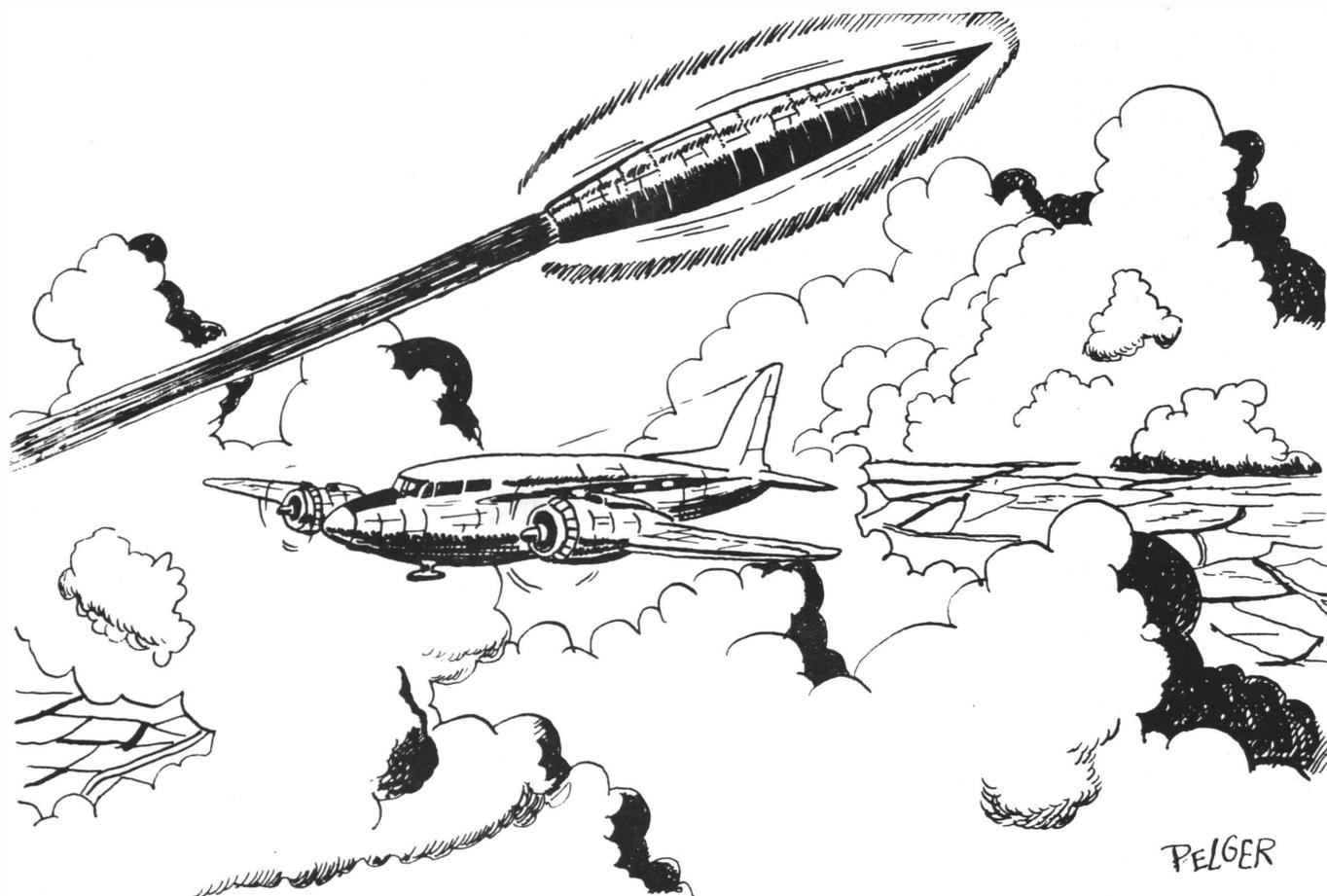


FLYING SAUCER

SUMMER 89

NO. 106

CHILES - MONTGOMERY



JUL. 24, 1948

UNITED AERIAL PHENOMENA AGENCY

DIGEST

FROM THE EDITOR

PHENOMENA, NOTES AND COMMENTARY:

Due to the ever increasing rise in paper and printing costs - our printing costs alone have gone up 28% in the past two years - we here at UAPA have decided that in order to remain in business we must, unfortunately, pass some of these increases on to you, our loyal subscribers. We have put this step off as long as humanly possible, but we are at that point now where we can no longer absorb these added costs. Our solution to the problem, we think, will be beneficial to both us and you, our readers.

Beginning on 1 October 1989 our new subscription rates will be 4 issues for \$7.00 or 8 issues for \$13.00. While this means a \$2.00 increase to our readers, it will not only allow us to remain at the break-even point but also allow us to grow in a manner to benefit our subscribers. We think you will like our planned changes.

Beginning with the Winter Issue - #108 - we will increase our size from 10 pages per issue to 14 pages per issue. We will also run more illustrations and photos in each issue. What you the readers will get is a bigger and better publication four times a year!

We could have increased the subscription price and made a tiny profit. However, a profit is not our goal! Our goal is to keep you informed as to what is happening in the UFO field. The \$2.00 per year increase will allow us to enlarge the publication, get out of the debt we are currently in, and remain at the break-even point in the future. Everyone benefits this way.

Rather than hit you with the increase immediately, we have chosen 1 October 1989 as the effective date for the price change. This gives you, the reader, a chance to renew at the old price if you so desire. Even if you have recently renewed, you may renew again before the increase. We will honor your request.

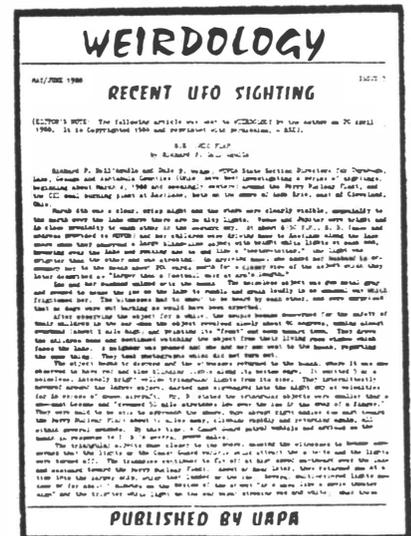
We at UAPA have been publishing since the mid-Sixties, and plan to continue publishing well into the Nineties. This small increase will help pay the bills and give us four more pages to keep you better informed on matters relating to the UFO field.

Thank you for your understanding and financial support.

ABOUT THIS COVER:

On 24 July 1948 at 2:45 A.M. Captain C. S. Chiles and First Officer John B. Whitted were flying near Montgomery, Alabama when a brilliant cigar-shaped craft came hurtling toward them.

Captain Chiles later told investigators "it flashed down toward us. It was a wingless aircraft, 100 feet long, cigar-shaped, and about twice the diameter of a B-29 with no protruding surfaces. We veered to our left, it veered to its left and passed us about 700 feet to our right and above us. The cabin appeared like a pilot compartment, only brighter. The illumination inside approximated the brilliance of a magnesium flare. We saw no occupants. From the side of the craft came an intense, fairly dark blue glow that ran the entire length of the fuselage . . . like a blue fluorescent



AJM: From the beginning we said we would never be late, and we feel we've done an outstanding job in the 22 years we've been publishing. Thanks for the nice compliment, Mr. Shantz.

* * * * *

"Just received FLYING SAUCER DIGEST number 104 along with WEIRDODOLOGY number 9. Both were excellant issues. Keep up the good work."

P. Collins
Hackensack, New Jersey

AJM: Thank you very much, Mrs. Collins. We all need a pat on the back now and then.

* * * * *

"I wanted to tell you for some time now I attended your 25th National UFO Conference in September of last year. I thought it was just great. When are you going to hold the next one in Cleveland as I don't live that far away?"

G. Scott
Columbus, Ohio

AJM: We don't know at this time, but we might put a bid in for either the 1990 or 1991 NUFOC. We also thought it was just great.

* * * * *

"I'm surprised that Peter Gersten finds 'Communion' to be obviously fictional. I say it is a true story. Some of the events described in it, such as UFO sightings, levitation of the body, missing time periods and the witnessing of other-world entities, I have personally experienced. I heartily disagree with him and with Robert S. Easley. Allan J. Manak is so right in his comments on "Ridiculous Explanations" regarding the UFO phenomena."

O. Wilson
Reading, Pennsylvania

AJM: Thank you, Mr. Wilson, for taking the time to write. We here at the UAPA have differences of opinions also, but that is what makes our publication so unique.

ANALYSIS IN ASTRONOMY

On March 27, two weeks before a dramatic low-altitude pass across the surface of Mars' moon Phobos, the unmanned Soviet spaceprobe Phobos 2 lost radio contact with Earth. At press time, Ground Controllers believed that contact was unrecoverable and deemed the mission lost. The radio problem arose when the craft could not regain "stable contact" as it turned its antenna back toward Earth after a data-collection run.

Although Phobos 2 had taken photographs of Mars and Phobos and collected other data about chemical abundances on the Martian surface, the main part of the mission was a low altitude (150 feet) cruise over the surface of the moon. During this pass, a fixed-site lander probe and a mobile "hopper" probe were to have analyzed the soil of Phobos directly.

Phobos 2 was the remaining spacecraft of a pair launched towards Mars a year ago. Last August, an erroneous command radiod to Phobos 1 caused that craft to point its antenna away from Earth and lose radio contact. Unable to receive further commands, Phobos 1 sailed past Mars this January without firing its braking rocket. Phobos 2 arrived in late January and was in a circular orbit around Mars when contact was broken.

It was unclear whether human error led to the problem with Phobos 2, but the spacecraft had also been experiencing hardware problems. It was communicating on its backup radio transmitter, and the television camera and other electrical subsystems were not functioning as planned. (This article appeared in "ASTRONOMY MAGAZINE" in the June 1989 issue, under Space News.)

MANAK'S NOTEBOOK

THE BONNIE BEREA CASE

PART 1

For the sake of recognition in the future, I'll call this the "Bonnie Berea" case. With this case I will attempt to show the reader how long and what work is desired by the researcher to be factual and at all cost, fool-proof.

Stage #1

On June 22, 1967, at approximately 9:55 p.m., I received a phone call from Mr. Don Brill, co-owner of Commerce Photo Studios and Lab here in Cleveland.

He stated to me at this time that he had just received two (2) photos of an unknown object photographed within the last month.

Upon further questioning this is what was established at this time.

1. Where were photos taken? Answer: Unknown.
2. Who took the photos? Answer: Unknown.
3. How did you receive them (the photos)? Answer: By a certain party who at this time kept anonymous, and was in the same room that Mr. Brill was upon making this particular call.
4. After learning that a go-between was involved, I continued my questions.
5. What kind of Camera was used? Answer: An insta-matic, type unknown.
6. Was there any other witness? Answer: Unknown.
7. What time were these photos taken? Answer: Around 3 a.m.
8. When were they taken? Answer: Sometime in May because anonymous said witness tried to get them developed with rest of roll and the two photos (number 9 and 10) were sent back undeveloped. This according to anonymous made witness very mad. Witness took negatives back to Drug Store for developing. Upon receiving pictures there is a date that appears on both negatives and positives. To further emphasize, said witness stated to anonymous that photos were taken two (2) or three (3) weeks earlier.
9. What is witness's name? Answer: I don't know, but if you want to talk to the go-between he is right here.



The next part of the questioning was with the go-between.

1. Who is the person who took the pictures? Answer: A woman.
2. What is her name? Answer: Let's just call her Bonnie.
3. What is your name? Answer: Withheld because party wants to be left entirely out of the story.
4. How did you receive the pictures? Answer: She gave them to me. You see she was showing them to people where she works. Everybody was laughing at her except an airlines pilot and myself.
5. Do you work where she does? Answer: Yes.
6. You mean she just gave them to you? Answer: Well not exactly. I know her and she was upset because no one would believe her story.
7. Do you? Answer: I don't know, well yes, you see I believe in flying saucers.

Author's Note: This is the first time I suspected the said witness did not take these pictures.

I then asked to speak to Don again.

1. Well Don, what do you think? Answer: I don't know. There's something on the pictures all right. But I'll need the negatives.
2. Can you get them? Answer: Yes, the go-between said she (Bonnie) would give them up if she could get a couple of blow-ups back in return.
3. When do you get the negatives? Answer: Tomorrow evening or Saturday (6/23 or 6/24).
4. Call me when you get them. Answer: Will do.

Stage #2

Saturday, June 24, 1967, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brill. I arrived at the Brill's home at approximately 1 p.m. At this session I learned the following details of said sighting.

1. The pictures were returned to the witness by the go-between in exchange for the negatives.
2. The witness wanted the negatives back by Monday, June 26, 1967.
3. I would meet the go-between if I could be at the Brill home at 8 p.m., June 26, 1967.
4. The go-between would not know I would be at the Brill home.
5. The witness had told the go-between that someone had made contact with her. She was to hand over all pictures and negatives.

Stage #3

At approximately 7:55 p.m., June 26, 1967, I along with Mr. Ron Pelger arrived at the Brill home.

- A. The so-called go-between had already been there and had picked up the negatives at the request of the witness.
- B. The go-between had admitted that the witness was frightened by the telephone call she had received Saturday, stating that this party would pick up the pictures and negatives Monday. This being Monday evening, she was starting to panic.
- C. At approximately 8:45 p.m. the go-between came back to the Brill home to pick up the pictures that had been made in the form of 8 x 10 glossy, black and white blow-ups.
- D. Mr. Pelger and myself proceeded to question the go-between.

Evaluation of third session:

- A. The blow-ups were in question - answer appears following.
- B. The go-between seemed very much interested in finding out the evaluation.
- C. He seemed to be telling the truth.
- D. He was not shaken by certain questions that were meant to be very objective.
- E. He seemed sincere and honest.

Author's Note: After questioning the go-between for over forty-five (45) minutes, he made a telephone call to the witness asking her if it would be all right for Mr. Pelger and I to talk with her that very same night (one hour later to be exact).

1. At this time we learned for the first time where the witness worked.
 - (a) It was a restaurant-cafe.
 - (b) It was in the City of Berea.
2. Again, it was emphasized that all names would remain very confidential and on file only at the UAPA headquarters.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This ends Part 1. Part 2 of this two-part analysis will appear in the next issue, #107, of FLYING SAUCER DIGEST. - RSE).

FOREMOST SIGHTING THIS ISSUE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This article, written by Elton Roberts of the Fort Payne, Alabama Times Journal, was published on 14 February 1989. - RSE)

From Grove Oak to Licksillet, numerous sightings of a mysterious aircraft described as "a silent thing straking through the dark" Friday night prompted a deluge of calls to the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office.

Observed by numerous law enforcement officers and private citizens across south DeKalb County, the aircraft mystified and terrified residents.

The first report came at 8:42 p.m. when a Grove Oak woman informed the Fyffe Police Department that she had watched the object for over an hour with a pair of binoculars.

The woman, who later asked not to be identified, said the hovering aircraft appeared to be the shape of a banana with the curve side upright. "There was a red light on each end and a white light in a line between them. The top of the curve was outlined in green light."

She said that when the craft turned, the green lights splayed outward "like fireworks" in a circular shape.

Police Chief Junior Garmany and assistant chief Fred Works were dispatched to check the phenomenon. According to Garmany, when the officers arrived the aircraft was still hovering. "It was completely silent," he said. "We got out of the car and we turned off the engine and the radio. When we started towards it, it began moving away."

The police chief said the officers followed the object from Tenbroeck to Dawson, a distance of about 12 miles. Then the aircraft suddenly reversed direction and silently flew over the heads of the startled officers.

"We figured it was going about three or four hundred miles an hour," Garmany said. The officers estimated the aircraft's altitude at 1,000 to 1,500 feet, but they were able to get a good look at it.

"It looked like an airplane at first, and it was moving fast," Works said. "But it didn't make a sound."

"It was bigger than a jumbo jet," Garmany said. According to the officers the shape was difficult to describe, but appeared roundish, with flashing green, white and red lights along the sides. White lights dotted the bottom, "like landing lights."

Works said the white lights underneath appeared to be shining upward, illuminating the bottom of the aircraft.

After the aircraft left, it was spotted by a state trooper and by police officers in Crossville, Geraldine, and Collinsville. On one occasion, police officers reportedly saw three of the aircraft at one time.

The DeKalb County Sheriff's Office received over 50 telephone calls about the sightings. One call came from a terrified Licksillet resident. "He was about to have a heart attack and his wife was screaming," an official said. "He said it came over at treetop level and that he had shot at it with a 12-gauge shotgun."

Airport officials in Birmingham, Huntsville, and at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery were unable to explain the sightings. A Weather Service official said the description "doesn't match any kind of weather balloon we have."

The woman who first sighted the craft said she hoped officials would be able to logically explain the phenomenon. "I'd love to know what it is," she said. "I'm not crazy and I don't go around chasing UFOs."



AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD

UFO CAUSES RADAR MALFUNCTION?

The following report comes from the East Hampton, New York Star of February 9th, 1989, under the byline of Russell Drumm. While it's not a "spectacular" case, the fact that the strange object sighted by the crew of a fishing boat may have had some effect on the boat's radar set is somewhat unique. While there are many cases of UFOs causing problems with air and ground type radar, I have personally seen few reports relating to marine radar equipment.

The 30-foot fishing boat 'Jibber' had just rounded Shagwong Point on Monday, January 30th, after leaving Montauk Harbor. From Shagwong, fishermen get their first view of the Montauk Lighthouse they must round en route to the cod grounds called CIA.

For about ten minutes, as the 'Jibber' moved east, Capt. David Gaviola watched a strange light on the water just north of the Montauk Lighthouse, a light that seemed to come from an even stranger shape in the sky. Bobby Van Velsor and another crew member stood on the balkdeck shucking bait clams, unaware of the light for which Captain Gaviola was fast running out of explanations.

When he did see it, Mr. Van Velsor said, "It was very bright like a star," a beam of light to the ocean "like it was searching for something."

Captain Gaviola said he at first changed course slightly, heading north toward the light. But when he got closer - close enough to have heard the sound of a helicopter had there been one - fear boarded the 'Jibber.'

Suddenly, the radar quit. "That's when I started to freak," Captain Gaviola said. He turned off the running lights and 'Jibber's' engine. The light, which both Mr. Van Velsor and Captain Gaviola described as square-shaped as it appeared in the distance, was less than a mile away and there was still no sound.

"I was thinking seriously about jumping," Mr. Van Velsor said, even though the choice between an even closer encounter and the 200-yard swim in January was not a good one. The strange light, which they decided was an object, moved toward the boat and up, "bobbing around and moving side to side" as it did, the Captain recalled.

"I really thought it was going to stop right over us," he said, adding that the object had a "different kind of light" and was triangular or diamond-shaped when seen from the closer vantage. Captain Gaviola said it appeared to be a craft about 150 feet long.

"It turned belly-up and then cruised west, then south, climbing higher until it disappeared," he said.

The 'Jibber's' radar started again as mysteriously as it had stopped. The boat continued on to the cod grounds where its three-man crew spent the rest of the day yanking cod into an alien world, and wondering how close they may have been to the same fate.

Although the crew of the 'Jibber' was reluctant to advertise the strange experience, word crept out.

Among some of the initial words of derision one might expect were, they reported, it was a "cod beam," and "You'd better check behind their ears," and "did it have rod holders?" There also was some serious reflection on the part of fishermen over unexplained sightings of their own at sea.

The 'Jibber's' crew seemed convinced that something was looking at something before dawn on January 30th off Montauk Point and that whatever it was knocked out the boat's electronics.

And one of the three fishermen, at least, wondered if the good cod fishing could have had anything to do with it. "It did turn out to be one of the two best trips of the year," he said.

THREE SEE UFO OVER NEVADA

Later on the same day as the previous report from the fishermen off Mantauk Point when a strange object approached their fishing boat, a mysterious oval something was on the prowl over the state of Nevada - possibly looking for another kind of catch?

Elaine Goldman would like someone to tell her what it was she saw on her way home

to Battle Mountain that Monday evening. Failing that, she would at least like to know that someone else saw what she, her sister and her aunt observed in the skies over northeastern Nevada.

The three women were driving west on Interstate 80 at about 5:00 p.m., Goldman said, and were about 28 miles from Battle Mountain when they first sighted the object. "At first, it looked like a star, but it was so light outside," Goldman said.

As they drew nearer to the object, which Goldman said sat motionless hundreds of feet above Interstate 80, they began to realize that this was no star.

"We were close enough to it to tell it wasn't an airplane or a helicopter, either," Goldman said. "I got kind of nervous."

She described the thing as "kind of like an oval" in shape, its size difficult to pinpoint because of the distance involved, and bathed in a red glow. Two short streams of what appeared to be smoke emanated from the center of the oval, Goldman said, adding the streams in no way resembled the contrails of a jet aircraft.

At each end of the oval was a flashing red light, which could have accounted for the glow, the Battle Mountain woman added.

Goldman said she and her relatives kept the object in sight for 10 - 15 minutes before they passed directly beneath it. And then it was gone. "It just disappeared," she said. "It was there and then it wasn't."

The object may have vanished, but not Goldman's curiosity about what it could have been. A check at the Federal Aviation Administration Office in Elko provided little assistance - the official on duty said there were no UFO sightings reported there Monday.

But Goldman says she is hopeful that someone will come forward to corroborate her sighting. "I'm sure somebody else had to have seen it," she said.

UFO CAUGHT ON VIDEO TAPE IN WASHINGTON STATE?

The following possible photographic case was reported in the Skagit Valley Herald of Mount Vernon, Washington by staffer Mary Barough:

It wasn't until 16-year-old Alfred Chan watched his videotape that he saw a barely discernable object hurtling over the roof tops of the city.

Was it a bird? Was it a plane? (A typical inane insertion made by reporters since "day one" that somehow slants the story to make the witness seem a bit less than "responsible" to some people reading the story. What a shame that after forty-two years we still have this trite comic book association being used! - R.R.H.)

While others who have seen the tape are skeptical, Chan, a sophomore at Oak Harbor High School, thinks the object might be a UFO.

"I'm glad to have evidence, because I know there is something out there," Chan said.

He said he knows his story will be greeted with disbelief, but he prefers to let people know apparent phenomena from outer space "can be seen anywhere, even in daylight. And it doesn't have to be in the deserts of Arizona."

Chan is a member of the ROTC Drill Team at school, and in his spare time plays basketball and football. He also seeks information about UFOs in television documentaries and discounts science fiction movies as "silly."

His father, Dominic, a retired Navy Petty Officer, said he can't find any logical explanation for the mysterious object and is willing to believe it's a UFO.

Anyway, "people see what they want to see," when looking at the tape; he commented on whether viewers are willing to believe it's an object from another world.

The tape shows a small dark object in the lower corner of the screen that rapidly disappears. Then through the clouds, the light seems to reflect off the classic shape of a flying saucer, the type depicted in 1950s science fiction movies.

The whole shadowy scene takes a matter of seconds on the screen.

