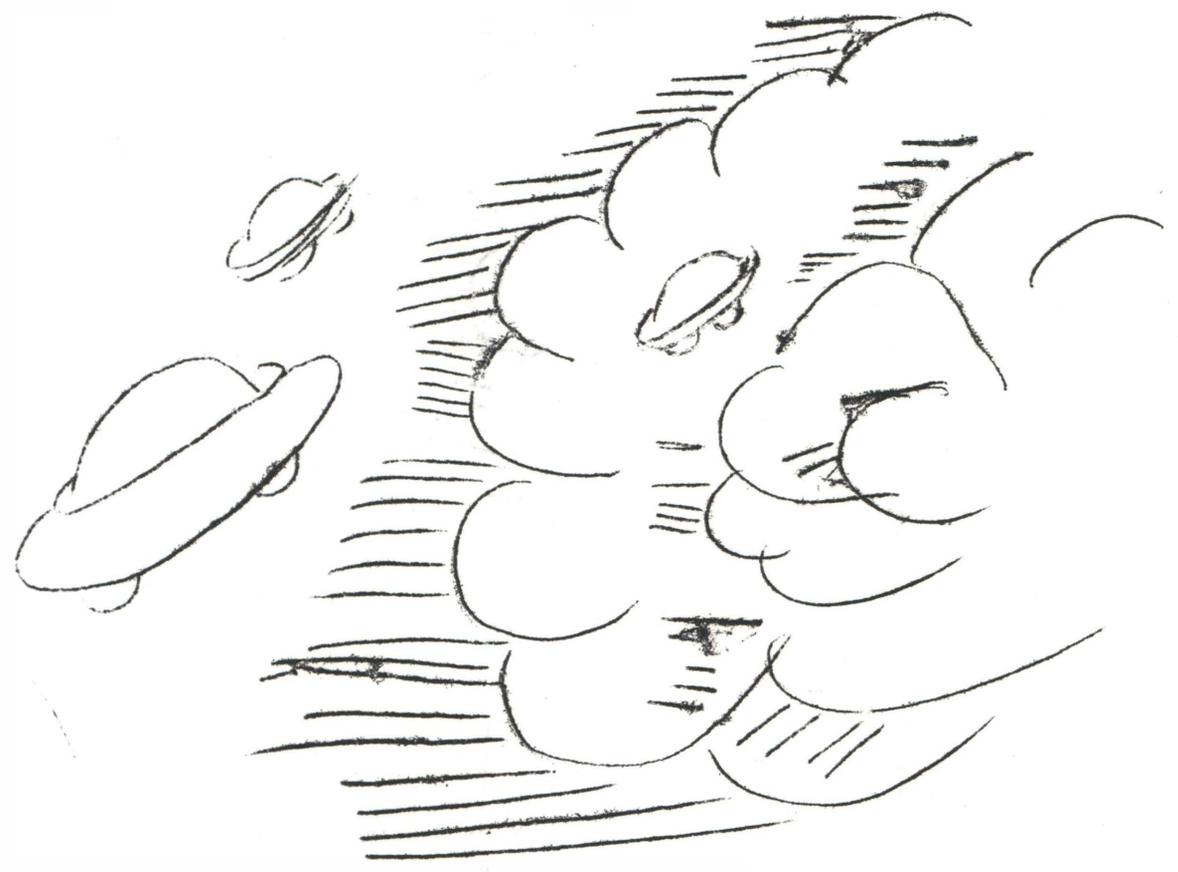


SOUTH LINES

U. F. O.
STUDY GROUP



NEWSLETTER

April 1969.

National Sky-Watch Day - Saturday, June 28th. 1969.

A nation-wide sky-watch has become an established event in the Ufological calendar. Many members of the various UFO Research groups look immensely forward to it. Its success depends on close co-operation of the widely dispersed member societies and groups, and therefore a good communications network is essential. If the sky-watch is to be of any scientific value, the hoaxers and pranksters must be prevented from interfering with our operations; and also the hoardes of gawking on-lookers kept away - for they often prevent a successful vigil.

In order to achieve the above, this year we are going to maintain absolute secrecy about our network of observation posts, no phone numbers of control centres are to be distributed to non-members, nor are the radio frequencies or call-signs to be distributed to non-participants. Therefore all information will be issued by the groups' sky-watch organiser, or direct from the National Sky-Watch Organiser (please send a S.A.E.):

Edgar Hatvany (SKW),
19, Richmond Avenue,
East Bedfont, Middx.

Objectives:

- 1) Country-wide watch for unidentified flying object activity.
- 2) To test the communications network and eliminate the element of surprise, by being forwarned of approaching objects.
- 3) To obtain verifiable scientific proof by the use of modern instrumentation.

Duration:

A 12-hour watch to extend from 7pm on Saturday, June 28th., to Sunday, June 29th.

Life On Other Planets.

According to an eminent Belgian scientist; Professor Jules Duchesne, of Liege University, life of some sort may have developed on 100,000,000,000,000,000 other planets besides the Earth. NASA scientists say that there is "Conclusive proof" of water on Mars. Organisms could live under the soil or be present in the water. There is also the possibility that two forms of life have developed independently, but along identical lines on Earth and Mars.

'Ball of Fire' May Have Been Meteorite.

The mystery of the "ball of fire" which was seen over nine counties from Kent to Northern Ireland last night was still unsolved today. The most popular theory was that it was a large meteorite which fell to earth - but it had nothing to do with the gorse fire in North Wales as was at one time thought.

Another report was that the meteorite descended in a bog at Ballynahinch Ulster, but there was nothing to confirm this.

Hundreds of people in Leicester and Leicestershire saw the phenomenon and the police were inundated with calls about it - some of them on the 999 emergency system.

Mr. Kenneth W. Gatland, vice-president of the British Interplanetary Society: "Almost certainly a Russian satellite, Cosmos 265 burning out and fragmenting in the atmosphere."

Dr. Henry Palmer, of Jodrell Bank radio astronomy station, Cheshire: "Maybe someone, somewhere, might find a trace of it on earth tomorrow." He added that descriptions of the "fiery tail" fitted the theory that it was a Russian satellite.

Mr. Gatland, said in a statement today: "Having checked the path of the sightings of the mystery object, I am now more inclined to believe that this was a meteorite which partly vaporised and fragmented in the atmosphere." It was now clear that the object had been moving in the wrong direction to have been Cosmos 265.

"Many meteorites have been recovered in different parts of the world, but a freshly fallen specimen - uncontaminated by long exposure to the earth's environment - could hold important clues to the origin of the solar system".

Mr. Malcolm Branston, 91, Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland, described the object as like a ball of fire moving across the sky very fast and coloured a phosphorous blue.

"Shaped like an ice cream cornet," was how 11-year-old Anthony Hollies, 31, Bramley Road, Birstall, described the UFO. He said it moved swiftly across the sky and seemed a two-tone green.

Mrs. T.L. Perkins, "Inglewood", Stoughton Lane, Leicester, said that at about 9.15pm she saw "a huge object, brilliant emerald green in colour, moving rapidly across the sky towards Evington."

Mrs. Dorothy Swanson, 23, Wynthorpe Rise, Braunstone, said that she and her husband were parked in Hinckly Road when she saw a pinkish glow in the sky, falling towards the ground and leaving "a white beam behind it."

In Doncaster it was described as "a shining flying saucer."

A young Dublin man said his car had been "shaken like a leaf by an 'explosion' seconds after it had passed overhead.

"I thought the car was being rocked to and fro by an invisible hand", he said.

The Leicester Mercury. 26.4.69.

'Thing' Flashed Through Our Sky.

The Fiery Thing which amazed the whole country as it blazed its way across the sky on Friday night, was reported this week, to have been nothing more startling than a meteorite.

But it was enough to make those who saw it ring up their local policemen and the Ministry of Defence.

RAF Wittering also had calls from people who saw the vivid and mysterious object.

Stamford police station reported sightings including one by two policemen in a Panda car.

Mr. Frank Hance was watching television with his family at his home, School House, Easton - on-the-Hill, when his wife suddenly sprang to her feet and dashed to the window. She and their daughter Katherine (15), had been sitting in such a way that they were able to see out of it as the Thing cruised by.

By the time Mr. Hance reached the window, however, it was out of sight.

"It was going fairly fast in a dead level flight towards the north," described Mr. Hance. His wife said the object was shaped like a tadpole.

"The front part was light green, and the colour was lighter and brighter at the edges. The tail was pinkish-red. As it moved, the head pulsated."

Reports on the Thing varied. Three lads who saw it from Red Lion Square, Stamford, described it to the police as pear-shaped. But all the local sightings took place from 9 to 9.30pm onwards, and all agreed that it was moving very fast.

Mr. Michael Gaskell, of 135 Braunstone Road, Oakham, thought at first it was a firework, but then realised it was too big.

"The front portion was like a round ball about half the diameter of the moon, and was a reddish colour. Trailing behind was an enormous tail - vivid green with orange flames coming out all round it. I opened the window, but there was no noise at all. It just seemed to speed across the sky and vanish."

Mr. Gaskell said that the object was only visible for about five or six minutes.

Stamford Mercury. 2.5.69.

'Whistling UFO' causes a scare.

People in Harrow Road, Wembley, Middlesex, had a nasty fright yesterday afternoon when a 3ft. piece of heavy metal piping fell out of the sky.

There was a loud whistling noise followed by a crash as it ripped off the corner of an asbestos roof and narrowly missed an 18-year-old youth. One theory is that the piping may have fallen from a plane.

Daily Express. 3.4.69.

The thousand mysteries around us would not trouble but interest us, if only we had cheerful, healthy hearts.

Friedrich Nietzsche.