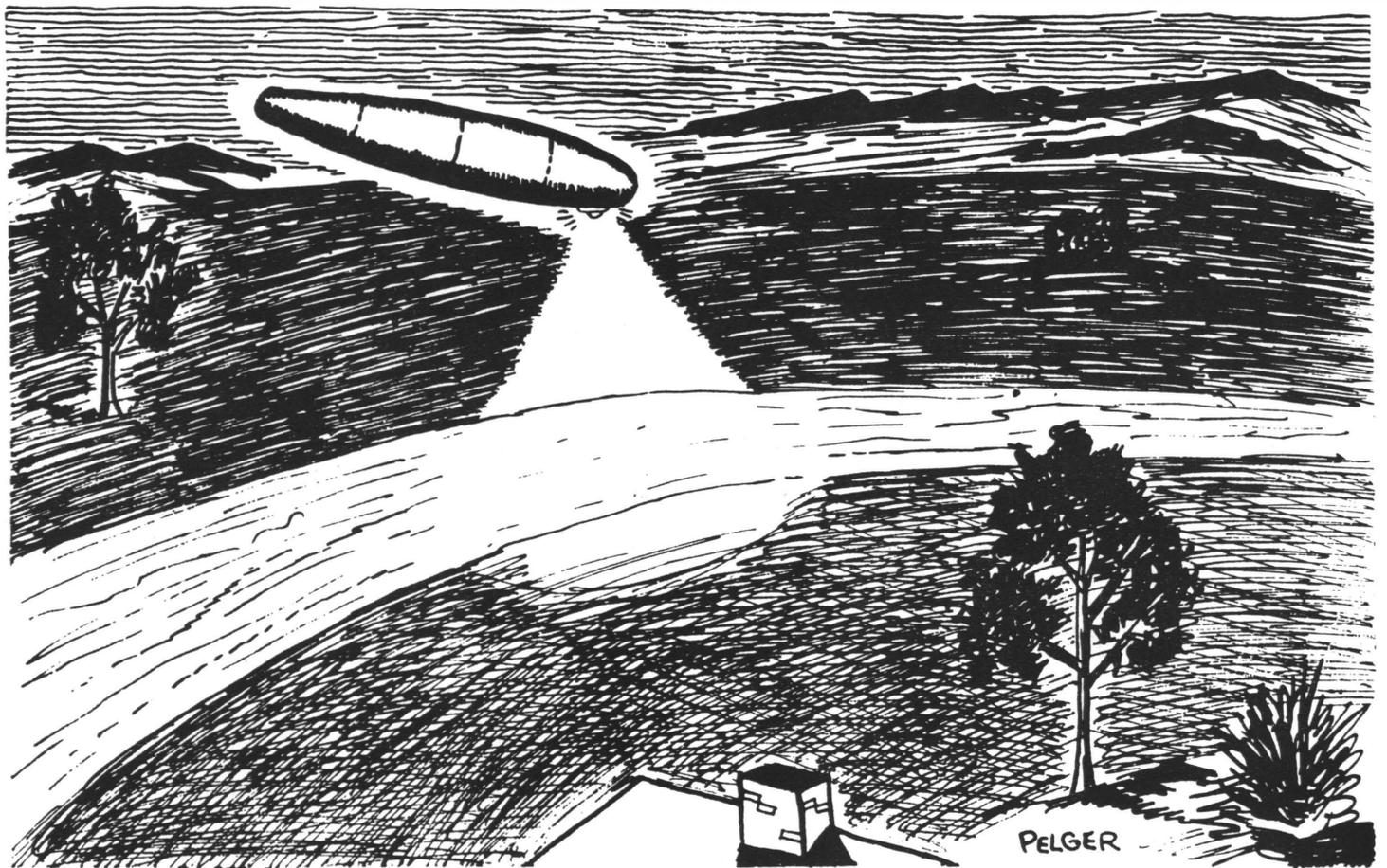


FLYING SAUCER

SPRING 89

NO. 105

1896 - CALIFORNIA



NOV. 17, 1896

UNITED AERIAL PHENOMENA AGENCY

DIGEST

FROM THE EDITOR

PHENOMENA, NOTES AND COMMENTARY:

As we approach Spring and warm weather and baseball we have to remember that there are still many mysterious things happening in our little corner of the universe. We still have no final answer to the UFO mystery so the quest for that answer continues. We may - or may not - ever find it. In the meantime, FSD will continue to publish interesting sightings and theories. We will continue to publish FSD as long as questions remain as to what UFOs really are.

The above paragraph is obviously written with the up-rear over THE SATANIC VERSES in mind. As a responsible Editor and journalist I am totally against any censorship of any kind whatsoever! Any book no matter what the content consists of should be allowed to be published. One is not forced to buy a book or a magazine, but that option is missing if a book or magazine is not printed.

As the Editor for FLYING SAUCER DIGEST, my only concern is that we publish factual information to our many readers. While any information may be suspect in a field such as UFOs, I do try to take a "middle-of-the-road" approach and stick to reasonable possibilities. I hope that this policy is amicable with you, the readers, and our renewal rate indicates to me that it is.

Please feel free to write me concerning our content. If your letters are interesting, and you state that I have permission to do so, I will print some of your comments in future issues (with name and city only, no address will be printed). Any letter or portion of printed will net the writer one free issue tacked on to their subscription.

Hope to hear from all our readers.

ABOUT THIS COVER:

On November 17, 1896, thousands of residents in northern California had seen one of this country's earliest reported unidentified flying objects. Five days later this strange elongated-shaped vessel, about 150 feet long with a giant light in the craft's belly, lit the earth directly below.

Newspapers reported this strange sighting in headlines, but there were many skeptics. Some called the sighting a hoax. A San Francisco paper, "The Call," dated November 22, 1896, said "It is the prevalent opinion that someone has solved the mystery of flying in the air and has been putting his experience to a practical test."

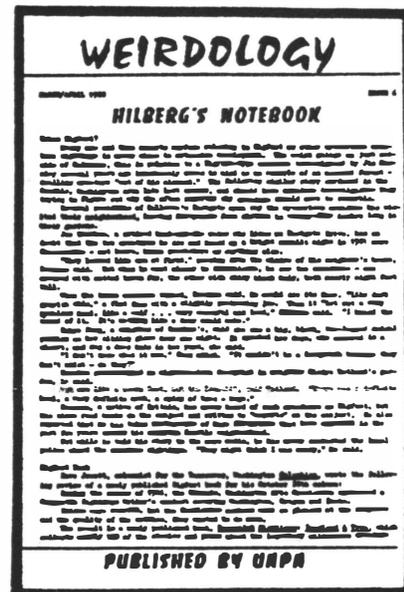
Ninety-three years later we on earth still do not know the answer as to what these UFOs are.

ABOUT NEXT ISSUE:

To the right at the top is our next issue's cover. We already have some outstanding articles, informative retrospectives, and news items planned for this issue. If your subscription is up with this issue we hope you will renew so as not to miss a single glorious issue of FSD.

OUR SISTER PUBLICATION:

WEIRDODOLOGY (see middle illustration at right) is our bi-monthly Fortean publication which covers many different mysterious subjects. Subscription rates are only \$4.50 for



six issues. Send check or money order to WEIRDODOLOGY, P. O. Box 347032, Cleveland, Ohio, 44134 - 7032.

SPRING SALE:

For a short time only we are offering our 1982 42-page booklet MYSTERIOUS THINGS IN THE SKY (see bottom illustration on previous page) by UAPA's Chairman Allan J. Manak for only \$2.00. Allan's well-researched book is a composite chronology of the UFO mystery from 222 B.C. to 1929. Anyone interested in the early history of UFO observations will find this book an unbelievable treasure trove of ancient sightings. You will not find a better bargain at \$2.00. Send your check or money order to UAPA, P. O. Box 347032, Cleveland, Ohio, 44134 - 7032.

PUBLICATIONS:

Some new magazines are on the scene which we are quite impressed with. Issue 2 of NORTH AMERICAN SETI MAGAZINE has improved one hundred percent over the first issue, which Managing Editor Howard W. Dudley delivered personally to us at last year's National UFO Conference. We here at UAPA highly recommend this publication!

NORTH AMERICAN SETI is available by subscription. One year (six issues) is only \$15.00 while a two year subscription is \$26.00. Subscriptions should be sent to NORTH AMERICAN SETI MAGAZINE, RR1 Box 460, Hollister Hill Rd., Plainfield, Vermont, 05667.

Again, this publication comes highly recommended and is well worth the price!

Our very old and dear friend Gene Steinberg has resurrected his publication from the early 1970s and has begun publishing it again. CAVEAT EMPTOR is a very familiar name to long-time UFOlogists, and we at UAPA are glad to see it again.

His "premier" issue (Number 16 as he is continuing from where he left off in 1974) has a very interesting interview with world-famous UFO expert James W. Moseley, along with a write-up of last year's Convention sponsored by the UAPA. He also included photographs of Rick Hilberg and yours truly (fame at last).

Gene Steinberg's knowledge of the UFO phenomenon has been sorely missed for far too many years so it is extremely good to see him back in the publishing and writing business. Welcome back, Gene!

Subscriptions to CAVEAT EMPTOR are \$10.00 for four issues and available from Caveat Emptor, 8 Gate House Lane, Edison, New Jersey, 08820.

A POSSIBLE ANSWER:

James W. Moseley's latest issue of his publication, SAUCER SMEAR (Volume 36, No. 3, March 15th, 1989) carries a very interesting letter and theory on the UFO mystery. The following is taken directly from SAUCER SMEAR:

Peter Gersten, a lawyer who has been closely allied with CAUS and other UFO groups for several years, writes as follows:

"Contrary to rumor, I have not been bought off nor threatened by our 'government'. Why is it that when one changes his views to a position untenable to the UFO 'community' there has to be a sinister reason?

"Simply stated, a review of all the documents released under the Freedom Of Information Act and other credible evidence (ironically brought on by the bogus MJ-12 documents) as well as a disenchantment with the collective gullibility of the current UFO movement has caused me to re-evaluate my thinking.

"My present opinion is this: UFOs are either natural phenomena or human technology. An eyewitness's testimony is generally unreliable as to an aerial object's size, speed, shape and distance. People also tend to see what they want to see and believe what they want to believe. The technology exhibited by UFOs is at best no more than 10 years a-

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The FLYING SAUCER DIGEST is published quarterly (Spring, Summer, Winter, Fall) by the United Aerial Phenomena Agency (UAPA). Chairman is Allan J. Manak. Editor is Robert S. Easley. Assistant Editor is Rick R. Hilberg. The UAPA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and related subjects. Subscription rates are 4 issues for \$5.00 or 8 issues for \$9.00. All correspondence and manuscripts are welcomed. Address all correspondence to UAPA, P. O. Box 347032, Cleveland, Ohio, 44134 - 7032.

head of what the public knows present-day technology to be. People have been seeing this secret military technology since Kenneth Arnold's sighting. . . .

"There is no evidence in any of the government documents released under the Freedom Of Information Act that UFOs are extraterrestrial. Contrary to what some UFO fictionalizers would have us believe, the withheld government documents appear to contain sensitive information concerning our own technology, not alien technology.

"Within the last year and a half Ufology has gone from the semi-professional study of UFOs to the realm of science fiction, to wit: Serious belief in alien crashes, alien abductions, alien contact and alien underground bases. The obviously fraudulent MJ-12 documents and the obviously fictional book 'Communion' have replaced legitimate FOIA documents and such professional works as 'The UFO Evidence' as the foundation for UFO research. The fantasies of Moore and Lear have now replaced the serious studies of Campbell and Hynek. The time has come to abandon a sinking spaceship."

EDITOR'S COMMENT:

I tend to agree with Mr. Gersten. The UFO field today is vastly different from the field of five, ten, fifteen, or even twenty-five years ago. It has gone from serious to comical, which is very unfortunate. One statement by Mr. Gersten is so important that I will repeat it. I feel it says it all. "UFOs are either natural phenomena or human technology." (From The Editor Written By Robert S. Easley.)

MANAK'S NOTEBOOK

RIDICULOUS EXPLANATIONS

Being in UFOlogy for over forty-one years has some serious implications. One of them is being able to recall most of the down-right ridiculous explanations given to the sightings of UFOs. Most of these explanations were given by the Air Force or investigators for the Air Force.

The first ones I can recall are the explanations given in June and July of 1947 after the UFO enigma first started. It was said that all these people who were seeing the flying discs were just seeing "weather balloons" or the Navy's new "Skyhook balloons."

Then, in August of 1951, a group of university professors spotted a formation of blue-green lights in the night sky moving from north to south. The lights reappeared continuously for several days. The lights were witnessed by hundreds of citizens, one of which was Gary Hart, Jr., a freshman in college who took two pictures with a 35mm camera. The explanation given was "high flying birds reflecting the mercury vapor lights of the city."

During the large flap of 1952 we were told "that we were hallucinating" or "seeing misinterpretations of conventional aircraft."

Also in 1952 Chief Petty Officer Delbert C. Newhouse with his wife took about 30 feet of motion picture film with his home movie camera of unknown objects. The explanation here was "very white birds reflecting sunlight."

In 1964 during a brilliant display where thousands of people on the Texas-Oklahoma border saw flights of UFOs, they were told by a representative of the Air Force they were "watching the stars in the constellation of Orion." The Air Force stayed with this explanation despite being told by a young boy in the seventh grade that at the time of the sightings Orion would not rise above the horizon for another three hours.

Two years later a group of college students were watching a UFO making contact with the earth near Hillsdale, Michigan. The explanation came five days later by the then Air Force UFO debunker, J. Allen Hynek. He stated to the news media that "what these students were watching was nothing more than swamp gas."

In 1981 a spectacular light lit up the early morning Florida sky on the 19th of April. The flash of blue light was visible from the Keys to the Panhandle. Coast Guard Petty Officer Chris Nettles in Miami said that after receiving numerous inquires

about the mysterious light he called the Civil Defense National Warning Center in Olney, Maryland. The explanation they gave was "the Lyrid Meteor Shower."

All in all, our Air Force has given some pretty funny explanations in the past. There were temperature inversions, searchlights on clouds, sun dogs, moon dust, imagination, stars, planets, and even just seeing things. But the best explanation of all is as follows. When I first read it I nearly fell off my chair laughing.

There was a sighting that took place on January 11, 1988 in Conklin, New York. Witnesses said the object was first seen at 6:30 PM. "The object had bluish-green lights and remained in one spot for several minutes before moving on." One witness's son took three photos of the stationary object. The lights on the object were "twinkling on and off." The object itself was "bright and glowing."

But a National Weather Service official said "Unusual astrological conditions this year" could be the object people were seeing. Do you believe that statement? Everytime I re-read it, I start laughing all over again. I've really heard them all now. (Manak's Notebook Written By Allan J. Manak).

FOREMOST SIGHTING THIS ISSUE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our "Foremost Sighting This Issue", chosen by Allan J. Manak, is from a newspaper article written by Allan A. Seiler. The article and accompanying illustration was in the 23 November 1988 Pike Press of Pittsfield, Illinois.)

Numerous Pike County residents have reported seeing strange low-level aerial lights on two different nights within less than a week earlier this month.

Some of the lights were seen Nov. 2. Others were seen Nov. 8.

In all cases the lights were described as "very bright" and arranged in a horizontal line. The sightings were reported from north of Griggsville, near Detroit, and southeast of Pittsfield. All the observers reported that the lights suddenly disappeared. One reported that at one time they faded slowly like a dimmed lamp. Only one observer reported seeing any structural object, but she saw what appeared to be panes of glassed windows. Most reported hearing no sound in connection with what they saw.

Following are the reports the Pike Press was able to check out. Other names submitted could not be reached:

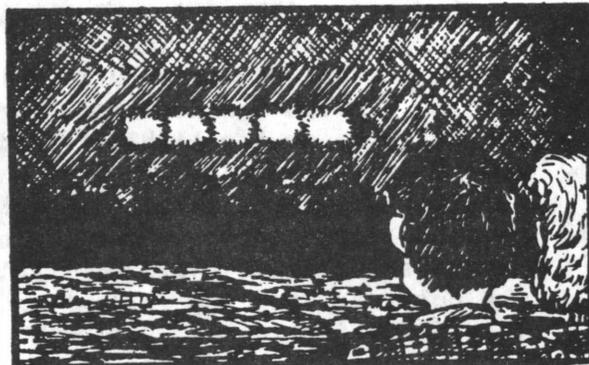
Tom Coulson says that about 6 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 2 he was bringing his son Tyler home from basketball practice. He drove into his drive at the very northwest corner of Griggsville.

"There, suspended above the field behind my house at a distance of perhaps a quarter mile were five yellow lights in an almost perfect horizontal row. They were not as large as street lights, but were prominent.

"Neither of us took our eyes off them while we exited the car and started walking toward the back yard. When we had gone about 50 feet, all five lights suddenly went out as though a switch had been thrown. The evening was very dark by then and we could see nothing in the sky after the lights went out.

"A few minutes later we saw a pair of identical lights northwest of us, a trifle higher. These two lights appeared to be at the same interval as the five had been, as though we were seeing just two of five. Then, the northernmost of these two lights went out and a moment later another came on at about the same interval, but to the south of the one still on. Then both went out.

"Whereas the first series of five lights behind our house had gone out suddenly like a



switch had been thrown, those two to the northwest went out just a little more slowly, as though a rheostat had been turned down quickly."

Coulson says that after a minute, the light reappeared to the northwest very low, just north of town and appearing to be moving east across 107, moving behind trees - a row of lights moving smoothly and silently across the north edge of town.

Coulson says he learned the next day of a number of other similar sightings around Maysville and a little later near Detroit, leading Coulson to believe it came from the west, went around Griggsville, and then south.

Except for the date being six nights earlier, Coulson's account parallels closely that of Sarah Lipcaman, who was going home the evening of Nov. 8 on the New Salem blacktop and between the Webel Feed corner and Don Welbourne's house she saw several "bright, bright" lights in a horizontal line. She saw the lights four different times as she drove toward New Salem.

A standing freight train blocking the highway at the railroad crossing south of New Salem, induced her to turn around and take a different route home. Headed south, she then saw the lights to her left, as did her seven year old son, Evan, who was in the car with her. He said it was not an airplane and was bigger than a jet plane. Mrs. Lipcaman said the lights would "just shut off", then come back on. She could detect no structural body with the lights.

Tom and Mary Bunting experienced their sightings Nov. 2, the same night as the Coulson sighting.

Bunting said he and his wife were headed into Pittsfield from their farm southeast of Pittsfield about dusk. As they neared the Ed House home near Pittsfield they saw a four or five horizontal rectangular shaped red lights "somewhere over Pittsfield." The Buntings stopped their car and thought they heard sounds like a helicopter. They rolled down the windows to avoid any reflection and then saw the lights disappear instantly, later seeing two very large red lights in the north sky. One trailed away, leaving a red "tail." The other just disappeared. The Buntings saw no form to any kind of object attached to the lights.

Similar sightings were reported by Jack and Shirley Thomas the same night as the Buntings' experience.

The Thomases had driven to a farm property near Time and were returning to their farm home southeast of Pittsfield around 6 pm.

They were taking a short cut and crossing a small bridge when they saw "brilliant lights" and the outline of small windows "all lit up" above the tree tops. Mrs. Thomas describes the lights as "white and yellow."

They pulled off the bridge, backed up, and still saw the lights. "Then, in the blink of an eye, it was gone," says Mrs. Thomas.

When they got home, Mrs. Thomas said to her husband, "You draw a picture of what you saw and I'll draw one of what I saw." Mrs. Thomas said the drawings were the same. She called her grandson, Jeremy, 13, who lives nearby. She said he had seen what he described as "fireworks."

Mrs. Thomas called the state police and they advised her to call Scott Air Force Base, which she did. They encouraged her to call another number, but she apparently got the wrong number from Scott as she could not reach anybody else.

Mrs. Thomas said Tony Bauer also reported a similar sighting the same night.

Wayne and Margaret Butler also saw two to six flashing lights in the sky "lower than an airplane" since there were two airplanes at a higher altitude at the same time. The Butlers saw the lights around 6 pm but Mrs. Butler was not sure whether it was Nov. 2 or 8 or another date.

Lori Hoover also reports a Nov. 2 sighting of lights north of Detroit around 5:30 pm. She said at first she thought they were a pair of headlights coming over the hill. She says there was a bright light in the center and three on each side. She described the color as "red and yellow" and a little higher than the tree tops. She observed the lights for perhaps a minute.

Mrs. Hoover says the lights were stationary. The center light went off first, then the others within seconds. She too reported no sound in connection with what she saw.

AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD

A BLATANT PLUG FOR OUR SISTER PUBLICATION:

Every now and then we've got to let you FSD readers out there who are not yet subscribers to our companion WEIRDODOLOGY, know what you are missing by not subscribing. Even though WEIRDODOLOGY basically covers various Fortean phenomena not generally covered in FSD, every now and then we do include coverage of the UFO enigma.

A case in point is in the March/April issue wherein Allan Manak presents some little-known details regarding the April, 1961 Joe Simonton contact case; details that actually make you stop and take a second look at this case that was laughed off by most people in the field since 1961. What it all boils down to is the fact that we just may have to treat this incident as being a "real" event. Let's remember that if Budd Hopkins made some of his information public in the 1960's, he would have, like Joe Simonton, been dismissed as a blatant hoaxter. Maybe we should all go back into the deep, dark recesses of our files and take a similar, more enlightened look at other cases. . .

A one year, six issue subscription to WEIRDODOLOGY is just \$4.50. If you want to read about the Simonton case, be sure to ask to have your subscription begin with Issue #12.

LANDING IN ATOKA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA:

According to the Atoka County Times a local lawman who prefers to remain anonymous due to a potential "embarrassment factor," reported seeing, and attempting to photograph, a UFO late on the evening of September 4th, which he stated "was definitely not an aircraft."

At approximately 11:00 PM that evening, the lawman reported receiving a telephone call from a woman near Blackjack, who indicated to him that she saw what appeared to be a helicopter in a pasture, possibly landing or unloading people.

Since she thought it possibly included an illegal drug operation, she refused to give her name, according to the lawman.

"I was headed down the road expecting to find a Drug Task Force helicopter, or possibly an aircraft in distress," he reported.

"When I got close to the area the lady described, I thought I saw a fire, and figured I had a downed aircraft in trouble."

The area of the encounter was a cleared acreage on the west side of Bently Road, approximately one mile north of Blackjack.

The officer stated that he turned west up a crossroad, stopped his vehicle, and took a close look.

He reported an orange, circular object that appeared to be flaming around its outside edge. He said that he could not estimate its size accurately.

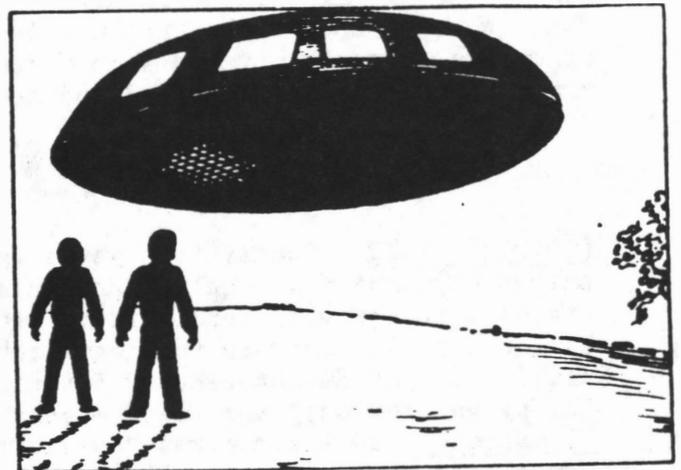
"I thought possibly it was something set up in the field, maybe military. Then I realized I could see stars underneath it and I knew it was airborne and wasn't an aircraft. I have been around a long time and seen a lot of things, but I never saw anything like this."

He radioed in at 11:09 PM that he was in the area north of Blackjack.

He called in again at 11:23 PM, stating that "this is not a helicopter, not an aircraft. . .I'm taking a picture."

He reports that he lost radio contact shortly after that, and that the dispatcher could hear him "key" his microphone but could not hear his voice.

He stated that in his excitement to get a picture with his polaroid camera, he accidentally took one picture of the ground as he left his vehicle.



"As I tried to get across the ditch and to the fence, I stumbled over a skunk, but it didn't even spray me," he said.

He reported taking one picture of the object, but as soon as he snapped his picture, it left the ground and headed south at a high rate of speed. The officer took two more pictures with the object airborne, and stated that one photograph partially showed the object in an upper corner.

He later refused to display the photos, stating that he had taken all the laughter and jokes from fellow lawmen that he could stand.

He radioed in at 11:33 PM that he was back on duty.

"I don't care what these guys say, I know what I saw and it was definitely not an aircraft," he said later.

He reported that he could not sleep, and returned to the area early the next morning to look for scorch marks or any sign that the object had touched the ground. "I found what might have been a scorched area, but the pastures out there are so burned up from the drought that I couldn't tell," he said.

The property owners, Phillip Allen and his sister, Martha Yates, inspected the area of the possible landing on the afternoon of the 6th. She reported a circular scorched area in the center of the 160 acres approximately four to six feet in diameter.

"There were tall weeds all over the area, but the weeds in the circle were burnt black," she said.

Neighbors reported odd behavior in their animals at approximately the same time the lawman was attempting to take pictures. One person one-half mile west of the location reported that her horses acted "spooky" around midnight, and were still acting odd the next morning.

Another neighbor further west reported that his dogs ". . . threw a fit, like they were scared to death. They will bark and howl when they hear coyotes, but they were carrying on so much that it woke me up about 11:15."

Another resident approximately two miles southeast of the location reported seeing a glowing object crossing the sky around midnight, but when she awakened her husband, the object was gone and he thought she had been dreaming.

The lawman also reported strange behavior in wild animals near the scene of the sighting. "I saw several skunks and owls, and many more rabbits in the road than you usually see at night," he said.

"None of them would run back in the brush when I approached them. One small pack of coyotes ran a few yards when I 'shooed' them, but they stopped and wouldn't leave the road," he added. (Around And About Written by Rick R. Hilberg)

UFO RETROSPECTIVE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Twenty-five years ago - 1964 - was indeed a very strange year. Many things happened that would change history and have a big impact on America and her standing in the world community. President Johnson ramrodded the "Tonkin Gulf" Resolution through Congress to "legalize" America's entry into the Vietnam War; the population of the Haight-Ashbury District increased dramatically with the influx of the "hippy generation;" the Peace Movement began in earnest on college campuses; Sport's Illustrated ran their first "swimsuit issue," and the Cleveland Indians did not, as usual, do anything spectacular on the baseball field.

1964 was also a big year in UFOlogy. There were many good sightings, some of which even generated much front-page publicity. One of the biggest was the 24 April incident by Lonnie Zamora in Socorro, New Mexico. That sighting still generates much discussion today in UFO circles.

The following is taken from the September 1964 issue of James W. Moseley's outstanding publication, SAUCER NEWS. I hope you find it interesting. - RSE)

NEW MEXICO POLICEMAN SEES LANDED SAUCER AND "LITTLE MEN":

On April 24th, the sensational recent saucer flap began. The first incident was one of the most convincing UFO sightings of all times, in that the principal witness

was a police officer whose sincerity not even the Air Force could question. As a matter of fact, officer Lonnie Zamora was vouched for by Dr. Lincoln La Paz, America's foremost authority on meteorites, who had known the policeman for a period of sixteen years!

The several newspaper versions of the incident conflict in some details, but the story supplied to us by NICAP's New York Subcommittee is probably the most accurate, as NICAP members have contacted Zamora directly. Here are the facts:

At about 6 p.m. Zamora was on duty in his patrol car about a mile north of Socorro, New Mexico, when he suddenly heard a roaring noise. Thinking it might be an explosion in a nearby dynamite shack or a car blowing up, he quickly decided to investigate further. From a distance of about 150 yards he saw an egg-shaped metallic or white object, resting on the ground in a gully. There were two girder-like legs visible on the side of the craft facing Zamora, and the bottom of the object was just above a bush which he knew to be about four feet high. Near the UFO were two figures, small in stature, like children, and humanoid in form. Zamora could make out no facial details at that distance, but he said that they did not appear to be wearing helmets. The figure farthest from him turned and apparently saw him.

There were red markings on the side of the craft. These were apparently lettering of some type, but he could make no sense out of them. (According to an alternative version, Zamora saw only the letter "V" with three lines through it, while another story has it that he was requested by the Air Force not to divulge the nature of the markings.) As the policeman approached closer to the object, it began to roar again and raise a cloud of dust. The two figures were no longer visible, and Zamora supposed that they had entered the craft, despite the fact that he had not noticed any windows, doors, or other openings. Zamora was now frightened, and turned to run. The noise then stopped. He looked back and saw the UFO slowly rising from the ground. It went over the top of the dynamite shack, and remained at a low altitude as it continued on in horizontal flight and eventually disappeared from view. (Our paraphrasing of the NICAP report ends here.)

Thereupon the State Police, F.B.I., and Air Force were contacted. The latter sent their foremost investigator, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, to the scene, together with Sergeant David Moody from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. However, by the time Dr. Hynek arrived five days after the incident, the landing site was so trampled by the curious that little of scientific value could be obtained. But all of the early arrivals to the spot had noticed a burned area where the UFO had been, and four wedge-shaped impressions in the hard desert floor, where the legs of the object had stood. There was also something resembling paw marks or heel marks. Hynek talked to Zamora for almost a full day, and to other local people. Hynek even had Zamora re-enact the incident, after which he admitted being more disturbed than ever!

Dr. Hynek was without a doubt genuinely puzzled, and said that he had not come upon anything similar in his previous investigations for the Air Force. He was bothered by the fact that there was no radar confirmation and no other witnesses. However, these are not serious objections in our opinion. If a Cuban helicopter could land recently at Miami International Airport without being identified on radar as a hostile craft (in spite of our military alert in that area!), then this UFO, flying at low altitude as Lonnie Zamora described it, need not have been noticed on radar either. Furthermore it is interesting to note that on May 22nd - almost exactly a month after the Socorro incident - Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico tracked two UFO's which were in the vicinity of White Sands, thus proving that at least some incidents in the recent flap did have radar confirmation!

As for there being no other witnesses, it seems that the Air Force and NICAP have one thing in common, in that they have overlooked the published testimony of a tourist who was traveling north on Route 85 and saw Zamora's UFO just before it landed in the gully! Opal Grinder, manager of Whiting Brothers' Service Station just north of Socorro, said that an unidentified man stopped at the station and told him that a strange-looking craft had flown over his car at low altitude. The tourist also commented that he had seen a police car heading up the hill. This was Zamora's car! Grinder did not attach any importance to the traveler's remarks until later, when he heard about Zamora's sighting.

Then, between 7:30 and 8:00 that same evening, another man driving north on Route 85 saw the same or a similar object. We do not know whether he was interviewed by Hynek, but in any case his story went out over the Associated Press. The man in question was George Mitropolis, a resident of Albuquerque. He said that he turned off his car engine as the object went by at low altitude, and heard a noise "like muffled jets." The thing had a luminous glow. There were no lights, but the glow underneath the craft looked like exhaust flames. The strange object looked to Mitropolis like "an upside down bathtub." The startled traveler reported the UFO to two men in another car, and later to the police and newspapers.

In regard to the Socorro incident, Dr. Hynek had this to say after completing his on-the-spot investigation: "Mr. Zamora's story is simply told, and certainly without any intent to perpetrate a hoax. It is told by a man who obviously was frightened badly by what he saw. He certainly must have seen something." Dr. La Paz, to whom Zamora had sent meteorite reports over the years, was quoted as saying: "I have had contacts with Officer Zamora in my work, and he is a thoroughly dependable observer." La Paz, incidentally, believes that Zamora saw a U.S.-made experimental craft, though the Air Force has denied that we have anything answering such a description.

As of this writing, the Air Force admits having no solution to the Zamora case, and if none is found, it will be carried in their files as UNKNOWN!

THE SECOND NEW MEXICO LANDING:

Another sensational saucer landing occurred near the town of La Madera, New Mexico, within hours of the Socorro incident. At about 12:30 a.m., Orlando Gallegos, who was visiting his father's home there, went outside to chase away some horses. It was then that he saw a strange craft of some sort sitting on the ground in a gravel area. He was about 200 feet from it, and was afraid to get any closer. When Gallegos first sighted the UFO, there was a ring of blue flame erupting from numerous jets around the bottom of the craft. He heard no noise, and as he watched, the flames were turned off. Gallegos did not see anyone or anything moving around outside the UFO.

He returned to his father's house and told the family about the incident, but apparently they were all too frightened to go outside to take a look. Gallegos' wife later described him as looking "badly shaken." He returned twice more, alone, to gaze in amazement at the object. He said that it was made of a shiny metallic substance, had no windows, and was as long as a telephone pole and about 14 feet in circumference. It was egg-shaped and resembled a large butane tank.

The next morning, feeling braver in the daylight, the family went out to take a look. The UFO was gone, though the ground was still smoldering! Local police were notified, and found a large charred area, strange marks in the ground resembling paw prints, and depressions similar to those found at Socorro. As a matter of fact, it is reliably reported that the ground was still smoldering twenty hours after the sighting! The charred area, seen by police, Air Force officials, and many other people, was about 20 feet in diameter. Large rocks within the area showed evidence of extreme heat, while others a few feet away were not damaged at all. Even pieces of glass and metal were found melted and fused. A police officer ventured the opinion that no fuel presently known to mankind would leave the sort of traces found at La Madera. He also felt that the evidence indicated an extreme heat of short duration. We do not yet know what conclusions, if any, were formulated by the Air Force.

TWELVE SHOTS FIRED AT FLYING SAUCER:

A news report dated April 28th, just four days after the Socorro incident, tells of another astonishing occurrence in New Mexico. Don Adams of Edgewood, N.M., saw a glowing green-colored object about 25 feet long, hovering only 100 feet above the ground, as he was driving his car late on the night of the 27th. As he drove under the object, his car stalled. (This is just one more case of the strange electromagnetic effects of saucers. - Editor.) Thereupon, the young man got out and fired six shots at the UFO, then reloaded and fired again. The first six bullets hit the saucer and were heard to bounce off it. Adams was not sure if the next six hit the object or not. By that time the UFO was drifting silently northwards. Originally, it had been directly over his head! Once the saucer had left the vicinity, his automobile performed normally again.