

CSI NEWS LETTER - Issue No. 8

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CIVILIAN SAUCER INTELLIGENCE OF NEW YORK
67 Jane Street, New York 14, N. Y.

CSI NEWS LETTER

As We Enter The Second Decade Of The UFO Age

Of course, we thought, we will have to have an editorial with that title, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's epoch-making observation. There will be a pithy appraisal of The Status of Ufology After Ten Years, followed by some sage speculations on What The Next Decade May Bring.

But after thinking it over, we decided not to write it. By and large, the readers of this feuilleton are just about as well informed on these matters as its Editors are, and their opinions on where we stand now, and what may be dished up to us on the saucer of the future, are just as authoritative as ours are - that is to say, pure guesswork. Why should you read our guesses, if we don't read yours?

Besides, if you roll your own editorial, you can be sure you'll approve of its sentiments. Ours (if we'd written it) might perhaps have indulged in a bit more viewing-with-alarm than is suitable at a birthday celebration. So we'll limit ourselves to offering a toast to our guest of honor - now ten years old!

Twinkle, twinkle, little UFO!
How we wonder why you do so!
Up above the world so high,
Like a tea-tray in the sky,
Ten years now you've mystified,
And still you're Unidentified!
Ten years hence - what then your status?
Will the world congratulate us,
And claim it "knew it all along"?
Or will the "spacecraft" then belong
Wholly to the mystagogues,
Quackpots, zanies, pseudologues,
Con(tact) men, and all the others
Who fraternize with spatial "brothers"?
Absit omen! U.F.O.,
Your future's up to you, you know!
Another Summer, '52
Would put you back in public view;
Another Autumn, '54,
With "dwarfish humanoids" galore,
Would set the front-page headlines roarin'
"SAUCERS' SOURCE IS FAR 'N' FOREIGN!"
And, if you'd like one more suggestion,
Why not resolve the "saucer question"
By landing on the White House lawns
A crew of hairy leprechauns?
In A. D. 1957
We look to you, up there in heaven;
Although we'll do our best below,
It's up to you, O U.F.O.!

-- The Editors.

NICAP MAGAZINE SETS NEW STANDARDS

On July 12th, newspapers from Maine to Hawaii heralded the birth of a new periodical - NICAP's UFO Investigator, edited by Major Keyhoe with the able assistance of Lee Munsick. What made the headlines was its front-page story revealing that a California CAA control tower observed, on March 23, four radar blips maneuvering over Oxnard Air Force Base (see "More at Oxnard," p. 12). This inaugural issue is designed primarily to acquaint the reader with the fact that NICAP is an extremely "solid" organization. It succeeds handsomely. The heaping-up of dubious sightings is avoided: the ten sightings newly described are all exceptionally strong cases, or else of special importance in some way. Practically all are from military officers or pilots. The Board of Governors of NICAP is introduced at some length, with biographies, photographs, and statements by this distinguished group. New additions to the Board are: Ret. Vice Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, who was director of the top-secret Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from 1947 to 1950; Major Dewey Fournet, the former Intelligence liaison officer for Project Blue Book; Ret. Lt. Gen. P. A. Del Valle, U.S. Marine Corps, leader of the World War II assault on Okinawa; J. B. Hartranft, Jr., President of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Ret. Rear Admiral Herbert Knowles, of the submarine service; and Dr. Marcus Bach, professor of religion at Ohio State University, who has specialized in the study of religious sects and cults. A panel of ten advisors will assist with evaluation: Capt. C. S. Chiles, Al Chop, A. L. Cochran; Lou Corbin; Samuel Freeman; Capt. W. B. Nash; Warrant Officer D. C. Newhouse; W. R. Peters; Wilbert Smith; and Kenneth Steinmetz, astronomer in charge of the Project Moonwatch unit at Denver, Colorado. Statements by all the Governors and by other persons of consequence are printed.

Undoubtedly NICAP's most important mission is to reform the present dog-in-the-manger arrangement whereby an indifferent or actually hostile Air Force is officially permitted to monopolize and, if it so desires, hold secret all information on the subject of UFOs. In this issue of The UFO Investigator Major Keyhoe offers the Air Force an "eight-point program" for USAF-NICAP cooperation in a more realistic and effective approach to the UFO problem. However, it is hardly likely - nor, we are sure, does Keyhoe seriously expect - that the Air Force will be willing to share its monopoly power unless Congressional pressure is brought to bear. NICAP is now working along these lines. CSI members can help by writing short, conservatively-worded letters to their Senators and Representatives, apprising them of the situation and asking them to help NICAP get this important, non-security matter out from under the Air Force's restrictive thumb. Such letters do get action, as the following story shows:

Last spring, Rep. Lee Metcalf of Montana referred a letter from one of his constituents to the Air Force. General Joe Kelly replied on April 8th with the customary bland assurances that "pilots are not muzzled," "reports are not withheld from the press," and that, in general, Daddy is taking care of everything and baby shouldn't ask questions. The UFO Investigator reprints this correspondence, together with a follow-up telegram Keyhoe sent to Kelly: if "pilots are not muzzled," asked Keyhoe, may we not have an official assurance that military pilots will run no risk of punishment if they report their sightings publicly? If "reports are not withheld," how about letting NICAP look at the Air Force investigators' reports on five specific recent UFO cases (including the Van Winkle report) that attracted national attention? - There was no reply; but two days later, a newspaper story appeared in which an anonymous Air Force spokesman, without mentioning Keyhoe's pointed question, scoffed at NICAP and impugned its motives.

Physically The UFO Investigator is 32 pages long, solidly printed (photo-off-set) with photographs, and of semi-professional appearance. Alongside it the rest of us look decidedly amateurish. Provided that adequate financial support is forthcoming - and it will be a tragedy if it is not - NICAP under Donald Keyhoe's energetic and selfless leadership deserves to be, and will be, the pre-eminent organization in the UFO field.

(NICAP's address: 1536 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 6, D.C. Membership is \$7.50 per year.)

* * *

CSI NEWS

Executive Committee Meetings: On June 6th, Marty Meyerson, Paul Morris and Steve Roman were elected to the Executive Committee as members-at-large, and Steve Roman also accepted the office of Treasurer. Isabel Davis, acting treasurer for the past few months, read a financial report showing a CSI bank balance of \$29.50; she agreed to continue acting as secretary for a while longer. On July 11th, the Committee voted to consider a 25-mile radius from Columbus Circle as defining the "local" (\$5.00) membership area. Hereafter, all renewals and new memberships will be handled accordingly. It was also voted that an up-to-date list of CSI publications should be sent to all members at least once a year; and that invitations to local activities should be sent routinely to all members, not only to those in the local area.

Members' Meeting: On June 13th, forty members and guests packed the Handicapped Children's Home Service offices on 55th St. for an animated evening of UFO discussion. New members Hawkie and Eileen Bordes described their experience at Titicus Reservoir (see elsewhere in this issue) and the rest of us took full advantage of this opportunity to question them at considerable length about it. Another sighting of particular interest by Captain "Joe" Hull (see elsewhere in this issue) was read by President John Du Barry. Some significant letters from Auripebo Simoes, Aime Michel, and other correspondents were also discussed. Refreshments, courtesy of Mary Coryn, Victoria de Cervantes, and Eileen Bordes, were served and conversation continued until after midnight. The Editors hope other members enjoyed this get-together as much as we did.

Other CSI Activities: Beginning with the November issue, CSI's articles on UFOs will appear monthly in Fantastic Universe. The November article, our fifth, will cite a few examples of sounds emitted from UFOs. In that issue there will also be a long article by Isabel Davis analysing in some detail the inconsistencies and inanities of the major "contact" claimants revealed by a close attention to what they actually say in their books. This is the first article of this nature to appear in a mass-circulation magazine.

Stringfields Pay New York a Visit: During the week of June 22 - 28, CRIFO Director Len Stringfield and his charming wife Dell made their first - and much too brief - visit to New York City. Most of the officers of CSI had the opportunity to meet the Stringfields at Mary Coryn's home on June 25th; we wish it had been possible for them to meet all the local CSI members, many of whom were subscribers to the CRIFO Orbit and Newsletter. Len is currently hard at work on his forthcoming booklet, which will be published some time this Fall.

Lex Mebane Is Rotary Club Speaker: On Tuesday, July 23, at the invitation of CSI member Mrs. Frederick Lee, Lex Mebane addressed a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Binghamton, N.Y., on the subject of UFOs. An audience of about 150 businessmen listened with keen interest, and more than half of them were able to stay after the main talk, for a period of questions and additional discussion.

NOCTURNAL NEWS

The Long John Program

Over at Long John Nebel's WOR studio, the past two months have been moderately quiet ones on the saucer front. Only one new "contact" claimant of any consequence has been presented (Daniel Fry, old hat on the West Coast, but new here). A salutary recent development has been the frequent participation of the cultured and intelligent Joseph Edelman, president of the National Federation of Hypnotists. Edelman, originally a stranger to the world of saucers, now argues patiently, persistently, and persuasively (1) that no rational person could believe that any of the "contact" claims has the slightest chance of being true; (2) that this has nothing whatever to do with the existence of UFOs, for which there seems to be respectable evidence. Long John himself takes the position (1) that he "has no reason to disbelieve these people" (the "contact" claimants) except (2) that he "just doesn't buy flying saucers." Be that as it may, we have Long John to thank for the presence of Joe Edelman.

There was one brief period in which Long John did indicate without much varnish his opinion of Mr. Van Tassel and crew: this was just after he had returned from Van Tassel's "Spacecraft Convention" held at Giant Rock on the weekend of May 11 - 12. Plagued by inclement weather, rigors of the desert, tape-recorder trouble, and a surfeit of nuts, LJ came back in no mood to conceal his feelings. The resultant tone of honest contempt for all this nonsense was refreshing to hear.

(A comment can be made about the numerous and excellent tape recordings of saucer testimony that LJ made at the convention: the stories ranged from apparently authentic observations to clearly fictitious yarns, but there was no sharp dividing line. We should not flatter ourselves that it is always an easy matter to separate saucer stories into "sheep" and "goats.")

CSI participated in two Party Line programs during this period. In both, the leading role was played by Jules St. Germain, in the effort to apprise the public of the true character of a "contact" claimant. We will defer until our next issue an account of the May 3rd program, dealing with Howard Menger.

VAN TASSEL & CRONY FRY ON GRIDDLE

On the morning of Friday, June 21st, two of LJ's guests were Southern California "contact" claimants and shepherds of the faithful: George Van Tassel (see N.L. #6 and #7) and Daniel Fry, who had previously been known to us only by his publications, and by our West Coast members' reports on his extensive organizing activities there. A stocky man in his forties with some facial resemblance to his older colleague Van Tassel, Fry is the most sophisticated and knowledgeable of the people now working the "contact" field; he limits his claims shrewdly. He had held forth on WOR the night before; Van Tassel on the 19th. The team gave a well-received lecture (attendance about 700) at the Hotel Diplomat a few hours before this final joint appearance with Long John.

The other guests were M.K. Jessup and Hans Stefan Santesson. At about 1:30 Jules St. Germain unexpectedly joined the party. (Van Tassel, who had attacked him on the 19th, had declined to appear on the same program with him - for good reason, as will presently appear.) About 2:00 Ted Bloecher and Lex Liebane arrived uninvited, with blood in their eyes, but were nevertheless made welcome by LJ.

The keynote was struck early by Jessup, who politely but firmly pointed out the fact that unlike an ordinary UFO observation, a "contact" claim is either true or a deliberate lie. Santesson continued in his quiet, persistent manner to point out the complete failure of the "contact" claimants to produce any evidence in support of their fabulous claims. LJ read aloud a telegram from Dr. Howard Jensen,

Professor of Sociology at Duke University, suggesting that Van Tassel might be subject to Federal prosecution for using the mails to defraud. (We are looking into this possibility.) To this Van Tassel gave his stock reply: unless a critic has talked in person with Van Tassel at Giant Rock, his criticism is ipso facto invalid, and may be discarded without further ado.

Van Tassel then embarked on a little tale about a "con-o-scope," a sort of spacemen's crystal ball, which was "under construction by a thoroughly qualified man." Jules St. Germain (whose arrival had not been without some fireworks) requested that Van T. give LJ, confidentially, the name of this "qualified man." Refusal. (This pattern was repeated numerous times; the moment Van Tassel was asked for specific, verifiable details, the veil of silence always fell.)

St. Germain then brought up the subject of Van Tassel's most recent, most outrageous, and most lucrative fabrication, the "rejuvenation machine" (see NL #6). Van Tassel has successfully solicited many thousands of dollars (as will appear below) for the construction of this mythical device. ("Think about it, some of you tired-out millionaire playboys!" exhorts one of his pieces of come-on literature, after alluding to the "youthful vitality" to be conferred by the machine.) Van Tassel had to admit that he had declined to demonstrate his small working model of a lizard-resurrecting machine to Long John, when LJ requested to see it at Giant Rock, with the excuse that the machine would require 28 days to get into operation after turning it on. (Later in the morning, when Jessup asked whether this machine was still being demonstrated, the answer was still "No," but a different excuse was given: "a piece is broke out of it." Still a third "reason" for its invisibility was developed on further questioning: the story now was that the machine had to be dismantled, because it had been discovered that under some conditions it might emit "a destructive force."

Whatever may be the present status of the alleged lizard-sized "machine," St. Germain was able to establish the fact that the man-sized rejuvenation machine, for which all the money is being collected, exists, as yet, solely in its inventor's fertile imagination. He read a note which Howard Menger had given to him on April 7th: we give it verbatim:

"I went out to Giant Rock to see 'the machine.' There was none. The foundation had not been laid. I had been told that it was."

This must have been a nasty shock to Van Tassel, since it is de rigueur for contact claimants to back up one another's stories: Van Tassel has already written that his spacemen fully endorse the authenticity of Menger. However, he defended himself vigorously, asserting that he had indeed erected a building. On questioning about this edifice, he admitted that it was a comfort station, required by local sanitation ordinances, as stated in NL #7.

Because of Van T.'s repeated objections to points taken from CSI's article about him in NL #6, he was finally asked by Long John to read aloud the entire article; which he did. He characterized it as "full of lies." Asked whether he would sue for libel, he indicated no intention of doing so. Pressed for a specific example of a "lie," he was only able to cite the statement that Keyhoe had spoken at his 1956 Convention. This was, in truth, an error, which we corrected in NL #7; so he was asked to read aloud our correction, which he did. Ted Bloecher took care to point out that the original false statement which misled us had come directly from Van Tassel's own 1956 press releases. Van Tassel then attempted to dispute the accuracy of our statement, in the correction, that "Keyhoe will never have any dealings with Van Tassel." He claimed that NICAP had requested him to serve as a "consultant member." This claim was immediately challenged by Bloecher, and was denied the next day by Keyhoe himself in a telegram to Long John. Its baselessness is exposed in a small item on p. 27 of the first issue of NICAP's The UFO Investigator.

One, at least, of Van Tassel's claims was shown to be not entirely without foundation. He described himself as "an ordained minister of the gospel." Both Long John and St. Germain requested details of his "ordination." It turned out that earlier this year, he was sent by mail a card entitling him to call himself a "minister" of a small sect called the "Christ Brotherhood," which "felt I was doing the work of God."

Perhaps the most significant of the points elucidated by St. Germain about this "work of God" concerned Van Tassel's finances. With an apprehensive eye on the tax and mail-fraud laws, he vigorously denied that he solicits money. It was shown that in nearly every issue of his Proceedings there is an appeal to readers to contribute large sums. This was not done by him, he explained, but by the "College of Universal Wisdom," (sic) to which all revenues go. Has the "College" ever published a financial statement? "No; it is not required by California law." Who controls the "College's" bank account? Van Tassel admitted that all its checks are signed by George Van Tassel. How much money has the "College" collected? "Roughly \$29,000 in a six-month period," of which \$15,000 was in a single contribution. "This is a big operation," was Jules' terse comment.

A minor, but particularly absurd, example of Van Tassel's fictions is his claim that, according to the spacemen, the English word "angel" is a slip of the pen for the correct Biblical term "angle" (cf. N.L. #6). Confronted with this whopper, he "explained" that the Old Testament was originally written in some sort of pictographs (in which "angel" was indicated by drawing an angle) and that our English version was rendered directly from these pictographs. As any educated person is aware, this is totally false. "Would you be willing to admit, for once, that this is an incorrect statement?" asked St. Germain. Van Tassel, relying on his audience's complete ignorance of Biblical history, stood pat, and would not retract a syllable. Unexpectedly, at this point Fry (who for the most part kept himself out of the fracas) jumped into the frying pan with a defense of this ridiculous yarn, one which he himself would never have been so imprudent as to tell in public. Thus he proved his loyalty to his confederate, at the expense of his own reputation for shrewdness.

Jules St. Germain allowed his feelings of indignation to show most plainly when he commented on an allegation, published by Van Tassel in 1955, that the Salk polio vaccine would cause tuberculosis, kidney disease, insanity, and a host of miscellaneous ailments. "If any of your ten thousand followers heeded these reckless and false words, and a child died as a result, you have a great burden on your soul," he said. Van Tassel merely pointed out, in reply, that he could not be held legally responsible for the statements, since they were attributed to one of his space friends!

At one point Long John took exception to our remark in N.L. #7 that "It's unlikely that Long John would have permitted such strong criticism (of Van Tassel) if he had been able to head it off." Since LJ had by now clearly demonstrated that he did permit "such strong criticism," Mebane and Bloecher were glad to withdraw any suggestion to the contrary.

At the very end of the program the long-silent Fry was invited to utter a few words. He responded by indicating an object which had been lying before him on the table. You have been asking for physical evidence that we are in contact with extra-terrestrials, he said; you have maintained that you could recognize a genuine extra-terrestrial artifact (actually, no such statements had been made at all). Yet here, under your eyes, has lain unnoticed for five hours an artifact "which is not duplicated anywhere on earth!" The object in question was a greyish-brown, perforated disc about two inches in diameter and half an inch thick, recognizably a toroidal ferrite magnet of the type used in high-speed computers and children's toys. It was a good choice for astounding the ignorant, since most people are unfamiliar with

these powerful magnets of non-metallic composition. Lex Mebane understood Fry's words to mean that an extraterrestrial origin was being claimed for this magnet. (Others have told us that they also took Fry to be making this claim.) Lex therefore reached over Fry's shoulder and pocketed it, intending to expose the deceit. The next moment, three things happened simultaneously. (1) It dawned on Lex that the words used by Fry were equivocal - they might be interpreted merely as a claim that the magnet was not absolutely identical with any other magnet of the sort (which might very well be true); (2) Fry dived from his chair to recover his exhibit - a telltale action; (3) the magnet fell through a hole in Lex's pocket, and rolled along the floor. Fry quickly retrieved it, and resumed his final spiel; no time remained to nail his equivocations. This touch of unintended slapstick - unfortunately lost on the radio audience - ended a morning of open conflict.

* * *

AIR FORCE SEES PLENTY - TELLS NOTHING

Interesting letter received in May from one of our members who is now in the 588th Communications and Guidance Squadron (Tac Msl), U.S. Air Force:

"I am now stationed at Orlando Air Force Base, Florida. As you may know, one of the big AF missiles, 'Matador,' is being developed and tested here. I was very surprised to observe 'blips' or unexplained objects on our radar screens. We are constantly catching these objects on our screens just before launching time. Since all aerial bodies are supposed to be out of the immediate area before launching, many times we are held up due to these unidentified objects on the radar. It would seem natural for them to appear once in a while, but believe me they are so consistent that we always expect them now. These objects travel at incredible speeds, and demonstrate small degree turns, very uncharacteristic of natural aerial objects. No one can explain it. I try to sneak in very casually the idea of flying saucers, and some others agree with me, but the majority just let it pass by and give some other 'reasonable' explanation for it - though a good deal of the time, a reasonable and natural explanation just won't coincide with the situation."

We won't identify him for obvious reasons (see document following) but it's an illuminating glimpse of a state of affairs that we civilians seldom get to hear about - isn't it?

For the document which follows we have to thank persons who must again remain anonymous. We reproduce it in extenso, without elisions.

FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

MEMORANDUM
NUMBER 30-13

31 January, 1957

(Effective until 31 January 1959 unless sooner rescinded or superseded)

SIGHTINGS OF UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

1. The collection and dissemination of actual or alleged sighting(s) of unconventional aircraft is the responsibility of the ACofS, G-2, this headquarters.
2. It is requested that any person(s) sighting unconventional aircraft, by visual or mechanical means, immediately notify the Office of the ACofS, G-2, this headquarters, by the most expeditious means. Immediately after a preliminary report has been made, a detailed written report will be completed and hand

carried to the Office of the ACoFS, G-2, this headquarters, building 286. The following information will be included, where practicable:

- a. Location and time of sighting.
- b. Weather at the time.
- c. Names, occupations, and addresses of witnesses.
- d. Photographs of subject(s), if possible.
- e. Description of object(s) sighted, to include: number, shape, size, color, speed, heading (direction of flight), maneuverability, altitude, sound and exhaust trail.
- f. Any other pertinent information.

3. Persons involved in sightings will not discuss or disseminate such information to persons or agencies other than their superior officer(s) and other personnel authorized by the ACoFS, G-2, this headquarters.

SIGFM/GB - 452
FOR THE COMMANDER

Charles L. Olin
Colonel, G.S.
Chief of Staff

It is safe to suppose that similar orders are in effect at most (possibly all) military installations. We quote from a letter from CSI member Jeffrey Utter of Auburn, Mass. with reference to an unspecified Air Force Base:

"A friend of mine was visiting an Air Force base and he inquired of an officer in the tower whether they had any reports about UFO. The officer replied by stating that he is not allowed to talk about the subject. Our friend said, 'Oh, you can talk to me, I'm not anybody special,' etc. The officer ended the conversation by saying, 'How do I know you are not a reporter? I'm sorry, but we can't talk about the subject.'"

This "muzzling" of military personnel is in all probability motivated by nothing more sinister than a desire to avoid embarrassing publicity; but don't let anyone tell you it doesn't exist.

(Postscript: After the above was set up, we received NICAP's UFO Investigator from which we learn that - as a result of prodding by NICAP - clause 3 of the Fort Monmouth order has now been officially rescinded.)

Officers of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York: President, John Du Barry; Vice President (Administration), Lex Mebane; Vice President (Organization), Harold Oksenkrug; Vice President (Public Relations), Ivan Sanderson; Research Director, Ted Bloecher; Secretary (pro tem), Isabel Davis; Treasurer, Stephen W. Roman, Jr. Legal Adviser, Jules St. Germain. Members-at-large of Executive Committee: Mary Coryn, Marty Meyerson, Herman Mitchell, Paul Morris.

The CSI News Letter is written and produced by Ted Bloecher, Isabel Davis, and Lex Mebane, of the Research Section. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all CSI members.

CAPITAL AIRLINES' PILOTS SEE ACROBATIC NIGHT LIGHT

(The sighting which follows is of particular interest because it was made by an expert observer - a veteran airline pilot - who was formerly extremely skeptical on the subject of flying saucers. In fact, in 1953 Captain Hull wrote an article for Airline Pilot magazine titled "The Obituary of the Flying Saucers." We reprint, with his permission, a slightly condensed excerpt from the letter to CSI President John Du Barry in which he described his experience.)

On the night of November 14, 1956 I was flying a Viscount at high altitude from New York to Mobile, Alabama. We were above a layer of clouds which were occasionally broken, giving us a glimpse of the ground now and then. At 10:10 p.m. E.S.T., when only about 60 miles from Mobile, my co-pilot Peter MacIntosh and I saw what we thought was a brilliant meteor. We were flying south-southwest and it fell across our path from left to right, first becoming visible at the top of the windshield. (The Viscount has wonderful visibility upward.) It decelerated rapidly, just as any meteor does when entering the denser layers of the earth's lower atmosphere, and we expected to see it burn out with the customary flash, which pilots often see, but which people on the ground are often denied.

Imagine our consternation when this brilliant light did not burn out, but abruptly halted directly in front of us! It was an intense blue-white light, approximately 7 or 8 times as bright as Venus when this planet is at its brightest magnitude. Pete shouted "What the hell is it, a jet?" His first thought, of course, was that the object was a diving jet fighter which had turned sharply away from us and in departing, was giving us a view right up its glowing tailpipe. Instantly I knew this could not possibly be an airplane. I have seen the glow of too many jet pipes at night not to recognize one when I see it. It was not the right color; it did not diminish in size, as a departing jet fighter's exhaust should have; and it remained motionless directly ahead of us, how far I cannot say, but it must have been quite a few miles.

I quickly grabbed my microphone and called the Mobile Control Tower. "Bates Tower, this is Capital 77! Look out toward the north and east and see if you can see a strange white light hovering in the sky."

"Capital 77, this is Mobile Bates Tower. We are unable to see much of the sky because of a thick cloud cover. Do you think the object is in our vicinity?"

"Affirmative. It looks like a brilliant white light bulb, about one tenth the size of the moon. It is directly ahead of us and at about our altitude, or slightly higher. We are right over Jackson, Alabama and have descended to 10,000 feet. Please initiate a call to Brookley Field Tower (Air Force Field 20 miles southeast of Bates Field) and ask the controller if he can see it on their big radar scope." (We did not have the military frequency crystals in our transmitter to work Brookley Tower.)

Just after this exchange, the object began to maneuver. It darted hither and yon, rising and falling in undulating flight, making sharper turns than any known aircraft, sometimes changing direction 90 degrees in an instant. All the while the color remained constant, a brilliant blue-white, and the object did not grow or lessen in size. MacIntosh and I sat there completely flabbergasted at this unnerving exhibition. I thought of calling the passengers over the public address system, but the object was dead ahead of us and putting on its performance in an area whose arc was not large enough to enable anybody in the cabin to get a view of it out the side windows. After a half minute or so of this dancing, unorthodox flight the object suddenly became motionless again and hovered dead still. We were simply confounded

by this.

Bates Tower called back. "Capital 77, we are trying to raise the Brookley Tower."

Right at this moment the strange light began another series of crazy gyrations, lazy 8's, square chandelles, all the while weaving through the air with a sort of rhythmic, undulating cadence, the likes of which neither Pete nor I had ever seen. Then, apparently content at the consternation which it had wrought, the object shot out over the Gulf of Mexico, rising at the most breathtaking angle and at such a fantastic speed that it diminished rapidly to a pinpoint and was swallowed up in the night.

This unearthly exhibition probably went on for at least two minutes, according to our best judgment. I glanced at the clock and noted it read 10:12.

The most puzzling thing about the whole occurrence, aside from the dancing flight, was that the object, whatever it was, had remained at the same distance from us throughout the performance. How do we know this? It never increased in size, and yet we were bearing down on it at more than 5 miles a minute in the Viscount. If it was in view two minutes and performing in one area we should have been at least ten miles closer to it. Now, any object that flies certainly looks different when viewed at such a great variance in distance. So this UFO must have managed to remain at the same distance from us throughout the entire display.

If you know southern Alabama you know that it is pretty desolate country, with few inhabitants and only a few small hamlets between Mobile and Montgomery up in the middle of the state. We were above the clouds, precluding any reflections of searchlights from below. I have seen hundreds of advertising searchlights playing on clouds, and this was nothing remotely related. Likewise I am summarily ruling out aircraft (at least the ones we know), balloons, missiles, or any other earth-launched device within my ken. The one thing which I can't get over is the fact that when it came, it came steeply downward; when it departed after its amazing exhibition, it went steeply upward! Now I ask you, John, is this machine based on the earth?

I followed up on this spectacular sighting after landing at Mobile. The control tower operators had reached Brookley after a slight delay, but the controller had seen nothing, and since no night flights were in progress, the surveillance radar had not been energized at the time.

In case any of your members would like to know my background, you may give it to them. You will remember me as objectively skeptical and cynically critical of most of the purported saucer sightings. But I think you have to believe a veteran airline pilot with 17 years of service, 15,000 hours and 3 million miles in his log-book. I am seeking no publicity. I didn't report this sighting to the press and not a word has ever been printed about it until this moment.

W. J. Hull

RECENT SIGHTING REPORTS

DIAMOND-SHAPED FORMATION OVER BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

January 25, 1957: CSI member Mrs. Frederick C. Lee, of Binghamton, New York, sent us the details of a personal observation made at 6:35 a.m. on January 25. She saw four white lights in the southeast quadrant, traveling slowly east parallel to the horizon and 6 to 8 degrees above it, in a diamond-shaped formation. "The sky was overcast, so that the lights were diffused; at times the lights at the front and rear of the formation flashed brighter." They were in sight for about ten minutes, and were then lost in the thick overcast. As they moved away toward the east the lights became less bright, but did not diminish in size. Mrs. Lee was quite certain that they could not be planes because of the intensity of the front and rear lights.

NORTH ANDOVER HAS NOCTURNAL INTRUDER

January 28, 1957: CSI member Clarence W. Spencer, of North Andover, Massachusetts, describes in detail an observation by his father. At 10:15 p.m. Mr. Spencer had put his car in the garage and was walking to the house when he saw "an object giving off a light blue luminescence...in a shallow climb and traveling at a speed approximately that of a fast jet plane." The object was circular and appeared to be "slightly larger than a basketball." Its distance was estimated to be slightly more than a half-mile away and its estimated altitude was 1,500 to 2,000 feet. No structural detail was seen. The object was silent and left no trail. Visibility was good, with scattered clouds at about 20,000 feet. There was no moon and only a very slight wind.

"The UFO was traveling west to east and seemed to be rapidly spinning, like a child's top in motion." Its speed seemed to increase as it traveled away from the viewer. Growing smaller, it finally went out of sight. Mr. Spencer had watched it for about 30 seconds.

POLICE OFFICER AND OTHERS WATCH MANEUVERING NIGHT LIGHTS

February 13, 1957: The information in this case was obtained directly from the observers by Mr. Zan Overall, of Reseda, California, who reported the details to CSI member Idabel Epperson; she in turn forwarded the information to us.

Officer Bob Wells, of the Burbank, California Police Force, was dispatched at 6:30 p.m. to investigate a report of an object seen over Lockheed property in the San Fernando Valley. Arriving at 6:45, he was told to look up toward Mars (then 60 to 70 degrees above the horizon) where he saw a white star-like light. As he watched, the "star" moved slightly; a few seconds later, it moved abruptly, at a high rate of speed toward his right. In motion, the light blinked and showed, alternately, a red and green light which appeared to be superimposed on the white light. It reversed its course, sweeping back toward the area from which it had come. As it was turning, another and larger bright white light appeared to the left of the first one, and seemed to be on a collision course with it. Then the second light made a sudden right-angle turn. Following this, both objects again turned so that they were heading away from each other. Finally Officer Wells could watch only one at a time; turning from the first, which was then heading northeast over the city, he found the second light had disappeared; looking back toward the first, he found it had also vanished. Both lights had been too far above the horizon - 60 to 70 degrees - to have reached it at the observed speeds. The display lasted about 15 minutes. — Besides the information contained in Mr. Overall's letters to Mrs. Epperson, other details were gleaned from the L. A. Times, and the L. A. Mirror-News, 2/14.

MORE AT OXNARD

March 23 - 24, 1957: In News Letter #7 (p. 25) we described a UFO sighting over Oxnard AFB, California, in the early morning hours of March 23. In the evening of that same day numerous other reports were received from the same locality and nearby.

At 9:55 p.m., from Downey (about 40 miles southeast of Oxnard), K. E. Jefferson of Pasadena reported seeing a silent "bright red object" in the south.

At about 11:00, reports began to come in from Pasadena. Hundreds of people along Colorado Street stared into the sky at an object. The Pasadena police switchboard took numerous calls and the Pasadena Filter Center received "many" reports between 11:10 and 11:50. Captain Joe Fry, Filter Center C.O., said, "We had reports that the UFO was orange-red, flashing a bright white light. Some of the callers claimed they heard the 'sound of reports' when the light flashed from the object." The Filter Center notified "our radar contact" (an unidentified CAA post near Los Angeles).

Captain Fry also said that a complete report was filed with Norton AFB; Major Thomas Bowers, Information Services Officer of the 27th Air Division, said the object could not be identified. "We were not able to pick the object up on radar. No Air Force personnel saw the object." (Both of these statements by Major Bowers are contradicted by Keyhoe in his UFO Investigator - see item on NICAP for details --Eds.) Bowers added that other reports had come from Los Angeles and Oxnard; he had heard that a plane from Oxnard AFB had been sent up to investigate but he had no official confirmation that such was the case.

Among the Pasadena observers were Air Force T/Sgt. Dewey Crow and Les Wagner (of the L. A. Mirror-News), who works with Crow at the Air Defense Filter Center. Wagner, thinking the object may have been a balloon, checked various bureaus and stations that launch balloons, but failed to learn of any releasings that might account for the object.

Finally, in the early morning hours of March 24, near Oxnard, a UFO "swished" low over a car driven by Virgil Atkinson, of the U. S. Navy. The UFO buzzed his automobile all the way to the gates of the U. S. Naval Station. — Russ Leadabrand in the Pasadena Independent, 3/26; Lee Pitt in the L. A. Mirror-News, 3/29; Max Miller's Flying Saucers, Summer issue, quoting Ventura Free-Press, 3/25. (Credit: Mrs. Idabel Epperson for Pasadena & L. A. clippings.)

PAN-AM PILOT TRACKS UFO ON RADAR

March 29, 1957: Piloting Pan American flight #206A from Nassau to New York, Captain Ken Brosdal (who will be remembered as one of the pilots involved in the Van Winkle sighting of March 8, 1957) and two of his crew watched a UFO both visually and on radar as it "dogged" them at their speed, moving in the same direction, southeast of their plane. At about 7:30 p.m. their position was 74° 20' West, 30° North; they were flying at 16,000 feet through the tops of cumulus clouds. John Wilbur, the engineer, was in the co-pilot's seat; co-pilot George Jacobson was navigating, and saw the object first. Brosdal writes:

"About 50 miles east of Papa 3 - a check point between Nassau and Tuna - the co-pilot, engineer and myself saw a very bright white light. It seemed to grow in intensity to the point where it would be about three or four times as strong as Venus rising and would then subside. This happened three or four times; meanwhile, I 'came to' enough to check the radar screen. Sure enough, a target showed up at 3 o'clock, 45 to 50 miles away. Using the cursor on the face of the radar, I checked the angle of sighting and it checked with the visual angle.

"The light appeared to be stationary (on the scope), or moving in a north-east direction (same as us). We watched the light visually for about four or five minutes, and on radar for twenty minutes." Neither the light nor the blip had any definite shape; the radar image indicated that it was larger than normal aircraft. The scope was tuned to a 50-mile range. What impressed Captain Brosdal most was the intensity of the light in its bright phases. After perhaps four cycles of brightening and dimming, the light faded out slowly and completely. Captain Brosdal did not alert the passengers, and apparently no one in the cabin of the plane saw it.

SOUCCOPE LANDS BRIEFLY IN PROVENCE

April 14, 1957: At about 3 p.m., Mme. Garcin and Mme. Remi, the wife of the village constable, were walking on Route #24 about half a mile from the village of Vins, near Toulon in southeastern France. To their great astonishment, and not without some alarm, they saw a metallic construction land 100 yards from them. It took off again almost immediately without any sound. They described it as circular in form, about 6 feet in diameter, and surmounted by antennas resembling radar apparatus.

When she had recovered from the shock, Mme. Rami told the authorities - in this case her husband - and immediately advised the police at Brignoles, who quickly arrived on the scene. They found - and recorded in their report - "suspicious traces": the ground was disturbed, and weeds were crushed, at the spot where the two ladies had seen the "saucer" land. Moreover, they were able to find a third witness. A beekeeper, M. Jules Beglio, resident municipal counselor, had not only seen the astonishing thing, but also heard it.

He said that he was on a hill, about 300 yards from the landing spot, when "a loud metallic noise made me turn around. Thinking that two cars must have collided on the road, I ran to see if I could be of any assistance. Then I saw a metallic object make an enormous jump and disappear."

The witness^{es} agreed absolutely on the size, thickness, and shape of the object: three feet high, with a very pronounced swelling on the upper surface; Mme. Rami spoke of "a giant top." This "top" had risen vertically, raising a whirlwind of dust, and then had shot off toward the south.

The testimony of the beekeeper conflicted with that of the two women on one point. The women heard no noise. But they stated, however, that the object had landed on the highway before it settled down on the dirt road near them. It therefore seemed reasonable that the sound heard by the beekeeper might have been produced by billboards along the highway, set vibrating by the strong rush of air produced by the craft.

It did not seem possible to question the good faith of the witnesses to this event. They are unanimously respected, and the village people cannot believe that they would conspire to perpetrate a hoax. The Mayor of Vins, M. Ventre, has himself vouched for their respectability.

The "apparition" of Vins has been taken very seriously by a great number of authorities. Technicians from the Research Center at Paris, and from Lyon, came yesterday to investigate, followed by specialists from the Maritime Prefecture of Toulon, from the D. S. T., and from the Security Forces of the 9th Military District. With Geiger counters, magnetometers, and other detectors, they engaged in various operations, whose results they did not divulge.

-- From Nice-Matin (Nice, France), 4/20, as reprinted in Alfred Nahon's Courrier Interplanetaire, 5/15/57. We thank Manon Darlaine of Hollywood, Calif., for sending us this issue of the Courrier.

COMET AREND-ROLAND AND INTERLOPERS

April 29, 1957: The following report is sent to us by CSI member Herman Mitchell:

"Mr. and Mrs. Walter van Allen saw something from their backyard in Hicksville, L.I. on Monday, 29 April 1957, from 7:55 to 8:05 p.m. while looking for the comet. They looked 'right after sunset' as the papers had urged them to do, most erroneously, and saw in the northwest sky: "...the comet. It had a red body and a red tail and was moving so fast that by the time we called a neighbor it was only a faint grey streak in the sky." Since I knew from personal observation that Arend-Roland was only visible in complete darkness (two hours after sunset, and their observation was made in daylight) and most certainly was not red or moving about, I went over and nailed the details down. The ten-minute period of observation is an estimated one. The object caught their eyes in the northwest sky about 15 degrees above the horizon (or houses) and was moving steadily towards the west and losing elevation. Red, elongated body; red, slightly fan-like tail about as long as the body, "most definitely not an airplane." It flew behind a TV aerial some 400 feet away "which was of the same dimension." A dime at arm's length approximated the aerial's expanse. The object became fainter, turned into a grey streak almost due west and was lost to sight entirely slightly south of west. Mrs. van Allen is my sister."

April 29, 1957: At 9:55 p.m. CSI member Bill Blades and his wife were watching Arend-Roland from the roof of their apartment house in White Plains, New York, when they saw a flight of lights sweep across the sky, which was very clear. From the southwest, four objects about 30 degrees above the horizon, in 'V' formation, streaked across the sky and disappeared into the northeastern part of the night sky. The objects were very light luminous blue, and their apparent size was about that of a pinhead at arm's length. Their apparent elevation remained about the same (30 degrees); however, there was a slight downward slant (about 5 degrees) from the horizontal plane, toward the northeast. They were in view for approximately two and a half seconds; they did not appear to change their shape, color, or brightness. "I've watched the sky through the telescope and with the naked eye for some time and I can say I have never seen anything as odd or as strange as these four objects. In fact it gives one a kind of feeling one does not soon forget." Mr. Blades drew the flight path of the objects on a star map; it passes between Polaris and the Comet Arend-Roland.

May 1, 1957: In Greenwich, Connecticut, the wife of a commercial artist went outdoors to look for the comet. To the northwest she saw a streak of very bright white light, straight "like a neon tube." She watched it for about 60 seconds, then went indoors to look for her husband, telling him "This is the brightest comet you ever saw!" When they both went outdoors, no more than a minute and a half later, the white streak was gone; but he saw a streak of blue light, arc-shaped, moving very fast from north to east. It left a streak of blue light, which faded slowly; the observer is emphatic, however, that the fading streak showed no diffusion as is the case with a jet trail. This case has not yet been followed up completely, but CSI hopes to obtain more details. CSI member Paul Morris brought the case to the attention of the Research Section.

EDWARDS AFB PHOTOGRAPHS UFO

May 3, 1957: An unidentified object was spotted by two civilian photo-theodolite operators at Edwards Air Force Base in California. They tracked the object and took pictures with the "specialized camera equipment;" results were dispatched immediately to Wright-Patterson AFB at Dayton, Ohio. Unofficial reports said the object appeared round, that it caught the morning sun, and that its speed was not great. There were no estimates as to its size or altitude. Edwards

officers would not hazard a guess as to what the object was, although one said it could have been a weather balloon. "This desert air does crazy things," he added. — L. A. Times, 5/9; N. Y. Journal-American, 5/10 (INS). (Credit: Mrs. Idabel Epperson, of L.A., for California clipping.)

CIGAR OVER MOUNT VERNON

May 7, 1957: Arthur Quillen had just left his Elm Street home in Mount Vernon, New York, on his way to work. The time was about 8:40 p.m. Glancing up he saw in the southern sky, just below the full moon, an enormous "cigar wrapped in silver." Horizontally inclined, its length was several times as large as the diameter of the moon. As he stood and watched, he saw the object make "funny motions:" it moved backward and forward by about one-quarter its own length. He was quite certain about this motion, since he had the moon above the object and the planet Jupiter beneath it as reference points. He watched the object for about five minutes before resuming his walk to work. He momentarily lost sight of the object behind willow trees; when he had passed them, he found that the object was no longer in view. Arriving at work, Mr. Quillen immediately told what he had seen to CSI member Frank Bordes, who advised the Research Section of the report.

It was on this night that the "mystery jet(s)" buzzed Manhattan. A careful check of the GOC records at the Manhattan and Brooklyn posts failed to disclose any reports of "unknowns" over the city on that night. So far as we know there is no connection between the two incidents.

'LITTLE MEN' AGAIN IN FRANCE

May 10, 1957: At Beaucourt-sur-l'Ancre, France (a small village near Amiens), six people reported a UFO landing and several occupants. According to Reuters, INS, and Paris France-Soir, Michael Fekete, a 29-year-old Hungarian refugee, was bicycling home shortly after 10:45 p.m. when he was suddenly "dazzled by a strange projectile." Approaching him in the road "in a threatening manner" were four "men" between four and five feet tall. They carried a brilliant light, which prevented Fekete from making out any details. He fled on his bicycle to the nearby home of M. Lepot, a railroad signalman. M. Lepot, his wife, and a neighboring couple named Ikhlef who were with them - together with Fekete and an unidentified companion - "plainly saw" from the Lepots' doorstep "a hundred meters away on the road (about 100 yards), three or four little men dressed in grey running about (s'agitaient), illuminated by the light of an object which was emitting red and white rays alternately." Lepot told the France-Soir reporter that "I very distinctly saw a luminous ball giving off red and yellow (sic) rays. The object was moving very slowly. A short time later, I made out the silhouettes of three little men who remained nearly twenty minutes, coming and going in the field and on the road." Apparently, the fourth "little man" reported by Fekete was indistinguishable, as a brilliant light was described which the witnesses said was "flashing a blinding light over the countryside." At about 11:15, the hovering object departed at a 45° angle toward the north-northwest at high speed. According to the press accounts, large black "plaques" of an "elastic nature" were found in the road.

The press dismissed the story lightly, reporting that the witnesses had really seen the daughter (according to INS, the wife) of a neighboring farmer (the mayor, again according to INS) named Chatelain. She had gone out into the field to see to the cows, carrying a lantern with a pane of red glass in it; this was mistaken as the "saucer"; the cows were the "little men." (Mlle. Chatelain herself had seen nothing unusual.)

Aimé Michel investigated this case within 48 hours and has provided us with some additional data. He felt that the witnesses were indisputably sincere. This opinion was shared by the people of the village, but according to the cow-and-lantern theorists, they were mistaken about what they saw. Michael added that Fekete and his unnamed companion "were still trembling with emotion when they talked to me." Because of the bright light carried by one of the four beings, Fekete was unable to describe them in detail. What he saw was the maximum description: four silhouettes, 4 to 5 feet tall, rather broad bodies, color grey or beige, the head black and broad. They walked with a "tottering" gait. The others described seeing, no nearer than 60 yards, three little men and one light, moving on the road and in the field, between 10:50 and 11:15 p.m. Michel also ascertained that "the farm girl in question remained in the field above the road from 10:10 to 10:50 or 10:55 p.m." One of the witnesses said to Michel that "if it was the farm girl who was running so fast with the lantern, she ought to enter the Olympic games."

Regarding the black "plaques" found in the road, Michel writes: "At first sight one thinks on an intense heating of the road in a circle of about 3 yards and of an internal melting of the tar, which seems to have flowed. But this is uncertain. The road is lightly traveled. These plaques may have been left by the road-making machines which often pass by. Nobody in the village is able to recall whether or not these plaques were there before the incident."

Michel has no personal opinion about the case. He found it impossible to decide; but "there is a presumption in favor of the witnesses."

-- Besides Michel's letters, sources include the N. Y. Sunday News, 5/12 (Reuters); N. Y. Journal American, 5/12 (INS); N. Y. Sunday Mirror, 5/12 (INS); London News of the World (Reuters), 5/12; and France Soir (Paris), 5/14.

AIR FORCE ARMADA CHASES, MISSES, BOGIES OVER ATLANTIC

May 11, 1957: Several of our members who are with local GOC posts volunteered the following information, independently from both Brooklyn and Manhattan posts:

In the early morning hours of Saturday, May 11, a jet scramble involving a large number of military planes took place. Our Manhattan informant first reported that the planes were headed in the general direction of New England, but he had no further information at that time. A few weeks later, however, he was advised by official personnel that two jet squadrons (about 16 planes to each squadron) had been dispatched - one from Stewart AFB in Newburgh, N.Y. and the other from a base on Cape Cod (presumably Otis AFB) - to investigate radar observations, by coastal radar patrol planes and picket boats, of three bogies heading inland south of Cape Cod on a southwesterly course. No contact with the unknowns was made by the jets, and radar lost track of the objects at about the same time the jets arrived on the scene.

CLATTERING UFO MAKES REPAIRS

May 21, 1957: This report came in a letter from CSI member Jim McAshan, of Knoxville, Tennessee.

"A lady living some ten miles from Knoxville ran into something that shook her up considerably. I talked to her several days after the incident. It occurred on Tuesday, May 21, and she didn't tell her husband about it until that night, when he got home. The sighting was at 4:40 p.m. She reported seeing an oval or round object coming from a southeasterly direction and going northwest. When first noticed, the object was making a noise like a runaway power mower. She said it wasn't too high - just above tree-top level, and it seemed to bounce

along slowly, making this racket. It was metallic, like the metal of a silver dollar, and she estimated it to be six or seven feet across. She assumed it was flat, but wasn't actually sure whether it was flat or round. She said it had a stem, or pipe, sticking out of the top of it about three feet high, which seemed to have holes in it from the top to the bottom. When it got some 20 feet away from being directly above, it stopped motion and the noise ceased. After a few moments, it proceeded in the same direction it had headed originally, but the noise did not resume - it was completely quiet.

"The woman's impression was that the object moved about 150 or 200 feet away and fell into some pine trees on a little rise. That night she and her husband went up and looked in the wooded area where she thought she saw the object fall, but they found nothing. It doesn't seem to me that anything actually fell; whatever it was probably moved rapidly away at low altitude, and she received an erroneous impression of the object's falling. According to the neighbors, with whom I talked, the two of them continued their search the next day. It's a rural community. Finding nothing, and seeing nothing in the newspapers, the husband called one of the local newspapers Wednesday night. No other reports had been received. He was most reluctant, according to the newspaper, to give out information under those circumstances, but he and his wife agreed to let the paper publish their story anonymously. Later, the reporter called me (after he had investigated and determined for himself that they were sincere), and I went down and talked to them. We found nothing and we found no other people in the area who had seen or heard the device.

"I'm inclined to think the woman saw something quite unusual. She is about 35 years of age, and has had a high school education. Furthermore, she is familiar with jet aircraft, since their landing pattern passes over the area."

AERIAL BALLET OVER CINCINNATI

May 24, 1957: The following first-hand account is sent to us by our friend and colleague Len Stringfield, of Cincinnati:

"I had injured my finger earlier that day, so my wife, Dell, was driving our car to the home of friends who live in Mariemont, in eastern Cincinnati, at about 7:45 p.m.; the sun was low on the horizon. I spotted first, to the northwest, numerous vapor trails; they were in no kind of parallel patterns (as usually seen in conventional flight) but were crisscrossing, looping and forming S-curves. They were all in the same quadrant of the sky - apparently in some kind of maneuver. Dell and I remarked to one another on how beautiful the trails were with the setting sun reflecting crimson on them. Just as we reached Settle Road, where our friends live, I saw clearly a silvery, spherical object in the center of the trails. Although I was in a moving car, to me the object appeared stationary, while at the same time I could also see the jets - I counted four - which were moving. The jets left trails of vapor, while the object left no visible exhaust. Two of the jets were heading toward the silvery object as though it were the target, but when they got near, the object shot away to the northwest. Its speed was almost double that of the jets, although I cannot say if the latter were at full throttle. When we got to our friends' home, I could still see partial vapor trails in the sky, but nothing else. The aerial ballet had centered mainly in the sky north of Cincinnati.

"Next morning at work I learned that others had seen the 'dogfight.' George Wright, of our Sales Department, came down to my office voluntarily to describe what he had seen. He described the UFO as bigger than the jets, looking like 'polished aluminum,' disc-shaped and without any protruding parts. He explained that he could distinguish the jets easily, and said he believed he counted six. He added that most of the show was too confusing to relate, but he clearly

remembered one occasion when the jets closed in and the UFO receded or maneuvered in such a way that it eluded them easily. Wright also described another maneuver: the UFO was stationary and when jets closed in in pairs, it shot away to the west, leaving the jets far behind; when other jets approached to 'intercept' from the other end, the object reversed its course. Wright was certain that it was a direct, horizontal reversal - no loop, or hairpin turn! The UFO then disappeared.

"Both Wright and I guessed that the performance took place at about 25,000 feet. We agreed that the apparent size of the object was larger than the jets; perhaps twice as large. On the same morning that I got Wright's report I phoned the Air Filter Center in Columbus; they took my report, but denied any UFO activity the evening before."

GREEN FIREBALL OVER WESTERN JERSEY

May 29, 1957: In Washington, New Jersey, CSI member Julia Meaker had taken her dog out into the backyard of her home when she saw a brilliant green fireball pass overhead. The time, 11:10 p.m. Suddenly becoming aware of a bright light that illuminated the landscape, Miss Meaker looked toward the north northwest and saw, about 65° above the northern horizon, an intensely brilliant green fireball which moved rapidly south southeast in a smooth trajectory across the zenith. The angular measurement of the fireball was slightly less than that of the full moon. The brilliant green of the main body was surrounded with "sparkles" of white and green about the edges. It was entirely circular except for a very slight dragging protuberance at the rear. Trailing behind the fireball were more of the green and white "sparkles." Miss Meaker writes: "After an instant of viewing, a band about one half the width of the intensely bright green disk seemed to encircle the fireball. This band was a bright red-purple. I believe that this red-purple ring was an illusion due to eye-fatigue. It was clearly the complementary color to the burning-copper-salts green of the body proper. The brilliance of the fireball's light would account for the ring's appearing so quickly after I first saw the object." The fireball crossed the zenith and was about 40 degrees from the southern horizon when it suddenly exploded, silently. "At the instant of explosion, it was in shape like a raindrop when it strikes the ground: a distinct center with very small fine particles surrounding it. For an instant (perhaps as long as a second) after this, a shower of green and white sparkles hung in the air where the fireball had been." It had been in view for no more than six seconds. Miss Meaker's lucid description of the phenomenon clearly points out the typical characteristics of the green fireball type of UFO. We are indebted to her for an unusually careful and detailed report.

CSI OFFICER SEES UFO

July 2, 1957: On this day a UFO was observed by CSI's Organizational Vice President, Harold Oksenkrug, in company with his wife Lita and nearly a dozen others. The time was shortly after 8 p.m., with the sun just setting; the place the sun-deck of a boathouse about half a mile above Diamond Point, on the west shore of Lake George in northern New York. Harold had just been taking some ribbing from his companions about his saucer interests, when Lita exclaimed, "My God, what's that?" Harold, who now saw it, replied: "My God, could that be it?" It was. A white-luminous ellipse about an eighth the size of the full moon, and three or four times as bright as Jupiter, was moving in a clear sky over Black Mountain in the east-northeast. Harold is emphatic about the luminosity; the glow could not have been reflected sunlight, which would have been yellow. (A plane, reflecting a brilliant golden gleam, had passed in the eastern sky a few

minutes before.) The ellipse, horizontally oriented, was moving slowly southward (toward the observers' right). One of the witnesses noted a halting or jerky type of motion. Harold did not see this himself, since he rushed indoors after a few seconds in a fruitless effort to find his camera (which, when found, was not loaded anyway). He did, however, see enough to feel sure that the object was not a symmetrical egg-shape, but a thick disc or flattened spheroid (like a white tire without the hole in the center) seen not quite from edge-on. The object was not fuzzy; its contours were well-defined. Moving deliberately southward, it appeared to make a turn toward the east when it arrived at a position due east of the observers; it gradually dwindled in size until it was lost in the afterglow. It had been in view for four minutes by the observers' watches. It could not have been a balloon, an aircraft, or an astronomical object. It would seem to be comparable to the UFOs filmed by Delbert Newhouse and Nick Mariana, as seen in the movie "U.F.O."

CLIPPINGS BRIEFLY NOTED

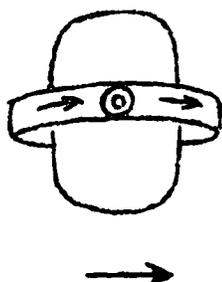
CSI has received clippings from members, friends, and our clipping service about the following sightings. The information received is in each case meagre; we would appreciate further details about any of these reports.

- May 1, 2, 1957: Hamilton, Ohio, residents report nocturnal meandering lights on two successive evenings. -- Hamilton Journal, 5/3.
- May 25, 1957: Sightings in Cecil County, Md., of large object with red and green lights around edge. -- Kent County News (Chestertown), 6/7.
- June 1, 1957: Reports from several parts of New Orleans of a "blue streak" falling over the Mississippi River about 10:30 p.m.; in view for more than a minute and reported to have broken in two pieces by at least one observer. -- N. O. Times-Picayune, 6/2. (Credit: Dick Hall, New Orleans.)
- Week of June 17-24, 1957: Several people at Beaudette, Minnesota, reported big "lantern-like" object in northern sky near horizon. Filter Center at Bemidji stated that they "had reports of the object" and the the AF was trying to locate it on radar. -- Roseau (Minn.) Times-Region, 6/27.
- June 22, 1957: Large object with two white lights, one red light, seen plunging into Long Island Sound by two Patrolmen at Rye, New York. -- Port Chester (N.Y.) Item, 6/22.
- June 25, 1957: Reports of brilliant light seen NW of Staples, Minnesota, moving northwest at very rapid speed. -- Staples World, 6/27.
- July 2, 1957: Teaneck, New Jersey, woman and two boys report seeing "round object like kettle drum" speed across sky during day. -- Bergen Evening Record, 7/3.
- July 7, 1957: Spectacular bolide exploded over Hawaiian Islands at 10:35 p.m.; seen by hundreds, incl. several airline pilots. -- Honolulu paper, 7/8. (Credit: Mrs. Sarah Fletcher, Honolulu.)
- July 7, 1957: Great Barrington, Mass., woman reports seeing blue-green luminous cigar-shaped object; disappeared N at high speed. -- No. Adams Independent, 7/9.
- July 10, 1957: Many reports of object or objects from New England, incl. New Haven, Boston, and Brunswick, Me. AF Research Center at Cambridge identified object(s) as Moby Dick balloon, released at Vernalis, California (sic). -- N. Y. World-Telegram & Sun, 7/11; Newark Star-Ledger, 7/11(AP); N. Y. Herald Tribune, 7/12.

FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS OF PAST SIGHTINGS

RINGED CYLINDER OVER PATERSON

Late July, 1955: On a weekday evening late in July 1955, 19-year-old Daniel K. O'Connor, of Paterson, New Jersey, was sitting in a park off Main Street at about 8 p.m. when he saw a peculiar object of a grey metallic color in the sky. He described the shape as a cylinder on end with a circular ring running horizontally around the center of the object. Within this circular ring was a rotating light (see diagram). The object, about as long as it was wide, ap-



peared to be as large as a silver dollar held at arm's length. Its edges were clear and sharply defined. Seen in the southern sky, the object was retreating at a moderate speed to the west and finally became just a pinpoint in the bright twilight sky. It had remained in clear view for about 10 minutes. The sky was clear. Mr. O'Connor reported that others had also seen the object, but no names and addresses were available. The details were obtained from the witness by CSI members Arthur Shattuck and Frank Principe.

LOUISIANA WOMAN FRIGHTENED BY LENTICULAR DEVICE

August 21, 1955: At Chalmette, Louisiana, Mrs. A. chanced to look out of her window shortly after midnight on August 21, 1955; she saw, much to her astonishment, a low-hovering object about the size of a plane, a block and a half away. Rotating slowly, it was a glowing white, as clear as the full moon, and appeared to be a solid object. The glow was bright and even, and the edges were clearly defined. It looked like two soup plates put together, but rounded at top and bottom. There was a rim encircling the outer edge.



The night was dark and the sky clear; the weather warm and dry. After watching the object for about ten seconds, Mrs. A. saw it move to the south, then turn up on edge and shoot away at high speed (a typical maneuver). She described the phenomenon as "very pretty and very frightening."

The information was obtained from the witness by Dick Hall, of New Orleans, in correspondence. Hall, a careful and thorough investigator, writes: "I am thoroughly convinced that it was an honest report. I questioned her thoroughly by mail and had to pry the facts out of her. She is certainly not a publicity seeker, and a hoax seems unlikely because of the non-sensational nature of the report, and the unwillingness of the observer to discuss the matter freely. Our correspondence ceased abruptly when she asked me what it was, and I suggested that it might be a spaceship."

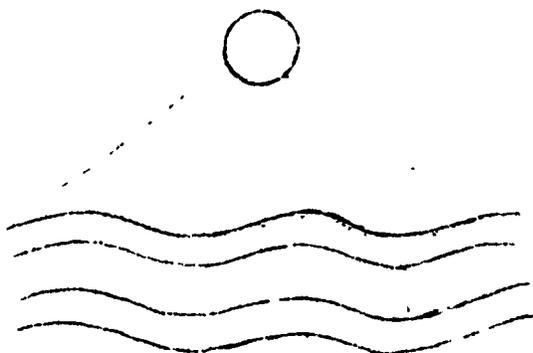
An additional note of perhaps some significance concerning her report is that not only did the incident occur on the same date as the Hopkinsville, Kentucky, "landing," but the object, as described by Mrs. A., is almost identical to the object described by Billy Ray Taylor at Hopkinsville. (The two towns are approximately 500 miles apart in a straight line.)

THE TITICUS RESERVOIR INCIDENT

In the November-December, 1955, issue of the British Flying Saucer Review there appeared an account of a peculiar incident which befell Frank and Eileen Bordes as they were fishing on Titicus Reservoir, near Purdy's in northern Westchester County, New York, in the early morning hours of September 16-17, 1955. This unique sighting has been referred to subsequently (not very accurately) in the Review of July-August 1957 and in Arthur Constance's new book, The Inexplicable Sky. At the recent Eastern Science Fiction Convention, the editors were fortunate in meeting Mrs. Bordes, and subsequently her husband Frank, who is called "Hawkie" (in tribute to his sharp eyesight, it may be noted). From them we have received the following account, which in a few points corrects that published by Flying Saucer Review.

The couple arrived at the lake, to troll for bass, shortly before midnight. At about 1:30 they were in a small cove on the north side of the lake, which is about three miles in length with the long axis east to west. Mrs. Bordes was rowing while her husband was busy untangling fishlines. For the first time in their experience they had not taken a single fish. It was pitch dark; there was no moon, and the stars were hidden by overcast. At this moment Mrs. Bordes saw a strange object rise out of the water on the shoreward side of the boat, no more than a few yards away. It was a rose-colored, luminous sphere - at least, it appeared spherical as seen from the top - about the size of a basketball, with darker areas on it. It rose about a foot into the air and then fell back into the water with a resounding splash. "Hawkie," standing in the stern with his back to it, thought a big fish had jumped.

Mrs. Bordes is a more than usually intrepid young woman, who enjoys hunting and fishing at night, but this sight was so unnatural that it alarmed her; she took up the oars and rowed straight for shore. Her husband, still intent on his task, exultated, until suddenly he, too, caught sight of something. "Quiet!" he whispered. "I think I see a phenomenon!" Mrs. Bordes, petrified, then saw the "phenomenon" too.



Some two hundred yards to the southeast of them, toward the center of the lake, and apparently floating on it, glowed two parallel lights, like bluish-white fluorescent tubes. They were of a sinuous wavy shape (see drawing), but rigid; they did not undulate. Their length seemed to be about twice that of a 15-foot rowboat. Above these "serpents" was a round light of lesser brilliance, more yellowish-white in hue. Considerably smaller than a full moon, and dimmer than a car headlight, it appeared the size of a basketball or "pawmbroker's ball" at a distance of a few hundred feet. It was

not hovering in mid-air, but was apparently fixed to a solid body, which was only intermittently visible as a dim grey shape against the blackness (dotted lines in sketch). As they watched, they perceived that this round light was regularly eclipsed from one side and then opened up again, giving a very definite impression of a rotating spotlight; and although it projected no visible beam, they could see each other's face when the light was shining toward them.

Hawkie, who felt more curiosity than fear, wished to row closer to the object; but his wife, in near-hysterical fright, threatened to jump overboard if he did any such thing. He therefore put her ashore, and started off in the boat to investigate by himself. As he attempted to approach the lights, without any sound they began

moving off to his left (eastward). Hawkie emphasizes that they were moving into a rather stiff breeze at a rate much too fast for any rowboat. (No boats other than rowboats are permitted on the reservoir.) Then they stopped, and came toward him slightly. At this point he returned to the north shore to pick up his wife, and they rowed westward to the boat mooring, nearly a mile. During the whole return trip, the object appeared to be following them at roughly its original distance; the boat was illuminated the whole time by the light, and Mrs. Bordes was weeping with distress. When they left the boat and drove off in their car, the luminous object was still visible on the water, though by now it was moving off to the east again. These motions were so definite, according to Mr. Bordes, that any optical phenomenon of the mirage order seemed to be out of the question. Besides, no natural source of such brilliant light could be found.

Mr. Bordes made inquiries the next day of a local Water Supply official, a friend of his; but he could not uncover any other observations of the strange object. Although Mrs. Bordes told no one but one of her brothers about her frightening experience, within three days it had come to the ears of Bruce Lansbury, at that time U.S. representative of Flying Saucer Review, in New York City, who told CSI about it immediately.

A remarkable aspect of this case is that Mrs. Bordes, who normally has no "psychic" tendencies or interests whatever, had experienced a strong sense of oppression and anxiety that night from the moment of their arrival at the reservoir. "I felt I wasn't wanted there," she says. She has never had a similar feeling before or since. In contrast, Mr. Bordes felt no such premonitions, and was not upset by the phenomenon as was his wife. He has been to Titicus several times since then, but she refuses to fish there now, even by day.

SAUCER MAGAZINES

Harold Fulton, President of Civilian Saucer Investigation of New Zealand, has kindly sent us the first copies we've seen of his quarterly, Flying Saucers, which proves to be a most impressive publication: 32 large pages of close-spaced print, mostly devoted to details of sightings from New Zealand and the rest of the world. Diagrams and photographs are sometimes included. Excerpts from other UFO publications are reprinted. (C.S.I.N.Z., P.O. Box 72, Onehunga SE 5, Auckland, N.Z.; \$2/yr.)

Uranus, a 20-page mimeographed English UFO bi-monthly now in its fourth year, is also recommendable and distinctive. It has specialized in analysis and controversy rather than the amassing of data. As a result of much accumulation of evidence, its editorial views have gradually swung round from complete acceptance of the "contact" claims to thorough skepticism. We thank its editor, David Wightman, for a complete set of back issues. (Markham House Press, 31 Kings Road, London SW 3; \$1.50/yr.)

The first (June) issue of Ray Palmer's Flying Saucers from Other Worlds confirmed our apprehensions: inside its blotchy cover was an olla podrida of some good material in the worst possible company. Two starry-eyed adulators of the "contact" claimants furnished the lead article, and Palmer helped set the tone with a piece claiming that Shaver (his notorious "dero" protégé) had "started" the whole f.s. business. Our feelings may be imagined on discovering, cheek by jowl with this pernicious nonsense, a movie review by Ted "Bloacher," which Palmer had lifted, complete with misspelling, from the British Flying Saucer Review - of course without asking our permission. No less than four other articles - the most substantial part of the magazine - were likewise copied from the Review. No acknowledgment was given in any case, so that all this appears under the guise of new material written specially for Palmer. From an indignant protest in the July-August issue of the Review, we learn

that Palmer did not even go to the trouble of asking their permission to reprint this material. He has, in fact, taken unscrupulous advantage of the absence of copyright to engage in wholesale piracy. Max Miller, in the Summer issue of his Saucers, sharply dissociates himself from any connection with the Palmer magazine, which has likewise used his name without his permission. We can only hope that all saucer people will adopt the same attitude to this misbegotten enterprise.

HENRY J. TAYLOR OK'D AS AMBASSADOR AND UFOLOGIST

In News Letter #7 we spoke somewhat scoffingly of the nomination of news commentator Henry J. Taylor as Ambassador to Switzerland. We were under the impression, and so stated, that his last word on saucers had been his allegation of 1950 that flying saucers were "good news for the American people" - U.S. secret weapons. We were in error, and did Mr. Taylor an injustice: it turns out that he abandoned that notion not long after it appeared. At least as early as November 16, 1953, he had come around to an "orthodox" (i.e., tentatively pro-extraterrestrial) position on UFOs. CSI member Dave Reiner has kindly sent us a transcript of Taylor's broadcast of that date, when he stated: "This fascinating subject remains a mystery - it just beats the Dutch....The Canadian scientists are especially perplexed by having one of their number, Wilbert Smith, discover that the frequency of sightings rises with the proximity of the planet Mars."

On May 1st, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, questioning Taylor before passing on his acceptance as Ambassador, brought up the saucer issue. Taylor did not duck the question, but sturdily laid the facts on the line: "It is very difficult to deny," he told the Senators, "that something is happening around us that we just don't quite understand." He added that about one out of every ten reports is "very disturbing...There are too many sober-minded people with photographic and other evidence who have sighted these objects...Something is apparently happening in about 8 or 10 percent of these sightings in various parts of the world. I just don't think that we know all the secrets of the universe yet." This testimony made headlines on May 5th; we quote from the N. Y. Times ("H. Taylor Warns On Saucers In Sky.") The nomination was confirmed. We wish our fellow "UFOlogist" Mr. Taylor success in Switzerland, and hope he picks up some good UFO observations there.

WILLY LEY DISCLAIMS "GOVERNMENT-DEVICE" THEORY

On July 2 science writer Willy Ley, a veteran UFO skeptic, appeared on the Night-beat TV program. He was asked only one question about saucers: did he still adhere to the view attributed to him in a UP interview of April 7, 1950, that the U. S. government might be secretly flying disc-shaped aircraft that would account for some of the saucer reports? Ley replied that he had never held any such view: the reporter had misunderstood him. The statement "wasn't correct then, and it isn't today." Back in 1947, he added, "when all this was new," it would not have been unreasonable to suspect some such connection. "But no secret lives for ten years."

Mr. Ley's own opinion as to the nature of UFOs has been expressed elsewhere. On December 8, 1953, he addressed the IBM Study Club of Binghamton, New York in a discussion of the development of rocket propulsion. As inevitably happens, saucers came up in the question-and-answer period. He stated that either there are visitors from other planets (because this theory cannot be disproved) or they are natural phenomena. Although Mr. Ley prefers the latter possibility, he did not, at this time, rule out an extraterrestrial explanation. "It isn't an impossibility," he said, remarking on the vast number of planets in space, and concluding that an "intelligence" as great or greater than ours is "perfectly logical." However, Mr. Ley felt then that reports on UFOs "remain vague" as to their speeds, sizes and other details. He told the IBM Study Group that he had been in the saucer investigation business for six years "not against my will but neither with it. I was more or less forced into it," was his wry comment.

SAUCER BOOKS

The Expanding Case for the UFO, by M. K. Jessup (Citadel, \$3.50; 252 pp.). Saucer books tend to be primarily compilations of sightings. Jessup's latest is a striking exception: there is scarcely a recent sighting in it. It is a rather disconnected collection of writings on various topics more or less related to his theory about UFOs - that they are piloted by little men who inhabit artificial planetoids near the earth. These little men, according to Jessup, are descendants of a very ancient world-wide civilization which possessed the secret of levitation, and used it in building megalithic architecture, as well as in launching the spaceships in which they now dwell.* Thus we find the author describing the megalithic stonework of Sacsahuaman, Zimbabwe, Easter Island, Baalbek, and putting forward indications that the builders were of midget stature; discussing the Pygmies, whom he sees as earthbound relicts of his postulated civilization; quoting Churchward as an authority; reprinting the phony-looking Piute "Hav-Musuv" story from Fate; and even taking a tentative excursion in pyramido-numerology! In the early part of the book, as in The Case for the UFO, the author cites many instances of "Fortean" falls, etc., a number of them taken from Fort, often without indicating their source. The relation of these fascinating phenomena to his theory is tenuous at best, if not invisible. At the end, he cites some 1954-55 observations of "little men"; but it should be emphasized that most of these were quite unhuman in appearance.

Undoubtedly the most valuable and substantial part of this book is its central section (pp. 110-194), a detailed monograph on the perplexing changes that have been seen to take place on the moon. (This is probably an expansion of a chapter originally intended for The Case for the UFO.) Like the rest of the book, it is sketchily organized, repetitive, and larded with questionably-relevant comment to such a degree as to make rather confusing reading; but it is a real contribution to knowledge, and deserves serious consideration.

That these moon phenomena are related to UFOs, however, as Jessup wants to convince us, is by no means certain. He presents some photographs of strikingly moon-like craters in Mexico, but his speculative thesis that they were produced by the "blasting off" of gigantic UFOs is embarrassed by the necessity of admitting that geologists classify them as volcanic calderas (broad craters remaining after the explosion of a volcano).

The Expanding Case contains much varied information (not about saucers) and is valuable for its lunar data; it definitely does not duplicate other saucer books. It makes fascinating, though at times exasperating, reading for anyone. No index.

* This theory of Jessup's is evidently of fairly recent development. Fate for May 1949 carried an article by him, "The Inca's Secret Solved," which undertook to explain the megalithic masonry of Sacsahuaman; his views at that time envisaged no UFOs, little men, or levitation.

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BOOKS ADDED TO CSI LIBRARY

Other Tongues - Other Flesh, by George Hunt Williamson (Amherst Press, Amherst, Wisc., \$4.00; 488 pp.). Full-scale crank classic, a Koran for contactists.

The Inexplicable Sky, by Arthur Constance (Citadel, \$3.95; 288 pp.). Celestial phenomena (including saucers); more factual and less vaporous than his contributions to Flying Saucer Review.

Man Among the Stars, by Wolfgang D. Muller (Criterion Books, \$4.95; 307 pp.). Technical and philosophical aspects of space travel. Author's views and comments on UFOs tend to be Menzelian in general, but display more sense and rationality.

The Coming of the Space Ships, by Gavin Gibbons (Neville Spearman, London, \$3.50; 188 pp.). A minor work for the contactist's library. May safely be missed.

SAUCER FRAGMENTS

"Saucer" on Seventeenth-Century Coin? What is a flying saucer doing on a copper jeton of Louis XIV, struck in 1656? Rev. Albert Baller sent us a color photograph of this perplexing object. It certainly shows a large discoidal object flying in the clouds; it looks much like the underside of a mushroom, but has bosses (or portholes?) around the edge. The legend: "Opportunus Adest" (Opportunity Knocks). We strongly doubt that this is intended to commemorate a 17-century "contact," but no one has been able to guess what it does signify. (Before getting too excited about this, it should be noted that jetons of this period are known for the profusion and obscurity of their allegorical motifs: cf. Feuardent, Jetons et Méreaux - where this is #12529 - etc.)

The Crackpots Make the News: John Otto's Lake Michigan "contact" argosy on April 30 "contacted" nothing but meteors and aurora borealis (both of which were of course interpreted as saucer manifestations by many of the eager participants), but, as we anticipated (see NL #7, p. 9), it "received the most publicity ever accorded such an event." (See Saucers, Summer 1957, p. 12, for the melancholy details.) And Van Tassel's "Spacecraft Convention" on May 11-12 got even more play from the nation's press - nearly all, of course, in a spirit of ridicule, for which we can scarcely blame them. Even LIFE (May 27) ran a story on it, in the Lucepapers' favorite patronizing vein - for once, quite justified! Discouragingly, the LIFE writer gave no indication whatever of realizing that there is anything more serious than this to "flying saucers." Almost exactly five years earlier (April 7, 1952), LIFE had published a masterly article on UFOs by Darrach and Ginna - but in 1957, this went unmentioned. We were glad to see that Lee Munsick of UFO Newsletter succeeded in getting a brief letter printed (LIFE, June 17), pointing out that serious UFO research disowns the "contact" charlatans.

Suddenly We're Sportsmen: UFOs turned up in an unexpected place recently - Sports Illustrated, with an item on "a new British outdoor sport - saucer sighting, the big brother of bird watching." It was inspired by a "sighting manual" - helpful hints for saucer observers - published by F.S. Review, which S.I. reprints. The tone is not at all derisive: the writer evidently knows the score, though he does seem to think that "UFOlogy" is largely a British affair. "You can't discourage spirited British sportsmen as the Pentagon discourages us supine Americans," he says.

Ruppelt Converts a Bookman: On June 22, in a "Trade Winds" column in the Saturday Review, John G. Fuller says, "We almost wish we hadn't gotten around to reading Edward J. Ruppelt's book ... to us the most sober and authoritative of the many books on the subject." Fuller also talked personally to Ruppelt, examined Project Bluebook Report No. 14, and even interviewed some of the best-known saucer observers. His conclusion: "We agree with Ruppelt. Only time will tell - we hope."

UFO Sighters Congregate on TV: Viewers of Garry Moore's "I've Got a Secret" program on Channel 2 at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday evening, July 17, were treated to an assemblage of famous saucer observers: Chiles and Whitted, Carl Hart, Jr. (photographer of the Lubbock Lights), Ralph Mayher, and Nicholas Mariana, whose UFO movie sequence was shown. Ruppelt was also present, and stated firmly that these cases are among the 20 percent of Unknowns: "only time will tell" what the witnesses saw, he said. The tone was thoroughly and gratifyingly serious, and one could complain only of the extreme brevity of the discussion (15 minutes). Unfortunately we learned of this at the last minute, and could not notify local members. The Editors had the privilege after the program of talking briefly with Ruppelt (our first opportunity to do so) and at greater length with Donald Keyhoe and Lee Munsick of NICAP.

Add Shaggy-Dog Stories: When we referred briefly to Buck Nelson's Venusian dog (NL #7, p. 28), we expressed some surprise at the amount of hair Mr. Nelson had been able to harvest from his heavenly pooch. This point has now been cleared up by the disclosure that the dog weighed 385 pounds. Mr. Nelson took a photograph of his king-size pet. According to Long John, the wistful eyes of a cocker spaniel (earth weight 20 pounds) gaze accusingly out of the print.