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SLAP AT UFO PROBE GOES AWRY--An apparent effort by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) to discredit a University of Colorado group studying reports of unidentified flying objects went awry February 8. In its February issue of the "UFO Investigator," NICAP reported that an internationally-known astrophysicist, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, had pledged to "take the wraps off" his personal file of unexplained cases and make them public--if the Colorado University report is completely negative and denies UFO reality. The Colorado University group is headed by Edward Condon. Hynek said he was "shocked at the report and had written a letter to NICAP denying he made the statement. A copy of the letter said: "I am distressed by the statement attributed to me (in UFO Investigator) in which I purportedly stated that if the Condon committee issued a negative report on UFOs I would open my personal files in rebuttal. I made no such statement. Such a statement would be quite contrary to my steadfast policy of in no way interfering with the Condon committee's work, either by deed or word and, in short, would be out of character. I do not know how the Condon report will read, but in its preparation the committee should be left entirely free to work according to its own lights and certainly without interference from me, implied or direct. I hope you will set this straight for the record." A former NICAP member in Denver said that Donald E. Keyhoe, director of the Washington-based organization, is "completely dedicated to the belief that many UFOs are vehicles from other planets. It appears NICAP has joined the ranks of the fanatic UFO groups that it has attacked in the past," the former member said.

2000 UFO SIGHTINGS REPORTED--TERRIFY PENNSYLVANIA--Soundlessly, the rotating, egg-shaped craft hovered overhead, bathing the house and lawn in an eerie glow. Caught in the glare, Donald (Butch) Purdue, Jr., 23, tried to get up from the grass where he was relaxing--and discovered he couldn't move. A few yards away, his mother, Mrs. Gertrude Purdue, sat on the front porch--her hands frozen to the rail. "Butch!" she cried. "Butch, come over here quick!" Like her son, Mrs. Purdue felt powerless to move. The strange glow coming down from the craft seemingly had paralyzed the limbs of both mother and son at their home in Summerdale, Pennsylvania. Then, as suddenly as it had come, the craft zoomed up into the starry night sky and disappeared like a streak. As its glow receded and winked out, strength and mobility poured back into the Purdues. For the Purdue family, the terrifying episode last June 13, was but one of three they experienced during the week of June 11-17--a week that heralded a fantastic summer-long explosion of UFO sightings in central and south-central Pennsylvania. The UFO reports in the area for 1967 amounted to an incredible total of 2000. Some investigators put the number of unreported sightings much higher--perhaps as high as 6000. Most significant was one sighting where verified high radiation readings were obtained. This took place in Harrisburg, the state capital, after

witnesses said a strange craft was seen to lower itself behind a patch of woods, east of the Cameron Park Lawns area. Investigators checking the area 36 hours later found a flattened area in the grass about 16 by 5 feet with three holes set 12 feet apart in a triangle--as if they had been made by a giant tripod. George Cook, investigator, said the flattened area in the grass was found moderately "hot" with radioactivity while the three holes, each about 1-3/4 inches deep were exceedingly hot. "The radioactivity was the maximum the Geiger counter could record," he said. Commenting on this phenomenon, Dr. Norman Levine, a senior research associate of Dr. Edward Condon's UFO project team at the University of Colorado, said: "Of course, we have heard vague reports in the past of radiation readings following a UFO sighting but we have never been able to verify even one case. This is the first to our knowledge."

The staggering frequency of the sightings--all in a narrow area extending northeast from Newville, through the Susquehanna Valley to Berwick--brought wonder and fear to the normally peaceful region. It also baffled --and worried--scientists, including Dr. Condon who said: "I do not understand such a large group of sightings." Within a month after the rash of early June sightings, a full-dress, on the spot investigation of the incidents was launched by a team from Condon's unit. Heading the field group was Dr. Gerald Rothberg, a noted physicist associated with Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey. Joining in various Phases of the study were Dr. Kenneth Laws, physicist at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and Dr. Emil J. Polak of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. A team of reporters was sent into the area. They interviewed hundreds of witnesses, and came away greatly impressed with the obvious sincerity of the witnesses. Dr. Rothberg was equally impressed. He said: "No less than 30 percent of the sightings are baffling. I believe most of the witnesses I have spoken to have been truthful. They have certainly seen some strange things." While most of the dramatic UFO incidents occurred during the summer, many sightings in the area early in the year were reported by responsible persons. Such as Mrs. James Krebs, a nurse and the wife of a dental technician in the Irish Valley section of Shamokin. On the night of January 18, 1967--which was clear and cold--Mrs. Krebs glanced out the living-room window of her home and spotted a bright light above the nearby mountains. She called to her husband. Mrs. Krebs related: "At first, Jim thought it was an airplane. But when he viewed it in his binoculars, it appeared to be about 50 feet wide. It certainly wasn't a helicopter but it hovered right above the mountains." For 10 minutes, the Krebs watched in wonderment as the craft began to maneuver and then came within 500 yards of their house. "It seemed to have two pinkish lights slanting downward at a 45-degree angle," said Mrs. Krebs. "It made no sound at all and it seemed to have no windows. We could see an antenna on it with a bright red light on top." Finally, she said, the craft raced straight up and "seemed to merge with another bright light before both of them dashed away."

On the following night, January 19, something very much like the craft seen by Mr. and Mrs. Krebs was observed in the same locality by numerous persons, among them the Rev. Elwood Heiser, pastor of the Evangelical United Brethren churches in Ash Grove and Clark's Valley. The minister was waiting in his car in Irish Valley to pick up his son and the boy's girl friend, who were ice skating, when the boy suddenly yelled: "Dad, a UFO!" Jumping out of his car, the minister saw what he described as: "The outlines of a craft, moving from west to east." He said: "I couldn't make out what it was, but the lights didn't blink the way aircraft lights

do. "There was no sound at all. The thing seemed to be traveling above the ridge of a mountain." Returning to the car, the minister, his son and the girl raced up a mountain road in pursuit of the craft. Thinking they had lost it, they stopped--only to discover the craft was directly above them. "There was no sound at all," said the Rev. Heiser. "We just saw the lights. The craft seemed to be round and was heading toward Shamokin. We all had a feeling of gooseflesh. Seeing the unknown is a bit disturbing."

After a series of isolated spottings through the winter and early spring, the area got a June 2 preview of the summer rash of UFOs as witnessed by two police officers. At 3:35 a.m. that day, Corporal Charles Robsock of the Berwick force was on routine patrol headed east on Route 11. Through the windshield of his radio car, Robsock saw what at first he took to be an unusually bright star. When he realized it was moving, he hurriedly radioed a brother officer, Jack Heckman, in another car, "because people might suspect I was imagining things." But Heckman saw it, too. The two officers observed the mysterious light for fully 20 minutes. "Suddenly it changed direction and headed south," Robsock said. "Then it disappeared. It was almost as if someone had turned its light out." Two Berwick hotel employees, Paul Hicks and Tito Barbosa, confirmed the officers sighting. At precisely the time the policemen lost sight of the object, Hicks and Barbosa saw it 25 miles to the southwest. The consistency of the sightings and the new abundance of them brought into action George Cook, investigator. Cook, supplied with a two-way radio in his car, did much of the advance spadework for the University of Colorado team which came on the scene July 12 for the first of its series of surveys. He checked out the horrowing June 13 experience of Mrs. Purdue and her son, Butch. This incident also was investigated by Dr. Rothberg. The Purdues' first sighting of a UFO came on the night of June 11, in Summerdale, and was substantiated by the experience that same night of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Foflygen of Mechanicsburg, south of Summerdale. About 10:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 11, Donald Purdue, Sr., a truck driver, was preparing to leave on a truck run. Mrs. Purdue said: "It was a perfect, beautiful night. I was standing on the porch and my husband was wiping off his windshield. I saw some people in a nearby empty lot. They were looking up.

"This is a small town, and when you see people out at night, they're either doing something or looking at something. So I went over. There was this light in the sky above the antenna on the neighbors house. At about that time, the fire whistle blew and soon an ambulance came up with the lights and siren on. I learned later it had been called to an accident unrelated to the bright light. But when the ambulance came by, this light moved out and settled above the trees behind our house. It was a huge, silver craft with bright lights coming down. We didn't hear a sound, but the truck engine was on and may have drowned out the noise. The thing went away a few minutes later." But it came back on two other nights, June 13 and 17. The June 13 visit was the most frightening incident of the whole series of sightings. Mrs. Purdue was seated on the front porch of the family home. Butch was stretched out on the ground across the Purdue driveway, watching the sky. His father was away on a truck haul. Mrs. Purdue said: "People were again out watching. All of a sudden there was something hovering over a bakery near our house. It made no sound. A brilliant light shot down, and I thought 'My God!' Then I found I couldn't move. I was holding the banister, and I tried to get up. But I couldn't. I could see that Butch was also trying to

get up. But he couldn't move either. He weighs 260 lbs., and stands 6ft. 2in. But as soon as the light shone, he just couldn't lift his arms or legs. We just had to stay where we were. We stared at the craft. The light was so bright I could count the stones in our driveway. The craft was egg-shaped and looked as big as an automobile. It was moving, but not up and down. It swayed a little, and at the same time was revolving. The intense beam of light kept shining down. I think I became hysterical. I couldn't move but I was able to shout, 'Butch, come over here!' I was scared because the craft was right over him. Then the thing started passing by--and now I heard a high-pitched, whining kind of sound. It moved in sort of slow motion. And as it got farther away from Butch, he was able to pick himself up and stumble over to me. The craft moved above some trees, then suddenly went up in a fast ascent across the Susquehanna River." Butch related: "I just couldn't move when the light shone on me with the object directly above me. Yet my mother and I were all right before and after the light shone."

Four nights later Mrs. Purdue looked out of her home, and again saw the light over a nearby farm. She and some friends jumped into her car and went to investigate. She said: "As I drove toward it with the car lights turned off, the light moved over to some radio towers by a wood. I managed to pull up at a clearing near enough to throw a stone at the light. It was almost like it looked before, but this time there was no intense beam of light from it. I was able to move quite freely. The light moved away when a car came down a nearby road with lights on." On Sunday evening June 11, at almost exactly the same time that the Purdues made their first sighting, Mr. and Mrs. Foflygen had a strange experience. Driving along Silver Springs Road, the Foflygens saw a blazing light low in the sky which suddenly flew toward them. There was no sound from the craft which, according to the Foflygens, appeared to be "about the size of an automobile." For a few minutes, the craft appeared to be racing the Foflygens car. Mrs. Foflygen said: "Then it suddenly veered off to the right. I thought I saw blinking red lights at the rear." When they got home, the Foflygens called their pastor, the Rev. Richard Morris of the church of God. The minister and his wife joined the Foflygens and all four returned to the scene, where they were joined by two Mechanicsburg police officers.

Investigator Cook, who was rushing to Newville, 16 miles west, where a sighting had been reported by 10 persons, was reached by radio and he wheeled about toward the Foflygen group on Silver Springs Road. Meanwhile, police and fire departments in Cumberland County were bombarded with calls about other sightings. Back on Silver Springs Road, meanwhile, no unusual events were noted. But about 10 minutes after Cook's arrival, police reported an object had risen out of the hills near Newville and was racing east. In two minutes, the party on Silver Springs Road saw the reported craft, described as blue and green and pulsating as it continued east over Mechanicsburg. It was accompanied by smaller, bright objects. Of the sightings, the Rev. Morris said: "We've had some hoaxes and some people report things that aren't there. But not the Foflygens. They were very upset by what they saw. Moreover, George Cook and the rest of us most certainly did observe some strange things at about 1:15 a.m. or later that night. Four or five objects that looked very much like satellites. But they were erratic in their movements." Of the religious significance of what he saw, the Rev. Morris had this to say: "There certainly wouldn't be any reason to believe that God couldn't have put life in other places in the universe. Probably one of the

largest audiences for a UFO was gathered on the night of June 14 at the sprawling Hall Manor apartment project in Harrisburg, populated mainly by young marrieds and their children. At 9:45 p.m., when many of the tenants were outdoors, a bright craft appeared over the buildings. Moving south, it settled behind the trees of Cameron Park Lawns, a heavily wooded area. Ten minutes later it rose and moved slowly off to the east. Marilyn Fisher, a Hall Manor resident, described the craft as about 20 feet long, peanut-shaped and appearing to have a white glow in the center. Others noted a red light on the front and a green light near the rear. But the night was not over for Hall Manor. At 11 p.m., while 200 tenants were sampling the night breeze before returning to their apartments, two round objects glided over. Witnesses said the objects had green lights on top, white lights on the bottom and red ones around the middle. Another object sighted at 1 a.m., June 15 and in the same locality brought inspector Cook into action. After finding the flattened area east of Cameron Park Lawns, Cook returned the following morning, June 16, to make their radioactivity discovery.

The wave of sightings continued through June with no let up, with an unusual one cropping up in Sunbury, a town about 50 miles north of Harrisburg on the Susquehanna River. Greg Wilt, 14, was on a playground with Wanda Shipe and Cathy Bloom and he saw some puzzling shapes in the sky. They said the objects were domed and had blinking lights on them. Greg's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Wilt, also saw the objects. The father said: "Along with a dozen other grown-ups and children, my wife and I observed the objects for at least half an hour. They were circling and had red lights in the center." Greg succeeded in snapping four pictures of one particularly bright object. July 9 brought a shared experience that was as mystifying and, in its way, as frightening as that which befell Mrs. Purdue and her son. Cook and an assistant arrived that evening at the Enola home of Thomas Shaffer, who had reported strange red lights rising close to his home. Cook stayed by his radio while his assistant and Shaffer went to investigate a pulsating light. Cook said: "I stayed by the car for about 30 minutes because we had no walkie-talkies and also because the police radio in my car was quite busy. We had reports of a number of sightings coming in. Finally, my assistant and Shaffer came back and said I should go into the woods with them. There was something there that didn't make any sense. They said there was a light down there, about 10 feet off the ground, that looked orange in color. It had a diamond shape and seemed to be going on and off. We all went down to get a clearer view. As I walked north to get a better vantage point, I tripped over something. I fell flat on my face, picked myself up, then realized it was a cable. When Jack came over and kicked it, it made an odd, hollow sound. I used the thing to pull myself up a little incline. It felt leathery or plastic-coated--not unusual in any sense except that it was very heavy. I could hardly lift the thing. The cable--whatever it was--ended with a rounded trim. It really didn't seem to be going anywhere. Moments later, I grabbed for the cable again. It wasn't there! I yelled: 'Which one of you guys took that thing?' But no one had touched it. There was no question that the cable was there. But it was gone. And as far as could be determined, there were no pranksters in the area.

Harrisburg got another epidemic of UFO sightings in mid-July, one of which had particular validity because its witness, Joseph Snyder of Harrisburg, is a Weather Bureau forecaster and former Air Force pilot. Shortly after 10 p.m. on July 15, Snyder and his wife, Nadine, were driving on Colonial

Crest Road when they saw a round object moving easterly in the sky at a height estimated by Snyder at 150 feet. Snyder stopped his car and the object, with a red light at one end, a green light at the other and half a dozen white lights circling the top, crossed ahead of him a block away. Mrs. Snyder said the spectacle had frightened her. "But my husband was interested," she said. "He wanted to see it again. So we turned left on Crums Mill Road--and there was another object! This one gave off an intense orange glow." Mrs. Snyder said the object headed toward the car, then rose sharply and disappeared. Sightings continued on through August, September and October. On the night of August 10, Stanly Urban, an auditor for the state of Pennsylvania and a 20-year Army veteran, called George Cook from his Camp Hill home to report that he and his children had seen strange things in the sky. Urban said he had stepped out of his house to watch a cigar-shaped craft passing overhead. Just prior to the appearance of the vehicle and immediately after its passage, Urban and his children said there was a show of unusual lights. "They looked like stars of different colors that were dancing," Patricia Urban said. "They went this way and that way in all directions," her father added. "They seemed very small and very high up. When an aircraft went below them, they would disappear from view for a while." After the cigar-shaped craft dropped out of sight behind a hill, a very bright light appeared in the area, the Urban family reported.

In the course of its investigations of this concentration of strange celestial happenings, the University of Colorado team spent one week in a preliminary study in which 50 of the more significant sightings were checked. While the team members observed no UFOs themselves--the sightings seemed to burst out while they were out of the state--Dr. Rothberg was interested enough to have a sky observation camera installed on the roof of Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill. As Dr. Condon put it: "We had hoped that Dr. Rothberg and Dr. Laws could get to see something themselves and also get some photographs of their own. But this did not happen." But the scientific team amassed a tremendous collection of evidence in the form of eyewitness accounts by responsible people. The evidence is presently undergoing analysis at the University of Colorado. A full report by the scientists is expected to be available late this summer. Then, perhaps, the Pennsylvanians of Sasquehanna Valley will know the full meaning of all the many strange and spectacular alien visitations. Meanwhile, Harrisburg is attempting to adjust--with some apprehension--to its new, unofficial title as "Flying Saucer Capital of the World."

NEWFIELD, NEW YORK SIGHTINGS ON DECLINE--According to information received at APRG alien activity has slowed down somewhat in the Newfield, New York area. A few weeks ago, sightings were being reported at the same hectic pace as they were last fall--almost every night. A possible reason for alien interest in this part of the country was brought to our attention recently. It appears that Cornell University--only a few miles from Newfield--is sending signals into space in an attempt to contact intelligent civilizations on other planets. Also, Cornell has the world's only Electron Synchrotron, which is a highly sophisticated version of an atom smasher. One UFO publication described the investigation of the Newfield sightings this way: "We hear the members of the Condon committee who investigated the recent series of sightings in Newfield, New York did not impress anyone very favorably, either with their behavior or their methods of investigation. They allegedly spent their first evening in town drinking beer in a local tavern--then went on

to approximately four or five hours of slipshod investigating. A well-known civilian investigator told us, 'It is clear they were there for one thing--to debunk.' Dr. Hynek's attitude and methods received nothing but praise."

TWO MEMBERS OF CONDON COMMITTEE FIRED--Two staff members of the University of Colorado group studying reports of UFOs have been fired, but the action isn't expected to retard the project, Robert Low, project coordinator, said February 9. In a press release to the university newspaper February 8, the head of the project, Edward Condon, said the services of David R. Saunders and Norman E. Levine had been "terminated because of incompetence." Condon was unavailable for comment and Low refused to discuss events leading to dismissal of the men. Levine refused to comment and Saunders couldn't be contacted. Saunders had been a member of the staff since the project was started under an Air Force contract in November 1966. As a faculty investigator, his job was to provide psychological and statistical evaluation of UFO sighting reports, Low said. Levine, who joined the staff last June was concerned with radar and plasma-physics aspects of the sightings.

AMAZING UFO DISPLAY OVER COLUMBUS, OHIO--Franklin County, Ohio deputies, newsmen, and residents viewed an amazing UFO demonstration over Columbus, Ohio about 8 p.m. January 23. Sheriff's deputy Thomas Barker and Deputy Edward Durbin of the Prairie Township police department gave this account: About 8 p.m. the two were dispatched to look for lights hovering in the sky" after the sheriff's office received five calls. On arriving, the deputies immediately saw two such lights. "They appeared round," Barker said, "it was like looking into a spotlight up close...about the brightest thing I ever saw in the sky. They appeared to hover about as high as most commercial airplanes fly around here--about 1500 to 3000 feet. One hovered a little higher than the other, and they stayed in that position for about 30 seconds," Barker said. "Then, as we watched, they changed positions with each other, and hovered that way for two to three minutes." Within another minute or so, the deputies reported, the upper of the two glowing, yellowish vehicles "zipped down" to meet the other, and the two remained parallel and motionless. The deputies remained in contact with the sheriff's office by radio, and by this time the sheriff's radio dispatcher had telephoned the Lockbourne Air Force Base UFO officer to inform military specialists. As the deputies continued to watch, one of the alien craft left the other "so quickly that it was like trying to watch a bullet in flight," Barker said, and disappeared from view while the other waited motionless

After several minutes the object which had left returned, and the two moved in formation to a point above the four antennas of the old approach lights for the Lockbourne runway. There both craft descended, until "they appeared to hover almost on top of the antennas," and remained above the light towers for several minutes. "Then they moved away from the towers," Barker said, "and one of them began moving southeast, horizontally and at a slight upward incline. It was completely out of sight in less than five seconds." Several area residents and the Franklin Township and Grove City police departments corroborated the deputies' stories, the sheriff's office said. A reporter and photographer arrived in the area about 15 minutes after initial reports and soon sighted one of the craft hovering about three miles east of Grove City. It appeared flattened, vaguely circular in shape and shone all over with a glowing, yellowish-white light. The craft seemed to be about the size

of an airliner, except for its shape. It made no noise. The craft would hover for as much as a minute at a time, then would move several miles away as fast as the eye could follow, and hover motionless again. The reporter and photographer tried to follow the craft in its erratic path to get close enough to photograph it, but were hampered by its ability to move "as the crow flies." After the team had followed the object around southern Franklin County by freeway for nearly half an hour, a second craft appeared and hovered near the first in a one o'clock position. About 8:45 p.m. two identical craft appeared over the north side of Columbus, glowing brightly and hovering in close formation for several minutes. By this time a number of airplanes appeared presumably in search of the craft, but apparently did not succeed in approaching the disc-shaped objects. Shortly before 9 p.m. all objects disappeared; the hovering pair near northern Columbus appeared to simply extinguish themselves like candle flames. The pair of craft south of Columbus disappeared to the east slowly at first, then vanished almost instantaneously in a burst of speed.

ALIEN CRAFT CHASES CAR--At least 42 persons reported sighting UFOs in the skies around Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on January 12, and three women saw one at close range. Mrs. Gladys Lehman, Mrs. Charles Little and Cathy Benhill, all of Mechanicsburg, were accompanied to work by an alien craft. The three were in a car approximately a half mile west of Mechanicsburg at 6:10 a.m. Traveling west, they said they were joined by an alien craft, which cruised along to their right for approximately two miles, "not more than 30 feet in the air." It then swerved in front of the car and traveled ahead of them "in the middle of the road" for another two miles, then passed over to the left and continued westward toward Carlisle. They described the craft as being shaped like a pancake, and they added that it was about 30 feet in length, its center section five to seven feet thick, tapering off at the ends and sides. The center section appeared to give off a white haze and the craft had a pulsating red tail light. The following day, January 13, at 6:20 a.m., the same woman along with 17 other witnesses viewed another alien craft near Cumberland. They said the craft was about 350 feet in the air and that as they watched it the craft rose slowly, stopped, gave off a white haze of light that changed to red, red-orange and back to white. Then it really got interesting. The witnesses said they saw "what definitely appeared to be a door opening" to the right side of the craft, which they estimated to be 40 to 50 feet in diameter. From the door opening, "four very distinct red smaller craft were emitted" at an evenly spaced intervals at 45 degree downward positions. The four smaller red craft disappeared below treetops and five more craft came out of the "door"--these five being white in color. A similar phenomenon was seen by the Rev. Richard Morris of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania that night at 9:05 p.m. He witnessed six red pulsating craft leaving a white craft.

UFOs CRASH HOLLYWOOD--An historical film recording of an UFO in flight may have been made inadvertently by Universal's "A Man Called Cannon" production company during location filming January 12 near Camarillo, California. At a routine screening of "dailies" of the Technicolor and Techniscope film, director James Goldstone and his staff were suprised to see an UFO in the sky sweep across the screen from the right, duck behind star Tony Franciosa's head and swoop off the screen to the left. What made the appearance of the object on the screen so startling was that before he began shooting the close-up scene of Franciosa, Goldstone, his assistant and the camera crew has ascertained that no planes or sound

of any planes was within eye or ear shot. According to Goldstone, "the sky was unusually clear--absolutely cloudless, visibility was unlimited and nothing was in sight in the sky. Only a strong wind was blowing--yet the camera saw something which we were unable to see with our naked eyes." The director also checked the film and verified that the "UFO" could not have been dirt or any artificial mark made in the laboratory. The object, they also verified, actually disappears from view behind Franciosa's head on the film and appears again until it goes off camera. Goldstone and Universal have offered the film to the Air Force.

TERRIFIED TRUCK DRIVER WATCHES AS ALIEN CRAFT LANDS--Carl Farlow slammed on the brakes when the radio and lights in his truck suddenly cut out. Then he gasped in terror as a bright-green, disc-shaped craft swooped from the sky and hovered over the roadway only 50 feet away. As he watched, too scared to move from his seat, the 15-foot disc lowered two extension arms onto the road near Fordingbridge, England. About three minutes later the craft retracted the arms, shot off into the sky at terrific speed and immediately the radio and lights on Farlow's truck came back on. And Britain's Ministry of Defense, which normally ridicules or ignores such reports, sent an investigator to interview Farlow at his home after the local police told them about the November 6, 1967 incident. Farlow later said: "The investigator arrived about 10 days after I saw the flying object. He questioned me for about two hours, going over and over the same details. And I gave him a sketch of the object which he requested. I haven't heard from the Ministry since." A Defense Ministry spokesman in London confirmed that they had found a report of the incident from the police "sufficiently interesting" to send an official to see Farlow. "The official has made a report which has been studied," the spokesman said. "We can offer no explanation for what Mr. Farlow saw, but whatever it was, it had nothing to do with the Army or Air Force testing new equipment or weapons."

Farlow, 25, was taking a load of electric ranges from his home town of Madeley to Bournemouth, 150 miles away, when he saw the alien craft. It was almost midnight as he drove along a lonely stretch of road which leads through heavily wooded country near Fordingbridge. Then the radio in the truck began crackling. Seconds later the radio went dead--and at the same time all the truck lights went out. Farlow couldn't see well enough to drive and was forced to jam on his brakes and bring the truck to a halt at the side of the road. He said: "I sat for a few seconds wondering what to do, then I saw a bright green blob of light in the sky. It came closer at terrific speed until it was only about 50 feet away and hovering 10 feet above the surface of the road. It was disc-shaped, and the top glowed the most beautiful green color I've ever seen. There was a white bulge like an undercarriage beneath it, and I could hear a high-pitched whine coming from it. I sat looking at it, terrified, unable to move." And as he watched, a small, dull grey box was extended from the undercarriage. Two arms descended from the box, and began moving in a sweeping motion over the road. "It was as if the object was vacuum-cleaning the road, drawing up particles of dust and leaves to take away and examine," Farlow said. Then, Farlow recalled, a straight, shorter rod also appeared from the undercarriage but this rod did not touch the road. While the arms were sweeping over the road, Farlow saw the headlights of another vehicle approaching from the opposite direction. As it got nearer, the lights suddenly went out, and Farlow heard tires squealing as the driver braked hard, then a scraping sound as the vehicle grazed bushes at the side of the road. By the glow from the craft still

hovering over the roadway, Farlow saw the vehicle was a white Jaguar car with a man in the driver's seat. A minute later--or about three minutes after Farlow spotted the craft--the object retracted the arms and the rod and shot into the sky at fantastic speed without any apparent increase in noise. "At the same time the lights on my truck and on the Jaguar came on again, and my truck radio began playing normally," Farlow said. "I sat there for maybe another 30 seconds with the cold sweat of fear all over me. Then I got out and went across to the Jaguar. The driver, a balding man of about 50, was white as a sheet. He stared at me, then burst out 'Good God, what was that?' His hands on the steering wheel were trembling." Farlow could give no explanation and asked the man to wait until he called police. But the man shouted: "No one will believe a story like this," and drove off. Farlow walked to a phone booth and called the police at Winchester, a few miles away. A patrol car with policemen Roy Nineham and Jeffrey Paulley arrived in two minutes. "Farlow was very scared--he had obviously seen something and wasn't making up the story," officer Nineham said afterward. The two policemen immediately turned in a full report to the Ministry of Defense because the policemen believed Farlow had seen something. No marks were found on the road surface where Farlow said he had seen the object.

RUSS AID ASKED IN UFO SEARCH--Dr. Edward U. Condon has appealed to scientists of the Soviet Union to cooperate in a study of UFOs. The appeal, in the form of a letter from Condon, was relayed by the prestigious National Academy of Sciences to the Soviet Academy, Condon said. "We haven't received any answer yet," he said, "but I guess it's too soon to expect one." Fifteen months ago Condon was chosen to head an independent investigation by non-government scientists to determine whether flying objects are natural phenomena, or whether they are spaceships, possibly from distant planets. The Air Force put up almost \$500,000 for the study. Condon said the investigation will not be completed until sometime in June, and his report will not be made public until November or December. The 65-year-old scientist refused to discuss even preliminary findings. Nor would he speculate on whether the report will resolve controversies surrounding reports of UFOs. Has the project made him a believer or a non-believer in flying objects? "I'm now getting to be more one way than the other, but I'm not going to tell you what that way is," Condon replied. Condon said project scientists had spent considerable time answering "false alarms," but he refused to answer when asked whether he or any of his colleagues had seen any evidence of UFOs.

UFO, ICE ON POND CONFUSE RESIDENTS--"You've got a mystery," commented the U.S. Weatherman after hearing reports from Vashon, Washington about an unidentified bright light and an adjacent pond of ice which aroused Vashon Islanders. The weatherman said it was "extremely unlikely" that Vashon could boast a pond of ice two inches thick on February 18 after two weeks of sunshine and warm rains. The episode which caused the consternation began about midnight when a carfull of teenage boys noticed a "glowing" light at the gravel pit west of Vashon. The light scared Dick Frombach, Chris Beachner and Boone Powers, who left the pit and went to town to tell of their experience. Boone, 19, convinced 18-year-old Joe Furbush to accompany him for another look. The youths parked their car and "snuck around" the pit to the area where Boone had seen the light. It had moved from its former spot, Boone said, and he described it as a steady fluorescent-kind of glow. Joe described it as a highly polished metal gleaming in the rain. They could not estimate its size and it

seemed to be parked there. It made no noise, "but it was the wierdest thing I've seen in my life," Boone recalls. After staring for a moment, they dashed for the car. Safely back in town, they told other friends of the experience and convinced a group to accompany them back to the area. The light was gone but a solid sheet of ice lay over the pond where the light had been. The youths walked on the ice--it was 3 inches thick in spots, Boone said. The puddles nearby were all water and the ground around was muddy. After walking around on the ice, they left to report the event to Deputy Don Holke.

Holke spent a half hour on the spot. He confirmed that there was no water on the ice and adjacent puddles were ice-free. The pond had a good two inches of ice atop of it. Some portions of the surrounding ground seemed firm rather than muddy, he added. No one would have thought the ice pond strange except for the bright light that called attention to it. But was the ice there all the time? There are conflicting reports. The pond adjoins property owned by the Ortega family. Son Tony reports that there was still some ice left there the previous week, but it wasn't two inches thick, he maintains. With the warm, heavy rains the day before, there should have been water atop the ice, but there was none. Bill Magill cannot answer for the light, but he feels the ice has been there since the last freeze several weeks previous. Magill's road crew uses the gravel pit often, even though they did not use it during the previous week. He is positive that the ice was there because the sun would not hit the area. Besides, he used to live nearby and he considers that area one of the Island's "cold pockets." Others insist that the sun must have hit the pond daily through the naked trees that surround it. The pit is open on three sides. Only one group of evergreens is nearby--to the southwest. In the words of the weatherman: "We've got a mystery."

UFOs SCORNED BY SOVIET SCIENTISTS--The Soviet Union's top-ranking Academy of Sciences acted February 29 to quash a recent flurry of interest in Russia in UFOs. The academy's leading astronomers and physicists scorned recurring reports of flying objects as "unscientific sensationalism." The scientists declared that mysterious objects sighted in the sky could be explained as optical illusions from reflected light or as mistaken reactions to aircraft and weather balloons. In what seemed to be an effort to calm any Soviet citizen made nervous by rumors of strange objects in the sky, the scientists declared: "All objects flying over the territory of our country are identified either by scientists or by military men standing guard over the security of our motherland." Physicists of the Academy of Sciences convened to discuss the problem in reaction to recent newspaper and television commentary tending to give credence to flying objects. Until last fall, the dominant attitude in Russia toward UFOs was that they were concoctions of Western sensation seekers. Some Soviet commentators even offered an explanation that such reports were fostered in the West to divert attention from daily woes of "inflation and employment."

SIGHTINGS IN RUSSIA--Soviet astronomers have studied flying objects through telescopes, says the Soviet Weekly. Objects studied over Kazan from two points simultaneously are described as crescent-shape, 1000 to 1200 feet in diameter, and are said to have travelled at about 10,000 m.p.h. at a height of 30 to 65 miles. Other Soviet sightings have been reported by airline pilots and by Latvian astronomers, who say they watched through a telescope a disc 300 feet in diameter and surrounded by three star-like objects.

ANOTHER REPORT DUE ON DEATH OF HORSE--Those still puzzled over the death of Snippy, the Appaloosa horse, may be relieved to know that there's still another report due on the incident. University of Nevada scientists are completing a report on extensive tests of Snippy's hair, flesh and of materials found around and under him. Snippy died last September on a range near Alamosa, Colorado. The incident was widely publicized because his owner, Mrs. Berle Lewis, contended he was killed by visitors from another planet. An Alamosa veterinarian reported January 26 that Snippy died as the result of a gunshot wound.

THE UFO COUNTER-CREDIBILITY GAP--(The following article was published on the Editorial page of the Denver, Colorado Post)--"The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) in Washington, D.C., has made an official response on the death of Snippy the horse in Colorado's San Luis Valley. The mare (sorry, NICAP, you got the sex wrong) died mysteriously in September and there were those who professed to see flying object involvement in the death. The evidence of that is slender. But we are prompted to make the argument that those who debunk UFOs ought to do so conservatively. To propound a fanciful explanation of what people saw is as bad as an imaginative sighting by someone who's just put down a science novel. In other words, we'd put more faith in a healthy dose of skepticism than in arguing that the object was "swamp gas" or "Venus" without really being sure. Concerning the NICAP report, it's hard to believe that drainage from a severe leg infection could have been responsible for the 75-foot circle of "exhaust-like" stains on the ground near the horse's body. This is NICAP's explanation. We're inclined to agree with Mrs. Berle Lewis of Alamosa who says, "It would take a whole herd of infected horses to make markings that extensive." The extent of the markings has been verified by hundreds of people who have visited the site near Alamosa."

MISC. REPORTS--A bright white was seen hovering above the John Hart Dam near Campbell River, B.C., Canada on January 2. There were hundreds of sightings in the area last summer, particularly around the Dam and the Discovery Passage.....Bobby Dietrich, 9, sighted a UFO shaped like two "dinner plates placed together" over Ashtabula Township, Ohio on January 14. He said it was flying over electric power lines in the area.

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