

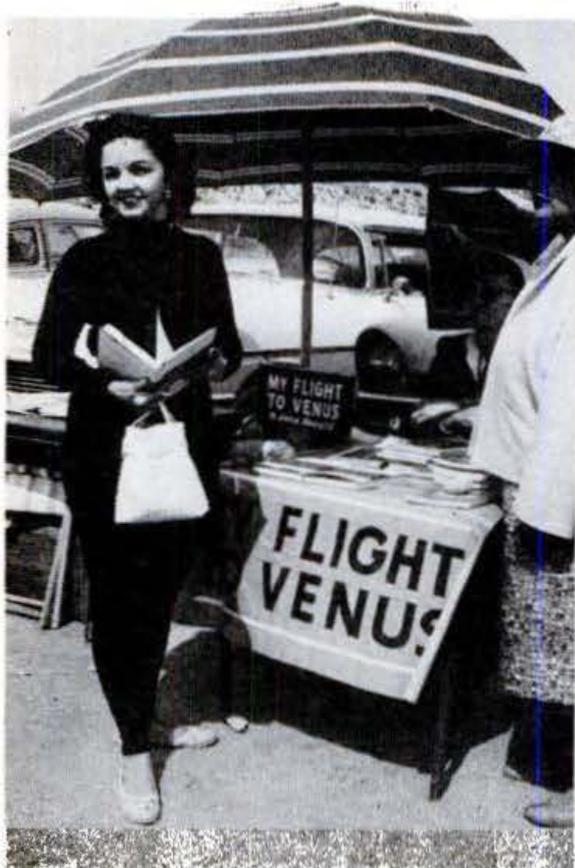
BRAVING A BROILING SUN, FLYING SAUCER BELIEVERS GATHER NEAR GIANT ROCK TO LISTEN TO A REPORTED CONVERSATION WITH FLYING SAUCER PEOPLE

A SAUCER SESSION FOR SPACESHIP SIGHTERS

Believers hold meeting in desert to swap interplanetary tall tales

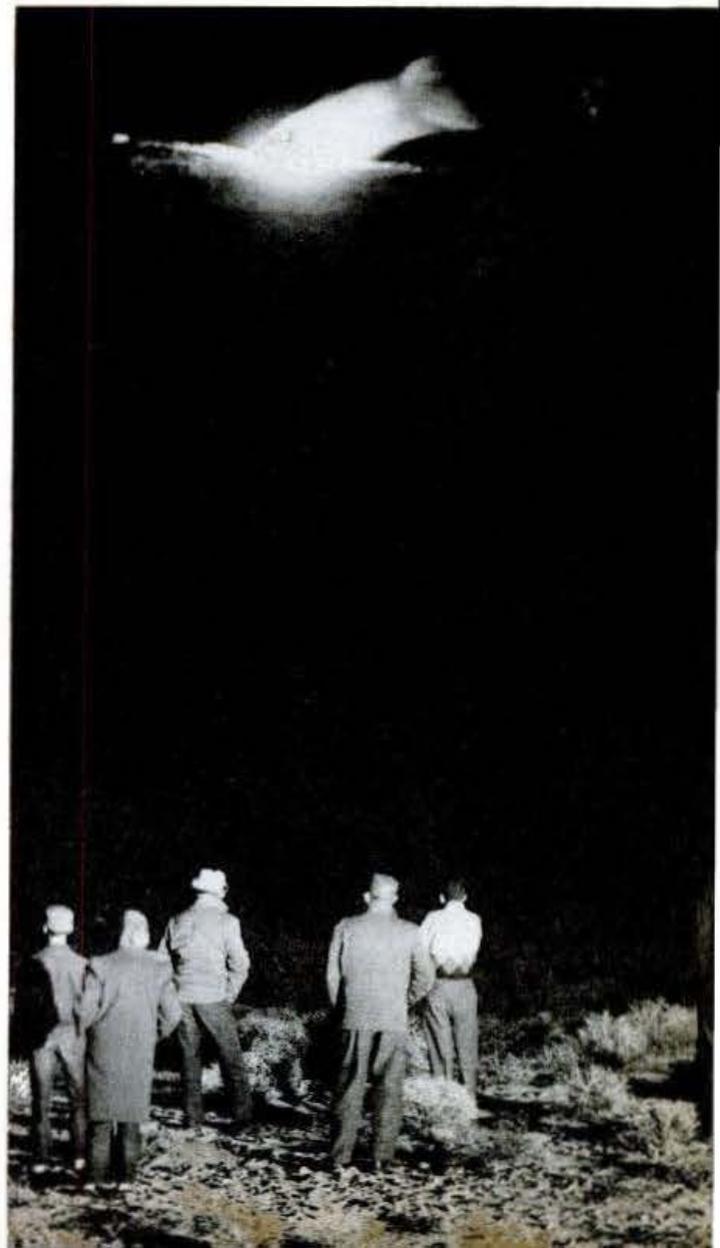
In a gaunt desert setting that, appropriately, looked like a lunar landscape, 1,200 earthlings convened to reaffirm their unshakable belief in the existence of flying saucers. Members of the Interplanetary Spacecraft Convention, they could afford to ignore the dearth of official evidence on flying saucers because many of the group have seen spaceships with their own eyes. At least that is what they kept telling each other. Even more, some of them say they have talked with the passengers on flying saucers and a number of lucky ones have been taken for rides in them.

The site for the convention was Giant Rock Airport near Yucca Valley, Calif. where during past conventions members have made several saucer sightings. Last year a conventioner not only saw a saucer but heard a sighed "O, dear me" coming from the inside. Conventioners spent their days reporting spaceship experiences, some of which are depicted on the next page, and spent their nights hopefully watching the skies for saucers. But the only one they saw (*right*) was nothing they ever wanted recorded in the annals of the proceedings of the Fifth Interplanetary Spacecraft Convention.



THE QUEEN OF SPACE, Mrs. Evelyn Smith of Indianapolis, Ind., buys one of the many books of reporting space adventures on sale at the convention.

FAKE SAUCER CRASH was staged by Caltech students, with dynamite. It fooled conventioners who rushed to site, found only a charred patch of desert. →



CONTINUED

CONVENTIONERS REPORT RECENT ENCOUNTERS WITH SPACE PEOPLE

For those who have never seen a flying saucer or talked with saucer people the reports of those who say they have—like those told below—should prove reassuring. Most of the conventioners who reported experiences with spacemen say that the visitors from outer space look much like humans and are very benevolent. Saucerians are polite and often take earth folk for quick sightseeing whirls in their flying machines. On these trips some people have been shown around the earth, others have been

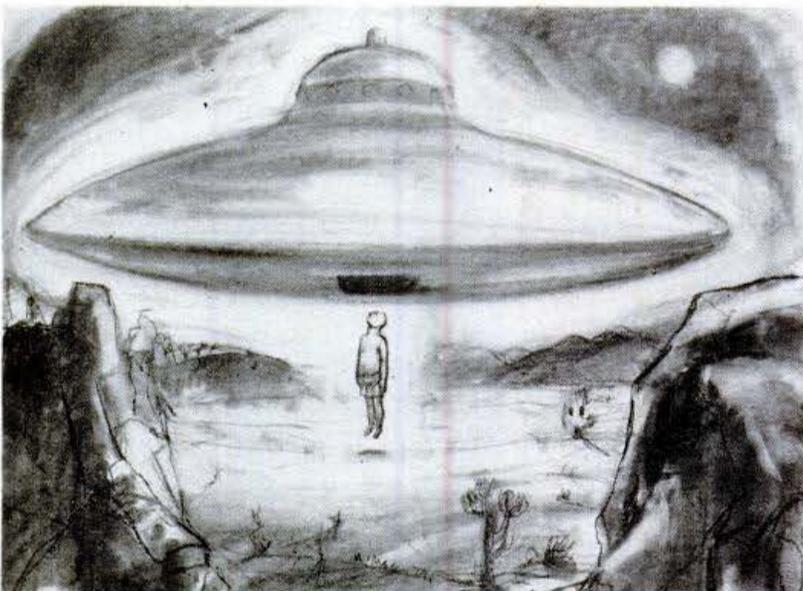
taken to Venus and Mars or the back side of the Moon and one man was given a dog (it looks just like an earthbound dog) which he still owns and sells hairs from. Conveniently, spacemen speak English very well—usually with an American accent. Some are even interested in American politics. George Van Tassel, the convention leader who also operates the Giant Rock Airport, says saucer people have persuaded him to run for President in 1960 and that they are going to help run his campaign.



SHORT SPACEMEN wearing coveralls and caps accosted Truman Bethurum of Prescott, Ariz. (left) while he was snoozing in his truck at midnight on July 28, 1952. They took him to their spaceship where he met their chief, a small, beautiful woman, who engaged him in philosophical discussions until dawn. Back at his camp Bethurum wrote a letter before going to bed: "To whom it may concern. If I am found dead it will be because my heart has stopped from the terrible excitement induced by seeing and going aboard a flying saucer."



SPACEMAN SHOWER was seen by Mrs. Ruth May Weber of Yucca Valley, Calif. in a "psychic" experience about 18 months ago. A voice told her that the space people she had been interested in for some time actually lived on earth and would take over in case of world disaster. Confirming her message, she saw saucer people raining from the skies and losing themselves in the crowd on main street in Yucca Valley. Though Mrs. Weber saw them, ordinary citizens, like the man who is reading his newspaper at left, saw nothing.



SPACE-SHIP INSPECTION was granted to George Van Tassel on Aug. 21, 1953. Wearing only his shorts, Van Tassel was sleeping out in the desert one evening near Giant Rock. Suddenly he was awakened by a spaceman who asked if he would like to inspect his flying saucer which was hovering nearby. Van Tassel said he certainly would and was elevated inside. There he was shown instrument panels and other inventions including a closet that cleans clothing with light. Van Tassel left the ship on a gravity nullifying beam.



VIEW OF VENUS was given Howard Menger of High Bridge, N.J. on a space ride in 1956. While walking in the woods, he was invited aboard a saucer by long-haired people wearing luminous belt buckles. When he moved to a porthole for a look at Venus, the spacemen, anticipating his wish, showed him the planet on a TV-like screen. He saw an idyllic scene of winding streams and domed houses with beautiful people strolling about. Since then spacemen have visited him often, once even stayed for meal of ham and eggs.