

Australian

U F O

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The Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

POST OFFICE BOX 43,
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NEWSHEET

APRIL/MAY 1968

VUFORS P.R.O. TOURS THE NORTH:

VUFORS Public Relations Officer, Paul Norman, recently visited Queensland and the A.C.T. The following is his report of his meeting with officers of the local UFO groups:-

"During the past few years, several UFO reports have come from the area around the Parkes Radio Telescope. For the past few months, sightings in this vicinity have increased to surprising numbers.

This Society did not realize the extent of UFO activity until a three page report was received from Grenfell N.S.W., describing sightings of mystery objects near Parkes, Forbes and other nearby towns.

On the 4th and 5th of January, 1968, I made a visit to the editorial offices of the Forbes Advocate, Parkes Champion, Post and other local newspapers, where I found considerable interest among newsmen because of recent sightings. Just one week prior to this date, two of the most respected persons in Parkes had observed an object moving at high speed following a horizontal path until it made an abrupt stop in mid-air. After a few seconds in this stationary position, the UFO descended to the ground. The observers were frightened, therefore, did not approach the paddock where the strange object went down.

The object was described as disc shaped with a dark centre giving off a greenish glow.

Many similar sightings are reported from this same general vicinity of Parkes.

On the 13th and 14th of January, I met with Mr. Stan Seers, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Russell of the Queensland UFO research Bureau, and Mr. John Maskell of the local C.I.B. office in Coolangatta, where an exchange of information was made on reports coming from all over the world. Our sister Society in Queensland has won a reputation of being a dependable, objective group.

Mr. John Meskell, Senior Detective in Coolangatta, has observed at least two UFOs and has investigated other incidents related to UFO encounters.

On the 22nd of January, I met with Members and Committee of the Canberra Unidentified Flying Objects Research Society, for an informal discussion on the UFO problem. The Canberra group, only recently formed, is already demonstrating the characteristics of a well organised, dependable, objective society.

While in Canberra, I met the Officer who investigated the famous Rev.

Browning encounter in Tasmania. This R.A.A.F. Officer said that he was impressed by the details of this outstanding report. Ufologists will recall that R.A.A.F. "explained" that Rev. Browning and other witnesses had been fooled by the moon and some clouds.

This is the identical pattern being followed by officialdom throughout the world. The Air Force speak from both corners of the mouth. To the general public the UFOs are declared to be nonsense. To their own commands the UFOs are serious business, on the one hand sincere investigators are reporting the facts to Air Force Intelligence, on the other, the official Public Relations Departments are debunking the sightings to distract public attention from them."

The addresses of the abovementioned Societies are as follows :

Canberra UFO Research Society:

P.O.Box

Canberra City A.C.T.
2601.

Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau:

F.O.Box 111, North Quay
Brisbane QLD.

ODD GOINGS ON IN THE FLYING SAUCER WORLD:

If I read the portents correctly, this year's most fascinating scientific feud is already under way. It involves at least two leading experts in the field of atmospheric physics and it promises to be as divisive and relentless as any controversy of its kind.

The arguments, I am astonished to report is over the existence and nature of flying saucers and whether certain exotic strangers are visiting this planet from outer space.

About 16 months ago, the U.S. Air Force, reluctantly bowing to public opinion, invited Dr. Edward Uhler Condon, a brilliant theoretical physicist, well known for his courage and candour, to undertake an independent investigation into the phenomenon of flying saucers.

He was given \$500,000 to spend and asked to submit a report by the middle of the year.

Today, the Condon study is making headlines - but for all the wrong reasons. It is losing some of its outstanding members, in circumstances which are mysterious to say the least.

Simister rumours are circulating that private documents belonging to the University of Colorado have been leaked to outsiders hostile to the Condon cause. And, a few days ago, as officials at Colorado made the bare minimum of comment, Dr. Condon himself succumbed to a recurrent heart ailment and took to his bed.

At least four key people have vanished from the Condon team without offering a satisfactory reason.

The complete story behind the strange events in Colorado is hard to decipher. But a clue at least, may be found in the recent statements of Dr. James McDonald, the senior physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the University of Arizona and widely respected in his field.

In a wary but ominous telephone conversation, this week Dr. McDonald told me that he is "most distressed".

In the opinion of most observers, the Condon report, when it is published later this year, will dismiss any romantic idea that UFOs are interplanetary vehicles piloted by spacemen from a distant and advanced civilisation.

On the contrary, it is expected to conclude that flying saucers do not merit further urgent scientific study.

If such a report is produced, I expect to see some drama. Dr. McDonald rejects the idea that UFOs are a freak atmospheric phenomenon or a figment of an overheated public imagination.

He leans strongly to the opinion that they are extra-terrestrial in origin and guided by intelligent hands and as such represent an overwhelming important scientific problem.

CREDIT SYDNEY "TELEGRAPH" (recent date)

THEY SAW A SAUCER:

Six people reported seeing an unidentified object in the sky over Wellington for more than an hour at the weekend.

Four of the people who sighted the object had it under observation of field glasses and a telescope from 10.30 p.m. until 11.30 p.m. on Saturday.

They said the object - which was shaped like an egg with both ends chopped off - was continually moving in a circle and upwards and downwards and emitting sparks of varied colours.

Those to sight the object were Mr. E. Kitch, ambulance officer, of Wellington; Mrs. Kitch; Mr. J. Davidson, an insurance representative, of Sydney; Mr. Trevor Parker, a Soil Conservation employee, of Wellington; Mr. T. Bartley, a printer, of Wellington; and Mrs. A. McCormack, of Lee Street Wellington.

The Kitchs, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Parker were in one group and kept the object under surveillance for more than an hour from a Pery Street residence.

Mr. Bartley sighted the object on his way home from working night shift.

Mrs. McCormack sighted the object from her Lee Street home.

Mr. Davidson said yesterday that he was testing a spotlight out in dark conditions when the group happened to site the unusual object.

FILM NIGHT:

The Support Sub-Committee has arranged a film night at the Plaza Theatre on the 24th May to see the widely acclaimed science-fiction film "2001 - A Space Odyssey". The film is screened on Cinerama and is directed by the eminent American Director Stanley Kubrick with the collaboration of Arthur C. Clarke, well known to UFO researchers as an outstanding authority on space travel places.

Tickets are \$1.50 each (usual price \$1.95) and members and their friends may purchase any number by sending their remittance and stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary by not later than 16th.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

These will be held henceforth in Jerram Hall, cnr. Spring Street and Flinders Lane on the first Friday of each month at 8.p.m. Since our new hall seats over 100 persons, the Committee trusts that members will respond by attending meetings as often as possible.

AUSTRALIAN FLYING SAUCER REVIEW:

The preparation of the Society magazine's next issue is under way and distribution is anticipated within the next eight weeks.

CAPIO CONVENTION:

The Federal UFO organisation, CAPIO, will hold its annual convention in Canberra over Queen's Birthday weekend, June 8-10. The Convention affords an opportunity to UFO researchers to get together and discuss their subject and to hear papers and other items of interest presented by the delegates of the member societies. Members interested in attending may obtain further information from the Secretary.

LIBRARY:

Several new titles have been added to the library and are available for loan by post or at meetings. Members desiring an up-to-date book list should write to the Librarian.

NEW MEMBERS WANTED:

The Society's work is almost entirely financed by membership subscriptions. Members can help by interesting their friends in joining and also by renewing their own subscriptions promptly on receipt of renewal notice.

CANADIAN UFO SOCIETIES:

We are advised that our Canadian Sister Societies, CAPRO and CAPIC have amalgamated under the former's name and can be contacted at Box 1316 Winnipeg 1, Manitoba, Canada.

TEACHERS SEE SKY MYSTERIES:

Forty-one science teachers from local schools were fascinated by an illustrated lecture on UFOs (unidentified flying objects), last Thursday night week, at Peninsula School, Mt Eliza.

Speakers were two members of the Victorian Unidentified Flying Objects Research Society - secretary Mrs. J. Magee, and public relations officer Mr. Paul Norman.

Their well-documented lecture included photos and details of recent sightings of UFOs, including some seen in Victoria.

They emphasised that their society thoroughly investigated all reports of particularly interesting phenomena, and not just brief sightings of bright objects.

The science teachers left with a determination to report any findings to Box 43, Moorabbin 3189.

Four scientific ware-houses had displays of science teaching aids in the foyer of the science building, and considerable business was done before and after the lecture.

"STANDARD" Frankston 10th April, 1968



GENERAL MEETINGS:

These will be held periodically in Jerrard Hall, corner Spring Street and Rindlers Lane on the first Friday of each month at 8.0 p.m. Since our new hall seats over 100 persons, the Committee trusts that members will respond by attending meetings as often as possible.

ANNUAL MEETING AND CAUSAL REVIEW:

The 1968 Annual Meeting of the Society will be held on the 10th April at 8.0 p.m. in the Jerrard Hall. The meeting will be held on the 10th April at 8.0 p.m. in the Jerrard Hall.

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