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UFOs FROM SPACE, SCIENTISTS THINK--Scientists told Congress on July 29 there were too many sightings of UFOs to rule out the possibility that earth might be under surveillance by creatures from outer space. They urged lawmakers to support a thorough investigation. Dr. Carl Sagan, astronomy professor at Cornell University, said if there are other civilizations among the hundreds of billions of stars in the universe, "any random one of them is likely to be vastly ahead of us." "This is a possibility I take very seriously," said Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist with the Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the University of Arizona. "If there is even a chance of surveillance, we should explore it." Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory, said: "My scientific hunch...is that there is scientific pay dirt in the UFO phenomenon." He urged Congress to establish and support a "UFO board of scientific inquiry" to sponsor a variety of investigations along with an "international clearing house" to correlate reports of UFO sightings from around the world. The scientists testified at a symposium on UFOs sponsored by the House Committee on Science and Astronautics.

Noting UFO sightings by responsible and skeptical witnesses around the world, McDonald said: "Far too many defy our best analysis." He said these included some cases where witnesses on the ground flashed lights into a pattern of hovering, disc-like craft which responded with flashing lights in the same pattern. "It would be terrible if this was surveillance and our technology was represented by the Everready flashlight." McDonald also said there were many UFO sightings reported up and down the Eastern Seaboard around the time of the Northeast power blackout in late 1965. Since the cause of the power pulse which precipitated the blackout has never been identified, McDonald said "there is a puzzling and slight disturbing coincidence here." If the earth is being watched, Sagan said "it would be folly to ignore it...it is not beyond question that we could be visited." But he warned that "to mount a major investigation requires more hard evidence than is at hand." For the time being, Sagan said, he would favor concentrating on radio astronomy and on probes to find out whether any life exists on neighboring planets. McDonald said if the earth was being watched from space, it was being done by a society so advanced that to earthmen its technology "would be indistinguishable from magic." He said he had spent the last two years studying UFOs under a grant from the U.S. Office of Naval Research, spending several months in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania tracking down sightings.

MYSTERY SKY OBJECTS OVER AUSTRALIA--Two taxi drivers and a hotel manager in different suburbs saw UFOs on July 19. The objects were seen from South Perth, Wembley and Hamilton Hill between 3:20 and 5:57 a.m. Taxi driver Stan Bubis, 42, of West Perth, said he is sure the object he saw

was a UFO. "I've always said that I wouldn't believe in them until I saw one," he said. "Now I have seen one." At 5:57 a.m. Mr. Bubis stopped his taxi in Hamilton Hill to watch an object he saw about a mile in front of him. "I nearly ran off the road," he said. "At first I thought it was a falling star, but then I realized that it was travelling horizontally. I was watching the tail at first which was like fire--pink and orange--then I noticed the disc itself. It was circular with a sort of knob on top. Along one side it was a blue-green color and these colors also seemed to trail behind it. On the other side, just under the knob, was a bright orange ring, which could have been a hole or a window. I think it was about a mile away from me and 2000 feet up. I watched it travel from one corner of the windscreen to the other, for about three minutes. It was travelling from southwest to northeast I think. I had my window open and I couldn't hear any noise. I know it wasn't an aircraft."

The other taxi-driver, Ian Bonney, 21, of Scarborough, saw a sky object while driving in Wembley. "I was driving west at 4:55 a.m. when I saw a flying thing about half a mile ahead of me," he said. "It was about 50 feet wide and about 20 feet high, circular and with a fiery streak coming out behind it. The main body was an iridescent grey color with a streak of green that could have been windows. It came down to within 1000 feet of the earth, moving at an angle and then shot upwards at a tremendous speed with its lights out." Hotel night manager Brude Marsden of Redcliffe also saw an object in the sky. He said that about 3:20 a.m. he was making a routine round of the hotel in South Perth, when he saw a big bright orange object passing over the Swan River near Claremont. "What drew my attention to it first was the size," he said. "I have seen lots of meteors and satellites on my night rounds, but they are not as big and don't come in on an angle like this one. It had an extremely long tail which appeared to split into three." An RAAF official at Pearce said no aircraft were night flying at the time.

BRIGHT OBJECT SEEN OVER WIDE AREA--In the area throughout eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey sightings of mysterious lights in the sky began at 8 p.m. July 28. For two hours the calls filtered into airports, newspapers, and astronomical societies, asking, "What is the light?" One caller in Pottstown, Pennsylvania said; "It was there, right above the First Federal building. It was a flowing, shapeless object moving in an erratic pattern. At first I thought my eyes were going bad but I called my father and he saw it too. It moved in such a manner that I knew something was going on out there. I watched it for more than five minutes while it moved, dipped, and swerved around the heavens. I just wish I knew what I saw." Gene Rygwalski, a mathematician who is co-director of Systems Management Associates, aerospace and academic engineers in the Philadelphia area who trace and investigate UFO reports, said, "We can't understand all phenomenon in the atmosphere. The possibilities of extra terrestrial life seem great though. Dr. Carl Sagan, of the Harvard Observatory, reports that there are 8 billion stars that could have life. If you take just a fraction of 1 percent of these, you have many stars that could be exploring earth, just as we are probing the universe." Rygwalski believes the sightings confirm past patterns of UFO reports. "For the past six months there has been a lull in reports. But for the past two weeks we have had sightings every night. I have spoken to many clergymen about their views on extra-terrestrial life and they say we must be rather naive to believe we are the only ones in the universe. We are trying to determine scientifically if we are."

'BEINGS' IN THE HOUSE GO 'WHOOSH,' by Ed Strome--What are the invisible things at Fred Coulthard's house that go whoosh in the night and smell like roses? Beings from another galaxy "who are much cleverer than we are," as Fred believes? Someone from the alien spacecraft that Fred's two sons thought they saw land near Belleville, Ontario, Canada on July 2nd? Persons "playing tricks," as the Coulthards' parish priest thinks? Whatever it is, Fred and his boys would like to find out. They say something at their two-storey frame house in Wooler, three miles west of Belleville, has: ....Smashed windows, knocked dishes and tableware to the floor and terrified a pet cat....Sent a tube of shampoo flying through the air....Wrenched a glass of wine from the hand of Wayne Coulthard, 20, and smashed it....Hurled a deck of playing cards at Wayne. Provincial police are interested, too. They had to assign extra cruisers to direct traffic as hundreds of curious spectators were attracted by news that "something supernatural" has been calling at the Coulthard home. Things got so scary that Mrs. Coulthard went to stay with friends in Trenton while her husband and sons tried to catch--or at least get a photograph of--the mysterious visitors. Fred Jr., 24, an armed services corporal stationed at Petawawa, said that when he heard noises he came out of hiding and tried to take a picture, but all he could see was "small, dark, heavy shadows." Neighbor Butch Mallory, 20, took a tape recorder in and picked up noises he called "spirits visitations. A lot of people around here won't believe us but they won't come and sit in the kitchen," said Mallory. He said the noises he recorded included sounds of spoons flying off the table while he was there.

The noises have continued, Coulthard said, despite crowds of as many as 35 visitors in his house some nights. "I believe there is another galaxy with people on it who are much cleverer than we are," said Coulthard, a 58-year-old Trenton mailman. "I believe they are invisible and a smell like roses comes from their body." Fred and Wayne were standing at the side of the house July 2 when they saw what they described as "a big flash" to the north of the house. Fred said he got binoculars and looked at an object which appeared to land a mile or two north of their property. They drove back but could find no sign of what they thought was a flying object. Rev. Gerard Sullivan, the Coulthard's parish priest at St. Adolphus Roman Catholic Church in Wooler, said he was convinced "something was going on" but thought it might be someone "playing tricks" on Coulthard. But Coulthard, father of 10, said Fred checked around the house after the mysterious visits but could find no sign of any human callers. He said he would welcome some authorities to investigate because he'd like to solve the mystery. Wayne said that three firemen from Frankford stayed upstairs with Coulthard and his family and heard mysterious noises. When they ran downstairs they found two spoons, which had been in a cupboard drawer, had bounced onto the floor. He said two policemen outside had seen no one enter or leave.

RASH OF UFO TALES RAMPART IN ARGENTINA, CHILE, by Malcom W. Browne--The luminosity of flying objects is said to have spread across the skies of Southern Cross, and table talk throughout Argentina and Chile is glittering with star dust and mystery these days. Amid dismal conversations about rising prices and political uncertainties, the subject of flying objects has come to South America as something fresh and exciting. Scarcely a day has passed in recent weeks without at least one new flying object testimonial in the press of Santiago and Buenos Aires. For some time, the UFO stories merely are entertaining nonsense. When Argentina's foreign minister, Dr. Nicanor Costa Mendez, was

interviewed recently on the subject by a television station, he said: "If I did not have so much respect for the Chinese, I would say that one is dealing here with a Chinese fairy tale." But for many others, the spat of flying object sightings is a serious matter. The current wave of concern probably began in May after the Buenos Aires daily La Razon published an article about a married couple who told of an experience one night when they were driving home. They said that they had lost consciousness when their car entered a heavy fog. The couple regained consciousness, according to the newspaper account, still in their car but on a road just outside Mexico City--nearly 5000 miles from their home. Some published speculation had it that the incident was the work of extraterrestrial visitors. Others, taking a more down-to-earth tone, presume that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was in some way involved. Investigations by officials of Argentina and Mexico developed no evidence that the incident actually occurred, but the many believers were not satisfied. Then on June 4, two highly experienced pilots of Argentina's National Airline saw what they said was a flying object over the strait of Magellan. The most dramatic encounter with an alien spaceman was reported by a 19-year-old, Maria Elodia Letzel, the daughter of a Cordoba hotel keeper. Noticing a strange luminosity coming from the vestibule of the hotel, she said she left the kitchen to investigate. In the vestibule, she said, she met a being more than six feet tall, blond, and enveloped in a scaly suit that emitted a celestial light. The being mumbled at her unintelligibly and as he raised his right hand she felt weak, but when he lowered it she felt restored. The being then left without causing any trouble, apart from a severe state of nerves for Miss Letzel. "I have no doubt that flying objects have arrived here," an Argentine government official said. "I worry about what they're up to. I just can't understand why they've picked Argentina."

ALIEN CRAFT FOLLOWS CAR--"I thought for sure I was seeing something that wasn't there" said Peggy Walker after sighting what she thinks must have been a flying object as she returned to her home from Monett, Missouri on August 18. Miss Walker said she was driving from Monett to Verona when she saw something hovering over her car, and the object followed her car all the way to Verona, sometimes even with the car, sometimes ahead. Some of the time, she said, there were red and green flashing lights, at other times the object seemed to glow. She admitted she was rather frightened. Arriving at home, she called her parents who also saw the object. She was almost reluctant, she said, to mention the incident to any of her friends, but Peggy learned that Diana and Roberta Werner had sighted the object at Verona. The flashing object, Miss Walker said, was larger than a car, and when she last saw it, it was going northwest.

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