getting more interest in the Congress outside of the Cleveland and Ohio area. Advertising was placed in major UFO periodicals. Circulars on the Congress were mailed to many people on UFO mailing lists. In the meantime Rick Hilberg, Al Manak, Earl Neff and others were doing a tremendous job of building up more and more interest in the Cleveland area.

In February of 1964 I went to Chicago for the first full-fledged board meeting of the American UFO Committee at the home of Dale W. Rettig. One of the major items on the agenda was, of course, the Congress. At the suggestion of Dave Halperin, Director of NJAAP, who called during the course of the meeting, we moved the Congress date deeper into June than originally planned in the hope of drawing a bigger crowd from the East. This proved to be only partially successful. Just before Congress time, we mailed out formal invitations to a select group of UFOlogists.

One of the biggest obstacles in our way was the air of commercialism. We were doing our very best to avoid any commercial taint, but past conventions with the contactee elements in control had left a certain irremovable stench of commercial gain which we were unable to eradicate. A good many people probably did not come simply out of the fear of getting clipped; an unfortunate impression that the contactees can be held responsible for.

We were also afraid that some of the "fringe" might show up at the last minute, and turn this serious event into a circus, in the manner of the West Coast's endless variety of "spacecraft" conventions. At the same time, we did not want the Congress to be either dry or uninteresting. Obviously people were not going to travel thousands of miles just to hear an overblown lecture or two. It was our goal, then, to make the Congress both serious AND interesting. The lack of either ingredient would have meant failure.

When the Congress finally rolled around, we had no way of really knowing whether we had succeeded or failed. We had secured a fairly large hall, and were fearful that we would not have a full house. By the day of the main session, most of the leaders who were coming were already there. There were quite a few "big" names: Comella, Moseley, Popowitch, Fitch, Neff, etc. But on the whole we could not claim to have a big turn-out leadership-wise. Would this reflect the size of the over-all crowd? We would have to wait and see. In the meantime, several closed sessions "for leaders only" were held.

In the final days before the main session, Earl Neff, a Cleveland researcher of note, kept a steady stream of local press coverage going. Radio stations and major newspapers gave time to the

Congress. (Regular progress reports on the Congress were broadcast on KABL, San Francisco, as the Congress was a national news event - Editor.)

I'm not going to make a suspense story out of this. Half an hour before the main session every seat in the hall was filled, with many more standing or sitting in an adjoining lobby. Despite some problems of a minor nature with the air conditioning and microphones, everything ran smoothly. People in the back of the hall strained their ears to hear featured speakers Jim Moseley and Earl Neff; looked with interest at the displays and slides, photos and illustrations of various UFO groups and publications represented; and talked among themselves enthusiastically about UFOs.

Concessions did a brisk business selling UFO magazines and photos, this being the only commercial venture of the whole affair. In short, this was a successful convention. Plans were immediately set into play for a bigger, even better Congress for 1965, again in Cleveland...the new "capital" of the UFO world!

Inevitably, we must return to our original point, the concept of the Congress. I called this article simply "The Congress Concept". Perhaps it would have been more appropriate if I had called it "UFO Congresses: Historic Event or Horn-Tooting?". If you want my opinion, it's some of both, because to be a success it has got to be some of both! I think I would favor having a Congress, even if the concept meant nothing to me. But there are plenty of this kind of "congress" already, replete with faith-healing, peace rallies, little green men stories...the works. But there is no other serious convention of UFO investigators, and in my opinion UFOlogists must be brought together once in a while for exchange of ideas and information, for mutual understanding, for better press coverage, for increased public interest, and for just plain morale, something that is sorely lacking in most of UFOlogy today. The old "strength in numbers" adage holds as true to UFOlogy today as anything else. And to the cynic, all I can say is "why not?" Sure, the Congress is fun. It is a big get together of a lot of people with the same general beliefs and a common dedication to a field much scorned by the great masses of people. Why shouldn't they make merry a little bit? If I have anything to say about it the NEXT Congress will have a lot more of a festive atmosphere, at least at the public sessions. What is so terrible about that? And to the "UFO fan" who would like the Congress to be just a lot of fun and games like the contactee conventions, may I remind him that there are lots of those already. Serious AND entertaining. That is our key. Hope I'll see you at the next Congress!
Source: Winter 1964 - 65 issue.

1964 - UFO ANSWERS SIGNAL IN CALIF.

Four Pescadero residents saw and signaled a UFO November 2 over this small California town. But when it responded and moved toward them, they panicked and fled! This story was told to sheriff's deputies by a Rudolph Huizen, 30, a caretaker at the Butano Girl Scout Camp.

He said at about 8:15 p.m. he heard a dog barking. A friend, Duane Meyers, a local nurseryman, and he went outside to investigate. In the northeast they saw a very bright light about the size of a half-dollar moving erratically. "It was way up in the sky," said Huizen. "Just for kicks I flashed my flashlight. And that son-of-a-gun came down!" There was no sound noted, just a bright light.

"It came down and settled over the trees about a half mile away and moved back and forth. When I flashed my flashlight at it again it lit up the sky like a full moon. It was about as big as a football."

Huizen and Meyers ran into the house, fetched their wives and the four watched the object for a while, and signaled once more. Then it moved towards them. They fled into the house. "If you were standing in my shoes, you would have run too," said Huizen.

"Then it took off," said Huizen. "No jet or any plane could go that fast." The couples said the object dimmed before it took off. Source: Winter 1964 - 65 issue.

1965 - THE LEGACY OF CAPT. MANTELL - Allen Greenfield

"A long time friend of Mantell's went on record as saying that he'd flown with him several years and knew him personally. He couldn't conceive of Mantell's even thinking about disregarding his lack of oxygen. Mantell was one of the most cautious pilots he knew" - Captain E. Ruppelt. 1

One of the best known cases of a UFO was made on January 7, 1948. On that date, the records

show Captain Thomas Mantell died while in pursuit of a UFO near Godman AFB, Kentucky. The facts in the case are much disputed, but they read something like this:

The UFO was sighted from the Godman Tower as Capt. Mantell's flight of F-51s was about to land. The tower operator radioed Mantell to check the object out, and Mantell took off after the whatever-it-was. Twenty minutes or so later Mantell was dead, his plane having crashed. There are numerous controversies as to whether Mantell was chasing a spaceship, a balloon, or the planet Venus; whether Mantell's body was riddled with holes or not; whether Mantell was, in fact, shot down by an extraterrestrial vehicle or not.

That's the way the story goes, recited today by the collectors of UFO lore as if it were some kind of new Gospel. I had always accepted this as such, until one day it occurred to me that no one had really ever questioned the matter. I forthwith decided to tackle the task myself, not (it must be emphasized) because I doubted the above interpretation of events, but because skeptical inquiry into the status quo is in my opinion, always a healthy sign. With this in mind, I proceeded to attempt approaching the subject from an angle never before tried.

Within the course of all the debate over the particulars surrounding the death of Captain Mantell, it occurs to this writer that no one has ever given any thought to the primary assumption itself, i.e. that Mantell is, in fact, dead. A perusal of the voluminous data and debate over the case never once, to this writer's knowledge, discloses the possibility that Mantell may not have died at all. The reasons for this, I suppose, are that we have been given no reason to doubt the fact of his death, therefore any proposal to the contrary would be as absurd as questioning the fact that George Washington is dead. Add to this the inevitable counter-question, "If he is alive why hasn't he come forward and said something?", and you have pretty well snuffed the life out of the baseless contention that Mandell is alive.

Or have you? I am extremely suspicious of anything that axiomatic; that pat. The whole thing is too smooth, almost as if it were planned that way. Perhaps we should reexamine some of the evidence, and see if there is anything to support the contention that Mantell is alive, as fantastic as it initially may seem.

First, we must answer the "obvious facts" as stated above that have kept this question from having come up before. I'm not so sure we have not been given any reason to doubt the story as it stands. If, in our ignorance, we have simply overlooked certain points because of preconceived notions about the case, it is our own fault, not the fault of the facts. I believe the evidence is there. To be sure, it has been obscured and glossed over, but this in itself may reveal something. But, I am getting ahead of myself.

At the outset of this article I quoted a passage from the famed book by the late E. J. Ruppelt, *The Report on UFOs*. In essence, Ruppelt was reporting on the incredulousness of a close friend of Mantell's at the pilot's seeming recklessness in climbing above a safe altitude without an oxygen mask. It wasn't a mistake...Mantell radioed that he was "going to 20,000 feet." ^{2 a} Ruppelt himself³ expresses some surprise that a pilot, a trained pilot, would make a mistake of this nature. But here was a man who had known Mantell and flown with him. He called Mantell a cautious pilot. Coming from a fellow-flyer, this statement merits attention. The only explanation HE could offer was that Mantell thought that what he was chasing might be "more important than his life or his family."⁴

This simply does not hold up under any kind of objective examination. I don't care what it was he saw, no man would go to certain death just to get a close look at spaceship, a balloon, or whatever. It's just not within the realm of sanity. It might seem more credible of a rookie and reckless "flyboy", but we are dealing, keep in mind, with the flight commander.

Have I perhaps thrown a rock or two into your preconceived ideas yet? Let me sum up the picture I have given you so far, and you tell me how it looks. Here we have an experienced pilot chasing an unidentified flying object. He is known for being a cautious pilot; that is his reputation. The object climbs above him. He sees it, he knows he has no oxygen mask, and it is out of his range. He then proceeds to calmly tell the tower the exact equivalent of saying, "goodby, folks. I am sacrificing my life to see a flying saucer," and is never heard from again.

I don't know about you, but I smell rotten fish.

The second point made was the rhetorical question about why Mantell doesn't say something, assuming he is alive. To the well-versed initiate in the UFO field, I could easily provide a one-word answer to this charge: Killian. But to the less well aquatinted, perhaps I'd better briefly elaborate.

Captain Killian was flying a plane in 1959. Unlike Mantell, he is not a military pilot, and, equally unlike Mantell, he is not supposed to be dead. But from a UFO-information standpoint, he might as well be. His sad story is that he had the misfortune of seeing three (count 'em three) UFOs flying near his commercial plane, and made the mistake of reporting it. The authorities-that-be took his story, nodded, and shortly thereafter announced a totally abysmal explanation of the case, which I will not bother the reader with here. Being an honest human being, Killian protested the official nonsense to the press which gave widespread coverage to his statement. Thereupon the perpetrators of the explanation began to cast aspersions on the sobriety of Captain Killian at the time of his sighting, despite the fact that numerous other individuals - including several military pilots - had sighted the exact same objects at the exact same time.

Killian was understandably incensed. Here was a man entrusted daily with dozens of human lives who depended on his alertness. Such charges by the authorities endangered this man's livelihood. He began to blast the Air Force (whoops! - hadn't meant to mention them by name) at this point with both barrels. Then all of a sudden he wasn't blasting anybody anymore. Or even talking. Or even answering his phone. In fact, he wasn't saying anything. To this day he isn't saying anything. It was learned later from his wife that the Air Force had indirectly silenced him by putting pressure on his airline to threaten him with the loss of his job if he didn't shut up. Captain Killian has a family. He is a man with responsibilities. He shut-up.⁵

I have dwelt extensively on the case of Captain Killian. I could have picked any of a dozen similar cases, but this one classic example should suffice. Killian was a civilian pilot, not subject to direct military control. Mantell was (or is as the case may be) a military pilot, subject to direct command. If the military wanted him to change his name, dye his hair, move to Thule, Greenland, they could do the same with remarkable ease. I am not implying that they did, but I am implying that they could, Constitution, Bill of Rights, etc., notwithstanding. This may be America, land of the free, but it is also America, land of Air Force Regulation 200-2. Look it up sometime, if you want a nice jolt. ⁶

Having destroyed all of the major arguments against even discussing the matter of the late, or no-so-late Thomas Mantell, we can proceed to the matter of whether or not there is, in fact, a case for his not being dead. First, I would like to itemize the several points for discussion. They are as follows:

- 1) The case itself...did it actually occur, or was it a sham?
- 2) Assuming that it did occur, how close did Mantell get to the object he was allegedly pursuing?
- 3) What did he actually say to the people back at Godman Tower, specifically, what was the last thing he said before his crash?
- 4) What did he see?
- 5) Finally, did he really crash, and if so was he killed?

If the answer is "no" on both counts to the latter question, there are a number of additional queries that must be made such as "what happened to him and why," etc. But these are not within the scope of this article, which, after all, is the first of its kind and cannot be expected to answer everything. I am hoping that it will initiate an elaborate new look into the case. If we can spark this, we will have accomplished our task quite adequately.

Point one raises the sub-question of "if it was a sham, why?". I honestly cannot think of any reason, unless we are to believe Dr. Leon Davidson's fantastic theory that UFOs are nothing more than an elaborate trick of the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). ⁷ I regard this theory very skeptically, though with perhaps more credulity than some of my associates. There is also the fact that we tend to prove that the occurrence was real.

We do, however, have one element of doubt. I think the sighting - if not the accident - occurred pretty much the way it has reputed to have occurred. But in all fairness I must record the one doubtful point in the whole matter. When Captain Ruppelt took over the AF UFO project, he proceeded to re-examine the Mantell case. He was hampered, however, when he discovered that the

microfilmed files of the case had been ruined. This was allegedly an accident, but it does make interesting reading, and I can't in all fairness deny that it might mean something more than a clumsy accident. I quote from *The Report on UFOs*:⁸

"My next step was to try to find out what Mantell's wing men had seen or thought, but this is a blind alley. All of this evidence was in the ruined portion of the microfilm, even their names were missing. (emphasis added - A.G.) The only reference I could find to them was a vague passage indicating they hadn't seen anything."

Maybe it doesn't mean anything, except that somebody spilled something on a roll of important microfilm. But maybe, just maybe, Dr. Davidson's "fantastic theory" isn't so fantastic!

But we will proceed under the assumption that there was a sighting at Godman AFB on the date in question. The second question is highly speculative. We can't say for sure how close Mantell got to the object, because the people in the tower don't agree on what he said, and Mantell himself isn't talking...for one reason or the other. A clue, however, might be found in the answering of the third question.

The "official" line on what Mantell probably said last was something to the effect, "I'm going to 20,000 feet."⁹ As we have seen, it is unlikely that this is the last thing he said. Indeed, it is unlikely that he - or anyone in his position with his experience - would have said this at all, first, last, or in between.

But this is the official story of the last words of Captain Thomas Mantell to anyone of this world. Here is the first point where we can find a reasonable discrepancy between the official account, the accepted account, and the true facts of the case, deduced through logic. The question arises, "If there is nothing to hide, why lie?" It is a good question.

If the official account starts to get shaky at this point, I suggest that the account previous to this point is on sound ground and can be presumed accurate. So, here's the picture: Mantell is approaching the object he has been ordered to chase. He does so for 15 or 20 minutes. Now he is closing in on the UFO. Beyond this point, accounts diverge.

We are assuming for the moment that there were last words of some sort, i.e. that Mantell did crash to his death after having said something. If it wasn't "I'm going to 20,000 feet," what was it? Here we have reached a crucial point in our case. We must go to other accounts, and that means resorting to unsubstantiated rumor. But remember, even a rumor is more reliable than a proven lie.

The most widespread rumor also provides an answer to question four. Granted, it is a fantastic story, at best dubious, but it is the best we have. ¹⁰ Back to the scene. Mantell is approaching the object. He radios the tower. All present hear him say over the static of his radio, "It looks metallic and it's tremendous in size! I can see windows and...MY GOD THERE'S PEOPLE IN IT !!"

I wonder if the reader feels the same chill up and down his spine that I do when I think about that account, putting myself in Mantell's place. More, I wonder what Mantell thought and felt.

We come now to the second crucial point. In question five I asked about the crash and about the alleged death of Mantell. We will assume for the moment that the latter account of "Mantell's last words" is fairly accurate. Rather let us say that it is probably a good deal closer to being accurate than the "official account." At this point all accounts to date merge into agreement with certain variations to the same old tune. Some say Mantell was riddled full of holes, while others maintain he was disintegrated outright. A more scientific or, more aptly, pseudo-scientific version says that at this point Mantell's motor went out because he had entered the "electromagnetic field" of the purported spaceship. The official account maintains that Mantell went too high, passed out, and spun out of control. They vary considerably, but all agree: At this point Captain Thomas Mantell crashed to his death.

I don't agree. I say Mantell got close enough to the object to see what it was, close enough to say just what the rumor-account maintains. Then the UFO drifted upwards and Mantell said something like, "It's going to 20,000 feet..." followed by, "I'm returning to base." I'm sure that 20,000 feet business has some basis in fact, and I offer this only slightly modified version as a possible explanation. The difference between "it" and "I" can make all the difference in the world in the proper context. In this particular case it was the difference between life and death for Captain Mantell.

But what basis do I have for saying this? What proof can I offer? I suppose the best way to answer that is by saying that there is as much proof of my contention as there is of the syncopated accounts. Indeed, maybe more. I assume there were photos of both the crashed F-51 and the "body" of "Captain Mantell". However, I don't think I have to dwell on how photos can be faked, or how any photo can be labeled "Captain Mantell's body" or "Captain Mantell's plane." At this point that sort of business would be redundant.

Nor do I feel any particular need to comment further on the reliability of "official" testimony, etc. which I think we have proved beyond any doubt is no more no less authentic than any other body of data. And of course, as Capt. Ruppelt noted, some of the pertinent data on the case was lost forever in that little "accident" (we shall use that term for the moment) with the microfilm, including the names of backup witnesses.

But the burden of proof is on me, the accuser. Very well. Let's go back once more to the scene. Mantell has closed on the object, made his famous little speech, and is still closing on the UFO. The UFO is rising. Does Mantell follow it? As we have seen, no man in his right mind would have. I'm sure some bright psychologist will seize on this to prove that Mantell was deranged, but this is a straw not to be grasped in light of all descriptions I have ever heard of captain Mantell the man. It doesn't fit, Doc, sorry.

So Mantell doesn't go to 20,000 feet after all. There is therefore no conceivable reason why he should have crashed in light of this. You say he ran out of fuel after the long chase? He would have had time to radio this in AND, to boot, time to bail out. Despite the popularized fiction of the "jet jockey" type who always stays with his ship too long to get out, these flyboys are trained to get out when they are crashing...and they do. This same explanation can be applied to the holders of the "electromagnetic field" theory...if you buy "electromagnetic fields" in the first place. All that remains is the possibility of disintegration or something similar. I don't go for this explanation, simply because there is absolutely no factual or deductive evidence of it. If it comes to a choice between a live Mantell or a disintegrated Mantell, the "live" explanation will win me every time. I don't agree with Dr. Menzel ¹¹ very often, but it is certainly true that when you see a parachute-shaped object in the sky and don't know what it is, it is FAR more likely to be a parachute than a spaceship with bug-eyed men from Jupiter. It might not be true, but the chances are in favor of it by immense odds. The same logic applies to the present study. It is far more acceptable to a rational human being that a man in a plane who sees a flying saucer will live to tell about it than it is that he will be disintegrated. We have numerous other cases that we can point to which back this up. Case in point: Captain Killian.

So, contrary to all accounts you have ever heard, Mantell returned to base.

What happened thereafter may be deduced quite rationally, although in all honesty I must say I can't prove a word of what I'm about to say. We have two hypothetical situations that could exist. In the case of the former, I will just admit I don't know what's what. In the case of the latter instance, I have an interesting and - though fantastic - logical hypothesis to offer.

Situation One is that the UFO was identified as some kind of conventional phenomena. For a long time the AF maintained that what Mantell had been chasing was the planet Venus. When Ruppelt checked this with eminent astronomer J. Allen Hynek, he was told that Venus was not visible at the time of the chase. That ended that. ¹² Ruppelt concluded later that what Mantell was chasing "could have been a balloon." But keep in mind that the microfilm incident left Ruppelt blank on many aspects of the case, that he was researching the incident long after the trail had grown cold, and that he could find no data on balloon activity on the day in question.¹³ So the question is open. If it was natural phenomena, specifically a balloon, we have the insurmountable (for me) question of why, then, was Mantell so completely muzzled. To future investigators who might look into this aspect of the matter, I offer two hints. First, I suggest you might examine carefully Dr. Davidson's Open Letter ¹⁴. It is utterly fantastic and totally absurd, but then again... Second, I offer a more practical hint that may be worth a great deal: Remember all this occurred in January of 1948. ¹⁵ If it had occurred in 1965 reactions might have been considerably different. I must warn you, however, that the two clues conflict; if one is significant, chances are the other one has little or no significance. If this sounds a little on the vague side, I'm sorry; I don't mean to be cryptic. I'm just confused myself on this point.

The second hypothetical situation is that the rumor account that we accepted earlier is, within the limits of interpretive reason, accurate. If this is the "lay of the land" we are able to draw certain conclusions about this case. Perhaps, about the whole UFO mystery.

Back once more to the scene. Only it has changed. We are back at Godman Airbase now. Mantell is just landing. He finds a tight security lid on everything. He is introduced to several Intelligence officers who grill him over for hours. On what he has seen. Possibly he is flown to Washington. Someone, Who? The President? The security of the nation is involved. And here's the hardest of all to swallow: "For the sake of your country, you must change your name and habits, nevermore to be Captain Mantell. A cover-story about your "death" will be issued about your chasing a UFO. Your country is proud of you, boy." Exit, John Smith.

I'm looking at the above paragraph. It sounds like a cheap plot from a cheap version of James Bond or maybe worse - Tom Swift. For that reason, and that reason alone, many of our readers will reject my entire premise, and return post haste to Captain Thomas Mantell R.I.P. But don't act too quickly; life is sometimes all too much like a cheap novel. I said this was hypothetical. I did NOT say this was a guess. There is a great amount of documentation to support this theory, as fantastic as it is.

First of all, let's not forget our old friend Captain Killian. That also would sound like a low-grade "hack story" in some quarters too, but it is thoroughly documented and incontestable on rational grounds. ¹⁶ He has lots of company too. There are all too many men who have their vocal cords tied by regulations like AFR 200-2, and some not bound by such regulations who still are somehow pressured into silence, or worse, into contradicting themselves to please the "authorities". The case of the late Edward J. Ruppelt itself is a glaring example of this.

Second, we have a different class of supporting evidence. Less-well documented, perhaps, but still worthy of study. I refer you to the silencing of Albert K. Bender, a private UFO researcher having, to my knowledge, no government connections. ¹⁷ And if abductions over UFO cases are doubted, I suggest you examine the very meticulously investigated case of Olden Moore. ¹⁸ It is all so fantastic, yet the evidence is there...what is, is.

We therefore have these two alternate possible situations. Both require much, much more study. I hope they receive the attention they deserve. After all these years, maybe we will get to the bottom of things. Or maybe I'm wrong. Maybe Captain Mantell did die that cold January almost two decades ago. I honestly don't know...But I do know this: There is a case for a living Mantell, a case almost everyone thought was closed tight. I don't know, but I'm inclined to believe it...Maybe there's a John Smith around who will read this article, nod his head sadly, and thank Heaven somebody believes that he is still alive. This article is for you if you are reading it, John Smith.

Footnotes:

1. *Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, Ruppelt - pp 53.
2. There is some dispute as to whether this was the last thing Mantell said...but all who were there do agree that he did say this. (see A)
3. Ruppelt, *op. cit.*
4. *Ibid*
5. For an excellent account of this case see *Flying Saucers: Top Secret* by Major Donald E. Keyhoe, pp 27.
6. I'm not criticizing the Air Force; notwithstanding our differences I like the Air Force. But I do not like AFR 200 - 2.
7. Dr. Leon Davidson, "An Open Letter to Saucer Researchers," Oct. 8, 1961.
8. pp 53.
9. Ruppelt, *op. cit.* pp 48
10. See *Keziah World Chart*, circa 1958.
11. See *World of Flying Saucers* by Dr. Donald Menzel and Mrs. Lyle Boyd.
12. Ruppelt, *op. cit.* pp 56
13. *Ibid*. There is some evidence that Ruppelt encountered "the old run-around" when he inquired.
14. See note seven.

15. January 7, 1948.
 16. I have heard it protested - but hardly rationally.
 17. See *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers*, Gray Barker, University Books, 1956.
 18. *The UFO Evidence*, NICAP, pp 169.
- "A" Here is an irreconcilable point in "their" story. If he said he was going to 20,00 feet, he knew what he was doing. If he knew what he was doing, he wouldn't have said it.
- Source: Summer 1965 issue.

1965 - ANOTHER NEW JERSEY LANDING?

Mrs. Carol Tischuk of the South Jersey town of Hampton Lake, refuses to speculate on what might have caused a circular imprint in the sandy clearing of a woods near her home. The circumference of the circle is marked by a blackened, solid rim of fused sand.

The circle is depressed about five inches. It is 18 feet in diameter. It is "perfectly round" and has a deposit of odd, "crusty" material in the middle. There is also an inner circle of what also looks like burned, fused sand, about four feet inside the outer circle.

Mrs. Tischuk was interested but thought nothing of the strange circle until one night a friend told her a story which had happened to her recently (reports are not clear as to the date of the incident, it appears to have taken place during mid-June). Her friend, Mrs. Lorraine Moore, of 136 Main Street, Vincentown, was driving home one morning about three o'clock. She was cruising down Red Lion Road when, suddenly an object rushed down.

She described the object as "an oversized platter". It appeared above her car, slightly to the front and traveling at the same speed as the car. After trying to speed up her car to get away from it, she found that the object was still in the same position. She said that if she was on the roof of her car she could have reached up and touched the strange visitor. She said there was a "cockpit" in the center. The object also had something resembling antennae and something like windows on the side. The object also had a red light on it.

After a wild chase down the highway Mrs. Moore pulled into her drive to try to get to a safer place should the object become hostile. She ran into the house to get her husband to look at the object, still over her car at tree top level. But when her husband got outside, the object was gone.

After Mrs. Tischuk heard this she called in State Policeman Frank J. Caldwell. After the policeman looked at the circle he said that the case is authentic, it is not a hoax. He said he thought the circle was made by "something else." Source: Summer 1965 issue.

1966 - NEW SAUCER FLAP STRIKES THE MIDWEST - Rick Hilberg

The following is a brief summary of the most important saucer reports to be found in the recent Midwestern flap. While there have been many sensational statements made by the Air Force, the press, and saucer investigators themselves, we will try to take a middle-road approach in this report.

March 20, 1966 - At least forty persons - twelve of them policemen - reported seeing an unidentified flying object over Ann Arbor, Michigan. Two sheriff's deputies said they saw eerie blinking lights - apparently on a flying object - rise above the trees, then dip again. Another policeman said he saw a formation of four or five saucers pass over his car. Six patrol cars chased the formation until it vanished. One of the machines got to "within ten feet" of a patrol car, said Patrolman Robert Huniwell.

Farmer Frank Mannor got to within 500 yards of a football-shaped saucer with a waffled skin and red lights. Mannor, who with his son observed the strange machine in a nearby swamp area, said the saucer took off with a sound like a ricocheting bullet. Doctor J. Allen Hynek and the Air Force later tried to explain this and later reports away as glowing "swamp gas".

March 21, 1966 - a county Civil Defense director and 87 coeds said they watched a hovering saucer settle in a hollow (not swamp as reported widely!) near Hillsdale College, Michigan. William Horn, who has been County Civil Defense director for ten years, said he watched the object through binoculars for three hours. He said it looked round and oblong.

Miss Sara Robeck, a Hillsdale student, said that it appeared "as big as a house with a lot of

lights around it." She reported that after the floodlights went out yellowish lights appeared on the craft. Then a red light glowed in the center.

March 25, 1966 - Everett Will, who lives near Upper Sandusky, Ohio told authorities he saw an object that looked like a top or Christmas tree upside down. Sheriff's deputies who examined the scene found nothing.

In Lucas County, Ohio near Toledo, Deputies Robert Schultz and Stanley Nalepa reported seeing a huge object that had glowing red lights and a halo at tree-top level. The saucer disappeared when they moved closer.

March 28, 1966 - An airport control tower operator at Columbus, Georgia reported seeing a glowing, oblong object maneuvering high in the sky. The object was also tracked on radar in Columbus and in distant Atlanta. Doyle Palmer, who works at the Muscogee County airport, said he observed the greenish-white cigar-shaped machine and tracked it on radar for over an hour. Six Columbus policemen also observed the strange machine.

Four police officers and a high school science teacher sighted a glowing green or white saucer over Green Bay, Wisconsin.

April 1, 1966 - Two Berea, Ohio policemen said they saw "an orange glow as big as a house" floating above some trees early in the morning. "It must have been one of those unidentified flying objects seen in Michigan," said Patrolman Clarence T. Janowick when informed there was no moon out at the time. Patrolman Janowick and Patrolman John R. Galik Jr. said they saw the object on the morning of the 29th also. It was noted over Baldwin Lake in the south section of Berea at that time, and was visible for about forty-five seconds. On the first it was sighted six blocks from the lake over the Ohio Turnpike administration building.

Ted Scott, a newsman at radio station WBEX in Chillicothe, Ohio said he saw two objects in the western sky and one in the east during the evening. All were described as red, green and blue pulsating lights.

At Springfield, Ohio a farmer said that he has no idea what caused a burned spot in his five-inch-tall wheat field. Charles Schneider, 76, said the burned spot in the wheat is about 12 feet long, about two feet wide at the end and wider at the other.

The patch of wheat is dark brown in that area, he said, and the wheat around it is healthy and green. The earth seems to be exceptionally dry and crumbly in the burned area. Schneider said neighbors had suggested it might have been caused by a UFO. He said a neighbor, Dorothy Newsome, was driving along the road near the spot and saw a large, strange light momentarily but could not identify it.

April 17, 1966 - Shortly after five a.m., Deputies Dale F. Spaur and W. L. Neff, of the Portage County, Ohio Sheriff's office, were driving along Route 14 south of Ravenna. They noticed an abandoned car parked along the south side of the road, and went over to investigate. Deputy Spaur got out of the car and proceeded to approach the vehicle so he could check it out for police records. Suddenly he saw a blinding light come over the highway from the embankment on the south side of the road over a stand of trees.

Deputy Spaur was momentarily blinded by the object after looking directly at it. The saucer flooded the area with a bright white light. After questioning Deputy Spaur 16 hours after the encounter, he told your editor that the saucer he and Deputy Neff sighted must have been huge if it hovered closely over the highway. Your editor would estimate the object to have been from 50 to 60 feet in diameter from Spaur's description. Spaur said he and Neff heard a definite hum coming from the machine.

After running back to the car, he and Deputy Neff started to chase the object from approximately 5:07 a.m. to somewhere close to 7:00 a.m., to a point near Freedom, Pennsylvania. The object definitely was disk-shaped with a dome on top. It had two spotlights that at one time flooded the area surrounding a crane, around the bend from where the saucer was encountered near the abandoned car. The two lights converged from the machine to strike the ground Spaur said.

Police Chief Gerald Buchert of Mantua, Ohio said he took a picture of an object during the time of the chase. The photo shows a half-disk at a great distance from the camera. The photo was only

shown once on Cleveland television, and apparently was confiscated by Wright Patterson. Your editor has a photograph taken directly from the television screen showing the saucer Chief Buchert caught on film. The Air Force later said the object the two deputies chased was Venus! A neat trick, as Venus was not visible in the northeast where the domed saucer was observed during the 100 m.p.h. chase! Source: Spring 1966 issue.

1966 - THE CHALLENGE OF THE GREEN FIREBALLS - Allan Manak

Unidentified flying objects have been viewed in a multitude of forms. These include disks, globes, and a wide variety of other geometrical shapes. They have been reported as being solid, both reflecting and giving off light. One phenomenon that I believe are connected with UFOs are the reports of Green Fireballs; globes of green fire, of a brightness more intense than the full moon. These "fireballs" may, in fact, represent a "key" to the solution of the UFO enigma.

The Green Fireballs have baffled astronomers and other scientists ever since they were first discovered in this country during the fall of 1948. Their color has been singularly impressive to many people. When witnesses were asked to point out the approximated color on a spectrum chart, most of them indicated a band at 5200 angstroms (a unit of measure of the wave lengths of light radiations). Naturally, as if one need to ask, this color was green, which resembles that of burning copper.

This factor is of particular importance. Copper is rarely found in meteorites, which are frequently called upon as explanations for the Green Fireballs. This is because the friction of the air oxidizes it shortly after a meteor enters the upper atmosphere. This effectively rules out the "fireballs" as being a purely natural phenomenon. It might also be noted that concentrations of copper particles are now present in the air over Arizona and New Mexico, the "fireball" area. Prior to 1948, these areas contained little or no copper particles in their atmosphere.

Let's explore further the difference between meteorites and Green Fireballs:

Meteors, when entering the atmosphere, are usually reported as a glowing white, with tints of orange or red. They are most frequently seen in the months of October and November. Their speed has been reliably estimated at around 12 miles per second. Meteors that penetrate our atmospheric blanket always have curved trajectories, due to the pull of gravity. Green Fireballs always travel in straight lines. Meteors produce a loud, shattering noise when they explode. Green Fireballs are silent. Meteors break into fragments upon exploding. Green Fireballs do not.

According to Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, mathematician, astronomer, and Director of the Institute of Meteoritics at the University of New Mexico, "normal fireballs do not appear green, neither do they appear to be electrostatic phenomena. They move too regularly, and too fast."

Now that I've brought up the subject of electrostatic phenomena, we ought to compare a form of these with the Green Fireballs. Such a form we might term "Lightning Type Fireballs."

"Lightning Type Fireballs" have been measured from a fraction of an inch to five feet in diameter, but the average size is around four to eight inches in diameter. They glow eerily, often red but occasionally blue-green, gold or white. Some pulsate, but most have a bluish halo encircling them. Sometimes there are noises associated with their appearance, like a hissing or humming. The "lightning ball" can appear for as short as a fraction of a second to as long as fifteen minutes. When they leave an area, they sometimes fade out gradually, or simply disappear. Some "pop," and some leave with an explosion, often shooting streamers or flames in all direction, leaving an evil smelling blue mist. But, more importantly, these "fireballs" occur only during thunderstorms, usually toward the tail end, most often following a normal lightning bolt. Hardly an explanation for the Green Fireballs.

Since 1948, Green Fireballs have literally bathed the Southwest. But not until 1951 were they seen over the rest of the United States. Prior to 1948, scattered reports of Green Fireballs came from areas surrounding Sweden.

Hundreds of pilots, meteorologists, atomic scientists, and other trained observers have sighted them. Reports came so thick and fast in 1948 that less than a year later, the Air Force established an agency to investigate them, known as "Project Twinkle." The project was first set up at Vaughn, New Mexico to obtain scientific data on the "fireballs." After three months it was transferred to Holloman

Air Base, at Alamogordo, New Mexico.

At Holloman, during the next three months, there were only a few sightings. And the great speed of the Green Fireballs prevented the Air Force from arriving at any satisfactory explanation, if one was possible. Search parties even explored the areas directly beneath the point where the "fireballs" disappeared, but found nothing. "Project Twinkle," faltered, and soon failed completely.

In the fall of 1951, during a period of some thirteen days, eight especially brilliant Green Fireballs were seen in five Southwestern states. Dr. LaPaz, reporting in the November 19, 1951 issue of *TIME*, said "a fall of nine bright meteorites in a year over a comparable area would be considered exceptional."

One of the best Green Fireball sightings occurred on November 2, of that year. It attracted over 165 separate reports, and was seen from Vista, California, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, a distance of some one thousand miles. Witnesses included scientists at Los Alamos, CAA tower men, the Army, the Air Force, and even the unsuspecting civilian. It appeared as if the "fireballs" were aiming toward the bomb test sites at White Sands Proving Grounds.

Said H. B. Darrach, Jr. and Robert Genna, in the April 7, 1952 issue of *LIFE*, "they are not distortions of the atmosphere resulting from atomic activity. Nor are they aberrations of the Northern Lights. Magnetic disturbances cannot account for them." They were clearly baffled...

In 1952, observations of Green Fireballs equaled or surpassed those of 1948. Then they tapered off considerably. Only a few observations were reported during the next four years. Then, to everyone's amazement, they were back again in full force during the great flying saucer flap of 1957. Just as things started to get interesting, the "fireballs" fell to their lowest ebb in the course of the next five years.

In 1963, reports increased in frequency once again. They came from all over the Western Hemisphere, but this time it was almost predictable. I say almost, because it is not until after UFOlogists record or designate a flap year that the phenomenon of the Green Fireballs is also seen on the upsurge. Thus, it can be shown that so-called UFO flaps coincide with great increases in the incidence of Green Fireballs, and, it would seem that both are actually related.

Will this lead us to the long-sought answer, or will the mystery deepen? Source: Spring 1966 issue.

1966 - FLYING SAUCERS - THEIR PURPOSE? - Barry Beverage

With increased UFO activity and world affairs as they are, it is increasingly important to discover the purpose of the flying saucers. No longer is the question: "Are they real?" but "What are they here for?" Are they conducting a scientific research of our Earth? Or planning to attack and conquer? Or help straighten out our problems? Are they waiting for us to blow ourselves to bits so they can utilize the remains of our Earth? What do they want?

Here, I won't tell you the true answer, because I don't know it yet. There are many, many theories about what the flying saucers are here for. Some people claim they know the answer. Maybe they do. Maybe they don't. Time will tell, but what has to be put into that time is research. Research on every aspect of the flying saucers - but research with an open mind.

We must consider every idea, scientifically tear it apart and, if it can be, build it up again as a possibility. We must sort the truth from the fiction, the true sighters from the fanatics. We must learn the truth!

We cannot discredit "contactees" unless we have justly and accurately proven their falseness and called their bluff. Every reported sighting must be analyzed, with every part of it researched carefully.

There are numerous theories concerning the intent of the flying saucers here on Earth. I suppose the most common of these theories are the ones about a scientific study of our planet or a plot to invade and conquer it; both of which are highly probable and, perhaps, seem the most likely.

But there are other theories set forth by many different people. One of these may prove true, or maybe several or all of them, depending on how many "other worlds" have sent their ships into our skies.

It has been suggested that we are under surveillance by peoples of more than one planet. This

fact, or theory, as you may have it, has been attained not only from, shall we call it common sense, but also from observable facts about the saucers. For one thing, look at the different types of UFOs that have been seen. This would seem to indicate several different sources. You might say that this doesn't prove anything because we have planes that are not at all similar in shape or size. But the fact still stands.

Then too, from reports of sightings of the saucer inhabitants, we gather that some of the occupants of these crafts are not similar in any of their features and some are quite alike. According to the reports of the 1949 saucer landing in New Mexico the occupants had human-like features, but were all only four feet in height. Just exactly the opposite is the 1952 sighting of the "Flatwoods Monster," really a giant without a single human feature. Other reports of "people" seven or nine feet tall are frequent. Another clue? Quite possible.

But the thing that I think is most important in this matter is their actions. Some saucers act friendly, curious, or frightened. Others act hostile and treat us accordingly. Take for instance the incident in October, 1963 in Tranca, Argentina, where in the middle of the night four UFOs directed beams at a farmhouse that made the building like an oven. This seemingly "attack" had not been provoked and if the saucers had been peaceful, why should they have directed "heat beams" at the quiet farmhouse? Perhaps the fifth saucer hovering over the nearby railroad tracks was collecting some sort of information to be used in unfriendly actions against us, and they did not wish to be discovered at it...That's my guess anyway. You can take it or leave it as you like. But do give it some thought.

Take also the many and numerous disappearances of men and machines. There's the five Avenger Torpedo planes that vanished on a routine 1945 training flight out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and the Martin flying boat that went out after them and also disappeared. Coincidence? What about the *Star Tiger* and *Ariel*, sister passenger planes that vanished without a trace in the same area one year apart, on trips from Bermuda to Kingston, Jamaica. And what about Lt. Cody and Ensign Adams who disappeared in 1942 from an L-8-A navy blimp protecting San Francisco Harbor from enemy subs. And take the November, 1930 case of the "vanished Eskimo village" near Lake Anjikuni, Canada. What happened to the entire population of that village? Why were their prized rifles still lying in their huts? Why had the huskies been allowed to starve in the camp? Coincidence? Or were they kidnapped by bandits from outer space who needed to learn more about our weapons and people, so they could more easily conquer us? And what about the strange death of Air Force Captain Mantell? Who or what shot down his plane and why?

Then you have sightings of saucers that seem interested in a scientific study of the Earth. Reports of saucers taking bits of grain, soil, water and other things seem to confirm this theory.

There are many theories that surround the flying saucers, but here is what I believe and why...

The theory that the saucers are surveying our planet is much like we would do if we were to land on the moon or another planet that had life on it. The purpose of the survey: find out what makes the planet tick.

On March 9, 1963, Mr. Amos Biggs of Montana spotted what he described as a "strange contraption" that landed on frozen Crystal Lake. The object was silver in color, "saucer-shaped on the bottom with a slight oval compartment at the top." It was reported to have stayed on the lake for about ten minutes. During that time a door was seen to open and shut again with no one getting in or out of the object. After the door closed, it took off with a slight buzzing sound.

On September 15, 1962, a bright oval-shaped object with projections, was reported to land in a reservoir with a loud splash at Oradell, New Jersey.

Again, on October 24, 1962 a grey disk-shaped object landed near a reservoir. George Fawcett, noted saucer researcher, asked the question, "Why the sudden interest in water?" Fawcett suggested another question, "Do UFOs need water for propulsion systems?"

Is this the reason that the UFOs are here? Is water necessary to keep their ships running correctly? Then how do they get along in outer space, away from all other life?

It could be that they need water for some other reason. According to Albert Bender they need some material contained in the sea for their planet. If this were true then why the interest in fresh

water? The reasonable assumption would be that their interest is merely scientific.

One researcher called them "Viking ships" from outer space, and surely this might be. Viking ships exploring a new world, discovering its worth, what it contains and what inhabits it. Like the early explorers such as Columbus, they gather specimens and bits of things they find in the new world to show "back home."

Here should be underlined again the importance of the public knowing the truth. Said George Fawcett, "An uneducated public could turn a friendly or exploratory landing of a UFO into hostile actions by hysterical and violent reactions to such strangers in our midst. Many possible tragedies could result from a lack of information."

Further proof that we are being studied might arise from the November 1, 1962 sighting of a UFO over Woburn, Massachusetts by 20-year-old mechanic Charles Kirk. He reported seeing a "hovering, flying egg sliced lengthwise, round on top, flat on the bottom, orange in color, with a long projection hanging out of the bottom." The object hovered for ten minutes, during which time the projection seemed to click on and off as though it were taking pictures of the Earth at 15 second intervals. Later the Civil Defense confirmed increased background radiation in the area.

Many other sightings seem to indicate a scientific Earth study also. For instance, the 1953 Brush Creek, California incident where a miner named John Black saw a little man dressed in what appeared to be a flight suit. The little man seemed to be filling a container with water from a stream. When Black's presence was realized, the little man ran back to his mushroom-shaped ship, sitting about 40 feet away, climbed in and took off. Again, a curious connection with water. Let me also point out to you the "flight suit." It is connected with those mentioned next?

In Newark Valley, New York, during 1964 farmer Gary Wilcox reported that he saw a flash over a rise on his farm, and went over to investigate. He found an egg-like ship with several little men standing by it. The men were wearing strange suits that covered their entire bodies, so that Wilcox could see neither faces or hands. (It has been suggested that these people are from the same planet as the ones that reportedly suffocated in New Mexico in 1949 because they couldn't stand our atmosphere, and that the suits now allow them to travel safely on the Earth outside their spaceships, much like our astronauts will do when they land on the moon.) Wilcox noticed that one of the men had a pan with some sod in it. Wilcox said they talked at length about agriculture and the spacemen confessed to taking similar pieces of sod from his pastures, which he had noticed missing before.

There are many, many more cases which seem to point toward this conclusion: the saucers are here to conduct a scientific study of Earth.

Perhaps one of the most, if not the most, discussed theory on saucers is that of an attack by people from outer space. Some folks laugh at this suggestion, believing that we are the furthest advanced people in the entire universe and that no one, except perhaps the communists, can ever attempt to harm us. The popular joke is that people who believe in this theory read too many science fiction comics. Really, I think that some of these people who put down this theory believe in it as much or more than those who profess to believe in it, but they are just too plumb scared to admit that we are not the greatest.

Said Dr. Harlow Shapley of the Harvard University Observatory: "Perfectly ridiculous, hopelessly vain are those who believe that we are something special and superior in the universe of more than one hundred thousand million billion stars."

In 1955, the late General Douglas MacArthur made this astounding statement: "The next war," he said, "will be one when the nations of the world will have to unite against attack by people from other planets." Did the late General know something, or was he merely guessing?

Roger J. Birner and Jerome Clark pointed out facts in their article for the *UFO Reporter*, "UFOs and the Sea", that seems to indicate plans to take over the Earth by aliens from outer space. What happens to those several men who have disappeared...

For example the two sentries of San Cristobal, the old Spanish fort in Puerto Rico. This is the story: San Cristobal has many sentry boxes on it. One, this particular one, was below the top of the wall, down near the water. It was reached by a narrow passageway in the wall. This one day the sentry went down into the box as usual but when it came time to change sentries, the first one could

not be found. However, in the box there was a strange pungent smell. A second sentry was sent into the box and an officer watched from the wall above. Suddenly there was a piercing scream and a flash, and billows of black smoke drifted from the box out over the harbor. Several men rushed down to the box, but it was once again void of human life. And once again there was that strange smell, like sulfur, and the walls of the box were black.

This is just one case. There are others: David Lang, the case in Brazil and more. Why? What happened to them?

Birner and Clark stated the fact that before trying to capture an area, you generally try to learn as much about it as possible. Is this the case here? Who else could give information on air power as well as flyers? Who else could tell the strength of an army more accurately than a guard from that army. Who would be better qualified to tell of vegetation and ranching than a farmer such as Wilcox? Does this suggest a carefully laid plan to attack and conquer the Earth? It sure sounds possible.

It has been suggested that the reason for the Air Force's secrecy policy is that they know that the saucers are here to harm us, but are afraid to let the public know for fear that they will panic, or that the saucers will attack before we are ready to meet them if they knew that we were aware of their intent.

Birner and Clark also suggested that the reason the UFOs have been seen to dive into large bodies of water or emerge from them is that they have submerged stations in these remote places. Submerged stations from which an attack could be launched from the seaward. Are we playing host to a dangerous "neighbor" under our own seas?

"The next war will be one where the nations of the world will have to unite against attack by people from other planets."

According to most "contactees" all the people from outer space are friendly, wishing to establish friendly relations with us in the future. Only in one contactee story that I've read have I found any inclination of unpeaceful actions toward us. That was in Albert Bender's account of his contacts with a race from outer space. According to Bender, they threatened to destroy us if we attempted to interfere in their activity on our Earth. Their planet, it seems, needed a certain substance found in our sea water so they had set up a base somewhere here on Earth to extract this substance from the water, and "send" it to their world.

Bender made the suggestion in his book *Flying Saucers and The Three Men* that there are two forces at work, good and evil forces. This particular group he came in contact with was an evil force (they denied the existence of God). He seemed to suggest that this evil force could cause us trouble, which is a reasonable assumption but tends to underline MacArthur's statement.

It is my theory, and perhaps even the theory of others, that if our world were to be attacked by "rogues" from outer space, we would also receive help from another planet of friendly peoples.

My reason for saying this is, as I have explained, that I believe we are being watched by more than one planet and that at least one, if not several of these planets wish to make friendly contacts with us. I really have nothing to prove this except what I have submitted here and similar incidents which I could not mention because of the lack of space and time. Call my reasons for believing this a sum of all the facts, or logic or just plain guessing; whichever you fancy, but it's what I believe.

In the near future or even tomorrow we may witness some great events. It may be the beginning of an alliance between our world and one from outer space. It may be the beginning of a long and bloody war as "raiders from beyond" attack our Earth; Universal War it might be called. It might be friendly relations with another planet through a great tragedy. It might be...

But whatever it is, no matter what we believe now, we must continue to research and delve into the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects so that we might be better prepared to meet whatever comes. Source: Summer 1966 issue.

1966 - WHO FLIES THE FLYING SAUCERS? - Tim Beckley

Perhaps one of the most complex, and often puzzling, aspects of the UFO phenomenon is the many so-called contact stories. Many, without exception, are hoaxes in the first degree, while others simply cannot be done away with so easily.

First of all, before anyone can really hope to understand this aspect, he must realize that these accounts are broken up into three major sections. The first of these would be contact claims of such persons as the late George Adamski, Truman Bethrum, Buck Nelson and George Van Tassel. All of these claim to have either went for long rides into space in saucers, or have spoken at length with the friendly occupants of these crafts. Almost all those claiming contacts of this type agree at least, that the saucer occupants are friendly, and with to bring Earthmen the type of universal harmony that they claim can be found on all other planets in the solar system. These occupants are identical in appearance with Earthmen. Many in fact are considered of extraordinary build, blue eyes, long hair and are able to communicate with mental telepathy.

Many UFO researchers tend to disbelieve all such stories without even wanting to gather details. They claim that such stories have been a thorn in the side of any serious investigation of this enigma. Many, on the other hand, will believe such accounts of every single contactee without question, and pity the non-believer for being so blinded.

To illustrate this type of contact to a greater degree we here quote from a newspaper clipping (undated) entitled "Valley Youth Warned to Stop Talking of Pre-Dawn Vision":

"A young Valley man who appeared before CBS-TV cameras this week to tell of a strange story of a pre-dawn meeting with three mysterious visitors presumed to be from another planet, has received orders to 'keep his mouth shut' about his experience, he said today.

"Ted Kittredge of 14302 Hatteras St., Van Nuys, California said that shortly after his appearance on the late newscast Monday night, he received a call from a man refusing to divulge his name.

"Kittredge was warned to 'stop worrying and stop talking' about the occurrence which has set the entire city agog and became a conversation piece in every home in the valley.

"I could hear machines clicking in the background,' Kittredge said, 'and the voice said 'We know all about what's going on. You just keep your mouth shut and forget about it.'

"Kittredge, who previously refused to divulge his name for fear of ridicule, said that regardless of how impossible his story of the giant gold ball and its cargo of men sounded, it was nevertheless true.

"I have been encouraged by the many telephone calls I have received since I got the nerve to appear on TV and tell my story,' the youth said.

"Some of the calls have been complementary, others have been derisive.'

"Kittredge described his visitors as 'friendly.' 'They were quite tall, and had long flowing locks and spoke English as if they had memorized thousands of conversations and were repeating the words on tape,' he exclaimed.

"Kittredge said his step-brother, with whom he shares his home, slept through the 'entire thing.' Kittredge himself was awakened by the barking of his dogs and upon investigation said he saw a huge steel ball in front of his yard.

"Three men approached me without hesitation and told me not to be frightened,' he said.

"I was really scared. In fact the whole thing seemed like a dream. Only I know it wasn't. Several other people in the Valley have seen the same thing, even talked with the men. I just hope I never see it again, that's all,' Kittredge said.

"He said he has received a telephone call from a man who introduced himself as 'Major Keyhoe', author of a book on flying saucers, and has had hundreds of other phone calls from others wanting to hear his account of the fantastic experience."

Not only is the contact itself in accordance with those of Adamski, Nelson, etc., but the persecution which follows is also identical. In the case of Adamski, he is swamped in Europe by members of what he calls the "silence group." Nelson is visited by three men in black clothing. Others have been sent to mental institutions, and recently a woman in England was even granted a divorce because her husband was spreading his story of a similar nature. Others, even less fortunate, have mysteriously disappeared, refused to talk, or even committed suicide.

The second type of contact is that of the little men. These stories have been creeping up on UFO researchers from all sides since the year 1950, when Frank Scully related in his often quoted, now very rare, book *BEHIND THE FLYING SAUCERS* how a number of disks had crashed in New Mexico. It also told of how the Air Force had found the charred remains of a number of little men in

the neighborhood of 3 ½ to 4 feet tall.

We quote the following cases which appeared in the *WASHINGTON EVENING STAR* of October 18, 1954. They deal with the gigantic European flap of the same year:

CASE # 1 - "A French farmer named Anotoine Mazaud of the Plateau of Millevaches in Southern France, turned in a report of unusual nature and proportions to the local authorities. Walking home, Mr. Mazaud had found himself suddenly face-to-face with a small, mysterious stranger, wearing something that looked like a crash helmet. Farmer Mazaud prudently extended his pitchfork. The stranger, on the contrary, held out his hand in a gesture of friendship, walked up, uttered a few sounds and kissed Mr. Mazaud on the cheek. Before the farmer could recover his poise, the amiable intruder had climbed the roadside hedge and entered a cigar-shaped contraption which took off with a faint buzzing sound."

CASE # 2 - "On September 24 at 10 a.m. in the Gardunha Mts. near the Spanish border, three Portuguese peasants were startled by a fast-flying sphere which landed in a field 200 yards from them. This time, two small creatures emerged in shiny metallic outfits and started collecting grass and stones in a brightly polished box. Spotting the peasants, they strolled over and invited the men by gestures to climb into their machine, where moving shadows could be seen behind the semi-transparent center section. When the offer was declined, the strangers disappeared through a hatch. A few seconds later, the sphere took off vertically and rapidly disappeared."

CASE # 3 - "On October 5, at 7:15 a.m. another road worker named Gustave Narcy was bicycling to work near Wassay (which is close to Paris) when he noticed an unusual looking creature climbing out of a 30 ft. cigar. Mr. Narcy's description was very precise. The stranger was 3 feet 11 inches tall. His body was covered with hair. He was wearing a large orange corset and a helmet made of plush. A moment of mutual staring ensued, after which Mr. Narcy said good-morning. The stranger, apparently un-reassured, scrambled back into his fuselage and flew away. An investigation of the spot revealed skid marks on the grass and a strange milky substance."

In these three cases, which are offered only as a sample of the thousands on record to date, we see that the saucer occupants show no signs of being hostile, while they are neither in the mood to openly communicate with the Earthmen present in each case. They offer no message to mankind, and are more intent on gathering soil samples, plants and in some cases even live stock. Only rarely have they attempted to abduct humans, and many of these cases are open to much question.

The third type of contact is the person who may see a UFO at a considerable distance and some human type forms, mostly of a small stature around the craft. Most are familiar with the Lonnie Zamora sighting, undoubtedly as well as the occupants that waived to Father Gill as they attempted to fix their craft which hung suspended in mid-air.

For some strange reason, not apparent to this writer, these cases are always accepted by scientific researchers while the others are mostly ridiculed.

But the most important question is how do we account for the disagreement among the many as to the occupants of these crafts? The writer has not the space to delve much deeper into this area, for he could go on to fill a good sized book. We are not forgetting even for one moment the monster stories (i.e. the Flatwoods Monster), the jelly-bag like beings, the hairy monster and so on. There are a number of possibilities. Either quite a few people are lying, or so this seems to indicate, for this researcher tends to believe that the saucers are originating from more than one place. Not only would this account for the disagreement among observers as to the appearance of the saucer occupants or pilots, but also the disagreement among witnesses as to the size, shape, and construction of the saucers themselves.

This researcher would thus suggest that we keep an open mind when reporting on ALL these various types, and try to gather future details on this complex, interesting and most important factor.

Who flies the flying saucers? What are your opinions? Source: Summer 1966 issue.

1967 - MIDWESTERN UFO ACTIVITY REPORTED - Rick Hilberg

Many persons, including policemen, reported sighting UFOs in West-Central Illinois and Northwest Kansas early in the morning on March 9. One observer in Illinois reported he watched an object

which made a hissing sound. A Goodland, Kansas policeman reported seeing an object brilliantly white on the front, with red and amber lights on the sides, roaring like a huge vacuum cleaner.

UFOs were sighted in Rawlings, Cheyenne, Wallace, Thomas and Sherman counties in Illinois. Frank Courson, a Knox County deputy sheriff who said he had been on the force for 19 years and had been a pilot for three years, said he watched an object which he said was later joined by a second UFO for more than an hour over Galesburg, Illinois.

He said the object was "bluish white and pulsating red." It had a "rim that looked like it was about five feet thick" at the bottom of what looked like "an upside-down bowl." He said the UFO appeared to be about 35 feet in diameter and at an altitude of 2,000 feet. The object emitted a hissing sound said Courson, and at one point in the distance he saw the object release "a white beam of light that hit the ground with a kind of flash."

Later that afternoon two UFOs were spotted near Moline, Illinois by a local policeman. William Fisher said he spotted a UFO while patrolling on his motorcycle. He said the object, about the size of a boxcar, hovered for four or five minutes some 3,000 feet above the ground. A second object appeared while he was watching, then both sped out of sight.

The objects also reportedly were sighted by a number of other persons, including a woman, two nuns and about 40 students at the Sacred Heart Elementary School.

Fisher said he photographed the objects, using color motion picture film. He said the film was sent promptly to a lab for processing. As yet no word has been received as to whether the movies Fisher took have turned out or not. If some image is recorded on the film, *UFO MAGAZINE* will try to obtain a copy.

Another interesting, if somewhat older report, comes from Goddard, Kansas where Wes Herbert sighted some strange lights west of Goddard a few hours before dawn on February 9. Shortly before they disappeared, he said, a bolt of light flashed out and appeared to hit the ground north of him. This detail is strikingly similar to the flashing light reported by Frank Courson a month later in Illinois. In Herbert's report, however, the bolt of light caused a house to start on fire, and a fire truck to be summoned to put out the fire in the abandoned house.

Herbert noticed the lights while he was working at the 24-hour service station-café on U.S. 54. After he had noticed the lights in the sky west of him he pointed them out to a customer. "This lady customer saw it and called the McConnell Air Force Base (at Wichita)," Herbert said. "She told them about it and asked what it was. They said they would check on it and she left."

"We came up with nothing," said a McConnell spokesman. "We got the report but could get no visual or electronic indication from here of anything out there." No planes were in the vicinity which could be called by radio to see if they could run a visual check on the object. Herbert reported the lights were pinkish-yellow, changing to red, blue and blinding white. Source: March 1967 issue.

1967 - UFO REPORTS CONTINUE - Rick Hilberg

In a recent letter to the *UFO MAGAZINE* office subscriber Dwight Aube reported on a UFO experience he had on March 27. In the letter he states: "On Monday, March 27 at about 7:00 p.m. EST my mother and I saw a quite spectacular sight. It was an object about the size of a full moon. The colors were mostly green with some traces of pink in it. We were not the only ones to see it. Two of my friends reported seeing the same thing, only at 8:30 p.m. On that night they saw a beam of light shine down into a wooded area next to a lake where they live. Their names are Robert Desplains and David Hurder. I might add that Ronald Andrede told me that he saw an object similar to mine on the Friday before.

"At about 7:10 p.m. I saw another object only this time I was alone because my mother had dropped me off at work. This second object was a lot smaller than the first. At first I thought it was a plane, but I heard no engine noise. And besides it was going too slow to stay airborne anyway. The object had a rotating light on the top that illuminated part of the object at one time. It appeared to be disk-shaped."

The March 16 edition of the *CAPE CORAL BREEZE* (Florida) reports that Mrs. Edward Caldwell of Cape Coral had seen a "round-lighted object between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. on three clear nights last

week." She reported, "Each time it was to the right of the Rose Gardens over toward Pine Island. We watched this from in front of our house. It was fantastic."

Mrs. Caldwell reported that on each occasion the object sighted was watched for approximately one-half hour. Binoculars were used. The object, she said, moved very slowly up and down and varied from bright orange to very dim. It disappeared fast, she reported. She said, "It looked like a jet on fire as it took off with a bright orange flame streaming out the back. It seemed to hover very high over one area and then dip rather low."

An interesting but older report comes from Cordova, Maryland, where on January 16 a group of boy scouts on a hike sighted a UFO.

Maryland State Police at Easton said the scout leader, Earl Asche of Cordova, called about 9 p.m. to report sighting the object in the sky.

Asche told police he and ten scouts with him observed the object for about three hours before calling. During that time the object, first white, changed to a brilliant orange, and then disappeared.

Once again in the three sightings reported one finds a common characteristic, in this instance the color orange associated with the observation of a UFO. Source: April 1967 issue.

1967 - SOMETHING STRANGE DOWN THERE - Karl Gawell

It was a cold arctic day as Dr. Rubens J. Villela strolled the deck of the ice-breaker in Admiralty Bay. The ship was one of the many cooperating in Operation Deep Freeze for the U. S. Navy. He was looking out over the vast desert of snow covering the 37 foot thick ice when suddenly the ice cracked and huge chunks flew up. "UFO", he yelled, as a large silvery disk sped out of the sea into the skies.

He ran to the bridge to report what he had seen, but it appeared only two men had seen the object, and they had only seen it in the air. His drama was stopped cold as he was asked to keep silent.

This is but one of the many sightings of UFOs under the oceans. The idea of this relation between UFOs and the oceans depths seems to be very logical: for where else could they have a base on Earth? The oceans are our wilderness and to lose a ship into its unexplored depths would be very easy and also, at times, very desirable. This, however, was not the best sighting. The best sightings (although the object was never "seen") took place in 1964 by five ships off Puerto Rico.

The aircraft carrier *Wasp* and a number of destroyers and submarines were carrying out maneuvers for anti-submarine warfare in the routine manner. They hoped to get these maneuvers over with and get back to port. In the sonar room of one of the destroyers a lieutenant suddenly looked nervously at the other men in the room as he called into the flagship.

"Electronics reports that one of the subs has taken off after an unidentified object, depth of the object - 450 fathoms, speed approximately 200 knots," the commander reported.

"200 knots!" the officer roared in disbelief. He contacted other vessels of the operation and they all confirmed the speed and depth of the unidentified object. He immediately was deluged with reports of this action from all participating vessels and the search planes.

The object was soon lost, but it had been tracked at speeds faster than anything the U.S. or Russia had in either surface or subsurface craft. These reports, 13 in all, were sent to C. O. M. L. A. N. T. Headquarters who analyzed the account. Upon opening the reports, the officer in charge declared the incident impossible and demanded confirmation of the validity of these documents, which he soon received.

The facts of these cases and others formed one of the most reliable accounts in history. Soon to follow this report was one by both Captain Jacques Nicholas and Dr. Demitri Revikoff. On July 5th they reported: "Beneath the various schools of fish at approximately the same speed as the Gulf stream (3.5 knots) there loomed a pear-shaped object. At first, from its size, we thought it to be some form of shark. However, its direction and speed were too constant. It may have been running on robot pilot. We received no signal from it, and therefore do not know what it was." The hydrospace research team afterwards refused to comment further, and after government interviews, refused to see the press.

The mystery of the seas in the past has beckoned to the searching ambitions of man. It has always held those who beheld its mysteries with any concern in a spellbound trance. There is evidence of UFO activity under the sea which should be investigated. Source: May 1967 issue.

1967 - 1947 SAUCER LANDING IN TEXAS?

The following account is from the Bryan (Texas) *Daily Eagle* of July 8, 1947, which we believe has never been published by a saucer publication:

"The mysterious case of the flying disks was still on trial today before a skeptical Texas jury. Entered as 'evidence' besides 'testimony' of at least 50 eyewitnesses, was the 'remains' of two disks.

"One of the disks was reported found on a beach near Trinity Bay near Houston. It was found by Norman Hargraves, a jeweler. He said he found an aluminum disk Sunday floating near the beach, the *Houston Chronicle* said of the mysterious finding.

"The paper said Hargraves first described the object minutely, even saying a message was inscribed on it indicating it had military significance. But later, Hargraves said 'it was all a joke.' Despite that, the *Chronicle* made an extensive check and stated: 'There are some mysterious facts contained in Hargraves' first report that lend credence to the tale.' Hargraves first reported the disk was inscribed with the following information:

"Military secret of the United States of America, Army Air Forces M4339658. Anyone damaging or revealing description of whereabouts of this missile subject to prosecution by the U.S. Government. Call collect at once, LD 446, Army Air Forces Depot, Spokane, Wash.'

"The *Chronicle* telephoned Spokane, but the commanding officer would neither confirm or deny the existence of such a missile.

"The second flying disk was reported found by Bob Scott, a farmer living two and a half miles east of Hillsboro. He said the disk fell on his place Friday. He said he was afraid people might believe he was 'going to extremes in imagining things' and he told no one but his family until Sunday. Then he notified O.F. Kissick and Joe Gerick, of Hillsboro, who went to the field and investigated. Meanwhile more and more Texans reported seeing the flying saucers. Over 50 Texans have reported seeing the mysterious objects during the last ten days."

We present these reports in the hope that one of our readers in Texas may have heard of them, or may decide to conduct an on the scene investigation of further newspaper files, or try to look up the witnesses. Source: Summer 1967 issue.

1967 - FOLLOW-UP ON TEXAS SAUCER INCIDENTS - P. G. Navarro

Editor's note: We present the following article which is the result of investigation by Mr. Navarro into the saucer incidents in Texas as reported in our last issue. The article is made up of several letters sent to us by the investigator, and contains several older reports which have never before been published in saucer journals:

Upon reading your Summer 1967 issue of *UFO MAGAZINE* I became interested enough in the account from the Bryan (Texas) *Daily Eagle* about the objects reported found by Norman Hargraves and Bob Scott, to spend three hours in the Houston Public Library looking through microfilmed back issues of the local newspapers trying to find more information on the subject.

The odd thing was the fact that I had just looked at an old newspaper before reading your magazine, and had seen an item reading:

Houston History - 20 Years Ago, July 7, 1947
No Solution of Baffling 'Flying Disks' reported...

Then, when I began to read your magazine - with the line on the front cover reading: "Did Saucers Crash in Texas Twenty Years Ago?" - I became real interested to know just what had occurred in Texas in 1947...for although I am a native Texan, I was at that time residing in Washington, D.C...and since you presented the report in the hope that some reader in Texas might decide to conduct a further investigation of newspaper files, I therefore went to the library and came back with the following information related to the subject.

The account in the *Houston Chronicle* dated July 8, 1947 is headlined:

MAN QUESTIONED HERE ON FINDING FLYING DISK

First Reports Are Object is Aluminum Six Inches Thick, 20 in Diameter.

The account told about the Pelly businessman, Mr. Norman Hargraves, having found one of the mysterious flying disks on the beach near the home of his father-in-law at Trinity Bay.

He said the disk, about 20 inches in diameter and six inches thick, bore a printed warning not to divulge its location or give out any information as to its makeup...

He later told the *Chronicle* reporter, Chester Rogers, that it was all just a joke, but the newspaper, after further investigation stated that there were some mysterious facts contained in his first report that lent credence to his tale.

Mr. Hargraves told Rogers that a "Colonel Voyce" from Army Air Forces Depot Spokane, Washington had cautioned him about revealing any of the information, and had instructed him to turn the missile over to the local police.

Pelly police would not say they had the missile...

Colonel R. W. Warren, Commanding Officer at Ellington Field, said he had been instructed by Washington headquarters to investigate the matter. He said he had talked to Mr. Hargraves and that the latter had said he was "just joking and didn't think it would be used in the papers when he told of the disk."

The *Houston Press* of July 8, 1947 carried the following:

ADMITS DISK HOAX

"Norman Hargraves, former Boy Scout executive, admitted today it was he who perpetrated a flying saucer hoax that even Army authorities took seriously.

"A disk that made a crash landing near his home bore lettering and directions to notify an Army Air Forces officer in Spokane, Washington, Mr. Hargraves told newspapermen.

"Ellington Field officers investigated the report late yesterday and pronounced it false."

Another article in the same newspaper of July 8, 1947 related:

DISK "DISSOLVES" AFTER FALLING IN TEXAS GARDEN

"A Hillsboro newspaper man said today after examining what he believed to be the remnants of a flying disk, that he was unable to identify the material of which it was composed.

"Dan S. Schults yesterday went to the farm of Bob Scott, who lives south of Hillsboro, after hearing a report that Scott had found a strange object in his garden.

"Scott said he did not see the object fall but found pieces of a 'spidery and dusty' material last Friday. He said it was about the size of a table saucer and so bright he could not look directly at it.

"He told Schults he picked it up but that it did not burn his hands, adding that it seemed to dissolve slowly.

"Scott told Schults the object was about as thick as four pieces of tinfoil and resembled tinfoil or silver but was transparent when examined at the side."

Other reports of "flying disks", as they were called then, included "sightings" in several parts of the state, as well as reports from all over the country...(and it had not been even two weeks since Kenneth Arnold's sighting).

One, on July 7, 1947 was at Throckmorton, Texas where at least twelve witnesses told of seeing a half-dozen of the mysterious saucers winging their way over the town.

On July 4th, between 10 and 20 "flying dinner plates" had hovered high over Houston for one or two minutes, according to Mrs. W. F. Parchman, who said that she and several other members of her family had seen the disks from their car while driving from Sylvan Beach to La Porte..."they looked bigger than saucers," she said. They were "as big as dinner plates," she added.

In the *Houston Chronicle* of July 9, 1947 was the following:

BALLS OF FIRE AT PALESTINE CAUSE FEAR OF WORLD'S END

"Flying balls of fire circled a wide area around Palestine Tuesday night, and some Negroes, believing the end of the world was near, began praying. A white man grabbed a rifle and shot at the mysterious objects.

"It was the first time the aerial objects were reported in that area.

"Residents of the Brushy Creek Community, 15 miles northeast of Palestine called Sheriff

Stanford about 8:30 Tuesday night saying 12 balls were flying in a straight line over the community then, they reported, they formed a circle which began moving west toward Palestine.

"By 9 p.m. hundreds of Palestine spectators reported seeing as many as three balls in the sky at a time, moving in a circle.

"Bud Everitt, druggist, chased them for a better view. He said they finally disappeared about 11 p.m.

"Mrs. Horace Valentine said she saw two perfectly round balls that 'nearly scared me to death' when they appeared over her house. She said they seemed to be playing with each other, the way they jumped around. Her husband and Lee Chavers shot up a box of .22 rifle bullets without any effect on the objects.

"Mrs. Valentine said neighboring Negro families thought the world was coming to an end, and began praying as the balls of fire gamboled overhead.

"Mrs. Marian Reed, farm wife, found what she believed was part of a flying disk. It landed in her back yard while she was hanging out the clothes Tuesday afternoon. She admitted she was frightened. She described it as a round piece of tinfoil 8 inches wide, scorched or burned around the edges. Both sides were shiny, but one side was marked with black stenciled lines a quarter-inch apart. She said the tinfoil dropped straight down from the sky. She lifted it with a stick, put it in a tin can and drove five miles to Gunter, 20 miles southwest of Sherman, where scores crowded to see it." Source: Fall 1967 issue.

1968 - AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD - Rick Hilberg

There have been some mighty strange goings-on in the saucer world the past few months. UFO sightings are once again on the increase, and one wonders if this summer will see a flap like in past years. Our national clipping service and local reporters have told us of some cases which we would like to share with you. The following are just a slice of the recent reported UFO incidents:

On February 18 at two in the morning a group of teen-agers noticed a flash of light near a pond on Vashon Island in Washington. Going to investigate they found an object "about the size of a car," although its form was indescribable.

The object shot off a beam of light about the size of an auto headlight. The frightened boys ran to get a King County deputy, and quickly brought him to the scene. The object had vanished by that time, but water in the pit, about 50 feet from edge to edge, was covered with two inches of ice. Yet other smaller bodies of water nearby had no ice on them whatsoever.

Deputy Holke, whom the boys summoned said, "the ice was clear, and funny thing: it had no water on top of it although it was raining all day." We've heard of UFO heat rays...but now ice rays too?

Seven persons saw a UFO hovering over New Castle, Pennsylvania at about 8:20 p.m. March 1. The object was in the vicinity of U. S. 422 and Pa. 551.

Frank Park and Frank Pisciuneri, and Park's wife claim they saw the whitish-pink object flying over a farm for about ten minutes. It was described as being pancake-shaped. They said there was no sound and it was nothing like any conventional object. Four other persons in the area also claim to have seen the same object at the same time.

On March 2 Police Chief Alvis Maddox of Childress, Texas chased a UFO for about 15 miles shortly after 9 p.m. "I saw this light approaching me from the northwest and it was going southwest. It looked like it was between 500 and 1000 feet in the air and it was about half a mile ahead of me." Maddox was then about three miles out of Wellington. "When the light got to the highway it turned south and went down 83...I drove up to a speed of about 105 m.p.h. and the light went left of me," Maddox said. The object disappeared in the southeast just before Maddox came to the Red River bridge.

A Monroe County, Ohio boy claimed he was burned on the arm by a UFO March 19 along Route 145 near the community of Wilson. Gregory Wells, 13, had gone to the nearby home of his grandparents to get a bucket of water and was returning to his family's trailer residence when the UFO appeared and hovered over a tree some 25 to 30 feet off the ground. Suddenly a beam shot from the lower part of the object knocking him to the ground. The boy's mother used the water her

son was carrying to put out the fire that started in surrounding grass as the burning jacket was removed. A hole was burned in a heavy sweat shirt Gregory was wearing.

There was no trace of abnormal radioactivity at the scene, and Gregory reported having seen the object hovering the evening of the 17th.

On April 9 Lee Rowland and his wife Emma saw a UFO over their home in Washington Courthouse, Ohio. They were standing in front of their house at about 8:30 p.m. when a large ball of fire appeared near the ground about 1 ½ miles north in an open field.

Rowland said as he watched, the object rose into the sky at a 45 degree turn and was last seen headed north. "While watching it leave," he said, "another object appeared coming in the direction of my home."

The second object was traveling north to south and just above the trees. He said it was about 500 feet in diameter, flat with a bright blue light around it and a white dome on top. Source: Summer 1968 issue.

1968 - AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD - Rick Hilberg

After several months of inactivity it looks as if the saucers are back again flitting about the skies causing so much concern to saucer fans in all parts of the country. Here are a few of the best to come our way recently:

On May 31 Bill Pokorny of Elvira, Iowa claims he saw a UFO land in his field. Pokorny was starting his tractor when he spotted what looked like a "foreign car" in his field. After looking closer he saw that the object was a six-foot square "box-shaped object." He said it looked like weathered tin and was grayish in color. Pokorny said, "The shine on the inner part was so bright, I called my daughter to look." Then two panel-shaped objects slid out of the sides of the UFO and the shape of the over-all object changed from a box to an oval. The object then began to spin in a counter-clockwise direction as it sat on the ground in the cornfield. Pokorny then ran to get his binoculars, but by the time he got back the object had left. Neither he nor his daughter saw the UFO leave.

On the night of June 5 Mrs. Almer Finnerty of Saco, Pennsylvania saw a cigar-shaped object a bright orange red in color, moving in a northerly direction. She reported that the UFO remained stationary above the horizon and slowly disappeared at about 8:25 p.m.

Nine ruby lights were seen by thousands of people in Seattle, Washington on the night of July 7 soaring over Puget Sound. Rudy Malaspina, a real estate salesman, was flying his plane to Boeing Field when he spotted the objects.

"I could hardly receive the center. Then the center handed me to Boeing Tower and I noticed right directly in front of me nine vertical lights on a collision course.

"We were closing fast. I said, 'This is a military formation!' and I turned right. These nine lights made a right oblique turn instantly. You're not supposed to turn without directions from the tower, but I turned.

"Just two seconds later, I looked over my shoulder to see where this formation was going and I saw it right over the southern tip of Green Lake. It was a bright moonlit night and the lake was a perfect reflector.

"Well, four rockets were fired from these objects, and they were not flares, they were rockets. Three of them hit southeast of Green Lake."

Malaspina then called the tower and told them a military formation was shooting missiles. They replied that they had no knowledge of such a formation in the area. The objects were described as red oscillating bright and then dim.

"Then I sighted them over West Seattle and they were stationary. I was doing 360 degree turns beneath them, using the moon and the edge of Elliott Bay as reference points. They were stationary, then they flew back across Elliott Bay from the north end of West Seattle, over Queen Anne Hill and then came back toward me.

"I chopped my recognition lights and they came back toward me. When I put my lights back on, they went away from me. They were definitely aircraft. I wouldn't believe it myself but I saw it and figure this. My magnetic compass was reading 300 degrees when I made my landing at Boeing Field

and it should have read 130 degrees. And my clock in the plane stopped at 10:35 p.m.” Source: Fall 1968 issue.

1968 - THE ANSWER? - Edward Biebel

The Ohio based National Scientific Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (NSAPRO) has developed a new approach to Ufology. We have all heard of or participated in sky watches, when Ufologists get together on clear nights with binoculars and look for UFOs. NSAPRO has taken sky watches and made them into a scientific tool for helping to discover the answer to the UFO enigma. They have developed simple, uncomplicated equipment that can be used by laymen (which most Ufologists are) to get concrete data on UFOs.

The NSAPRO sky watch is arranged in a triangle. Base Command, Red One and Blue Two make up three corners of the triangle. The bases are situated in this way so that triangulation readings can be taken of the size and altitude of the UFOs.

The main instrument at each base is a quadrant. It is a sighting arm connected to a quarter-circle disk that gives azimuth readings. The sighting arm is connected to a rotating plate that has the 360 degrees of the compass etched on it.

Should a UFO be sighted, a person manning the quadrant gets the azimuth reading, then the compass direction. These are called into the other two bases by radio. If these bases can see the UFO, they also take readings. When all three bases have the UFO sighted, timings can be taken from one point in the sky to another and through mathematical calculations of distance covered versus time, the speed of the object can be derived.

For the first time in Ufology we can get exact readings of the size, altitude and speed of UFOs. This work can be done by anyone after a few minutes of instruction in using the quadrant.

The bases are also equipped with binoculars, cameras, magnetic detectors, Geiger counters and other gear. Everyone at the base has a specific part of the sky to watch and should a UFO be sighted, each person has a specific job like manning the quadrant, working the radio, getting photos or possible radiation readings on the Geiger counter.

NSAPRO also is perfecting a parabolic reflector that will be attached to a decibel (DB) meter. If an object should be spotted at a low altitude, the parabolic can be pointed at the UFO and through the DB meter the sound can be amplified for tape recording. This works on the same principle as the reflectors at pro football games which pick up the calls of the quarterback, except the NSAPRO DB meter will work for much longer distances.

There has been a great deal of interest by Ufologists in shining lights into the sky to attract UFOs. In one California sighting a man blinking a flashlight at a UFO got the same series of flashes in return from the UFO.

NSAPRO has created a circle of 12 lights that flash in a sequence to be used during sky watches to possibly attract UFOs. The speed of the lights flashing can be varied and also the color of the lights can be changed. There is always the possibility that the right colors and the right sequence may attract something.

The leaders of NSAPRO have been put in touch with a company that makes sophisticated scientific equipment that may be able to develop some new measuring devices specifically tailored to detecting and recording UFO sightings.

As everyone can see, NSAPRO has ambitiously embarked on a course of action that can conceivably solve the UFO mystery. They are prepared to send other organizations that are interested in doing field research complete information on their methods and descriptions and plans of their equipment. They already have several affiliates in Great Britain that are setting up bases.

They have not been able so far to get any close sightings of UFOs, although many unidentified lights have been spotted during the sky watches. There have also been some close approaches by UFOs to residents of the area near the NSAPRO base.

In one instance a minister and his wife spotted a small disk that arose from the ground next to their car when it stopped at an intersection about ½ mile from the base area. The UFO flew a few feet horizontally in front of the car and then took off vertically until it was out of sight.

NSAPRO needs other groups and individuals who are willing to do field research. *UFO MAGAZINE* and the Cleveland Aerial Phenomena Investigations Club (CAPIC) are both doing all they can to help.

It would be very interesting to be able to confront Dr. Condon and the Air Force with the size, speed, altitude, sound of a UFO, along with pictures of one being attracted to a certain pattern of lights when they say there is nothing to them! Source: Winter 1968 - 69 issue.

1968 - AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD - Rick Hilberg

A report out of Canada states that on the 18th of September at about 4:05 p.m. a farmer of Steinbach saw a UFO shedding strands of "angel's hair."

"I was outside in my yard looking up at my hayshed which I was going to paint," the farmer stated, "when I saw three gray, football-shaped objects flying over from north to south." He said that two UFOs appeared to be connected by a "long, white arc or loop" three times the length of the objects themselves. The third object was separate. The arc or loop which connected the two saucers, he said, "was white as steam" and appeared to be fraying near where it was connected to the one object. He called his wife to take a look at this strange sight which lasted about 15 seconds. The objects were estimated to be at an altitude of some two to three thousand feet.

After the objects disappeared strange white strands of material began falling on power lines, trees and fences in the area. His 16-year-old son collected some of the material, but noticed that most of it had disintegrated the next day. It was reported that scientists at the University of Manitoba are analyzing the floss-like stuff.

During the Hemisfair festivities in San Antonio last spring, Henry Ford II and a whole planeload of Ford executives said they saw a UFO pace their plane.

"We saw something round and white," Ford said. "I don't know what it was, but it definitely wasn't a plane." Ford and the others were flying back to Detroit from the Hemisfair in the company Jetstar. They were traveling at about 550 m.p.h. at close to 40,000 feet.

"All of a sudden this big object appeared," Ford said. "It looked like a dish. It stayed beside us, but some distance away.

"I asked our pilot to radio the Air Force to send a fighter plane up for a look. He didn't want to because he was afraid they would think he was a kook."

Two boys from Independence, Missouri were frightened two nights in a row in August when they were chased by a UFO while driving. Robert Lingle, 18, and Ricky Phillips, 16, were traveling west on Missouri - 7 on the 21st when a moving light gave chase.

"It was round in shape, with yellow, flashing lights all over, it appeared to be from 20 to 60 feet in diameter," said Lingle. "It came along behind our car at some distance, and then suddenly disappeared. It didn't fly away, but suddenly wasn't there any more. We got scared and took off for home."

The two youths also saw what seemed to be the same object on the 20th.

"The first time we saw it, the object came up out of some trees south of the highway and to the east of us. That time the flashing lights were white, instead of yellow. We were in about the same location headed west, sometime between 10:30 p.m. and midnight. I can't remember exactly what time it was."

The first time the object appeared, Lingle said, it seemed to be "a big glare of light over some trees to the east."

"Last night, we spotted this thing over the highway behind us when we were nearing Ransom Road. It followed us until we came to Holke Road near the Highleah swimming pool and disappeared again. We reported the incident to the Independence police."

Lingle said that this was not the first time that he had seen a UFO.

"When I was living about 20 miles east of Amarillo, Texas two years ago, my family and I heard something that sounded like a siren, and when we went outside, we saw an object with bright lights land in a pasture nearby. When we went out the next morning to investigate, we discovered a patch of ground about 120 feet wide where the grass had been burned off." Source: Winter 1968-69 issue.

1968 + 1969 - AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD - Rick Hilberg

Another "angel hair" case has been reported, this time in Spring Beach, near Houston, Texas.

The substance reportedly floated to earth on November 6th shortly after two teen age boys saw a UFO hanging in the air.

David Wuliger, a professor of music at the University of Houston and a student of UFOs, said a chemist analyzed the substance in the laboratory of a multi-million dollar petroleum company.

Wuliger said the substance would not dissolve in water, alcohol, or sulfuric acid, among other things. The chemist did not want his identity or that of his company revealed, he said.

"Microscope and tactile examination indicates the substance is fibrous, elastic, relatively strong, somewhat sticky and white in color," Wuliger said.

Robert Hubbard, 15, and David Kelly, 17, students at Spring Beach High School, said they found the substance shortly after they saw a strange object in the sky.

The boys said the object looked like a coin on its side with a dome and black dots that might have been windows.

A San Jon housewife who preferred to remain anonymous said that she saw a UFO November 25 in the New Mexico night sky.

The woman said she happened to be looking out a front window of her home at about 7 p.m. when she noticed a bright, colorful UFO flying what appeared to be several feet south of U.S. 66. The UFO was traveling west to east at a low altitude and was on a steady course.

She said she could see the object for only about five seconds because it mysteriously turned off its lights after that and apparently continued flying in total darkness. It was traveling at about the speed of an airliner although she heard no noise whatsoever.

Adding that she had seen meteors before, she stated that the UFO was not a meteor or an airplane. The woman described it as being a saucer-shaped machine, with a dome in the center. The top of the dome was bright orange, the center a lighter shade of orange and the bottom yellow. The colors blended together like a rainbow and the dome emitted a steady glow similar to a light bulb but unlike a flaming object such as a meteor.

The bottom part of the craft was a shiny, white color and did not appear to be a silvery color associated with most aircraft. The UFO emitted a white smoke which could be seen behind it in a big puff, unlike the exhaust trails of jet planes. The lady stated that she did not report the sighting to authorities for fear of being ridiculed.

A spokesman for KFDD television in Amarillo confirmed that their station ran a news account of a UFO sighting the same night in Groom, Texas. He said the information was gained from monitoring the police radio frequency. The police later denied such a report on their frequency, however. The airport at Amarillo said that an unidentified object was picked up on radar, but declined to state further.

A Michigan truck driver contends that he saw a UFO on Interstate 75 south of Bowling Green, Ohio on January 9th. Harold Lamb, a truck driver and part-time deputy sheriff in Tipton, Michigan reported sighting the UFO between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. as he drove his truck on I-75 between Carey and Bowling Green.

Mr. Lamb reported that he was headed toward Findlay on Ohio 15 near the Carey exchange when he spotted an object out of his left window that looked and glowed white like a light bulb.

He related that he continued to observe the object and that he switched on the truck's spotlight, placing its beam on the UFO.

Mr. Lamb said the object stayed in the light's beam until he reached Findlay, at which time he stopped to see what the UFO would do. He said it stopped and stayed in the beam's light with the only movement apparently being a slight up and down motion.

He then reported he proceeded on I-75 with the object staying in the spotlight's beam. As he neared Bowling Green the object appeared to be moving away from him and began to take on a reddish-orange appearance. Then, Mr. Lamb said, the object became dimmer until he lost sight of it at Bowling Green. Lamb said the UFO appeared to stay about 1000 feet off the ground, but he could not report any distinguishing details. Source: Spring 1969 issue.

1969 - CONTACT BY RADIO - Dennis Stamey

If you, the reader, were given a 1000 watt radio station somewhere in the Western United States, 24 hours a day, non-directional, and were asked to make radio establishment with UFOs how would you go about it? Some of you would probably say such a feat is impossible, but nevertheless the idea of actual contact with the saucers via radio is quite plausible.

Has it ever been tried? John Otto, a foremost researcher in the UFO field, is interested in attempting a mechanical link with the elusive disks. He has made outstanding experiments over such powerful radio transmitters as WGN, Chicago (1954), KFI, Los Angeles, (1955), and WOR, New York, (1957). Although his results are inconclusive, Otto says he received codelike sounds which he gives careful consideration.

If we are also determined to try to contact "them" why don't they try to also contact us? A very good question which may have been answered numerous times.

Guttural voices and coded signals have been pouring out over short wave receivers and even VLF equipment in areas where UFO sightings are most intense. In 1957, when a "flap" was reaching almost global proportions, short wave listeners everywhere were baffled by an indescribable "tonal pattern" being broadcast next to 20.005 m. c. frequency. Governmental authorities of both the U. S. and Russia said the signals were not related to the new orbiting satellites.

Supposedly, in October 1953, a New York radio station was interrupted by a high, thin voice saying, "You Earthmen will soon be destroyed, and your planet, unless you stop talking about flying saucers. I am speaking from a spaceship over Los Angeles." After awhile that same voice came back saying, "I am over Salt Lake City. You cannot see me, but I could reach you easily. If you saw my hideous face, it would scare you to death."

A month later in November, Project Bluebook received a weird registered letter which began: "Our craft have prepared and charted facilities for landing on your planet in numerous remote areas. We have given sufficient demonstrations of our abilities in speed and performance..."

The letter goes on to say that the Earth had been under photographic surveillance by spacecraft and that they were able to terminate production, communication, and transportation at any time.

In July 1954, the Midwest picked up a dull, male monotone voice over the radio saying: "I wish no one to be afraid, although I speak from outer space. But if you do not stop preparations for war, you will be destroyed." That same month London airport officials told of a similar broadcast, "Don't be afraid...you will be destroyed."

On August 3, 1958, ham radio operators throughout the country picked up a broadcast on the 75 meter international band. A male voice claiming to be Necoma, from Jupiter, warned listeners that atomic bombs would lead to total devastation. He spoke for some two-and-a-half hours in English, German, Norwegian, and his own language which sounded like musical jibberish.

The FCC denied knowledge of the incident, but it was said that hundreds heard the voice.

The recent radio signals received from Cambridge University and other powerful radio telescopes gives a possible hint that this link between superior communities of the galaxy may come some day soon.

The signals, occurring at intervals of 1.337 seconds with a regular beat, are greater than any ordinary timepiece. The Arecibo Ionospheric Observatory says that they are the strongest emissions yet discovered in the sky, and record them at a frequency of 111 megacycles a second.

Speculation on their origin is still undetermined. There are two schools of thought, one saying the signals come from a natural origin, others an extraterrestrial source, possibly galactic beacons being employed to guide manned spaceships along the Milky Way.

In any case, those strange guttural voices and eerie broadcasts leave us with the fact that somehow, somewhere somebody is trying to get messages across to us...and has succeeded. Source: Summer 1969 issue.

1969 - AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD - Rick Hilberg

Dr. J. Allen Hynek is currently investigating a UFO report from the Palatine-Lake Zurich, Illinois area and was quoted by the press as saying: "You have to conclude from talking to these people that they are either badly mistaken or that they really did see an unusual object in the sky."

The object, sighted by several persons in separated areas, was reported sighted on May 12. The first to report sighting the UFO were two teenagers named Greg Lucht and Alan Prouty who spotted the object after 9:30 p.m. in their car on Illinois 53 near Dundee Road. Lucht said that his first impression of the object was that it could have been a beacon atop a radio tower, and that a flash sighted was a bird being electrocuted on the wires.

His opinion changed when he drove past a clump of trees and got a good look at the object. He described it as looking like a World War One British helmet with a concave indentation in the center of the underside. This indentation had a large light in it, he said. The light was reported to have gone off and on a number of times. The object also nosed down once and from the front it appeared oval with three large lights (described as "headlights" by the boys) which appeared on the forward section of the UFO. Smaller red and white lights were spaced about three-quarters of the way around the rim of the UFO, and were reported to have blinked off and on also.

The boys were so upset over seeing this weird nocturnal visitor that they drove to the Prouty home a short distance away, and went on the roof of the house to get a better look. "We were pretty upset," Lucht said. "We had to lie down on the roof to keep from falling off because it came so close." At this time they noted that the object made a humming noise that would rise and fall in pitch, seemingly in a regular pattern. The boys also noted that a dog in the vicinity began barking when the object was in view.

The object was also spotted by Morton Konlon, who owns a stables in Lake Zurich. Konlon said that he first sighted the UFO sometime between 9 and 10 p.m. with two other witnesses. At his stable he watched it as it flew around flashing its light at about eight second intervals. Konlon reported that the UFO had red lights and that at a distance it sounded something like a prop plane, but close-up it had a jet-like sound when it was overhead. He could not report making out any definite shape in the darkness.

After comparing drawings made of the object Dr. Hynek believes the object may have been about 50 feet in diameter. Source: Summer 1969 issue.

1969 - UFO AND PSYCHIC-RELATED PHOTOGRAPHY - Allen Greenfield

"...It was not an intentional ghost photo, but rather was aimed at the side of the illuminated church..." ¹

If we are to accept accounts of the matter, both UFO and psychic photography have been around for a long time. According to a book by Harriet Boswell, as I understand it a psychic photo was allegedly taken by a person named Mumler in Boston in 1862! ² UFO photography may date from as early as 1883, Zacatecas, Mexico. ³

The possibilities of fraud and mistake are widespread in both UFO and psychic photographic cases. However, this may be very much true in the case of non-photographically related cases in these fields as well. It may be true that the type of photos that have been circulated in connection with the UFO field have contributed to a negative atmosphere with regard to the subject. However, it may also be true that a well-checked photo, such as the McMinnville, Oregon case. ⁴, provides an impressive item of evidence.

Some examples of "psychic" photos may be found in *A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF MAGIC AND THE SUPERNATURAL*, by Maurice Bessy (Spring books), on pages 227-229. It is interesting, perhaps, to note the similarity between some of these photos (numbered 731, 736, 738 and 739), and photos of UFO and reports of UFOs. The two are not necessarily totally distinct phenomena.

In addition to actual photographs of UFO or psychic manifestations, on-the-scene research may be enhanced to a considerable degree by photographing witnesses and their environmental circumstances. ⁵ I have myself done a considerable amount of this kind of work, and I published some of this, including photo stories on contactees Ralph Lael (Brown Mountain, North Carolina) and

John Reeves (Brooksville, Florida). As some readers may be aware, I have also had some experience with unusual phenomena manifesting on photos I have taken. I don't place any enormous store by these but they are of interest.

Two categories of UFO and psychic photographs are these: (1) When a manifestation is seen and photographed; (2) When a manifestation shows up on a photograph that was not seen at the time the photo was taken. The latter may further be divided into casually taken photos of conventional objects that, upon development, revealed something unusual in the picture, and unusual manifestations that show up upon development in photos that, to one degree or another, were aimed at producing such manifestations. 6

We shall deal with the case of (1) momentarily. In the second part of case (2), however, interested persons might make reference to Chapter 13 of Harriet A. Boswell's *MASTER GUIDE TO PSYCHISM*, Parker Publishing company, pages 177-189, for information on psychic photography (not to say that this has no implications for UFOs), and perhaps *THEY LIVE IN THE SKY* by Trevor James, Saucerian Books, for UFO photography (not to say that this has no implication for psychic manifestations).

As to the case of more "conventional" phenomena, that is, things that can be seen at the same time they are photographed, I have had a considerable amount of non - experience in this area. For example, I recall one evening in the area of Brown Mountain, North Carolina. This is an area which allegedly has a long history of "light" manifestations. Standing at or near a place called "Wiseman's View" or the like, I attempted to photograph an unusual-seeming light manifestation. The fact that this manifestation is quite likely to have been a conventional phenomena doesn't change the importance of my apparent failure to pick up this phenomena on film, though it isn't impossible that I did pick up something that remains on an undeveloped negative...or unnoticed on a developed one. In whatever event, I am doubtful about the likelihood of getting a photo under those circumstances. I am no expert photographer, but I have, I think, developed a certain amount of knowledge of the subject over the years.

If the reader is interested in giving it a try, you might try it this way: First, load yourself down with as much gear as you can. You might try a 35mm camera with Kodak's Tri-X Pan film. Make sure you have a tripod and, if possible, the largest telephoto lens you can get. Pick a good location. You might inquire of any of the UFO organizations or psychic groups (whatever your preference) as to where best to try. Don't go alone. If you're not at least somewhat experienced in this kind of research yourself, take along someone who is. Enjoy your outing...but...take it seriously too. Wherever you're going, please get necessary permission from owners, custodians, etc. Whoever. Even in open-to-the-public areas that are freely open at all hours, if you are planning a night venture, particularly a late-night venture, you might find it wise to check in with the local police, telling them what you are going to do. Otherwise you may risk being mistaken for a prowler. Or the location you have picked may turn out to be dangerous at night for one cause or another.

If you are out to photograph a UFO, you might establish a base at some likely viewpoint, setting up your camera and tripod, with telephoto lens attached. You might well have a second camera loaded and uncounted for quick-action in the event you have to move suddenly. At night, especially for a weak light-source, a time-exposure may be necessary. If you're not at least fairly knowledgeable of photographic technique, you might want to consult an expert before going into action as to just what to do to give you the best chance of picking up your subject on film. Otherwise, you might end up "kicking yourself" after seeing something spectacular, only to have a blank roll of film for your trouble.

Footnotes

1. *ALTERNATE HORIZONS NEWSLETTER*, Volume 3, Number 1.
2. *MASTER GUIDE TO PSYCHISM* by Harriet A. Boswell, Parker Publishing Co., page 177.
3. *THE INFO JOURNAL*, Fall, 1969, cover and pages 10 - 13.
4. *SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS*, Edited by Daniel S. Gillmor, Bantam Books, pages 396 - 407; also see plates 23, 24, 25 and 26.
5. *A GUIDE FOR FIELD WORKERS IN FOLKLORE* by Kenneth S. Goldstein, pages 124 - 125.

6. *THE WORLD OF TED SERIOS* by Julie Eisenbud, M. D., Pocket books, page 13, etc.; also see *THEY LIVE IN THE SKY* by Trevor James, Saucerian Books, page 217.
Source: Winter 1969-70 issue.

1970 - JANUARY TO JUNE UFO ROUNDUP - Robert Easley

Despite the University of Colorado's Condon Report and the closing of the Air Force controlled Project Blue Book, UFO sightings were still being made to the press and various UFO organizations still in existence in the first six months of 1970. Although pushed from the front page because of campus unrest, riots, and the U. S. invasion of Cambodia, many reports were being printed in newspapers all over the world. These reports all proved that despite Government denials, strange unknown objects under apparent intelligent control were - and are - still being seen by credible, reliable people.

Probably the first - and best - sighting of the new year occurred at approximately 5:00 a.m. on New Year's Day, in the Corwichean Valley, British Columbia, Canada.

Mrs. Doreen Kendall, a Registered Nurse at the Corwichean District Hospital, made the initial observation of the strange object. After viewing the unknown for several minutes she called to Mrs. Fred Wilson, who, along with five other nurses, watched the object for approximately thirty seconds as it disappeared.

According to Mrs. Kendall, the object was saucer-shaped, silvery, silent, metallic, and had a "necklace of lights" around the middle. From her second floor window, the object was slightly tipped downwards toward her, 60 feet off the ground and 40 feet away.

Mrs. Kendall first saw the object when she pulled the curtains away from the window of an extensive care patient. She found herself looking at the glowing cockpit of a hovering object...with two humanoid beings in it.

The two figures inside the dome had striking good looking physiques and were clothed in tight-fitting uniforms of a soft-looking material. One stood behind a glowing, chrome-colored instrument panel while the other, either shorter or standing in a recessed spot, stood behind him.

After a few minutes, the second man turned to look directly at Mrs. Kendall. He was wearing a darkish fabric and headgear, which obscured his facial features. He touched the pilot with his ungloved hand, which was flesh-toned and human-like. The pilot pulled back, forward, and then back again on a control lever and the craft tilted sideways, rose, circled slowly, and finally disappeared toward the north.

The sighting was investigated thoroughly by John Magor, editor of the *CANADIAN UFO REPORT*, who could come up with no explanation for the strange object seen.

Later that same day, at 7:00 p.m., the Drummond family, at Mill Bay, approximately 15 miles south of the above mentioned hospital, observed a bright orange and yellow object.

According to Mr. James Drummond, the object was about 900 feet above his tug boat and circling slowly. Observing it through a telescope, he stated that he "counted four distinct lights that looked like the tips of candles only bigger."

Another sighting in the same area occurred on the 6th of January. Mrs. G. C. Drimmen saw a red object at 11:15 p.m. "It hovered for awhile, and then went straight up. It revolved in a counter-clockwise direction and dripped sparks." It had no definable shape and seemed darker on one side than the other, she stated.

There have been numerous other sightings in this area which, according to UFO expert John Magor, begins and ends in a 26 month cycle. One sighting, made by UFO expert Vern Stanley-Jones and his wife, occurred on 6 January over Duncan, British Columbia:

"We saw this bright orange-yellow object at between 500 -1000 feet above the ground. It looked like a disk and was about two inches in diameter. Without emitting any sound it moved over Lakes Road hill. When it reached the bridge at the bottom of the hill it stopped briefly, turned at a right angle, and flew right over the town. When it was about over the entire town it stopped again, hanging there for awhile. Then it moved off due west more rapidly."

On 10 February Miss Laurie Walther, of San Mateo, California, received a birthday present she will

never forget. At 8:30 p.m. she was fortunate to see an unidentified flying object.

After first observing a flash of light over Coyote Point, Miss Walther reported seeing a saucer-shaped object some 25 feet in diameter and hovering about 50 feet above a series of electrical transformers located on the Point.

"The saucer had red and blue lights outside, but I couldn't distinguish the color of the craft itself because of the glow," she said.

Deputy John A. Wells of the San Mateo Sheriff's Dept. received her report, and stated that similar observations have been reported recently.

During the week of 20 February a number of sightings occurred in the Dunn, North Carolina area. These sightings were made by responsible people; i.e., a Dunn City Police Officer; and a staff member of Radio Station WCKB.

The Police Officer, a Mr. John Norris Jr. saw a "peculiar object" in the night sky that "was going too fast for an airplane and had no blinking lights that an airplane has at night." Norris has had several sightings of UFOs in the past few years.

A few days later a Mr. Ronnie Tart of WCKB, observed a bright round light above his car. After hovering for a second, the light sped off on a westerly direction and disappeared.

Later that night the same, or similar light, was again seen by Tart. As before, it was very bright and round. The light hovered for several seconds in the sky and then disappeared so suddenly that it could not have been a plane.

These sightings, along with others that have occurred in the last five years, are still unexplained.

UFO sightings were reported all over the country in March. Some of the observations occurred at Balltown, Iowa; Elkin, North Carolina; Washington, Oil City, Philadelphia and Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Shallow Lake, Ontario, Canada; New Albany, Indiana; and Cornith, Mississippi. The best sighting, however, occurred on March 12th near Culbertson, Nebraska.

After watching the late movie on TV, Dale Nowka, a farmer, went outside to check on his sows. Upon nearing the pens he noticed a strange light in the sky moving south at an apparent altitude of 1000 feet.

Nowka then woke his wife, and got his binoculars. Through the glasses, "the object looked like a saucer." The greenish blue lights made it have a flat effect, and the bottom had a turning movement counter-clockwise. The lights on the bottom went from clear to red and then back to white.

At this time Nowka put in a call to the Nebraska Safety Patrol Office, who dispatched two officers to the scene. Trooper Dale Rowedden, however, was the only one to see the object.

Trooper Rowedden's description of the unknown matched that of Mr. Nowka.

At approximately 2:15 a.m. the object disappeared. Shortly thereafter the same - or similar - object reappeared again.

The Federal Aviation Agency and the Federal Air Traffic Control Center reported nothing on their radar screens. However, the North American Air Defense Command admitted observing five objects on radar near the Culbertson area.

At 3:00 a.m. the FAA dispatched a plane to the area, and later a mail plane was told to fly over the area. Neither pilot reported seeing anything strange, although the five unknowns were still being tracked on radar.

As yet there has been no rational explanation for this sighting.

There were numerous UFO sightings made in April and May, but the majority of these can be attributed to Comet Bennett, named after a South African astronomer.

Comet Bennett, about as bright as the pole star, has circled the sun and is now heading back into outer space.

The only sighting attributed to June thus far came from the famous explorer Thor Heyerdahl and his crew.

Heyerdahl, in his papyrus boat RA-2, observed the UFO early in the morning of the 11th on their voyage across the Atlantic.

According to a UPI press release, "Heyerdahl is trying to prove that ancient Egyptians could have used papyrus boats to bring their culture to the Western Hemisphere centuries before Columbus

landed.” Source: Summer 1970 issue.

1970 - A UFO “WINDOW” AREA - Rick Hilberg

Much has been written in recent years about areas located in scattered parts of the country where there has been a constant UFO activity. These were termed “windows” by researcher-writer John Keel. Keel found these areas by watching and tabulating current UFO and related sub-phenomena reports. Often, looking into old newspaper files, he found that constant activity reached back into the 1800s.

When news of these window areas was made public in several articles in popular magazines in 1966 - 67, many researchers (our staff included) thought that by going to these areas one would find real, solid UFO “bases” - complete with hangers, equipment, and Ufonauts. However, much to the chagrin of the ETH fans, no such physical equipment could be found. All that was ever found were more UFO reports. Period. This led many to scoff at claims of window areas outright.

After much time had passed, and we were able to keep close watch on UFO reports in claimed high activity areas, we had to admit a striking correlation. This coincided with a diminishing belief in the ETH on our part in the last few years.

The past twenty-three years of futility experienced by the outer space saucer hunters is significant to the efficacy of the ETH itself. No UFOs have been tracked actually entering or leaving the atmosphere. It is true that astronauts have spotted unknown objects in the vicinity of the Earth, but these unknowns could well be optical and/or natural space phenomena. Again, no astronaut has ever seen a giant mother ship from Venus roaring toward the Earth from deep space. One can only assume that the elusive disks are “native” to the environs of our Earth!

The ETH people are stuck with solid, material saucers. The ET saucers are piloted by living creatures they say; living creatures that need solid, physical UFOs to transport them. But, not all UFOs are material objects. Hundreds of cases describe objects that have the ability to appear and disappear at will. Scores of cases end with words such as: “It just disappeared like one would turn off a light bulb.”

Just like a light bulb! “Well,” say the outer space fans, “the UFOs appear and disappear by turning their EM force fields on and off.” Here physical effects are invented to fit phenomena observed. We cannot prove ET UFOs, let alone fantastic equipment able to make the craft invisible! There have also been a number of cases where seemingly solid UFOs have passed through terrestrial objects. This would explain why terrestrial weapons have never “shot down” a ship from outer space.

Added with other incidents, and other sub-phenomena such as the “men in black” and the confusing contactee phenomena, we find events which do not conform to our physical laws. These events are discussed at great length in such books as *PASSPORT TO MAGONIA* and *OPERATION TROJAN HORSE*.

So if the UFOs and their related phenomena are not physical, we must explore other areas in order to find a workable answer. The theory that UFOs are non-physical (in our sense) manifestations from some other “place” or reality seems to fit the data. This would explain the “window” areas, where UFOs seemingly appear year after year. They do not have bases there, the area is just where they “appear” from someplace else.

Looking back in this light I can see parts of the puzzle fall into place. Over the years I have participated in many attempts to spot the UFOs. These “sky watches” were often held in rural areas or in the city, at the home of one of the participants.

A curious fact emerged during the period from 1964 to 1966. Phenomena were seen in a particular area of Cleveland on an almost constant basis. This fact was discussed at length informally at the 1967 Congress in New York with Allen Greenfield, Eugene Steinberg, Robert Easley and others.

It is difficult for a UFO writer to tell of his own UFO reports, for many readers assume immediately that he is making up the reports - or worse yet, he is a little on the strange side! But the fact remains that I, along with others, have sighted unknown phenomena on occasions from various locations. The important part being that one particular location in Cleveland was an almost constant source of

activity - a window area, if you will. To give the reader some idea of the kinds of phenomena sighted in this small window I will briefly cite some of the more interesting reports.

In July of 1965 three objects, like satellites, were sighted at fifteen minute intervals coming from, respectively, the north, south and east. One of these "lights" was photographed by this writer using a two minute exposure on Tri-X film. The object appeared as a faint line on the negative, too weak to reproduce in print, but in my files for anyone who is interested. On this particular night the objects were spotted with both the naked eye and binoculars. They did not correspond to flyovers of any scheduled satellites. There were many other sightings of similar objects from 1964 - 1966.

Another particularly interesting report came from the same general location on October 9, 1965 when a round object with flashing lights completely around its edge, was sighted by hundreds of persons on Cleveland's West Side. There was a 2200 foot cloud cover with light drizzle that evening, so the object had to be flying below that altitude.

On the evening of May 6, 1966 this writer along with others, including *UFO MAGAZINE* Managing Editor Edward Biebel, sighted a large oval of ghostly-white light swiftly moving from west to east. The object seemed to have bands of a duller color running along the bottom. It was soundless, and seemed to be at a low altitude.

A particularly interesting series of sightings took place in October - November, 1966 when V-formations of bluish-white lights were seen flying over, and sometimes maneuvering in turns. These objects were also spotted with both binoculars and the naked eye.

Why the concentration of sightings in one particular area? Is it indeed a small window where who knows what appears from goodness knows where? Why weren't sightings made other times at locations only blocks away?

There have been no further watches at this location since November of 1966. Currently plans are being formed to revisit the spot and do further investigation, possibly with instrumentation. While this West Cleveland "window" may be small in scope, it may yield some interesting results. Source: Summer 1970 issue.

ADDENDUM

SOME 1897 TEXAS "AIRSHIP" REPORTS - P. G. Navarro

In this small anthology we have tried to concentrate on articles that pertain to 20th century UFO reports - the modern day era. However, since we had a wee bit of space left in our allotted number of pages we present the following 1897 "airship" cases that P. G. Navarro discovered during his research of newspaper files relating to the 1947 Norman Hargraves incident:

The newspaper files which I had been looking through showed that UFO sightings had been reported far before 1947. Mysterious lights and other happenings were seen during the 1890s and in particular during 1897.

In the March 29, 1897 issue of the *Houston Daily Post* is a report of a meteor seen over Brenham, Texas on March 27th. But was it really a meteor? This is how the news report reads:

"Here is the ending of that daylight meteor reported from Brenham in today's *Post* : At 1:25 p.m. the meteor was seen to burn out when about 15 degrees above the horizon, leaving a thick white-looking substance, not smoke, for it was not dissipated, but resembling a white veil six or eight feet long, which remained stationary 15 or 20 minutes, when it contracted into a ball and slowly descended in the direction the meteor was going, till hidden by intervening tree tops. What was that substance? Asbestos?"

Then there's the report of a mysterious "airship" that was seen by the Reverend J. W. Smith on the night of April 17, 1897 flying over the town of Childress, Texas. It was described as a curious aerial monster. The Reverend at first thought that it was a shooting star, but after "watching it a moment or two, saw that it was not...it soon disappeared, traveling in a westerly direction. The Reverend Smith thinks that it must have been 2000 feet high and traveling very fast."

Another report describes a sighting in Longview, Texas on April 20, 1897 a bright light, "seemingly about the size of Venus" which moved swiftly to the northwest, disappearing beneath the horizon. "In a few minutes it reappeared...the light emitted a series of intermittent flashes of a steel color."

It was during this period that reports were circulating of a mysterious airship which was being seen throughout the Western and Southwestern states. The *Houston Daily Post* had the following caustic remarks to make regarding those reports: "If anybody is really cavorting around in the West in an airship he should at once make the fact known for the sake of many heretofore excellent reputations for truth and sobriety."

From the *Houston Daily Post* of April 18, 1897: "At last the lights of the mysterious airship have been seen in Texas. It would be a mistake to suppose that Texas has no reputable citizens after dark."

Of course, the scientists of that time, just as the scientists of today, came up with their ideas on the subject that would explain...or should I say "explain-away" the sightings in the most convenient way. The *Post* of April 20th carried this item on the subject: "Some scientists have demolished both the airship and the jim-jam theories for the strange bright object which has been seen so frequently throughout the West. They say it is a particularly bright star whose light appears to change color as it sinks toward the horizon in the northwest. Thus science comes to the assistance of both veracity and good character."

Another item from the *Post* of April 23rd: "It rather intensifies the airship mystery that the strange visitor is being seen as frequently over prohibition states as over the other kind."

Another item datelined Bartlett, Texas April 24, 1897 states: "Last Tuesday night one of the merchants noticed traveling in a southwest direction a very large ball, resembling a large ball of fire, dropping three smaller balls. This aroused all the darkies. They are now holding a protracted meeting, looking to the end of the world by fire."

And of course there were the "strange lights" (or UFOs of today) which have a very natural and mundane explanation. The *Houston Daily Post* of April 24, 1897 went to great lengths to debunk one of the reported sightings: "Last night the night operator was awakened by a tramp going north. As the operator came to the door the tramp said 'the airship has stopped about a mile down the road from here.'

"Of course the operator was very anxious to see the ship and walked for some distance, when he noticed the lights all around with a large boiler and smoke in the center of the lights.

"It turned out that a man, who was building a large cotton gin about five miles from town, had received by rail, a large boiler which he had unloaded onto a wagon and had started out. When about a mile from the town darkness had compelled him to stop, and had put swinging lamps all around the boiler. It was this that had been mistaken for the airship by the tramp."

Then there's a contactee story - the man who actually met and talked with the strange visitors from the airship (today it's a flying saucer). The *Houston Daily Post* of April 26, 1897 has the following story datelined Jossierand, Texas April 24th: "Mr. Frank Nichols, a prominent farmer living about two miles east of here, and a man of unquestioned veracity, was awakened night before last near the hour of 12 by a whirring noise, similar to that made by machinery.

"Upon looking out he was startled upon beholding brilliant lights streaming from a ponderous vessel of strange proportions, which rested upon the ground in his cornfield.

"Mr. Nichols started out to investigate. Before reaching the strange midnight visitor he was accosted by two men with buckets who asked permission to draw water from his well.

"Thinking he might be entertaining heavenly visitants instead of earthly mortals, permission was readily granted.

"Mr. Nichols was kindly invited to accompany them to the ship. He conversed freely with the crew, composed of 6 or 8 individuals about the ship. The machinery was so complicated that in his short interview he could gain no knowledge of its workings. However, one of the crew told him the problem of aerial navigation had been solved. The ship or car is built from a newly-discovered material that has the property of self-sustenance in the air - and the motive power is highly condensed electricity."

In the *Houston Daily Post* of April 25, 1897 was the report that the mysterious airship had broken

down and was at the town of Kountze, Texas for repairs. It had been first seen by Captain H. A. Hooks and A. W. Hodges, "who are both responsible men."

In descending, the airship had punctured the "air department" and had to stay over several days for repairs. The ship was described as being 50 feet in length and about 20 feet wide, and shaped like a cigar.

Another item upon the subject of the mysterious airship was in the *Post* of May 2, 1897 which stated: "The airship appears to be a purely Western invention this time, and the East is taking no interest what ever in it. Possibly gentlemen who are up late in the East are simply too full to look up"...which is exactly the same esteem in which present scoffers are held by those who argue for the existence of UFOs.

It stands to reason though, that the scientists in 1897 could not explain the "lights" as easily as they can today, for today they can be explained-away as artificial satellites.

What better way for aliens from outer space to travel freely about the Earth through our skies today without fear of interception or too close a scrutiny of their actions than for them to know that reports by witnesses will invariably be taken to be sightings of orbiting satellites. So they go undisturbed about their business, whatever that may be here on Earth. Source: Fall 1967 issue.





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