

RECEIVED

# U.F.O.I.C. NEWSLETTER

SEP 15 1967

ASTRONOMY DEPARTMENT  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a newspaper

No 15 August, 1967

Although the local scene was dominated by the visit of Prof. James McDonald from the U.S, UFO activity continued overseas, as well as several interesting reports of sightings which took place in Australia.

It is felt that possibly the visit by the eminent professor in itself may have stimulated the local newspapers to give more space the UFO question, albeit in a much more serious and positive vein than has been the treatment given to the subject on several earlier occasions. We hope that this trend will continue in the future. It should be mentioned, nevertheless, that omission was made of the address given by the Secretary General of U.N. to the Assembly early last month, in which he emphasized the seriousness of the situation relating to UFO phenomena and put forward the suggestion that scientists be encouraged to correlate research on the subject on an international basis.

??

21/May/66

## WORLD NEWS

PILOT FLIES NEAR SAUCER A saucer shaped UFO with a dome on top "as clear as seeing a Cadillac drifting by" was observed in bright daylight on May 21st 1966, by William Powell, chief pilot for Sears-Roebuck. At 3.15 p.m Powell was flying up 4,500 ft. 3 miles north-west from Willow-Grove Naval Air Station, near Philadelphia. There were four other Navy jets in groups of two ahead of him, when suddenly he noticed a solid bright object, apparently on his altitude at front left of his cockpit. The object, an inverted saucer, reddish in colour and with a glistening dome, moved from the left to the right towards one of jet groups ahead, approaching from their rear. Passing at 300 ft. distance in front of him, Powell estimated the diameter of the UFO as being approximately 20 feet. No signs of rotation, exhaust or any outstanding features were observed. Then it suddenly accelerated and disappeared.

||

UFO SCORCHES HIGHWAY Mr Clifton N. Crowder of South Hill, Virginia, was driving along the tarred highway at about 9.00 p.m. on the 21st April, 1967 some 75 miles south of Richmond, Virginia, when suddenly about 500 feet ahead of him he noticed in the beam of his headlights a strange object on the road. It was a circular body about 12 feet in diameter and 16 feet tall, shaped like a water-tank standing on end, on legs about 3 feet long. Continuing towards the object until some 250 feet from it he saw it suddenly burst off with white flame shooting from its base and disappear in the distance. Crowder said that he watched the road burning for several seconds after the take-off and on closer examination of the area, disclosed four round holes some  $\frac{3}{4}$ " in depth and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, surrounding an area of 3 feet diameter which was blackened and blistered tar. Samples of the burnt and unburnt bitumen was sent away for chemical investigation. The incident was also watched by a tobacco farmer a few hundred yards away, who reported he saw the object shooting away and vividly lighting up the area. At 9.15 pm that same night, members of Fort Lee Fire Department, some 50 miles away, watched two blinking and revolving red lights, approaching directly towards them at about 600 feet. The object stopped, turned 90 degrees, hovered for a while and then disappeared fairly slowly northwards. Further reports were received referring to the same incident from several other witnesses in the surrounding districts, claiming that the

object changed colour from red to orange-yellow and in some instances dropped to tree-top level, divided into two parts, then again re-united and disappeared behind a hill.

12/ Feb / 67  
UFO AT WOLLSTONECRAFT On Sunday 12th February, 1967, at 7 30 p m Mrs. Pile of Wollstonecraft, Sydney, N.S.W. a former University lecturer was watching the news on television with her husband when suddenly a bright object, travelling very slowly at eye level, attracted their attention through the window of their second floor home unit. It was just hovering over the roof of a nearby building 150 yards away. Mrs. Pile picked up a pair of binoculars which were handy and focused on the object bringing it so close as to be able to easily distinguish any outstanding features in detail. It was a perfect sphere surrounded by a belt of smaller spheres just below its middle. The whole object, to the naked eye, seemed to be about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 full moons in width. It glowed orange-red and appeared to be pulsating. It began to gently drift away behind the silhouette of the buildings in front of them. Mr. Pile, witnessing the event, supported his wife's description and could not account for it being anything of identifiable nature. The same object was seen some minutes earlier by several independent witnesses from nearby areas but at different angles, as it moved over Wollstonecraft. Reports of similar sightings over the same area were received from time to time over the next week or so following.

LIFE ON VENUS DEBATED Lunar Orbiter No. 1 in photographing the moon surface on 23rd August, 1966 caught with a few shots the earth as seen from the moon. The image of the earth turned out to closely resemble the image of Venus as photographed through earth's telescopes. Our planet appeared as an envelope in clouds without the possibility of visual penetration to its surface. This raises the question as to whether Venus may therefore harbour life as does earth, for in 1965 Dr. Strong, of John Hopkins Astrophysics laboratory in Baltimore reported evidence of water in the Venusian atmosphere. The temperature estimation of Venusian surface by spacecraft Mariner 11 which passed within 20,000 m of Venus recorded 1350 degrees Fahrenheit, thus perhaps indicating a hot surface of that planet. However, our sputniks circling earth also record temperatures of over 1000 degrees as they orbit 120 miles above the earth, which, on this basis, should exclude life on this planet. The late Prof. Manning of U.S. thoroughly studied the Venusian life question and came to the conclusion that the surface of Venus may be only four degrees hotter than our earth temperatures. In view of this contradictory evidence it would appear that the question will only finally be answered when space vehicles land on Venus to then report back actual temperatures of its surface.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UFO'S On the 24th June 1947, Kenneth Arnold, flying his plane, reported seeing a group of nine disc-shaped objects skimming at high speed along the ridges of Mt. Rainier, U.S.A. By this sighting the modern era of "flying saucers" officially began. During the subsequent twenty years thousands of similar reports have been recorded all over the world, thus making UFO a global phenomena. This period has been characterized by persistent conflict between UFO researchers, political and scientific bodies. The first claiming that sufficient evidence exists to classify this phenomena as extra-terrestrial space craft visiting our planets while the other groups considered them misinterpretation of natural phenomena and, as such, regard flying saucers as nonsense. With the present number of UFO reports coming from world capital cities as in contrast to earlier reports mainly from country areas, the subject has gained much greater attention by military and scientific circles than ever before.

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a newspaper

Colorado University has received a grant of some \$300,000 for research into UFO's and the co-operation of the Air Force is being shown in the form of supply of aircraft to assist the researches in any way possible, as well as making available certain restricted information that was previously withheld from the public

Although much is anticipated from the University's studies and findings the subject is in fact of such magnitude, that 18 months of work from the small number of personnel involved, can hardly be expected to arrive at completely satisfactory results that UFO enthusiasts throughout the world are hoping. It is anticipated, at best, the university reports will acknowledge the existence of new phenomena as in contrast to previous opinion as misinterpretation of known phenomena, but not recognize UFO's, as being extra-terrestrial spacecraft. In this light we can expect the UFO dilemma will still continue for years to come, and will only be answered when man establishes a definite contact with some cosmic civilisation by his explorations in space, or unless current space visitors provide us with concrete evidence of their existence, possibly with many simultaneous landings throughout the world.

U.F.O. NEWS & FORTHCOMING EVENTS During the end of June and early July, the UFOIC acted as host in Sydney to Prof James E McDonald Senior Physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics and Prof. of Meteorology of the Arizona University. The doctor was met at the airport on arrival by UFOIC committee members and was later entertained that same evening at the Hotel Australia.

Since the Professor's interest was focused on the meeting of reliable witnesses of UFO events in Australia, UFOIC contacted various people and arranged subsequent interviews. On Sunday 25th June, a meeting was organized at the home of Mr Benedict, to which various leading University & CSIRO scientists were invited. Those present included Prof Butler of Sydney University and Dr. Bowen of CSIRO whilst apologies were received from Dr Martyn and Dr Wood who nevertheless were able to meet the Professor on later days by appointment.

At this meeting Prof. McDonald outlined the purpose of his study of the subject and highlighted the mis-handling of the matter by the American Air Force by mis-representing the question of UFO'S to both scientists and the public. Interesting discussion followed which was tape-recorded, with the visitors and UFOIC members taking an active part.

Subsequently Prof. McDonald and Dr. Lindtner visited Sydney University where the Professor delivered a lecture to CSIRO Radiophysics Dept personnel, and at which several leading scientists were present. Interviews with Sydney newspapers, radio and television stations were arranged which were favourably received and resulted in a great number of letters and phone enquiries regarding the subject. On return from successful visits to Melbourne, Hobart and Brisbane Prof. McDonald was guest speaker at a UFOIC social on 7th July when approximately 70-80 people, including three reporters, attended and enjoyed a very interesting evening. In appreciation of his stimulating address and general co-operation during his stay in Sydney, the UFOIC committee presented him with two books on Australia and aboriginal handicraft souvenirs, also, for his wife and daughters a gift of an opal necklace and earrings and two pairs of carved earrings were made.

The following day interviews were arranged with the Government Astronomer, Dr. Wood and Dr. Martyn of the CSIRO Camden, and it is felt that these interviews should result in much closer ties being forged in future relations between the UFOIC and the various scientific organisations throughout Australia.

Professor McDonald departed for the United States on 10th July, leaving behind the impression of a man whose knowledge, enthusiasm and determination may indeed have stirred the scientific world into a serious study of this phenomenon and possibly trigger greater research at an international level.

Adyar Hall. 6th June, 1967.

The last meeting at the Adyar Hall was well attended with almost a "full house". This occasion was the screening of the first film evening for the year and the selection proved most entertaining and interesting. Feature of the evening was the well known, among ufologists, science fiction production of "This Island Earth". The film was largely fiction but the general story was founded on the many actual UFO sightings reported in the press and magazine publications of that particular period. Altogether the evening was regarded as a successful one. The next film night is planned for December.

Newcastle Visit

Following an invitation by a group of Newcastle people who have shown interest in the activities of our Society, a party of committee members journeyed to that city last Thursday, 27th July, to assist them in the establishing of a branch of UFOIC in their area by way of a public lecture by our President Dr. Lindtner and committee member Mr. F. Phillips. The talks were very enthusiastically received and there is every indication that a very active sub-branch might be functioning in Newcastle in the very near future.

Next Social

Our social evening will continue to be held at our President's home at Strathfield on Friday, 1st September next. Due to the limitations of space at Dr. Lindtner's home, it has been decided that all currently financial members will be issued with membership cards which must be presented at all future social evenings. It is also requested that, to relieve Mrs. Lindtner of the burden and expense of providing refreshments for so many visitors, ladies may kindly provide a plate and gentlemen liquid refreshment. Unfortunately it has also become necessary to confine visitors to members and partners only, again because of lack of space.

Review. Due to the unsatisfactory response of members to fulfil their responsibility regarding payment of fees, we are becoming very concerned as to how we will be able to finance the printing of the next issue of the "Review". Although the printing of the "Review" is usually covered by returns from sales, several hundred "Reviews" despatched to different agencies have not yet been paid for; therefore it is of the utmost necessity that members who may have overlooked payment of their dues, do so immediately, so that we may proceed with speed in the publication of our next edition of the "Review".

Correspondence. Please note that all correspondence directed to the UFOIC must be addressed to the Secretary, G.P.O. Box 4796, Sydney. 2001.

000000000000000000