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RUSSIANS SAY FLYING OBJECTS EXIST--Top Russian scientists and military leaders now believe flying objects may be visitors from other planets that are spying on the earth. Leading Soviet experts say that Unidentified Flying Objects seem to be directed by highly intelligent minds that could be conducting a surveillance of the earth in a military fashion. Dr. Feliz Zegil, 47-year-old assistant professor of astronomy at the Moscow Aviation Institute, said: "Observations already made indicate that UFOs behave intelligently. In a group formation flight, they maintain a pattern. They are often spotted over airfields, atomic stations and other very new engineering installations. On encountering aircraft, they always maneuver to avoid direct contact. A considerable list of these seemingly gives the impression that UFOs are investigating, perhaps reconnoitering. The theory that UFOs originate in other worlds, that they are flying craft from planets other than earth, merits serious examination. Nature has some surprises in store for us here. We must be ready for perhaps a radical reassessment of values. Curiously enough, the number of UFO sightings increases as the planet Mars approaches nearest earth. Is that pure coincidence?"

The Soviet scientists and military men don't think it is a coincidence. They regard the matter as so serious that in October 1967 they set up a UFO Observation Center in Moscow to conduct an intensive study and analysis of UFO sightings. The move marks an abrupt about-face in the official Soviet attitude toward UFOs. In a featured article in the February issue of the magazine, "Soviet Life," Dr. Zigel said: "Until recently no scientific study of UFOs has been made in the Soviet Union. The general impression was that flying objects are fantasies. The situation now has changed. A growing number of serious scientists are not satisfied with explanations characterizing UFO sightings as visual errors." The Russian scientists and military experts base their new-found worries on the rapidly accumulating numbers of UFO sightings reported in recent years from all over the Soviet Union--many of the sightings made by highly responsible persons, including scientists.

The first steps of the new observation center will be to organize the collection of reliable information on UFOs. Dr. Zigel said this will be done by making use of data collected by astronomy, weather, satellite tracking and radar observers. He noted: "All these organizations can make UFO observations with equipment now available." The second step will be to use special UFO-observation equipment now on the drawing boards. The evidence about UFOs began to snowball after Dr. Zigel wrote an article on several UFO sightings for the Soviet magazine, "Smena," last September. As soon as it was published, readers began to report their own UFO experiences to the magazine office. With several dozen such reports in hand, Dr. Zigel and other scientists got together with military men and other public figures last May. Included in the group

were top Soviet scientists Professor Heinrich Ludwig, Dr. Nikolai Zhurov and Dr. Igor Bestuzhev-Lada; air navigation expert Valentine Akkuratov, Generals Porfiri Stolyarov, Leonid Reino, Georgi Uger and Georgi Zevalkin; leading engineer Grigori Sivkov, twice named a hero of the Soviet Union; and writers Yekaterina Ryabova and Natalia Kravtsova. By last October they had decided to go ahead and set up a permanent organization called the UFO section of the All-Union Cosmonautics Committee. General Stolyarov was named chairman. The group has headquarters in the Central House of Aviation and Cosmonautics, in Moscow. Dr. Zigel declared: "Those of us who are participating in this new and exciting undertaking have an ambitious program of work ahead. The important thing right now is for us to discard any preconceived notions about UFOs and to organize on a global scale a calm, scientific study of this strange phenomenon. The subject and aims of the investigation are so serious that they justify any efforts. It goes without saying that international cooperation is vital."

Dr. Zigel detailed some of the evidence and incidents which spurred the new drive to investigate UFOs. A remarkable UFO phenomenon is the Soviet evidence of a log cross-section taken from the remote Tungusky area where Russians believe a spaceship from another planet crashed and caused a nuclear explosion. The explosion took place on 1908--when no nuclear devices were known to man--and from that date the log cross-section shows a remarkable increase in the tree's rate of growth. This, Dr. Zigel said, was due to radiation from the blast. One of the incidents took place on the night of August 16, 1960 in a remote part of Kazakhstan, near the Chinese border. A Leningrad research institute had set up a field camp there for the study of geology, about 11 miles west of the nearest settlement, a village called Koktal. According to the camp geologist, Dr. Nikolai Sochevanov, a strange, luminous body appeared suddenly at about 11 p.m. over the mountains on the eastern slope of the valley. It was moving from north to south. Its diameter was one and a half times as long as the moon's. Eight scientific workers, all members of the expedition, watched while the UFO disappeared behind a mountain top, then reappeared and headed south at a constant speed and height. Dr. Zigel said: "They described it as lens-shaped and bright, with the edges less luminous than the center. It traced an arc in the sky and disappeared behind the mountains."

Another strange sighting described by Dr. Zigel was made by three Latvian astronomers on July 26, 1965. While they were studying night cloud formations at an observatory in Ogra, they noticed what appeared to be an unusually bright star moving slowly toward the west at 9:35 p.m. Dr. Zigel said: "The telescope then disclosed the following incredible picture. In the heart of a lens-shaped disc, which the astronomers estimated to be about 325 feet across, a thickened part, a small sphere, was clearly seen. Around the disc were three spheres resembling the one in the center. The spheres slowly rotated around the disc as the entire system diminished in size, gradually moving away. By 15 or 20 minutes later, the spheres began to move away from the disc. Finally at 10 p.m. all the bodies--a bright shining green in color--were so far away that the astronomers lost sight of them. This strange picture was observed in the northwestern part of the sky at about 60 degrees above the horizon. The astronomers estimated that the shapes were about 60 miles above the earth." After he had reported such cases in the magazine, "Smena," Dr. Zigel received a long radiogram from the first mate of the ship Izhevsk. The mate, named Bazhazhin, reported a strange thing his crew had seen

last August 2nd while crossing the Norwegian Sea in a westerly direction: "At 11:30 p.m., Moscow time, there were three of us in the cabin: Captain Markov, Senior Engineer Ivanov and myself. Sysoyev, the navigator on duty, reported a strange phenomenon in the sky. We ran to the bridge and saw a sphere-like whitish spot moving southward. A few minutes later a bright spot flared up high in the sky. For a couple of seconds it rushed head-long from west to east at an angle of 45 degrees to the earth, getting much larger. Suddenly, it came to a stop and, with a play of brilliant rainbow colors, yellow predominating, began throwing off sparks and became enveloped in a white shroud. Once again the UFO began moving south. The procedure was repeated four times. On the fifth and last time, the spot's behavior changed. It stopped midway, turned over and assumed the shape of an egg with the thicker end up. Then a powerful white jet squirted from the lower end, after which the egg grew pale, became enveloped in white mist and with its white tail, began to head southward." All of this strange activity was visible for an hour before it vanished.

Another set of reports came to Dr. Zigel from astronomers at the Mountain Astrophysical Station of the USSR Academy of Sciences, near Kislovodsk in the Caucasus Mountains, midway between the Black and Caspian Seas. Local newspapers told of a strange, reddish crescent seen flying across the sky at 9:20 p.m., July 17, 1967. Early on the morning of July 18, astronomer H.I. Potter, making observations on the moon, saw a peculiar formation against the clear, starry sky at 2:50 a.m. Dr. Potter related: "A white cloud appeared in the northeast, about twice as big as the moon. It was a dense milky-white color with a rose-red nucleus visible at its northern end. It expanded, turning paler. A few minutes later the white cloud was completely gone, but the red nucleus remained. Towards daybreak it lost its outlines and vanished." Dr. Potter had taken photographs at each stage. On August 8, at the same station, astronomer Anatoli Sazanov saw an unfamiliar flying object at 8:40 p.m. Dr. Sazanov said: "It was an out-of-shape crescent, yellow with a reddish tinge, with luminous ribbons trailing from the horns of the crescent." Dr. Sazanov's measurements showed the object to be 12 miles away and about 500 feet across. As it moved across the northern sky from west to east, 10 other scientists at the station saw it. After relating these sightings, Dr. Zigel commented: "Even if all the UFO evidence amounted to no more than these four accounts, it is clear the evidence exists. The fact of the matter is, however, that many thousands of such observations have been documented on the past 20 years. They come from dozens of countries and virtually every corner of our planet, including the Arctic and Antarctic. The UFO phenomenon is too widespread and popularly accepted to be dismissed lightly."

Testing these accounts against the explanation sometimes heard that UFOs are merely atmospheric freaks, Dr. Zigel observed: "The explanation does not hold water. UFOs are not optical phenomena of the mirage, rainbow or halo type. What we seem to be dealing with here is a kind of reality still unexplored." He also tossed out the ball-lightning theory sometimes advanced by UFO scoffers. He declared: "The behavior of UFOs, their shapes and other physical properties are quite different from what we know of ball lightning. What is clear is that UFOs can be classified and described. Many of the descriptions from different parts of the world are amazingly similar."

A sighting much like others in various parts of world is one Dr. Zigel

described from a 1964 report by Professor Vyacheslav Ziatsev. On a scheduled flight of a TU-104 airliner near the city of Bologoye (between Moscow and Leningrad) a huge, bright, metallic-looking disc slid right under the liner's belly, made a turn and then, some distance away, settled on a course being flown by the plane. Professor Ziatsev reported: "A bulging core resembling a cabin could be seen in the heart of the disc. After flying alongside the plane for several seconds, it swerved abruptly and disappeared." Still another UFO was seen by astronomer Lyudmila Tsekhanovich in 1965 near Sukhumi, on the Black Sea. She told Dr. Zigel the UFO made a swift maneuver over the sea, then headed for the mountains. It was a disc with a central, protruding part dotted with holes which seemed to be lit from the inside. Dr. Zigel said: "The reality of UFOs has been proved by their images on photographic plates and Russian radar screens."

Among sightings recorded in this fashion, he told of one described by a well-known Soviet pilot, Valentin Akkuratov. Akkuratov said: "In 1956, engaged in strategic ice reconnaissance in a TU-4 plane in the area of Cape Jesup, Greenland, we dropped down from the clouds to fair weather and suddenly noticed an unknown aircraft moving on our port side parallel to our course. It looked very much like a large pearl-colored lens with wavy, pulsating edges. At first we thought it was an American aircraft of an unknown design, and since we did not want to encounter it we went into the clouds again. After we had flown for 40 minutes toward Bear Island, the cloud cover ended abruptly. It cleared ahead and on our port side we saw again that same unknown aircraft. Making up our minds to see it at close range, we changed our course abruptly and began the approach movement, informing our base at Amderma of the maneuver. When we changed our course, the unknown flying machine followed suit and moved parallel, at our speed. After 15 to 18 minutes of flight the unknown craft sharply altered its course, sped ahead of us and rose quickly until it disappeared. We spotted no aeriels, superstructure, wings or portholes on that disc. Nor did we see any exhaust gases or condensation trail. It flew at what seemed to us an impossible speed."

Another encounter with a UFO was reported by Soviet Air Force Major G.F. Baidukov. On a night mission above the Odessa Region on April 4, 1966, Baidukov picked up a strange object on the screen of his plane's radar set. He contacted ground-based radar units, and was informed that they were receiving the unknown blips, too. Within 15 minutes, the object dropped from 31 miles to an altitude of 18 miles, and during the next 25 minutes dropped down to an 11-mile height. Baidukov saw the UFO only on his radar screen, however, and was unable to close on it and obtain a visual identification.

From these stories Dr. Zigel summed up: "UFO movements are peculiar. Sometimes they hover over the earth for dozens of minutes. In flight they can develop incredible speeds and acceleration. To find a clue to the nature of UFOs, we must study all the reports on these surprising and, to my mind, real objects. Only a scientific analysis can ever reveal the truth. If study confirms that UFOs are from another planet, this will pose urgent new problems," the scientist said. He asked: "If we are indeed being studied by creatures from other planets, what is their purpose? Why are they so studiously avoiding any direct contact? Is their unsociability the result of so high a level of development that they study us from that 'height' just as we look upon and study ants? Or is there still the possibility of common understanding...?"

EERIE RED LIGHTS CHASED BY PLANE--Nine ruby red lights soared back and forth across Puget Sound, Washington for more than 40 minutes July 7 and one private pilot who chased them insisted "they definitely were aircraft," but no one could prove it. Thousands of calls swamped civilian and military telephones in the Puget Sound region. The glistening objects, like embers in the heavens, far outshone the pale stars. They were eminently visible to watchers on the ground, but the Federal Air Route Control Center at Auburn, Washington and local military airfield towers could not spot them on radar. (Editors Note: The objects did appear on the screen of a Seattle radar station.) They ranged from the vicinity of Seattle's Space Needle across to the north end of West Seattle, back across Elliott Bay, and then disappeared one by one. "The last one didn't just dim out and fade away like turning out a light on a rheostat," insisted pilot Rudy Malaspina of Des Moines. "I was flying right below it and it simply accelerated vertically and flew out of sight." Besides the FAA, the Coast Guard, Air Force and law enforcement agencies received a flood of telephone calls starting shortly after 10:15 p.m. At 10:49 p.m., observers saw the last light suddenly wink out.

Malaspina, a real estate salesman, was flying from Friday Harbor, San Juan County, to Boeing Field at 7000 feet. He was directed by radio near Everett to descend to 5000 feet. The Auburn center cleared him to descend to 2200 to pick up the Boeing Field approach marker. "I could hardly receive the center. Then the center handed me to Boeing Tower (by radio transfer) and I noticed right directly in front of me nine vertical lights on a collision course. We were closing fast. I said, 'This is a military formation!' and I turned right. These nine lights made a right oblique turn instantly. You're not supposed to turn without directions from the tower, but I turned. Just two seconds later, I looked over my shoulder to see where this formation was going and I saw it right over the southern tip of Green Lake. It was a bright moonlit night and that lake was a perfect reflector. Well, four rockets were fired from these objects, and they were not flares. Three of them hit southeast of Green Lake. I got on the radio and told the Boeing Field tower: 'There's a military formation dropping rockets!' They said they had no knowledge of any military formation in the area whatsoever. These lights were just plain red and oscillating from dim to bright and back to dim."

By then, Malaspina was at 3000 feet and estimated the red lights to be at 7000 or 8000 feet. He heard another pilot report from 6000 feet that the objects appeared to be from 8000 to 10,000 feet above West Seattle. Then I sighted them over West Seattle and they were stationary," Malaspina continued. "I was doing 360 degree turns below them, using the moon and the edge of Elliott Bay as reference points. They were stationary, then they flew back across Elliott Bay from the north end of West Seattle, over Queen Anne Hill and then came back toward me. I chopped my recognition lights and they came back toward me. When I put my lights back on, they went away from me. They were definitely aircraft. I wouldn't believe it myself but I saw it and figure this. My magnetic compass was reading 300 degrees when I made my landing at Boeing and it should have read 130 degrees. And my clock in the plane stopped at 10:35 p.m." The Auburn center confirmed it had picked up Malaspina's plane by radar and monitored his radioed reports as he pursued the objects which thousands saw.

UFOs OVER CHILE? SCIENTIST SAYS YES--Photographs taken by a Chilean professor of a strange lens-shaped craft with a convex top have received theories that flying objects are cruising the skies of Chile. Prof. Gabriel Alvial Caceres, director of the Center for Investigation of Cosmic Radiation at the University of Chile, showed his photographs to a fascinated press conference recently. He declined to say whether the craft his team photographed was controlled by extra-terrestrial beings. "But they are phenomena which our science cannot explain and which require the coordination and methodology of investigation of all scientific centers to provide an answer for the unknown," he said. "The presence of these phenomena in the skies of Chile--15 times in a year--compelled us to carry out these observations which have now been crowned with success," the professor added. Publication of the photographs coincided with reports of UFOs received in Chile and other parts of South America. Two veteran pilots of the Argentine National Airline, Aerolineas Argentinas, recently reported seeing a flying object over Southern Chile. In Northern Chile, four officials of the Public Health Service were reported in a local newspaper as saying an alien craft landed near them and the occupants told them not to say a word about the landing. Two of the men were examined about the incident under hypnosis. One of them said the occupants of the craft were humanoid beings with very thin legs. They used gestures to warn the men to keep silent about the landing, he said.

Two UFOs were sighted in June in the tiny town of El Choro, 155 miles south of LaPaz, Bolivia, police said. Both sightings were officially reported to the government by Poopo Province Police Chief German Rocha. The first craft was said to have been seen both by Rocha and the mayor of Choro, Niceforo Leon. Rocha said it was round and illuminated the ground with "a weird" colored light." A flying object was also reported hovering over a sodapop factory in the Central Argentine city of Rosario, 186 miles northwest of Buenos Aires on June 27. Witnesses described it as flat and silvery with a beam of bright red light emerging from the center.

NEW PLANET DISCREDITS EINSTEIN, SAYS ITALIAN--A self-taught Italian astronomer said on June 29 that he has discovered a planet that proves Einstein's theory of relativity does not apply to the solar system. Raffaele Bendani, 78, a former toy salesman, said the new planet--which he named Faenza was between Mercury and the sun. It was the fifth such discovery by Bendani, whose previous announcements were not taken seriously by Italian scientists. But Bendani--known as "the Professor"--is popular among Italian laymen because of his accurate predictions of earthquakes and bad weather. He said the constant changes in the orbit of Mercury, the nearest of the nine known planets to the sun, were caused by the new planet and not by Einstein's theory of relativity--an explanation which he said "has no value." He said the new planet is 25,620,000 miles from the sun and has an orbit of 25 earth days and a day of 19 earth hours. His calculations, he said, could be verified by radio-telescope. The new planet passes in front of the sun about once every 25 years, Bendani added. In 1956, he said he discovered four major planets, but refused to say where they were. His latest announcement came after he received a prize as the most distinguished citizen of the year in the Italian town of Faenza. He said he had told the Vatican and the Italian Academy of Science of his discovery as early as 1931. But he said he did not tell anyone else for 37 years because he wanted to be absolutely sure of his findings.

RADIOACTIVE OBJECTS FOUND AT UFO SITE--Steve Michalak, the Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada man who maintains he had an encounter with an alien craft near Falcon Lake, Manitoba in May, 1967 returned to the site May 19 and uncovered several pieces of radioactive metal, shaped in the identical pattern of an elongated S, and an identical $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Mr. Michalak said he and a friend, Martin McGregor, dug the S-shaped metal pieces out of a natural fissure in a rock located in the area he claims the UFO landed. Mr. Michalak said the fact that the pieces were all identically shaped (except for one that is in a reverse S pattern), and the same length, supports his claims. Mr. Michalak said the shape of the metal pieces didn't follow the contours of the fissure. He said he and Mr. McGregor found the pieces while cleaning moss out of the fissure, with a crowbar. The men were equipped with a geiger counter and the reading was high at the fissure, so they began to dig. On May 20 at his residence, the metal pieces still registered radioactivity when placed next to a geiger counter. Mr. Michalak said it was obvious the pieces had been subjected to great heat and pressure. His experience as a prospector told him the metal might be "some kind of precious metal, like platinum, silver, or gold and silver together." He said when the pieces were removed from the UFOs landing area, the radioactivity count in the area went down.

'LITTLE MEN' ON THE RUN FLEE POLICE--An egg-shaped piece of rock found in the middle of a burned patch of grass is the only evidence so far to substantiate reports on July 2 of burning objects falling from the sky and nude little men. Paul-Emile Desbiens, a 73-year-old farmer from St Paul, Quebec, Canada, about 40 miles north of Montreal, says he is guarding the piece of stone with a shotgun until federal authorities analyse it. He said a farmer friend found the stone still hot after a large burning object that illuminated the sky fell into a nearby field. Meanwhile, provincial police at Joliette, Quebec confirmed they had received several telephone calls July 2 that nude little men had been seen running along a country road. Constable Marcel Vaudreuil said no men were available to check out the reports. He brushed off the sightings by saying: "People were just having illusions." He did not say how many calls had been received by the police. However, Constable Michel Michaud may have been one of those having illusions. He said that he and a fellow policeman did check on the nude men and arrived on the scene in time to see them jump into a ditch and flee. No one was caught. Hundreds of persons in the Laurentian villages near Joliette had reported seeing the strange tumbling fireball. It was reported seen at the same time in several parts of the northeastern United States, from Vermont to Maryland and from the Atlantic to Ohio.

MARSHAL REPORTS UFO SIGHTINGS--This is the statement which Town Marshal Felix Gallegos of Sanford, Colorado wrote on May 7, regarding his sightings of eight UFOs: "It was May 7 about 10:00 p.m. I had just got home from making my night rounds. I was walking past my big picture window on the east when I saw this red ball or light zoom from the ground into the sky and another one followed. So I called my wife and children to come and see. At that time another one took off in a straight line headed south about six feet off the ground. Just as if it was shot from a rifle it was about as high as the fence and it traveled about one half block then disappeared. Then my wife and I and children witnessed about eight UFOs all together, some going straight up in the air, others going about 45 degrees in the air. It seemed like they were going up from the Keith Morch farm across from mine about a quarter mile away. So I called

them, while all this was going on. I thought maybe someone there was shooting rockets or some kind of red flares in the air. Mrs. Morch answered the telephone and said they were all in the house. So I asked her to look outside and see if she could see them, too. Next day I went to investigate, I stopped and talked to the Morch's. Mrs. Morch said she had seen one. She told me more or less the spot where they took off from, which was about two blocks from their house. It sure fits the description of the same place where we had seen one taking off from. I didn't find any trace of tracks or anything strange when I investigated the spot. It sure gives a person something to think about."

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UFO PROBERSS APARTMENT YIELDS PEYOTE, MARIJUANA--James E. Wadsworth, 29, a member of the staff at the University of Colorado investigating reports of UFOs, and his wife, Lois Ann, 31, were arrested in their apartment March 3. Police Captain Lowell Friesen said a quantity of marijuana and peyote buttons was found in the Wadsworth's home. This was the first raid in Boulder in more than a month involving narcotics, Friesen said. Wadsworth is a graduate student at the University, and has been working full time on the UFO studies. Dr. Robert J. Low, project co-ordinator, said Wadsworth's work has been "very satisfactory." Wadsworth was one of the investigators sent by the UFO center to look into the strange death of a horse named Snippy, found dead under unusual circumstances near Alamosa, Colorado last Fall.

GAO INVESTIGATING CONTRACT ON UFOs--The U.S. General Accounting Office has begun an investigation of the \$496,000 Air Force contract with the University of Colorado for the study of UFOs. This development comes just as the university group had completed its study and begun the task of writing a report on its findings.

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