

Editor RON TOFT

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+++++ AT LEAST 40 GLOWING PHENOMENA HAVE BEEN +++++
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+++++ SEEN IN THE NORWEGIAN SKY DURING 1968 +++++
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U.F.O.s have been seen the world over - and Norway is no exception as the above headline shows.

It accompanied an article which appeared in the newspaper "Tonsberg Blad" on January 13. The story was very kindly translated for S.I.G.A.P. by a Norwegian woman living in Tilford, near Farnham, along with several others.

Here is a condensed version of the January 13 article:-
U.F.O.s.....have, during recent years, drawn great attention all over the world. A report from an American association a few years ago showed that Scandinavia, Norway in particular, was one of the places where U.F.O.s were seen very regularly. Confirmation of this has been impossible. But Wilhelm S. Simonsen, Chairman of the "Popular Scientific Association", says that observations are quite regular and that during the past year 40 separate sightings were reported to the association. Just over 100 Norwegians had seen U.F.O.s in the sky.

Mr. Simonsen told the "Tonsberg Blad" that it was impossible for a single person or association to get the complete story on what had, or had not, been seen in the sky. "We do a great deal of work in registering activity in the sky over the whole country. But we are not the only ones. A number of other groups probably have information that we do not. We cannot present the total number of sightings in Norway, but we have a good picture as our numbers show. In the beginning of December a number of people in the Tonsberg area saw light phenomena in the sky and the "Tonsberg Blad" got in touch with a number of astrophysical organisations in order to get an explanation. Scientists say it was either Venus, a star, or even a satellite".

"We are aware that a lot of scientists are willing to explain U.F.O.s away as natural phenomena", Mr. Simonsen comments, "but in our view such answers are classified as popular and easy. Those who go through all our reports and data will find that only a few of the reports fall into these categories. Of the 40 reports that we have listed, it can be seen that only two are likely misinterpretations of natural light phenomena.

"The balloon satellite Echo II caused a lot of U.F.O. reports, but it looked nothing more than a strong star. Meteors and satellites move quite quickly and evenly and they have a flame-like tail when they enter the Earth's atmosphere. But the strange thing is that observed U.F.O.s have changed course and speed, stood still and behaved far differently from a meteor or a satellite.

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UFO reports to the Chairman: 149, Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey. Tel. Farnborough 41012.

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'We do not insist that glowing phenomena are caused by flying-saucers with small green Martians. We are treating it as a matter of research. The subject is quite interesting, especially as there has been much activity during 1968'.

Shortly after the U.F.O.s had been seen in the Tonsberg district, the "Tonsberg Blad" got several requests from organisations who wished to get in contact with the different observers. We printed a request for these but there was no reaction. We have now had a new request from the organisations in Oslo. So we are asking for those who saw the light phenomena in December to get in touch with one of the following two addresses:

Populaervidenskapelig Forening, 4020 Klofta.
UFOINFORMASJON, Postbox 4203, Torshov, Oslo.

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Here is another report from the "Tonsberg Blad" translated specially for S.I.G.A.P. This one is dated December 17, 1968 and deals with part of the Norwegian U.F.O. flap at the end of the year:-

The glowing object which early on Saturday evening was seen by a man in a car near the canal bridge and later followed the driver towards Tenvik, was observed from several quarters the same evening. "Tonsberg Blad" yesterday got directions from six people in Notteroy, plus one from Slagensmann, who at one time or another, saw the same glowing thing. The information that people have given agrees amazingly. In the Tolvarod area during the same period the T.V. picture from Sweden was impossible to get properly and for about a quarter of an hour the T.V. screen gave only glimmerings and waves and a grating sound. Earlier in the evening and later there were no disturbances, a lady told us, and lots of other people said the same. The driver first discovered a U.F.O. and tells us that he first saw the light when he looked north-westward from the canal bridge. The light was hanging like a ball 300 metres over Teie. The U.F.O. eventually disappeared out of sight but appeared again when the driver had gone quite a way up the road. The ball of light then hovered over the heights of Teiehoyden. The U.F.O. then settled at about 100 metres from the car at a height similar to a helicopter. The speed was about the same as his own - 50 to 60 km. per hour. Just before Herstad it disappeared towards the west but then it appeared again near Borgheim and followed the car some 100 metres distant. The driver believed at first that the light came from a plane but soon realised that a plane should have several other lights than the one that was hovering over Notteroy. The driver stopped to listen for an engine, but there was no sound. He stood and watched the ball of light hovering about 100 metres to the side of him. He then turned towards Tenvik and discovered to his astonishment that the ball had also made a turn and followed him. When he got home he fetched his wife and they both viewed the phenomenon for a while. They continued to go to and fro from the window to watch the U.F.O. But then it suddenly disappeared.

Another man told our paper that a bright glowing object had been seen by him at some crossroads about half-an-hour before the previous driver had seen the ball at the canal bridge. The second man discovered the U.F.O. when he stopped to see if the road was clear towards Tonsberg. He described how he saw this bright "thing" about 400 metres away and between 200 and 300 metres up in the air. The thing kept up a normal car speed he said, and it moved towards Gipe. The driver thought at first it was a plane, but then he thought

the light was strange. He described the light from the object as being white and flat. He started out at the Ekenes crossroads and kept an eye on the "thing" and then it slowly floated over the sky towards Notteroy church.

A U.F.O. was also observed from Teie. A schoolboy told the "Tonsberg Blad" that just before seven o'clock he saw a round ball of fire which came down over the mountains towards Teie and then turned towards the middle of Notteroy. The boy said that the ball could not have been more than 100 metres over the roofs when he saw it.

A couple in the east saw a bright ball at about 8.15 p.m., which came in from the west at slow speed and disappeared in the east. They thought it was a plane. Because of the speed and height both witnesses thought that the light could have been from a single-engine plane. They did not hear any sound.

Late yesterday afternoon the "Tonsberg Blad" received a phone call from two more men who said they had seen a flying object on Saturday night (December 14). One of them saw it from an upstairs window, glowing like a shining ball. Although the other witness saw the object from another point he agreed with the description. It flew off towards the west.

A man from Slagenstangen told us that he saw a glowing thing in the sky on Saturday at 6.45 a.m. in the morning, twelve hours before the other four witnesses had seen an object over Notteroy. It was very dark when the man saw the U.F.O. He said it came from the direction of Notteroy and disappeared towards Horten. The object moved slowly, like a plane that was coming in to land. It moved slowly in a half-circle. It had a green shimmering colour. The man thinks the object was about the size of a small car and during the few seconds that he saw the U.F.O. he heard no sound.

"Tonsberg Blad" spoke to a meteorologist at the Asmund Moene Institute and was told that the weather situation discounted the possibility that the object could have been a fireball, or electrical phenomena in the upper atmosphere.

An observer at the Astrophysical Institute at Blindern tells the "Tonsberg Blad" that natural phenomena could not account for the object seen over Notteroy and although a fireball could account for the ball of light following a car, one must have thunder before a fireball could be seen, otherwise it could not have been possible.

The Observatory also told us that they receive a great many reports of U.F.O.s throughout the year, but they did not have the time or opportunity to examine every case very seriously. First and foremost it was difficult to examine something with only the witnesses reports to go on. "Through the years we have had reports of Norwegians seeing objects in the sky after hearing of U.F.O. reports and stories of Martians", said the observer, "but they have had a simple explanation". The observer said he believed that a lot of the glowing lights seen are weather balloons, aircraft or satellites lit up by the sun. "We have never had any reports of U.F.O.s that we believe in. They can be explained away by the planet Venus", he added.

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DOG MEETS U.F.O.:

A BRIEF SURVEY
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By Dan Butcher

Part III

Since the writing of the article under this heading (see the last two bulletins) many more cases of dog v. U.F.O. have come to hand. In this concluding section a few of the more interesting of these reports will be presented.

Leaving aside numerous instances of mild alarm among dogs encountering a U.F.O., we may straight away deal with a few cases of more severe fright, such as that of the dog whose "hair stood straight up" when something like two red reflectors were seen in Doddridge County, U.S.A. in November 1966. The animal ran into a field and was not seen again. An abduction? (28).

Similarly, dogs panicked and took to the fields in Argentina on June 16, 1967 when a hideous rumble was heard overhead and mysterious glaring lights seemed to emanate from the sky. (29)

In the case of the "U.F.O. nests", or circular depressions found in swamps at Tully, in Queensland, Australia, a witness who had previously dreamt of U.F.O.s landing on his property, said that on the morning of the incident his dog suddenly went mad and bounded off into the swamp. (30)

Perhaps the case of the little dog of Betty and Barney Hill could be classed as severe rather than mild fright. Its ears pricked up at the onset of the beeping sounds heralding the contact, but at the end of the affair it was trembling. (31)

John Keel reports the case of shepherd dog having been crushed to death in a field in Ohio, U.S.A., every bone in its body having been broken. The knee-high grass around it was flattened in a perfect circle, reminding us of the "U.F.O. nest" case in Queensland, mentioned above. (32) Keel said that he had examined a number of dogs which had been mutilated as if by a scalpel. (32).

In the early Maury Island U.F.O. sighting incident, the witness' dog was killed by slag falling from the object. This was in June 1947. (33) And in the affair of the boy, Oscar Iriart, in Argentina in July 1968, a dog was paralysed. (34).

Disappearances of dogs in the vicinities of U.F.O. sightings, according to John Keel, were very common in West Virginia and Ohio in 1967. (35)

A number of encounters between dogs and errant hairy monsters have been reported from Florida. Sometimes the dogs have refused to pursue the thing; at other times they have been the aggressor. Once, when a dog chased one of these monsters into a wood, it returned with a chunk out of its hide, and weak from loss of blood. (36) As for evidence of a giant dog associated with U.F.O. phenomena, Charles Fort mentioned, among similar cases, that of a wolf or large dog which ravaged sheep at Hexham, North Wales, in 1904. Bloodhounds and foxhounds could or would not pick up its trail. This was during a revivalist period in Wales when many mysterious lights were seen, such as that which at one time followed the car of Mrs. Jones, the revivalist leader. (37)

Now if we are to believe Mr. Buck Nelson of Texas County, Missouri, he actually saw this U.F.O. big dog. He made the encounter on March 5, 1955 near his home. Three men and a huge dog emerged from a U.F.O. to meet him! (38)

An unclassified case concerns the favoured little dog belonging to Charles Garreau. At Chalais, France in November 1954 it was patted by U.F.O. entities. (39) That was one little dog that had its day!

But even here our friend Buck Nelson goes one better. His dog actually made a space trip with its master! (40) - and that is something which even Howard Menger's dog could not achieve: she had to wait outside when her master entered the U.F.O. - but in recompense, she too, was patted by the U.F.O. occupant. (41)

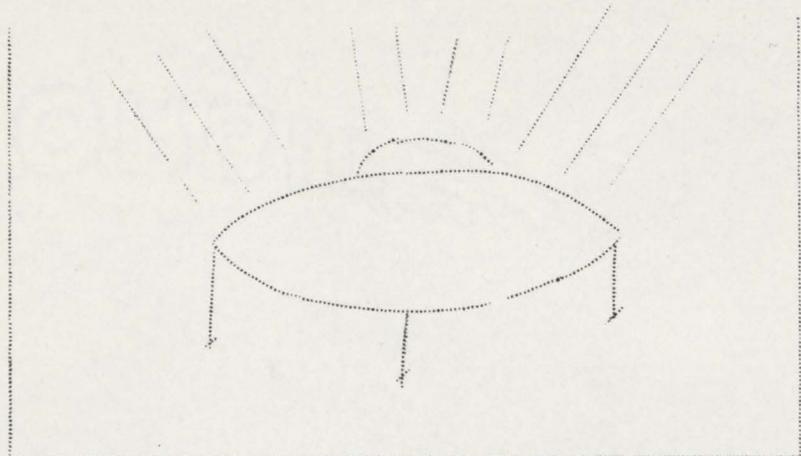
For those members who are particularly interested in this aspect of ufology here is a list of references:-

- (1) Aime Michel: "Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery" p. 209.
- (2) Michel: p.91.
- (3) Flying Saucer Review (F.S.R.) Vol.11 No.22 p.6.
- (4) Jerome Clark: F.S.R. 13.6.19.
- (5) Hanlon and Vallee: F.S.R. 13.1.20.
- (6) F.S.R. 11.6.4.
- (7) F.S.R. 13.1.32.
- (8) F.S.R. 12.2.cover.
- (9) F.S.R. 11.6.32.; and in a letter to the author.
- (10) F.S.R. 13.5.31.
- (11) F.S.R. 11.6.3.
- (12) Michel: p.44.
- (13) Angus Brooks: F.S.R. 14.1.3.
- (14) Michel: p.82.
- (15) Jacques Vallee: "Challenge to Science".
- (16) Clark: F.S.R. 13.6.19.
- (17) Vallee: "Challenge to Science".
- (18) Vallee: "Challenge to Science".
- (19) Vallee: "The Humanoids". F.S.R. p. 16 & 17.
- (20) Michel: F.S.R. 11.6.8.
- (21) Gordon Creighton: F.S.R. 12.1.24.
- (22) John Keel: F.S.R. 13.3.3.
- (23) Keel: F.S.R. 13.2.7.
- (24) Alexander Mebane in Michel's "...Straight Line Mystery". (Appendix. p.273).
- (25) Mebane. See above reference. p. 271.
- (26) Philip J. Human: F.S.R. 10.3.27.
- (27) Keel: F.S.R. 13.3.4.
- (28) Keel: F.S.R. 14.4.14.
- (29) A.P.R.O. Bulletin. May-June 1968. p.8.
- (30) F.S.R. 12.2.28.
- (31) John Fuller: "Interrupted Journey". p.213.
- (32) Keel: F.S.R. 14.4.14.
- (33) Brinsley le Poer Trench: F.S.R. 13.4.27.
- (34) F.S.R. 14.5.27.
- (35) Keel: F.S.R. 14.4. p. 8,11 and 14.
- (36) Steiger & Whritenour: "Allende Letters". p. 83,84,88,89.
- (37) The Books of Charles Fort. p. 649-67.
- (38) Buck Nelson: "My Trip to Mars, the Moon and Venus". p.17.
- (39) Vallee: "Challenge to Science".
- (40) Buck Nelson. p.20.
- (41) Howard Menger: "From Outer Space". p.71

N.B. The numbers on the left (i.e. 1-41) correspond to those quoted in the text.

A classic "flying-saucer" is claimed to have been seen by Mr. K. Clements (19) while travelling on a train from Princes Risborough to Marylebone on Christmas Eve. Mr. Clements, who lives in Foresters Drive, Wallington, Surrey, told S.I.G.A.P.: "I was returning to London on the 5.25 p.m. train. The train was between High Wycombe and Princes Risborough when I started to look at the evening star. The carriage window was clear. Just as the train past a hill I lost sight of the star and when it re-appeared there was another star, but this one was moving north and when it was nearly overhead I saw that it had three legs on it and a red light on top. It was silver.

This is a sketch of what Mr. Clements says he saw:



An interesting talk on contact cases was given by Norman Oliver, Director of the recently formed COS-MOS organisation, at the S.I.G.A.P. meeting on February 11.

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The following people have just joined S.I.G.A.P. -

- Mrs. B. S. Blundell, of 2 Tekels Court, Tekels Park, Camberley.
- Mr. Richard Harrison, of 2 Ridge Road, Sutton.
- Mr. Timothy Binstead, of 16 Glenbuck Road, Surbiton.
- Mr. K. Clements, of 200 Foresters Drive, Wallington.

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IMPORTANT: Group Secretary Dick Beet is moving on April 1. After that date all correspondence, renewal of subscriptions, etc., should be addressed to him at: 164 Park Mead, Cranleigh.

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Forthcoming S.I.G.A.P. meetings:

APRIL 15: UFORUM. Guest speaker plus an informal discussion on various aspects of ufology. N.B. This date has been changed from April 8.

MAY 6: S.I.G.A.P.'s Annual Meeting. Editor Ron Toft will give a talk entitled: "The Moon and its Mysteries", followed by the election of officers for 1969-1970 and other general business.

MID-JUNE (date yet to be fixed) National Skywatch.

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What days do you prefer S.I.G.A.P.'s meetings to be on? At present they are usually held on Tuesdays, starting at 8 p.m., at the Plastic Coatings Factory, Guildford. Comments should be sent to the Chairman, Omar Fowler.

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