

RESUME OF CIVILIAN SAUCER INTELLIGENCE MEETING, APRIL 23, 1954

- I. Ted Bloecher opened the meeting and reminded members of the May 14th meeting on Project One. He announced the new district heads and their addresses:

<u>Long Island</u>	<u>Manhattan</u>	<u>Bronx</u>	<u>Brooklyn</u>
Larry Krupp 189 Beech St. Floral Park Long Island PR 5-6248	Ted Bloecher 317 E. 83 St. TR 9-3099	Harold Oksenkug 2070 Powell Ave. TA 9-4930	Elliott Backmore 341 New York Ave. FR 2-9622

- II. The feature of the Meeting was Ivan T. Sanderson, the noted naturalist, who spoke on his investigation of the mystery of the Sutton, West Virginia "monster." Dr. Sanderson has been investigating such mysteries for twenty years. He is a reporter for the North American Newspaper Alliance, to investigate "strange" happenings in the news. He has traced flying saucers - which he prefers to call Unidentified or Unauthorized Flying Objects - as far back into history as 2000 B.C., in ancient Chinese literature. In this connection he recommended for reading the "Proceedings of the Royal Society of London" for 1776, which is available in the New York Public Library. He mentioned that in September 1952 NBC reported the finding of a large creature, or its footprints, with a foot ten inches long and three toes. These prints could not have been man-made. Dr. Sanderson believes that a species of giant penguin exists in the sea and has been seen in Florida; the skeleton of a 7-foot penguin was discovered in New Zealand.

Dr. Sanderson's investigation in West Virginia began when Ken Purdy, editor of True Magazine, got in touch with him through John Dubarry and sent him a clipping about a glowing monster 12 feet tall, with blood-red eyes, reported from West Virginia. Sanderson, with his assistant Ed Schoenenberger, went down there to investigate for the North American Newspaper Alliance. When they arrived they got in touch with the editor of the Braxton Republican, a local newspaper. They found that the "monster" had been seen in the Flatwoods Mountain area, by a woman beautician, a 17-year-old National Guardsman, and several children, from 5 to 14 years old. They were sincere and honest people; interviews with them convinced Sanderson of their good faith.

The sighting itself occurred on the evening of September 12, 1952. A number of children were playing football in a field in a bowl-shaped valley surrounded by the Flatwoods Mountains, when a luminous red pear-shaped object flew overhead, blunter end forward, just above the hills. It passed the crest of a nearby hill and sank slowly behind the ridge; it remained there, for the boys could see a red, pulsing light.

The boys stopped their game and began climbing the hill to investigate. On the way they were joined by the woman and her children, and by the National Guardsman. As they approached the spot where the object had landed, an overpowering stench invaded the area, and a mist floated on the slopes and in the fields. Ahead of them about forty paces or so they saw the object, resting on a slope and giving off a light described by one boy as "like a

neon sign" - not hot. The mist seemed to come from the object. A collie dog that had followed them up the hill dashed into the mist, turned, howling, in mid-air, and streaked back down the hill; he was later found dead.

Then a 14-year-old boy, flashing his light about, thought he saw the eyes of a raccoon shining in an oak tree ahead of them and above them, on the crest of the ridge. They suddenly became aware of a large "figure," with its head just under the branches of the oak, 10 or 12 feet above the ground. Pale blue beams were shining from what seemed to be a lens in this "head"; this lens seemed to be blood-red. The "figure" seemed to float in the air; bushes in front of the lower portion of the figure obscured any detail in the lower part.

Suddenly the blue beams turned toward the people, and the figure seemed to be floating toward them. Hysterical, they fled. On the way the Guardsman dropped his flashlight, and when he stooped to pick it up his face was in the mist (which was described by the witnesses as having an overpowering, hideous, excessively sweet smell of molten metal - "fire and brimstone"). He became violently ill and vomited, and the others had to drag him back down the hill to the house. He was sick for several days, but this was due in part to shock. The police were summoned immediately and a posse was formed to go up the hill and investigate, but they returned saying that they had seen the mist and smelled the foul odor, but had seen nothing else. By that time it was too dark to make out anything clearly.

Sanderson made a thorough investigation, and interviewed the witnesses extensively. He discovered that there had been dozens of visual sightings of the pulsing red object, and was developing a fever trying to plot its course, until he deduced that there must have been at least five objects, all observed within the same general area. One object flew ahead and was tracked all the way to Texas. Another crashed into a hillside and was thought to be a flying plane, though no plane was reported lost or damaged in the area. Another report was of a fireball bursting in the air, and a second crash was reported on a farm owned by two crippled brothers. Something had failed to clear the top of a hill on their property, and had crashed on the top. Finally, there was the alleged landing with the "monster." All the reports came at the same time, just after sunset.

Dr. Sanderson believes that the devices entered a thick layer of carbon monoxide smog, from industrial plants somewhere in the general area. The polluted air affected the operating parts of the objects, causing them to crash, to land, or to explode. The air was also alien to the respiratory systems of their occupants, and caused them to black out, lose control, and dissolve. Both the saucer and its occupant, he believes, disappeared much in the same manner that a disk of camphor will evaporate if left standing out in the open air.

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