

SOUTH LINES

U. F. O.
STUDY GROUP

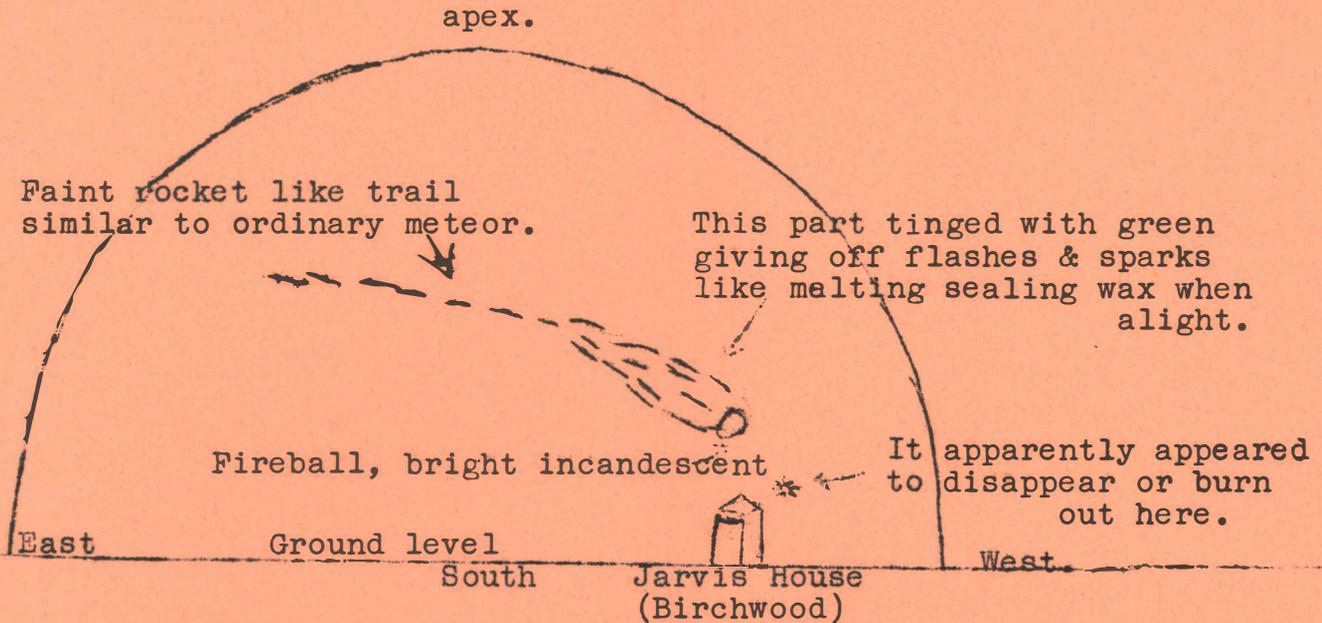
OCTOBER
1969



NEWSLETTER

October 1969.

Fireball observed at Lincoln on Tuesday August 19th. 1969 @ 9.28pm.
Weather: bright & clear sky.



I was very lucky to see this fireball in such detail, as I was testing other apparatus at the time and facing the path of the object. At first a faint streak like an ordinary meteor appeared coming from the south-east. In less than 5 seconds it swelled to the size of a football (as seen from the edge of the pitch) intensely white with a broad, jagged tail giving off green flashes and white 'sparks'. Before you could count five clearly it had either burnt out or dropped in the distance behind Jarvis House, Birchwood estate (the above drawing shows how it looked from the 14th. floor, Shuttlewood House, east end of Lincoln.)

Although I have seen scores of meteors, this is the first "fireball" I have ever seen.

Mr. W. Jackson.

Ufo Sighting. A resident of Westcliffe Street, Lincoln, reported a UFO recently, writes Peter Hammerton. He first noticed the object moving slowly across the background of stars. He at first thought it was a plane but it didn't look quite right and he could hear no sound. It didn't appear star like though it was about mag 1 or 2. His interest really quickened when the object stopped near a fairly bright star. Until this happened he had assumed it to be a satellite, but after watching the object for a short time it reversed direction and moved back to the point of first sighting. After staying there for a brief period, it accelerated in a different direction ~~and~~ at ~~rather~~ quite a speed. My informant was non committal as to the cause of the sighting, but I agreed no known phenomena could explain the UFO.

Eyepiece. The Journal of the Lincoln Astronomical Society. September 1969.

Flying Saucer Found. A 3 ft. flying saucer, giving off whining noises, was found on September 27th. by a surprised motorist. He dialled 999.

The saucer, made of tin, was found to contain an elaborate wiring system and battery.

The police took the saucer from the roadside outside the Bath and West show ground at Shepton Mallet, Somerset. It was kept at the local police station until forensic science experts examined it. Two days later, on the 29th., the flying saucer was returned to Mr. Edward Jagers, 50, of Havyatt Manor, Glastonbury, who claimed it. Mr. Jagers, who built the saucer, which weighs about a hundredweight, said that it took off while he was experimenting with it.

Matter Of Space. We were talking about space exploration one day

when my little son, Michael, asked if people live on the moon. "Course not," replied one of the other children. "Oh, how lucky," exclaimed Michael, in a relieved voice. "I was thinking how crowded they'd be when it was only a quarter moon."

Mrs. E.M.F., Menston, Yorkshire.
Woman's Realm. 4.10.69.

Night Rainbow. Have we seen something unusual tonight? I went out into the garden at about 9.30pm. It was bright moonlight, but a light drizzle was coming in from the moor above us to the west. And in the sky was a perfect rainbow.

I called my friend who could see it quite plainly. The only difference from seeing one at daylight was the absence of colour.

(Mrs.) D. Barrie. St. Madderne, Throwleigh, Okehampton, Devon.

Although they are rare, moonlight rainbows are seen from time to time. They are pale copies of daylight rainbows caused by sunlight which is reflected from the moon. Colours can sometimes be discerned but more often the rainbow has a silvery tinge.

Sunday Express. 5.10.69.

Sun Blast Scorched The Moon. A space researcher says close-up colour photographs of the moon's surface indicate that a huge explosion on the sun scorched the moon and could have affected the earth.

Professor Thomas Gold, director of Cornell University's centre for radiophysics and space research, believes there was a gigantic explosion on the sun which raised its heat intensity to as much as 100 times its present level.

Professor Gold believes the explosion caused elements on the moon's surface to melt, combine and then cool into a glass-like glaze. He made his comments in a scientific article after looking at 17 colour "stereo" photographs taken by Apollo 11 astronauts. The pictures show glassy patches, ranging in size from half a millimeter to one centimeter.

He said the explosion must have occurred in recent geologic times - probably not more than 30,000 years ago and certainly not more than 100,000 years ago, otherwise the micrometeorites which bombarded the lunar surface would have destroyed the glaze.

Professor Gold believes the solar explosion noticeably affected the upper atmosphere on Earth, Venus and Mars, but that the earth's atmosphere protected the surface.

"The heat delivered to the ground of the earth is not likely to have been enough to cause any permanent effects," he said, "The temperature rise of the ground due to such a flash would be about a thousand times less on the earth than on the moon."

Leicester Mercury.

Palm Trees At The South Pole? America's National Science Foundation is preparing to spend \$7 million (about £2,000,000) on sending a team of 17 scientists to look for more evidence early next year. The scientists, from New York's Museum of Natural History and the universities of Ohio and Wichita, are to be flown with their equipment to a mountainous area of Antarctica which is largely free from snow and ice during the south polar summer.

There they will make camp and start excavating. What they hope to find are fossilised remains of ancient reptiles which flourished before the Ice Age when it is believed Antarctica may have been located much nearer the earth's equator.

The search has been prompted by a spectacular find near the United States' permanent base in Antarctica of part of a jaw-bone of an ancient fresh-water amphibian (rather like a huge lizard) called a labyrinthodont.

The find suggests that Antarctica was once joined to South America or Africa where similar fossils have been found. The discovery of more fossils of this kind would greatly strengthen the notion and support the general theory that the great land masses of the globe belong to a kind of global jig-saw puzzle and once all fitted together.

Robert Chapman. Sunday Express. 5.10.69.