

I followed Chicago Style Manual.

Capitalized abbreviations for departments
and government agencies do not have
periods i.e. RCMP - not R.C.M.P.

- All direct quotes should
have a reference footnote

Note THROUGHOUT THIS
MANUSCRIPT YOU DO NOT USE
ITALIC IN TITLES. Newspapers
are to be ITALIC SUCH AS
DUFFERIN LEADER -

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INTRODUCTION

1 ignore
~~Color~~
"Americans assume that facts are solid, concrete, and discrete objects like marbles, but they are very much not. Rather they are subtle essences, full of meaning and metaphysics that change their color and shape, their meaning, according to the context in which they are presented." **Esquire Magazine 1965**

"Round about the accredited and orderly facts of every science there floats a dust cloud of exceptional observations minute and irregular and seldom met with, which it is always more easy to ignore than to attend to... anyone will renovate his science who will steadily look after the irregular phenomena. And when science is renewed, its new formulas often have more of the exceptions in them than of what were supposed to be the rules." **William James**

Join to... anyone

This book is the recounting of my work investigating the numerous UFO sightings that occurred in the Manitoba, Canada area over the 1975-1976 time period. This investigation led me on a long trip into the mystery of UFOs that has never ended.

I have held the manuscript now for thirty-six years. The reason it is being published now is just to put the events on the record. It is not to prove anything, but to record a series of incredible events that occurred in a small prairie town.

usually when an abbreviation is first used in any work, the standard English is to spell it out and use the abbreviation afterwards i.e. Unidentified Flying Object (UFOs) ... -> etc

← B

When the flap of sightings broke out in 1975 around Carman Manitoba, I was a political studies student at the University of Manitoba. Prior to my first sighting, I cannot recall ever having thought about UFOs. I certainly do not recall having ever read anything on the subject.

The only reason I can recall venturing out on the first night to Carman was to see what everyone else was reportedly seeing.

Once involved, the Charlie Red Star story began an evolution in my thoughts on the subject of UFOs. When I first saw the object I went from ignorance to absolute amazement. My increased awareness and belief crystallized after speaking with many of the major witnesses in the flap area. It became apparent to me that something very extraordinary was going on.

The Charlie Red Star story is a unique tale. In terms of time and the number of sightings involved, it was one of the biggest UFO flaps ever to have occurred. It is perhaps for this reason that the National Enquirer considered calling Manitoba the "UFO Capitol of the World" after their initial investigation in the spring of 1975, followed by a two-week investigation of the sightings in 1976.

footnote is required if this is a direct quote

Despite the number of sightings that occurred, not many have ever heard of the flap as almost none of the sightings were publicized beyond local TV/radio news reports and local papers. Even the largest local publisher failed to help spread the word. When approached with a manuscript that would tell the rest of the world the story, the publisher wrote, "Mr. Cameron. You may believe in this sort of thing. Consider me among the unbelievers."

footnote is required

The stories that follow will hopefully replace those constantly repeated in ufology, which have become thin through their constant retelling. Hopefully these stories will provide some researcher somewhere new information that might help to solve the UFO mystery.

The majority of this book is a simply a retelling of the many tales told to me by citizens involved in the sightings. Together, the witnesses and I agreed that the only proof existed in what we had seen.

Therefore instead of this book being a vain appeal for others to believe what we saw, it is a book that looks at how others treated the witnesses, their personal opinions, and above all, their emotional reaction to a story that is personally theirs. The two-year flap is unique and worthy of being documented in book form.

In many circles the prevailing attitude is that sightings occur throughout a scattering of civilization when the witnesses are "in the wrong place at the wrong time." In other words the general position is that "you don't find UFOs - they find you."

Here in Manitoba there was sufficient evidence to say that this model did not apply. On at least five occasions TV mobile crews from Winnipeg "went out to find UFOs" and did indeed find them. That's how CKY-TV in Winnipeg managed to capture what came to be considered one of the most famous UFO nocturnal night films in the world at that time. Nine different photographers made it a point to regularly seek out UFOs and photograph them. Hundreds of other people did likewise.

Some meaning

Professional?

Nine and other people are all photographers

*the
with the perspective of*

The story of Charlie Red Star is also a look at what has been learned 30 years after the sightings occurred. It appears that the Manitoba experience did not follow the general rules in a number of categories. Most UFO studies have shown that UFO sightings are random, and yet for some reason the Manitoba sightings were not.

*I will not
circle "flap"
any more.*

The Manitoba UFO flap was also different from other historic flaps in that the UFO became personified. The object that appeared almost nightly became known as Charlie Red Star. People and newspapers alike called it Charlie rather than calling it a UFO. Charlie became a legend and even became part of advertisements placed in local town papers *such as ----- NAME A couple for your credibility* by companies selling their goods.

As to what Charlie was - no one really pushed a pet theory. Many thought it was extraterrestrial. Some thought it was some sort of angelic phenomena, and a few thought it was demonic. Usually the object was simply Charlie, who meant no harm to anyone, and whose course for the night just happened to bring him into the Pembina Valley, around the town of Carman Manitoba where the vast majority of the sightings took place.

CHARLIE RED STAR ARRIVES

Except for some of the world's best wheat, the Winnipeg Jets hockey team, and being one of the coldest places in the world, the city of Winnipeg and the town of Carman thirty-five miles to the south west, have been famous for very little.

Km?

It was therefore unusual when in February of 1975; relatively unknown Manitoba would suddenly become the focus of a series of almost nightly UFO sightings that would last for almost two years. For this short period of time Manitoba was on the map as the place where the aliens had come to visit.

The province of Manitoba, however, was not totally unknown to UFO phenomena. There had been a flap of sightings in 1967 that included one of the most famous UFO cases ever - that being the case of Stephen Michalak, where outside of Falcon Lake, Manitoba, the Polish born prospector came in contact with a UFO that had landed.

The Michalak incident occurred on May 20, 1967, about 40 miles north of the U.S. border on the edge of the Whiteshell Provincial Park. The area where the event occurred was a desolate, hilly, rocky, and treed area.

Michalak was prospecting looking for quartz veins that were associated with silver deposits when the incident occurred.

Just after noon Michalak heard the cackling of some geese, sounding as if they had been disturbed. Looking up Michalak sighted "two cigar-shaped objects with "bumps" on them." They were descending from high above him.

At your first mention of "flap" you should define its meaning. It is not usually meant in this way.

single quote marks. Never double quote marks inside double quote marks

One of the two objects landed on a large, flat rock about 160 feet away. The other object "hovered for a short while, then later departed, changing from red to orange to gray as it flew into the west, where it disappeared behind the clouds."¹

Shortly after the ^{approximately} 40 foot by 10 foot craft landed Michalak noticed that a two-foot by three-foot door had opened on the side of the craft. He could see light inside the door "and heard two humanlike voices, one with a higher pitch than the other."²

Believing the object to be an experimental American aircraft Michalak walked up to the craft calling out and offering help. When he didn't get a reply he tried other languages he knew, but he got no reply in Russian, German, Italian, French, Ukrainian, and then once again in English.

When he didn't get a response to his calls Michalak walked right up to the craft and stuck his head inside the craft where he saw "a maze of lights on what appeared to be a panel, and beams of light in horizontal and diagonal patterns. There was also a cluster of lights flashing in a random sequence "like on a computer."

Then as he moved back "three panels slid over the opening, sealing it like a camera shutter."

At that point Michalak touched the side of the craft and noticed no joints or welds. It took only seconds to realize that his rubber glove had melted.

Next the craft began to lift off. As it rose it started to spin and as it did a 6" by 9" grid like vent shot out a blast of hot air against his chest as it rotated by him. The hot air started his clothes on fire leaving Michalak tearing off his burning clothes as the craft flew away.

¹ Rutkowski, Chris, "Too Close an Encounter: The Falcon Lake Case" anomalies.net archives.

² IBID
↑ IBIT is the same source as #1
9

Can you estimate 40' x 10' from 160' away? I can't.

What style book are you using? APS, MLS, Chicago?

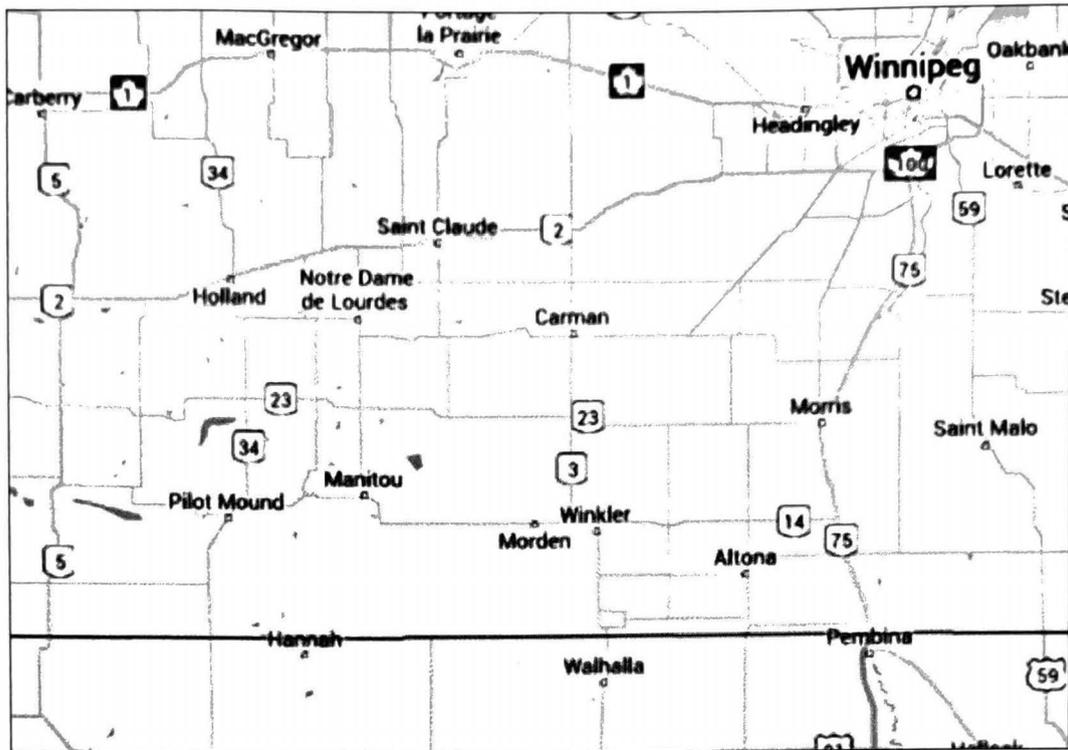
Once he had removed his burning clothes he realized he had a new problem. He had become very sick and was vomiting. He struggled just to get back through the rugged terrain to the main Trans-Canada highway.

Once home in Winnipeg, he made many hospital visits for his burns and other physiological effects. The case was investigated by many government and UFO organizations.

It became one of the most investigated UFO cases ever and has been the subject of many articles and documentaries.

The 1975 Manitoba UFO flap would become the second big UFO event in the province. When the sightings first began the phenomena went unstudied for quite a period of time before people began to visit the town and record the events. Most media and UFO investigators did not really get involved till May 1975 after the nightly fly-bys had been going on for well over a couple of months.

My personal involvement in the flap was similar to that of the media. I had heard reports of sightings in the Carman Manitoba area, but like most, I just watched with some curiosity from afar.



At that time in my life, I was a member of a group of young men in their early twenties who spent most of their free-time hours driving around the city doing not much of anything. None of us had an interest in the UFO subject at all. No one was a science fiction buff, and no one had any scientific leanings. Our interests centered if anything on football, baseball, and playing cards.

My only related interest was in the field of parapsychology, particularly on the stories surrounding the psychic Edgar Cayce, and in research related to the study of death and dying.

The only UFO story that I knew related to my interest in parapsychology came from research I had done into the life and 'readings' of the 'sleeping prophet' Edgar Cayce. It was a story that still pops into my mind when people start to talk about the

possible date for UFO disclosure. In a book about Cayce, author Jess Stearn described a strange dream that Cayce had about what appeared to a UFO.

*As happened so often in his life, a significant dream came during a great emotional crisis. Cayce had been arrested in Detroit for practicing medicine without a license, and had been subjected to the ignoring of public trial as a charlatan. On the train back to Virginia Beach, he had one of his most singular dreams. He had been born again in 2100 A.D. in Nebraska. 'The sea,' he recalled, 'apparently covered all the western parts of the country, as the city where I lived was on the coast. The family name was a strange one. At an early age, as a child, I declared myself to be Edgar Cayce who had lived 200 years before. Scientists, men with thick glasses, were called in to observe me. They decided to visit places where I said that I had been born, lived and worked in Kentucky, Alabama, New York, Michigan, and Virginia. Taking me with them the group of scientists visited these places in a long, cigar-shaped metal flying ship which moved at high speed.'*²

It was partly these words spoken years before the initial Kenneth Arnold UFO sighting in June 1947, that gave me the conviction that the UFO phenomena was something real, and that by the year 2100 man would possess its technology. I was now poised to become involved.

It was May 1975 and the media had been reporting since March that sightings were being made in Carman almost every night. I realized that there was a chance

² Stearn, Jess "Edgar Cayce-Sleeping Prophet" Doubleday & Co. New York 1967 p.257

that I might be able to see the UFO that was making such a stir in local papers. It was a rare opportunity like being given the chance to see Elvis Presley live, or attend a royal wedding.

I suggested to my friends that instead of driving the streets of Winnipeg, we should instead head for Carman to see what everyone was reporting. The decision was made to go but nothing happened until almost three months after the local TV station filmed the object. Three of us left late one evening to join hundreds of people crowding the roads around Carman Manitoba waiting for a fly-by of the UFO that residents were calling Charlie Red Star.

Like the general population, I had the impression that UFO sightings were a random event that occurred to people who weren't usually planning to see anything. Prominent researchers in the UFO community had clearly stated, "One couldn't isolate the UFO phenomena." UFOs, it was concluded, could not be studied in a laboratory. It was a random event among a scattering of civilization "in the wrong (right) place at the wrong (right) time."

Because I also believed UFOs find you and not the reverse, I had grave doubts we would actually see anything when we arrived in Carman. However, there was nothing better to ^{do} that night, so at 10:30 p.m. on May 29, 1975 we headed off to see a flying saucer, or whatever the hell everyone was making so much noise about.

In Carman, Manitoba during April, May, and June 1975 it appeared that many people had abandoned their television sets in order to catch a glimpse of Charlie Red Star. Many parked cars were on many of the roads outside of town.

Upon arriving in Carman, we began to drive around the town looking to see the UFO everyone was talking about. We had no idea what to look for. We knew many people had seen the object at the local airport known as "Friendship Field" but we couldn't find it because it was dark and the runway lights were off. Like typical men we didn't bother to stop anyone in town to get directions.

We saw what turned out to be Venus setting in the west. It appeared brighter and brighter as it neared the horizon. At the time we did not know exactly what it was, but knew it had to be some sort of planet or star because it was not moving except in relationship to the other planetary objects. We thought that maybe this is what everyone was talking about. If it was the reported object - it wasn't very impressive.

Doug Wheeler, my longtime friend and the driver that night, finally put an end to the search. "We'll drive back into town one more time," he said. "If we don't see anything we'll go home." The rest of us quickly agreed. The whole episode seemed to have been a total waste of time.

We were about two miles east of the town when he made the final turn back into town. Then it happened. We were about a mile from the town when everyone saw it. "There it is!" someone yelled. It was moving from left to right, coming from the south crossing over the road in front of the car.

As I have explained literally hundreds of times since in lectures and seminars, there was no question that what we were now looking at was indeed the Charlie Red Star as described in the media reports. The red pulsing and bouncing object was very low. It flew right across in front of the car about a half-mile down the road. It was unlike anything any of us had seen before.

The mood in the car turned from silent pessimistic to one where the home team had just scored the winning touchdown.

It is important to remember is that there was no belief involved. There was no analysis of what we were seeing. No one asked "Is that what everyone is reporting?" We all instantly knew UFOs were real and we were looking at one. We had instantly left behind the percentage of people who have never seen a UFO and therefore can choose to only believe or disbelieve the existence of unexplainable UFOs through other's accounts.

The object was so low that as it moved to the north side of the road it appeared that it was about to disappear behind a set of school buses parked just beside the road in a parking lot. I clearly recall that I was so excited by what was happening that I tried to get out of the car before it was fully stopped. All three of us raced to the buses and watched as Charlie flew away from us bobbing up and down into the northeast away from Carman.

It was at this point that my friends would store what they had seen in the back of their minds and they would go on with their lives. I on the other hand would fall off the end of the earth. I would be infected with the obsessive feeling of mission that affects many in the UFO community.

I was totally taken by the experience and could think about little else except when I could go back and get a better look. Two nights later Doug and I were back in Carman hoping to see Charlie again.

As on the first night we had been looking for the local Carman airfield called "Friendship Field" owned by aviation legend Anthony Britain, but we still couldn't

find it even though we now knew it was on the south west of town. Later we would find out that we had parked just down the road from the airport without being aware of it.

I had alerted all my friends from the city to show up for the show of their life. I was very evangelistic about it and had convinced a number to drive out. They did make the trip, but after one hour of waiting they had had enough. They retreated to Winnipeg at 12:30 a.m. saying, "We're hungry and were going back to the city for pizza." I pleaded for them to stay but no one would listen.

There were hundreds of people driving around the area. Many were looking for Charlie and some were just teenagers out cruising or looking for a quiet place to drink their beer.

When we first arrived on the road just west of the airport there were 25 people gathered on the dark gravel road. When the object arrived just before 1:00 A.M. there were only eight people left.

Our car had four people, and there was a car of four young people in their early twenties in the other car. On the side of their car was a large decal for a Winnipeg courier company. All the people who remained were about to get the show of their lives.

In our car we had brought Doug's younger brother Rob and one of his friends Danny from down the street. Ken and Danny were sitting in the field looking west towards the hills. Suddenly, one of them called out that he had seen something. I looked and thought I had also seen a flash. It looked just like a flash on a camera going off about a mile away.

Seconds later there was a second flash, which both Ken and Danny saw. They started to yell, and I confirmed to them that I could see it. The problem was that the second flash was nowhere near the first flash. Perhaps there were two objects. A third and fourth flash followed each in a different part of the western sky. The flash was moving around like a bouncing ball. The young children of the McCann family eight miles north of Carman would later describe this as the 'bouncing ping-pong ball'.

By now seven of the eight witnesses could see the object. There was lots of excitement and yelling. As had happened with my first sighting everyone instantly knew this was the UFO and became instant believers. The atmosphere was akin, like ~~to~~ to the first night, to a football game just as the home team scores a touchdown.

One young girl in the other car could not see the object. It was after all jumping all over the sky. She began to cry. "I can't see it," she said. "Someone show me where it is." Everyone, however, ignored her. They were too busy watching the incredible show.

One of the young men in the second car had a camera with a motor drive on it. He was using the top of the car to brace the camera and was unloading the camera taking one photo after another. *Physically impossible to do this @ the same time.*

As on the first night, no one asked, "Is that it?" Everyone instantly knew this was the object that everyone was talking about.

As the seconds ticked by the flashes became brighter and closer and closer together. The girl could now see it and she stopped crying. It appeared to be right before us.

I don't recall how it happened, but the object changed from the white strobe flash to a blood red pulsing ball of light exactly like the object we had seen two nights before. It was very low to the ground and still coming right at us. The yelling and the sound of the clicking of the camera continued.

When the object was about half a mile away, it started to turn left towards the north side of town. It was only a couple hundred feet off the ground. As it turned a green glow could be seen on the back bottom side. The object shape could not be determined because of the intense red glow surrounding the object. All that could be determined is that it was longer than it was high. It looked like a glowing heart with a slow-pulsed heartbeat.

Once it made the turn north, it was now moving away from us. The people in the other car declared that they were going to chase the object. They jumped in their car. With gravel shooting out from behind their car's spinning tires, they sped away.

I had now had my second dramatic sighting in two days. Others that had seen Charlie Red Star were as impressed as I was. Although the sighting had been an ongoing even for two months, there had only been a few newspaper articles describing what was going on. I wondered why no one else was investigating and talking to all the witnesses. I decided I would take on the task.

More Media Attention

Media outlets in Winnipeg were beginning to acknowledge the existence of UFOs and because of the regularity of Charlie's appearances, film crews began to visit the area in hopes of capturing him on film.

The National Enquirer, an American national tabloid newspaper out of Lantana, Florida also became involved. They had heard through J.A. Hynek, a prominent ufologist and director of the Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, that something unusual was happening in Manitoba. The Enquirer decided to assign a reporter to do a story. They gave the assignment to their leading UFO reporter, Daniel Coleman.

In his assessment of the Manitoba flap Dr. Hynek had in a statement made in early June distinguished the situation as something unique. "We have had," said Hynek, "for the past six weeks, a fair amount of activity in southern Manitoba, an area about 55 miles south of Winnipeg. We've had some very interesting sightings from there. The pattern has been in the past that an area can remain "UFO hot" for several weeks and then things just die down. This thing is unusual in that it has lasted so long. It's beginning to look as if northern Wisconsin, northern Minnesota, and southern Manitoba form one large area.³

The sightings continued day after day through the summer and through all types of weather. Definite patterns of time and place could be established from the numerous reports that were coming in.

³ Daniel Coleman investigated the series of sightings in all three places. The actual reporter's stories sent back for all three areas are attached to this manuscript. The Wisconsin sightings led to another major event in UFO history. In March 1976 Jimmy Carter was campaigning for President in Wisconsin during the flap. During a question and answer session he was faced with a question of what he would do about the UFO situation. Carter replied that if elected he would release all the government information on UFOs. The comment became famous and Carter still faces questions on it from time to time.

Media coverage did not seem to be having an effect on sighting reports, as one would expect. For example, some towns in Manitoba reported no sightings at all even though they were reading the same newspapers as everyone else. One town, Steinbach, had a large UFO convention while the flap was going on, but investigators did not receive one UFO sighting from that town.

The idea that UFO sightings were a random event was now a long dead idea. In the first eight nights I had been in Carman, I had had six sightings. The evidence seems to indicate that at least in this situation the phenomena could be isolated.

Sightings were so commonplace, in fact, that Anthony Britain was taking Winnipeg film crews out on to Carman back roads trying to film the Charlie Red Star. In four trips they had four sightings, but were only able to film one time. That film, taken by Martin Rugne (then a film editor with CKY-TV) became one of the most important UFO films of the day.

There were nine other photographers that I knew of who were out attempting to get photos. It was in the days before digital camera and video tape recorders. A lot of work and expense went into getting shots. Yet they persisted because they saw something that was unique and unidentified – something worth taking a photograph of.

Anthony Britain

Britain and his wife Rachael were at the center of the UFO flap. Their airport, Friendship Field, was on the south-west side of town and had a clear view of

everything. Britain was a local hero known to everyone and a person with who people would share their UFO experiences.

Britain had made his reputation as a restorer of World War 11 planes. Now a multi-billion dollar business, Britain had been the first to restore a “war bird” as they are now called. In 1962 he restored a Hawker Hurricane, a fighter aircraft that was responsible for the allied victory in the battle of Britain. In fact, Britain flew his, one of only three at the time, in the movie by the same name.

Britain had also restored other very rare planes such as the Japanese Zero. At the time he restored the Zero he had the only flyable one in the world. The same went for the Japanese VAL dive-bomber which Britain hauled out of a jungle and restored.

Already famous for restoring vintage aircraft, now Britain became famous as the Carman expert on UFOs, and acted as the tourism office for anyone who had questions or wanted to see it.

The Apollo Story

A number of years after the UFO flap, Britain had a chance meeting with one of the men who had walked on the moon.

The astronaut was in Carman lecturing at the local high school. In talking with the people hosting the lecture the astronaut mentioned that he would like to meet with Britain while in town. Like Britain, this moon walker had an interest in restoring WW 11 aircraft and he wished to talk with Britain who had pioneered the vintage aircraft business.

Britain did not attend the lecture, but did meet with the astronaut at Friendship Field following the lecture.

Britain recounted what occurred,

He told me the story here in the hanger...as soon as we were by ourselves (Rachael, Anthony's, had just left the hanger). He turned to me and he looked at me and said, "I'm going to say something that is Top Secret. If you repeat it I will deny ever having said it." He said they weren't there (on the moon surface) an hour and a saucer landed a mile away from them and we asked Houston if we could motor over and say howdy. They said 'no ignore them and pretend they're not there, and carry on about your business.' He said that all the time we were there they saw no sign of movement, and

~ "they were still there when we left.

As dramatic as this story is there are other stories that back up the idea that something UFO happened to the Apollo 15 crew while on the moon.

A few years after Britain had recounted the story to me a couple times, I learned that Dr. Frank Stranges, a minister and UFO researcher, had experienced a similar encounter with the same astronaut. I contacted Stranges by phone, and he confirmed the story I had heard.

In 1976 Stranges was hosting a UFO convention held at the Anaheim Convention Centre. The keynote speaker was this Apollo astronaut who was, according to Stranges, going to "inform us of the strange things that he saw on the surface of the moon."

The fact that the man was scheduled to speak clearly showed that he had an interest in UFOs, something had occurred, and that he was at that point prepared to tell the story of what had happened. Stranges recalled his encounter,

You want to hear something interesting about our astronauts? We put on a space convention some years ago at the Anaheim Convention Centre and one of our top speakers for the convention was _____ – United States astronaut. He was all set to come to inform us of the strange things that he saw on the surface of the moon.

The day before the convention started I got a telegram from him saying ‘I’m sorry. I’m not able to come. I am returning the check that you sent – the honorarium.’ Plus we had to cancel his hotel reservation. When I questioned him after the convention in Colorado Springs he said, “Look I have a pension to worry about. I have a family to take care of, and they told me to just back away from this entirely – or else.” That was a cold slap in the face to say the least.

The final piece of evidence supporting the fact that Irwin had UFO experiences on the Apollo moon mission came in an interview that he gave to a Japanese film crew doing a UFO documentary. The interview was public and therefore the astronaut was much more conservative in what he revealed. It was much more akin to the NASA version of events. This is what he said,

We travelled back and saw strange things around us. We could call them UFOs – they’re Unidentified Flying Objects. What they were I do not know. They could have

been other spacecraft, perhaps satellites, perhaps part of the spacecraft that came floating with us, part of the fuel that we dumped or ice crystals. We were surrounded by a beautiful cloud of ice crystals as we travelled...it was hard to discern. Very few would say that they are spacecraft from another world.

The Personification of "Charlie Red Star"

During 1975, people living in the Pembina Valley told many stories about the UFO sightings that were being made. Yet, in all the stories, rarely was the term UFO used.

Instead, the glowing, pulsating disk became Charlie Red Star, the toast and talk of every town in Southern Manitoba. Conversations in town cafes and pubs bantered around Charlie's name, and no one batted an eye in response that maybe this was a childish game, naming the darn thing.

Even the television, newspapers, and radio stations played along. At first they (the media) called it a UFO, but after countless interviews with those involved, even they called the object Charlie Red Star. The Carman papers even used 'him' as a draw to business. Ads were headlined, "Shop where Charlie Red Star Shops."

What was it? Most thought that it was extraterrestrial, but no one really cared. Not even those who saw it seemed to care. As Mrs. Francis Stagg of Carman put it, the whole affair was fast becoming a legend – the legend of Charlie Red Star.

And so the Charlie Red Star legend developed. Charlie was seen as a friendly guy, evidenced by the fact that he never hurt anyone. Those who sat in the night heat to

catch a glimpse of Charlie as he dropped down into the valley wondered why he would come here of all places. No one really cared to expound on a theory and then be forced to defend it. It was decided that Charlie lived in the west near Roseisle. He would remain in the hills during the day, and would fly down into the valley at night. He would pick up a case of beer, and then fly back up into the hills for the night. This jokingly became known as “the beer run.”

To most, Charlie was a lazy sort, evidenced by the fact that he flew very slowly. The nightly flight into the valley was, therefore, not so much a mission of a businessman driving down the freeway to work, but of a man picking up his beer for a night of television.

Yet, when the people of Miami and Carman attempted to chase Charlie with cars, they learned first and foremost that he was much superior to all in knowledge and technology. They discovered that Charlie was able to dodge them, tease them, or able to disappear at the first sign of a chase.

Ultimately, Charlie was considered the property of southwestern Manitoba. He was a one-time occurrence in history. Few of those I talked to bothered to consider whether Charlie was the same craft that nabbed Travis Walton, or the craft that blasted Thomas Mantell’s aircraft out of the air in 1948. He certainly was not one of those ships with the ugly little grays that were running around abducting people around the world.

It seemed that subconsciously, people in southern Manitoba behaved as if Charlie had been created solely for their entertainment. He was born, visited Manitoba for

eighteen months, and now resides in some paradise for flying saucers in the sky. He was the one and only Charlie Red Star.

"Words, Words, Words"

And so we move on to tell the story of Charlie Red Star and all the other Manitoba UFOs that were seen in the period starting September 1974. It is a long story and I hope I have told the parts that you would have wanted to hear.

The following chapters were intended for all spectrums of society. The skeptical scientist struggling to maintain his research budget and stagnant ideas might be the exception. Hopefully then, it is a meal with its meat, potatoes, vegetables, salad, desert, and beverage.

Most of the chapters are simply the recounting of people's encounters with UFOs. They are stories, which you as the reader may regard or disregard as you see fit.

The Manitoba UFO report is, I believe, a valuable addition to the overall history of UFOs, and I hope that this small piece will greatly enrich the picture as a whole.

In 1977 there were according to the computer file, at the Center for UFO Studies 5,000 UFO reports from Manitoba over the previous 10 years.⁴ My estimate is that there were probably 4,000 reported and unreported cases in the years 1975 to 1977 in Manitoba last two years alone.

⁴ Lyon, Debbie, "Have You Seen Any UFOs Lately? The Manitoba Center wants to Know" From the *Winnipeg Free Press*, June 4, 1977

*↑
space*

*it will put
the reader has
direction...*

Consequently, due to the heavy numbers of sightings, I gave up two years of University studies to collect and file the many UFO stories. I spent an estimated \$7,000 to keep up with a flap that, at times appeared to have no end.

To me, the whole series of events was never anything to take too seriously. I had lived in a world where the paranormal was not the supernatural, but merely things that lay undiscovered to mankind.

I heard the stories the people were telling, and I saw the UFO in question myself. Yet, to me these things were just symptoms, and it did not appear as if anyone was looking for the cause.

Like cancer research, it seemed as if everyone was simply collecting case studies in the same way a hobbyist would collect stamps, coins, or matchbook covers. When I found that I too could do little more, I began to collect the stories for what they were – stories. They were stories that should be told to all who wished to hear them.

There was, hidden somewhere in the maze of sightings, a cause. At the end of my two-plus year search, I made my guess. My hypothesis was that the sightings in Manitoba represented an extraterrestrial visitation.

Most other Ufologists, however, did not hypothesize because it meant too much to them to be called scientific. Ufologists are scientists, and scientists must be objective. They must not speak until they know they are right. To do so and be wrong would mean the end of their attempts to be accepted by scientists in other disciplines.

On this and many other points I disagreed with scientific Ufology, and I did all in my power not to become part of it. Scientific Ufology has stifled research by

believing that UFOs had to be understood to exist. Science knows less about the mind than it does about UFOs, but then, who would dare stand up to deny the mind's existence?

Scientific Ufology has as much as any field built its ivory towers. It is safe to say that the majority of Ufologists are uncooperative and evasive in their dealings with each other. In Ufology, the bosses greatly outnumber the workers.

UFO groups are like countries of the world. Each is out to protect its information and interests. Like the world around us, there is always a war going on and each group sticks a knife in the back of another, given the opportunity.

From all of this I have tried to protect myself. I call myself a storyteller first, and an ufologist second. I have made a point to tell as much of the story as I can, and it appeared that most people want it this way. To them it has become more important to hear all the stories than it to know what the stories meant. Mystery, after all, is still the storyteller's prime weapon.

So sit back, and I will relate stories to you that are, as I know to be truthful and complete. Sit back in your favorite chair, and grab your pretzels and beer. Read about Manitoba UFOs and enjoy it. Do not take the stories for anything more than they were intended. For in the end, maybe Hamlet was right – Maybe it is all “Words, words, words.”

Right image?

Or, "There is more to heaven and earth than in your philosophy."

CHARLIE RED STAR

"It's funny, but I was downtown telling a friend about the first sighting on March 27th. This was just after it happened. He said, 'you know that could be the start of a rash of sightings.' You talk about a prophetic statement." **Anthony Britain**

"Once you see the thing you know it. When you see this thing once you never forget it. Just the way – the heartbeat of the thing. It's a luminous light. You'd like to see through it, but you can't." **Mr. Otto Stagg**

"I received five reports out of seven nights last week, and a lot of casually mention it to you without filing a report. There are a considerable number of reports, and people who are seeing them are pretty reliable people." **Corporal Glen Toews R.C.M.P. Officer in Carman Manitoba**

Charlie Red Star

Twinkle Twinkle UFO

How we wonder where you go.

Up above the world so high.

Like a bright light in the sky.

As you shine your big red light.

Carman's people stay up at night.

Roger Currie & Kent Anderson

Chief Charlie Red Star

Who rides the night on his fiery steed?

Crossing all barriers at unfathomed speed?

Riding the wings of the clouds tossed on high.

Drifting by moonlight 'oer soft silent sky.

Tis Chief Charlie Red Star

The great warrior bold.

From a Cree Indian legend. By the campfire I'm told.

His head dress aflame with bright feathers of red.

As in days long ago on his pony he sped.

He rides through the buffalo past the stars.

Hunting the Great Plains from Pluto to Mars.

With soft silent footsteps that no man can hear.

For he brings only joy and never a fear.

As embers die out on our campfire bright.
And the daybreak arrives to give light to the night.

The Indians know he is happy at last.
Reliving old memories and dreams of the past.
When he hunts through the night we won't question why.
Good night Charlie Red Star – Old Chief of the Sky.

Francis L. Stagg

It is a constant complaint that no two descriptions of UFOs are ever the same. The same complaint is made of photographs. But, for every rule there is an exception.

When it comes to the Manitoba flap, generally most people in around the Carman Manitoba area where most of the sightings took place described a “red, glowing, pulsating, bobbing disk that flew ever so slowly and very close to the ground.

There were, of course, other types of UFOs sighted in the area, but they were few and far between. The descriptions were so similar in the early 1975 description that the object was given the name Charlie Red Star.

At times there were variations in the exact description of Charlie, but these can be accounted for by the angle at which the object was seen, or by human nature. The story would change in its telling as any other story that is being passed around. The person might not have been paying attention to the detail, or he forgot to tell part of what he saw, or he added something to make the story sound a bit more impressive.

UFO researcher Coral Lorenzen, who had acted as co-director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, explained this reporting problem as follows:

I've discussed this problem with psychiatrists and psychologists. They say that no two people seeing the same thing, no matter what it is, are going to describe it the same way exactly. All people perceive things differently.

When people are observing UFO phenomena, they're seeing things they've never seen before. They're completely bewildered.”⁵

Good evidence to support this drawback to the reporting of sightings can be seen in a quick survey of statements made by 190 of the approximately 400 witnesses to the John Kennedy assassination in Dallas, Texas.

Estimates of the time from the first shot to the last shot ranged from a “few seconds” to “five minutes.” Fifty-two percent believed that the shots were fired from the grassy knoll, compared to thirty-nine percent who believed the shots had come from the Texas book depository. The number of shots mentioned by witnesses ranged from “two” to “more than four.”⁶

Hence in something as critical to the assassination of President Kennedy, the testimony of witnesses must be questioned. That is, until the testimonies are viewed as a whole. Then using the majority positions, we find that there were three shots, two directions, and a time period of four to six seconds.

*Grant -
That is where
4 precision
best evidence
comes from in
criminal law.*

⁵ “UFO Report Interview with Jim and Coral Lorenzen” from *UFO Report* August 1977

⁶ Thompson, Josiah, “Six Seconds in Dallas” 1967 p.25-29

In Manitoba, an overall profile showed that the majority were describing a “red, pulsing disk, flying low, bobbing, and flying at a low speed.”

Like the Kennedy assassination evidence, an overall profile is not totally conclusive, but is sufficient for intelligent speculation, and pretty hard to dispute.

Sightings of the UFO Charlie Red Star were restricted to the southern part of Manitoba near Carman, Sperling, and Miami-Roseisle area. Its first documented appearance was March 27 and its last for that year was November 17, 1975.

The number of sightings was not known for sure, but polls taken in the area indicate that the number was consistently high. In a poll taken November 30th, 1976, at the Carman Collegiate, I asked “How many of you believe that you have seen something in the last two years which could be considered to be a UFO?” In response, 52.9% indicated that they had seen a UFO in the last two years.

August 1974 polls, on the other hand, reported that just 11% of Americans “report having seen something they thought was a UFO.”

The figures in Carman, therefore, were almost five times the national average. In Roland, a small town of 400 just southwest of Carman, a poll taken at the local school showed that 80% of the students claimed to have seen something, or over seven times the national average.

According to those polled at the Carman High School, more students and teachers claimed to have seen UFOs in their life (62.5%) than those who had seen a Boeing 747 jumbo jet (54.8%). This turned out to be a rather astonishing fact. It showed that in Carman the phrase “seeing is believing” was not necessarily true. If that were the case then UFOs would be more real than jumbo jets.

The qualities of the sightings reported at the Carman Collegiate were much better than would be expected. Of those who had sighted a UFO, over 50% claimed to have been close enough "to see an actual object, as opposed to a light in the sky."

As with any poll, it is run to confirm already existing suspicions. The factors that led to believing that the results would indicate a high number of sighting were as follows:

- a) Charlie Red Star flew right by the town on many nights during the period April to July.
- b) This odd pattern attracted a great deal of attention. Local citizens went out of their way to go out and look hoping to get a glimpse of Charlie Red Star.
- c) The length of the rash of UFO fly-bys took place over many months, as compared to the usual two weeks, which had been the pattern of other flaps around the world.
- d) Charlie Red Star moved very slowly (10 to 60 mph). Carman residents were not only able to see the object, but were able to see it up close.
- e) Charlie Red Star was always reported to be below 1,000 feet. It made it easier to get a good look at it.

Since ~~Because~~ many citizens made it a habit to stay outside and watch for Charlie, it was not unusual to talk to people around town who had over 80 sightings of the object in one year. Of those involved during the two years of activity, I was aware of 25 people who claimed they had at least a dozen sightings of Charlie.

It was because people knew they could go out and see it, which made the results in the poll in Carman so high. UFO watching had become a pastime. Everyone got involved.

There were even stories about how the name Charlie Red Star evolved. Charlie personified, was brilliant red and came from the stars. The object was so familiar and so unique it was like a person's face.

"It was just a big red ball," Mrs. Stagg told me from her house in the North West side of town. "It was just like a heartbeat. It was pulsating. It didn't make any sound at all and it was very low. It was silent and floating. The timing of the pulsation wasn't too regular or anything. It was like a heartbeat. That's the only way that I can describe it, and it was so red."

"It was off to the northwest," reported Constable Ian Nickolson, an R.C.M.P. officer in Carman. "I'd say it was 3 to 4 miles away and 1,000 feet up. There was an oval shaped light. There was a white x-shaped halo around but not connected to it. The red was the color of a traffic safety light, a stop light."

"It was a big red ball coming right at us," reported Britain and his wife, owners of Friendship Air Field in Carman. "It was like a big landing light, and it was loafing along. It was close enough that you could actually see the dome on top, but it was all pulsing red."

"It was hovering not far from the horses," Mrs. McCann told the National Enquirer. "They stampeded at first, but later calmed down some. That light from the object was shining down on one of our brown horses and he looked bronze because

the light from the object was pink. The object itself was a very bright, bright red color. It was revolving slowly.”

“We were driving west,” stated Kaelin, reporter for the Dufferin Leader, “and we saw to the northwest a relatively large bright red light that seemed to be hovering about 50-100 feet off the ground. It was very very bright red.”

“It was lower than the elevator,” stated Mrs. Frost of Sperling, describing one of her many sightings of Charlie Red Star. (Frost had so many sightings she kept a journal recording everything she was seeing) “It was as red as could be. It was just going up and down as these things go (bobbing motion). It was going up and down and then it rose up at (grain) elevator and down on the other side.”

“It was so stupid,” she said. “It seemed that it would even wobble from side to side. It was really an odd looking thing, but it was as red as could be. This was definitely a disk shaped sort of thing.”

“I was about a mile west of Roland when I saw that red thing glowing over Roland,” Travis Taylor told me. “It was quite low to the ground . . . and it was a huge saucer shaped sort of thing. It was glowing red, like I suppose metal would when it’s hot. The lights were out in Roland because of the storm and the sky was black, so it really showed up well, really well.”

“We were looking west down Klondike,” Mrs. Lacy Christian told me,” and we saw Mrs. McCallum’s place, and it looked like it was on fire. Travis hurried out. He started walking and by the time he got to Main Street, the big red thing was below the level of the buildings. Yes, we’ve seen it (Charlie Red Star) many times. You know what fire looks like through a window. That’s it.”

These were some of the many descriptions people in and around Carman gave me of their sightings of Charlie Red Star. The accounts seem to parallel each other, which makes it hard to believe they all had made it up. Having seen Charlie Red Star myself over a dozen times, I knew how important their descriptions were. Their common descriptions had built a strong case for a repeatable phenomenon, a phenomenon called Charlie Red Star.

Charlie's First Visit

It was 2:00a.m. March 27, 1975. Most of the residents of Manitoba had long since gone to bed for the night. One man from Graysville, however, was still up. He was watching television.

Suddenly he noticed a huge red ball passing by the kitchen window. He jumped up and caught a glimpse of the object moving slow over the house. When it was out of the window he raced outside and watched the object slowing flying off into the south.

He did not tell his wife about this, or any of his friends. The only person he told was Lloyd Hebert, because he had seen the object flying towards Lloyd's house. It was reported that Lloyd and his wife had seen and heard the object. Therefore, he figured that he and Lloyd could safely talk together.

It was Lloyd's daughter Darlene who saw the object at the Bourgeois household. She was awakened and immediately noticed that the house was shaking. She also thought that the house was on fire.

Darlene had been sleeping in the living room on the main floor of the two-story house. Her bed was right in front of the window and the drapes were open.

When she opened her eyes she caught a glimpse of the red ball as it moved south past the window. She described it as a "loud and fast noise". It was a "steady" noise. It was like "a real shrill pulsating siren."

"Then again maybe it wasn't like that," Darlene's mother stated, "because I have never heard anything like it before. But it was loud because it woke up the whole family, even grandmother who isn't hearing so good these days."

The front living room was red, and Darlene figured that whatever it was, it had started the house on fire. She called to her mother upstairs to come quickly. While she waited, she looked out the window to see the huge red object sit itself down in the pasture.

"She was so sure," Mrs. Bourgeois said. "She was positive it was right out there in the pasture. She went out the next day and looked. That's how positive she was. She said it was right beside the trees, sitting right there in the pasture."

Like children racing downstairs to open their Christmas presents, the Bourgeois family came down to the living room one after another. Mrs. Bourgeois was the first to arrive, and the only other person to see the object. "I thought it was something tangled up in the evergreen trees," she said. "I didn't know what it was. The noise woke me up. I didn't know if I was dreaming or not, so I got up and looked out the window to the south where the noise had gone. It seemed to come over the house from the north. By the time I got there, the object was way in the south on the

horizon. It looked like the sun coming up. It was orange and it looked like it was just over the bush, about three miles away.”

And so that is how Charlie Red Star arrived in the Pembina Valley – with a bang, scaring one family half to death. So scared was Darlene Hebert that for three weeks she slept on an air mattress in the hall outside her parents room upstairs.

And Now Others See

It was April 10th, part way through Darlene’s recuperation period when Charlie appeared again, this time making a swoop east into the Pembina Valley towards Carman.

There were many witnesses this time, including the Britains who owned the local Carman Airport. This is the first time they would see Charlie Red Star, but it would not be their last. They probably had more sightings than anyone else who came forward as witnesses in the Carman area.

Looking back over at the April 10th sighting, Britain commented, “That is probably the closest we’ve ever been to the thing. It was close enough so that you could see the dome on the top, but it was all red – pulsing red.”

“It was a big red light coming at us, like a big landing light. You couldn’t miss it. It was right at eye level, and it was just loafing along. I looked at it, and even after it was by us, I still didn’t want to believe it. No way had I wanted to believe it.”

The object headed right along the river and then north of town. Rachael Britain was urging Anthony to chase it, but as Anthony said, "It was at a low level, and when you are low like that it is soon over the horizon. You don't have much time."

At the same time that Anthony and Rachael were watching the object head north out of town, Mrs. Maria Rhodes was sitting in her living room crocheting, looking out her window towards the airport where the Britains were standing.

"I saw this red ball go by the trees," Mrs. Rhodes stated. "It was low down by the trees. I just happened to look out, and I just saw that big thing. It was low and it was a great big thing. You know - like fire. It looked like a red ball. It was very red - that is one thing that I noticed."

As Britain described, Charlie was following the Boyne River through town on the way out the north side of town. It was at this point that Mrs. Freda Waterman spotted the object as it flew over her house along the river.

"It was exactly as Anthony Britain described it," she told me. "That was the first time that I saw it, and it disturbed me. I didn't know what to do, so I didn't report it."

"It was a couple days later that Anthony told his story," she continued. "That's when I realized that it was the same time as mine."

That ended Charlie Red Star's flight of April 10th, but it would not be his last. He would be seen many times and often around the small airstrip run by Britain. One time, as Anthony described it Charlie flew low along the runway, just feet over the ground. There would also be many more witnesses, some who would make it a hobby to go UFO hunting every night.

The reported sightings over the next couple of weeks were scattered. The month of May brought with it sightings all over the province. One particular one occurred south of Morden near the United States border.

It was 4:15 a.m. on May 4th near the farm of James and Tina Stevens. The couple had just returned from closing down and cleaning the drive-in movie theatre that they ran in Morden. Shortly after going to bed, Tina was awakened by a bright light that was passing north into the valley over the house.

"It was suddenly like a bright sunny day," she told me. "I was really scared by what was happening and I tried to wake up James to see the light, but he didn't get up in time."

The object moved low over the Stevens house heading towards the Howard Rempel farm a mile down the road.

*What
barking?*

"The dogs woke us up with the barking," Mrs. Rempel told the National Enquirer. "We looked out the upstairs window and immediately noticed there was a bright light in the corner of the driveway out there, about 50 yards from the house."

"It wasn't a bright light," Mrs. Rempel stated. "It was more like a fluorescent glow, with no focus to it or anything. It was twice the size of a car, maybe 15-20 feet long and 10 to 12 feet high. I didn't notice any edges to it, so it's hard to say exactly what."

Mr. and Mrs. Rempel watched the object for forty-five minutes until shortly before the sun had begun to rise.

"In a very short time," Mrs. Rempel said, "the glow just faded away and was gone. There was no movement that we could see. It didn't take off or anything. It just faded and was gone."

Two days later in another part of the province there were other sightings. In one major sighting Roger Pitts and two other pilots spotted three disks in daylight flying right at their plane, one right after another.

“There were two pilot sightings reported the day before,” Pitts stated. “We were southbound from Churchill, Manitoba with a DC 3 at 6,000 feet and we were coming up on Berens River. There were three of us on board. All of us were pilots, and we spotted an aircraft coming at us at quite a distance. It drew closer and closer. We were both watching it (pilot and co-pilot), trying to determine what it was. We noticed that it wasn’t flying straight and level. It was flying on a 45-degree angle, but it was still flying straight at us. As we watched, it didn’t turn around. It just went directly the other way straight away from us. It just went off into the distance away from us, and a puff of smoke appeared – an odd shape, like a small cloud, and it disappeared in that.”

Then a second object appeared, flew at the plane, then reversed its direction, and disappeared in a puff of smoke. A third one appeared with the three pilots watching. It did the same thing.

The night after the pilots were being challenged by the UFOs, the Britains, along with Wayne Teal, Bob Skelton, and David Rosenfield were repairing the landing lights on the runway at the Friendship Field Airstrip when they noticed Charlie coming towards Carman from the west again. As quickly as they could they scrambled into a car and chased Charlie out to the north end of town where Charlie sped up and headed northeast towards Winnipeg. The time was 11:15 p.m.

The next night, the Britains, Teal, Rosenfield and a member of the ^{Royal} Canadian Air Force were again at Friendship Field when they spotted Charlie approaching the airport. Teal and Britain climbed up on to the roof of one of the hangers to watch the object fly. "This night the object was lower than the previous night and proceeding at 60-80 mph," Britain told the local paper.

This made three sightings for the Britains in only a couple days, all of the same red bobbing pulsating ball.

"The first time we saw it," recalled Britain, "it was ten minutes before we phoned the R.C.M.P. We were sort of debating whether we should report the thing. We didn't get much reaction the first time. It wasn't until I phoned on the 8th that there was a reaction. I was sort of kicking my tail for phoning, because it kicked up such a hornet's nest."

R.C.M.P. Constable Ian Nickolson drove out to Friendship Field to see what was going on. Just as he arrived he spotted the object in the west, three to four miles away, and at about 1,000 feet.

"I drove a mile north to highway 245 which goes west out of town," he told the National Enquirer. "Then I went another mile west, where I stopped the car. Off to the northwest there was an oval-shaped red light. There was a white halo around it, not connected to it. The light was somewhat like the color of a traffic safety light - a stop light."

"I sat there for 2-3 minutes just looking at the object, which appeared stationary at the time. Then I decided to get a closer look at it. I drove west on Route 245 in my

police car – and I can say it was moving pretty fast. As I was going west, the object seemed to be flying in a northeasterly direction.”

“I continued for approximately 12 miles, keeping the object in sight, trying to get somewhat abreast of it so that if the opportunity arose, I could have driven north towards it.”

“About 16 miles west of Carman, I stopped the car. I’d seen that there was no way that I was going to catch up to it so I stopped the car and watched the object go out of sight over the tree line on the horizon.”

The next day, May 9th, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation phoned Mrs. Britain and the story was out of the bag. “Of course,” said Mrs. Britain, “half the town of Carman was at the airfield when dusk fell.”

The runway lights were on, and one of Britain’s planes stood ready should Charlie appear. The large group of onlookers waited, and soon it was near midnight with no sight of Charlie.

“Everyone had gone,” Britain recalled, “when suddenly Paul Sanders came driving up. He was just shaking.”

Sanders had been sitting a half mile southwest of Britain’s house near the garbage dump. As a reporter from the Dufferin Leader recounted in Sanders’ sighting, Sanders had seen it flying from the east to the west. He also had his field glasses with him and as it turned to veer north, he observed potholes on the underside. In his estimation it was as big as a DC3 aircraft. It disappeared from his sight below the trees at the cemetery.

Charlie seemed to take May 10th off, but on the 11th he made a major sweep through the valley. The first people to spot him were the Britains, Teal, and Barry Johnson. They chased the saucer shaped object as it flew north on a twenty-degree angle in the north. In a line between Haywood and Carman the object hovered for a few minutes. It then flew towards the Southport Air Base at Portage la Prairie. It was 12:20 a.m. as the group headed to Carman.

Those who had chased him in Carman had now gone to bed, but it appeared that Charlie had not quite finished his work for the night. At 1:30 a.m. Mrs. Frost spotted him from her kitchen window 12 miles east of Carman flying over Sperling.

The brilliant red object was reported just over the horizon and it spent twenty minutes dropping four small blue saucer shaped crafts to the ground. (See chapter, It's Funny they Should be the Same)

May 12th, the next night, a large group had gathered at the CBC tower on the northeast corner of the town of Carman. They included pilots, professional photographers, and a film crew from CKY-TV in Winnipeg. Although Charlie did show up, and was seen by the group, he never got close enough to get good nighttime film.

The same night Carl Major was travelling south out of Carman towards Roland when his wife said, "See, what's that?" Later that evening he joined the large group gathered at the tower and reported he "was pretty darn sure he had seen the darn thing because it was the shape of a Ferris wheel with lights all around."

The next night a group of ten people including the television film crew showed up north of town. They spotted an object that appeared to be sitting just North West of town, and wondered if they would be able to film it.

At 11:00 p.m. they were sure the object was sitting on the ground. While the television camera stayed at the tower, groups left to surround the object. When all was said and done on that night, the group had obtained one of the most important nocturnal light films in history. It became known as the CKY film.⁷

Once the film was captured and played on TV, many of the staff at the station wanted to come out and capture another film. On May 14th the now larger CKY crew arrived to get a film but came up empty-handed.

If they had stayed a few more nights they would have had more luck. At 2:00 a.m. on May 16th, Charlie visited the same area one more time.

The dramatic sighting took place at Stevensfield Dam, only three miles west from where the object filmed by the CKY crew had jumped from the ground. It was early Sunday morning, and the Saturday night beach party was dragging on. Twenty-five people from the Carman area were gathered on the north shore of the Stevensfield Dam Reservoir.

At 2:00 a.m. five men left the party and walked over the dam to the south side of the reservoir. They stood on the dock, overlooking the water. Suddenly, a huge, glowing red object, the size of the full moon appeared over the dam, a couple hundred feet away from the dock. The object remained there motionless for a few

⁷ For a full description of this case see the chapter Cameras Photographers and Charlie Red Star.

seconds, and then shot out a white beam into the reservoir between two buoys in the water.

The beam remained at that point in the water for a few seconds before the five men noticed that a smaller white object, six to ten feet across had formed below the spot where the beam had touched the water, about 100 feet from shore.

Next the glowing white object beneath the surface of the water began to move slowly towards the dock on which the men were standing. It was extremely luminous, lighting up the water in the reservoir to such an extent that the bottom of the lake could be seen. The lake at that point was 15 feet deep.

Ripples formed on the water as the object moved closer to the dock directly at the stunned five witnesses. When the object came within 15 feet of the dock, Wiebe, one of the five, picked up a rock, and in desperation, threw it at the approaching underwater object.

The rock hit the object and in an unbelievable fashion, split it into four pieces. These broken four pieces then slowly lined up in a straight line. The line of broken white pieces then moved back (like a conveyor belt) to the point halfway between the two buoys where they had first appeared.

The beam was still pointed into the water and moments after the four objects arrived back at the point between the buoys, the beam and the objects disappeared. The five men then turned their attention to the red object perched on the dam and witnessed a second incredible occurrence.

The huge red disk suddenly broke into two pieces. These two pieces then flew off east towards Carman. Each piece exhibited flight characteristics that would become