

Science & Mechanics

FEBRUARY 35¢

EXCLUSIVE!
MORE UFO SIGHTINGS REVEALED!

AMAZING "ROTATING" ENGINE!

PLEASE COMPLETELY ENCLOSED!

140 LBS. 400 HP!

ONLY 12 MOVING PARTS!



JOE GUTTS TESTS THE '67 VWs!

UFOs



IN HISTORY
AND MYTH

By Gordon H. Evans / The year was 1239 A.D., the place England, and the reporter a chronicler known as Matthew of Paris. □ "On July 24, 1239, at the vigil of St. James, in the dusk, but not when the stars came out, but while the air was clear, serene and shining, a great star appeared. It was like a torch, rising from the south, and flying on both sides of it, there was emitted in the height of the sky a very great light. It turned towards the north in the aery region, not quickly, nor, indeed, with speed, but exactly as if it wished to ascend to a place in the air. But when it arrived at the apparent middle of the firmament, in our northern hemisphere, it left behind it smoke with sparks." □ A modern astronomer or meteorologist who chanced upon Matthew's report would probably conclude: "It was a bolide, a fireball." And, bending over the manu-

script, he might think: "How terrified our medieval ancestors must have been by such natural phenomena. A chunk of rock or iron, wandering around in the solar system, enters the earth's atmosphere, and friction causes it to incandesce and disintegrate. But the monks, barons and commoners of the day thought such things were mysterious, supernatural events. How far we have progressed."

The scientist again bends over the manuscript: "Not quickly, nor, indeed, with speed." He ponders again for a moment, "Yes, undoubtedly, a bolide. Some of them have been reported with remarkably slow velocities. Apparently they approach the earth in the same direction as its orbit around the sun, with speeds not much greater than our planet's orbital one." He looks again: "It turned towards the north in the aery region . . ." The scientist's brow furrows, but only for a moment, "Curious. A bolide could not change direction, at least not abruptly, and that's what is implied. Oh, it must be an error. After all, this is undoubtedly a second-hand account." He closes the book.

But some of these old accounts—and this of 1239 is only one of many—bear a striking re-

semblance to modern UFO reports. Their language is archaic and often they are phrased in terms of the religious symbols of the time in which they were written. But their basic observations are remarkably similar to today's sightings. You have read reports on many of these sightings in recent issues of *SCIENCE & MECHANICS*. Let's compare them with a few of the reports from the Middle Ages. The examples here I owe to Harold T. Wilkins who, some years ago, conducted remarkable research into the history of UFOs.

In 1254 A.D., on January 1st, Matthew of Paris tells us in his *Historia Anglorum* that ". . . at midnight, in serene and clear sky, with the stars shining and the moon eight days old, there suddenly appeared in the sky a kind of large ship, elegantly shaped, and well-equipped and of marvelous color. Certain monks at St. Albans saw it . . . for a long time, as if it were painted, and a ship made of planks; but finally it began to disappear."

Something very like a modern "flying saucer" appeared in 1290: "At Byland or Bege-land Abby, in the North Yorkshire riding, while the abbot and monks were in the refectory, a flat, round, shining, silvery object

(discus) flew over the abbey and caused the utmost terror." This account was taken from William of Newburgh's *Chronicle*.

In the next century, in 1322, we have this report of what seems to have been a rocket: "In the first hour of the night of November 4th, there was seen in the sky over Uxbridge, England, a pillar of fire the size of a small boat, pallid and livid in color. It rose from the south, crossed the sky with a slow and grave motion and went north. Out of the front of the pillar, a fervent red flame burst forth with great beams of light. Its speed increased, and it flew thro' the air. . . . Many beholders saw it in collision, and there came blows as of a fearful combat, and sounds of crashes were heard at a distance." The chronicler here is Robert of Reading. We should note that meteors cannot accelerate noticeably.

Here is an account from 776 A.D.: "Those watching outside in that place, of whom many still live to this very day, say they beheld the likeness of two large shields reddish in color in motion above the church, and when the pagans who were outside saw this sign, they were at once thrown into confusion and terrified with great fear they began to flee from the castle." This episode, part of an old chronicle, was brought to light by W. R. Drake.

So frequent do UFO reports seem to have been in the very early Middle Ages that laws came on the statute books which imposed a penalty on anybody travelling in an airship! A manuscript by Agobard, quoted by Jacques Vallee in his *Anatomy of a Phenomena*, informs us that some astronauts landed at Lyons. They made the mistake of admitting they were wizards. A mob killed them and threw their bodies into rivers.

Indeed, UFO reports go back to Roman times and perhaps even before. Consider this account from 99 B.C.: "When C. Murius and L. Valerius were consuls in Tarquinia . . . towards sunset, a round object, like a globe, a round or circular shield, took its path in the sky from west to east."

Or again in 90 B.C.: "At Aenarie, while Livius Troso was promulgating the laws at the beginning of the Italian war . . . at sunrise, there came a terrific noise in the sky, and a globe of fire appeared burning in the north. . . . In the territory of Spoletum, a globe of fire, of golden color, fell to the earth, gyrating. It then seemed to increase in size, rose from the earth and ascended into the sky, where it obscured the disk of the sun, with its brilliance. It revolved toward the eastern quadrant of the sky."

In 42 B.C.: "Something like a sort of weapon, or missile, rose with a great noise from the earth and soared into the sky." (There have been many modern reports of UFOs landing,

and then flying away.)

The Roman reports quoted above are derived from the *Prodigia* of Julius Obsequens, a writer thought to have lived in the 4th century A.D.

The following accounts are taken from a medieval writer, Conrad Wolffhart, called Lychthenes. Some may be borrowed from Obsequens.

"At Lanupium, a remarkable spectacle of a fleet of ships was seen in the air." The date was 170 B.C. Of course, a mirage may have been the cause. Not enough details are given. A similar mirage may or may not have accounted for a citing in 80 A.D.: "When the Roman emperor, Agricola, was in Scotland, wonderous flames were seen in the skies over Caledon wood, all one winter night. Everywhere the air burned, and on many nights, when the weather was serene, a ship was seen in the air moving fast."

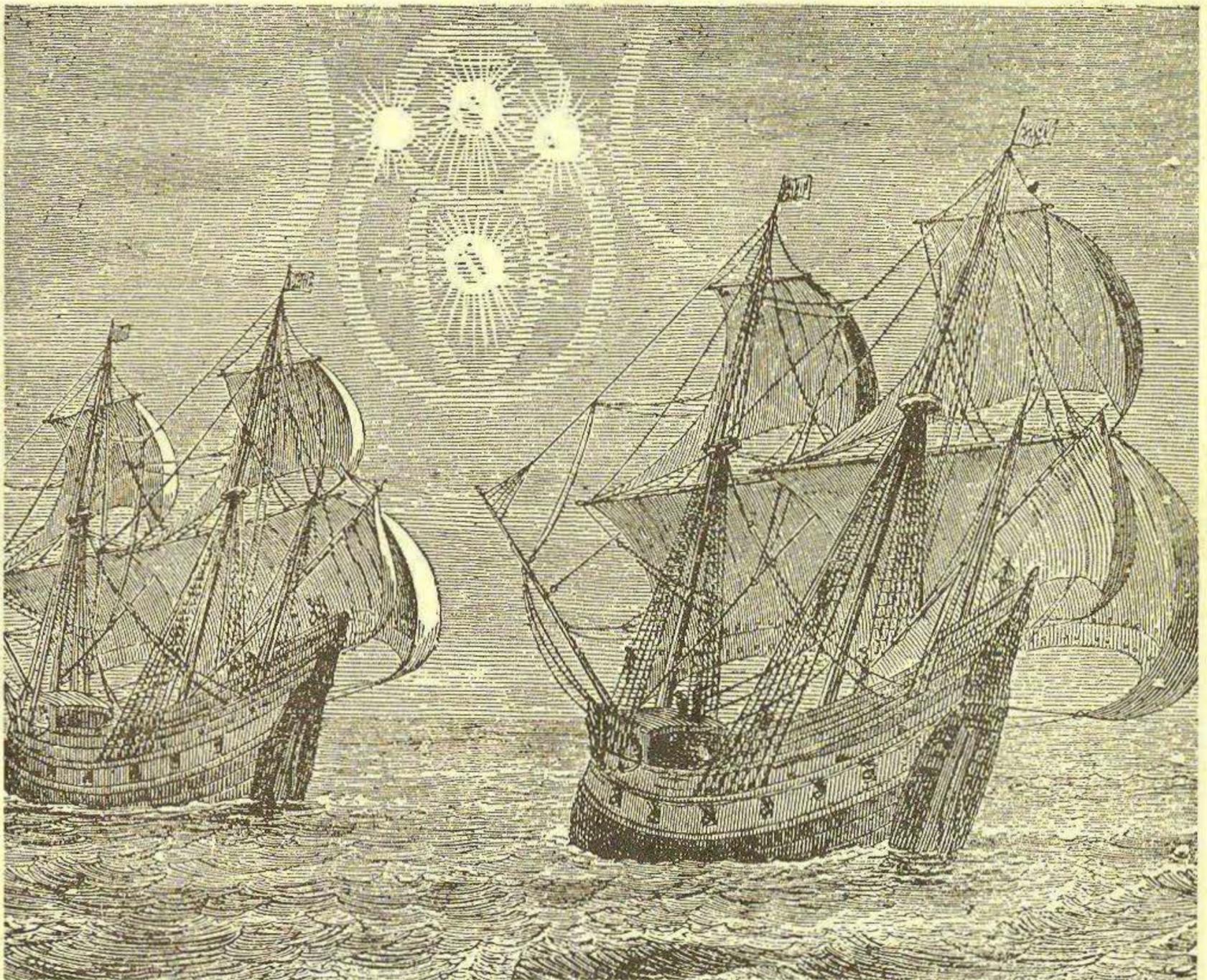
In 98 A.D., we have this account: "At sunset, a burning shield passed over the sky at Rome. It came sparkling from the west and passed to the east."

UFOs appeared both in the Eastern and Western empires. We have this report from Byzantium, in 398 A.D.: "A thing like a burning globe, presenting a sword, shown brilliantly in the sky over the city. . . . It seemed almost to touch the earth from the zenith. Such a thing was never recorded to have been seen before by man."

However, UFO sightings did not stop in the Middle Ages only to be revived in modern times. During the Renaissance and afterwards, they probably became more frequent. Take this account from France on March 10, 1554: "There appeared . . . between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. about the moon, a burning fire, emitting a great noise, what seemed to be the point of a lance, turning from side to side, from east to west, casting out flames on all sides."

Only a few years earlier, in 1528, during the seige of Utrecht in Holland " . . . a cruel and strange sight was seen in the sky, which terrified the townspeople, and made the enemy think he would get the city. It was the form of a Burgundian cross right over the city, high in the sky, yellow in color, and fearful to behold."

By the diarist John Evelyn: "11th March 1643 . . . I must not forget what amazed us exceedingly the night before, namely, a shining cloud in the air, in shape resembling a sword, the point reaching to the north; it was as bright as the moon, the rest of the sky being very serene. It began about eleven at night, and vanished not till about one, being seen by all the south of England." Clearly this could not have been a meteor; and its flight was too slow and its orbit too fast for a comet.



Reports of strange lights and objects seen in the sky have come down to us from almost every period of recorded history.

Through the growth of interest in the physical sciences, reports of unexplicable aerial phenomena became more specific. Here is an account by a Fellow of the Royal Society dated December 16, 1742. The time was 8:40 p.m. "I was crossing St. James Park, when a light arose from behind the trees and houses, from the south and west, which at first I thought was a rocket, of large size. But when it rose 20 degrees, it moved parallel to the horizon,

but waved like this (the speaker drew an undulating line) and went on in the direction of north-by-east. It seemed very near. Its motion was very slow. I had it for about a half a mile in view. A light flame was turned backwards by the resistance the air made to it. From one end it emitted a bright glare and fire like that of burning charcoal. That end was a frame like bars of iron, and quite opaque to my sight.
(Continued on page 86)

Have YOU Seen A UFO?

□ Readers of S&M are invited to send in reports of any sightings they have made of "flying saucers" or other Unidentified Flying Objects. Please keep your letters as brief as possible and try to include the information listed in our "Complete Directory of UFOs," (*turn page*). That is, state the time and place of sighting, duration, number of observers, number of objects sighted, and the shape, dimensions, color, sound, altitude, speed and tactics of the UFO. And please add any comments about the sighting you feel are important. The most interesting and baffling of these reports submitted by S&M readers will be published in a forthcoming issue. And tell us if you wish your name to be used, or if you wish to remain anonymous. Address letters to UFOs, SCIENCE & MECHANICS, 505 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022.

UFOs in History and Myth

(Continued from page 55)

At one point, on the longitudinal frame, or cylinder, it issued a train in the shape of a tail of light more bright at one point on the rod of the cylinder, and growing gradually fainter to the end of the rod or cylinder; so that it was transparent for more than half of its length. The head of this strange object seemed about half-a-degree in diameter and the tail near three degrees in length."

In the 19th century, with the great advance in knowledge, communications and literacy, UFO reports became abundant. But hardly anyone suggested they might be extra-terrestrial spaceships. One of the very few exceptions was Charles Fort. Fort was born in Albany, N. Y., in 1874. He was blessed, or cursed, with a small inheritance. For long years he devoted his life to collecting reports of curious and inexplicable phenomena. His sources were newspapers and the many scientific journals which had come into being by the early 19th century. Fort wrote: ". . . if there be nearby lands of the sky and beings from foreign worlds who visit this earth, that is a great subject . . ."

Here is a typical account discovered by Fort in the *Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society*. It is taken from the log of the bark *Lady of the Lake* whose captain was F. W. Banner. In Fort's words: ". . . upon the 22nd of March, 1870, at latitude 5°47' N. and longitude 27°52' W., the sailors of *Lady of the Lake* saw a remarkable object or 'cloud' in the sky. They reported to the Captain.

"According to Capt. Banner, it was a cloud of circular form, with an included semi-circle divided into four parts, the central dividing shaft beginning at the center of the circle and extending far outward, and then curving backward.

"The thing travelled from a point at about 20° above the horizon to a point of about 80° above. Then it settled down to the northeast, having appeared from the south, southeast.

"It came up obliquely against the wind, and finally settled down right in the wind's eye.

"For half an hour this form was visible, then it did finally disappear, that was not because it disintegrated like a cloud, but before it was lost to sight in the evening's darkness."

Fort attached a sketch of the object drawn by Captain Banner. It does not look very much like a cloud, but looks very much like some of the "flying saucers" reported in later years.

If a case is to be made that UFOs are actually extra-terrestrial in origin, certain episodes from the Scriptures may certainly be quoted as evidence. Consider these verses from the prophet Ezekiel:

"4. And I looked, and, beheld, a whirlwind came out of the North, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

"5. Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

"6. And everyone had four faces, and everyone had four wings.

"7. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the color of burnish brass.

"8. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides, and they four had their faces and their wings.

"9. Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went everyone straight forward.

"10. As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man and the face of a lion, on the right side; and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

"11. Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and the two covered their bodies.

"12. And they went everyone straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

"13. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning.

"14. And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of the flash of lightning.

"15. Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces.

"16. The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of beryl: and they four had one likeness; and their appearance and their work as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

"17. When they went, they went upon the four sides; and they turned not when they went.

"18. As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four.

"19. And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up."

It may be that Ezekiel interpreted what he saw in terms of his religious, natural and material world. It has been suggested that the curious description of the creatures' heads, with the faces of animals, may have been the only imagery the prophet had to describe a rather complex space helmet with a visor, earphones, antenna, and so forth. The wings may have been similar—though perhaps more advanced—to the portable rockets which have been strapped to men's backs to allow them to fly for short distances. These devices are very noisy, as the activities of the creatures seen by Ezekiel seemed to be noisy. "And when

they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters . . ." (1:24). Further, a craft seems to be included in this account. Ezekiel describes it, not clearly, as a wheel which travelled along with the strange beings he observed.

Ezekiel's account is just about what one would expect from a "primitive man" called upon to describe higher technology. Any advanced apparatus involved would be quite beyond him, and he would describe it in familiar terms, such as the faces of animals, the wings of birds, etc. An event based on technology beyond his imagination might well be attributed to the magical, supernatural or miraculous.

It has been suggested that many events in the history of the human race which exist as myth, may be based upon visits to our planet by representatives of a higher technical culture. What modern science has conventionally passed off as unfounded, it has been said, may indeed have a basis in fact. If this turns out to be the case, a startling revolution in the treatment of the fabulous in myth and history will take place. It may be that future students will have to entertain the possibility that much of the curious, odd, inexplicable material which has come down to us by written and oral tradition has a "real" meaning. Soon we may no longer be able to dismiss what seems "unscientific" as nonsense.

There are a few modern UFO reports in which the occupants of the UFO allegedly have gotten out, walked around, and shown themselves to us. Compared to the many tens of thousands of sightings, these accounts are scarce, but some have originated with quite reliable witnesses. The term "little green man" has passed into popular culture. The fact that they have human form, if they do, raises some most interesting scientific questions that are beyond our scope here. The orthodox theory of evolution holds that the particular form life takes is purely accidental. It is a function, so the biologist or geneticist tells us, of adaptation to environment combined with the enormously complex combining and recombining of the gene pool, plus a few mutations thrown in. That man has come out as he has in bodily shape and size is a pure accident—so evolution argues. On another world, intelligent creatures might have an entirely different form, perhaps one not even recognized in our classifications. However, if the extra-terrestrials have been seen, and have a humanlike form, albeit diminutive, the orthodox theory of evolution may be in rather serious trouble. But we must leave this fascinating question aside, and return to our main theme.

The fact is that the folklore of the world is rich in tales of small supernatural beings. They far outnumber giants in their frequency. Here is the story of a leprechaun, told by an authority on Irish lore, Col. Diarmuid MacManus, in his book *Irish Earth Folk*.

"On a hot summer day, many years before the first World War, two boys were bathing in

a pool in the River Moy in County Mayo. The place was near Foxford, a small town. Later in the afternoon, after they had dressed and began to return home, one of the boys saw a small figure dart behind a rock in a field. He told his friend, and curiosity led them to investigate. They discovered what looked to them like a little man about four feet high. He had on a cap and a close-fitting black coat made of shiny material, something like satin or silk. It was buttoned up tightly. His face was broad and flat, with brown whiskers. The boys, one of whom was to graduate from Trinity College, Dublin, were frightened and ran."

Could it be that these boys saw an extra-terrestrial visitor in some sort of spacesuit, which they could only describe in familiar terms? Consider two items of folklore collected by F. G. Speck from the Indians in Connecticut, and presented in the *Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History*. The first of them concerns the Makiawisag, legendary dwarfs who lived in the woods. The event he recorded was believed by Speck to have taken place before 1800. "She (Martha Uncas) was then a child coming down the Yantic River in a canoe with her parents. They saw some Makiawisag running along the shore. A pine forest grew near the water and they could be seen through the trees. Her mother saw them and said, 'Don't look at the dwarfs. They will point their fingers at you and you cannot see them.' She turned her head away. There did not seem to be many of them.

"The dwarfs came to people's houses, asking for something to eat. According to the old Indian, one must always give the dwarfs what they wanted; for, if they refused, they would point their fingers at one, so that one could not see them, and the dwarfs would take whatever they chose."

There is an interesting point in this story. Some modern UFO reports, particularly those concerning occupants, suggest that the aliens may have developed a paralysis ray. On a number of occasions people have reported that they were paralyzed by a flash of light, either directed by the occupants or from their ship. It might be that Martha Uncas and her mother were reporting in a garbled way on such a paralysis device. Rather than describing it as a paralysis device, the technology of such a thing would of course be entirely obscure to them. They may have transposed the idea of paralysis for blindness. The words "point their fingers at you" may have referred to some kind of a gun or ray projector. A theory has been suggested that paralysis may be caused by exposing an organism to the resonance frequency of its ATP, substance which supplies muscles with their energy. If the muscular system is flooded with energy, or deprived of it, paralysis may occur.

Finally, here is another anecdote of the Mohegan Indians as told by Speck: "One dark, stormy night, a woman was coming down the

long hill toward Two Bridges, having been up to New London. Looking across the swamp to the opposite slope, she beheld a light approaching in her direction. When they drew near to one another, the woman saw that the light was suspended in the middle of a person's stomach, as though in a frame. There was no shadow cast, and yet the outline of the person could be distinguished as it surrounded the light. The woman was badly frightened and ran all the way home."

"The light suspended in the middle of a person's stomach" is strongly suggestive of an electric torch attached to a belt. The anecdote was collected long before flashlights were common on earth; there is no way of knowing how old the legend itself is; some authorities state it may even be pre-Columbian.

It is an interesting sidelight that the "little people" of folklore—fairies, gnomes, and so forth—always seem to wear hoods. An authority on the subject, Pennethorne Hughes, says that available evidence is insistent on this fact. "The little green and red hoods of the gnomes are still remembered, which the seven dwarfs share with the witch of caricature in her high hat with the elf locks peeping from under it. In Germany, the local hobgoblin called Hooked in or Hutkin, and Robin á Hood may be another manifestation of the devil king of the fairies." These hoods, as with the strange headgear seen by Ezekiel, may be necessary for a race evolved in another atmosphere. Again, the complex breathing apparatus may have been interpreted by simpler minds in simpler terms.

Is there any way to determine whether the "meteors" with which we began this article, or the supernatural tales with which we conclude it, are actually evidences of alien life, rather than natural or merely imaginative events? The problem of proof is extremely difficult. Perhaps with the data which we now have available, it is impossible. The record is too incomplete, too limited by the time and the people who made it. An uneducated peasant relates a story told to him by his grandmother who, in turn, heard it from her grandfather. Inevitably, there is exaggeration and distortion. This overlay of interpretation and elaboration of what may be the bare bones of factual events renders the truth exceedingly hard to detect.

Still, there is one way we may find out if aliens are responsible for some of our heritage of prodigies, miracles and super-normalties. If we can get in touch with them, or they in touch with us, we may find out that at certain identifiable times and places a craft did land and its occupants walk on the earth. If so, and the times, places, and circumstances might be matched with records, or even with the material of myth, it may be possible to determine whether or not the thesis offered here is correct. If it is, our study of history and the fabric of our heritage will be overturned. We will have learned a great thing, yet something of the mystery of life will have passed away. ■

Grunstra Rotating Engine

(Continued from page 45)

wired into the ignition circuit; if the cover is removed, the engine will not run and cannot be started unless the switch is intentionally defeated. The cover also functions as a spacer between the rotating and stationary parts of the engine, and maintains alignment of the support plates. The cover may be easily removed for servicing the engine.

In operation, the fuel mixture is drawn through the carburetor and manifold into the supercharger. It is compressed and forced into the outlet side of the manifold. As engine rotation continues, the piston approaches bottom dead center and begins to uncover the intake port; the fuel mixture is then forced into the cylinder. Further engine rotation starts the piston rising in the cylinder bore. The piston skirt closes the intake port, the piston continues rising and closes the exhaust port. The fuel charge is compressed in the cylinder. When the piston reaches the top of its travel, the fuel is ignited and the piston is forced downward. The force acts on the crank through the scotch yokes and rollers. The cylinder and crankcase rotate, raising the adjacent piston and the sequence continues, with each of the four pistons following the cycle.

The engine's light weight (140 pounds) and high horsepower (it's conservatively rated at 280 hp but with simple modifications could go as high as 400 hp) would make it a likely choice for cars, airplanes, and even portable power plants.

There is remarkably little power loss compared to conventional units because the engine does not have to drive timing gears, cam shaft, valve train, oil pump, distributor, fan or water pump. The elimination of the fan alone means several horsepower saved at high operating speeds. And with no connecting rods or valve train to be concerned about, high revs would not strain the engine.

The Grunstra engine was exhibited at a recent inventors' show in New York City and aroused considerable interest amongst both the viewing public and manufacturers. Currently, Mr. Grunstra is demonstrating his invention to several companies interested in possible licensing and production. At this writing, there are no firm plans for immediate commercial production of the engine, but with its obvious advantages, it seems quite probable that the Grunstra has a happy future awaiting it. ■

COMPLETE DIRECTORY

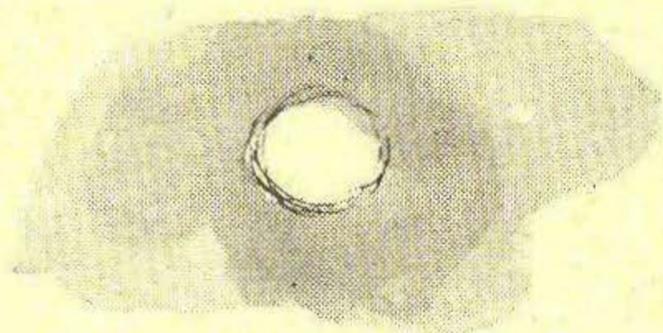
AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF UNEXPLAINED SIGHTINGS FROM

BY LLOYD MALLAN

□ Editor's Note: This is the third and concluding part of Lloyd Mallan's unique "Complete Directory of UFOs," consisting of reports of sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects selected from the files of the U. S. Air Force. Almost 700 sightings in these files are labeled as "Unidentified." But the vast majority of these could probably be identified as natural phenomena (stars, planets, meteors, reflected moonlight, etc.) or as man-made objects (jet planes, balloons, ceilometers, etc.) had the observer been able to furnish more concrete information and graphic details.

The UFO sightings included here are classified as "Good Unknowns," in that sufficient details (and, in most cases rough drawings) were supplied by the observer, but the object could not be identified as natural or man-made phenomena.

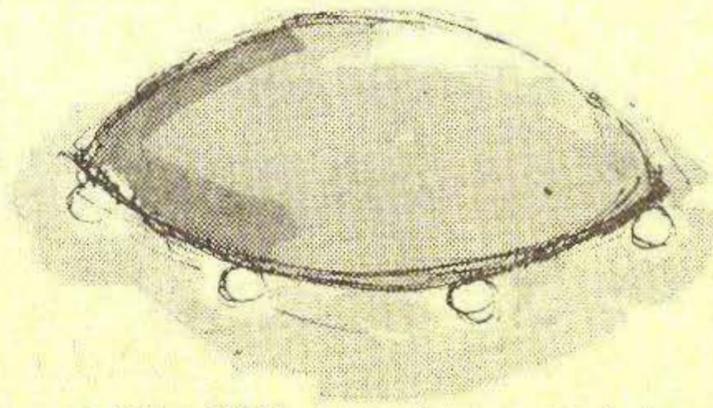
TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: August 29, 1960 at 4:05 p.m. CDT/on State Route One near north edge of the city limits of Crete, Illinois.
DURATION: 18 seconds.
NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.
TYPE OF OBSERVER: Farmer, aged 67.



NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.
OBSERVER RELIABILITY: According to U.S. Naval Reserve Lieutenant John T. Cizek, who reported the sighting to Project Blue Book: "Mr. Schneeweis is a farmer in his sixties not given to hallucinations . . . He is not well-read on the subject of UFOs and I would respect the validity of his having observed something."
SHAPE: Approximately spherical.
DIMENSIONS: Size of a bushel basket or larger, according to the observer.
COLOR: Brilliant silver or chrome, shone like "the sun's reflection in a good mirror."
SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: 30° above horizon when first sighted; 90° high (overhead) when the UFO disappeared.
SPEED: Very fast.
TACTICS: The UFO moved only in the vertical direction, ascending rapidly until it was out of sight.
COMMENT: The observer was driving a pickup truck when he first noticed the UFO "straight ahead at about 600 feet in the air." He also stated that "the light from the object was so intense that it was difficult to determine its exact shape." ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: April 4, 1965 at 5:05 a.m. local time/Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.
DURATION: 15-plus seconds.
NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.
TYPE OF OBSERVER: Weather observer (Detachment 22, 24th Weather Squadron).
NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.
OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Good to excellent.
SHAPE: Like "a large football with lights," according to the observer.
DIMENSIONS: About 40 feet long.
COLOR: Black against clouds.
SOUND: Not given.
ALTITUDE: When first sighted, the object was about 45° above the horizon; it disappeared at a height somewhere between 30° and 45°.
SPEED: Not estimated, but fast.



TACTICS: The UFO came in overhead from the southwest and went northeast, passing underneath the clouds, which were at about 1,200 feet; it stayed at the same level, never varying its speed; once it varied its heading to due north, faded into a cloud and then reappeared; finally it faded into the clouds at the northeast.
COMMENT: The four lights protruded from the bottom of the UFO and were evenly spaced. They were, said the observer: "Almost the same intensity as the satellites, kind of bright but not very bright at all." Of course, the object could not have been a satellite, since it was flying under a low cloud-bank and there were four lights instead of one. All were white lights of exactly the same intensity and they did not twinkle. No aircraft were in the area at the time. This was verified by the observer, who phoned the Federal Aviation Agency. The object was moving crossway to the wind. The observer, who was quite familiar with aircraft since he worked on an Air Force base, was shaken up.

OF UFOs

PART III

"PROJECT BLUEBOOK"

He said that he had never before seen anything that resembled the UFO. He was also not aware that a half-hour earlier two Naval air cadets at Ellyson Naval Air Station had sighted and reported a strange UFO. But this was a "ball of flame about 16 feet long, from which two objects appeared to emerge." The cadets made their report to nearby Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: August 17, 1958 at 7:05 p.m. local time/Warren, Michigan.

DURATION: Seven to 10 minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Business-machine mechanic.

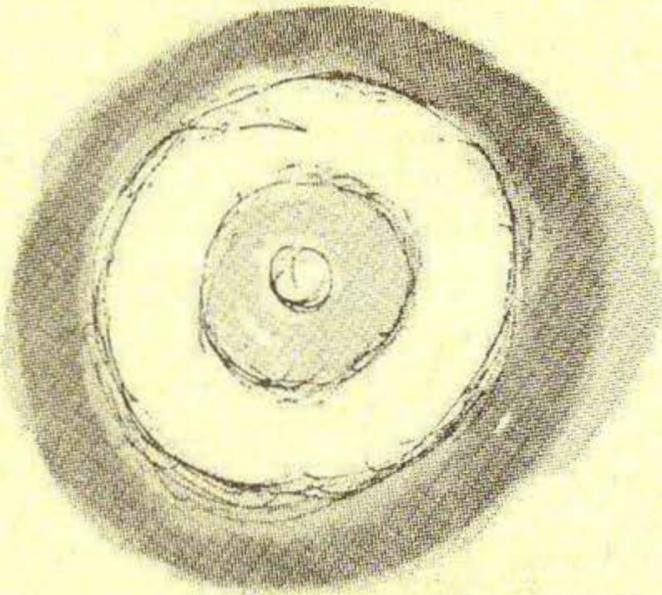
NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Not given, but probably fair to good.

SHAPE: Varied, appeared ball-shaped at first, then saucer-shaped; when ball-shaped, it resembled the planet Saturn with the round "planet" and its main ring appearing brighter than the band in between; when maneuvering it seemed to be shaped like a fried egg in a pan with a blister on the disc (or pan).

DIMENSIONS: Size of a pea or smaller at an estimated distance of 600 miles; gave impression of huge size at an extreme range.

COLOR: Extremely bright white, brighter than the planet Venus, which is the brightest "star" in the sky.



SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: Estimated at about 70° above the horizon.

SPEED: Motionless at first, then moved away very fast.

TACTICS: The object was motionless for the first full five minutes, then it moved toward the north northeast, flipped over and sped toward the west southwest, where it disappeared within 30 seconds. The UFO faded very rapidly without any noticeable reduction in size; it disappeared as if it had vaporized.

COMMENT: The observer was using military-type

Japanese field glasses with 30-millimeter-diameter objective lenses giving a magnification of eight times. There was a reticle with metric readings behind one lens to aid in artillery spotting. Visibility was good. Sighting was made early on a summer evening and it was still daylight. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: October 26, 1958 at 10:30 p.m. EST/a bridge near Loch Raven Dam, north of Baltimore, Maryland.

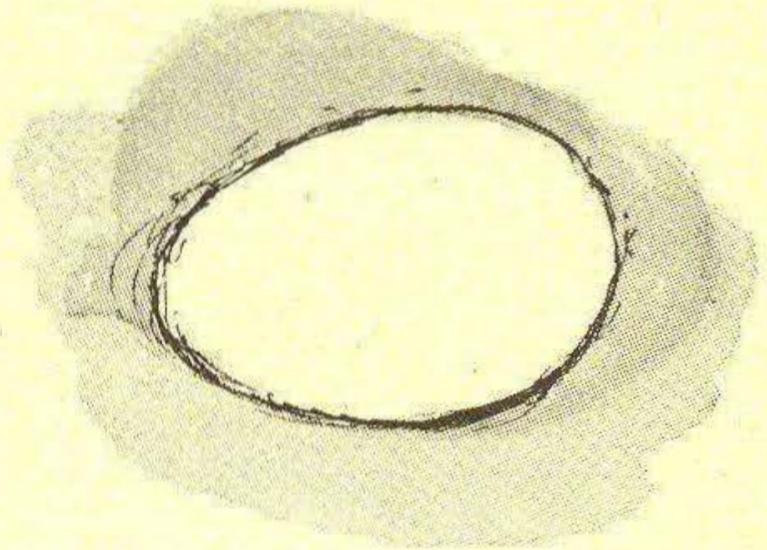
DURATION: From 30 to 55 seconds.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: A 24-year-old supervisor for Sears, Roebuck & Co., and a 27-year-old collection manager for a finance company.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Seemed sincere and were



quite detailed in their description of the UFO; Air Force evaluation: "Excellent."

SHAPE: Like a huge egg when hovering; edges diffused to disc-shape by white light when moving.

DIMENSIONS: Estimated at about 100 feet long.

COLOR: Iridescent white, like moonglow only not as "cold"; bright enough so that no surface features could be determined, but not so bright that the shape was indistinguishable.

SOUND: A loud noise, interpreted by one observer as a dull explosion and by the other as a thunderclap; the noise was heard only as the object began to rise.

ALTITUDE: Between 100 and 150 feet when first sighted.

SPEED: Very fast when in motion.

TACTICS: The UFO was hovering over the top of a bridge and remained in that position for approximately 30 to 45 seconds, at which time it burst into a blaze of blinding light; an explosion or thunderclap of noise was heard just before it began to rise vertically; it disappeared completely from view within five to 10 seconds.

COMMENT: While the UFO was still hovering, the observers approached it in their car. At first, from a distance of about 300 yards, they thought they

were seeing a Navy blimp. But when their car drew up to within 75 or 80 feet of the bridge, its electrical system failed completely: the engine went dead and the dash lights and headlights were extinguished. The observers were terrified, got out of the car and crouched behind it. As the UFO took off in a blinding glare of light, the observers "felt a tremendous heat wave," according to one of them. "It didn't seem like the heat of a burning object, but something like ultraviolet light or some kind of radiation," he added. Later, they felt a burning sensation on their faces. They drove to St. Joseph's Hospital in Baltimore and were given a superficial examination by an interne on emergency duty. The face of one of them was redder than normal. The other observer's face showed no reddening. The doctor told them that there was nothing to worry about. But the next day, the other observer's face also became noticeably red. No serious damage to the men resulted from the incident. However, a 16-year-old member of the Gardenville Astronomical Society also sighted a strange object at approximately the same time that the two observers claimed the UFO took off and disappeared. The boy was observing the sky at the Clifton Park Observation Center when he sighted the UFO on a northeast heading at an altitude of about 85° above the horizon (almost overhead). He kept it in sight for approximately one minute, at which point it disappeared "instantaneously." The investigator from Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, D. C., had this evaluation of the boy's sighting: "Estimated reliability: qualified above average . . . The sighting made by (the boy) could have been the same object (as observed by the two adults), since the color (glowing white) and the approximate time agree." ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: July 25, 1959 at 1:30 p.m. EDT/Irondequoit, New York.

DURATION: 15 seconds or longer.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Technical machine illustrator and private pilot, aged 28.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Good, from the detailed description he gave.

SHAPE: Like a crescent moon with a bubble in the center.

DIMENSIONS: Possible span between horns of the crescent of about 50 feet.

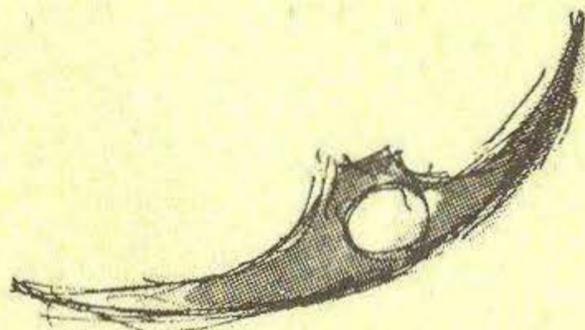
COLOR: Brownish black with the bubble white and resembling a gun turret.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: Not estimated.

SPEED: Estimated at 800 or more miles an hour.

TACTICS: Object was first noted apparently motionless in the north; position was head-on to the observer so that he could not see the crescent shape; as it started to move very fast, it banked in a swing to the east and the crescent shape became apparent; it disappeared behind some trees.



COMMENT: Observer was using 6-power, 30-millimeter-diameter objective lensed binoculars, trying to locate a jet airplane that he heard, when the strange silent UFO came into view and accelerated tremendously just after it was sighted. Observer estimates that it was about 7000 feet away from him on a slant range. He could see no vapor trail. No engine noise was heard. He also glimpsed the jet airplane much farther away. The UFO appeared to be thicker along its leading edge, tapering back to a thinner trailing edge. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: June 18, 1959 at 8:30 p.m. local time/Edmonton, Alberta Province, Canada.

DURATION: Four minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Young men, aged 33 and 21.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Not given.

SHAPE: Elongated cigar-shape with blurred edges.

DIMENSIONS: Comparable to a small flock of ducks.

COLOR: Reddish brown.

SOUND: None mentioned by observers.

ALTITUDE: Object rose from just below the horizon to 40° or 50° and vanished.

SPEED: Not estimated.

TACTICS: (See ALTITUDE).

COMMENT: The UFO was observed through 7-power binoculars. The Air Force Intelligence officer



from the 4601st Support Group (Air Defense) made this comment in his report: "Most striking feature was reddish brown color and vertical ascent. No plausible explanation re possible cause of sighting." ■

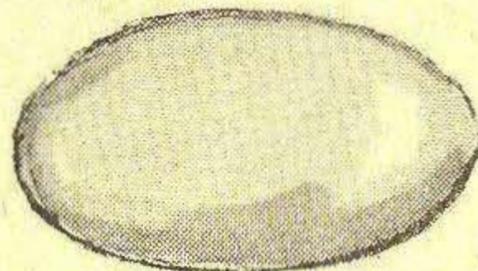
TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: June 30, 1959 at 8:23 p.m. EDT/Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Maryland.

DURATION: 20 to 30 seconds.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Navy Commander with 17 years of active duty and a nine-year-old girl.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.



OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Excellent for the Commander; unknown for the girl.

SHAPE: Oblate and solid with sharp edges.

DIMENSIONS: Ratio of length to depth of the object was approximately nine to one; otherwise, size not estimated.

COLOR: A uniformly brilliant gold, metallic in appearance.

SOUND: Not mentioned.

ALTITUDE: Estimated at 4000 feet.

SPEED: Not in excess of 100 knots (roughly 115 mph).

TACTICS: Object was first sighted to the north about one mile from the observers and moved in straight and level flight until it disappeared suddenly.

COMMENT: The Navy Commander (who should

know) stated definitely that the UFO was not being confused with the evening star, a falling star, a balloon, the afterburner of a jet airplane or the pink disc of the sun setting lower on the horizon. Two aircraft in the local traffic pattern were a Navy R6D and P2V. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: September 1, 1958 at 10:15 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time/Wheelus Air Force Base, Tripoli, Lybia, North Africa.

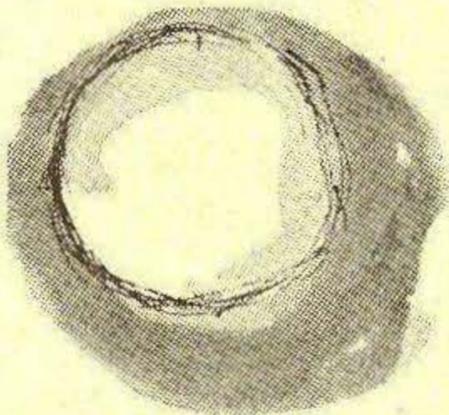
DURATION: Two sightings in the same area were two minutes and 90 seconds respectively.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Special Investigator (8th District, Office of Strategic Investigations) and a Technical Representative of the Philco Corp.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Regarding the Special Investigator, the Air Force Intelligence investigating



officer stated that: "Observer is a highly trained, experienced OSI Investigator. Reliability: Completely reliable."; regarding the Philco Tech-Rep: "Observer seemed to be sober and intelligent with considerable knowledge of aircraft and air activities."

SHAPE: Round bluish-white object.

DIMENSIONS: First observed as the size of a large star, then object grew to the size of a baseball and finally diminished to its original size and disappeared.

COLOR: (See SHAPE).

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: High, somewhere near 14,000 feet; descended to 2000 or 3000 feet.

SPEED: Varied from very fast to very slow, at which time the object appeared to be motionless, hovering.

TACTICS: The UFO first was sighted at a high altitude, then descended to 2000 or 3000 feet as it passed by the observers and then climbed again to a high altitude moving from the northwest to the southeast at varying speeds (see SPEED) and faded from view.

COMMENT: There were no known aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting, but there was a significant temperature-inversion from the surface (24° Centigrade) to 1000 feet (35.6° Centigrade). One observer, the Philco Tech Rep, and his wife sighted the same UFO phenomenon two weeks earlier. At that time, there were no known aircraft—helicopters or other kinds—no weather balloons or ceilometers in the area. This observer denied that the UFO could have been any aircraft known to him because its speed varied so greatly, it had no navigational lights and it was soundless. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: August 10, 1959 at 1:28 a.m. local time/Goose Air Force Base, Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada.

DURATION: 25 minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: An experienced Royal Canadian Air Force pilot.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

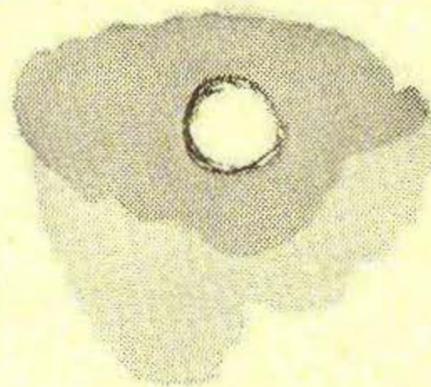
OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Excellent.

SHAPE: Bright light, appearing as a large star.

DIMENSIONS: (See SHAPE).

COLOR: Brightly white.

SOUND: None.



ALTITUDE: From horizon to overhead.

SPEED: Not estimated.

TACTICS: Object was moving faster than a star, obviously, since it climbed from 240° on the eastern horizon to overhead in 25 minutes and mysteriously vanished, although it was still in sight when exactly overhead.

COMMENT: Visibility was clear for 20 miles. The UFO was observed through binoculars. It was in sight too long and yet moved too fast to be a star, planet, comet or meteor. For the same reason (too long in sight), it could not have been a satellite. To be a balloon and travel from the horizon to the zenith in 25 minutes, it would have had to have a speed far in excess of the highest wind-velocity reported during the sighting. Also, the wind-direction was about 280°, a difference of 40° from the UFO's reported direction of motion. The aurora, or "Northern Lights," could not have been mistaken for a UFO because the sighted object was much too local in character and besides, no aurora was reported by geophysical observatories during the time of the sighting. Mistaking an aircraft for the UFO was ruled out because the observer was an experienced pilot and he should most certainly have recognized aircraft lights when he saw them. Another factor which tended to discount that the UFO was possibly an aircraft is that air traffic in the area of Labrador is checked much more closely than in the United States for Air Defense reasons. The report of the U.S. Air Force Investigator stated that no aircraft could be responsible for this sighting. It is therefore classed as "a one-witness Unknown." ■

□ Editor's Note: In the following eight reports, no rough sketches were included by the observer, and since the description of the shape was generally vague, no attempt has been made to illustrate the UFOs reportedly sighted.

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: March 26 or 27 (observers do not remember exact day), 1959, at 12:45 p.m. EST/rural area near Corsica, Clarion County, Pennsylvania.

DURATION: Three minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: A retired 83-year-old man and his daughter.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Unknown.

SHAPE: One observer described the object as a
(Continued on page 92)

Complete Directory of UFOs

(Continued from page 59)

kind of barrel-shape, pointed at one end and squared-off at the other, with "metal" bands showing; the other observer saw the object as being shaped "like a fish or an airplane without wings."
DIMENSIONS: There was some discrepancy between the two observers: one guessed the length to be 20 feet, the other, to be 20 inches; diameter was six or seven feet or inches, depending on the observer; but the discrepancy could have been the result of one observer not knowing the difference between an indication of feet as (') or inches as (") in his or her notation on the Technical Information Sheet.

COLOR: Bright blue.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: Above the tree tops, about 40 or 50 feet off the ground.

SPEED: Motionless.

TACTICS: Settled behind the trees and disappeared; the object appeared to be about a quarter to a half-mile away over a valley alongside a wooded area.

COMMENT: The UFO was viewed from the back porch of a farmhouse. It could not have been any known astronomical phenomena, since it was viewed in daylight just after high noon. It certainly wasn't any known type of aircraft, with the possible exception of a VTOL (Vertical Takeoff and Landing) type. But this is highly unlikely in that mountainous wooded area of the country. The case is still listed as "unexplained." ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: November 21, 1961, at 7:30 p.m. EST/about seven miles east northeast of Oldtown, Florida.

DURATION: Three to four minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: An employee of the Florida State Highway Department (male) and an employee of a local Ford dealer (female).

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: "Very reliable," in both cases, according to the Air Force investigator.

SHAPE: Round.

DIMENSIONS: Size of an auto tire held at arm's length.

COLOR: Reddish-orange.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: First observed just above the tree tops, straight above; then ascended to very high altitude.

SPEED: Not estimated.

TACTICS: Moved straight up; there was no other direction of motion; as it reached an extremely high altitude it looked like a star; it then brightened considerably before it faded slowly and vanished.

COMMENT: The Air Force investigator made inquiries in the sighting area and found that the same strange phenomenon had been sighted twice before by other observers, who had not bothered to report it to the 691st Radar Squadron at the nearby Cross City Air Force Station. Case is listed as "unidentified." ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: September 24, 1961, at 11:40 p.m. local time/1.39 miles south of the Pine Creek Ranch on State Highway 82 in Monitor Valley, Nye County, Nevada.

DURATION: Eight minutes for the first object; two to three minutes for the second object.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Geologist working for the Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Department of the Interior.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: Two.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Should be good.

SHAPE: Both objects were described as large lights.

DIMENSIONS: See SHAPE.

COLOR: First light observed was bright and white; second one glowed with an orange-yellowish color.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: Not estimated for the first object; second object was "fairly low over the east-lying Monitor Range."

SPEED: First object was hovering; second object was "traveling at very high velocity."

TACTICS: The stationary light appeared to emanate above "smoke or fumes which appeared cloud-like"; after eight minutes, it focused a beam straight downward—observer's estimate of the beam width was "one hundred feet or more"; the traveling light moved in a southerly direction for about two to three minutes before it turned in an easterly direction and disappeared.

COMMENT: The Air Force investigator checked the position of the planet Jupiter for that area at the time of the first sighting and found it to be almost identical with the described position of the UFO. Since the thickness of the atmosphere at the horizon could act as a magnifying lens, the planet Jupiter would appear to be much larger than it actually was and also appear to cast a broad beam downward. Evaluation of the first UFO sighted by this observer was that it was Jupiter he saw. The second sighting by the same observer is categorized as "unknown," since there was no scientific explanation for it. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: April 17, 1960 at 8:29 a.m. CST/Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Missouri (20 miles south of Kansas City, Missouri).

DURATION: Two-and-a-half minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: A major in the U. S. Air Force and an engineering field representative for Link—both amateur astronomers.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Should be excellent.

SHAPE: Could not be determined but was generally star-like.

DIMENSIONS: Estimated that the object subtended an angle of five seconds of arc.

COLOR: A reddish glow.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: About 30° to 45° above the horizon.

SPEED: Not estimated, but moved rapidly across a large portion of sky from the constellation of Orion to the bright star Sirius.

TACTICS: The UFO first appeared in the "belt" of Orion and moved in an arc toward the southwest, passing one degree south of Sirius before it fell below the horizon; according to the observers, during the sighting period there was no apparent change in either size, color or magnitude; the angular rate of change (an indication of speed) of the object appeared to increase from two degrees/one minute of arc in Orion to one degree/one second of arc just before it disappeared.

COMMENT: The observers were viewing the nebula M-42 in Orion through a 48-power eyepiece on a six-inch-diameter Newtonian reflector telescope when they first saw the UFO. In the words of the Air Force officer: "We sensed we were seeing something extraordinary. The first 30 seconds we

watched and debated the origin of the light. This was no aircraft. Then we checked the object's track. At first we thought it to be in a polar orbit—but on checking it with the celestial polar axis (on the telescope mount), an orbit near 45° appeared more reasonable. In a desperate effort I got the object in the narrow field of my telescope. Unfortunately, I did not get a good focus."

Note: In order to change the field of his telescope, the observer had to change the eyepiece to one of shorter focal length and thus of higher power. The two observers watched the UFO both with the telescope and with the unaided eye. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: November 29, 1960 at 6:38 p.m. local area time/south of Kyushu Island, Japan; sighting was made at an altitude of 21,000 feet from a T-33 Lockheed jet trainer.

DURATION: 10 minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Jet-qualified pilots of the U. S. Air Force, one a Lt. Colonel, the other a Major.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Excellent.

SHAPE: Generally shapeless, but resembled a star of about second magnitude.

DIMENSIONS: Equivalent to the North Star as viewed from 21,000 feet.

COLOR: White, similar to a star.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: About 45° above the horizon, halfway to the zenith, at 2 o'clock.

SPEED: Not estimated.

TACTICS: Flight path of the UFO began due east at 90° and followed a straight course northward from east; it did not maneuver but appeared to slow down and match the speed of the observers' airplane, flying a parallel course with them as it reached 30° (about north northeast); after 10 minutes it disappeared instantaneously.

COMMENT: Could not have been a satellite, since a check with Space Track at the North American Air Defense Command disclosed that no satellites were in that area at that time. The observers felt, however, that the UFO was in an orbital trajectory—although they had never previously seen an artificial satellite. There were no known aircraft in that area of the sky at that time. One possibility suggested by the Air Force investigator was that the UFO might have been a balloon launched from Communist territory; the only Free World balloon in that part of the world was launched after the sighting occurred. Actually, the movement of this UFO against a star background would be unusual for the average balloon. The AF investigator stated: "Conclusions by the reporting officer would be in the realm of speculation and therefore no factual opinion can be offered at this time."

Note: This sighting is generally similar to the UFO observed by two other Air Force observers flying over the Pacific Ocean on an Air Defense mission, April 24, 1961—about five months later. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: April 24, 1961 at 3:34 a.m. local area time/over the Pacific Ocean in an aircraft flying at the position of 35°/50 minutes north latitude and 125°/40 minutes west longitude.

DURATION: Eight minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: Two.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Aircraft Commander of an RC-121D (Lockheed Constellation) air-defense radar-surveillance aircraft, with 18½ years and 4,500 flying hours experience—a captain in the U.S. Air

Force; and his navigator, a 1st Lieutenant with 4½ years and 3,500 hours experience.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Excellent, in both cases.

SHAPE: Round.

DIMENSIONS: Size of a pinhead at arm's length.

COLOR: Reddish white.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: The aircraft was flying at 11,000 feet; the UFO's altitude was estimated as being "great."

SPEED: Faster than the speed of the Echo I satellite moving across the sky.

TACTICS: The object appeared to be in orbit, like a satellite, and was first noted at a position of 29°/55 minutes elevation on a relative azimuth of 140°; it traversed the sky in the manner noted under SPEED: it disappeared on the horizon at 50°.

COMMENT: The UFO resembled a planet in brightness. The Air Force investigator checked out its position and time with Space Track, the central tracking clearing house of the North American Air Defense Command, and was informed that the object could not be a satellite, since no satellite was in that position at that time. Furthermore, it was learned that if the object had been a satellite at the altitude of Echo I, its speed was so excessive that this possibility was ruled out. The UFO was first noticed by the navigator of the RC-121D aircraft because of its motion as he was taking a fix on the North Star through a sextant. Both observers were assigned to the 965th Aircraft Early Warning and Control Squadron, with headquarters at McClellan Air Force Base in California. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: March 17 and 20, 1966 at 4:40 a.m. local time on the first date; time on the second date was not given/Milan, Michigan.

DURATION: Several minutes.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Squad-car patrolman, with 10 years experience on the force of the Milan Police Department.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Unknown, but should be good.

SHAPE: "Like a very huge pie and was very well lighted with red, blue and white lights spinning completely around it," according to the observer's own description.

DIMENSIONS: The UFO first appeared to be about the size of a small, light airplane and then seemed larger as it descended lower.

COLOR: See SHAPE.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: About 75 feet above the observer's car.

SPEED: Hovered over the car, pacing it at the same speed for about a half-mile "and then disappeared at a very high speed," in the observer's words.

TACTICS: Appeared in the southwest and descended from above some store buildings until it was just over the patrolman's car, which had stopped for a traffic light (also see SPEED).

COMMENT: The observer claims that he tried to make radio contact with the Washtenaw (Michigan) County Sheriff's Department for information about the nature of this strange craft, but while it hovered above his car he was unable to use the police radio. Three days later, on March 20th, the observer again saw a strange UFO. He describes it thus: "A similar object came so close to my car and glowed so brightly that I had to stop the car and get out of it before I could see again." He

(Continued on page 96)

adds that: "Our police department (has) been called at different times about high-flying lights, but those I am in doubt about . . . The ones I have seen are very much different and are not stars or planets, flying at such low altitudes . . . Please believe me, this is something far beyond flying stars or planets and swamp gas, even though the gas may be responsible for some of the sightings."

Note: This sighting occurred during the same general period as the sightings at Dexter and Hillsdale, Michigan, near Ann Arbor, where many persons reported seeing strange colored lights flying through a swamp area. The lights were scientifically established to be the result of a spontaneous ignition of marsh gas in contact with the air. ■

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: March 26, 1962 at 1:35 p.m. local time/vicinity of Ramstein Air Base, West Germany.

DURATION: Five to eight seconds.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Jet fighter pilot attached to a U.S. Air Force Tactical Fighter Wing at Bitburg Air Base, West Germany.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Extremely reliable.

SHAPE: The UFO first looked like a small delta-wing jet fighter, then from another angle appeared to have the shape of a Sidewinder Missile; it differed significantly from a Sidewinder shape, however, in that it had a dark-colored snout for about one-third its length, and the other two-thirds seemed to be taken up with aerodynamic surfaces; finally, its appearance became that of a dart-shaped aerial tow-target.

DIMENSIONS: See SHAPE.

COLOR: In general, silvery.

SOUND: None.

ALTITUDE: 31,000 feet.

SPEED: Estimated at Mach 2, or twice the speed of sound.

TACTICS: The UFO flew straight and level toward the F-105 fighter-bomber that the observer was piloting at an altitude 4,000 feet higher than its level; in relationship to the F-105 aircraft, it first appeared at an eight o'clock position, moved toward three o'clock and quickly disappeared through the five o'clock position.

COMMENT: The observer's attention was drawn to the UFO by the flashing of sunlight off its surfaces. Despite its high speed, there was no visible indication of a propulsion system. Apparently it was not powered by rocket, jet or conventional reciprocating engines. No contrails were observed. The Air Force investigator ruled out the possibility that the UFO could have been a missile accidentally launched from another airplane. He stated: "If Sidewinder or other type of radar-controlled missile, it was near enough to (the observer's) aircraft to alter its course for a hit." Also ruled out were the possibilities that the UFO might have been another aircraft or a remotely controlled drone-target because of the fighter pilot's close familiarity with both aircraft and drone configurations then in use. No conclusion could be reached in this case and the sighting is listed in the Project Blue Book files as "Unidentified." ■

More on Unidentified Flying Objects
in the March issue of S&M
on sale January 26th

The Finishing Touch

(Continued from page 75)

bringing out and protecting the finish. After 24 hours, you can apply a paste finish wax that has been formulated to mate with the wood finish being used. If the piece is going to be exposed to conditions where liquid would normally harm a wax, there's a product that has been specially created for that purpose. Developed by Minwax, it's called Antique Oil Finish. Besides protecting the surface with a hard finish, it gives a dull, "hand-rubbed" look without the hours of rubbing usually required.

Don't apply it, though, to stained surfaces until they've had a chance to cure for at least 48 hours. If a gloss is preferred to a dull finish, apply a second coat 24 hours later. The Antique Oil Finish should be buffed thoroughly with a cheesecloth after it has been allowed to dry for about an hour or two.

How about some first aid measures for furniture that doesn't need a complete overhaul? For spills—from milk to martinis—wipe up the liquid immediately, then dip your finger into a liquid or paste wax and rub this into the damaged spot. If that doesn't do it, make a paste out of rottenstone and boiled linseed oil. Rub this into the spot and dry with a soft cloth. Then polish as you'd normally do.

Don't just wipe up water spills—water may get into the grain, causing it to swell. Place a double or triple layer of blotters over the spill, then press the blotters with a warm iron. If this doesn't work, camphorated oil on a lint-free cloth can be rubbed in the direction of the wood grain, then wiped dry. Repeat if necessary.

Minor nicks or scratches can be filled with a product called Blend-Fil, which comes in the form of a pencil. Just rub it on. Cigarette burns may disappear after an application of scratch-concealing polish. If not, try some rottenstone paste as above. Nail polish spills should be treated immediately, before the polish penetrates. Dip some very fine steel wool into a liquid wax and rub the spill.

An excellent way to remove dents from wood surfaces, if the wood fibers themselves aren't broken, is to use a warm iron over a damp cloth or blotter. Repeat this until the dent rises. Do this even if the fibers are broken, but finish the job by treating it as you would a burn. ■