

FLYING SAUCER NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU & FLYING SAUCER CLUB



The Lossiemouth Saucer (see Book review)

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POSTAL

Saucerers



The following readers would like to correspond with others, on saucers and kindred subjects:-

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((Applications for free insertion here should be on a separate piece of paper from other correspondence, and marked "P.S. COLUMN" in top corner)).

PREVIOUS ISSUE

Our apologies to a few of our readers who did not receive their copies of the number 6 issue. This was due to an underestimate of the actual BFSB/FSC membership, which turned out to be even larger than imagined. A re-print is being done just as soon as this present issue is off the presses (!) - and so if you were one of the unlucky ones, you'll be receiving your own copy in due course. Much of the very interesting material will not lose any value with the delay.

"WHY NOT A MONTHLY?"

There have been a number of requests recently that we make the NEWS a monthly publication, and indeed we could easily fill these pages monthly with the material coming to hand.

However, those making the requests can have no idea at all of the work involved in each issue, or we are sure they would be begging us to make it an annual, if only to retain our (?) sanity, and at least get a little sleep occasionally!

(When the Flying Saucer Club was started up in 1952, a dozen carbon copies of the first bulletin sufficed. Now, on this issue, I'm due to crank this handle some 50,000 times - and then start the stapling...) but enough editorial moaning - and get to the point!... which is that -

MONTHLY REPORTS are soon to be issued by BFSB and will feature some specific sighting reported on by Bureau Investigators. This new scheme is planned by Mr. Graham Knewstubb, BFSB's Director of Research, who writes on page 19.

We feel that a Quarterly magazine (and the NEWS - now nearing the 2000-mark in circulation - may very soon go into letter-press printed format -- and even reach the newsstands!) - supplemented by these detailed reports and additional projected material, should be sufficient for even the most ardent Saucerer.

Wishing all Saucerers

a MOMENTOUS New Year



how to talk to a MARTIAN?

EDITORIAL
MARTIAN

RECENTLY I was privileged to attend a meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Flying Saucer Group - ably directed by Mrs. Freda Dann - and was able to talk over some aspects of "Saucer-landings" with Lord Dowding, who, together with Lady Dowding, is an esteemed member of the Group.

We agreed that the present state of confusion about Saucer-men contacts was an anomaly and that it seemed strange that after studying Earth for - apparently - many decades, the actual "contacts" should be made in such a seemingly haphazard manner, with evidently no organised plan behind them - and as far as can be deduced - little or no point to them! One had the feeling that these emissaries were self-appointed, and operating on a "free-lance" basis. This applies especially to the more recent European reports, though of course a large number of these must be sheer fantasy.

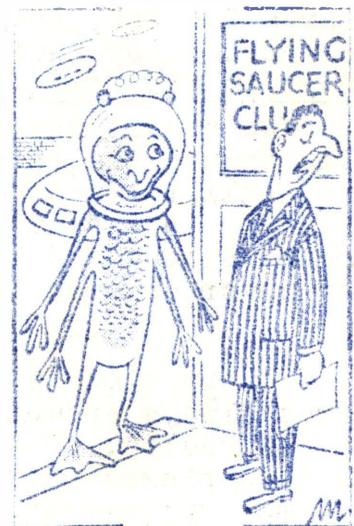
Lord Dowding then put forward an idea which may be well worth all Groups' serious study, and may prove of very great value in establishing some intelligible contact with the visitors. Since the majority of the Saucer-men seem so tentative and hesitant in their approach, maybe it is up to us to make a plan. Prepare a kind of "Child's Guide To Knowledge" - to be carried by each and every good Saucerer for use if he or she should be the next to meet a Saucer-man face-to-face.

It would have to be very basic, clear and simple. Probably the start could be made with digits, or numerals (not, of course, assuming a decimal system, since (did anyone notice?) certain Saucerians may have more or less than the ten fingers whereby our own decimal system came into being). Proceed from there with a properly drawn diagram (no scratchings in the dust!) of our solar system and then perhaps some fairly universal objects - with our names for them.

That is the germ on the idea. A method, to establish some sort of common understanding - with certainty - but, perhaps above all to show that we want to do so.

Followers of some schools of FS thought will no doubt say that all this is a most ridiculous piece of presumption and impertinence on our part, and that the Saucer-folk can speak all our languages and even read our thoughts. That is possible; but if it is so, then they don't seem to be doing very much about it! And in any case, there are those Saucerers who reserve the right to think for themselves about these things, and who do not accept what they are told by any 'chosen' few as the absolute, ultimate finality of what's-what in the universe..... or even "Who's-who" in Saucers.

If they are correct, then we shall do no



"Here come some more applicants for membership!"

harm by "showing willing" - and if they are not - we may do a great deal of good.

Sooner or later, more frequent landings must take place (unless humanity has no part in their scheme of things, in which case the FS may depart and never be heard of again, at least until we ourselves "graduate" into space) - and someone ought to be ready for that day.

Of course, it is to be hoped that Governments and Authorities "in the know" (as rumours - albeit the most wild rumours - have it the Governments are) - already have their plans for contact drawn up by experts in the field. But since they are so reticent in publicly even acknowledging the very existence of Space Visitors, it is perhaps as well that citizens themselves should "Be Prepared".

R.H.

BRITISH

RADAR

sightings

"STRANGE SIGHTS IN SKY BAFFLE WAR OFFICE"

RADAR operators over a large part of Britain are watching their screens closely for the next appearance of a mystery formation in the sky which has the defence experts baffled.

Six times in a few weeks, a strange pattern of "blips" has been plotted on their screens, moving from East to West. Neither the War Office which controls inland radar, nor the Air Ministry can say what these blips represent.

A careful check has shown that they have not been caused by any identifiable aircraft.

TWO MILES UP

The most recent appearance was on November 1st. The blips are said to appear from nowhere, usually about midday, flying at a height of 12,000ft in an East-West direction. First seen by a civilian radar scientist, they have since been plotted by all radar sites in the area. They have been seen both on fine and cloudy mornings, and always in the same formation. A War Office spokesman said:

"We cannot say what they are. They first appear in a 'U' - or badly shapen 'hairpin' formation. After a time they converge into two parallel lines and then take up a 'Z' formation before disappearing. They are invisible to the human eye, but on radar screens they appear as lots and lots of dots, formed by between 40 and 50 echoes. They cover an area in the sky miles long and miles wide..

AREA KEPT SECRET

"Every time they have been seen, they followed the same pattern. It was always around midday. We have checked and found that our sets are not faulty. We are still maintaining a watch. All our sets in the area picked them up".

The "DISPATCH" reporter stated that when he spoke to one man who had seen them, he told him that he had been given very high-level orders to maintain the utmost secrecy as to the area over which these objects are tracked.

(From "Sunday Dispatch" 7/11/54)

The CONTINENTAL SCENE



THE fabulous and unprecedented avalanche of sightings and landing reports during September and October followed hard on the claim of two NORWEGIAN sisters who said they had met a dark, long-haired saucer-man, near MOSJØEN in August. This was later officially put down to an American helicopter pilot's visit to the area, and we were still wondering if the shoulder-length hair-do was to become standard in the U.S. Air Force when another saucer-landing claim was made, at QUAROUBLE, in France - heralding an incredible flood of similar incidents.

A 34-year old steelworker, MARIUS DEWILDE, claimed to have seen a saucer parked on the railway line near his home in Quarouble, attended by two 3ft 'men' in helmeted suits, with legs but no arms. When he tried to head them off, a green light shot out from the Saucer which paralysed him, he said. Marks were later found on the track.

After this, reports flowed in so fast that it began to look as if all La belle France had suddenly become Saucer-happy - and the rest of Europe too!

Fifteen people at CHANBERY saw a grey, plate-shaped object, hovering over the mountains; people near FEYZIN saw a dome-shaped 'apparatus' giving off a white, magnesium-like light, moving silently upwards; a landing was reported at CHATELLERNAULT, the sole witness having met a "sort of diver" who took him by the arm, uttering unintelligible sounds and then paralysed him with a ray from his saucer. Two witnesses saw a three-legged "flying mushroom" in a field at FAREMOUTIERS, and - again one was paralysed - at 400ft - and felt 'little pricklings' like electricity. Then the Saucer rose slowly and silently, leaving imprints of its tripod legs. A similar paralysing device featured in a reported landing at MARCILLY-SUR-VIENNE, seen by six miners and their Foreman. At LILLE, where crab-shaped saucers had been seen by many witnesses, a retired miner confessed to having sent off hundreds of paper fire-balloons, which must have been responsible for at anyrate, a large number of reports in the immediate locality.

Another landing, at DROME, brought forth a "man, the size of a boy", enveloped in a kind of 'plastic bag' - whilst yet another saucer-man, "dressed like a deep sea diver" appeared at VOUNEUIL. The same sort of attire was also described by a retired Customs Inspector, who said a Saucerian's reddish coloured craft landed 40 yards from him at PERPIGNAN, but this visitor was frightened away by barking dogs.

A railwayman at MONTLUCON said he saw a Saucerian, either covered with hair or wearing a long hairy overcoat, outside a diesel oil store. He spoke apparent gibberish, but one word sounded like "Gasoil"!

At DIGES, a housewife saw a curious cigar-shaped machine in a

field, standing beside which was a tall, dark-skinned man wearing a khaki hat. He said nothing, but she was scared and ran off. A couple of hours later, man and machine had gone.

The Mayor of CHATEAU-NEUF-DU-PAPE charged his village Gendarme with the duty of 'impounding' any saucers or cigars that land in his municipality, as he had decreed that such machines should be forbidden no matter what their nationality! And BELGIUM has founded a "National Committee To Welcome The Martians" - which includes lawyers, doctors, professors and businessmen. On the more serious side, however, it is noted that BELGIUM'S ROYAL OBSERVATORY is studying reports of the mysterious flying bodies.

ITALY, TOO!

During the turmoil, a diversion was created when thousands of people saw a "flying cigar" near ROME, on September 17th. It flew at about 3,600ft, along a 15-mile stretch of coast, West of the City, and was TRACKED BY RADAR for 40 minutes. It was silver on one side and red on the other, had a large antenna amidships and trailed a kind of luminous smoke from its rear pointed end.

Saucers were later seen over PESCARA, AQUILA LANCIANO and BOLOGNA. In FLORENCE, a football match was held up for half an hour while some 15,000 spectators watched a flight of saucers which dropped "candy-floss" type streamers. (Previously noted in France, New Zealand and the U.S.A. in recent years, this substance has usually disintegrated before an analysis could be made. The Florence floss, however, has been examined by an Italian professor who said it resembled borosilicate glass - though whether he meant visually or chemically is not stated).

Italy had a Saucer-landing, too, as witnessed by a 40-year old peasant woman of POGIA AMBRIA, who told police that two 3ft high Martians had snatched a bunch of carnations from her hand and made off in their cylindrical machine. Resulting from all this activity, a "Friends of the Martians" league has been formed in Rome, to welcome further visitors.

FRANCE, however, was obviously the real focal point, and reports continued unabated, including SIGHTINGS at Seine et Oise, St.Brieuc, La Rochelle, Corbigny, St.Germaine, Tourriers, Fertimace, Lisleux, Coulon, Clamency, Cote d'Azure and Calais - and LANDINGS at Lectudy, Toulouse, Bressuire, Chateauroux, Vron and Pierre-Dur - the latter saucer leaving small piles of 'cinders' in a 5ft circle, each pile containing a black rod-shaped object.

Naturally some incidents resulting from 'misinterpretation' have occurred in

French "RADAR" Magazine's front page impression of QUAROUBLE incident.



what has all the appearance of an hysterical "Hunt for Martians". At SICENY, a man fired two shots at his farmer neighbour who was out repairing his car one night, narrowly missing his head. Later he explained that the figure, illuminated by two lamps, looked like a "Martian repairing his Flying Saucer". In the village of TROUSSEY, a sugar-beet gatherer who had not cut his hair for several months, was manhandled by a crowd who mistook him for a "hairy Martian". And at TAINT-L'HERMITAGE, a vineyard worker, deciding that his neighbour looked "extraordinary" in the dusk, beat him so severely that one ear was torn off!

And so another chapter is added to the Saucer Chronicles. The foregoing has of necessity been but a brief resume, culled from the wad of material on hand - much of which still remains to be translated. It would be difficult to attempt a summing up at this stage, except to say that, although it can be gathered that there has been a great deal of misinterpretation, hysteria and even hoaxing, the "smoke" has been so very voluminous as to indicate the presence of a very real "fire".

We should like to present a much more detailed and exhaustive study of all these reports at some future date, and it may be possible to publish this as a separate pamphlet or bulletin rather than to devote an entire issue of the NEWS to the subject.

THE EDITOR IS ALWAYS GLAD TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM AS TO THE MAKE-UP OF THIS MAGAZINE, BUT REGRETS THAT HE CAN NOT, FOR THE MOST PART, ENTER INTO CORRESPONDENCE WITH READERS, NOW THAT THERE ARE SO MANY. YOUR POSTCARDS ARE NEVERTHELESS VERY WELCOME!

ANOTHER CASE OF "BENDERISM" ?

In the October 1954 issue of "NEXUS" (a saucer mag published in New Jersey, USA) the editor announced that he had just obtained "irrefutable evidence" on the nature of Saucers, "due to a long-awaited leak from a high official source" - and promised full details in the next issue.

In the November edition, however, he states: "I now owe my readers an apology. I must state that the documents referred to above are no longer in my possession, and that I am not at liberty to make any further reference to them; nor am I permitted to elaborate as to why the information I promised you cannot be presented in this or any future issue. Suffice to say that I simply am unable to publish this information, much as I would like to.

"I WOULD LIKE TO CAUTION ALL FLYING SAUCER RESEARCHERS TO BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS IN DEALING WITH CERTAIN PHASES OF THE SAUCER MYSTERY".

The only difference between this and the BENDER episode (exactly 12 months previously) seems to be that the magazine still continues to publish other saucer information. How others can be cautious if the "certain phases" are not specified is a moot point, but the magazine had definitely been "slanted" towards the suspicion that many "saucers" were actually a secret American saucer-like device.

EXCLUSIVE!

Full Report on the

Ranton affair

From GAVIN GIBBONS, our Roving Investigator.

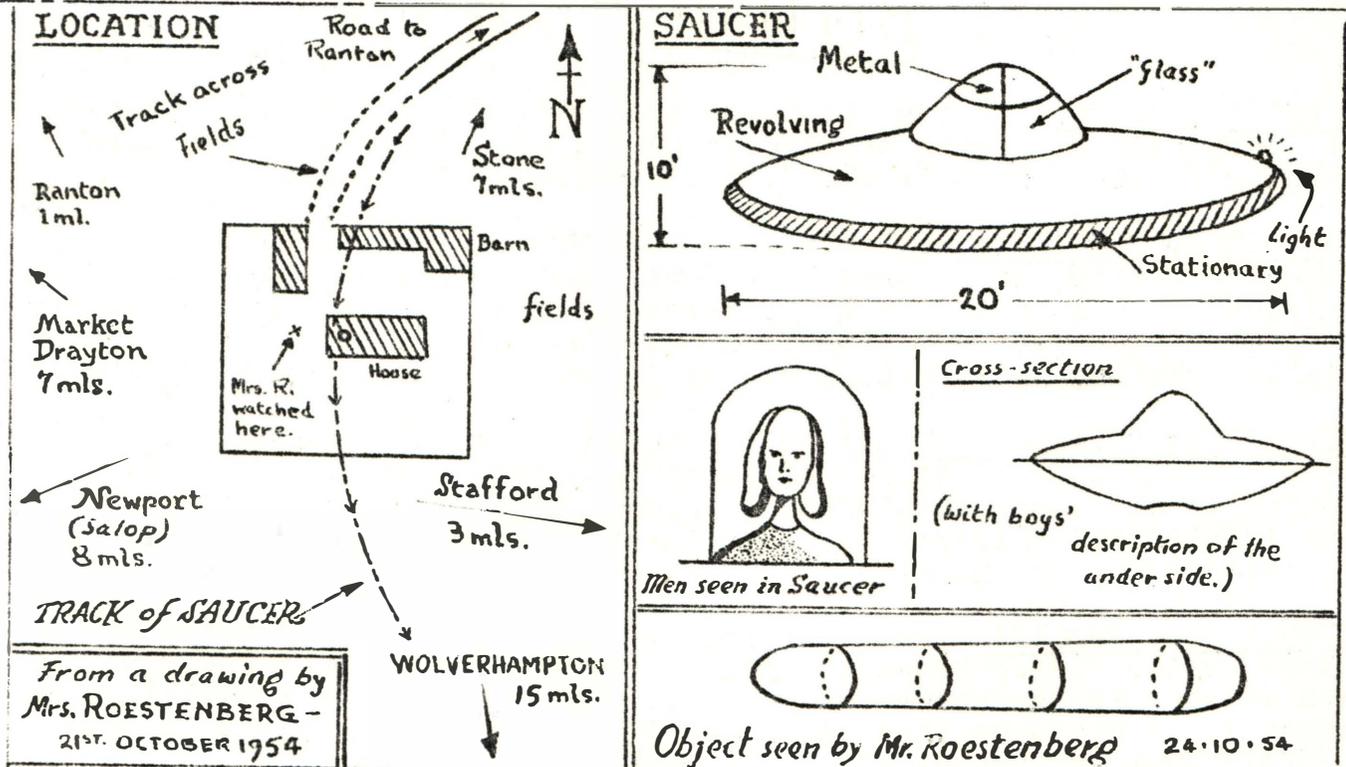
RANTON, Staffordshire, England; October 21st. 1954.

Mrs. Roestenberg, of Vicarage Farm, her two sons aged eight and six, and her little girl aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ were in the house when at about 5.45 they heard a terrific hissing noise, just as if water had been thrown on the fire, only much louder. They all rushed out and were astounded to see a strange object in the sky above them. "It's a jet!" cried one of the boys, and they rushed to the back, ready for it, but it didn't come. Turning round, they were amazed to see it hovering just above one of their chimneys. "It seemed to be moving very slowly for an aeroplane", said Mrs. Roestenberg, when I asked her what her first impression had been when she had run out of the front door at the first sound of the thing.

It consisted of a dome over a saucer. (See sketch). The dome - part was divided vertically and horizontally, thus making four sections. The front two sections were of some transparent material, and the back two were metallic. The upper side of the saucer itself was revolving (she couldn't remember which way) and the lower part remained stationary. Mrs. Roestenberg did not herself see the under side, but the boys said it stuck out a little. They were definite that there were no landing spheres as on the Adamski and Coniston Saucers. The colour was brilliant aluminium silver. She could not remember the colour behind the two men in the transparent panel....

The saucer tipped at an angle, presumably so that the crew could look at Mrs. Roestenberg and the children. All thought it was going to land and the children flattened themselves out as they would in an air raid. The two men in the saucer appeared to have skins much the same as ours, but had very high foreheads, the features being in the lower half of the face. Their hair came down to their shoulders, she said, and they were dressed in what seemed to be ski-ing suits. They never moved, and looked stern and forbidding. They had "glass bowls" over their heads, and the boys thought they could see breathing apparatus. After the terrified foursome had stared at the spectacle for about 15 seconds, the machine ascended at an angle of 45° - making no sound as it moved.

A flashing, purple-blue light (flashing at about the rate of the red aircraft beacon on the Wrekin) - mounted on the 'front' of the saucer came into action when the thing moved, and kept on all the time. Thinking the craft had gone, Mrs. Roestenberg dashed into the house to draw what she had seen. But after ascending in a Southerly direction it suddenly began to circle the house in an anti-clockwise direction and left a trail like that of a jet-plane. When it had circled the house one and a half times - by which time the boys had called her out again - it suddenly streaked up at 60° in a northward direction until lost to sight. "I've never seen anything move so fast!" said Mrs. Roestenberg, "much faster than the fastest jet".



ONLY WHEN MOVING HORIZONTALLY DID IT LEAVE ANY TRAIL*. Mrs. Roestenberg thought it was a jet at first - and one was in the sky at the time. It was just beginning to get dark, and the saucer's trail appeared like a pencil line against the blue sky. It was a perfect day, with not a cloud in the sky.

Intrigued by his wife's experience, the following Sunday, October 24th, after lunch, Mr. Roestenberg climbed up to the chimney over which the saucer had hovered; partly to see if there were any trace of anything interesting - which there was not - but mainly to see if he could see anything in the 'space-ship' line. Believe it or not, his wish was almost immediately granted!

Suddenly, to the South East, he saw a cylindrical, sausage-shaped thing, about 25-30ft long, aluminium coloured and divided into four or five segments. His wife, called out to look, said it was the same colour as the saucer, but a friend staying with them insisted that there were dark patches where the wings ought to have been (the object being about the size of a fighter plane). However, Mr. Roestenberg examined it intently and could see neither wings nor tail; only the lines round it separating it into segments. It appeared South-east of where they were and was about 30° high. It flew round in an anti-clockwise direction, and then went into a bank of cloud.

*Editor's note: Contrails are normally only produced by aircraft flying at fairly high altitudes, apart from certain American jet types (such as the Sabre) which emit a smoky ('burnt paraffin') trail. This, however, is quite tenuous and disperses quickly.

THIS QUARTER'S
LIST OF

British SIGHTINGS

(Gt. Britain & Ireland).

JULY 4th. JERSEY: Strange light seen over St. Aubyn's Bay. Appeared to be "dark ball with ring of fire round it, and with light streamers hanging straight down from it". 11.15-45pm. 2 Witnesses.

('Jersey Evening Post' 5/7/54)

JULY 22nd. GUERNSEY: St Peter Port resident claimed to have seen an object described as "a grey half-dome, stationary, and appeared to be balanced on a wheel. The wheel revolved in an anti-clockwise direction, with blue jets escaping from numerous holes". He had also seen a similar machine the previous month. ('Jersey Evening Post' 23/7/54).

JULY 27th. ST.ATHAN (Glam): Brilliant sphere which changed to a 'pancake' shaped object before making off at speed - watched by R.A.F. control-tower staff at airfield, through high-power binoculars. "Not any identifiable aircraft". Seen in afternoon. Est. height: 10,000ft. No balloons up at the time.

AUGUST 1st. DUBLIN: A research worker claimed to have seen a "strange bluish-white object" travelling in a straight course over the mountain and watched it for about ten seconds. Estimated to be travelling at about 1,000 mph - at about 5,000ft. "Trail of flaming pieces seemed to fall away at each side". (Irish Times, 3/8/54).

Later another witness wrote to the Dublin Evening Mail, stating he and a friend saw the object for about 30 seconds, and that it was a large disc or globe, encircled by a ring of flame which was revolving at a fast rate (compare with Guernsey report) giving the impression the disc was rolling through the sky. In its own light, a trail of smoke was just visible. No sound was heard, and this witness estimated the speed to have been only that of "a fast jet".

AUGUST 6th. BARRY (Glam): Large number of people witnessed at about 7pm a "very bright mushroom-like object" west of Barry. It was stationary long enough for observers to call witnesses from nearby houses and was pulsating. It changed shape a number of times before assuming a 'pancake' shape and making off at speed. ('Barry Herald' and 'South Wales Echo' - 7/8/54).

AUGUST 13th. CARDIFF: Many Cardiff residents, including the Lord Mayor and Mayoress, reported "two silver spheres" or discs at 7.15pm which remained still for about 5 mins. It was like "two huge spheres suspended one above the other and joined by a bar" said the Mayor. Later, the R.A.F. Met. Station at Rhoose issued this statement: "At 18.50 GMT a bright object was sighted. Bearing 190°, elevation about 7° - visible for half a minute, being lost behind cloud. No obvious movement. The object was similar in appearance to a balloon".

("Western Mail" 14/8/54).

AUGUST ? CALNE, (Wilts): 'Many residents on Calne's North End housing estate have in recent weeks seen bright saucer-like objects travelling across the sky at high speed towards nightfall. The objects which bear no relation to aeroplanes and vary in size - have been observed on several different evenings, travelling in a west-east direction'. ('Wiltshire Gazette' 19/8/54).

AUGUST 13th. SEIGHFORD, (Staffs): A "droning noise" at 1.20am attracted attention to a single pin-point of light in the sky, hovering fairly low in the vicinity of Great Bridgeford or Seighford. "The noise continued and the light remained circling slowly in the area for about ten minutes. The hovering was done with no acceleration of an engine. It climbed and turned and then 'sidled off' in the direction of Stoke still with no sound of acceleration", said a witness.

('Stafford Newsletter' 21/8/54).

Note: The Vicar of Seighford reported seeing a "flying crab" in this area on 25/6/54 - featured in our last issue - and we note that there is a Royal Ordnance factory located in the heart of this wooded country. Also, close to the village of Seighford is a very large wartime airfield.

AUGUST 26th. BIRMINGHAM: A number of people in the city saw a bright bluish-white light, which appeared to be the size of an orange, at about 9.30pm. It made no sound and seemed to leave a trail of sparks. Officials said there was night flying in progress and that it was probably navigation lights (!) reflected on cloud. Later it was also reported from West Bromwich, Oldbury, Tyseley, Leamington Spa and Belbroughton. One report said: "vivid green with white ring round it, which left a white trail with bright red sparks".

('Birminham Evening Dispatch' 27/8/54).

AUGUST 26th. STOURPORT: At about the same time as the above sightings, three people in Stourport and one in Kidderminster said they saw a luminous object in the sky travelling towards Birmingham. One described it as "a ball of fire shaped like a saucer, about half the size of the moon and coloured blue with red edging".

('Evening News & Times'-Worcs, 27/8/54).

AUGUST 26th. BATH: At least five people saw a bright shining object in the sky, between 6.30 and 8.15pm. It seemed to be a shiny oblong, "just as though an oblong had been cut out of the sky, with a light shining through". Seen through binoculars, however, it proved to be "like an upside-down saucer". Round the bottom rim there was a white light, and it appeared to stay in the same place for some time. At intervals there were flashes of blue and red lights. Then it started to fade. As it faded it moved in the direction of Bath. After everything else had gone, there was still a ring of white light where the edge had been.

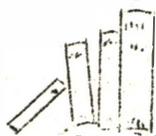
('Bath Chronicle' -- 30-31/8/54).

AUGUST 26th. PLYMOUTH: Object, variously described as "like a figure eight, upright" as "hexagonal" and "a round silvery object emitting a blue and green flame" - though all reports said it had a comet-like tail - was estimated to have been at 8-10,000 ft. altitude. On the same night, another witness said he had seen at a height of only 50 ft -



"Look, Mum, one of them illusions!"

Weekend Mail



BOOK REVIEWS



"SPACE, GRAVITY and the FLYING SAUCER"

by Leonard G. Cramp. (T. Werner Laurie: 10/6d).

At last! Here is a really 'meaty' book on saucers. At least, not on saucers themselves so much as saucer motive power.

Of course, the idea of an "inertia-less drive" was accepted in pre-war Science-fiction; writers had to 'invent' it, as a means to their 'Space-Opera' ends - and in fact, if we are ever to reach the stars, it has to come, (The Science-fiction conception was, in fact, remarked upon in 'Flying Saucer News', last Winter issue, in the editorial comment on 'Gravity Reconsidered') - but Mr. Cramp gives us far more than just the idea. He goes very thoroughly into the whole subject of Gravity, Momentum and Inertia, and shows the reader, by analogy and diagram, just why this "G-field Theory" must be correct.

In brief, it is really the force of gravity, applied in any desired direction - and so the crew of a G-propelled craft would be actually 'dropping' (in 'free-fall') whichever way they went - or at whatever acceleration. Ergo: no ill-effects on crew from instantaneous acceleration to near-light velocity.... or faster. (The author also explains why in his opinion this superluminary speed may after all be possible, since a new set of 'rules' might apply after the Einsteinian 'limit').

It must have been extremely satisfying to the author, to see his theories - also formulated before the War - begin to fit all the reported behaviour of the "saucers", as they began to appear. I am sure he has the answer, and now that this theory has been put into such a readable and scientifically acceptable form, it is to be hoped that it will reach some of Those in High Places who can channel some research in the right direction

The latter part of the book is devoted to an examination of the Adamski photos, comparing them with the Coniston picture. Mr. Cramp is a technical illustrator, and has produced orthographic drawings from the photos, which seem to prove that they are indeed of an identical type of craft. (The frontispiece, however, would appear to be a little more imaginative, being cut away to show "interior details").

I would recommend this book to The Astronomer Royal, and suggest that his "absolute certainty" might perhaps be just a little shaken!

"VENUS SPEAKS" - Cyril Richardson. (Regency Press: 5/-).

In my opinion, the less said about this little piece of Saucer-"hokum", the better. Purporting as it does, to be "direct messages" from the Chief Scientist of the planet Venus", it seems obvious that if indeed it was received paranormally it must be a prank on the part of some astral entity - or else has suffered so much "colouration" as to be almost valueless.

Collectors of course, will buy this booklet, but I don't honestly imagine many will accept its quaint hotch-potch of fairy-tale and pseudo-science.....

"FLYING SAUCER FROM MARS" by Cedric Allingham. (Muller: 10/6d).

Proclaimed "The first personal contact in Britain with the occupant of a Flying Saucer" - this book describes how the author saw and photographed a Saucer which, he says, landed at LOSSIEMOUTH, in Scotland, on February 18th. 1954 (the day of the 'Coniston saucer'), and how he also "conversed" (by signs) - and photographed - the occupant. The "contact" itself takes up but a small part of the text; the rest of which is devoted to giving the reader a general 'background' of the Adamski claim and the Coniston affair, and also a review of the astronomical features of Mars and Venus, and touches on various other matters which, though obviously 'padding', will be of interest; at anyrate, to the Saucer-layman. So much for generalities.

The tale is told in such a matter-of-fact style, and the meeting so un-earth-shaking, that I found myself thinking that this would be just the way I should want to describe such a meeting, in the one-in-a-billion chance of its happening to me! One also warms to the author when he disclaims any telepathic powers.... but on closer study, a number of snags loom depressingly into view.....

A constant source of annoyance to saucer researchers is the fact that most photos of Saucers seem either focussed incorrectly (excusable, in view of excitement!) or else 'blown up' to such a degree that the grain obliterates most of the detail. Mr. Allingham's pictures, however, bring us up against something more. They have an "atmosphere" which, in my own - not inconsiderable - experience, is synonymous with....table top photos. That is to say, very little depth-of-focus and also an inescapable "nearness" (which, incidentally seems only to be apparent in one of the FSHL photos - plate VII, not taken by Adamski himself, according to the caption).

Why a 50ft object, photographed at a distance which would surely have required "infinity" on the scale, should show depth-of-field effects to such a marked degree is puzzling, even if the lens was used at full aperture in the bad light. And if anything other than 'infinity' had been used, the near part (rim) should have been sharp, and the* "dome" and "antenna" out of focus - or else the whole picture off focus -- but here we have the farthest part sharply defined, and the near part fuzzy; a technical impossibility except at very short range or else with an incredibly long focal-length lens! There may be another explanation - and I hope there is - but I cannot think of one.

The Saucer-man is described as "leaping lightly and gracefully to the ground" and afterwards jumping "lightly back" into the saucer. This ease of movement seems strange for one accustomed to the lesser gravity of Mars. It's a pity, too, that the one witness to the affair cannot be traced - even by the DAILY MAIL, and also that Mr. Allingham "saved up" the affair for a book, rather than reporting it as soon as possible.

Whether you believe his story or not, Mr. Allingham is very readable (he writes Thrillers under a pseudonym) and his book makes for continuity in the Saucer saga, for those who want it between hard covers. Another case, perhaps, for "suspended judgement" - but you must certainly read it and decide that for yourselves!

* See note on p.14.

Check-up.....

We recently came across a report in an American magazine ('VALOR' of 21/8/54) that a Flying Saucer had landed in Heligoland, and was being examined by a Dr. Hans Larsen Loberg, "world famous scientist, and winner of the Hungarian physics award". Seven charred corpses were said to have been found near the saucer, which contained instruments for 'producing magnetic rays'. The ship was stated to be 9ft in diameter and its cabin 70ft long - "in fact, all the dimensions were divisible by 7". (It didn't say whether 7 feet, meters, Martian arm-lengths or whatelse). It was said to be of an unknown metal which resisted 1500°F of heat - and had a three roller undercarriage. In fact the whole story so resembled the Scully-Newton affair that we wrote to our Norwegian Representative, Gunvald Weie, who lives in Oslo, where the Dr. Loberg was said to have come from, and where his reports had been said to have been published.

Our Rep's enquiries revealed that (1) There is no Dr. Loberg listed in either the Street or 'phone directory of Oslo, (2) There is no one with that name on the list of Doctoral Degree holders for Norway, (3) no one could be found amongst the physicists and research workers at the University of Oslo who had even heard of a Dr. Loberg (Loeberg or Löberg), and (4) No one in Mr. Weie's Oslo Saucer Group had seen or heard anything of this report, even though they subscribe to a press cuttings agency which covers all Scandinavia.

Readers may draw their own conclusions!

OFFICIAL CO-OPERATION !

The "special mission" we referred to in connection with the AUSTRALIAN FS BUREAU last issue has turned out to be nothing less than an interview for the President, Mr. E. R. Jarrold, with the R. A. A. F. authorities, resulting in an arrangement whereby full co-operation and liaison is expected to take place. This is the first instance of any Official confidence being enjoyed by civilian research groups, and we hope it is only the beginning. Other authorities, please copy!

ANYTHING FOR A STORY.

In a letter to the "Yorkshire Telegraph & Argus", a Major Dawson, of Calverley, writes stating his disbelief in Saucers, and relating how a reporter of a "well-known newspaper" had shown a great interest in his telescope (reputed to be the largest privately owned one in the country) - and had offered him £5 if the Major would give him a story of having seen a Saucer, and allow himself to actually be photographed beside his instrument.

We wonder if this urge for stories-at-any-price is not responsible for some of the wild rumours on the continent. It certainly ties up - money-wise - with the Quarouble report.....our Rep. Jack Ibsen who wrote to Marius Dewilde for further details was told he could have these - on receipt of 25,000 francs!! (appx £25)

COVER PHOTO.

Please note that this is not the photo under discussion in our review, where we are referring mainly to the shot of the saucer on the ground - for which you'll have to see the book!

B.F.S.B.

Newsletter

71 Chedworth Road,
Horfield,
BRISTOL, 7.

December, 1954.

Dear Colleagues,

Since my previous letter to you, the Annual General Meeting has been held, at Carwardines Cafe, Bristol, and those members present saw fit to return your same Officers & Committee; Dr.R.Irving-Bell electing to remain in office as President for another year. The business of the meeting was followed by a short talk from Squadron-Leader A.G.Fenn, A.M.I.Mech.E., A.M.Inst.P.Tech., entitled "The layman's attitude to Flying Saucers", delivered with great humour, which nevertheless covered some very wise remarks, neatly phrased and summarised, which delighted everyone. Harold Cobley, the Hon.Treasurer, presented an interim financial statement duly audited, covering the period from the dissolution of I.F.S.B. in November 1953 up to the 5th April, 1954, which appears at the end of this Newsletter. It is realised, however, that a much more difficult job confronts the auditors and Harold on the occasion of the next statement, in view of the tremendous increase in membership following the glut of sightings this year. This has led to some 80 letters per week being received over quite a period, and in order to avoid a breakdown in the administration it was decided to appeal through the columns of a well known Bristol diarist (himself an honorary member) for a retired gentleman who would offer to act as REGISTRAR to the Bureau on a more or less full-time basis for some small remuneration. It was finally decided in committee that Mr.T.H.B.James was the most suitable applicant from those who gallantly answered the appeal, and he has been doing excellent work for some weeks. After lengthy discussion it was decided to offer him an honorarium of fifty pounds per annum - half of which sum to be guaranteed by the Committee in the event of unforeseen circumstances arising by which this purely experimental post would have to be terminated on a pro-rata basis agreed upon.

Knowledge of the Bureau has now reached almost every country in the world, and applications are being received from other nationals all of whom we are heartily welcoming into our ever widening circle of saucer enthusiasts. It has not always been possible to meet, with adequate promptitude, the demands of a growing body like the merged BFSB & FSC, but now that Mr.James is so ably assisting, things should speed up. So many members, however, fail to realise that the whole affair was started as a hobby! That a year ago membership was comparatively small, and has now risen to around the 1,500-mark -- so do, please dispel the idea that this is a commercial undertaking, complete with full-time staff etc. All administration is done purely in the Officers' and Committee's spare time, and for months this has been taxed to the limit. So if and when you recruit new members, please explain the difficulties under which we operate.

May I be permitted here to thank everyone who has helped to recruit members, and in particular, Sir Francis Cook, of St.Helier, Jersey, who obtained such a glowing write-up for us in the local press which has resulted in a stream of memberships from the Channel Islands.... and indeed, France as well. Also hearty thanks to Mrs.

Freda Dann of Tunbridge Wells, Messrs. Milner and Wightman of Wigan, Mr. Ibson and Mr. Cook of Bradford and Leeds respectively, and last but not least Miss Winnifred Knowles of Cardiff - and indeed many others who, as area Reprs. are doing a grand job. To Mrs. Judith L. Gee, one of our earliest members, back in I.F.S.B. every good wish and success with your local Club. Wherever I can I am advising London members to rally round your banner at 27a Goldhurst Terrace, Hampsted, N.W.6 and trust our usual happy-family relationship will continue.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: The Committee is still in session with regard to the best method of numbering these, as due to the recent merger it may not be possible for members to be given their original numbers. This may be a small point to most, but it is a fact that many people do take pride in such things, and count a low number as a badge of prestige. Be sure, however, that the best possible arrangement will be arrived at, and in all probability they will be sent out with the next issue of FLYING SAUCER NEWS.

CLUB BADGES:- Members can assist the Bureau in this respect by sending in a postcard if they have NOT received their badge, provided of course they had sent the extra 1/6 remittance on joining. This would also prove a check on the present index system - more so if the number of the NEWS already received was also stated.

BACK NUMBERS: These - like all good things - have come to an end, and I am afraid that it is not possible at the present time to have a reprint. At some future date it may be possible to have a reprint done en bloc, comprising the 1953 issues, at a suitable and commensurate price, but this is in the lap of the gods.

Therefore, in quite a number of cases, the price list enclosed with the last issue has been misleading, so if members have any credits due them on account of these - or anything similar - do please write me. In many cases, should members so prefer, such credits can be offset towards membership subs., car transfers in colours, rule-books, or even American Magazine Article re-prints.

LIBRARY SERVICE: This is purely local at the present time, but we hope to expand early in 1955. Such a scheme - postal as it is - depends for its success entirely on the participants sending on the literature to each other at prescribed times, and unless this is adhered to, then the whole scheme disintegrates. Therefore it rests entirely with yourselves when the opportunity is given. Present subscription is 1/- per year, which is extremely reasonable. All material donated to the Bureau - with the exception of the scrap books, is circulated when it arrives, at the earliest possible moment.

ANNUAL CONVENTION: Miss June Barlow-Morris and Mr. Harold Hill - both active with the Wigan Group - have approached the Bureau with quite a happy idea with regard to holding an annual CONVENTION each summer in a large country house rented for the purpose.

Here members might enjoy their normal holiday whilst at the same time meet and discuss Saucers, listen to lectures on the subject, and also obtain practical instruction in the use of astronomical telescopes. Although this is greatly appreciated by the Committee, they

do feel that under the present circumstances of intense activity, that time cannot be devoted to its organisation. However, we would like to have your opinion on the subject, but do please address your postcards to Miss Barlow-Morris at "Denham", 1 Sand Lane, Warton, Carnforth, Lancs - not to me! I shall hope to hear from Miss Morris the results of the poll in due course.

LONDON MEETING OF THE 20th Nov.

Following on an invitation extended to the President and Officers of the Bureau to attend a "get-together" at Mr.Leslie's flat, eleven of us went from Bristol for the occasion at entirely our own expense, and renewed many old acquaintanceships and made new friends.

Mr.Leslie was as usual full of pungent humour, and we were all made most welcome. There was much to be seen and heard following on his three months visit to the USA during which he spent some six weeks with Mr.George Adamski, after which an opportunity was given to many of us to participate in making a tape recording to be sent to Mr.Adamski, in which I personally wished him a speedy recovery and a journey to this country on behalf of us all.

Mr.ALBERT K. BENDER:

Mr.Desmond Leslie stated at the above meeting that whilst in America he contacted Mr.Bender - Founder of I.F.S.B. which closed under mysterious circumstances in late 1953 with over 600 members on its books. Mr.Bender was unable to divulge the reason for his organisation's dissolution - which so startled the Saucer-world at the time - so here the matter rests. I personally admire Al for maintaining silence, although just as intrigued as anyone over the whole affair, especially as I was the first British Representative to be appointed.

WESTON SUPER MARE TAPES: At a recent meeting the latest of these psychic recordings held our local members entranced. In part they deal with the Saucer subject, but apart from this they carry a message for everyone. Many that were inclined to scepticism have since expressed feelings of conviction that this is an avenue that we must not avoid. May I within these columns extend a hearty vote of thanks on behalf of the Bureau to our member Mr.John Widgery for his great kindness in travelling to Bristol to put on such an enthralling show..... There have been many talks given by the Bureau on Saucers to local clubs, a recent one being conducted in the fair city of Bath, sponsored by Alderman L.N.Punter,M.B.E. and Prebendary T.B.Nicholls, which was well received by the Press and public.

*
* DEAD LETTERS. *
* A P.O. value 3/2d is lying idle on behalf of AMA's sent by a Manchester reader but lacking a return address. Another for 3/6d attached to a sighting - form signed by witness John A. Johnson is in similar straits, and one for 5/- from someone at 9 Beaconsfield, Nr.Hereford has been found too difficult to decipher. This latter refers to enrolment. On receipt of a letter from those concerned, your wishes will be carried out.

Yours fraternally,
E.L. PLUNKETT, (Capt).
Hon.Sec., B.F.S.B./F.S.C.

BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU.

Statement of income & Expenditure to 5th. April, 1954.

To management Expenses:-			
Postage and stationery:	£5	5	9½
Account book:		14	9
Receipt book:		1	6
Receipt stamps:		6	
			<u>£7 2 6½</u>

<u>Printing & Publications:-</u>			
Leaflets:	£2	19	6
F.S.News:	1	19	6
			<u>£4 19 -</u>

<u>Expenses of Meetings:-</u>			
Hire of room at the Prince of Wales Hotel, (Dec.,Jan.,Mar.,April):	18	-	
Hire of room for Hampstead meeting:	10	8	
Hire of Museum Lecture Theatre:	£8	8	-
Lecture fee for Mr. Desmond Leslie:	10.	10.	-
Entertainments and gratuities:	18	-	
			<u>£21.4. 8.</u>

<u>Tape Recording:-</u>			
1 Reel of recording tape:	£1	10	-
			<u>£1 10 -</u>
			<u>£34.16.2½</u>

Balance at Bank:			£16.17. -
Cash in hand:			<u>£13.15.5½</u>
			<u>£65. 8. 8.</u>

By Membership			
subscriptions:	£18	15	-
Donations:	13	15	2
Sale of Tickets			
for Desmond Leslie			
Lecture:	32	18	6

STOP PRESS -
I M P O R T A N T.

"IT IS RESOLVED THAT IN ORDER TO MEET INCREASING ADMINISTRATION COSTS ARISING FROM EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP, NECESSITATING THE APPOINTMENT OF A PAID REGISTRAR THAT THE MEMBERSHIP FEE SHALL BE RAISED TO 10/- PER ANNUM, COMMENCING 1st. JANUARY, 1955 - PART-YEARLY FEES, PRO RATA".
(Resolution at Committee Meeting in Bristol, 15/12/54).

£65. 8. 8.

by Graham F.N.Knewstub, A.M.Brit.I.R.E., A.Inst.E.

When the British Flying Saucer Bureau was formed in October 1953 to investigate the mystery of Flying Saucers it undertook a task the American Government had signally failed, despite the unrivalled facilities which government-sponsored research alone enjoys. The problem is one of extreme difficulty; namely, the investigation of transient phenomena of random occurrence. For this reason, direct observation by trained observers fixed, or even mobile, stations is virtually impossible, and the first task of the RESEARCH TEAM was to devise a procedure which would overcome this difficulty.

Before this could be done it was necessary to survey existing knowledge and to acquire some experience of sighting investigation. Existing knowledge was derived almost entirely from press cuttings, and these were analysed on a statistical basis. While the statistical analysis was in progress members of the Research Team were investigating sightings over a wide area, and developing an effective procedure for collecting data and for the subsequent analysis of the results.

The administrative merger with the FLYING SAUCER CLUB greatly widened the scope of the project, and at the same time made available to the team a large number of eye-witness accounts of sightings. In the light of the results of the statistical analysis and the experience gained by the investigators, it was decided to prepare an amended SIGHTING FORM. In this matter a valuable contribution was made by the Wigan Group, to whom we are indebted for the finally accepted Form, apart from a few additions based on the experience gained in Bristol.

When the Sighting Reports were examined, it was found that many of them lacked some of the information which we now find useful; and in these cases we shall shortly be sending out the new sighting forms so that all the records will contain the same selection of information, and thus prepare the way for a further statistical analysis.

LOCAL INVESTIGATORS.

The next objective is to build up an organisation which will ensure that EVERY sighting is promptly and efficiently investigated by a BFSB/FSC Representative. We appeal most urgently for VOLUNTEERS in this work, and would ask them to communicate with the DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, 71 Chedworth Road, Horfield, Bristol, 7, from whom full particulars of the scheme may be obtained.

Equally important is the supply of press cuttings, EVERY cutting goes into the Research Files, and a copy (or better still a duplicate if available) is sent with a sighting form to the Local Investigator, with a request for immediate investigation.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.

Hitherto, FLYING SAUCER NEWS has had a quarterly summary of sightings, but the material now coming in merits more detailed treatment than hitherto; and in future a RESEARCH BULLETIN will be published MONTHLY at 6d a copy post free. In addition, detailed reports will be issued of selected sightings (details and prices on application).

THE FIRST TECHNICAL REPORT will be available early in January, price 1/6 including postage.

In order to ensure efficient distribution members are requested to write their name, address and particulars of order on a sheet of paper to which their remittance should be pinned. Please send it in a separate envelope marked "TECHNICAL" as orders included in letters dealing with other matters may be delayed.

NEEDLES JARRED -then CANADA'S SAUCER STATION CLOSES

On September 6th yet another flying saucer was observed over North Bay, Ontario, which is the hub of Central Canada's air defences. By an unhappy chance, a senior civil servant there had picked that very day to announce the closing down of the Shirley's Bay station. The object of this station had not been to catch saucers, but to plot them, which it did. Many of them. Many deflections of the instruments could be accounted for by natural disturbances, or by aircraft from the nearby fighter station. Others - as violent as would be caused by an airliner bursting through the room in which you are sitting - could not be accounted for at all - by anything other than unidentified flying objects. (Extracts from CANADA REVIEW, 1/10/54).

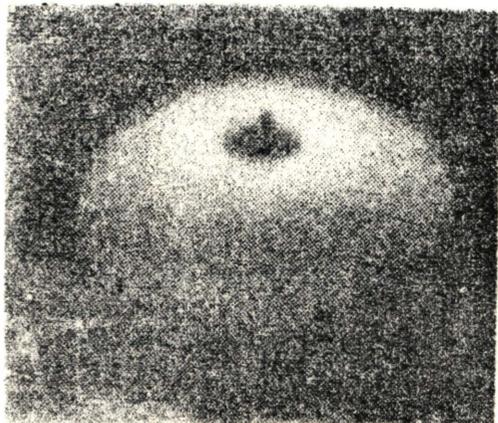
Which seems to bring us to where we came in. The official reasons for the close-down indicate lack of funds: "We have decided that nothing has come out of the station's operations to merit further expenditure of Government time on it" -- but one cannot help wondering if it isn't that the researchers have simply got all the data they need.....

"AUTHOR DUE FOR SHOCK"

The Australian FS Bureau reports that it should soon be able to produce irrefutable evidence of faking, on the part of the author of a Flying Saucer best-seller. Supplied by a responsible investigator, the facts, when revealed will startle researchers in dramatic fashion, the report continues, "Already they are so incredible that the duplicity alleged takes one's breath away". (AFSB have been requested not to release the facts supplied to them until the probe is completed).

NEW ZEALAND PHOTOGRAPHS

Probably the first such evidence gained in New Zealand, three photos were taken on September 9th, 1954 at Nelson, by a C.S.I. member. Three discs were observed hovering in close line formation at about 300 or 400ft. A bluish-white light radiated around their dark centres, clearly outlining the "inverted saucer" shape. The outside pair were seen to be wobbling at first, and then they suddenly stood on their edges and streaked upwards - almost vertically - leaving the remaining disc, which brightened up considerably before it, in turn, wobbled and then made off, more slowly than its companions. The objects were in view altogether for about five minutes, and it was after the first two had streaked off that the photos - **three** in all - were taken.



The best of these pictures, (taken on 35mm with a telephoto lens) is reproduced here.

The "bluish-white light" seems to be cropping up very consistently now.

BRITISH SIGHTINGS - Ctd.

something which had the appearance of a rocket, and which hissed loudly and seemed to fizzle out in the direction of Woodland Court. GROUP INTELLIGENCE at Mount Batten appealed through the newspapers for witnesses to come forward in respect of the former incident (9.30pm) and 70 letters resulted. ("Western Evening Herald").

AUGUST 31st. BOURNEMOUTH (Area): Several people saw a white, balloon-like object. One said it remained stationary for nearly 90 minutes, but another report said it seemed only to take about a second to cross the whole sky (if this was the same object). Others said it was a small, bright, star-like object. The same night three independent witnesses saw a circular glowing object with a dark patch in the middle. One driver ran his car off the road, unable to take his eyes off it! It was accompanied by a high-pitched whistle, and was at about 200ft. ('Bournemouth Times' & others: 3/9/54).

AUGUST 31st. RYE: Two 'bubble-shaped' objects, seen crossing the sky at 'incredible speed' - over Rye, Sussex. ('Daily Mail' 1/9/54).

SEPTEMBER 2nd. GILLINGHAM: 'Huge silver disc' seen at 7.20pm by several people. Went off across the sky at great speed after hovering for about five minutes. ('Whitstable Times' 4/9/54).

SEPT. 2nd. HEREFORD: Large number of people in the area saw a "bright light with a red tail" which was solid-looking. It flew horizontally across the sky at speed, at about 9.35pm. In view for several seconds. ('Hereford Times').

SEPT. 8th. DUBLIN: "Large illuminated disc" seen by number of people at about 11pm. It travelled from the south at great speed and vanished with a blinding flash somewhere to the north. Round in shape, it had a halo around the edge and a dark centre. ('Irish Press' 9/9/54).

SEPT. 14th. ANDOVER (Hants): Two large glowing lights; one headed north and the other turned and came over-head, say witnesses. Flat underneath and domed on top, they were absolutely silent, appeared much wider than they were high, and seemed to have a band of stronger light running round halfway up, 'like a revolving neon light' (That makes three of this type, ED.) ('Southern Daily Echo' 17/9/54).

SEPT. 7th. DERBY: Four railway workers saw a "silver ball" which shot up vertically into the air after being stationary for a time. The paper mentioned that this is the area in which the "Flying Bedstead" was being tried out -- (incidentally, the MAIL tried to 'christen' the "Flying Bedstead" 'FLYING SAUCER' -- but the name didn't stick: it looked too much like a Flying bedstead! All in all, 'Flying Saucers' seem to be very aptly named - Ed.) ('Daily Mail' 8/9/54).

SEPT. 15th. NORFOLK: "Flying Cigar" in company with "Flying Saucer" reported by a North Elmham man. Shapes seemed to be giving off a luminous vapour in wisps. Then on the 20th, an "enormous button-like" thing was seen, at 9.45pm in a gap in the clouds. It remained stati-

onary for about 30 secs., then made off at speed to the east, at an estimated height of 20,000ft. Another man saw, fairly low, a "rectangle with the corners rounded", travelling in the same direction. And again, the following night, a 12-year old schoolgirl saw an egg-shaped object, coloured green and lit from the interior, moving over Warlham Park, at about 9.25pm. ('Eastern Evening News' 20-25/9/54).

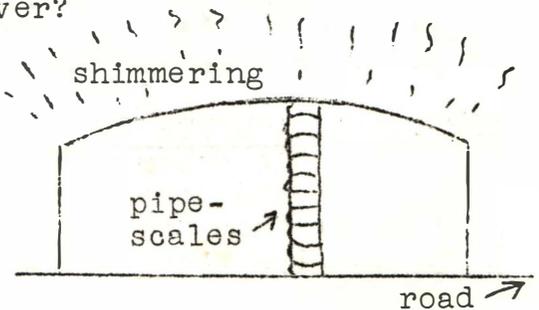
SEPTEMBER 28 & 29, MORECAMBE: Claims of flying objects seen over Morecambe were made by several people on Sept. 28 & 29, following a previous report of a gleaming saucer-like object which had hovered over the town the week before. On the 28th, three people independently reported a glowing, cigar-shaped object at about 6.45pm, very high up over the bay. It was only visible for a few seconds, and left no trail. Witness said it looked "like a saucer stood on end", and it was absolutely pure white, in the clear blue sky. At 3.30pm on the 29th., a "bright star" was seen in the sky, which lasted for about two minutes and seemed to be "bright aluminium". It made no sound and was moving in a S.W. direction. It "seemed to be like a saucer in shape".
('Morecambe Guardian' 5/10/54).

OCTOBER 2nd. NEW MILTON: Taxi-driver claimed to have seen a "long, half-cigar shaped object, with a TERRIFIC LIGHT IN THE REAR" going at "terrific speed" across the sky, without a sound. The object was "low enough" for him to see its shape. ('Western Gazette' 8/10/54).

OCTOBER 6th. DARTMOOR: A black, circular object, seen hovering over the Moor by Air Control Officer at Roborough airport - and others - described as "typical flying saucer shape". It made no noise and it showed no lights. Estimated height 5000ft - "if it was of normal size". It was reported to R.A.F. Intelligence who said "We're not very interested". ('Cornish Evening Telegraph 6/10/54).

N.B. Are we being Keyhoe-ish - or do those two underlined quotes suggest familiarity on the part of the observer?

OCTOBER 14th. SOUTHEND-ON-SEA: Miss P. Hennessey, of Chase Road, saw a domed, cylindrical object with a 'scaled' pipe - running down the side, standing in Park Lane, Southend, at about 10pm. It was less than six feet high, and about 12ft long. The light from the object, which was self-illuminated and silver in colour, blocked out the street lamp. She ran off, and when she turned to look back from about 100 yards away, she could see no sign of it. There were dark patches on the road later which reporters said were definitely not oil or grease. (Personally investigated by member Alex S. Jennings, who sent in this report).



OCTOBER 25th. ABERDEEN: A Railway man and a policeman saw 5 and 3 (respectively) "silver, disc-like things" flying silently across the sky at 6.10pm. They were luminous, and came from the North a great height in neat formation. ('Press & Journal' 26/10/54).

NOVEMBER 1st. TORQUAY: Bampffield-road resident claimed to have seen 15 balls of orange-red fire over Channel. ('Evening News' 2/11/54).

NOVEMBER 2nd. SIDMOUTH (Devon): Number of people saw "flying cigar" over the area, high in the sky at about 5pm. It appeared to be stationary. ('Daly Mail' 3 & 5/11/54).

NOVEMBER 2nd. ST.AUSTELL (Cornwall): Large number of people reported seeing something "glowing like a torch" in the sky to the west at 5.20pm. Described as "a ball of fire with a vertical tail", and as "cigar-shaped, red in colour and in a vertical position". It turned to a horizontal position before moving across the skyline into a cloudbank. 200 dockyard workers saw what one described as an "orange line in the western sky" as the sun was setting. It receded at speed and turned a grey, silvery-yellow and disappeared.
("Western Morning News" 3/11/54).

MISCELLENIOUS cuttings - some undated - include a report of noisy "flying feathers" seen at Rye, Sussex, travelling in zig-zag fashion; a mystery object like an upturned porridge-plate, seen over Gloucestershire, and of a mystery object seen by the townspeople of Whitstable, Kent - described as a "small round ball of fire flying up and down, with a red light that kept flashing" -- which turned out to be (according to the 'Daily Express') an aircraft carrying a neon sign. (Your editor has also seen this "phenomenon" and - but for hearing the sound of the Auster's engine - might have thought he had 'seen one' at last!).

GENERAL TRENDS

August seems to have been the most active month, but readers are warned not to try to make any sort of statistical or geographical calculations from these lists, which, after all, are only from cuttings sent in, and do not necessarily give anything like a complete picture - and in fact may be misleading as to quantity etc. For instance, the fact that there are more reports (say) of West coast sightings MAY mean that the saucers have been paying more attention to the West coast OR - simply that there are more members in that area who decide to send us cuttings!

In the same way, the fact that no New Zealand sightings are reported in this issue (apart from the photograph - which actually came to us via Australia...) definitely does NOT mean that there have been none, but - probably - our N.Z. friends have been too busy investigating all their own sightings to forward any clippings to us this quarter. The same applies to the USA - where, according to one figure, the sighting-rate is 700 per month, though censorship seems to be keeping all but the most spectacular out of the Press.

Obviously, only if we could list EVERY sighting that appeared in EVERY local paper in the country over a given period, could any satisfactory and really accurate picture, as regards quantitative and geographical patterns over the U.K. be obtained. This may eventually be possible - judging by the present rate of increase of our membership!! - but as regards a world picture - this will probably remain the prerogative of Governmental researchers. All these lists have ever aimed to do was give a roundup, in as newsy a fashion as possible, and suggest comparisons, etc.

EDITOR.

Rocket Pioneer's views

Prof. HERMANN OBERTH, internationally known authority on rockets and space travel who played a vital part in the development of the V.2, wrote an article for THE AMERICAN WEEKLY, of Oct. 24th, 1954, in which he revealed that he considered the FS were not only real craft but that they come from outside the solar system. He did NOT believe reports, he said, that some Saucers are manned by beings resembling men, although we could not prove this untrue.

He suggested that a possible reason for the Visitors' not having made contact with us may be that they have a different sense organism and that our eyes, ears, etc may be as strange to them, as would be to us - a sense-apparatus dependent on rays or wavelengths so far undiscovered by our science.

FLASHES ON VENUS.

We hear from Mr. RICHARD M. BAUM, F.R.A.S., that while doing work on the "ashen light" of Venus last year (March 1953) he found a most curious observation; namely a flashing light on the unilluminated side of the planet. Mr. Baum says he is unable to explain this feature entirely, and we hope to receive fullest details very soon.

NEW MOONS.

"Aviation Week" magazine reported in Washington during August that two large meteors had become satellites of the earth and were revolving with it, 400 to 600 miles out in space.

NEW PLANET!

Latest astronomical news is that a new planet has now been discovered. (A planetoid, we should think - Ed.) Meanwhile, it is announced that the USA plans to start planning an artificial satellite next year, to orbit at 500 miles. ((Couldn't they just use one of these natural ones? - or are they natural??)).

WE HEAR.....

That E.C. Silpher, well known U.S. astronomer, recently announced new evidence of plant-life on Mars.....an Exhibition by the CORNISH ASTRONAUTICAL SOCIETY included a fine UFO section (side by side with B.I.S. exhibits!) at which several Cornish 'Saucerers' met and had a 'natter-session'.....Hints of Mt. Palomar's "super collection of FS photos" from other sources than the Allingham book.....Another film in production: "Why Deny The Saucers?"..... Astronomer H.P. ('Bridge') Wilkins saw three saucers from the air in August and his forthcoming book, "Mysteries of Time & Space" is to include full details..... and..... wait for it!.....arch-enemy of Saucerdom, the Astronomer-Royal, seems to be becoming much less sure there's no such animal, these days..... A Dr. Laughead, of Michigan State College, has resigned because he thinks the world will end on December 21st (gulp! - that's tomorrow, as I type this...) and he will be rescued by --- flying Saucers.....we regret special tickets cannot be reserved for Saucerclub members.....

DESMOND LESLIE'S HOMECOMING GATHERING.

ON November 20th, the lounge of the Leslies' St. John's Wood flat was packed to capacity by an invited audience of some of the country's keenest Saucerers - who included prominent personalities in astronomical, astronautical and aeronautical circles.

The main feature was a colour film showing the co-authors strolling together over Californian terrain, and discussing George Adamski's photos (G.A. uses American idiom - with a strong Polish accent - a weird combination which, combined with not-too-clear reproduction, was a little difficult to follow in parts) - followed by some very interesting tape recordings that included the voices of Donald Keyhoe, Frank Edwards (who has, we were told, now been 'forcibly removed' from the radio), George Williamson (one of Adamski's witnesses), the Brush - Creek miners (who "crept up the crick - right quick"!!), and a great many other Saucer-interviews - though we found them all more entertaining than instructive. Especially interesting, however, was the interview concerning the Fortenberry/Nash sighting, which underlined the detail of these pilots' experience.

Mr. Leslie recounted numerous interviews and stories, and gave us a glimpse here and there of what the next book will contain - little points like the allegation of the USAF's having a one-hour film of the 'cigar' taken at the time of the Adamski contact; that the exposed plate returned to Adamski conveyed a personal message to him; that the photographer of the Brazilian Saucer (Martins) now reports contact with visitors from Uranus; that when Adamski made a broadcast, other stations were mysteriously blanked off; that one, Galbreth, of Swastika (US) met with a kind of "wall of force" when approaching a grounded saucer in 1948. The police also came up against this force-field - and apparently tried to blame it on Galbreth!

A couple of other points we noted - in a crowded seven hours - Adamski's first contact was apparently singular in that he had long hair, other saucer-men all having haircuts similar to ours (Ranton sighting could have been a man and woman; we suppose) - and that when Adamski was in the Mother Ship (yes! those rumours were confirmed) he saw a blue ball of flame following. This was explained to him, he says, as ionized air caused by the magnetic field of the ship - so perhaps we are sometimes tracking the tracks of saucers and not the actual craft!

Dr. Darbishire, Stephen's father, impressed us greatly, especially as to the 'compulsion' his son felt. (We had been inclined to think that this had been exaggerated, but - if anything - it had been played down! Adrian, Stephen's 8-year old cousin had said: "Stephen's having voices..." - to which an elder sister had retorted "Hail, Joan of Arc!") - but the 'voices' would not be stilled, so up the hill they went, and there was the Coniston Saucer.

Exhibits on view were a cast of the famous footprint (surprisingly small!) and two small pieces of "slag" which the saucer was said to have left behind on the occasion of the Third contact.

(We were disappointed that time did not permit of an adequate "question time" - but it is hoped that, if Mr. Leslie will co-operate, we shall be able to feature a Question and Answer session again, as in our last Spring number).

DESMOND LESLIE TO LECTURE AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

The Tunbridge Wells FS Group have booked THE PUMP ROOM, for this event, on JANUARY 14th 1955 at 7.45pm. Judging by the fine Press reports they have been enjoying, this should be filled to capacity.

(The Hon. Sec. is Mrs. F. Dann, "Almeley", Hurstwood Lane, Tunbridge Wells). -----

FRANK EDWARDS TAKEN OFF THE AIR.

In a letter to C.S.I. (New Zealand) Frank Edwards, famous for his outspoken saucer news radio broadcasts, says: "My dismissal from the AFL show came as a result of my refusal to submit to outrageous censorship orders...." (C.S.I.'s September 1954 Journal).

THREAT OF COURT MARTIAL KEEPS PILOTS SILENT - KEYHOE.

"Hundreds of UFO's, operating singly and in formations, have been sighted by our military and air line pilots, all over the world. But threat of court martial if reports are made public, keep military pilots silent, and only a few airline pilots have risked official anger by publicly reporting these dramatic encounters....."

(Major Donald Keyhoe, in a letter to C.R.I.F.O., one of the ever-increasing number of American UFO Groups).

LT. COL. JOHN O'MARA SAYS "SILENCE GROUP" BEING OVERCOME.

CRIFO Newsletter also included an interview with the Deputy Commander of USAF INTELLIGENCE, who revealed, it states, that the more fearless faction of the USAF now has the upper hand and will soon take the benighted public into its confidence. They want to co-operate and "dispense with the misconception that Saucers do not exist".

Also revealed, was the fact that there are said to be three "breakdowns" of UFO reports: (1) The controlled "saucer" from outer space, (2) A secret American saucer-like device and (3) natural phenomena. He had "not received word" that the new Earth satellites were "rocks" - but said that the investigation at White Sands was still going on. (This refers to the work of Dr. Clyde Tombaugh - discoverer of Pluto - and other researchers, using specially developed techniques in a search for tiny satellites which are known to be circling the earth; a search which has been going on for over twelve months).

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