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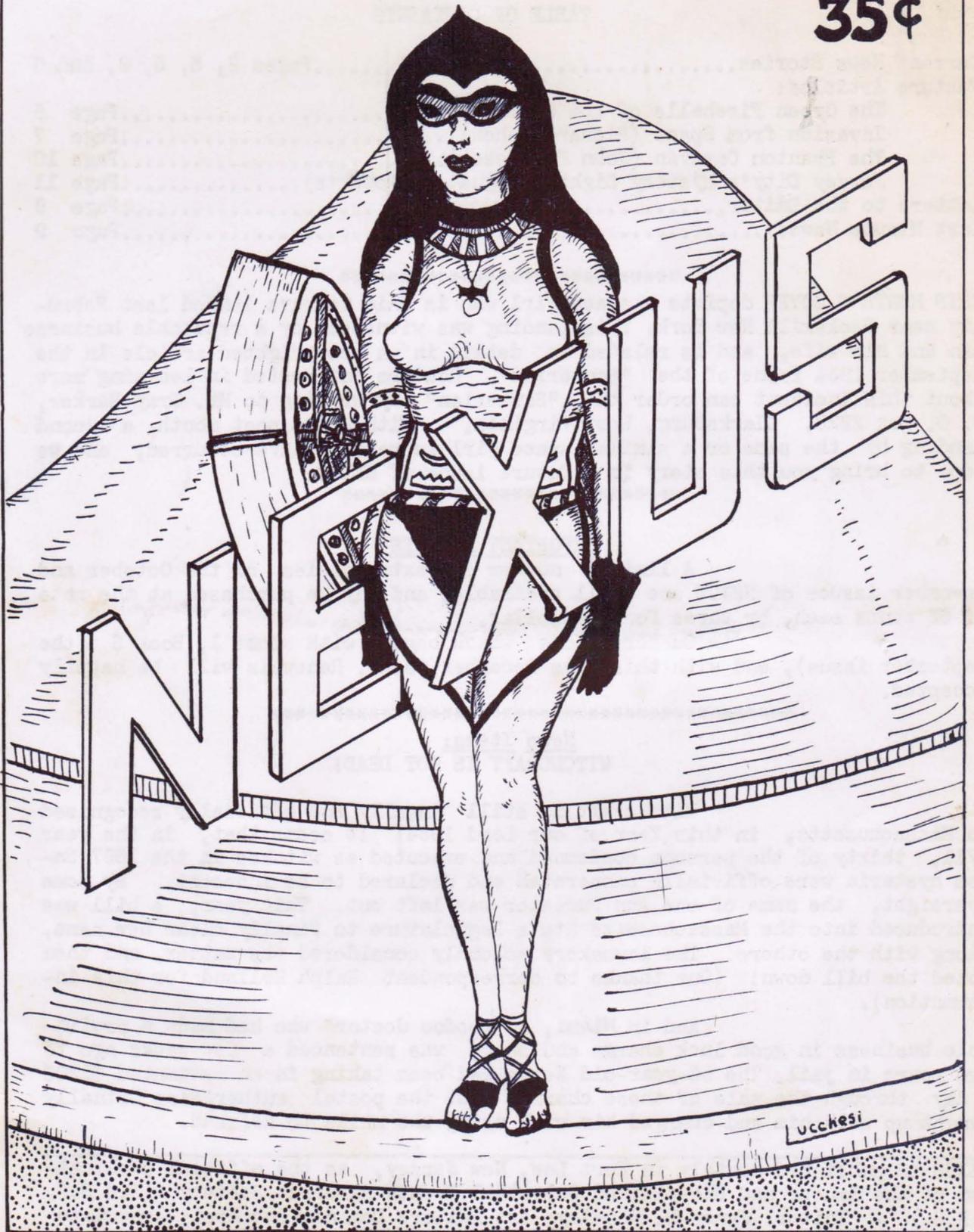


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Current News Stories.....Pages 2, 3, 6, 8, and 9
 Feature Articles:
 The Green Fireballs of the Southwest.....Page 5
 Invasion from Space (Richard Cohen).....Page 7
 The Phantom Caravan (John P. Bessor).....Page 10
 Jersey City's Mystery Lights (August C. Roberts).....Page 11
 Letters to the Editor.....Page 9
 Last Minute News.....Page 9

THIS MONTH'S COVER depicts a space girl who is said to have landed last February near Peekskill New York. This landing was witnessed by a reputable business man and his wife, and is related in detail in a copyrighted article in the September 1954 issue of the "Saucerian". Readers interested in learning more about this incident can order the "Saucerian" by writing to Mr. Gray Barker, P. O. Box 2228, Clarksburg, West Virginia. - Within the past month, a second landing by the same or a similar space girl is said to have occurred, and we hope to bring you this story in a future issue of NEXUS.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

A limited number of extra copies of the October and November issues of NEXUS are still available, and may be purchased at the rate of 35 cents each, or three for one dollar.

Subscriptions which began with Tome 1, Book 3 (the September issue), end with this, the December issue. Renewals will be happily accepted.

News Items:

WITCHCRAFT IS NOT DEAD!

Witchcraft is still legally and officially recognized in Massachusetts, in this Year of our Lord 1954! It seems that, in the year 1711, thirty of the persons condemned and executed as witches in the 1667 Salem hysteria were officially exonerated and declared to be innocent. By some oversight, the name of one Ann Pudeator was left out. This year, a bill was introduced into the Massachusetts State Legislature to finally clear her name, along with the others. The lawmakers solemnly considered the matter, and then voted the bill down! (Our thanks to correspondent Ralph Holland for this information).

And in Miami, a "voodoo doctor" who had made a profitable business in good luck charms and such, was sentenced a few weeks ago to two years in jail. The 55-year-old Negro had been taking in an estimated \$1200 a day through the sale of these charms, but the postal authorities finally caught up with him and charged him with using the mails to defraud.

NEXUS is published monthly in Fort Lee, New Jersey, as the official publication of the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society (S.A.U.C.E.R.S.) - Editor: James W. Moseley; Art Editor: Dominic Lucchesi; Associate-Editor: Richard Cohen; Contributing Editors: Dominic Lucchesi, John P. Bessor, and August Roberts - Subscription price: 35 cents per single issue; \$1.00 for four copies; \$3.00 per year. Address all correspondence to NEXUS, P. O. Box 163, Fort Lee, New Jersey, and please make checks payable to the Editor.

SAUCER LANDINGS

Last month stories from Europe concerning the landing of flying saucers, began coming in so fast that it proved impossible for us to give them all to you correctly. Those readers with an interest in details will please note that the story "Airborne Monsters in Portugal" on Page 3 of the November issue, is actually a different version of the same Portuguese landing described on Page 14. For some reason, the several newspaper accounts of this incident are at wide variance, but the gist of the story seems to be that one or more witnesses near Castelbranco, Portugal, saw two aluminum-clad figures emerge from a saucer; A little later the tall figures climbed back inside their saucer, and took off at high speed.

Here's one landing report that we received in time for last month's issue but accidentally omitted: A news clipping from Perpignan, France, dated October 16th, has it that a retired French customs official saw a flying saucer land and a tall man dressed in a diver's suit step out. This Frenchman, named Damien Sigueres, described the saucer as a large red sphere. He added that the saucer occupant quickly jumped back into his craft and took off rapidly, but noiselessly, when he saw Sigueres' two dogs. - On the other hand, a report from Chaleix, France, dated October 8th, states that a man there named Garreau saw two men dressed in khaki land in a saucer; Among other things, these Visitors petted Monsieur Garreau's dog. - This leaves us here at NEXUS Headquarters in a state of confusion as to whether space men like dogs or not. Apparently, some do and some don't.

And still the parade of landings continues! From Montlucon, France, comes the story of a flying saucer pilot who tried to refuel his twelve-foot-long torpedo shaped machine at the expense of the French railroad. A railroad worker there caught the pilot and his saucer next to a diesel oil tank; He asked the space man, who either was covered with hair or was wearing a long, hairy overcoat, what he wanted. The man said something that the railroader could not make out, but he thought he heard the word "gasoil". The workman went off to report the incident to the stationmaster, but before he had gone 100 yards, the strange machine took off and vanished.

Due to incidents such as this, the situation in France has become so bad that at least one town has taken steps to stop such occurrences. On October 27th, the mayor of the village of Chateau-Neuf-du-Pape, issued a decree forbidding flying saucers to land; He ordered the local constable to impound any saucers which disobeyed. The mayor said the decree was necessary because such strange aircraft "would be of a nature to disturb public order and the tranquility of the inhabitants". - But not everyone in France is so narrow-minded. An innkeeper in Brittany has placed an advertisement in his local paper, offering \$35,000 to anyone who will bring him a Martian alive. (So far, no one has collected the \$35,000).

Here are a few other French landings of the past several weeks: Jean Narcy, a road mender of Haute-Marne, was riding to work on his bicycle when he saw, in a wheat field, a little whiskered man just under four feet tall. Monsieur Narcy said "hello", whereupon the little man muttered something like "I'll be seeing you", and jumped into a flying saucer, which took off with a buzzing sound and disappeared into the clouds. - Near the town of Lavoux, a Martian stopped Monsieur Roger Barrault. He (the Martian, that is), had brilliant eyes, an enormous mustach, wore rubbers, and spoke Latin. -

Another Martian asked Monsieur Pierre-Lucas, a Breton baker, for a light. Monsieur Lucas couldn't remember what language he spoke. - In the Cotes-du-Nord district, a traveling salesman saw a wonderful sight: a deep rose flying saucer from which stepped a zebra-striped space man. As he alighted, he changed color, cameleon-like, from yellow to green.

The space men have marched en masse into French affairs, and as the frequency of their appearances increased, they even gained respectability. The newspaper "Le Figaro" reported: "Counsellor General of Alpes Maritimes greets flying saucers' first appearance on the Riviera". - "France Soir" announced that "a daily flying saucer service seems to have been established between the towns of Marais Poitevin and La Rochelle". - And a man from space even made the social columns of "Paris Presse": "Mustached Martian spends weekend in Vienna" - (Sorry, we don't have any further details on the Vienna landing, if there was one).

In Vron (France), two youths stumbled across a flying saucer as they returned from work. "Strange little men" were clustered around it, but as soon as the youths drew near, the little men hurried back inside, and the saucer took off. - A "moon-shaped" machine, a type which has never been sighted in France before, touched down near Lusignac; - At Poncey-sur-Lignon, a small village near Dijon, a saucer landed and left strange markings on the ground. These markings were examined by the entire village, as well as photographed. - Another landing, at Diges, was witnessed by Gisele Fins, a fifteen year old farm girl. Said Mme Fins, "the pilot looked just like the men who live around here". (This statement leads NEXUS to assume that either this particular little man was not so little, or else that the Diges section of France is overrun with midgets). - Some children at Sainte Claude watched the landing of a saucer "of such a vivid color that it looked like the metal was burning". The occupant was described by the children as looking like "a giant lump of sugar". - Two inhabitants of Lezignan saw a disc thirty feet in diameter land in a field between the villages of Lagrasse and Aude. When they approached it, the machine flashed a blinding light on them, and made the usual get-away. - In Megrit, a farmer named Henri Lehrisse saw a machine only one yard in diameter land in his courtyard. He saw inside of it two human forms, looking like children. The machine remained in the yard only a few seconds before taking to the air again.

Other landings, similar to those recounted above, were reported in Jettinger, La Rochelle, Bergerac, Limoges, Breuil-Chausee, Charante, Lievin, and Maisoncelles - all in France. In addition, there have been scores of European saucer sightings recently, other than landings; In Yugoslavia, for example, saucers have been seen by astronomical observatories, weather bureaus, and air fields throughout the country, and a serious investigation has been launched by the government.

On the other hand, there are a few scattered signs that the saucer craze overseas is starting to wane. In Lille, France, a miner admitted that he was responsible for many of the saucers seen in that area. The miner built his saucers out of strong grey paper and gasoline-soaked rags. He claimed that he has made over 1000 of them! However, only one of his "saucers" has been found by the police. - And in Italy, police took a dim view of an admission by 15 youths that they had started a Martian landing story. The youths were charged with spreading false rumors, and face a possible jail sen-

(Continued on Page 6)

("Dr. D.", who is an atomic scientist, has personal reasons for not wanting his identity revealed in NEXUS).

It should be clear that the "green fireballs", or "green lights" as they were called in New Mexico when I lived there, are very different objects from the round or oval "flying saucers". The "saucers" typically are seen to hover, make sharp turns, vary their speed, and maneuver a great deal. The "fireballs" travel in straight lines without making turns, always travel at high speed, never hover, and last only a few seconds. We might compare the "saucers" to flying-wing type aircraft of circular shape, and the "green fireballs" to meteors or "falling stars".

The Air Force has not made public any analysis of the numerous reports of "green light" sightings in the Southwestern United States. However, in the Air Force's final official "Project Grudge" report, issued by Air Materiel Command Headquarters in August 1949, Prof. J. Allen Hyneck, of McMillin Observatory, Columbus Ohio, stated his personal opinion that the "green fireball" reports were caused by some secret U.S. research activity being conducted in the Southwest. This statement, of course, has not been widely publicized by the Air Force.

An explanation of this "secret research activity" can be found in the unclassified and openly published article "The First Night-Firing of a V-2 Rocket in the United States", by Dr. Fritz Zwicky, in the Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Vol. 59, page 32, February, 1947. This describes the start of a U.S. Government-sponsored program for producing artificial meteors (fireballs) at White Sands, New Mexico. Such artificial meteors would have appeared at about the times and places at which "green lights" were reported, and would have had the same appearance. What more proof is needed that this was the cause of the "green fireballs"? It is significant that the Air Force has never said one word about the work described by Zwicky, although it has often been asked to comment on the "strange coincidence".

In case the "world wide" appearance of green fireballs is considered to rule out the above explanation, it should be noted that the foreign sightings before Zwicky's work started were in the Baltic Sea area; Now, this just happens to be the only other place in the world where V-2 rockets were being fired at that time, by the Russians and their captured German rocket scientists. It seems quite probable that they were conducting their own upper-atmosphere research, using "artificial meteors" produced by methods similar to the one described in Dr. Zwicky's article.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Lincoln LaPaz of Albuquerque was one of the official participants in the White Sands tests described by Dr. Zwicky. LaPaz has often said, since, that he believes the "green fireballs" to be man-made. (See last page of May 16, 1953, Sat. Eve. Post article on Dr. LaPaz). However, he has never seen fit to mention the published articles by Dr. Zwicky which describe the work. Other groups which participated in the tests would bear watching by those sincerely interested in solving the riddle of the "flying saucers" and "green fireballs". These include the Applied Physics Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University at Silver Springs, Md., the New Mexico School of Mines, and the Army Ordinance Department.

An amateur astronomer at Los Alamos, New Mexico, who had himself witnessed eleven green fireballs from December 1949 to April 1950, stated at a meeting of the Los Alamos Aerophysical Association in 1950 that in his opinion the "green lights" were not natural meteors. His reasons were: (a) the "green lights" lasted about five seconds each, whereas natural meteors last about one second only. (b) the brilliant green color would be rather unusual for a natural meteor. (c) the "green lights" travelled horizontally, while the natural meteors usually have a vertical direction. (d) the "green lights" travelled in North-South or South-North directions, while natural meteors would tend to move toward the East or West more frequently. (Incidentally, White Sands is South of Los Alamos). Other observers at Los Alamos had reported seeing the "green lights" break up into a shower of red sparks on occasion.

At least one triangulation of the height and speed of a "green light" was carried out, using reports from two New Mexico cities a number of miles apart. This triangulation was in the official files, and it proved that the fireball was at about ten miles altitude and traveling at a speed of several miles per second. This is about what would be expected of an "artificial meteor" as described by Dr. Zwicky in his article in "Ordinance" Magazine, July-August, 1947. (Natural meteors usually are much faster, traveling at speeds of about five to twenty miles per second).

CIGAR-SHAPED STARS, YET!

This story goes to show how easy it is to talk oneself into anything - or out of anything: On September 2nd, some people in Upland, California, thought they saw a flying saucer. A news report from Upland dated September 4 notes that one Alfred Berg of that city saw it too, but Mr. Berg's comments were:

"I saw that object in the sky but it looked to me more like a star. The streaks shooting from it were probably sparks from a star. I have been reading about it in the paper and I think it's a big joke, because I saw that same light other people saw, and although it was shaped like a **cigar**, I'm sure it was a star."

SAUCER LANDINGS (Continued from Page 4)

tences and stiff fines.

But with sensational sightings and landings continuing to pour into our Headquarters almost daily, the saucer situation in Europe is still at a peak even greater than those weeks in the summer of 1952 when citizens all over the United States were reporting saucers by the hundreds. We of NEXUS do not claim that we've received all the landing reports that have been made in the last few months, but our score for the summer and fall of 1954 now stands as follows: One each from Ontario; Canada; Norway; Austria; Belgium; Germany; Portugal; and Clearwater, Kansas, U.S.A; and at least 23 from France!

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INVASION FROM SPACE

by Richard Cohen, Associate Editor of NEXUS

As I write these lines, a fantastic, wonderful story is being unfolded in Europe. It is clear that the Space Visitors' plans for the peaceful invasion of this Planet have now reached the Second Stage.

In the First Stage, begun many hundreds of years ago, our Visitors allowed their space craft to be seen only occasionally, and at high altitudes. Thus they gradually conditioned us earth-bound mortals to witness wonders in the skies without fear or panic. After the explosion of the first atomic bombs, the pace of these visitations was stepped up considerably, for our Space Friends could see that we were hurrying faster than ever down the road of self-destruction.

Now, with the third (and last!) World War just around the corner, the Visitors are again stepping up the pace of their activities in a desperate attempt to head off the total destruction of human life on this planet. Thus we have entered the Second Stage, in which frequent landings are made by individual "scout ships" (saucers) in isolated areas. As far back as 1950, I predicted that these isolated landings would begin within a few years, and the scores of landings in Europe during the last two months attest to the accuracy of my prediction!

Even now there are ignorant, narrow-minded people who refuse to believe that the Space Visitors even exist! But by the end of the Second Stage, there will be few left who doubt! For throughout the world, within the next weeks and months, there will be hundreds more of these landings. Finally, when all but the most barbaric of our citizens are convinced of the reality and peaceful intentions of our Visitors, Earth will at last be all ready for the Third and final Stage - the peaceful invasion of Earth by the forces of the Space Confederacy. We can only hope that this will happen before it is too late - before some maniac in Washington or Moscow pushes the button which will mean the total destruction of life on earth by means of nuclear bombs!

Those of us who realize the Plan that is being unfolded before us, must do all we can to hasten the completion of the Plan. I would advise any person who sees a saucer to do everything possible, both mentally and physically, to assure the Visitors of his friendly intentions; I would particularly advise anyone fortunate enough to witness a landing to follow this idea. Never must we give any evidence of hostility, for unfriendly actions or thoughts toward the Visitors merely delay completion of their Plan; and as I have already said, too much delay might prove fatal to the whole human race!

Therefore, let us all hope and pray for the day when the invasion from Space will be completed. Then, under the fatherly guidance of our Space Friends, we will be led at last onto the path of Peace and Happiness that we have been unable to find in all these thousands of years in which human progress has been unaided by the Visitors.

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For a complete line of books on occult and metaphysical subjects, visit JAMES S. RIGBERG, Inc. - 1597 Third Ave., New York City. Phone: Filmore 8-6507.

OUTSTANDING RADAR SIGHTING MADE BY CONTROL TOWER OPERATOR

(The following story is not a recent one, but we found it extremely interesting, and present it here as typical of many similar sightings that are in our files. The information below is quoted from a letter which was written to one of our subscribers, and which this subscriber kindly passed along to us. - We have been requested to omit names and geographical locations.)

"I was a Control Tower Operator in the Air Force during World War Two and was recalled to active duty in September, 1951. It was during this tour of duty that I first grew interested in this saucer business.

"One evening during the 'graveyard watch' in the Control Tower, along about 3 A.M., on a clear moonlit night, a buddy of mine who was radar operator on the same night shift called me rather excitedly on the intercom, and asked me if I could see any object in the sky about 15 miles Southwest of the Base. Using a pair of powerful binoculars I carefully scanned the sky in that direction, and assured him that I could see nothing. It was then that he told me why he was so concerned; For several minutes he had tracked an object on his radar scope; then all of a sudden it had stopped at a range of about 15 miles from the Base and remained stationary. Being an experienced radar operator, he knew that whatever it was, it was of good size, at least as big as any of our larger transport planes. But what amazed him was that it stopped and remained motionless on the scope; A full half hour passed and still the object remained in the same location on the radar scope.

"Remembering that I had an inbound Globemaster coming in from that direction, I thought that perhaps the pilot would see something out there that we couldn't. I gave the pilot a couple of calls and finally raised him just south of town on his way in. I told him what we had on radar and asked him if he would mind swinging off his course slightly so that he could take a look for us. I then turned him over to the radar operator, who had picked up the inborne aircraft on radar, and he guided the pilot to a new heading that would bring him directly into this 'blip', which was still stationary on the screen. The pilot slowed his aircraft and he and his co-pilot started looking about them. I could hear the radar man giving the pilot directions on a monitoring speaker in the Tower.

"The aircraft got onto a line on the radar screen that would intersect the unidentified 'blip'. Then as the minutes went by, the aircraft slowly approached the unidentified object, and both 'blips' were equally bright and distinct. Then when it seemed that the two would collide, at about a half mile separation on the scope, the stationary object simply disappeared. It vanished seconds before the big Globemaster reached its location.

"None of the crew on the plane had seen anything at any time, although they were all observing closely at the time and were told how close they were getting to the unidentified object. How anything could vanish so suddenly from a radar screen without even leaving a trace of what direction it went in, is really amazing, especially when you bear in mind that a radar scanner usually has a sweep of better than 50 miles. That would mean that whatever the object was, it went from a dead standstill at 15 miles and disappeared from the scope (thus covering over 35 miles) - in a split second! Certainly this could not be any type of natural phenomenon."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concerning Bessor's article (in the November issue) - I find his attitude ever so slightly hysterical...His reference to geographical routes doesn't sound too convincing. I have, in my own files, many references to New York and Pennsylvania sightings. I think that here is an example of saucer sleuthing where the researcher can consciously or unconsciously push around the facts to fit his own particular theory. For who, outside of possibly Wright-Patterson Field personnel, has the complete listing of all sightings and geographical locations?....This also applies to "Dr. D."

TED BLOECHER
Kenvil, N.J.

I would like to become a member of the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society. Are there any membership dues?

WILLIAM RISDON
New York, N.Y.

(Membership in the S.A.U.C.E.R.S. is automatic with subscription to NEXUS, and there are no dues or other charges other than the cost of subscription-EDITOR)

AIR FORCE ADMITS FLYING SAUCERS ARE REAL!

The following is a quote from the latest Air Force release concerning flying saucers: "The Air Force's interest in unidentified flying objects is twofold: First, as a possible threat to the security of the United States and its forces; and secondly, to determine technical aspects involved.....To date, the flying objects reported have imposed no threat to the security of the United States and its Possessions. However, the possibility that new air vehicles, hostile aircraft or missiles may first be regarded as flying objects by the initial observer is real. This requires that sightings be reported as rapidly and as completely as information permits."

Subscribers interested in obtaining the full report should write to the Office of Public Information, Department of Defense, Washington 25, D.C. Ask for Air Force Regulation No. 200-2, dated August 12, 1954 and entitled "Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting".

LAST MINUTE NEWS

It seems that the saucer landings in France will never stop! Two Basques claim to have seen two strange little creatures standing next to a saucer-shaped machine. The humorous angle to this story is that, translated into English, the name of the man telling of this adventure is "blind", the man who made the sighting is named "liar", and the place where the incident occurred is "the house of liars". Yet, I imagine that this story is as reliable as most of the others....The following item may be very significant: A French restaurant proprietor reported that while motorcycling between the towns of Toulon and Heyeres, he saw a man stepping out of a flying saucer, and asked him, "Are you a Martian?"; to which the man, who was dressed in overalls, replied, "No, I am French. Where am I?" The man then re-entered his craft and made a rapid vertical ascent....It had to happen! The landing craze has spread to the U.S.A! In Los Angeles, a man reported seeing a saucer land in MacArthur Park. A little man in a white suit got out, and a truck then came and carted away both the saucer and the little man. The observer said that he would have gotten the license number of the truck, except that the Los Angeles smog closed in on him at that moment, and he could not see any more. The witness refused to give his name "because everybody would think I was crazy".....

THE PHANTOM CARAVAN

by John P. Bessor

(This is an amazing true story, reprinted here from the Psychic News, by permission of the author).

In June 1851, a caravan of sixty covered wagons, bound for the gold country in California, entirely vanished. In 1867 the caravan was sighted in the Gila River country. In 1872 it was observed in the Painted Desert of Arizona.

In 1886, it was noticed several times near the Grand Canyon of Arizona. In 1901, it was seen traveling across a stretch of desert near Death Valley, in California.

In 1922, a Dr. MacNurlen saw the caravan in the Funeral Mountains. It drew up and made camp for the night close to his tent. He could hear the mooing of the cattle, the clanking of chains, and the creaking of the huge wagons. Fires were made, and although he saw people busily engaged in their chores, he heard not a sound from them.

He saw them building camp fires, and saw some pass scarcely 20 feet away from him. The fires died out, the moon rose, but the doctor observed that the wagons cast no shadows. He observed a sentinel standing nearby. Suddenly, he heard a whistling in the air and the sentinel crumpled to earth with an arrow in his chest.

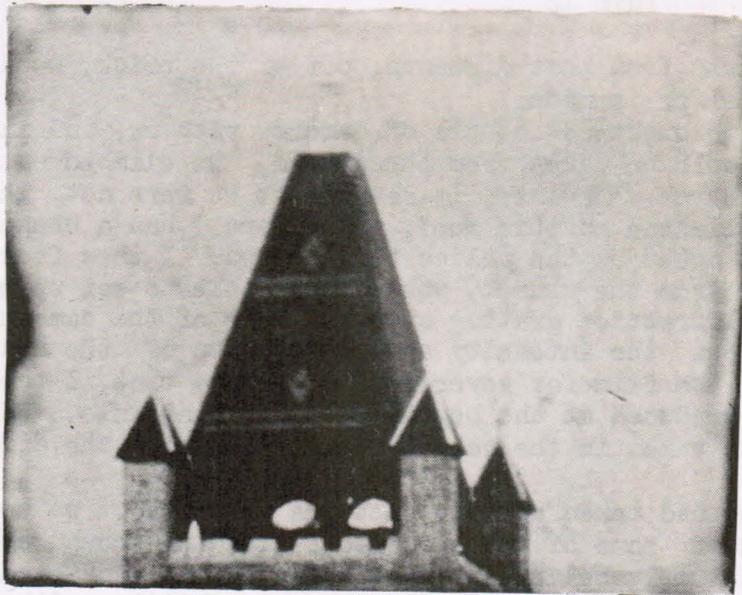
The sentinel must have screamed, for suddenly the camp was aroused. The camp fires were doused with water, the hissing sounds being clearly audible. Men dropped behind wagons and began firing. The battle with the Indians lasted only a short while. He observed the wounded drifting back to camp in groups, some apparently badly wounded.

In the grey dawn, he saw the oxen placed beneath the yokes, the long whips curled above them, as the wagon train crossed a stream of water and disappeared in the distance.

Several years later, Bert Slater of Payson, Arizona, was driving from Flagstaff to Phoenix in his car. It broke down in Skull Valley. He camped at the spot and drifted off to sleep. Suddenly he awoke to see a covered wagon train, drawn by oxen, emerge from out of the darkness and make camp under the clear, star-lit sky.

Camp fires were lit. Children played as their parents engaged in their chores. Although the camp was but fifty yards from him, he heard not a sound. Though bewildered, Slater fell asleep again; He awoke before dawn, but saw no trace of the wagon encampment, nor did he see any traces of wheels or ashes from the fire.

A similar spectral wagon train has been observed in South Africa. It is said that a group of Dutch settlers vanished mysteriously there, and a spectral battle was re-enacted before a startled observer - a battle which showed how the group met their unfortunate end.



(Page 11)

JERSEY CITY'S
MYSTERY LIGHTS

Photograph and
story by
AUGUST C. ROBERTS

On May 15th of this year, I read the following headline in our local paper: SEXTON DIES LOOKING FOR MYSTERY LIGHTS! The article went on to explain that since Good Friday, strange and mysterious lights had been seen coming from the belfry of St. Joseph's Catholic Church here in Jersey City. According to the newspapers, Matthew Guarino, the 64-year-old sexton, had told his grandson and another church worker that he intended to go up into the church belfry to investigate the lights. Then, after having had no word from Guarino for over fourteen hours, his two friends went into the belfry looking for him. They found him two levels below, hunched over a seat in the organ loft. Police and ambulance service were immediately called for, and the sexton was pronounced dead of a heart attack.

Upon reading this startling article, I immediately phoned two fellow saucer researchers, Ted Bloecher and Marty Meyerson, who agreed to visit St. Joseph's with me that night. But before they arrived, and while it was still daylight, I drove past the church, and saw for myself that there were two reflections on the ceiling of the belfry. These reflections were something like those that would be caused by someone shining a light on the wall of a glossy painted room. Unable to park because of the crowds of people surrounding the church, I drove around the block several times, observing the lights carefully. Then I went home to wait for my friends to arrive.

At about 10 P. M. Ted and Marty drove up to my house, and then the three of us returned to St. Joseph's together. By that time the whole area was like Saturday night in Times Square. What used to be a very peaceful section of town was now crowded with an unbelievable number of cars and people. We agreed that there must have been, in all, several thousand people milling around. Most of them, I feel certain, were there only on a sight-seeing tour. However, the newspapers said that many thought they were witnessing a miracle and were expecting an apparition of some sort to manifest itself.

We finally managed to park, and as we made our way toward the church we saw the lights that all these people were so interested in. The lights were fairly bright, and were changing colors. There was red, amber, green, tan, brown, blue and other colors, all mixed in together and appearing in different sequences. At times the lights, or one of them, would suddenly become brighter, and this would increase the excitement of the crowd. It was the opinion of the police and the newspapers that the lights were caused by two traffic lights a block away. However, it is quite hard to believe that

something could reflect so clearly, from that distance, off of the brick, wood, and steel of which the church belfry is made.

We had brought a couple of cameras with us, and in hopes of better pictures than could be taken from the ground, we climbed onto the roof of a garage near the church. However, it seems that we were not the only ones who had the idea of climbing on this roof, and before I had a chance to take a picture, we were all asked by the police to get down. I then found another spot, a little further from the church, where I was able to set up my camera in peace. I placed a diffraction grating over the lens of the camera, in hopes of being able to find out the intensity and composition of the mysterious belfry lights. Exposing the film for several minutes at a time, I took five photos, one of which is reproduced at the beginning of this article. The photo used with this article was taken in the normal manner, without the diffraction grating.

After we had taken all the pictures we wanted, we began trying to get the reactions of some of the spectators standing around us. It developed that some people actually believed that the lights were an act of God, even though the local church authorities denied this possibility. Other people thought that some creature from outer space was hiding out in the tower or that the lights were in some way connected with flying saucers. Still others believed that the whole affair was merely a publicity stunt on the part of the church, to gain money and new converts.

The following day I learned that another friend of mine, who independently investigated the church lights on the same night we were there, had found that the lights did indeed change color at the same time that the nearby traffic lights changed. However, he could not account for the colors other than red, amber, and green, nor has anyone else been able to explain the presence of these other colors. In addition, if the lights are nothing more than ordinary reflections, it remains a mystery why they were not seen previous to Easter.

At work that day I learned, to my surprise, that these same strange lights have been seen before - but that was thirty years ago! At that time, people thought the lights were an omen of some sort, and thousands of people prayed in the streets surrounding the church. This information tended to deepen the mystery, and in addition, when I developed my diffraction photographs, I was disappointed to learn that these photos were unable to help us in any substantial way.

That night after work, a co-worker and myself decided to ride past the church once more. We saw that the police had placed a canvas over the openings in the belfry, in hopes of discouraging the huge crowds that were still congregating in that area. After parking the car we again mingled with the spectators, and learned that a short while previous to our arrival, the canvas had fallen down and had been hurriedly replaced by the police. As there was no wind that night, people were quick to say that the falling of the canopy was in itself a strange event.

In my opinion, the whole affair at St. Joseph's could be nothing more than a reflection, with everyone's imagination running wild because of the sexton's death. Matthew Guarino, who was not a young man, may have exerted himself to the point where his heart simply gave out. Or, it could be that fear overtook him as he was climbing the stairs to the belfry. Remember that he was alone, so we do not know his thoughts. Who is to say what Guarino saw if he did go into the belfry? Strange things have happened in the past, and stranger yet may occur in the future. If suddenly lights were seen in your church at night, do you think that you would be brave enough to investigate alone? Matthew Guarino tried, but he can't talk; he's dead!

BOOK REVIEW:

ABOARD A FLYING SAUCER, by Truman Betherum
(New Age Publishing Company, Los Angeles)

Mr. Truman Betherum is a California road worker who, during the summer of 1952, had a series of eleven meetings with a flying saucer, and with its beautiful female captain. With the help of an excellent ghost writer, Betherum ably relates these events in New Age's "Aboard a Flying Saucer".

Betherum's contact with saucers began one night in June, 1952, when he was sleeping out a hot night in a truck belonging to the company for which he worked. He awoke to find that eight or ten small-sized men had gathered around the truck. They led him to a large nearby saucer, in which he met Aura Rhanes, the ravishing feminine commandant of the craft. Aura made him feel at home, and during this and ten subsequent meetings, he gradually learned a great deal about her and the planet from which she came - called Glarion. According to Aura Rhanes, Glarion is a planet which, though in our Solar System, is invisible from Earth as it is always directly behind our moon.

Betherum was alone during each of his conversations with Miss Rhanes, all of which took place out on the desert at night. Thus, as is the case with so many of these personal-contact stories, we have only his word to go on. Once he caught sight of Miss Rhanes in a restaurant, and another time he saw her on a Los Vegas street, but for some reason she did not speak to him on either of these occasions. Betherum therefore was led to believe that space Visitors like to mingle unnoticed among us Earthlings, in order to learn our customs and language. Aura Rhanes, however, never seemed to have any trouble with Earth languages, as (unlike Adamski's space-man), she spoke perfect English the very first time she landed here. On a couple of occasions during their many desert meetings, she showed a knowledge of French and Chinese as well.

"Aboard a Flying Saucer" has a ring of sincerity that is lacking in most of the other books of this kind now on the market. Not having met or investigated Mr. Betherum, we cannot say whether this is due to the good ghost-writing job, or to Betherum himself. The book is not without its flaws, however, - the most obvious of which is the fact that it is an astronomical absurdity to say that any planet could be directly behind the moon at all times. We are also amused, though not displeased, to find that space-women are so wonderfully attractive, and we can hardly blame Betherum's wife for displaying a little jealousy!

All in all, it is a very enjoyable book. Whether it is a product of an over-active imagination, or "a true account of factual experience", as proclaimed on the cover, is a problem which each reader must decide for himself.

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IN THE NEXT ISSUE we will review "I Rode a Flying Saucer", by George W. Van Tassel.

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