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Tracked by Airport Radar & Chased by Planes...

UFO STARTLES THOUSANDS

By JEFF WELLS

A fantastic flying object able to move at incredible speed startled thousands of people near Turin, Italy, recently — including two professional pilots who chased but couldn't catch it.

The weird, pulsating craft also was photographed and tracked on radar — but nobody has been able to explain it yet.



WITNESS: Security guard Domenico de Francesco says that he saw the UFO several times.

"I've never believed in men from space, flying saucers, or anything like that before — but after seeing this thing, I'm willing to believe that something's really out there," said Mario Proserpio, 30, chief of passenger services at Caselle Airport in Turin.

The most dramatic incident occurred at the airport last November 30. Professional pilot Riccardo Marano, 28, was returning from a flight in a small plane when the control tower told him a UFO was hovering high over the runway.

"The tower said it was the size of a DC-8 airplane, but that it wasn't a plane," he told The ENQUIRER. "They asked me to take a closer look.

"I thought for a moment they must be playing a joke on me — but I realized that the control tower never makes jokes.

"Then, suddenly, when I was about 2½ miles from the runway, I saw it — an enormous luminous globe giving out a tremendous light which went from violet to blue and even red. I'll admit I was frightened — but when it moved away as if it had spotted me, I followed it."

Marano said the object was traveling about 300 miles an hour. He followed it a short time, then remembered he was almost out of fuel.

"So I hit the throttle and lunged for it. But it took off with a whoosh — straight up in the air at about 3,500 miles an hour — and disappeared completely. Whatever it was, it sure could travel. I've never seen anything like it."

Caselle Airport's base chief, Col. Franco Rusticelli, made the only official comment about the incident:

"On the evening of November 30, a luminous object was seen either stationary or moving very slowly west of the airport. It was picked up on radar. Nothing similar had been seen before, and we had no air activity at the time." He confirmed Marano's unsuccessful pursuit of the object, and added: "We consider it a very interesting case."

Livio Patrini, ground traffic controller at Caselle Airport, told The ENQUIRER: "I can confirm the object was sighted on radar and chased by the pilot of a plane which ran low on fuel and had to return to the airport.

"The conversation between the control tower and approaching aircraft, and the warnings given, were monitored by my staff. At the time, the sky was clear, the moon was full and visibility was excellent."

Proserpio, who also heard the conversation between the control tower and planes, called the incident "really spooky."

"I heard one airline pilot tell the control tower he could see the object," Proserpio told The ENQUIRER. "I heard one pilot say he estimated its speed at at least 2,000 miles an hour.

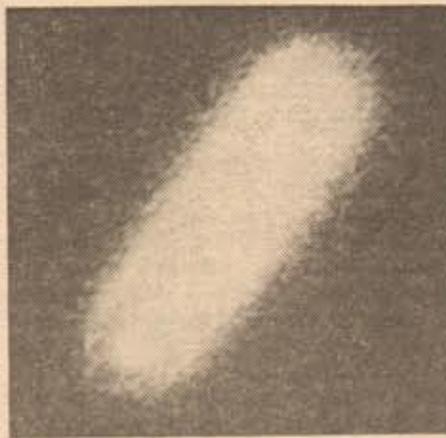
"Before it disappeared, I watched it in the sky for at least 10 minutes. It seemed to pulsate and change color."

The object also was chased by Giovanni Mezzalami, pilot of an Alitalia Airlines flight. "I was alerted by the control tower, and I saw a bright object moving squarely across the sky," he said. "I followed it about one and a quarter miles in my DC-9 airliner, but turned back when it disappeared at great speed."

Even before the airport sighting, thousands of people had seen the object



WEIRD PULSATING OBJECT that startled thousands, was photographed at the top of a hill near Turin, Italy, (above) and closer, from a different angle (below), showing its cigar shape.



hovering over Turin, according to the British news agency Reuters. Hundreds had called Turin newspapers to describe the object's strange pattern of hanging in the air, then moving quickly and changing course with abrupt 90-degree turns.

On November 24, University of Turin biology student Franco Contin, 23, photographed a bright object in the area — at the same time newspapers were receiving reports of many sightings.

Contin told The ENQUIRER that he and his fiancée, Margarita Belmondo, were sitting outside his house when they saw a luminous point moving across the sky. "First it was luminous

and then it was dull — and then it would go red like a burning ball," he said. "I grabbed my camera and I got a couple of shots.

"When I developed the film at home, I was absolutely stunned. One print showed a distinct cigar-shaped outline and another showed it like a ball of light disappearing behind a hill."

Miss Belmondo, 21, said the object had "moved across the sky in a straight line and then took off vertically at incredible speed."

Domenico de Francesco, a security guard at Caselle Airport, said he had sighted the craft on several other occasions before it was photographed on November 24. "People didn't believe me when I said I'd seen strange things in the sky," he said with a grin. "But now think everybody around here believes it!"

Experts Claim . . .

Huge, Glimmering UFO Sighting

ROBERT G. SMITH

The incredible sighting of a huge, glimmering UFO near New York City has been called "one of the most valuable ever" by top UFO experts.

Their in-depth investigation of the

sighting has revealed the startling facts.

- The strange object — times larger than a helicopter — seen by three astonished people.

- One officer gave chase at up to 95 miles an hour. He followed the UFO several times —

New York City 'One of the Most Valuable Sightings Ever'

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Policemen See Craft Speed Off at 100 mph After Smaller UFO Links

Up With It

nothing like any conventional aircraft." Jim Lorenzen, international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), said: "From a scientific point of view, this is one of the most valuable sightings we've ever come across."

The UFO was spotted by Steinberg, 37, and Brown, 32, last November 6 as they were sitting in a patrol car in a Freeport parking lot.



PATROLMAN G. Steinberg

PATROLMAN T. Brown

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