

ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Copyright 1955, Len H. Stringfield

BIONOMICAL MARS -- FLORA, FAUNA and FLARES!: "Scientists today are exceedingly closemouthed when it comes to admitting the existence of living organisms on the other planets."

In quoting from Dr. R. S. Richardson's excellent book, Exploring Mars we don't have to look far for supporting testimony. Dr. Otto Struve, of Leuschner Observatory, writing Life on Other Worlds for Sky & Telescope, admits: "When I started working on this article I intended to use the title Astro-Biology. But the time is probably not yet ripe to recognize such a completely new discipline within the framework of astronomy. The basic facts of the origin of life on earth are still vague and uncertain: and our knowledge of the physical conditions on Venus and Mars is insufficient to give us a reliable background for answering the question: Does life exist on these planets, or has it existed in the past?" Prior to writing his article, Dr. Struve said, circa April, 1952, "At all times there are phenomena in the universe that scientists cannot explain," and added, "There's no proof the flying saucers are coming from Mars..."

Note Struve's use of the word, "proof". Now let's examine a statement made by the Air Force in their official release of 1954, "The Air Force would like to state that no evidence has been received which would tend to indicate that the U.S. is being observed by machines from outer space." Here we note they carefully use the phrase, "would like to state..." Hence, we see that very little or nothing is left to speculation, and that which is speculative, is denied until absolute proof can be ascertained.

MARTIAN "FERTILITY": It is under these rigors of reasoning that we start our bionomical survey of Mars. As reported in the December Newsletter, Dr. E. C. Slipher returned from Bloemfontein with 20,000 photographs, declaring, "Mars is alive." He said, "It has to be. If things did not grow there, changing with the seasons, dust from the deserts of Mars would have settled long ago over its entire face. The planet would all be one color." The Mars Committee, headed by Slipher, said the photos showed "great blue-green markings" and that "the polar caps gleamed white, frost areas appear, clouds and dust storms swirl across the surface-- and, at least two new canals, faint and hazy, were photographed for the first time." Dr. Slipher also doubted that there was any animal life on Mars similar to the earth's because the planet had little oxygen and less water. The pictures also showed "oases" which changed color, grew and shrunk with the seasons. He found markings--where it was spring on Mars--which were broader and more intense in color than any he has seen before in 50 years of observation. For this Dr. Slipher said, "This last year must have been a very good and fertile year on Mars."

Slipher's work is confirmed by the findings made by Mt. Wilson's 60-inch and 100-inch telescopes. In a letter received recently from Dr. R. S. Richardson of that Observatory the writer was told: "There was a large new region developed on the planet which was of a greenish tint like the other maria. The most natural explanation is that it is some sort of plant growth. Biologists seem to think it is likely that vegetation grows on Mars. But so far we have no evidence for animal life."

EDITOR: Although Dr. Richardson uses the broad term, "vegetation", which encompasses the low order of thallophytic plants, ie., molds, mildews, mushrooms, etc., we may be safe in assuming that such rhetorical connotations in "blue-green markings" and "greenish regions" and "oases" suggests an omnipresence of richer plant life--plants of a much higher order found in the conifers and yews or perhaps an arctic-type cycad. If the latter group, then it also seems within reason to assume that a

high order of animal life should thrive equally well--or better! The editor also notes that almost without exception the authorities on Mars and its bionomics, believe that if an intelligence does exist on that planet, it would not follow the lineage of earth's homo sapiens nor would it remotely resemble man in appearance or in habits. In short the Martian may be an ogre or even a vegetable.

MARTIAN INTELLIGENCE--ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE?: Dr. Fred L. Whipple, writing, Is There Life on Mars? in Colliers, had this to say on Martian bionomics last April--before the revealing Slipher and Richardson photographs: "Chances are that bacteria are the only type of animal life which could exist in the planet's oxygenless atmosphere. There also may be some sort of tough primitive plant life--perhaps lichens or mosses which produce their own oxygen and water. Such plants might explain the changing colors of the Martian seasons." Whipple concluded: "There's one other possibility. How can we say with absolute certainty that there isn't a different form of life existing on Mars--a kind of life that we know nothing about?"

Dr. Richardson in Exploring Mars, says: "Whatever sort of life exists on Mars, it must have a certain relationship to its environment, or an ecology." Here Richardson speculates on a new biochemistry, requiring only small or trace amounts of water. "If... these were at the foundation of Martian life," Richardson says, "there would be no longer any restriction on size and life forms... Plants much larger than one millimeter might be found and animallike organisms possessing locomotion would not be out of the question. Even intelligence is conceivable..." In this line of theory Dr. Richardson believes that "water might act as a growth regulator instead of a primary solvent."

We must quote one more irresistable passage from Exploring Mars, then suggest that you obtain the book for your research, remembering that it was written just prior to the photographs taken of Mars during the summer of 1954. Richardson being entirely logical says: "If the Martian vegetation consists of lichens, something must "eat" the lichens, either higher, less evident forms eat the lichens, or lower, more elemental ones break them down; and if higher forms exist, they too must be subject to the decay brought about by the lower forms. If no decay takes place, the water and carbon dioxide will soon be depleted, and the corpses of Martian life will soon clutter the planet. It is tempting here to think of the higher forms as animal types, able to move about and feed upon the vegetation."

INTELLIGENT LIFE PROBABLE BUT PRECARIOUS, SAYS ASTRONOMER: In preparing this issue, your writer asked a notable astronomer and mathematician for a statement on Mars. Preferring anonymity, here is his reply: "Biologically, the more complex the nervous system, the more complex the unit which houses it--at the same time the narrower the environment the organism can exist in. For example, some germs can exist frozen and also temporarily, in boiling water. Tropical fish, considerably up the neural scale, exist only in a limited temperature range. Human beings, representing the peak of nature's nervous system achievement on this planet, take advantage of their intelligence to literally carry their highly limited environment along with them, as witnessed by bathospheres and pressurized airplane cabins.

"Mars presents a more rugged environment -using earth standards for comparison, we note: Mars has a tenuous but usable oxygen atmosphere, surface vegetation, and the all-important possession of water. The temperature extremes are greater than earth's--and the myriad other details that form the integrated environment really makes it rough for an organism to gain dominance, even partly, over the Martian set-up. However, if we allow, hypothetically, the protein molecule to form and to develop in such a domain, the probability, although small, does exist that a form of intelligent life could develop on Mars, and gain a precarious hold, but never with the flourishing, teeming wave as on Earth.

THE UNEXPLAINABLE MARTIAN FLARES: The first bright flare was observed on June 4, 1937 near Tithonius Lacus by the late Japanese astronomer, Sizuo Mayeda. Scintillating like a star, it disappeared after about five minutes. For descriptions of the other two sightings we refer to an article prepared by Tsuneo Saheki, appearing in Sky & Telescope (Feb.). We quote, in part, Mr. Saheki for what occurred December 8, 1951. "At 21:00 UT I saw a sharp, bright, glaring spot suddenly appear on Tithonius Lacus. It was as brilliant as a six magnitude star--decidedly brighter than the north polar cap-- and shone with scintillation for about five minutes."

"On July 1, 1954, at 13:15 UT I saw Edom Promontorium suddenly brighten, but only about five seconds later it had faded back to its normal appearance. . . The same night Ichiro Tasaka was observing Mars with a 12 1/2 inch reflector at Shinga City, about 110 kilometers to the south, but he missed the strange phenomenon. He did specifically record that Edom Promontorium looked very bright. "

To date, according to the article, only these three flares have been observed by members of the Oriental Astronomical Association. Of interest, too, is the fact that no American astronomer has reported such observations. At this writing they are unexplained. Ruled out is the possibility that the flares were sunlight reflected from a water surface on Mars. Reflection from an ice-covered mountainside is free from that objection, according to Saheki, but cannot explain the formation of a cloud just after the disappearance of the light, as in 1951. A meteorite fall on Mars might produce both light and a cloud, but would not explain the flare's duration of five minutes recorded in 1937 and 1951. Then reminiscent of the gag-line used to explain away "saucers" the article lists the fourth interpretation, thus: ". . . rejected as unreasonable is an artificial origin, for this requires "Martians" of whose existence there is no scientific evidence." The remaining possibility, according to the article, is volcanic eruptions, and we quote, "These may explain the light and dust cloud formation. However, the observed duration of the light may be too short, and the probable scarcity of water on Mars may raise difficulties--terrestrial volcanoes eject large quantities of steam. "

Astronomer, Dr. D. B. McLaughlin in commenting on Saheki's article, points out some striking factors which tend to rule out volcanism. We quote Dr. McLaughlin in part: ". . . The bright flares were of enormous intensity compared with any volcanic glare compared on earth. It is questionable whether even the 200 inch telescope could show the fire-pit of Kilauea at the distance of Mars. . . The 'fiery cloud' of Mt. Pelee (which destroyed St. Pierre in 1902) was probably two kilometers in diameter and very hot, but not brilliantly glowing. Later clouds erupted by Pelee appeared dull by daylight. The fire-fountain of Vesuvius in 1779 might have been visible from the moon as a 5th or 6th magnitude star. From Mars it would have appeared to be of the 16th or 17th magnitude, at a close opposition." Dr. McLaughlin so rules out the volcanic interpretation, but adds, "Perhaps it would be worth while to explore the possibility of a solar reflection from oriented ice crystals suspended in the Martian atmosphere--a sort of sun-dog in reverse. The slim chance that something of this sort might be involved is suggested by the fact that a whitish cloud was seen."

EDITOR: But, the whitish cloud appeared in only one instance, therefore the slim chance holds true. Thus we see all interpretations, save the fourth, have been logically ruled out. So here again we must refer to the opening sentence on page one for the inferred and the not unreasonable answer. Perhaps remote, but in light of saucer visitations to earth, is it entirely "unreasonable" to investigate the possibility of a Martian "atomic" explosion or at least some other type of artificial explanation? Or, again, is more known than is let on?

GREEN FIREBALLS IN A SQUIRREL'S CAGE: On March 18, this writer talked at length by phone with Capt. Robert White, OPI, Defense Dept. He learned that 5 to 22% of "saucer" sightings reported are unexplainable, varying from month to month; that "foo fighters" have never been satisfactorily explained; that at least two pictures of UFO's taken by special grid cameras show only pinheads of light, and, that green fireballs "to the best of Air Force knowledge are not a result of the Air Force or any governmental testing. "

When reminded that the phenomena have been seen passing over cities, White said that such a development would never be tested over populated areas, although there is much military experimentation in the areas where fireballs are most frequently seen--New Mexico. White emphasized however that such experiments were not green fireballs. "They do exist" he said, "that's why thousands of dollars were spent investigating them." When asked about the confidential nature of these investigations under Project Twinkle, White said, "the project's files have never been declassified. He said there was no reason for this other than that no pressures have been made to release the information. He said, in effect, that the officers who handled the data probably never bothered to declassify the material before leaving the service or being transferred. White here intimated that this material showed nothing of concern, and said, "the Air Force thinks the green fireballs are astronomical phenomena"--which, he suggested should be of more concern to astronomers than the Air Force. At this point White suggested that I contact an astronomer in that no security was involved. I explained here that in a recent interview with one of the nation's top astronomers, I was asked for security clearance. Having none, I explained, I was thus denied a sensible discussion on the subject and was told that UFO's exist only in people's imaginations. When I offered certain evidence, this too was rebuffed on the grounds that he (the astronomer) took "a dim view on saucers". After pointing out to White the futility of talking with informed astronomers, I then interposed with a statement made by Dr. Lincoln LaPaz regarding green fireballs: "They are not any kind of meteor I have ever heard of." Citing these authoritative words, I again asked Capt. White for the Air Force's interpretation of this kind of meteorological phenomena. He answered simply--"We can't explain them."

The popular conception is that "GFB's" frequent only the US Southwest, but the reports show clearly that these weird wraiths appear over the far reaches of the globe. According to LIFE, Lt. Col. J. D. Caldera, attached to the Joint Chief of Staffs saw one in Virginia. Another was observed over Port Elizabeth, South Africa in July 1943 by an experienced navigator in the Merchant Marines. The most recent report comes from Portland, Oregon, March 9, 1955, where dozens of persons in various parts of the city reported the bright green object. In its SE to NW flight it illuminated a wide area before disappearing silently beyond the horizon. (Credit, L. P. Jensen)

THE FIREBALLS FIND RANGE IN TASMANIA: Augmenting the evidence which tends to rule out the theory that GFB's are meteoritic or electrostatic phenomena (St. Elmo's Fire, etc.) are recent sightings over remote Tasmania. Like similar visitations over the Baltic area prior to 1948 and later over New Mexico, these not only fit the pattern of regional concentration but indicate the objects are propelled and guided in to earth for some yet unknown purpose. Some theoreticians believe they act as "wipers" sent here as friendly devices to erase the radioactive poisons from earth's atmosphere. Others, however, believe the GFB's are ranging devices, here possibly on a mission of menace. We thank Harold Fulton of CSI, New Zealand for the following incidents collected from "official" sources by Sydney Fullerton of Hobart, Tasmania.

Case 65, Hobart, Tasmania, 1954) July 18 (5:47 AM)--At bearing 355° from Tower a large green ball of light about the size of a full moon seemed to suddenly appear from about 40° above the horizon to go straight down towards the horizon, with red particles appearing to shoot off in different directions... July 19 (8:00 PM) in position about due South of Control Tower, Cambridge Aerodrome, a green ball of light similar to previous evening seemed to appear to go in a horizontal direction from about 40° above horizon and explode over neighboring Sandford a few seconds later. Lit up whole landscape... July 21 (8:45 PM) Small green ball of light appeared SW direction of aerodrome to emerge from out of clouds and disappeared behind nearby hill. Lit up landscape but not as brilliant as those seen by observers mentioned previously.

FEBRUARY, FIREBALLS & THE FACTS: Case 66, Florida, Cuba, Salt Lake City, Feb. 7, 1955). Fireballs, sometimes synonymous with meteors, came thick and fast in February. Checking the astronomy books, I found no meteor showers scheduled for that month, so I checked with an authority--a leading astronomer. He told me that he too could find no reference to any "showers". So, indeed, here was an anomalous situation.

Let's look into some of the evidence. Hard on the heels of New Zealand's sky extravaganza Feb. 7, (to be reported in a future issue based on details just received from Harold Fulton) came another of equal impact. Few papers carried this story of Feb. 7. It ran something like this: A big meteor flashed across South Florida flaming so brightly that the pilot of an airliner tried to dodge it with his plane. The flashing light was spotted by hundreds of persons. Two airplanes over the Atlantic between Miami and Nassau and a ship near Cuba radioed that they had seen it. Several motorists near Miami said they swerved to keep from being hit. One pilot, Capt. Black of Eastern Airlines, reported, according to AP, "I thought it was coming in the window of my plane. I was over Ft. Pierce at the time. It looked like a ball of fire 10 to 15 feet in diameter. I took my plane up about 1000 ft. to keep from getting hit but I felt a little foolish when I got to Miami and learned that a pilot flying over Key West did the same thing." (credit J. J. Brenner)

From the press account, the fireball is easily explained away as a meteor, but other and less easily explained evidence was smothered. Thanks to the investigations of pilot William B. Nash, of Miami, who sends CRIFO the following report, we learn differently.

We quote from Nash's letter: "Very odd meteor--I did a little checking, and found that a PAA airplane crew with Capt. Charles Elmore in command saw three bright white lights due South of their DC6B as they crossed Biscayne Bay 1200 ft. high on a west heading to the airport enroute from Nassau. The lights were 15 degrees higher than the aircraft. They were much brighter than aircraft flares and larger. They appeared to hover with the front two connected by a line of light between them. Suddenly they blinked out. The tower saw them too--couldn't identify them. The time was 8:35 PM. The lights had fuzzy edges and were round. Clear night, no inversion--too bright for reflections. Four persons on Biscayne Key reported odd lights moving at sea about 8:05 to 8:15 PM. Many persons and pilots saw a very bright streaking object at 7:55 PM (see reports UP and AP). Airplanes at Ft. Pierce, Vero Beach, Havana and over Andros Island in the Bahamas reported a bright green object as big as the moon with a long white tail. No sound reported. The times of sightings varied over a forty minute period from 7:55 to 8:35. Some meteorologist who didn't see it tagged it a meteor. The PAA pilots say that what they saw was no meteor. A Marine pilot over Andros Island said it landed gradually on Andros."

Supplementing the Floridan incident, same date, is another report of a similar object passing over Salt Lake City. Personnel at the Salt Lake Municipal Airport's control tower noted that the object was sighted at 7:55 PM. Curiously, the night before, Feb. 6, at 9:42 a similar object flashed across the sky. In both cases the objects were likened to exploding stars. They streaked across the sky from south to north at great speed and disappeared over the horizon. (Credit, H. B. Williams)

Case 67, Texas, Oklahoma, New York, Feb. 13, 55) As far afield as Mineral Wells to Lufkin, through Dallas to Jackson, Miss., the fireball soared in its eerie glare and silence. Separate reports were made in Tulsa and other parts of Oklahoma. Finally the "thing" was seen over Hallstead and Triple Cities, New York. Unconfirmed reports say the object exploded or hit the ground but no evidence has been found. (ED: True with all GFB's, save in finding traces of copper in the air.)

The most vivid account came from a control operator at Pounds Field, Tyler, Texas. He said, "Around midnight this light seemed to pop out of the sky directly above us. It looked like a huge electric arc. It was greenish, like the tip of a welder's torch. It was going due South. There were three of us in the tower. We had the lights on, but the room lighted up brilliantly. It was a blinding light, the brightest I ever saw. The object looked like a football with a short tail"

John Fontaine, CAA authority at Lufkin said: "Along about midnight we felt a percussion as if from an explosion. We didn't see a flash, but it was reportedly seen in town. They said it went down somewhere between Tyler and Lufkin. Everybody in town is stirred up

about it. Several people said, when it hit it felt like a car door slamming. Phone calls flooded the Weather Bureau in Dallas where the object's glow lit up the SE sky. (Credit: Dorothy Howarth, Mrs. McIntyre, H. G. Rovner, Mrs. W. J. Daily).

Several Triple Cities residents in New York reported a similar fireball. One witness who was driving back from Scranton described it as similar to a Fourth of July rocket. The weather bureau at Broome County Airport said that if the Texas and Southern Tier "fireballs" were meteors, they could not possibly be the same one since rapidly falling meteors burn out quickly and are observable over a relatively small area. (Credit, F. J. Kelly).

FIREBALL DIVE BOMBS MAN: Case 68, Auckland, N. Z., Feb. 10, 1955) Mr. C. M. Callander, greenkeeper at Mt. Roskill Bowling Club, had walked on to the green with a tin and a knife. He was bending to lay down the knife when a fireball ranged in, landing inches from his feet. Callander said it was impossible to say how big it was, and admitted, "I ran for my life across the paddock, but it was gone when I turned around." He described the fireball as bright red, coming from behind and out of a clear sky. It was followed by a loud clap of thunder which came from directly overhead. The ball left no mark on the green. This report comes from Harold Fulton, and we note it with interest and speculation, comparing it with New Haven's red fireball which showed more destructive proclivity. (ED: See photo proof of this latter incident and where to buy, below).

SAUCERS OVER PACIFIC: Case 69, Honolulu to Suva, March 55) The Orsova of the Orient Line reached Auckland, March 4, fresh from a record-breaking run between Frisco and Honolulu. Steaming for Suva, crew members reported sighting a bright luminous oval object darting thru the sky at great speed. It appeared to swing around in an arc, disappeared behind a cloud, emerged again, then vanished into a cloud. (H. Fulton, N. Z.: C. Chapman, Aust.)

Case 70, New Caledonia, Jan. 55) A caretaker of a gypsum mine reported a "luminous mass" that remained motionless for 20 minutes and then made off at terrific speed. Two men on deck of a coastal trader reported a "large circular object" that remained motionless before speeding away, while a woman reported a huge yellow luminous ball seaward from Noumea continually inflating and deflating before disappearing. Still another report described a sausage-shaped object which remained stationary for at least a half hour before disappearing (Credit: H. Fulton and G. L. Menefy, New Zealand).

SAUCER SUNDRIES: Editor Jim Moseley of Nexus has decided on a revamping program. Soon, a new publication called Saucer News published bi-monthly will replace Nexus. Price \$2.00/year. Write P. O. Box 163, Fort Lee, New Jersey. Jim has just returned from South America with some fresh material ... Doing very creditable research is Max Miller, Director of Flying Saucers International. Write P.O. Box 35034, Los Angeles 35, California for his very neat and compact publication, Saucers ... Congrats to Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York. They, too, have revamped, and are conducting monthly meetings featuring some top lecturers. For their schedule write, Marty Meyerson, 67-90 Groton Street, Forest Hills, New York ... SAUCER PICTURES NOW FOR SALE. Just received a set here and we recommend them for review. Here's a list: Three flash bomb photos showing coolie-hat-shaped saucer referred to in Feb. Newsletter, taken by August Roberts. Five photos taken by George Stock in 1952 showing saucer over Passaic, New Jersey. We can't vouch for their authenticity but believe they deserve serious review. Two photos showing hole in signboard made by small red fireball in New Haven, Connecticut. A third photo shows metallic particles--proof of the incident. We recommend all three. Price of each of 11 photos listed, \$1.00 or \$1.25 outside USA. Write or remit to August Roberts, 443 Ogden Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.

CRIFO INCREASES SUBSCRIPTION RATES. High cost of operations forced the increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00/year, effective April 1, 1955. Further details, see March Newsletter. All back issues, starting April, 1954 available at 25¢ each. NOTE THESE CORRECTIONS IN MARCH NEWSLETTER: On page 8 change date of Roerich-American sighting from 1934 to 1926. Will review this case in detail later. Also correct case numbers on page 7 to 63 and 64 respectively. This is important if keeping record.

Copyright 1955, Len H. Stringfield

GREEN FIREBALLS STRIKE--TARGET NEW MEXICO! ALARMED AIR FORCE TAKES ACTION: (Case 71, New Mexico, April 6, 1955) Three--possibly four--fireballs smashed into New Mexico in a rough line across the southern end of the state. In the Tularosa Basin of south-central N. M. several observers reported sightings. Sgt. Camilla Saenz of Holloman AFB stationed on Sacramento Peak near Cloudcroft said he saw at 9:55 a.m. a yellow fireball with a red tail traveling east to west. At the same time, a plane from Biggs AFB in El Paso reported sighting an object strike near Weed, New Mexico. Air Force planes, flying as low as 250 ft, combed the Weed area for two hours without finding any trace. Observers in Lordsburg 30 miles Northeast described a brilliant white object which struck earth and kicked up dust against the background of the Burro Mountains. A green fireball seen in Roswell and Albuquerque was believed to be the same one which fell in south-central New Mexico, according to Dr. Lincoln La Paz, Director of Un. of N. M. Institute of Meteoritics.

DR. LINCOLN LA PAZ DENIES METEORITIC EXPLANATION: La Paz said heavy radio shortwave and TV disturbances were reported over the state at about the time the fireballs were seen and he understood Air Force bases around the state were concerned about the interference (see Case 26). He said the radio wave disturbances could not be attributed to sun spots. La Paz expressed the opinion that the sightings were "not of normal meteorites". He said the fact that no fragments were found, the absence of noise as the objects fell and the different colors led him to the belief. In summation, La Paz said that it was "incredible" for more than one meteorite to fall in one day. "I don't know what they are", he said, "but they are of the same family". "Also and very important", La Paz said, "when a meteor hits the upper atmosphere and shatters, it may spread fragments from one or 10 to 15 miles. Here, however, we have sightings from about 250 miles across the state". On another point, where observers reported seeing a green fireball with a reddish tail while sighters in Albuquerque saw the tail as green, La Paz said, "I believe those in Roswell were closer and had a type of over-exposure effect from the green ball and saw the complementary color in the tail." He explained, people who are exposed to a bright green light will see objects in an orange color for a few seconds afterward. "The important thing," said La Paz, "is that the fireball was a brilliant Kelly green as opposed to the blue or blue-green color seen in ordinary falls." La Paz quoted Quincy Adams, Albuquerque attorney, who saw it from his eighth floor office window. Adams said it was so bright it looked like an explosion a half-mile away. "And it was 200 miles away," said La Paz. "That's how bright it was." (Cred: Fred Talbot, Hobbs, N. M. & Richard Belden, Jamaica, N. Y.)

In Lordsburg, Lt. Paul Mallott of C. A. P. said the blinding white explosion was witnessed by two men who described the object as dropping from the sky at "tremendous speed", and, with the Burro Mts. as a backdrop, saw it explode in a flash. In another second they said dirt was thrown in the air. Mallott later flew over the area but a dust storm prevented him from seeing anything.

THE HOBBS INCIDENT: Somewhere in a pasture about six miles west of Hobbs lies the evidence! Bill Watson saw an object like a fireball fall not more than a quarter of a mile south of the Hobbs-Carlsbad Highway. The Hobbsan fall occurred about 10:15 a.m. and Watson described it as a dark colored ball about the size of a basket ball with a blue tail. Said Watson, "It came from the southeast at a low angle... and not moving too fast. I saw it hit and it kicked up dust." Watson and two newsmen made an unsuccessful hunt for the object the next morning. (Credit: Fred Talbot)

GREEN FIREBALL VISITS OAKLAND: (Case 72, Oakland, Cal., Apr. 7, 55) Hard on the heels of the New Mexican incidents, came the sightings over Oakland and Eureka. The green object was of such brilliance that an airplane pilot thought at first it was a flare from another plane, reported the Oakland International Airport control tower. The fireball disappeared, descending into the WNW horizon. (Cred: Violet Gray of San Mateo)

HOT COALS AND THE CURIOUS HOLE FROM NOWHERE: On April 3, about 6 p. m. three or four hot "coals" exuding white smoke, scooted from no particular point of origin across the highway leading from Sharonville to Cincinnati. Joseph Hauck, one of four witnesses who observed the phenomenon through the windows of an automobile, said the small pebble-like objects "trailed white smoke as they scurried across the road in front of our car." He said that the point from which they came offered no clues as to their source. There were no buildings flanking the highway, no people were in the area and there was no fire of any kind nearby.

Equally mysterious is the incident in Carthage, South Dakota. The mystery began when farmer Ernest Hall and his wife heard a commotion among the chickens. Hall went outside to find the chickens "running around like crazy" with no apparent reason. The next day a neighbor asked Hall what he was digging the hole for. Hall was nonplussed. "What hole?" he asked. The neighbor led him to the spot between the barn and house and showed him a hole about 18 to 19 inches in diameter. Measurement showed it was about 18 feet deep. Hall had no idea where the hole came from, so he called the sheriff who in turn called the Air Force. On Sunday, April 10, two Air Force sergeants arrived from Minneapolis to investigate but no one could find a solution to the mystery. (Cred: G. Popowitch)

EDITOR: Perhaps the "coals" and the hole may have some connection with the fireball bombardment in New Mexico inasmuch as there is an affinity in the dates. Also on April 6 at 8:20 p. m. the writer witnessed a bright green object pass swiftly, silently and horizontally over eastern Cincinnati, traveling in a northeasterly direction. The object had no tail, it was not fiery nor was it bigger than a pinhead. Explanation: meteor! But, the date caused some speculation.

FIERY RED BALL WITH RED TAIL ELUDES R. A. F.: (Case 73, England and Wales, March 24, 55) A squadron of Meteor jets, flying full speed, chased a fiery red object with a red tail across England and Wales. The Daily Mail said the blazing object, like a gigantic meteorite, zigzagged from one end of the country to the other. Hundreds of telephone calls warned police and fire stations of the onrushing object, and there were several reports of aircraft crashing, but no evidence was found. The Daily Mail quotes an Air Ministry spokesman as saying: "A formation flight of Meteors from the R. A. F. station at West Malling, Kent, were flying over Manchester toward Birmingham just after 7 p. m. when they saw an object. It looked like a ball of fire descending rapidly from above them. They were flying at 20,000 ft. and gave chase, but the object made the 500 mile trip from Land's End to Glasgow in about 45 minutes." (Cred: G. L. Menefy, N. Z.)

LOW-FLYING FIREBALL SCARES AUSTRALIANS: (Case 74, Melbourne, Aust., Dec. 20, 54) Following are eyewitness accounts of a fiery object whose eccentric behavior evinces intelligent control. First Witness: T. B. Hehir, Security Officer at the Maribyrnong Explosives Factory. "At 2:45 a. m. I was opening a door in security building when I was suddenly bathed in light. I spun around... the whole ground was lit up. Then I saw what looked like a fire below the clouds. It appeared to have sparks flying from it and it whizzed by me in a matter of seconds. As it went it left a trail behind. The object made a sizzling noise... and was traveling at great speed after it came below the clouds. I feared an explosion but it made only a swoosh as it flew by." Second: Mr. L. Foster, also security man at Maribyrnong. "I had just begun my patrol when suddenly the sky lit up. The night was black and clouded. This thing which looked like a ball of fire, appeared out of the western sky and behind it was a channel of light. All of a sudden it shot across the sky and I had an excellent view of it. I have never seen anything like it before and I have seen many meteors. This object was too low to be a natural phenomenon. I would estimate its speed as twice that of a jet plane. It held me spellbound."

Third and Fourth: Two other security men confirmed what Foster and Hehir reported. Fifth: Mr. Graham White of Coburg, milk carrier who checked the time by phone. "I was delivering milk at about 2:45 a.m. when I saw the object. It was like a rocket, bright blue in color and appeared to have a red flame coming out of its back. I knew it was a cloudy night and when the whole area lit up I thought the moon had come out. I thought that flying saucer stories originated from Saturday revellers--now I'm not so sure." Sixth: A woman living in Thornbury who preferred anonymity. "I saw two bright lights of different colors which seem to merge into each other at 2:45 a.m. They traveled at great speed until they disappeared over the horizon towards Dandenong Ranges. Seventh: Mr. A.H. Gibson of Research. "I saw this brilliant object at 2:45 a.m. It appeared to be a comet-like structure with a flaming tail." Comments and Evaluations: Professor E. O. Hercus, Associate Professor of Science at Melbourne University: "Extraordinary. It is something quite unusual." The head of the C. S. I. R. O. meteorological physics division, Dr. C. H. Priestley: "I can't suggest what it could have been. I know of no meteorological effect which could behave in that manner." A R.A.F. spokesman discounted the idea that jet aircraft were flying at that time. The reports were to be screened by Intelligence. Weather note: A weather bureau officer said that clouds in the metropolitan area at the time were 2500 ft. high and there was no thunder or lightning activity. (Credit: Harold Fulton, New Zealand)

RANGING FIREBALL EXPLODES SOUNDLESSLY IN OHIO: (Case 75, near Massilon, Ohio, Nov., 54) Fred Kirsch, amateur astronomer and director of the U. F. O. Research Org. in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio sends CRIFO this report: During the Thanksgiving Holidays, about 8:30 p.m. Harry Long and son were driving to Massilon. All at once they saw an object "shaped like a football only it was all lit up like it was on fire." It was descending from the SW in a steep slant and heading straight for the earth. When it was only several feet above the ground it exploded, and yellow and orange pieces were seen falling to the ground. The Longs were in their car with a window open at that time but no sound was heard. Kirsch comments: "The object described sounds exactly like a falling meteor with one exception--there was no sound that could be associated with it. Falling meteors are noisy..." (ED: Also anomalous is the explosion so near the ground minus noise. Bolidic action occurs in the stratosphere, rarely in the troposphere, never near the earth as so described. See Cases 18, 19, 20, 33, 50)

THE HYPOTHESIS OF A NEW CLIMACTERIC: On the evidence of recent reports reaching the CRIFO desk from all corners of earth, the writer has cause to wonder if the earth is entering possibly a more critical phase of visitations--a prelude phase to a new climacteric in the great and unknown "saucer" masterplan. We note particularly a sharp decline in the reports of metallic discs, while in the category of the "fireball" the frequency of sightings show a gradual but substantial increase over any previous period--except during the formidable concentrations over Sweden, 1946-47 and over New Mexico, 1948-49. Also significant is the widening geographical scope of the fireball visitations, a fact which tends to over-rule the theory that "fireballs" are secret U.S. or Russian missiles.

THE FORMIDABLE CONCENTRATIONS OVER SWEDEN--AN HISTORICAL DISCOURSE: The Swedish "ghost rockets", circa 1946-47 better known as "green fireballs" still remain as much a mystery today as they were nine years ago. Whatever their origin they were the forerunner to an analogous type witnessed over New Mexico a year later. For digging the following reports from their entombment for publication here, CRIFO is indebted to Ted Bloecher for the tip-off, Isabel Davis for doing the digging and Lex Mebane for supplying the references. Note throughout the concern and change of attitude of the Swedish Government, then a pall of censorship.

Stockholm, Aug. 11, 1946 (AP) Ghost rockets--mystery spool-shaped speeding objects with fiery tails, have become a common sight in Sweden... Since July 1, newspapers have published reports of flying fireballs nearly every day... between July 9-12 military authorities received 300 reports of the missiles and since that time reports have poured in daily. Nobody seems to think these rockets indicate any military preparation against Sweden, but the people here are puzzled at Sweden being the target when an unlimited amount of uninhabited area might be available for experimentation. The rocket is described as a small

object with a flaming tail which speeds at great height and vanishes within a few seconds. Witnesses say the rockets make no appreciable sound. Newspapers recently carried a picture of the rocket. . . it showed a streak of light trailing from a dark body, looking much like a comet. Only in a few cases is it known that the missiles actually landed in Sweden. Military personnel have been busily dredging a small lake in Lapland. Military authorities said the missiles passed over Sweden in a wide curve. Some reports indicate the objects carried a device for self-destruction, and military experts said some apparently had exploded in the air. The longest flight of any of the missiles, so far as military experts could determine, was about 600 miles, compared with the range of 35-45 miles for the first German V-2 rocket bombs. There is no comparison, however, with the rocket bombs. The missiles are small, and at low altitudes seem almost square. The bottom of the object appears red, witnesses reported. These reports have been substantiated by a Swedish officer, a flier, who saw one of the rockets during a recent flight.

Stockholm, Aug. 11 (Reuters) A number of objects, apparently rockets, were reported to have been seen by various witnesses as they flew low over Central Sweden tonite. One of them was said to have fallen near a town, exploding with a loud report. Swedish military refused to disclose name of town. The objects emitted a white glow that illuminated the sky.

Stockholm, Aug 11 (AP) From New York Times, page 1. A swarm of rocket bombs passed over Stockholm at 10 o'clock tonite. The course, as usual, was from the SE toward the NW. Reports flowing to the Swedish General Staff stress that the bombs are like fireballs with long luminous tails, but some observers have seen a cigar-shaped "bomb" traveling at an altitude of 1500 ft. rather slowly. Some reported that they have seen the bombs crash. The strangest report came from Central Sweden where a newly built barn collapsed this afternoon without visible cause. Shortly before the collapse flying bombs had been seen. Then there was a sharp crack and the barn fell. There was no fire. Witnesses said the barn could not have collapsed because of bad construction.

Stockholm, Aug. 12 Special to N. Y. Times. Sweden now is using radar in the fight against the mysterious missiles. . . It was also believed that Lt. Gen. James Doolittle, retired, is coming to Sweden to inspect the radar equipment, although the official explanation is that he is coming as a businessman for the Shell Company. The Swedish General Staff today described the situation as "extremely serious" and it is obvious that Sweden is no longer going to tolerate violation of her "integrity". The General Staff received more than 1000 reports on the bombs last night and this morning.

A Swedish astronomer and meteorologist said, "I was studying some clouds through a telescope when suddenly I observed a luminous point in the sky. I first believed it to be an airplane," he said, "but soon I noticed it was traveling much too fast for that, and within two seconds I got a good view of the projectile. I managed to get a good view of the bomb's body and estimate that it was at least 90 feet long. The body was torpedo-shaped and shining like metal. No sound could be heard, although the object was only 2 kilometers away. At the explosion, a terrific light flashed up that for a moment completely blinded me, no fire, smoke or sparks were noticeable. The description of the shape varies, for some observers say they have seen a big fireball instead of a torpedo-shaped projectile, but all agree on the small fireballs shot out from the afterpart.

Stockholm, Aug. 12. The Swedish Army rushed experts to three points in Central Sweden where unidentified rockets, crashed last night. The barrage was the heaviest since the mysterious aerial missiles were first seen flashing through Swedish skies on May 24. The Swedish Army clamped a tight censorship on the results of its investigations. One rocket passed directly over Stockholm at 8:45 p.m. and crashed north of the city. One eyewitness to an explosion in Central Sweden said fragments rained down after a great blast in the air above him. Previous explosions have left hard black material objects similar to coal clinkers. The movement of the missiles varied. Some flew in a straight course and others veered. In most cases the course was reported from SE to NW. Other reports said the missiles came straight from the north.

Stockholm, Aug. 13 (AP) The newspaper Aftenbladet said today that two rockets were observed in Sweden yesterday and one of them almost caused casualties. A couple boating on a lake were nearly hit by a diving object which burst into many parts and disappeared beneath the water. The second observation was near Goeteborg, where a group of Boy Scouts saw a missile turn 35 degrees and then return to its original course. The first rocket explosion over Denmark was reported in Copenhagen. A night watchman in Struer, West Jutland, said he saw a speeding rocket approaching from the northeast explode with a roar and illuminate the sky with a bright flash. Despite the accounts of recent witnesses who were unanimous in describing the objects as "rockets" Swedish authorities said they had received no tangible proof that the freak celestial phenomena observed over Sweden resulted from foreign experiments.

New York Times, Oct 11, Swedish military said that they had been unable to discover after four months of investigations the origin or nature of the ghost rockets. A spokesman declared that 80% of the 1000 reports could be attributed to "celestial phenonema" but that radar had detected some objects "which cannot be the phenomena of nature or products of imagination, nor be referred to as Swedish airplanes." The report added that the objects were not the V-type bombs used by the Germans in the closing days of the war.

Stockholm, March 21, 1947. Another of the phantom bombs was observed today over the southern part of the country by several witnesses. At first they thought it was an airplane, but looking more closely they noticed that smoke was coming from the tail and that its shape was different. The projectile was flying from east to west at considerable height. Witnesses described it as a cigar-shaped metallic body, approximately 60 feet long, traveling at slow speed and making no noise.

EDITOR: We find in the Swedish sightings a variety of UFO types. Although some, as in the March 21, 1947 sighting, describe a metallic cigar-shaped device, most fit the fireball behavior pattern. We take cognizance of the Swedish fireball's self-explosive capability while in flight, a peculiarity likened to the U.S. green fireball. However, the Swedish reports suggest that some of the fireball explosions were accompanied by sound, while the U.S. green variety exploded soundlessly. This apparent incongruity may be based on insufficient information on the Swedish fireball and we cannot be certain that all the Swedish fireballs were of the green type. Perhaps in such instances where the Swedish fireball exploded with sound, the bolis may have been blue in color, thus emitting a blue flash as in the cases below:

BLUE FLASH AND THUNDEROUS EXPLOSION ROCKS NORTH CAROLINA: (Case 76, Greensboro-Burlington area, N. C. April 21, 55.) An explosion, preceded by a brilliant blue flash of light seen as far south as Jacksonville, Florida, rocked homes in the Greensboro-Burlington area. C. A. A. officials at the Raleigh-Durham airport reported the flash of blue light occurred about 2 a. m. and was followed by a thunderous explosion in about four or five minutes. J. P. Scott, control tower operator, said the explosion probably was that of a meteor which burst 50 to 55 miles above the earth in the vicinity of Burlington. "I'm sure it was from outer space," said Scott. Greensboro police and weather bureaus were swamped with calls. Residents said that a loud crackling explosion rocked their homes, waking them from their sleep. (Cred: George Segovis and Charles Pontius)

THE BLUE FLASH PHENOMENON-NEW ZEALAND COUNTERPART: (Case 77, Whenuapai, N. Z., May 20, 54) While on patrol at the Whenuapai Air Force Station two patrolmen witnessed three separate brilliant flashes of bluish light in the western sky. The flashes occurred at 11:10 p. m., 11:15 p. m. and 11:20 p. m. each lasting for two seconds in duration and each followed at a short interval by a deep-throated roaring sound. Harold Fulton, C. S. I. President, checked on the incidents and found that many people in the general Whenuapai area had seen the flashes and all agreed that they did not appear at all like lightning.

THE ENIGMA OF THE ALPHABETIC FORMATION: In the January 1955 issue of CRIFO the writer reported on page four the English incident of radar tracking objects flying in U and Z formations. According to the British Air Ministry, the objects appeared from nowhere, usually about midday, flying at a height of 12,000 ft., in an east to west direction. The War Office said, "We cannot say what they are. They first appear in a "U" or badly shaped hairpin formation. After a time they converge into two parallel lines and then take up a "Z" formation before disappearing." Migratory birds were ruled out! (Case 78, England, Autumn 54)

THE "FLYING ALPHABET" OVER BALTIMORE: (Case 79, Baltimore, Md., April 10, 1955) The latest such anomaly describes a "V" and "T" formation. Although the V-variety is common, its association with the "T" is not, therefore, we find in the dual characters of the Baltimore and the English incidents, a seeming pattern that may have some significance--perhaps, and we're just wild-guessing, an attempt to signal. In the Baltimore incident several persons were witnesses in opposite ends of the city to the freakish event and all reports tallied. A family in Hamilton saw what looked like a V-formation of fast-moving, luminous objects of undetermined height. A short while later a second flight came over in a T-formation. Another witness saw V-shaped, eerie lights, travelling from east to west. Five minutes later another came over in a slightly different heading and veered north. (Credit: Charles A. Seibold)

THE UNDISCIPLINED FORMATION OVER ARIZONA: Case 80, Joseph City, Ariz., March 28, 55) Inimical to the Baltimore or English disciplinarians were the objects witnessed by Glenn Blansett (former air force pilot) and wife. Note in Blansett's account the similarity of acrobatic maneuver to the objects described by Dr. L. D. in the Tremonton film. (See Sept. 1954 issue, CRIFO)

Blansett said he first noticed a great, circular cloud of smoke high in the sky, then he said, he saw what he thought was a large formation of jet planes going through "mock combat". But after several minutes, the objects stopped their conventional maneuvers and began a strange fluttering motion, abandoning their formations. At this stage they were moving much faster than jets. Blansett and wife both agreed there were a great many of the objects, at least 25 and perhaps more than a hundred. Assuming they were the size of conventional aircraft they were about 50,000 to 70,000 ft. high, Blansett reported. Observational conditions were good and the air was clear with no wind. Neither the smoke cloud nor the objects were in the direction of the Nevada atomic proving grounds. The objects moved southwest at high speed and finally disappeared, said Blansett. (Cred: George A. Ormerod of Phoenix)

SAUCER SUNDRIES: Regarding "blue dart" phenomena mentioned in cases 46, 47 and 48, Alexander Mebane of N.Y. sends us these references: W. F. Denning, Pop. Astron. 22 (Aug. 1914), pp. 404-5: "a curious variety of meteor." V. Anyzeski, ibid. 54 (April, 1946), pp. 203-4: "Some notes on a possible meteoric phenomenon." --- Mebane also sends us detailed critique of the several "saucer" photos reviewed from time to time in the Newsletter. He claims "flare spots" and presents a very valid argument against the "saucer" explanation for some of the photos in question. Will review in future Newsletter. --- On the desk of CRIFO, sent in by Frank Gallagher, are several fragments from a nine pound ingot of rare fused metals found near Indianapolis on the surface of an abandoned gravel pit. Spectroscopic analysis made at Un. of Cincinnati showed that the fused metals were chromium, iron, manganese, nickel-cobalt and vanadium. More later. --- CRIFO urges all to back up the Ground Observer Corps. They are doing a vital job in connection with the nation's defensive set-up against sneak attack, and of course, keeping track of UFOs. The writer discussed these affairs recently with Lt. Thorne of Columbus Ohio Filter Center. --- Jessup's new book, Case For The UFO is MUST reading! Of note is Jessup's references to astronomical UFOs.

CRIFO SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE: High cost of operations and research forced the increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00/year, effective April 1, 1955. Foreign subs cost \$3.60 regular mail. All back issues available at 25¢ each. We appreciate your clippings and bits of

Copyright 1955, Len H. Stringfield

EXCLUSIVE--ARGENTINA OFFICIALLY CLEARS "SAUCER" INCIDENT FOR CRIFO, WHILE INTERNATIONAL HUSH-HUSH PERSISTS: Recently, the London Sunday Dispatch reported, "The Air Ministry stated that the results of their five year investigation of UFO's is not to be made public. It is to be locked away and may not ever be released, for the Air Ministry is afraid it will encounter or promote much scepticism." With this report, sent in by Harold Fulton of New Zealand, is another from Pretoria, South Africa, where it was announced by the Defense Dept., that all information about "flying saucers", seen in that country, were labelled: "Top secret, not to be divulged." Equally hushed, but less blunt, is the U.S. Defense Dept. We quote from a letter, dated May 20, 55, signed by Capt. R. C. White, in reply to the writer's request for clearance of sighting data: "I know of no plans to release information on individual sightings and doubt that such will take place since we still have the same shortage of investigative personnel."

But, the bombshells were exploding. On May 23, INS reported Dorothy Kilgallen's dispatch from London which quoted a British official of cabinet rank as saying, "We believe, on the basis of our inquiries thus far, that the saucers were staffed by small men, probably under four feet tall. It's frightening but there is no denying the flying saucers come from another planet."

An earlier bombshell arrived in the CRIFO mailbox. It came as registered "Diplomatic Mail," dated May 9, '55, from the Air Attache of the Argentine Embassy in Washington, D. C. Inside was a courteous letter with stamped clearances and the signature of Saturnino G. Armentanzas, Brigadier General, Air Attache. Attached was a two page report describing UFO's which appeared over the airport of Cordoba, Argentina, dated November 25, 1954. The report, translated from the Spanish by Miss Ellen Heis and Jose Almeida and confirmed by the Berlitz School of Languages, reads as follows: "In the press office of this Ministry of Aeronautics there was made known to reporters the observation of two strange phenomena having characteristics such as one would suppose to be similar to the flying saucers which excite universal curiosity at present. The information advises us that today they were encountered to advantage in the control tower of the Cordoba Airport, on the road to Pajas Blancas, within the radius of this city. Doctor Marcos Guerci, Chief of Meteorological Service of the airport, was, as we say, in the control tower, which has a height of 17 meters, when across one of the windows a strange body, or something similar, attracted his attention. It was fixed in the sky and it emitted a light, says Dr. Guerci, which has no comparison with known objects seen in the sky. White, gray, or bluish--in effect, he was not able to define the color.

Knowing through his habit of observing the heavens that he was not dealing with anything ordinary, he paid more attention and at the same time noticed the hour: 5:25. Examining the luminous point, he saw that it had a lengthened form, something like a half moon, but more open. Immediately, he communicated the remarkable occurrence to the operator of the tower, Carlos Hugo Bassoli, who was also surprised at the luminous body which seemed to be fixed. Immediately, using common lenses (telescopes), they were able to see with more detail the phenomenon which showed an intensely luminous nucleus and a less brilliant halo which surrounded it.

It was attempted afterwards to give notice of this to the National Astronomical Observatory for the purpose of obtaining photographs and other observations with more appropriate apparatus, but owing to the hour, there was no personage there for that kind of work. So that the curious event might be appraised by the greatest number of persons, it was observed by Rodolfo Moreyra, of the flight section; Luis Rafael Gomez, radio-operator, Antonio Cuvillas and Alberto M. Baxter, employees of the airport, and Amadeo de la Cruz Farias, watchman, who comprised all the person there at that hour.

All of them swear to having witnessed the strange event with simple vision and later with lenses, and they agree in all their narrations. The cigar or half moon or banana, which by the height of the cirrus which was in the sky at that time was calculated to be some 3000 meters in height, remained immovable over the aviation field.

While all those named were interested in these observations, they were still more intensely surprised upon observing at 5:45, or it may be twenty minutes after having observed the presence in the sky of the cigar or half moon, in an easterly direction, another luminous body similar to the first but different in its form. This one was circular, somewhat like a saucer, also with a very luminous nucleus which to all appearances formed a halo giving it that circular form. Both phenomena were able to be seen with simple vision and it was not possible to confuse them with stars on account of the strange brilliancy of their unknown light.

Observed with lenses, this second body, as Professor Guerci expresses it, had the size of a football. The luminous nucleus was nearly on one edge and then there was noticed that kind of halo which the observers do not have words sufficiently expressive to describe, a halo that was some four times larger than the nucleus. The two phenomena remained fixed in the place where they were observed until 6:15, when they disappeared. The first, the one with the form of a half moon, was slowly displacing itself toward the west, and the second, the one with the form of a disc, was climbing, always slowly. The observers assume that they ceased to be visible mainly because of the appearance of the sun, which with its light put out their brilliance. Consequently, the first was visible around an hour and the second for a half hour, more or less.

Professor Guerci showed us that it is not possible to confuse the observations made by them with stars on account of the hour and on account of their movements, apart from the fact that they had different forms, which, as we ascertain, it was possible to observe with simple vision. With respect to the possibility that they might be flying saucers or cigars, he said, without being definite in giving an opinion that he believed he had observed something foreign to our knowledge. Professor Guerci is the Chief of the Meteorological Service of the Airport of Cordoba and he has belonged to the Ministry of Aeronautics for six years. The news of these curious observations, by the seriousness of the informative source and the unanimity of opinions of those who had the opportunity to evaluate the phenomena, scattered at midday in this area, has awakened extraordinary expectations."

EDITOR: The Cordoba incident will be filed as Case 81. The date indicated on the release is Nov. 25, '54, but the incident may have actually occurred on Nov. 22, '54, a date when Brazil reported that a formation of 19 saucers had flown perilously close to a commercial aircraft. See Case 59. Reports from S. America are heavy, but none make the news wires. Coral Lorenzen, thru her APRO Bulletins, has revealed some startling material from a creditable source in Venezuela, which if true, means that a hideous, hairy, dwarf-like "biped" has already alighted on earth from extra-terrestrial craft. Several incidents, involving these abominable creatures, occurred also in November of 1954. On still another issue, the Cordoba incident, remembering its official clearance, should dismiss any notion that such devices involved, were secret U.S., British or Russian missiles or neo-type aircraft.

U.S. JETS FIRE ON UFO: (Case 82, Rockford, Ill. April, 1955) Another bombshell, and, more evidence dismissing the idea that "saucers" are U.S. weapons! CRIFO's source for this information is very reliable and we are indebted to Frank Gallagher, of Roseville, Mich., for passing on some of the details with a promise of more to come. The account, according to Gallagher, centers around four GOC members, all businessmen in the Rockford area. Together, on watch, they witnessed an UFO near their post, and sent in a report to the Filter Center in Chicago. Within minutes, jets were up on an intercept mission, and, according to the GOC members, fired on the mysterious object, causing it to explode. Before the explosion, however, GOC reported that a smaller round object shot out of the side of the "parent" device, then, in horizontal flight, passed

up the jets, after which it was seen to turn on edge and disappear straight up into the sky. Gallagher's informant said that Air Force personnel moved in quickly and warned the GOC members to say nothing about the incident. However, earlier, the local Civil Defense Chief of the Rockford area did report the "firing" to the local press -- who, in turn, explained away the affair by stating that jets had fired on a "balloon".

EDITOR: This incident of pursuit and firing upon an UFO by U.S. military aircraft is not without precedent. The writer has learned of several such incidents, one dating back to the Luke Field affair, 1945. We also understand that, not too long ago, a guided missile installation near a certain AFB, fired a Nike at a "saucer", hitting its target.

SAUCERS OF YESTERYEAR--THE LINK TO CREDULITY: Let it now be said that the writer doubts the existence of Jonathan Leonard, Science Editor of Time! After hearing Leonard's argument against the existence of saucers, during a TV debate, May 16, in which he and Willie Ley sided against Major Keyhoe and M. K. Jessup, the writer nearly lost his faith in science. If we are to use Leonard's logic, then we cannot accept Leonard himself as a human entity, that is, until we have had the opportunity to examine and vivisect his body in the witness of three doctors of medicine who would be willing to swear in writing that Leonard exists! An extreme analogy, but it fits the diehard theorists who still deny the existence of the saucer and with it the probability of it being an interplanetary machine on the premise that 1) saucers are a psychotic "hangover" resulting from Ken Arnold's sighting of nine "mirages" in 1947, or, 2) saucers are secret U.S., British or Russian devices.

Let it also be said that neither interpretation will hold up in court as against the evidence supporting the interplanetary saucer--if a fair trial were held! And, in support of this writer's contention, we quote from a letter recently received from Capt. Edw. J. Ruppelt, formerly head of Project Blue Book, ATIC, Wright-Patterson Field, "... As for their (UFO's) being a U.S., or any worldly development, I can categorically deny this."

Aside from the fact that Ruppelt has very sound reasons for making this statement, it should also be remembered that he was in the position to investigate incidents and evaluate evidence collected by the Air Force during 1951 - 1953. His "categorical" denial should be unassailable testimony against the notion that the U.S. had a disc in working order, during or before his tenure with Project Blue Book. With equal assurance, we add that Russia or Germany had no saucer-like device dating back into the aeronautical Dark Age of 1926 or 1897!

Ted Bloecher, of N. Y., writes us: "These early cases, prior to Ken Arnold's 'trigger' report, are most important, simply because it was a time when no 'attitude' had been established either by the public or official sources, thus eliminating the need to 'color' the report." With these thoughts in mind we should like to review some "old" sightings occurring along the Eastern Seaboard, during Spring of 1946.

Case 83, Bernardston, Mass., Hinsdale, N. Hampshire, March, 1946) Following a lecture on "saucers", Rev. Albert Baller, of Greenfield, Mass., was approached by a member of the audience, Fred J. Stange. He told Baller that he was in possession of a photograph that he took, showing discs, over Bernardston. "Two days later," writes Baller, "I received a letter from him (Stange) and with it a photograph." We quote Stange's letter:

"... The photograph was taken in March of 1946 on a dark, cloudy day about four in the afternoon... I saw first the three discs in a group hanging in the sky. Thought it strange, and hoping they would not fade out, I ran inside to get a camera. When I arrived out of doors, I looked up and saw another to the right moving slowly and stop; then far to the right a flash caught my eye and the other speck of light grew larger and also stopped. Shortly after I took the picture, the discs which were in the east traveled rapidly to the west and disappeared."

The writer has had the opportunity to examine the photograph, (taken by a box camera), and finds, in agreement with Baller, that it checks out Stange's account. The photo shows a random bucolic scene, farmhouse surrounded by trees and a wide expanse of sky. To the left are three discs in tight V-formation of which the lead disc is the largest. To the right is a solitary luminosity of large diameter and to the right of this, still another light, only smaller. When Baller re-visited Bernardston to see Stange for more details, he learned that Stange had seen a sixth saucer as large as the others, almost directly overhead. Stange said that when the objects started to leave, the large one at the head of the "V" started first and then the others immediately followed. He described the objects as "silver" and very bright against the overcast, moving without noise.

Then Rev. Baller, adds in his letter, "A quite unexpected verification of Stange's story and picture, came when I had lunch with a friend, Mrs. George Kendrick, of Greenfield. I showed her the photo... and she exclaimed: 'Those look just like the objects my husband and I and a lot of neighbors watched when we were living in Hinsdale, N. H., in 1946.' She described how they had watched four or more of these strange, silver-like discs move back and forth over the sky at about 'five o'clock' on a cloudy day in March, 1946. She was sure it was March, but neither Stange or Mrs. Kendrick could remember the date. Hinsdale is only a few miles northeast of Bernardston as your map will show."

Case 84, Lafayette, N. Y., April or May, 1946) For this account we are indebted to Isabel Davis, of N. Y. who gathered the facts, and Ted Bloecher who assembled them on paper, a neat job of intelligence work.

The sun had just past the zenith, the weather was clear with scattered clouds when Richard R. Hill and Stanley Ogdrzyiak were driving in an open convertible on the Lafayette Country Club Road. Suddenly, both men were attracted by a curious gleaming object in the sky, which they at first mistook for a dirigible, but closer watch revealed details and a preternatural behaviorism which conclusively ruled out any normal explanation. We, here, refer to Ted's letter for Hill's description of the object and its behavior: "Cigar-shaped, horizontal to the ground, long axis north to south. Metallic appearance; sun reflected from it. Tapered to sharp point at each end. Perfectly smooth; no protrusions, fins, baskets, etc; no markings. Object was motionless when first seen, and remained motionless. Estimate of altitude difficult, probably 5,000 to 10,000 ft. At that height, object must have been fairly large, as outline was very clear and distinct, not at all blurred by distance. At that estimated altitude, 300-400 ft. long; maximum diameter one-third of length. A 25-cent piece held out against the object would more than cover the diameter, with perhaps 1/8" of coin overhanging clearly beyond the outer limits of the object on either side. It would not obscure the object, however, as part of the tapering portion of the object would extend past the coin on either end, equal to one-half of its total length. Object in view for two minutes without change in appearance or position. Object disappeared instantaneously--impossible for it to have dropped behind the hills!"

Case 85, La Grange, Florida, May, 1946) The research of Rev. Baller has uncovered many good sightings, and we note the one following with emphasis on time and place. The incident involves Andrew A. Titcomb of Perkinsville, Vt., who at that time had just returned from the Pacific Theatre as Lt. j. g., U.S.N.R. While on duty, Titcomb was senior watch officer, gunnery and radar officer aboard a destroyer escort. In a letter to Baller and cleared for CRIFO, Titcomb writes: "I was picking oranges in the forenoon... when a distinct, wavering, whistling noise of a fast moving body through the air made me look up. Directly overhead I saw a dark "flying football" flying from west to east at about 1000 ft. elevation, possibly less, at a speed of a light plane--say 125 mph. It appeared dark against the bright cloud layer which had a ceiling of perhaps 1500 ft. There was no blue sky showing. There was no sound of any engine, it had no wings or other appendages, no props, and no trail of smoke in back. It appeared about 15 or 20 ft. long, perhaps less, and as I watched, it curved smoothly in an arc to the southeast and vanished in a cloud bank... The object did not emit any light or glow... My wife and the rest of the family heard this queer noise and all rushed out to see what it was. My wife caught a glimpse of it as it vanished into the clouds, confirming my story."

EDITOR: We note in all four cases, the corroborative pattern of time incidence and geographical location--the Atlantic Seaboard! Of significance, too, is the time link-up with the earliest Swedish sightings, which began on May 24, 1946. See May, 1955 Newsletter. We also note that all the seaboard sightings took place during the daylight hours and all the objects were discoidal or ellipsoidal in shape.

THE ALTAI-HIMALAYA SIGHTING--1926 (Case 86) While rumors were rife in January of this year that saucers were a U.S. weapon of German ancestry, the writer received a letter from Frank Edwards, which said in part, "The hokum about these things being of U.S. origin can be handled neatly if you will ask your informants how these "U.S." discs happened to be buzzing around Altai Himalaya in 1926. . . . I was sprayed with it regularly - but the Himalaya question always left them high and dry." On Frank's tip, the writer procured the book, Altai-Himalaya, written by Nicholas Roerich, (copyrighted in 1929), from the Public Library. Referring to pages 361-62, the text reads as follows: "August 5, 1926--something remarkable! We were in our camp in the Kukunor district not far from the Humboldt chain. In the morning about half past nine some of our caravaners noticed a remarkably big black eagle flying above us. Seven of us began to watch this unusual bird. At this same moment another of our caravaners remarked, 'There is something far above the bird.' And he shouted in his astonishment. We all saw, in a direction from north to south, something big and shiny reflecting the sun, like a huge oval moving at great speed. Crossing our camp this thing changed in its direction from south to southwest, and we saw how it disappeared in the intense blue sky. We even had time to take our field glasses and saw quite distinctly an oval form with shiny surface, one side of which was brilliant from the sun."

CIGAR-SHAPED "AIRSHIP" SURVEYS UNITED STATES--1897 (Case 87) The writer has reviewed each of the following incidents in their complete coverage, but likes the concise, itinerant chronicling superbly handled by The Reader's Digest in their July, 1952 issue: We quote: "In April 1897, U.S. newspapers from coast to coast gave front page space to a huge, cigar-shaped "airship" cruising around Chicago. Late in March dispatches from the West had described a 'cigar-shaped' object, with no motive power, 'certainly not steam,' first reported near Sacramento, then Denver. On March 29, according to the New York Herald, it was seen 'by a majority of the residents of Omaha. It was in the shape of a bright light, too big for a balloon.' The New York Sun stated that Kansas City trolley cars stopped' and soon the whole population was watching it from the street and rooftops. The light was as big as that produced by 20 stars.' Stories poured into the Chicago Tribune. 'Reputable citizens (of Eldora, Iowa) say they observed the gigantic airship. One man said it resembled a immense bird of polished silver. 'In Milwaukee 'thousands of people saw it. The machine floated over the City Hall, where it stopped for a quarter of an hour."

A CLASSICAL CASE OF CONTRADICTIONARY CLAPTRAP: (Case 88, Los Angeles area, May 19, 55) A covey of jets returned to Norton AFB after a "fruitless search" for three silvery disc-shaped objects that entertained numerous people over a wide area, including Mt. Wilson, between 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. Lt. John Elliot of the Pasadena Police, who went to investigate after phone calls began pouring in, said he could see the objects "changing formation as if playing tag in the sky." Another witness said the objects seemed to be "leaping over each other." In Montrose, the Sheriff Station's deputies reported seeing the objects clearly and said that from Montrose they appeared to be over the La Canada area and very high. Most observers, however, reported the objects as "silver and disc-shaped."

Then came the counter-blow and the double talk. The opinion that the objects were weather balloons heightened after a La Canada woman trained her binoculars skyward and said they looked like "balloons carrying something." The Weather Bureau, however, reported that no balloons were aloft. An earlier report said that the silvery objects disappeared when the jets arrived to investigate, yet later, a spokesman at the Norton AFB at San Bernardino, said they had received a report from the Pasadena Filter Center,

"but did not plan to investigate". Then came the final and authoritative explanation that made these headlines: "THOSE FLYING DISCS OVER FOOTHILL AREA TURN OUT TO BE JUST INLAND PELICANS." It all began when one, lone man, J.W. Hershberger, with binoculars looked up and said, "They looked silver to the naked eye, but through glasses you could tell they were birds". Checking with the State Div., of Fish and Game, came Hershberger's confirmation -- "Pelicanus Erythrorhychos".

EDITOR: As my correspondent reminds me, "It seems odd that one man's opinion is supposed to void all others. . . Poor taxpayer, the cost of sending up jets to chase pelicans!" For collecting all the detailed reports on this case we wish to thank Mrs. W. J. Daily, also Harry Boynton and George M. Lew. Mrs. Daily also sends in a full-page report of a tremendous and destructive aerial shock wave that spread alarm over the Los Angeles area the following day. The explosion, according to witnesses, was preceded by a "flash in the sky". The cause, unknown.

UFO WITH LONG BLUE TAIL OVER JAPAN: Case 89, Shimizu, Japan, Feb. 5, 55) Early risers, at 5 a. m. saw it over Shimizu, a small port town. A newspaper delivery man, Yukio Tanaka, on bicycle, said the object, shaped like a disc, had a long blue tail, which illuminated the road. Other witnesses agreed, and added that they saw it streak toward the Pacific. One witness said, as the disc moved out toward the sea, there was a sudden explosive sound and the object disappeared from view. The story was carried in the Nippon Times, Tokyo, and sent in by Harold Fulton, N. Z. (ED: Object may have been bolide, but if so, then we must admit on basis of the frequency of such reports, that the Earth is presently in the midst of the Great Bolide Age.)

NEWSLETTER TO TAKE NEEDED VACATION: Finally and wearily, after two years of non-stop work, being Advertising Manager of large manufacturer by day and Researcher and Publisher of CRIFO by night, the writer and his family will start their vacation in the middle of June. Plans are to visit, relax and perhaps research a little in Louisiana. Being away, the writer therefore, will not be able to prepare material for the July Newsletter in time for the usual first Friday deadline which is July 1st. However, this copy should be ready by mid-July, but, in that it is so close to August, we have decided that the two issues, four pages each, will be mailed out together, that is, as soon as the August issue is completed. Quite a task, but by having both the July and August issues as separate issues, it will maintain the system of continuity and general convenience for those keeping reference files. Don't let our absence stop you from sending in mail, clippings, news-bits and subscriptions. All mail will be checked and all items of importance will be forwarded to the writer, promptly, at his destination. We trust that all good members will bear with us during the CRIFO lull period and that our publication policy for July meets with your approval. Perhaps, by the time we get to press again there will have burst many new bombshells into the sham and the silence surrounding the saucer. SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE: High cost of operations forced CRIFO in April to increase its rates from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per year. Foreign subs have been increased to \$3.60, regular mail. All back issues available at 25¢ each. CRIFO's Newsletter is on file in the Library of Congress.

SAUCER SUNDRIES: On May 24, Cincinnati was visited by a formation of four glowing, yellow oval objects. Many scattered witnesses, and their descriptions all tally. No jets in the area said the Air Force . . . The May-June copy of Flying Saucer Review has just arrived from London, looking very professional and informative. We recommend: write to 1 Doughty St., London W. C. 1, England . . . Gaining momentum is M. K. Jessup's idea of a UFO-Cruise Convention to the Caribbean in Sept., 55. Need about 500 enthusiasts, cost about \$70. to \$80.00 per person. Write for details, Mr. M.A. Bassett, c/o Library Research Gr., 408 International Bldg. Wash. 4, D.C. More information later. . . Photos showing shiny discs over Manhattan look good, but at this time, need more substantiation. Need more witnesses . . . CRIFO enjoyed the recent visit of Rev. Leon LeVan, of Pittsburgh, Pa. He has collected through the years a veritable archive of material pertaining to the UFO which he believes is interplanetary. Rev. LeVan has written letters to all corners of the globe seeking verification to "contact" stories.



## WORLD'S AIR FORCES, IN JOINT OPERATIONS, CHALLENGE INCURSION OF UFO'S. MYSTERIOUS JET DISASTERS MOUNT. G. O. C. ALERTED—TO COORDINATE IN SKY- WATCH WITH RADAR

Late word from correspondents outside the USA affirms *uniquivically* the growing international alarm over the problem of the UFO. Most free nations, to meet these problems, have long been joined in a coordinated investigation program, but the plans of operation and the information, interchanged, is *kept secret*. Typical of this mutual endeavor was in the Royal Australian Air Force lending the USAF a film of UFO in flight over Port Moresby, New Guinea in 1953. A recent example: the U.S. rushing a sizeable team of scientists and investigators to Venezuela to check into that country's ominous rash of sightings and supposed landings.

But the cumulative information is secret. To help safeguard the evidence and prevent a frenetic mob-demand for the facts, which occurred in the summer of 1952, the newswire services were asked to cooperate by playing down "saucer" stories. They agreed—just as they had worked cooperatively during the war years and particularly when the Manhattan Project was in force. A letter from a journalist in Peru confirms the recent UFO censorship, explaining that U.P., A.P. and I.N.S., since March 26, 1954, have cut all saucer information from North America. And, from CRIFO's experience, the same is true in reverse. News items, datelined from the Latin Americas, were virtually nil.

Late corroborative evidence of Pan-American censorship is found in a statement reported by Coral Lorenzen of APRO. We quote from her April Bulletin:

"It is indeed surprising that no mention has been made in the U. S. newspapers of the Petare, Carora, Valencia and Zulia encounters (Ed: with hairy bipeds, Venezuela) . . . Stranger it seems, is the fact that Mr. Miller of Business Week, Mr. Arnold Dible of U.P. and Mr. John Schell of North American Newspaper Alliance were all 'coincidentally' in Caracas *two days after the Petare incident!*"

### CENSORSHIP AND A STRANGE KIND OF WAR

However, all is not gloom! Although we may sometimes be perturbed by the fetters of censorship, or irked by its resultant outcrop of fanciful tales or prophecies of doom, we may also find some comfort in knowing that behind this curtain of censorship are the world's UFO-alerted air forces, some of which, fully briefed and equipped, have long engaged the interloper in a *strange kind of war*. Many pilots have returned from action safely to report their weird encounters, others not, but the real significance lies in the fact that despite the evidence of conflict in our skies, the planet, Earth, *still pursues its normal course*.

While our terrestrial life seems relatively unchanged through many years of visitation, the future, however, is unpredictable. CRIFO, with limited information, does not

pretend to know the *masterplan*, or the reasoning or emotions behind it. Nor do we know the meaning behind the curious surface transformations on the moon, on Mars<sup>1</sup> or the mission of two artificial satellites circling earth. We do know that earth's skies and man's boundaries are not inviolate to the massing legions in space. That UFO's pose a serious problem for military aviation is marked by the drama of recent events, (1) adoption of closer military-civilian skywatch operations, (2) evidence of USAF defensive action, (3) the sudden rise in jet crashes—the causes of which are not satisfactorily explained.

### BEHIND THE MASTERPLAN—MORE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE?

Inasmuch as we cannot prove that any one of the recent air crashes was caused by UFO action we shall review some of the incidents objectively, remembering previous disasters<sup>2</sup> which were caused by some *methodical airborne agency*. Reflectively, it is always plausible for two pilots, at the same moment, to misjudge their course, but the *spontaneous or simultaneous* crash or explosion of four, five or eight separate aircraft demands a more rationalized explanation than pilot misjudgment or routine failure. We may even suppose, on mathematical chance, that some extraordinary failure could simultaneously befall four or six aircraft but, again, hardly with the shocking *frequency* as noted in recent dispatches.

Case 90, Stockholm, Sweden, May 2, 1955—Four supersonic Swedish "Flying Barrel" jet fighters crashed on the ice of Glottern Lake in rapid succession, killing all four pilots. Air Force officials said the four pilots apparently misjudged their distance above the frozen lake because of low, overhanging clouds.<sup>3</sup>

(Ed: This case may be the exception, but considering the long record of UFO activity over Sweden, we cannot wholly rely on the innocence of the phraseology.)

Case 91, Near Madison, Wisconsin, May 22, 1955—C. A. A. officials at Truax Field said the two F-80 jets left Ft. Wayne, Indiana at 2:28 p.m. on a training flight to Duluth, Minn. Flying at 35,000 ft. at 350 mph the F-80s entered bad weather. The pilot of one turned back over Janesville and returned safely to Ft. Wayne, the other disappeared *without leaving a single clue*. During the extensive search, a fisherman in Lafayette County reported seeing a flash and hearing an explosion, but nothing was found in that area. By June 1 Air Force officials

<sup>1</sup> See CRIFO NEWSLETTER April '55, page 1, statement by Dr. R. S. Richardson. Also ref., NEW FINDINGS ABOUT MARS, in Sky & Telescope, July, '55 issue.

<sup>2</sup> See FLIGHT OF THE MACABRE, March '55, CRIFO Newsletter.

<sup>3</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield  
July 1, 1955 Issue Vol. II, No. 4

C.R.I.F.O.'s 16th consecutive publication. Founded  
March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with this issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield  
Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)  
Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio  
Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....	\$3.00 per year
Foreign first class mail.....	3.60 per year
Foreign air mail.....	6.60 per year

All back copies of NEWSLETTER available at 25c each.

*There are more things in heaven and earth. Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy—Shakespeare.*

#### C.R.I.F.O., FACING TASK AHEAD, PRESENTS NEW LOOK

Vacations are nice, and we're happy to be back home after a long drive to and from Lake Charles, Louisiana. We feel rested, but had little time to feel the luxury of laziness when we returned home and found a mountain of mail—some letters needing prompt answers. Overwhelmed as to what to do next, I made a choice—get out CRIFO's new ORBIT. The transition from offset printing to letterpress (with luggage still unpacked) is not easy, so we hope that you will understand the delay in receiving this issue and hope you like our new look. We quite agree with Harold Fulton of New Zealand who writes “. . . the very best on your vacation, hope you have a deserving break. Really though, there is no rest for those in this game.”

#### C.R.I.F.O. ADOPTS CLASSIFICATION POLICY

To help protect you and ourselves in the future on the handling and disposition of information contained in your letters, we shall borrow an idea from Fred Stone, president of The Australian Flying Saucer Research Society. In his recent letter to us, he classified certain items of information by code letter. By this method we know how to treat such matters that are confidential, and whether or not we may be privileged to publish.

Effective immediately we shall adopt this CLASSIFICATION Policy in all correspondence. Following is the breakdown and the coded Capitol letters to use in marking your letters or enclosures.  
TS—*Top Secret—Not to be divulged in any manner—to be destroyed.*  
S—*Secret—Not to be divulged in any manner—for closed files only.*  
C—*Confidential—for research officials only—not for printing.*  
R—*Restricted—For open discussion, but not for printing.*  
PI—*Public Information—For general discussion and printing.*

Classified letters, notes, photographs, documents should be marked clearly at top right hand corner of page by the proper Code Letter, preferably in red ink or pencil. Classified excerpts should be circled or underscored in red. Information not marked will be construed as open for discussion or printing, except for in cases where previous, mutual agreements have been made. Clippings will be treated as public information.

said they had given up the search. A spokesman said, “We have traced all available leads and they have turned out negative in every instance. We have searched 200 miles west of Madison, 100 miles east, 300 miles north and south of this city and over Lake Michigan. The plane is still missing. . . .”<sup>4</sup>

(Ed: Aircraft in the annals of the missing are many, some disappearing during UFO activity in the vicinity. See Case 58. Other cases, too numerous to mention.)

Case 92, Over a Rhineland village, Germany, June 9, 1955—A Sabrejet carrying a full load of ammunition exploded, killing the pilot, a German citizen and injuring four others. Flaming pieces of the plane struck two automobiles on a holiday-crowded highway. Three houses in the village of Rhens, five miles south on the same highway, were set afire. The USAF said the planes were on a “scramble” mission to intercept an unidentified plane at the time of the mishap. Lt. General Robert M. Lee, commander of the 12th A. F. at Ramstein, announced, “The Sabrejet was one of two scrambled to intercept the plane and investigate the (radar) report. The two jets were a part of a group of aircraft kept on the alert for such things.” The General added, “It is not yet known whether it was an enemy plane. We frequently scramble to intercept unidentified aircraft picked up on radar. Sometimes they are just aircraft whose flight plans have gone astray.”<sup>5</sup>

Ed: Having talked briefly with an Operations officer of a large SAC base, I had confirmed for me that the Air Force does not permit the mention of UFO. *All is secret!* In the above instance, we find that the General, knowing his orders, preferred calling the interloper an “unidentified plane”. Perhaps so, but we would bet evenly that radar got blips that were of a different dimension. Surely the second Sabrejet had returned from its intercept by the time the General had phrased his statement, but he remarks, oddly, “It is not yet known whether it was an enemy plane.” By this we deduce that the object of the scramble was not a U.S. aircraft which the general had conversely implied when he said, “Sometimes, they are just aircraft whose flight plans have gone astray.” We underscore, *sometimes*, which leaves us wondering what the jets chase when they are not U.S. or Russian aircraft. Finally, we note that the Philadelphia Enquirer headlines the “scramble” angle of the story, while the Cincinnati Enquirer cut out any suggestion of something being *unidentified*.)

Case 93. Coimbra, Northern Portugal, July 1, 1955—Eight jet planes of the Portuguese Air Force, part of a formation of 12, crashed on Carvalho Mountain—the cause, bad visibility or a mid-air *collision*, military authorities were not sure. The aircraft were taking part in Air Force Day celebrations, which were cancelled after the crashes. Military authorities closed the crash area to reporters.<sup>6</sup>

(Ed: We reserve comment)

The cases listed do not cover all the aerial disasters for the same period. Another sinister incident reported by NBC, June 17, minus details, involves the simultaneous crash of five U.S. jets in a western state, two pilots rescued.<sup>7</sup> Still another *admittedly* “million-to-one” disaster occurred during NATO atomic air war maneuvers over Germany, June 26. Here, an American Sabrejet rammied a four-engine British bomber five miles up. All six crewmen of the British bomber were killed, while the U.S. pilot parachuted to safety. Said the pilot, “I can't remember a thing about what happened.”<sup>8</sup>

4 Credit, Thomas Olsen, Highlands Park, Ill.

5 Credit, H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

6 Credit, Harold Fulton, CSI, New Zealand.

7 Credit, Kenneth Smith, Knoxville, Tenn.

8 Credit H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

## THE ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS INCIDENT— MORE EVIDENCE

In the light of these disasters, we may better understand the reason for secrecy and possibly a reason for the USAF's recent offensive-defensive action when intercepting UFO's. We cannot say that secret orders exist, permitting jet interceptors to fire on UFO's, but the Rockford incident, Case 82, seems indicative of such action. Mr. Frank Gallagher of Roseville, Mich., has sent us additional information surrounding the incident, and we believe that its review here is important.

We quote from the *Rockford Register-Republic*, April 8, 1955:

"Three air force jets, a weather balloon and an interloper from out of nowhere added up to an aerial display between Rockford and Cherry Valley about 9:30 a.m. today. John C. Gregory, executive of the Winnebago county civil defense council, said he witnessed the weather balloon blowing up between here and Cherry Valley after the jets made a pass at it. Just prior to the explosion, Gregory said he saw a burst of flame. After the balloon exploded, Gregory said, another flat spherical object described as a 'brilliant white' shot by the jets at a high speed, going from southeast to northwest. The jets were from O'Hare field at Park Ridge. Air Force officials at the field said the weather balloon was sent up from Minneapolis. Gregory watched the show from atop the old city hall building after he had received a report from a Rockford resident who saw the same display."

This lurid write-up brings many questions to mind. In the first place, we question the target being a balloon for the following reasons: (1) *the jets were scrambled to intercept an unidentified flying object, thus ruling out any prearranged engagement;* (2) *jets are not permitted to fire on meteorological balloons;* (3) *jets are not permitted to fire on practice or random targets in or near residential areas.*

Also Gregory's mention of an "interloper" described as "flat, spherical and brilliant white" removes any lingering doubts as to the nature of the intercept mission. On good evidence it seems that early April was aerially busy.<sup>9</sup> We also note that April 8, the date of the Rockford incident, other UFO's, of bizarre characteristics, were at large, not too many miles away.

Case 94, Roseville, Mich., April 8, 1955—We quote from a letter, written by Dominic Sondy:

"On Friday, April 8, 1955, at 7:15 p.m., I was looking west thru my front door and I saw a white bar which appeared sharp, rigid and frosted. The ends were square and clearly defined. The full length was perfectly straight.

I watched, thinking it was a vapor trail and compared the direction of clouds to the right and out of the picture area. The wind was from the SW and the white bar did not disintegrate as a vapor trail would after 5 minutes. The white bar moved from NE to SW, against the wind and I noticed as it moved the angle changed. I immediately called Frank Gallagher who lives about ¾ mile to SW of me and he spotted it. I had my wife watch it and describe its movement toward the horizon and I ran back and forth between the telephone and the door. When first seen, I judged the angle of the object to be about 30 degrees low and pointing North and Frank verified this. This means the object had to be very large and very high to look as if the angle was the same from a distance of ¾ mile between vantage points.

The object moved to the vertical position and before it vanished over the horizon it moved past the vertical. From Frank's OP it seemed to glow an orange-red around the midsection. He had binoculars trained on the object and could see it after it passed from my sight. My wife called two neighbors and they agree they saw basically what we did.

The object was in my sight about 20 minutes. I judge it to have been about 1 mile long and about 10 miles high. It was not fuzzy or wispy in any sense of the word.

In order to prepare this letter I photographed the area of the sighting as soon as a day came along (about a week later) that had the same cloud haze (very slight) and I shot the picture at 7:30 p.m. This made a grey dull flat negative. I made several prints before getting one that gave us the closest grey tone as compared to the white of the object.

I then used a ruling pen and chinese white positive color to give you as close a picture as we could to what we saw."

Frank Gallagher writes, postscript:

"P.S. Dear Len, I rehashed this event with Dom and as outlined in the attached photo he saw this object at a 30 degree angle, however, my wife and I definitely saw it at a complete horizontal position, plus the fact that I only saw it change colors. . . . Dom and I have decided that perhaps he saw one object whereas my wife and I saw another object of the same description only perhaps in somewhat a different position in the sky. . . ."

In brief, the facts related, tell only part of the general, or global concern over the UFO excursion. Although we cannot cite, authoritatively, any overt signs which would indicate an extraterrestrial plan of conquest, planeticide or even a menace born of curiosity, we try and evaluate the straws in the wind, so to speak. One such straw in the turbulent wind of evidence is the adoption of a closer alliance between the military and the Ground Observer Corps in Operation Skywatch. We quote from S.O.P., No. 13, May 17, 1955, page 2, paragraph 5, entitled OPERATIONS—TYPES OF AIRCRAFT TO REPORT.

"In case of *unknown flying objects* or aircraft in distress or any *unusual occurrences*, a column 9 report should be made. Give a description of the unknown object, its size, shape and speed; or if an aircraft is in distress give complete details. Air Force personnel on duty will ask additional questions pertaining to the object or aircraft in distress or occurrence and any additional information you can give will be helpful."

That the UFO is of perennial concern was exposed by Scripps-Howard writer, Jim G. Lucas, February 13, 1954.

We quote in part from his article:

". . . Representatives of major airlines will meet in Los Angeles with Military Air Transport (MATS) service intelligence officers to discuss speeding up saucer reporting procedures. The idea will be to 'get the reports in the quickest possible way' so the Air Force can speed fast jet fighters to investigate. Heretofore, commercial pilots have landed and then reported to MATS through their companies. By that time, the trail usually is cold. Now, pilots are instructed to flash reports direct from the air to MATS intelligence in Washington or to the nearest air force base. . . . Airline pilots are asked not to discuss their sightings publicly or give them to newspapers."<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> See May, 1955 issue, CRIFO Newsletter. Note dates of incidents.

<sup>10</sup> See statement by Major D. Keyhoe, Sept. issue, CRIFO Newsletter.

## SOUTH AFRICAN METEOROLOGIST'S REPORT

Case 95, Cape Province, S. Africa, Dec. 7, 1954—

"On December 7th, 1954," states Mr. R. H. Kleyweg, officer-in-charge at the Meteorological Station, Upington, Cape Province, "I released a balloon for upper wind observation. I was shielding my eyes from the sun when I saw an object to the east of the sun moving slowly from the west. I thought this was my balloon and picked it up in the theodolite. As there was some cloud about I had released a red balloon, but this object was white not red; it was like a half-circle with the sun reflecting off the sloping top. I followed this object for about three minutes not knowing what to make of it. It was not moving at all fast and was easy to follow. I could see it through cloud owing to the reflection of the sun from it. My stop watch was still going and I decided to take

theodolite observations. In the first reading the angles were 43.7 azimuth from true north and the elevation 56.7. I had no sooner written this down than the object began to move at greater speed. I kept it in sight for another full minute and took another reading. This was 38 degrees from north and the elevation was also 38 degrees. I scribbled the last two readings down on the pad but the object was moving so fast that I could not find it again in the theodolite when I looked up.

"I have followed thousands of meteorological balloons. This object was no balloon. It did not look or behave like a balloon. The angular observations give a movement of the object of 30 degrees true (i.e., from 210 degrees) in direction, and a speed of 75 m.p.h. for each 10,000 feet of its height above ground."<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Credit, AUSTRALIAN SAUCER RECORD, quoted from NATAL MERCURY.



**SAUCER SUNDRIES:** Watch for an article on Mars in the Sept. issue of *National Geographic*. . . . We like Editor E. Biddle's saucer-subject candor in *Uranus*, a British publication. Write Markham House Press, Ltd., 31 Kings Rd., London, S.W. 3, England. . . . As always, much good material in New Zealand's C.S.I. publication, edited by Harold Fulton. Write C.S.I., P.O. Box 1914, Auckland, N.Z. . . . A new letterpress publication with a sound organization behind it, is *Australian Saucer Record*. Write Fred Stone, 22 Northcote St., Kilburn, South Australia. . . . From a member in Naughton, Ontario, Canada, we received a letter describing a low hovering "saucer" that terrified some children while at play. . . . Is the glass-pox

plague back again? Got report and the evidence, now under study, from New York, and another report which tells of fire-dart piercing plate glass of store in New York town, then, miraculously, the glass sealing up its crack without the aid of human hand. Many witnesses. Ahem, we need more facts, please! . . . We recommend Derek Dempster's *Flying Saucer Review*, a new British slick mag. Write, 1 Doughty St., London, W.C. 1, England. . . . Received advance copy of George Adamski's new book, *Inside The Space Ship*. New photos are revealed to back up his adventures in space. We prefer not to enter the Adamski controversy as we do not have sufficient evidence to support or deny his experiences.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

De William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## IS "SAUCER" SHOWDOWN NEAR? UNPRECEDENTED PEACE TALKS MAY HAVE EXTRATERRESTRIAL COERCION

C.R.I.F.O. does not operate a rumormongery: it prefers the fact-rooted story. However, there are instances where the line separating fact from fiction are tenuous—such is the story we have from Geneva. Our first impulse was to reject the item, *in toto*, but we reconsidered our appraisal upon receipt of an additional clipping<sup>1</sup> which named the source of the information as Prof. Alfred Nahon of Lausanne, Switzerland.<sup>2</sup> Having no knowledge of Nahon's irresponsible reporting in the past, we felt reasonably safe in assuming that his details were in order, and, at once began connecting with it other pertinent evidence we had on file, all of which, lends still more credence to the professor's assertions. On these premises, we feel duty-bound to relate the evidence on hand for your own evaluation. We quote, first, from the A. P. release, datelined Geneva, July 16, 1955:

"The World Interplanetary Association disclosed today the secret reason the heads of government of the world's four major powers decided to meet here next week. This is it: To discuss how to deal with beings from other planets who have delivered a final warning to the world by destroying atomic plants in Britain<sup>3</sup> and Russia. The association made this disclosure in a memorandum to the Big Four, signed by its president, Prof. Alfred Nahon of Lausanne. The association's congress unanimously approved it last week, he said. The utilization of atomic energy—even for peaceful purposes—was about to cause the disintegration of the universe, the memo declared. The inhabitants of other planets realized the danger, and the only way to prevent attacks from outer space was to abandon the atom. The memo called on the Big Four to tell the world the truth about aircraft from outer space, 'observed in all countries since 1945' in order to avoid a 'stupid panic' when the facts finally become known."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Credit, Sam Feldman, Chicago, Ill., H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

<sup>2</sup> Editor, LE COURRIER INTERPLANETAIRE.

<sup>3</sup> We know of several mysterious explosions over England which demand explanation, (1) British mag., FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June issue, reports one over Hampstead Heath area, March 16, 1955. (2) See CRIFO case 73. Harold T. Wilkins informs us, incident involved four blast bolts coming from four directions, one swinging in tight circle, after entering the Isles from Land's End from Atlantic. It then exploded violently on coast of Eire, causing landslide. (3) CSI, N.Z., sends us clip on mysterious London explosion, July 6, quoting in part: "The explosion—a double bang—awakened people over 50-mile radius, rattling windows, setting off burglar alarms and alerting police and fire departments. "It made a rolling, thundery noise", said a Ministry spokesman, "which is not at all like a supersonic bang."

<sup>4</sup> At press time, we received a letter, via air mail from Prof. Nahon. In our hasty translation from the French, we learn that Nahon's information on the explosions and the destruction of atomic centers in Russia and England, and the blackout of this news by the press, comes from a "good source". He says, "the one of which we are dealing mostly (for information) is an Italian diplomat of Rome . . . (Ed: We have diplomat's name, but prefer withholding). Nahon adds, ". . . I have never said that the Big Four gathered to discuss the question of the UFO . . . they gathered BECAUSE OF THE ACTION following these (UFO's)."

Needless for C.R.I.F.O. to offer its interpretation of the proceedings at Geneva, for at this writing the trend is nebulous, premature and deplete of the facts. However, the real trend appears to have been established before Geneva. Looking back into the *potpourri* of events in recent months, we have noted the build-up of a new East-West relationship, one in which not only the *deeds of peaceful intentions* are manifest, but with it the ungrudging handshake and wooing smile of visiting dignitaries. It is in these gestures that we find our *double entendre*, and, our suspicions for the fear-state which may have coerced the heads of government into a new and more cordial behavior.

### THE CONTAGION OF FEAR

Then came the Geneva Conference, seeming almost too precipitant. Sparked by the Nahon report, we felt even more convinced that a *contagion of fear*, spreading steadily behind the scenes, did have the precipitant influence, or, not to be discounted in the light of recent developments, that some new incident had occurred forcing the whole issue into a state of crisis!

Even disregarding the "state of crisis" hypothesis, we still find credulity in the belief that the meeting of the Big Four may have served more than one good purpose, and we cite, (1) closed-door discussion of UFO problems, which at any time may precipitate into a world crisis, (2) concurrent and open discussion of East-West differences, which if effected, would mean a world of peaceful co-existence, and the necessary unified front in meeting any new crisis.

All in all, we must account in some way for the sudden warmth of diplomacy and the *savior faire* of the dignitary, while still fresh in mind are the yesterdays of sabre-rattling and the blood bath of Korea. The real issues at Geneva are not yet known, and may never be, but we are certain that away from the podium, panels were held in secrecy. One sundry note, touching on the theme of secrecy, comes from Eddy Gilmore of A. P.<sup>5</sup> In his report of July 21, he played up the "black snow" which swirled down over a wide area around the headquarters of the U. S. delegation. He assures us, however, that the snow was nothing more than ashes of secret papers being burned by security men. . . .

<sup>5</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield  
August 5, 1955 Issue Vol. II, No. 5

C.R.I.F.O.'s 17th consecutive publication. Founded  
March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....\$3.00 per year

Foreign first class mail..... 3.60 per year

Foreign air mail..... 6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

*Every man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world.—Schopenhauer.*

#### SOLID BEDROCK

The success of anything must have a foundation of something, and the *something* of our success, is the steadfast spirit of cooperativeness and loyalty shown by our thousands of readers. Without this solid bedrock, CRIFO would crumble. Proof of our contention is in the mail we receive—over 15,000 letters in little more than a year—and most all were letters of kindness, encouragement, or those with information and clippings. Although all were graciously received, many went unanswered—the victims of time and its unrelenting *dilatation factor*. It is this one shortcoming in our *modus operandi* that we particularly regret, and hope in the future we may smooth it out, thus making us worthy of your loyalty.

#### IN COOPERATIVE FELLOWSHIP

We should like to add a special thanks to those "first of a few", now editing saucer or allied publications. Although we may differ in editorial approach or in style of presentation, most all have been very fair in their dealings with CRIFO. Some have been generous contributors of material and information, others, when time permits, cordially exchange letters, and, practically all have been more than fair in respect to the rules of copyright (to which we subscribe), that is, in observing a credit line. We feel that a show of our appreciation is well in order and resolve to keep up our end.

#### OFFICIAL POSTSCRIPT TO THE ROCKFORD INCIDENT

Knowing the resounding importance of the Rockford Incident, Case 82, we wrote the Defense Department for information concerning Air Force policy which governs such action as described in July *Orbit*. We quote from their reply of July 28, 1955 in a letter signed by Captain Robert C. White: "With regard to the Case 82 which you mentioned, we know of no instance where a military aircraft has fired on any unidentified object. Our aircraft do not fire on balloons, nor would they fire on any target in a residential area unless we were invaded by an enemy force."

Ed: Is it possible, in this instance, that our aircraft may have regarded the interloper as acting in a hostile manner and therefore considered it as a member of an *enemy force*?

In the July issue of *Orbit*, we emphasized the world's concern over the UFO. This factor, alone, should be sufficient reason to behoove nations to a unified course of action, but we have on hand *other* information, dating back, which shows evidence of a *high level concern*, and, we believe that such, although significant in itself, may also have had some bearing on Geneva. Possibly because of tight security in diplomatic circles, little in the way of newbits seep out publicly, but some of the evidence we know of has already made the circuit and needs only review. For instance, Dorothy Kilgallen, on February 15, 1954 gave bold-face type to this report: "Flying saucers are regarded as of such vital importance that they will be the subject of a special hush-hush meeting of world military heads next summer."

When the summer of 1954 arrived, we heard nothing more on this meeting, but we learned that the real purpose of Winston Churchill's visit to the U. S. that summer went *beyond* the announced discussion of Asian affairs. His mission, we were told, was on the UFO! Although we cannot supply proof of this assertion, we might recall, for what it's worth, that Churchill was one of the strong proponents for a meeting at the "summit". Perhaps, at that long-ago date, the astute Churchill knew that an East-West reconciliation was mandatory before ever coping with the still greater issue of the UFO. Now, reflectively, we can only wonder what has occurred in or over Russia since the summer of 1954, and, why now, the growling Bear has turned to smiles, licking his honey.

Russia, the enigma in the world of politics, is no less enigmatic in the role of the UFO. All attempts by C.R.I.F.O. to burrow under the Iron Curtain for information have been futile. However, we do have one informative report, that removes any notion that the Russians are treating the subject with the apathy they pretend. We quote from the item, datelined Berlin, NANA, November 3, 1952:

"A German scientist's daughter who lived in the Russian zone and was conscripted for work in a Moscow laboratory escaped to the western zone, recently. This girl of 24 told the high commissioner's office that the Russians had come to the conclusion that flying saucers are not figments of imagination, but are something real. The Russians, she said, are resolved to find out what they are. Her father had worked under the Nazis at Peenemunde during World War II. In the beginning, she said, the Russians dismissed the heavenly objects as propaganda released by the Western world, as a scare in the hope of convincing timid persons of the great scientific might of the West. Later, however, they began to take a more serious view of the matter when *reliable stories* of flying saucers were reported over Turkey and southern Russia. . . ."

There are many other corroborative reports covering the *inside concern*<sup>6</sup> of high level policy-makers, and, of course, we are aware of those reports, too, that show the hand of the charlatan and rumormonger. In summary, we feel that the Geneva Conference is very topical in relation to the UFO, and, that all mentioned factors be carefully evaluated, including Nahon's *memorandum*.<sup>7</sup>

## OPERATION SPACEWATCH AND COMETS— ABELL, MRKOS AND “?”

Astronomers today are busy keeping watch, their telescopes and radio telescopes probe the vast reaches of space, acting as a kind of advance warning system. One of their prime functions is hunting and computing *celestial unknowns*, and particular attention is focused in the active region of space between Earth and the moon. Also of concern, we may presume, is the orbital path of Mars and the circumnavigable space heading in toward the moon and thence to Earth. Recently, in spacewatch operations, two new comets were discovered and their computations recorded. *Sky and Telescope*, July 1955 issue, reported:

“On April 13, 1955 a new 15th magnitude comet was discovered in Canes Venatici, by G. O. Abell on Sky Survey plates taken with the 48-inch Schmidt telescope at Mt. Palomar. A preliminary orbit calculation has been made by Dr. L. E. Cunningham, Leuschner Observatory, on the basis of positions on April 15, 17, and 23. The orbit is of very high eccentricity, and a parabolic solution leaves very small residuals from the observed positions. The remarkable feature of this comet is its great perihelion distance, 5.05 astronomical units, so that when the Comet Abell (1955b) was closest to the sun, on June 19, 1954, it was just within the orbit of Jupiter.”

The discovery of the new comet, Mrkos was reported in *Sky and Telescope*, August 1955 issue, and we quote in part:

“Recent years have been lean as far as bright comets are concerned, and the discovery of a naked-eye comet, 1955e, by Antonin Mrkos on June 12th was welcome news. At discovery, the comet was near Capella, and of magnitude 5 or 6. It was described as a diffuse object with a central condensation or nucleus, and a tail more than a degree in length. Moving northward and eastward, it was best seen before dawn in the NE sky. Word of Comet Mrkos was wired to the Copenhagen and Harvard Observatories. . . . Reports have already been received from several American amateurs who have seen the object. . . .”

### THE NEW ZEALAND “GHOST” COMET

Unlike Comets, Abell and Mrkos, a third discovery, Comet “McIntosh”, did not win scientific recognition. Instead, it became first, an object of curiosity, then one of heated controversy. Finally, we learn that Comet McIntosh was only a “ghost” on word of the authorities, but in all fairness, we should like to review all the facts as told by Harold Fulton, of C.S.I., New Zealand. We quote:

<sup>6</sup> See Kilgallen's ref. to “official of cabinet rank” in statement, June '55 NEWSLETTER.

<sup>7</sup> Hard on the heels of Geneva, comes the official announcement, July 29, of U.S. space satellite plans. In tacit conjunction is NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S well-timed articles on space in August issue, just arrived, and Arthur Edson's prepared A.P. article which ran in most all newspapers and said nothing new save perhaps, the mention of “little men”. However, the real points of issue are as follows: (1) the satellites are for scientific purposes. Although it was stressed that their uses would include the study of cosmic rays and weather, we believe that the units may house radar designed to help plot the positions of parent craft and the approach of smaller objects. Perhaps in other units there will be housed a new type of telescope called, QUESTAR which would easily fit into a device the size of a basketball. Such would SEE better on the moon where there is extraordinary activity. (2) Russian participation. Although contrary to Secretary Wilson's tighter security program, we now feel that ITEMS on the Geneva Agenda have altered our past policy. (3) the sudden tepidity of Communist China and a letter received August 1 from Bangkok, Thailand which tells of increased UFO activity in the Far East. (4) The need for a better smokescreen, for, if and when saucer sightings increase in 1956 as Mars approaches, the world's press may find a better alibi than hallucination, temperature inversion and balloon hoaxes.

## Case 96, in SPACE, May 4-10, 1955—

“A strange body in space first reported to have been seen from Rangiora, Christchurch, on May 4th, but not recognized, and then again by Mr. L. R. Beaumont, a local astronomer, on May 10th. Mr. Beaumont, being uncertain as to what the object represented, passed the information on to Mr. R. A. McIntosh, Director of the Meteor Section of the Royal New Zealand Astronomical Association. McIntosh, finally assured that the other people were not seeing optical illusions in the lens of their instruments, took a look himself. Following his confirmation of the object's actual existence, he claimed discovery of a new comet. The ‘object’ was described as having an ‘elliptical head and short tail’ or as a ‘large blob of light with a faint tail’. It was visible only with telescopic aid, in a position close to the west of Jupiter. Its astronomical location was given by Mr. McIntosh as right ascension 7 hrs. 45½ m., declination 21 degrees 37 m North. Mr. McIntosh quickly computed the new comet's orbit, which promised to make cometary astronomical history, in that the comet is expected to come within three million miles of the Earth on June 17th. On June 19th, on its outward journey from the Sun, the comet is expected to pass through the earth's orbit only three days ahead of the earth. The Earth in turn is expected to pass through the comet's wake on the 21st of June—thus meteor showers are due, we are told.

“To Auckland ‘Saucer’ investigators Mr. McIntosh is recognized as our ‘star’ sceptical performer, who usually has no difficulty in demolishing or exploding other astronomers' claims of ‘Moon Bridges’ and ‘Martian Canals’, or explaining the numerous sightings of ‘Saucers’ as mainly meteors or other natural phenomena. He has adequate space and never hesitates to use it to this end in his weekly ‘Aries’, ‘Newest in Science’ column. What a cruel twist of fate and a shock it must have been to Mr. McIntosh to have his sighting and possible comet discovery, so rudely written off by Mr. I. L. Thomsen, Director of the Carter Observatory with the following words, ‘I don't believe there is anything in the report, all at the Observatory have searched the location, but nothing has been seen. No further watch will be kept for the object as we don't believe there is anything in it.’ To C.S.I., having received like treatment from Mr. McIntosh, we could be excused for our tendency to enjoy his embarrassment. However, it is not our wish or policy to do so. We are informed that at least five people have seen the object through separate telescopes and Mr. McIntosh claims to have observed it at least ten times to date. The observer's are experienced with telescopic viewing and fully conversant with all the permanent planetary bodies and the seasonal star patterns of our local skies. Therefore we accept a local sighting of a strange body in space as being a reliable observation. We would like to voice our disapproval of the distasteful and embarrassing ‘nothing in it’ remarks of Mr. Thomsen, Director of Carter Observatory. Such lack of discretion, support and fair hearing by professional men in like occupations is plain stupidity.

“There is a possibility that the Auckland and Christchurch amateur astronomers have sighted one of the strange alien craft that have been found frequenting earth's skies from extra-terrestrial sources. The description of the object differs from the ordinary run of comets. Also, the peculiar behaviour accredited it, by Mr. McIntosh, and the lack of recognition by the Carter Observatory is suggestive of something which many people in the Civilian Saucer Investigation business have long suspected. This is it, that the top astronomical people, together with the heads of governments, churches, etc., are wise to the extra-terrestrial nature of the ‘Saucers’, but to date have, by fair means or foul, deliberately withheld this astonishing truth from the masses. We grant of course that they firmly believe this the wisest move until their hand is forced or the peoples of the world are sufficiently conditioned to receive such remarkable discovery.

ADDENDUM BY HAROLD FULTON: “It seems that the final round in the Comet query has been settled. The N. Z. Herald cabled Dr. Gerald Merton of Oxford University Observatory, England, for confirmation of the local comet claims. The English astronomer states that telescopic search had failed to locate the so-called comet so they believed the local men have been fooled by a telescopic ‘ghost’ image. I phoned Mr. McIntosh on the 10th of June, and he says that he has just discovered the cause of his error—a tiny speck of silver missing from the rear of a reflector in the telescope, a most unusual fault to occur at that time’. He put it down to strange coincidence that others had seen the same ‘ghost’ through other telescopes, when I sprung the question. That at least three independent telescopes developed the same most unusual fault, at the same time seems asking too much of credence. Mr. McIntosh had previously stated that he made the most searching and convincing tests for telescopic ‘ghost’ explanations before he made the claim to have discovered the new comet. My candid opinion is that Mr. McIntosh would sooner eat humble pie to a ‘ghost’ explanation than hazard the chance of being accused of admitting to have ‘sighted’ a ‘flying saucer.’”

(Continued on page four)

ADDENDUM BY C.R.I.F.O.: In our desire to air the issue and to find new data on the questionable comet, we wrote to the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C. On July 29 we received the following reply signed by John S. Hall, Dir., of the Equatorial Div. We quote:

"In reply to your letter of July 26, 1955, we have had no reports of the discovery of a new comet near the position you mentioned. However, about the middle of April, periodic Comet Schwassmann-Wachmann 2 (1954g) was approximately at this position. By 10 May it was nearly ten degrees east of that point. Throughout this time this comet was thirteenth magnitude. Except for this, we know of no other comets in the area."

Summarily, we agree with Fulton in his contention that sighter McIntosh and others did see a material object, not a comet. We add, there is nothing *dishonorable* in seeing these space craft, as McIntosh seems to think, for we have numerous such cases on record. See Cases 30, 22 and 14, and we know of others, too, where objects were close enough to the moon to cast their shadows.

**SAUCER SUNDRIES:** I now have most of the *astounding* details which describe an incident involving a crashed saucer, its strange "little men" found dead inside, and the witness—a person of very creditable character who now lives in Venezuela. The incident occurred in Argentina, 1950, and considering our source for this information, we believe the facts are true . . . A parallelism to the case above was the Science-Fiction TV production,



#### ORBIT FINDS FAR-REACHING ACCEPTANCE

C.R.I.F.O. is happy to announce the successful debut and acceptance of its new publication, *Orbit*. We quote from the first letters crossing our desk.

" . . . pleased to receive your handsome new edition of *Orbit*; it certainly is a 100% improvement in format over the old Newsletter; however, most important, it still retains the high calibre content established in Newsletter."—Ted Bloecher, New York, N.Y.

"Congratulations on your first edition of *Orbit*. This brings the appearance of your publication up to the level of its consistently sane and sound editing. In these days of deliberate and inexcusable official suppression of news, including that of the UFO's, it is more important than ever that some outlet such as yours remain in circulation as a focal point for truth and discussion. Every sign indicates that the most significant days in human history lie not too far in the future and *Orbit* may well play an increasingly important role."—Frank Edwards, 4545 Connecticut, NW, Washington, D.C.

"While I do not agree with your beliefs, I do wish to compliment you on the format and layout of your new bulletin . . ."—Captain R. C. White, USAF, O.P.I., Washington, D.C.

"At the end of a very busy Sunday, I will take a few minutes to tell you how much I appreciate the new dress of the C.R.I.F.O.

July 23, entitled, *A Night of Terror in Mexico*. . . . Have received word, the Telonic Research Center is being set up in Prescott, Arizona. They are experimenting with an Interstellar Communicator which "utilizes ultra-violet and infra-red principles and optical/electronic devices. It is for direct planet to planet work." . . . Chances look bright for that UFO Cruise-Convention at Miami in October. It is being sponsored by M. K. Jessup, author of *The Case For The UFO*. The plan at present is to assemble directly on the ship and thus avoid expensive hotel bills. The idea is to have a pow-wow of East Coast and Midwest UFO fans on board a cruise ship operating in the waters of the saucer-haunted Gulf-Caribbean-Bahamas area. . . . With the cooperation of Citadel Press, Jessup, also expects to publish a *UFO Reporter Annual*, at the close of 1955. This will contain a wealth of information relative to UFO and the people *actively* interested. If there is enough interest, Jessup will follow this with a larger *UFO Encyclopedia* in which there will be a directory of all UFO enthusiasts. The *Encyclopedia* will also contain a digest of all major sightings and events of the period 1947-55, and in this all fans are asked to contribute old clippings and articles.

*Orbit*. I have certainly come to depend upon the Letter considerably for dependable matter on the UFO situation. This new format puts C.R.I.F.O. right at the top."—Rev. Albert H. Baller, Greenfield, Mass.

"Thank you for your letter . . . and the copy of *Orbit*, a really handsome and interesting publication in its new format."—The American Weekly.

"Thanks a ton for the July *Orbit*. You are certainly doing an outstanding job of objective reporting."—M. K. Jessup, New York, N.Y.

"Congratulations, Len on the new format and title. One of the crying needs in this country was an impressive "saucer" periodical (together with properly spelled words) which Air Force personnel, physicists, astronomers and sober laymen would not be ashamed to lay on their desks. I have long been under the impression that the vocal group of the Air Force is perfectly satisfied to see the subject of flying saucers hang itself with the rope of prophesy, carelessly edited periodicals, and science-fiction yarns of "meetings" with etheric guardians, mystical masters, and sultry maids from exotic planets! This hanging would make it unnecessary for the Air Force to (1) painfully admit the reality of the flying saucers to the public, or to (2) again commit itself foolishly by denying their reality."—John Philip Bessor, Pittsburgh, Pa.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

Dr William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## THE QUESTION OF INTERPLANETARY WAR — LANDINGS AND LITTLE MEN. CINCINNATI IS SCENE OF UFO CONCENTRATION

Cincinnati, sweltering under one of its hottest summers, had forgotten flying saucers. Even the local newspapers, in their seasonably *canned* editorials, had neglected to remind the readers that saucers and the heat were deplorably synonymous.

While the press faithfully recoiled, leaving the unsuspecting public aloft in their ivory towers, only a handful of Cincinnatians knew the real issues. Among these few were certain Civil Defense officials, who were, in the main, under security, and CRIFO, who had learned vital information the hard way. In essence, the truth presented a sobering picture. Drawing from recent information and correlating it with the past, we concluded, (1) UFO's have turned from surveillance to aggressive action, (2) such action constitutes, *ipso facto*, a state of interplanetary war, (3) the war is entering a critical period or turning point and the world's military forces are uniting, defensively, (4) regional concentrations and landings of UFO's are in effect, (5) until the UFO's ultimate objective is determined, the fate of the world, as result of landings, singly or en masse, is unknown.<sup>1</sup>

Like other key points, Cincinnati and environs were in the direct path of the gathering storm. Whether or not the local press knew the grim facts, they were keeping silent, but the thunderhead had already showed its tentacled menace. Just north of the city, in the town of Loveland, members of the GOC were reporting a heavy concentration of UFO's to the Columbus Air Filter Center. Strange brilliant objects were frequently sighted hovering low over the residential section, and on one occasion, a lone metallic disc was seen during daylight hours hovering not far from the GOC observation tower. On July 29, Cincinnati proper was swooped on by a neon-bright ball. Making a weird penetrating shrill sound, the object performed aerially in zig zags and square turns before disappearing to the north. This incident occurred about 1:00 a.m. in Madison Place, and according to reports, the object was also seen over Loveland by GOC members. However, it was not until August 5th that the public's eyes were opened and the press broke its silence.

Case 97, Northern Kentucky, Cincinnati, Columbus, Lancaster, Ohio, Aug. 5, '55—At 8:40 p.m., a large brilliant tear-drop shaped object, flying south to north, crossed the city's skies. It moved swiftly and soundlessly in a straight horizontal path without visual arc. Witnessed by thousands, including the writer, who's view was excellent, the object appeared as large as a dime held at arm's length.

A notable feature was the sharply etched roundness of the device which gleamed in a uniform brilliant white luminescence. Tapering abruptly behind this white mass was a short fiery tail of bluish-green—much like the tonguing flame of a rocket. Its speed, although constant, was too fast for any known aircraft, yet too slow for a normal meteor.

During the next few days I interviewed over fifty other witnesses. Most all confirmed the description which I had phoned to the Columbus Air Filter Center and the newspapers. Some described the object as "cone-shaped", like a "pear" or, as my daughter told me, "a light bulb with a little blue tail." Reports poured in from every section of the city, mostly in the eastern half or from high ground in the west. One report from Cold Springs, Kentucky claimed that the object was exceedingly low and appeared to have "windows."

While all three Cincinnati papers laughingly reported the incident under banner headlines—blaming it on the heat or hallucination<sup>2</sup>—other accounts of the object's flight began filtering in from remote areas in central and northeastern Ohio.

From Columbus came reports that residents there also saw a ball of fire streaking over the city. It was described as a bright yellow colored light with a red and green fringe or halation. The object silently disappeared in a cloud bank about 5000 ft. high. Over Lancaster, about 30 miles southeast of Columbus, a similar object was reported by many residents. C. M. Smith of that city writes: ". . . my family and I were sitting out on our terrace when we saw a giant fireball traveling very rapidly from south to north. It appeared as a pear-shaped object glowing white with a red and orange fiery tail."

Ed: Several reports from *northwestern* Cincinnati described the object as suddenly and silently exploding just north of the city. One witness said he thought he saw it hit the earth and burst into verticle streamers like a bomb. Curiously, the object was not seen in adjacent areas *northeast* of the city, which gives rise to the theory that *two objects* were seen over Cincinnati almost at the same time. Lending weight to this theory is the fact that the majority of witnesses represented two extreme ends of the city, and from two extreme ends of Kentucky from which the objects were seen to originate. By this deduction, we can, therefore, account for the *one object* exploding in northwestern Cincinnati, and the other, perhaps, changing course and flying ENE toward Lancaster where the description of the object tallies with the object witnessed by myself. If the later case were not true, as we have earlier suggested, on the assumption that no one reported a UFO in the outlying areas of *northeastern* Cincinnati, then we may believe that *three and possibly four separate* objects had traversed the skies over Ohio.

<sup>1</sup> The itemized hypotheses are CRIFO's and do not refer to or reflect upon official information, but, in fair warning, many loose ends of the formidable UFO puzzle now are fitting, and such is our interpretation.

<sup>2</sup> In the light of recent developments, and for the sake of national sanity and security we feel that our responsible press has exceeded its bounds, when in debunking "saucers", it must also belittle the sighters.

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield  
Sept. 2, 1955 Issue Vol. II, No. 6

C.R.I.F.O.'s 18th consecutive publication. Founded  
March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....\$3.00 per year

Foreign first class mail..... 3.60 per year

Foreign air mail..... 6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

*"Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe."  
Lewis Carroll*

### LATE WORD FROM MAJOR D. E. KEYHOE

Many readers have written in asking about the publishing date of Major Keyhoe's latest book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*. On August 17th we got word from the Major and we quote, in part:

"My book has been delayed by new and important developments which I felt should be included. At present I expect the book to be published before the end of November."

"P.S.: I think your new C.R.I.F.O. format—*Orbit*, is a great improvement. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

D. E. Keyhoe,

Major, U. S. Marine Corps., Ret."

### ORBITAL PROS AND CONS

We appreciate the many additional letters received from readers giving praise to the new *Orbit*. With these were a few dissenters and we believe their objections should be aired, likewise. One complaint contended that the *Orbit* contained less printed material than that contained in the *Newsletter*. Answer: actually, there is as much or more material. Smaller type face and letterpress printing, in fact, gives us more elbow room. Another reader complained that the type face was too small, especially in footnotes. Answer: On this we agree, but our limited space and having so much to say restricts the size of the type face. At the moment, shortage of time and expenses will not permit us enlarging to additional pages. Speaking of expenses, CRIFO's are very high and exceeds that which we take in on our subscriptions. Being that we do not meet our high costs of operations, by accepting commercial advertising, we must depend on subscriptions. In this department we implore upon our readers to help spread the word—more subscribers!

On the weekend of Aug. 27-29, we were pleasurably visited by Ted Bloecher of New York. Ted, a hard-working, serious UFO researcher, arrived at a good time and learned first hand of the unusual activity in the Greater Cincinnati area. We wish there were more people like Ted in this business—it would make our work easier!

Let's give our support to the Ground Observers Corps, and to the Air Force for their untiring work behind the scenes.

### BRIGHT OVOID LANDS, TERRIFYING DOG AND MASTER

Case 98, Northern Cincinnati, 1:00 a.m., Aug. 6, 1955—The witness, E. F., prefers anonymity for good reason (public ridicule) and, according to CRIFO policy, we shall protect his name. E. F. was first awakened by his dog barking outside. Investigating, he was greeted by a blinding white ovoidal object, about 15 ft. wide resting on the ground at the end of his driveway. About 90 ft. away, E. F. could determine the object's size by comparing it with the known width of his drive which was 20 ft. He watched the object for about five seconds in this position, noting a distinct pulsation which, according to E. F. severely irritated his eyes. Suddenly, and like a flash, the object ascended soundlessly and streaked away with incredible speed toward the Fernald atomic plant in the northwest. E. F. added that during the excitement, he noticed a car had stopped just ahead of the idling object on the road which crossed in front of his driveway. The next day, E. F. said that his eyes were extremely sore and he had to consult a doctor.

A little more than a week had passed before the next incident—an incident which seemed to be the spark to the powder keg. Not having space to cover each incident fully, we will attempt to brief them chronologically.

Case 99, Cincinnati, Columbus, Ohio, August 14, 1955—A bright kelly green fireball, streaking silently north to south lighted Cincinnati skies about 9:40 p.m., surprising residents in several sections of the city. Walter Todd, and assistant, CAA officials on duty at Lunken Airport, saw the fireball. Todd said, "It appeared about 15 degrees above the horizon, was shaped like a drop of water and was flying through the air horizontally."

Over Columbus, residents watched a "ball of fire" with a greenish tinge shoot swiftly from east to west about the same time. Sighters agreed, the object had a long tail and made no sound. Spokesmen for Lockbourne Air Force Base said they knew of no planes that would cause such a phenomenon.<sup>3</sup>

Ed: The appearance of kelly green fireballs over Cincinnati is extremely rare. Until we know more about these phenomena, we shall withhold comment.

### OHIO'S AERIAL TEMPEST

Following the appearance of the green fireball, Cincinnati's night skies virtually became a "battlefield." Strange lighted objects swarmed in, playing fitfully over a wide area. Alerts were sounded, jet interceptors took chase, and in the confusion we hardly could determine who had become the hunter and the hunted. On Aug. 17, strange orange colored globes were witnessed over Reading and later, same evening, over Mt. Washington. The Forestville GOC post, later, reported to the Filter Center, an object moving in pendulum fashion before finally disappearing in horizontal flight.<sup>4</sup> On August 18, the writer's wife, Dell, while adjusting the venetian blinds in children's room, was amazed to see thru the window a large, brilliant ball of light hovering in the sky. In that the writer was away at the time, she awoke Mrs. Mildred Stringfield (writer's mother) who agreed that each had seen their first "saucer" The writer checking all the details of the incident can vouch for the authenticity of the UFO. On August 21 (same date as Hopkinsville landing and little green men) the writer received an excited phone call from Anderson's Ferry, the voice breathlessly describing a brilliant object "landing in the back yard". Another voice

<sup>3</sup> Credit, C. M. Smith of Lancaster; F. C. Gallagher, Roseville, Mich.

<sup>4</sup> During same night we have first hand report, from William Chatman, of a similar object witnessed over Toronto, Canada.

with urgency cut in, shouting—"something's coming out of the bottom—hurry!" There was a promise to phone back, but none came. The writer's phone, unfortunately, remained busy the remainder of the evening, but we cannot help but wonder what had happened.

Case 99, Cincinnati, Akron, Ohio and General Michigan, Aug. 22, '55—At 10:00 p.m. John Kluemper and other Woodlawn residents witnessed a brilliantly colored object in the sky—"definitely not a star". In view for 45 minutes, occasionally pulsating, Kluemper described three distinct lights within the object—red at 1 o'clock, green at five and white at nine. Looking through 8 x 30 binoculars, he said the object appeared as large as a "golf ball". The stars, he said, through binoculars, looked like pinpoints—as they should. On one occasion the object's brilliance suddenly blinked out, then reappeared. Finally, it blinked and vanished. Same night over Akron, Ohio, George Popowitch and members of the GOC witnessed a bright, soundless orange ball flying from north to south reporting it to the Air Filter Center as a UFO.

Also, that evening, a flashing, luminous object was sighted in the sky over central and western Michigan by GOC and many residents in these areas. A report was sent to the Air Filter Center, Grand Rapids, and air force planes went up to investigate. The object seen over Cutlerville was described by Sgt. Earl Kirkpatrick as red and green, moving in a counterclockwise arc, blinking with a bobbing motion. GOC in Saginaw said the object had a bluish tinge. From Roseville, GOC members, Frank Gallagher and Dominic Soudy reported a strange light following a jet preparing to land at Selfridge Field. The light was "round and pure white," according to Gallagher. Calling the Filter Center, they had their sighting confirmed, and learned that other GOC posts had reported similar objects.

### S.A.C. JETS "DOG FIGHT" THREE UFO'S OVER CINCINNATI

Case 100, Cincinnati, Aug. 23, '55—About midnight, residents throughout the city were jarred by the roar of jets. From S.A.C., Lockbourne Air Force Base, south of Columbus, the Air National Guard jets were alerted, scrambled and were over Cincinnati in 12 minutes—a remarkable performance. The alert began when three UFO's were sighted and confirmed by radar somewhere between Columbus and Cincinnati. In the meanwhile, Walter Paner, Supt. of Hamilton County GOC, on duty at the Mt. Healthy Post, phoned the writer of the existent alert and relayed the word that jet interceptors were due over the area. He said the UFO's had been active over Mt. Healthy and could be seen clearly by observers from the tower. In short time, the jets, at approximately 20,000 ft., roared over Eastern Cincinnati, but poor visibility prevented the writer from seeing the UFO's, which had deployed over a wide area. According to radar, the interlopers had extended 37 miles south, 24 miles north of the city, and as far as 10 miles east of Mt. Healthy. A later call from Paner disclosed that a UFO was seen hovering in pendulum-like motions directly over the tower. At about 12:10 a.m., the interceptors made contact, and swooping in, at about 20,000 ft. chased the UFO—which disappeared at incredible speed. In the meanwhile, the Forestville and Loveland GOC Posts reported the erratic flights of UFO's, to the Air Filter Center, describing them as round, brilliant white spheres and discs. The writer remained on watch from Madison Place with binoculars, but heavy clouds prevailed, obscuring the activity. However, overhead, the continuous

din of low flying jets gave the writer a familiar choking chill, one that he had known during the Pacific campaigns while waiting for the inevitable attack. Incongruously, the public, asleep or perhaps wondering about the noisy jets, did not suspect the truth.

The following morning, jet aircraft were still aloft over greater Cincinnati, but it was not until nightfall that UFO's again were spotted by GOC in Forestville. Herb Clark, Ralph Bardoff and Fred Pfeffer, on duty, described the object as brilliant white and making no sound to the Filter Center. Confirming reports of UFO activity came from GOC in Loveland and as far west as Vevay, Indiana.

Case 101, Northwest of Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 25, '55—A huge object described as "bright, round and tannish in color" was witnessed by scores of people near the Fernald atomic plant north of Cincinnati. Two county policemen in separate cruisers<sup>5</sup>, Sgt. Ralph Weber and Patrolman Ernest Neher, radioed dispatcher Thomas McGuinn at approximately the same time—10:40 p.m.—that they were watching the object. Sgt. Weber estimated the altitude at 5,000 ft. directly above the plant. Same night four teenagers, in the vicinity, were terrified by a "little green man."

### THE CONTROVERSIAL LITTLE GREEN MEN AND THE TINGLING FACTS

Like their craft, the flying saucer, the little green men recently have come in for a public showdown. However, amid the sneers and chuckles, are a few shocking facts. Studying these, we advise our readers to stop laughing.

First, we have received numerous reports of "saucer" landings and little men from points of UFO concentration. Among these and not to be dismissed are the incidents occurring in Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina, and, from new evidence, those occurring in France and Italy in the late summer of 1954. Although the newswires have hushed the stories emanating from the USA, we know of several incidents where the facts corroborate each other. In all known incidents the witnesses, unfortunately, have been dubbed as lunatics—a subjective reason why more stories have never been related, especially so, where prominent people are involved!

The Cincinnati Story is this month's feature not because of dearth of material. Nor is it featured because of the UFO concentrations, which alone is interesting. Our purpose is one of greater importance, for the facts show that the fringe areas of Cincinnati have been a repeated site for landings and the appearance of the little green men. The officials are aware of this new menace, and we know that more than a handful of Cincinnatians have become more than passively alarmed.

Before the Hopkinsville "little green men" story broke over the nation<sup>6</sup>, CRIFO had silently gathered some unpublishable facts concerning such orgish encounters near Cincinnati. As it is our policy not to publish names in connection with many of these events we should like to cite a case involving a prominent business man, living in Loveland. Occurring several weeks ago, this person, who is a non-drinker and church-goer (we must add these virtues, it seems, for credibility) saw four "strange little men about three feet tall" under a certain bridge. He reported the bizarre affair to the police and we understand that an armed guard was placed there. A similar event supposedly had taken place near Batavia east of Cincinnati.

<sup>5</sup> Later learned three policemen, in separate cruisers, witnessed the object.

<sup>6</sup> CRIFO received dozens of clippings of the U.P. release from all major U. S. cities. The incident is too well known to reprint.

The Hopkinsville incident broke *after these events and no two parties knew each other*. But, if the Hopkinsville case is not sufficient evidence of *verdi sapiens extraterrestrialis* being now amongst us on earth, we have still another case that erases any doubt in our mind. We cannot event hint as to the identity of these people, but we can say that it involved three persons holding *crucial* positions in the city. The incident occurred near Indianapolis, July, 1954. The encounter was enough to terrify these people and break up their planned vacation!

But, we have more recent evidence and each story lends credence to the other for we have checked each person involved and got their personal account. One case occurring near Stockton, Ga., on July 2, 1955, terrified Mrs. Margaret Symmonds who at the time was driving to Florida. The hour was 3:30 a.m. and in the back seat of the car her husband lay asleep. Suddenly Mrs. Symmonds jerked the car away to the side of the road, almost careening. She screamed, awakening her husband and drove away as fast as she could. To CRIFO, Mrs. Symmonds explains that she saw four little men glowing green. She said their eyes were huge and piercing, their

faces dark. They wore some strange-looking garments, a "cape" and were carrying a rod that looked metallic in the reflection of the car's lights. "They did not move at first," she said, "but as the car approached, one moved one step backwards." They looked hideous, said Mrs.



Symmonds. Her doubting husband wanted to return to the scene, but Mrs. Symmonds said she was "too petrified." Mr. Symmonds admits that his wife was terrified by something and was awakened by the car spinning to the side of the road.

The most recent "little men" episode occurred near Greenhills, August 25, the same evening when the huge object was seen hovering over Fernald atomic plant. Four teenagers, interviewed by CRIFO told of their harrowing experience with a little green man, standing by some bushes. All were "certain" as to what they had seen, explaining that the car's lights shown directly on the creature. They all agreed that the little man, about three or four feet tall, had large, bright "yellow" eyes, a dark face behind, and a "sort of shimmering greenish body." The creature wore an odd garment and they saw a "claw like hand." One witness said that the biped took "three steps toward the car" but no one waited to see what would happen. The driver of the car, Bill Wallace, 18 years of age, drove away in a state of terror. Without hesitation they informed the police department of their encounter and the area was later investigated, but nothing

in the way of evidence was found. Wallace's mother, whom we later interviewed, claimed that her son had never been so frightened. He was shaking when he came home and "locked all the doors". One of the girls of the group became hysterical.

#### THE CASE OF THE DEADLY RED RAIN

Case 102, Cincinnati, July 22, '55—Coming to light, hard on the heels of current activity, is the bizarre incident involving a low flying pear-shaped object, a peach tree and deadly red rain. The scene is near the heart of Cincinnati on the property of a person whose name we prefer not mentioning at this writing. This person, "E.M." had been mowing his terraced lawn, about 5:30 p.m. and had kneeled down near a peach tree. "All the sudden," he recalled, "a peculiar liquid substance, dark red in color began pelting me and the tree." E.M. explained to CRIFO that, looking up he saw a pear-shaped object about 1000 ft. high, moving slowly from west to east. While watching the strange object, E.M., said that his hands and bared arms began to burn, like pouring kero-

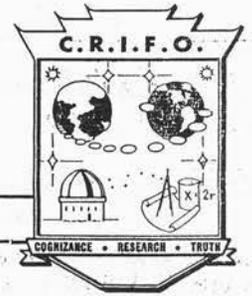
sene into an open wound. A quick washing, however, eased the pain. The next morning, E.M. went outdoors and examined the peach tree, finding to his amazement that it was dead! Overnight most of the leaves had turned brown and had fallen. The twigs and limbs were as brittle as when frozen to the roots. And, even more startling was the fact that the crop of peaches had become *petrified*, and, just as mysterious, the main trunk, *so hard that E.M. had difficulty driving a nail in it*. Be low, the grass, too, had died. In all, it was like something from Edgar Allen Poe, and perhaps soon we shall be able to tell more.

Ed: We wonder if this sinister event has any bearing on the "red spray" cases, mentioned by Major Keyhoe occurring in 1948 near Albuquerque.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas





## THE FANTASY OF FACTS IN A FOG OF UFOBIA

The writer, looking upon the mundane man-on-the-street of today finds a likeness of himself several years back when he viewed flying saucers incredulously. Looking back, he remembers the first sensational reports, the crazy theories, a few people getting jittery, the brainwash of snipes, sniggers and silence. This cycle repeated several times, made it understandable why the writer, then, was aswim in a fog of UFObia.<sup>1</sup> This fog has not yet lifted above the man-on-the-street. Essentially, he has failed to recognize a simple mathematical truth—two UFO facts, plus two UFO facts, equal Interplanetary FOUR! Perhaps too late, but today, the fog's deleterious murk hangs over the world dangerously.

Since the advent of CRIFO, the writer has watched the fours multiply, and today he stands firmly convinced that the true UFO is interplanetary. However, only in recent months, has he learned certain *illustrative and corroborative* "proofs" which confirm in his mind that the interplanetary theory is no longer theory, but a fact. In fairness to the "show me" skeptic, the writer has never seen or touched a saucer in captivity, nor has he witnessed any of the multifarious species of *homo extraterrestrialis*. Not being a conventional physical scientist (who must perforce base their conclusions on narrowly restricted material evidence) the writer has arrived at his convictions through a comprehensive viewing of an overwhelming mass of interrelated and, we repeat, highly illustrative evidence. Such evidence, coming as it does from a multiplicity of sources, free of bias or self-interest, must necessarily carry more weight and be entitled to more credence than would any one isolated "fact" or claim.

*Failure of world governments, following their investigations, to reveal the true facts or even hint at the possibility that such facts support the interplanetary theory, suggests that a conclusion has already been reached and that it is being willfully hidden from the people for fear of panic.<sup>2</sup>*

At this writing, the writer is in possession of such facts, based on interrelated, illustrative evidence, and, therefore, submits his conclusion without the slightest fear that somebody may try and prove him wrong. Most of CRIFO's information comes through normal channels as news clippings. By synthesizing these items we frequently find the integrating link to a chain of events and thus we learn a simple truth. Other segments of vital information come faintly or winkingly from informed private sources. The remainder comes as a matter of personal observation and investigation. Although some of our recent information must remain confidential we have selected for this issue such material, covering world-wide events, that convey certain of these important UFO truths.

<sup>1</sup> Coined by writer from UFO and phobia.

<sup>2</sup> We recommend reading the chapt., Panic: The Men from Mars, in GRAND DECEPTION by Alexander Kleen. It describes, vividly, the panic caused by the Orson Welles radio broadcast, October 30, 1938. By way of footnote, the author says: "In 1939 an adaptation of The Men from Mars broadcast in Ecuador, caused similar panic. Afterwards, an angry mob burned down the radio station, killing six of the show's participants."

## THE CINCINNATI SCENE—STILL UFO-INFESTED

Greater Cincinnati, like other cities in the midwest, continued to be a point of UFO concentration. August 29, at 3:15 p.m., a metallic disc, reflecting sunlight, was seen hovering over the Ohio River. It shot away on the approach of an airliner heading toward Boone County Airport. In the days following, the city's perimeter areas were frequently visited, centering mainly in the western section at Cleves, Bridgetown and Hooven. Adrian Connelly, who knows this section well, has repeatedly called the writer, reporting strange lights appearing as discs and spheres sometimes hovering, making square turns, swinging like pendulums or bouncing like the popular "song-fest ball". Landings have also been reported in these areas—not many miles away from the Fernald Atomic Plant! Concerned, the Air Force, we were told, investigated. On Sept. 20, Connelly reported a bright red and green object flying low and soundlessly over his home. An hour later, reports of UFO's came in from tormented Mt. Healthy. Charles Deininger, member of GOC, phoned the writer, describing two large, brilliant red objects to his northeast. A later call, singled out one red object, which the observers agreed bounced like a ball. A final report told of an aircraft appearing on the scene and the object changing from red to white, shooting swiftly and soundlessly to the southwest. On Sept. 23, the suburb of Mt. Washington had a similar experience. Mrs. Kenneth Martin, disturbed by two large bright red lights in the sky called her neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. George Robertson and daughter. Together, they watched the glowing objects maneuver in toward a hilltop plateau about a quarter of a mile from their homes. At this point the objects stopped suddenly, and Mrs. Martin said they looked as large as "traffic lights". Once in this position, all observers agreed that the objects began to move independently, jumping up and down. Mr. Robertson said one object continually moved away at a 45 degree angle, then returned to its original position. Moving soundlessly, the objects then dropped down behind a flank of trees and disappeared. Frightened, Mrs. Martin phoned the sheriff and the GOC who promptly investigated. All witnesses agreed that a large dog leashed to a trailer in the area where the objects oscillated, barked furiously.

## C. R. I. F. O. ORBIT

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield  
October 7, 1955 Vol. II, No. 7

C.R.I.F.O.'s 19th consecutive publication. Founded  
March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield  
Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)  
Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio  
Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....\$3.00 per year  
Foreign first class mail..... 3.60 per year  
Foreign air mail..... 6.60 per year  
All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

*"The silence of all conventional communication media on the subject of the UFO has a nightmare quality. Three days after reading CRIFO I look around and wonder if I live in the same world in which your newsletter was published. It must have been another Ohio in another United States on another planet where the orange globes and balls of light and small green men were seen, for neither the press or radio mentioned it here."*

Isabel K. Hagglund,  
Palo Alto, California.

### CRIFO HAS FINANCIAL CRISIS

We have been holding our breath, but it had to come. Rearing its ugly head is the bogey, common to all, whose prey is money. In recent months he has voraciously swallowed more than we have taken in—a very unhealthy trend. Seems like our reserve has gone into equipment that we need, such as typewriter, addressograph, higher printing costs, bookkeeping expenses, telephone bills and everything else it takes to run a business. We are not yet desperate, in fact, the past week has been encouraging, but, we find we must stress the fact, we need more and more subscribers—or all is lost!

### CALLING WELLS-FARGO!

Wells-Fargo had a slogan—the mail must go through! CRIFO wonders sometimes if things, postal-wise, weren't better in those days, for today, our mail is not going through. Seems like the Post Offices, here and there, just don't care. Maybe that's why they sit on it for days and weeks before it's delivered, or returned because the addressee cannot be located. Typical example is one locally. We sent the *Orbit* to a new subscriber in Cleves, adjacent to Cincinnati. We had the right street address, a well known thoroughfare. However, we egregiously marked the cover, Cincinnati, instead of Cleves (often done) so three weeks later the letter was returned for a better address. We can cite hundreds of cases, but would rather not—it makes us sick!

### WE GOOFED!

Apart from the several misspelled words we let slip into the last issue, we also goofed in properly assigning a case number. For those keeping record, please correct the latter case, 99 of the two having the same number, by giving it the new number as follows: Case 103. I guess making errors proves that I'm human and not extraterrestrial where errors never occur!

## METALLIC BALL LANDS IN YARD—DEPARTS ON SOUND OF VOICE

Case 104, Cincinnati, 9:15 p.m., Sept. 3, '55—Driving slowly over dark Boomer Road, west of the city, Frank Flaig and wife were startled to see through the windshield, a round airborne object, appearing metallic gray, descending slowly before them. Awe-struck, Flaig stopped his car for a better look. Reflecting the moonlight, the spheroid had no protruding parts or lights. Its downward verticle course, although slow, was constant and free of swerve, flutter or suspension. Flaig desperately tried to follow the object, but it dropped out of sight behind an unlighted house, about 125 ft. away. Leaving his car, Flaig then went to the side of the house to investigate and to his surprise *found the object suspended about a foot above the ground.* About this time, his wife, alone and frightened, called out. At that very instant, according to Flaig, the spheroid began to rise, and, making no sound, continued its upward flight at a 45 degree angle. The object, Flaig estimated, was about four feet in diameter. The Flaigs told the writer that they thought the object was at first a balloon, but the absence of attachments and its singular behavior ruled out that explanation.

### MYSTERIOUS HELMET-LIKE OBJECT DISCOVERED IN OFFICIAL H-BOMB FILM

Case 105, Place and Date Unknown—At this writing, we will not permit ourselves to be carried away, nor will we make a committal statement. Nonetheless, the photograph and negative before us look convincing! Sent to CRIFO, by Jesse J. Leaf of Brooklyn, the print and negative each show a clear-cut object so often described as a true flying saucer. In fact, the photographs are unusually clear and unclouded considering that Leaf trained his camera on a TV newsreel film which was showing the recent H-Bomb tests.

While watching the TV film, Leaf claims that he was unable to detect the object. He was surprised, when his roll of developed film came back, and in one of the prints and negative was the UFO. The print in question shows a rolling mass of black smoke rising diagonally above the curvature of the earth. Next to the cloud, almost touching, is the object. It is distinctly clear and shows an outline much like a helmet—almost pyramidal. Perhaps it is not too far removed from the objects depicted in the famous farmer Trent photos taken in McMinnville, Oregon, or perhaps, like the Adamski "light fixture" photos.

We can understand why the object may have been missed by the official censors. Remembering that the original film was a movie, we must also remember that the *motion* of the swirling clouds in juxtaposition to the *motionary* object may have tricked the viewer—just like the magician whose hand is quicker than the eye! Perhaps, too, the object, upon departure, may have escaped the censor's eye by flying in a direction away from the camera in opposition to the smoke cloud. The object's underbelly is dark, the same tone value as the darkest portion of cloud visible. The camber or outer rim is bright and reflective of the sun while the dome is of neutral tone. Consulting several photographers the writer finds encouragement. All agree, to date, that "something" besides the H-cloud appears in the picture. The writer is not surprised, for if the object proves to be a UFO in the final analysis, the event certainly is in keeping with other information which suggests that space craft are watching the world's nuclear developments.

## PILOT OF ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE DESCRIBES ENCOUNTER WITH UFO OVER KORAT

Case 106, Korat, Thailand, May, 1954—CRIFO's Asian correspondent, J. N. Crockett, of Korat, Thailand sends us this excellent report, written by Captain Uthai Lunayajata.

"In May, 1954, I was an instructor in the Royal Thai Air Force in Korat. That month, the advanced training course was instruction in night flying. Three T6's with students went up one night, the night was clear with no moon or clouds.

"About midnight my student and I took off and climbed to 3,000 feet. After leveling off we set a course to the west . . . later making a 180 degree left-turn to the east and flew direct toward the town of Korat. When we had almost reached the town I saw something strange in the sky. It appeared to be an orange fireball about six feet in diameter. I first saw it about 1,500 ft. ahead and approaching our plane on a parallel course to our right, and at the same altitude. The fireball seemed to move at a very great speed and when it passed our plane I calculated its speed at 800 to 1000 mph. Thinking that it may have been another kind of plane I phoned the control tower and was told no other planes were in the area. To make sure I had seen something I asked my student if he saw the fireball and he replied that he had.

"In order to keep the fireball in sight we began making a 180 degree right-hand turn, and it was then that I noticed a smaller fireball, blue in color, which appeared to be attached to the right side of the large orange ball. Both appeared to move together. Before we had completed our turn the fireball made a fast half-circle and appeared about 600 ft. off our tail. It reduced speed and accompanied us for a short distance. Our normal speed was about 140 to 160 mph., and it seemed very strange that this ball of fire could travel at such a tremendous speed and then reduce to a slow speed.

"At such close range we were able to see that the center of the orange fireball was quite dark, as though nothing were there, whereas the blue-colored light appeared to be round the rim of whatever was in the center. The glow was too bright to determine any shape or substance. After 20 seconds it increased its speed and flew ahead and made a right-hand climbing turn. I followed, with full throttle and gave chase up to 5,000 ft. but could not get near it. I had to turn back because I had no oxygen mask. The object continued to climb and it appeared to gain speed until it became invisible to the eye."

Ed: Shades of Lt. George Gorman and his classical dogfight with a "thinking light" over Fargo, N. Dak. According to Crockett, UFO activity is increasing over Thailand. He writes, "All reports, to date, reveal that 'saucers' appear interested in the southern part or Thailand, a rich tin mining area".

### RATIONALIZING THE LITTLE GREEN MEN

The response to *Orbit's* revelations on the little green men has been heavy. Most readers are objective, and seek more facts. A few wish they never got interested in saucers, claiming the subject has gone to pot! The writer, like most readers, is digging for more facts.

No new cases have occurred to the writer's knowledge, however, an incident recently came to light which involved a police officer, while on patrol along the Miami River near Cincinnati, observed four "little men", about three feet tall. They were huddled in a group and described as having features and making gestures not at all human. The officer could hardly believe his eyes. Upon talking privately with people having kindred experiences the writer now feels safe in assuming that a living entity as ugly, by our standards, as the fabled gnome, does exist and may be at large in the Americas. Again, our only "proof" is in illustrative evidence, plus the fact that independent and corroborative testimony comes from more than one reputable observer. These people have nothing to gain by reporting such encounters, for in most cases the person prefers anonymity.

Theories about the nativity of the little biped are interesting. For instance a letter from Desmond Leslie, in Ireland, postulates that the green creatures are related to the Irish Leprechaun. Leslie points out certain his-

toric evidence as illustrative proof, and adds, "they are of an order of evolution in their own right, existing in a slightly different density or 'octave of matter' from our own." Commenting on Cincinnati's little green men, Leslie suggests, "they are not space people but natives of this planet who have been excited by the vibrations of the UFO's, into appearing."

The writer entertains another theory. Referring to the evidence on hand, we cannot dismiss the possibility that our visiting bipeds are members of a highly specialized extraterrestrial race embracing many orders of intelligence and sub-intelligence. Perhaps our biped is of a lower order of one of the subfamilies whose intelligence, while sub-standard to the extraterrestrial higher order, and thus subservient to his will, is, by human standards, of a higher degree but one which is made *unrecognizable by the being's inscrutable emotional barrier*. Or, perhaps the biped is, itself, the highest order and we are blindly wrong in postulating that his animalism and emotional behavior are subhuman, therefore sub-intelligent. Or, who knows, like in science-fiction, our biped beast may be a hybrid strain, biochemically developed to resist earth's atmosphere. If so, we find a clue and a possible explanation for the creature appearing without protective gear, unless, of course, the *aura of greenness* is its "force field". We do not pretend to know the answer, but we may reason, using human standards, that such a creature may be exploited by a higher intelligence for missionary or experimental purposes just as our scientists, today, employ monkeys, guinea pigs, white mice and the fruit fly in rocket test flights into the stratosphere.

Thus, in our hypothesis, we see no reason why a higher intelligence, in his expedition to earth, should be restricted to the use of only one subfamily or any of the genera or species therein. If such is the case, then we may find a rationalization for the heterogeneous variety of creatures, big and small, that supposedly landed in France and Italy in the late summer of 1954.<sup>3</sup>

If, on the other hand, these European stories are mainly hoaxes, we still cannot dismiss the sightings of "hairy little bipeds" in Venezuela. In almost every particular, they help confirm the existence of the little "green" bipeds seen in the U. S. A. Save in coloration<sup>4</sup>, the two bipedal entities have the following basic similarities: (1) *gregariousness, usually seen in groups of threes and fours*, (2) *a likeness for fondling dirt or gravel and being near water*, (3) *agility of body movement and the capability of taking leaping or floating strides*, (4) *likeness in height, having webbed or claw-like "hands", having large eyes, muteness and hirsuteness*. Striking is the testimony of one teenage girl who saw the green creature in Greenhills. In her sworn statement to CRIFO, she said that it looked as though the skin was covered with "grass". Use of the impressionistic word, grass, is significant for it suggests hairiness, a positive physical property observed in the South American types.

Going back once more for evidence supporting the "heterogeneous" theory, we find the following report, August 3, '55, from Dawson, Georgia.<sup>5</sup> A young forestry

<sup>3</sup> Alexander Mebane of New York has translated many such accounts from the French and Italian. According to his findings, the "spacemen" are strikingly dissimilar in their reported descriptions.

<sup>4</sup> The greenness of the so-called Cincinnati Biped may be attributable to a natural phenomenon possessive in all bipeds, becoming visible only when the creature is excited, or possibly, as a spasmodic condition like in our firefly. Or perhaps the green luminosity is only apparent when a light has been directed on the biped's body as in the cases of Greenhills, Ohio and Stockton, Ga. Review the September issue, *Orbit*.

<sup>5</sup> Credit: Norbert Gariety, Coral Gables, Fla.

worker reported that a strange, savage, hairy creature with tusk-like teeth attacked and injured him in Terrell County woods near Bronwood. This account from Joseph Whaley of Dawson, followed reports of a similar creature near Edison, about 30 miles southwest. Whaley said he was working alone in the woods when he was pounced upon by a beast over six feet tall, hairy all over like a wire-haired terrier, with tusk-like teeth and pointed ears. Its arms were heavy but its hands small. Whaley said he swung his grass blade against the creature's paws and chest but it kept coming. "Then", he said, "something hit me on the left shoulder, tore my shirt and scratched my shoulder." Whaley then ran to his jeep but it would not start. He hopped out and started running around it. Finally, he darted back inside and this time it started and he sped away. Reports from Edison claim that the marauding monster had claw-like hands and runs and walks upright. The authorities are investigating.<sup>6</sup>

Here we find the Dawson and Edison Men having analogous features to the hairy little biped specie of Venezuela, differing mainly in its height and robust physique. Similar species to Dawson Man have been observed in Malaya, terrifying natives there. Also entering the picture is the possible kinship of the "Abominable Snowmen", whose traces have been found in the foothills of the Himalayas in Asia. Recently, footprints of this beastial giant, whom Tibetans call Yeti, have been photographed by members of the Hillary-Mt. Everest expedition.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> We note that in recent weeks Georgia, too, has come in for a rash of UFO's and ogrish creatures. Aside from the Stockton "green men" story, Charles Paisley of Columbia, sends us a newsclip telling of a possible UFO landing near Sumter, August 20, and, the flight of a UFO over Atlanta, July 30. It was described by dozens of observers as being large, ovoid and glowing light green.

<sup>7</sup> See Photo in new book, TIGER OF THE SNOW, by James R. Ullman. Also, see Case 86—a possible tie in as to the origin of the Yeti.

### SAUCER SUNDRIES

Recently received is letter and many clippings from Ernesto Thayaht, of CERNOS, who operates private observatory in Marina Di Pietrasanta, Fiumetto, Italy. He remarks, "It seems significant, lately, that several sightings in Sicily and in Italy have been reported by the local papers". One clipping tells of a "disco volante" observed over the Mt. Etna crater. In a recent letter to Thayaht, the writer asked about "little men" in his country. He replies, in brief, ". . . there have been four cases but we had no chance of direct personal investigation. The facts at Bucine seem to hold, and the press sent several special observers. Same sort of thing at Erba. What strikes us as more than coincidence is the similarity of the stories from persons quite independent and without knowledge of each other's observations. The other two cases were vague—yet similar! . . ." Through the courtesy of Coral Lorenzen, director of APRO, we have this advanced information from correspondent, Horacio Gonzales of Venezuela: "At a meeting of pilots held here recently, at least eight mentioned that they had seen UFO's over Venezuela and between this country and the USA.

One interesting case is that of a plane carrying 40 passengers. The captain saw a lighted disc which zigzagged in front of the plane for 20 kilometers. He then asked the co-pilot to switch on and off the wing tip lights as if they were going to land. He said his hair stood on end when they both saw that the disc returned the signal by putting on a red light in the dome and a violet light at the bottom at intermittent intervals as if in reply! The curious thing about these pilot cases is that none of the group reported these sightings to the press. ". . . Harold Fulton of CSI, N.Z., tells us that UFO sightings in England, like his native land, are increasing. He describes a good report made by a Denis Thursfield, in England, former Royal Navy Officer with witnesses. Fulton writes, "Thursfield watched 15 glowing pencil-like objects, late afternoon, pass overhead from his home in Birmingham, August 25, 1955. The objects came over in formations of three . . . coming in line astern, lasting 30 minutes. The same type objects were reported over Edinburgh, Scotland, and a good report was made by Sir John Erskine who studied objects with binoculars . . ."

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

Da William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## THE CASE FOR INTERPLANETARY "WAR"

Why Operation Earth? What great urgency guides the saucer to the third planet in increasing number? What of the "mind" behind these operations and what happens when it encounters man and his machine? These are vital questions facing a benighted world public. To date, only a few have reared back their heads from the sand to seek the answers and fewer still, to proffer a theory. On the other hand many in a professional position who could help clear up some of the confusion, prefer to remain aloof (pretending not to be interested) or indicate their connection with military security and thus are incommunicable. Perhaps a small group of international military officials know all the answers, but more likely they know only some—and wish for all! For the rest of us embarked on the witch hunt, finding a solution could well be lost forever in the Babel of claim and counter-claim if it were not for the fact that we do have a few directional hints from informed people. These, backed with workable evidence suggest that the saucer's mission to earth is not benevolent.

## THE PHANTOM WAR

## SPACE WAR POSSIBLE IS MacARTHUR HINT

Supporting CRIFO's beliefs are the timely and sobering words voiced by General Douglas McArthur, before visiting Mayor of Naples, Achille Lauro on October 7, 1955 at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York. The Mayor revealed the General's statements to the *New York Times* as follows: "... He thinks that another war would be double suicide and that there is enough sense on both sides of the Iron Curtain to avoid it. . . . He believes that because of the developments of science *all countries on earth will have to unite to survive and to make a common front against attack by people from other planets. . . .*" The Mayor added that in the General's opinion the politics of the future will be cosmic or interplanetary.<sup>1</sup>

ED: The General made no reference to the UFO, but he certainly spoke unmincingly about the possibility of attack from another world. A pipe dream? Hardly, for the General is respected for both his military prestige and his civilian leadership and would not, therefore, express himself so foolishly if he did not have qualified facts as a basis for his statement. The writer further believes the General's fact-rooted "prophecy" may have been a subtle play for a niche in the History books. Another guess—saucers were discussed by the General and the Mayor, but the word being universally taboo, was squelched from print. In short, the statements are significant for they drop a hint of *top-drawer* thinking.<sup>2</sup>

The General's statements are merely hints but the supporting evidence, of which we speak (in form of incidents and the like), is overwhelming. However, before putting it to test in support of our theory we hasten to say that our evidence and that supporting opposite views are not, by themselves, the final proof of the UFO's disposition. Recognizing this is a condition under which the theoretician must work and so stake out his interpretative claim.

<sup>1</sup> Credit: Mrs. Joseph Sieger, Cedar Grove, N.J., Richard Hall, New Orleans, La., and Peter Bartkus, Rockford, Ill.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Walton Concord John, editor of the Little Listening Post sent CRIFO a copy of a Bill in the House of Representatives (H.R. 7843) which reads in part, "... Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives . . . that there is hereby established a Joint Committee on Extraterrestrial Exploration. . . . The joint committee shall make continuing studies of activities and problems relating to the development of extraterrestrial exploration and travel. . . ." We recommend the LLP for its catch-all capsule reporting and editing. Send \$1.00 to 4841 Illinois Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Interpretatively, the writer claimed in September *Orbit*, . . . (1) UFO's have turned from surveillance to aggressive action, (2) such action constitutes, *ipso facto*, a state of interplanetary war. . ." Let it be said the writer stands by his earlier statements, but believes an explanation for his suppositions is in order. First we must refer to *Merriam-Webster* and find the authoritative definition for our intended meaning of the key word, "war". We cite Item 3 which reads, "The state or fact of being in conflict with, or actively opposed to, each other . . . a contest or struggle for supremacy, revenge, or the like. . ." Thus, in having defined our meaning of war, we cite CRIFO Case 100 as just one isolated example of our military forces being "*actively opposed to*" the UFO. On such knowledgeable grounds, plus being informed, reliably, of aerial mishaps resulting from UFO activity, we therefore postulate that interplanetary war, or, "a state of being in conflict" with extraterrestrial forces does exist!

A war of this kind is new to human experience; it is a war without precedence, without land armies and minus the conventional bombs and rockets used to destroy cities. Such a war, so phantasmal, could well exist under a tight censorship and no one, save for a few military heads would know of it as a fact, or, of its scope. Pilots scrambled to intercept UFO's may also be ignorant of this fact even though they are participating perilously in defensive action, while innocently in the conspiracy.

While such a phantom war may continue indefinitely and never become an outright "shooting war" (as depicted in H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*) we cannot speak assuringly, for a sudden and novel attack and catastrophe always loom as a possibility. Conversely, such war may never be fully understood by man, for the barrier separating his intelligence and emotions from the foe's may be as impervious as that between man and the rattlesnake. In this anomalous struggle, the warring planets, hopelessly unconscionable to each other's design or duty, may never resolve themselves peacefully, or, by their stratagem of hide-and-seek, show a conquest or a defeat. If this be the case then we may have an explanation for the world-wide aerial mishaps attributed to the UFO, and, a more plausible reason to explain them away as "accidental". But we are guessing. Whether accidental or premeditated, the mishaps are continuing.

## C. R. I. F. O. ORBIT

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield

November 4, 1955 Issue

Vol. II, No. 8

C.R.I.F.O.'s 20th consecutive publication. Founded  
March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....	\$3.00 per year
Foreign first class mail.....	3.60 per year
Foreign air mail.....	6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

... we believe that no objects such as those popularly described as flying saucers have overflowed the United States."—Sec. of the Air Force, Donald A. Quarles, in official statement, Oct. 25, '55.

"Well, the vocal faction of the U.S.A.F. has laid another egg! What in the name of Jupiter are they planning to accomplish by deliberate fabrication?"—John P. Bessor, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Could it be that the A.F. is doing this as a means of anticipating increased sightings. . . . Or, can they be doing this in anticipation of Keyhoe's or Edward's books shortly to be out?"—Rev. Albert Baller, Greenfield, Mass.

The answer to the latter question is, yes!—Editor.

"My new book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, is coming out Dec. 5th. In it is proof that the recent Air Force statement is a complete cover-up, concealing vital facts from the public. The Air Force remains seriously concerned about UFO's!"—Major Donald E. Keyhoe, via telephone, Oct. 31, '55.

### A LITTLE DOWN-TO-EARTH TALK

We're getting to press late this issue because of the tremendous workload. Preparation of copy is restricted to the evenings and we find the hours in that period far too short considering what all must be done. Another time-consuming factor is our local job of running down UFO reports which sometimes ties down the writer for the entire evening. Speaking of UFO's locally, plenty still is going on and in one section of the city sightings are so numerous they prodded the Cincinnati Astronomical Society into making an on-the-spot check. On another subject, however, and a vital one, is the *Orbit's* financial status. Well, things look a little brighter this month—thanks to the many readers who brought in new subscribers, and, of course, those who went beyond call of duty to help! It is this show of interest and zeal together with your many letters offering encouragement that keeps the writer's spirit afire.

### WERE THESE BALLOONS, MR. QUARLES?

The Secretary of the Air Force had no trouble in sweeping all the bona fide saucer reports into the circular file, but we doubt that he could use the old balloon trick in talking us out of this unique sighting. Our source is Emil Slaboda, columnist for *The Trentonian*, of Trenton, N. J. He says in his Sept. 3, '55 column, "Hurricane Diane is almost forgotten, but there was one incident reported to me by a reliable source that proved interesting. During the furious rain and winds, at approximately 3 A.M. two UFO's were sighted over Hamilton Township skies. They were described as oblong and brilliant. The witness told me the objects seemed to be signalling to each other. I realize most flying saucer sightings normally can be explained away as weather balloons and high flying planes. But through no stretch of the imagination can I believe that two airplanes, or for that matter, weather balloons, braved the furious storm to put on a pyrotechnic display." (Credit: George H. Lucas, Bordentown, N. J.)

## EXCLUSIVE: STATEMENT BY HIGH-RANKING AIR FORCE GENERAL IS BARED, POINTING TO SAUCER MENACE

Robert C. Gardner<sup>3</sup>, lecturer and private UFO investigator, in a recent visit, gave the writer a statement, hitherto unpublished, which quotes a top-ranking officer in the Air Force. Needless to say it supports the CRIFO theory, and we quote: "In the later part of February 1953, I carried a letter of introduction and recommendation from a New York official in charge of our Eastern Air Defense to General Benjamin Chidlaw, then in charge of all our continental air defenses at Ent Air Force Base in Colorado. The letter concerned a plan I had which the Eastern Air Defense considered important to our national defense. Out of courtesy to General Chidlaw, who has since retired, I have withheld until now the vitally important information herewith revealed. In the course of the half hour private interview the General mentioned, among many other interesting items, the following, 'we have stacks of reports about flying saucers. We take them seriously when you consider we have lost many men and planes trying to intercept them.'"

### VIOLENCE IN RETROSPECT

Beyond estimation is the number of aircraft, military and otherwise, that have been lost to the UFO. Surely, the earliest date for such occurrences goes back farther than the classical Mantell "death chase" of 1948.<sup>4</sup> In this category, we once again refer to the files of Robert Gardner which reveal for us this unusual incident dating back to 1939—just before the outbreak of World War II.

Case 107, Between San Diego and Honolulu. Late Summer 1939—At 3:30 p.m., a military transport plane with thirteen men aboard left the Marine Naval Air Station in San Diego for a routine flight to Honolulu. When three hours at sea the aircraft was in dire distress. Mayday calls were radioed back to the base, then suddenly nothing more was heard until the craft came limping back and executed an emergency landing. The first men to reach the craft were shocked by what they saw—all thirteen members of the crew were dead, save for the co-pilot who managed, miraculously, to steer his charge in safely. Three minutes later he was also dead! Examination of the bodies showed remarkably large gaping wounds, not unlike those received by the surface of the craft, which indicated the impact of missiles. A second amazing discovery was that the service pieces, 45 Colt automatics, carried by the pilot and co-pilot, had been emptied and their shells found lying on the floor of the cockpit. Lastly, and possibly akin to saucer phenomena, was the characteristic rotten egg odor which pervaded the chamber's atmosphere. It was also learned regarding the incident that personnel who handled parts of the aircraft showed a mysterious skin infection. Security measures, Gardner was told, immediately blanketed the affair and cameras restricted. Corpsmen were barred from removing the bodies and the job of identification and diagnosis was limited to three medical officers only.

ED: The first explanation that comes to mind is an act of violence by the flaunting Japanese as displayed in the *Panay* affair of 1937, but this theory is weak when we consider that the event was aerial and such would require the undetectable presence of Japanese aircraft carriers and escort vessels. For these to be sailing in U.S. controlled waters at that time would have been provoking war

<sup>3</sup> See Saucer Sundries back page.

<sup>4</sup> "Must" reading is Desmond Leslie's article, "New Light on the Mantell Case" which is featured in *Clips, Quotes and Comments*, issue E-7, dated Oct. 15, '55. Write, B.S.R.A., 3524 Adams Ave., San Diego 16, Cal. Twelve issues, \$5.00; six, \$2.50; two, \$1.00.

prematurely which was not a part of the Japanese plan as we learned at Pearl Harbor. Another possibility was internal trouble such as mutiny, but this does not explain the missile scars on the outer surface of the plane, therefore the evidence of empty shells suggests a retaliatory effort against hostile and mysterious outside forces. But dead men tell no tales and we shall never know who or what caused the disaster for certain.

### THE MYSTERY AT MEDICINE BOW PEAK

Although aviational mishaps are frequent and sometimes mysterious, we cannot blame them all on the UFO. While most are due to operational causes, others forever look suspicious in spite of their written-off explanations which evades certain evidence.<sup>5</sup> For example, in recent months we have grown a little curious about the increasing number of military planes colliding in midair<sup>6</sup> and wonder if the proverbial blanket of security is really hiding the true circumstances. Other cases, however, leave even greater doubt as to the cause such as the incident occurring at Medicine Bow Peak, Wyoming, a disaster costing the lives of 66 people. For analysis of the evidence, known to date, we return to Herbert E. Clark, Jr. who is well-informed in the field of aviation.

Case 108, Medicine Bow Peak, Wyo., Oct. 6, 1955—To begin, Clark does not necessarily blame the disaster on a UFO, but merely points out some of the unexplained mysteries and flaws in the announced circumstances surrounding the affair. We quote from Clark's analysis: "The DC-4, flying 200 mph. + crashed 30 minutes after take-off from Denver. Reports indicate the plane was 35 miles off course but no information has been given as to which direction the craft was flying. The weather reports at the time were contradictory. The plane was not to fly over 11,000 ft. because of lack of pressurization, however, the plane was flying at 11,800 ft., and thus hit the peak which was 12,005 ft. high. The pilots certainly had knowledge of this terrain. The plane had full radio equipment which presumably was in operation, but there was no record of any radio message sent from the plane. The plane was also equipped with OMNI, a radio direction finding apparatus which sends signals to range stations, which in turn, reply by radio. When such stations reply the pilot knows exactly the position of his plane. There are three airports that the DC-4 would have passed over in normal flight, namely, Ft. Collins, Laramie and Medicine Bow. None of these towns reported seeing the DC-4."

Logically, Clark concludes: "Where, why and how could the plane get off course? How could all of the instruments and the radio gotten out of order? There are only three conclusions for the group of data available at this time, (1) It was a clear cut case of pilot error, (2) the instrumentation and radio was thrown out of kilter because of artificial magnetic influences, (3) the plane collided with or came in contact with the magnetic field of an UFO." (Ed: See Case 24.)

### THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING

Just as mysterious as the incident at Medicine Bow are others which involve the disappearance of aircraft. Some disappear leaving only a shredded clue, others without trace. In our work we have heard of many unverifiable incidents, but there are as many that do have substantiation and are minus only in detail. In mind are the two jets disappearing without trace over Lake Michigan

<sup>5</sup> Recommended reading is "Fireball or Saucer" by Abraham Ausman featured in the Sept. issue of SAUCERS. Write Max B. Miller, P.O. Box 35034, Los Angeles, Cal. \$3.00 per year or 25c per copy.

<sup>6</sup> We know of at least eight cases of mid-air collision occurring in the past three months. H. G. Rovner sent us seven clippings describing these unique disasters from the Philadelphia papers alone. James Gillingham of Alameda, Cal., sent us another.

in February of 1955, and, the Navy Corsair which vanished, while flying in formation through heavy clouds, over the Rock of Gibraltar several years ago. But there are more recent cases. On September 29, 1955, three F-84-F fighter bombers from Langley Air Force Base, Va., were announced as missing after extensive search in their area of operation, Chesapeake Bay. A Langley spokesman said an oyster boat dredged up a mud-stained clothing bag marked with the name of one of the pilots—the only clue. The Air Force would not comment on the cause of the disaster.<sup>7</sup>

Another mystery surrounds the recent case of the missing Air Force plane flying on a training mission from McClellan Air Force Base, Sacramento, to Hamilton Air Force Base, 30 miles north. The father of one of the missing pilots (Lt. Koren Kolligan, Jr.) has offered a \$25,000.00 reward for help in finding his son, but the Air Force said there was virtually no chance the reward could ever be claimed. The writer asks, why is the Air Force so sure?<sup>8</sup>

Case 109, Shinnecock Inlet, L. Is., N. Y., Aug. 26, 1955—A veteran test pilot for Republic Aviation Corp., Earl Kane, was killed violently when his Thunderflash mysteriously exploded in a routine flight. The blast tore his plane apart and bits of wreckage were sprayed over the surf and beach—his body was blown to bits. A Republic spokesman said Kane had radioed to the tower five minutes before the blast, reporting "minor difficulties", but that was the last they heard. Just what happened was not clear. Investigating reporters found a cloak of security dropped over the tragedy. Significant, however, was the report of an eyewitness, John Borucke of Southhampton. He said, "I saw two planes flying over the beach, then I heard a terrific explosion." But Republic officials denied the report of a second plane. Also, curiously coincidental was the fact that another plane, a private single-engined Cessna, had crash-landed in the surf at Montauk Point about three hours later. The occupants, unhurt, said their craft developed engine trouble.

Ed: Here's real confusion to say the least! Of most concern however, is the second plane described by eyewitness, Borucke. Was Republic's denial of the second plane a statement of fact, and the object Borucke saw, actually a UFO? My informant comments further, "I talked with employee of Republic. According to him everybody is trying to find out just what happened. The accepted theory is that engine seizure took place, piling up fuel-air mixture which blew ship apart. Pilot is said to have reported a flame-out, though. Tower at Republic tried contact five full minutes after pilot's last message without success. How did they know when ship blew up? Assumption is, pilot tried to bring ship in for landing on beach. If so, why did he not answer—or, why does the radio always go dead when most needed? I observed above normal jet activity on day of crash." My informant asked Republic if the jets were theirs and the answer was negative. See Case 21.

### NEW EVIDENCE ON SWEDISH 4-WAY DISASTER

Looking back over the list of macabre cases mentioned by CRIFO<sup>9</sup> we should like to review some new evidence concerning Case 90. It comes by way of an AP dispatch, appearing in *New York Post*. We quote in part, "... the aircraft disappeared soon after take-off from a base at Norrkoping, 14 miles south of the lake ... the air force could not explain the incident. The formation had just received and acknowledged permission to pass through clouds that should have sent them upward." Our correspondent, Max Schaeffer of New York, speculates, "But if they were 14 miles from take-off and going up, the distance of the melting surface of the lake below them could not have caused the accident.

<sup>7</sup> Credit: Charles Seibold, Pikesville, Md.

<sup>8</sup> Credit: Frank C. Gallagher, Roseville, Mich.

<sup>9</sup> See March issue Newsletter, July issue Orbit.

## "SPACE FIREBALL BLOWS UP, SETS OFF LOUISIANA FIRES"

Case 110, At least five southern states, 10:00 a.m. Oct. 14, '55—Quoted above are the giant headlines which appeared in the *New Orleans States*. The story itself filled two columns. Clippings received from other cities indicate similar concern, but for an abridgment we refer to a report sent in by Richard Hall of New Orleans. We paraphrase Halls' report in which he quotes from the *New Orleans Item*. "Mysterious fireball . . . set off a flurry of plane crash reports from Brownsville, Texas to Mobile, Alabama. One object, described as a single-engine plane, was reported down in Lake Pontchartrain as the fiery things streaked through the air in daylight. Spokesman at New Orleans Airport said the fireball 'definitely was a meteor.' New Orleans police searched 10 sq. miles for two hours before giving up search for the object at 2:05 p.m. Near Vacherie they reported smoke from the crashed object and state police sent troopers into the swamps to search for it. A spokesman at Calender Field said 'plane crash' reports had been received there from Luling, Marrero, the Atchafalaya River, Tide-

water, Buras, Lafitte and Leesville. Henry Bowers, who reported the Lake Pontchartrain object near Irish Bayou, said he watched the crash from the roof of a building. He described it as a 'single engine plane, flying at 1000 ft. It caught fire and we saw smoke billowing out behind it.' A pilot who landed at the Naval Air Station said he saw a fiery object in the air near McComb, Miss., and that 'it looked like a burning aircraft at first but it disinte-

grated in seconds and there was nothing.' Witnesses in Michoud saw the fireball come over their heads . . . with blue fire from the rear. Suddenly, the fire seemed to go out and the object dropped near the Chrysler Plant. Dennis Lanaux of Lucy, La., said the meteor left a vapor trail in the sky for 45 minutes." Quoting the *States* again, "Hundreds of miles out in the Gulf of Mexico ships altered their courses to search for planes they believed crashed." The *Sun*, Baltimore, reported, "Control tower operators at Brookley AFB, Mobile said they saw a 'fireball' explode on the edge of the military reservation. Pilots of three military aircraft near Mobile reported seeing a 'red rocket' about the same time."<sup>10</sup>

Ed: Dr. Frazer Thompson of Tulane University observatory, when asked about meteor explosions, commented, "This would be unusual in the daytime but fireball explosions have been sighted during the day." The writer believes the exploding object was a bolide, but notes that none of the reports indicate that a sound accompanied the fireball, which, as Dr. Lincoln LaPaz has pointed out from his meteoritical research, are "generally as noisy as a freight train." We further note the alarming frequency of the incoming "fireballs" once known as rare.<sup>11</sup> Hall comments in his letter, "Points in common with July 11, '55 cylinder over California, (1) vapor trail, (2) reports of low-flying object, (3) bright flash, (4) ball of fire and smoke, (5) objects hitting ground, (6) wide-

ness of area in which seen." We add to this California incident the fact that United Airlines pilots, flying over Bakersfield, reported they saw a "red cylinder with a vapor trail." As far north as Tonopah, Nevada a witness reported a "cylinder glowing red that plunged out of the sky and exploded in a shower of flame."<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Credit: Charles Seibold.

<sup>11</sup> See Cases, 26, 33, 50, 71, 74.

<sup>12</sup> Credit: Mrs. R. S. Richardson, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SAUCER SUNDRIES: Space does not allow our reviewing the recent series of sky quakes over San Francisco and the Bay area which remain unexplained, and, *not to be confused with the more recent earthquakes*. . . . A word about Robert C. Gardner who gave us the Gen. Chidlaw statement. He told us in his recent visit that he is available for lecturing. Gardner, world-traveled and well-informed on the UFO, has lectured to Air Force groups, universities, and clubs. He features with his talk, motion pictures showing UFO's which he upholds are real. Write for lecture arrangements to Lexington Ave., Dayton 7, Ohio. Phone Randolph 6296. . . . Until the international monetary exchange system improves we suggest that U.S. readers, desiring to subscribe to foreign publications, send cash (not checks) or International Money Orders. We have received the latter successfully from Australia, New

Zealand and England. Although we have had trouble keeping up with the exchange value of the dollar, we list for your convenience the following recommended overseas publications with latest announced prices: *Flying Saucers*, edited by Harold Fulton. Write C.S.I., 1 Nissan Place, Onehunga S.E. 5, Auckland, New Zealand. Price \$1.40. . . . The *Australian Saucer Record*, write Fred Stone, 22 Northcote St., Kilburn, South Australia. For this magazine check your bank for U.S. exchange on 2/- Sterling per copy. . . . The *Flying Saucer Review*, write Derek Dempster, 1 Doughty St., London, W. C. 1, England. Price \$3.50/year. . . . *Uranus* edited by E. Biddle, 31 Kings Rd., London, S. W. 3, England. Price \$1.50/year. *Le Courier Interplanetaire* edited by Prof. Alfred Nahon in French. Write to 24, avenue Denatou, Lausanne, Switzerland. Announced price is equivalent to 35 French francs.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

Da William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## ... BEDROCK OF FACT — "THE FLYING SAUCER CONSPIRACY"

Major Donald E. Keyhoe's latest book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, successor to *Flying Saucers from Outer Space* and *Flying Saucers are Real*, is now before public review. It is, in brief, a monumental work built on the solid bedrock of fact—and it's CRIFO belief that facts, whether good or bad, should be inseparable from the public mind.

An Air Force officer recently told the writer when discussing the views expressed in *Orbit*—"It's time somebody made a stand." On a larger scale, Keyhoe has done just that in his new book. In it he has created for the newcomer (of which there are too many) and the "old hand" a book on par with encyclopedia, history, text book and a Book of Revelations. In it perhaps is commonplace material for the writer of the 21st century, but at that time, the book which we now praise, will be a collector's item and the sages will marvel at its precocity and foresight.

In *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, Keyhoe has hurt no one or any governmental agency. Some may wish to misinterpret the word, "conspiracy," but Keyhoe has assured the writer that he did not mean for it to be construed in its uglier sense. Seems that the writer has had the same trouble with the word, "war" but to put the record straight, we quote from Keyhoe's Foreword, "In revealing this censorship, I am not attacking the Air Force as a whole. Most of the officers and officials I have encountered are simply obeying orders. Nor do I attribute unpatriotic motives to the 'silence group' members who originate these orders. Undoubtedly they are actuated by a high motive—the need, as they see it, to protect the public from possible hysteria."

Putting it mildly, *FSC* is *must* reading. If yours is a family interested in its sanity and well-being, then we suggest you lay off TV for two evenings and gather round while dad reads aloud all 19 chapters. In each is long-suppressed material which should stir every alert family into vorpal discussion and vigilance. The writer has known Major Keyhoe for nearly two years and he can vouch for the author's assiduity and care in handling material. Most of it, without basis or substantiation, is rejected. Knowing this, the writer unequivocally recommends all readers to buy *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* ... and to thank our freedoms for the privilege of letting the book be printed and read by all who wish to be enlightened!

Following is a written statement received from Major Keyhoe, November 27, 1955:

"Dear Mr. Stringfield:

"An advance copy of my new book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, is being sent to you today. I hope that the evidence it contains will be of assistance to you in your investigation of the flying saucer problem.

"Through the CRIFO *Orbit* you have an excellent opportunity to help end the censorship of flying saucer reports. I believe that wide dissemination of the facts, and careful avoidance of all dubious rumors, will eventually lead to a showdown. Many readers will undoubtedly demand, through their Senators and Congressmen, that the Pentagon release all the hidden flying saucer information.

"Meantime, please accept my thanks for the UFO sightings and other reports you have sent me during the past 18 months.

Sincerely yours,

Donald E. Keyhoe

Major, U.S. Marine Corps, Ret."

We list by name the nineteen chapters: (1) Blackout, (2) The First Clue, (3) The Silence Group Strikes, (4) Unknown Worlds, (5) Enigma on the Moon, (6) The Hidden Orders, (7) Cover-up at Quantico, (8) Satellite Search, (9) Mystery on Mars, (10) "Ground All Planes!", (11) Breaks in the Blackout, (12) "Shadowed from Space", (13) The Wilmington Expose, (14) The Burning Road, (15) The Invisible Saucers, (16) "Angel's Hair", (17) Oberth and the G-Field, (18) Redell Explains a Riddle, (19) The Vanishing Planes.

Publisher, Henry Holt & Co., New York. Price \$3.50.

### GIVE THE ORBIT TO FRIENDS FOR CHRISTMAS

Encouraged by last year's success, we again welcome the idea of readers giving a friend one year's subscription of *Orbit*. For this occasion we will have printed a special slip which announces the gift and its donor. Suggest you act quickly.

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield

When reproducing material herein for publication or other public use give credit line to *Orbit*.

Dec. 2, 1955 Issue

Vol. II, No. 9

C.R.I.F.O.'s 21st consecutive monthly publication.

Founded March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....\$3.00 per year

Foreign first class mail..... 3.60 per year

Foreign air mail..... 6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

"On Criswell's TV show, Oct. 29, he made some startling predictions concerning the state of Ohio. Mother nature will strike, causing the rivers to rise . . . spreading havoc."—Note sent special delivery from Florence Kalan, San Diego, Cal.

"Cincinnati and Hamilton County . . . communities last night were hit by one of the most violent local storms in recent years. Flash floods, gusty winds, lightning and hailstones ranging in size from marbles to golf balls caused widespread damage."—The Cincinnati Enquirer, Nov. 16 edition.

The house and home of the Stringfields and of CRIFO were in the surly path of it all; subsequently, it took CRIFO one full week to reorganize. Some people believe that saucers may have a hand in the earth's changing weather: we can't say, but when violence hit home we thought of Criswell.—The Editor.

## "FLYING SOCCER" OR SOMETHING

We regret that a few readers upset themselves by misinterpreting the November *Orbit* and its forboding headlines. What we have done so egregiously is call a spade a spade, or more precisely, put a label on the present action of saucer chase and counter-chase. We called this action, "war", actually for the want of a better term, for as we see it, it is a matter of terminology. Perhaps we should have been wiser had we chosen a less brutal word, like "conflict" or "contest" but these are as awkward as "game" or "sport"—which brings to mind, "flying soccer." Oh well, whatever the choice, the writer still maintains that all is not peaches and cream with the saucers, and as long as we send up armed jet interceptors to chase the UFO (for reasons known only to the Air Force) we are in a military sense *acting in a defensive manner*. By such performance, the USAF is an active participant in a contest (of unknown dimensions) with an opposing force. We have little choice but to recognize that this opposing force is acting offensively (for good or bad) for it is a force coming to earth in increasing number in complete disregard for our defensive action—but these issues are interminably argumentative. Perhaps we may do best by borrowing a page from the Korean Affair for it was called a "police action" when it was truly a war, so maybe the interplanetary "war" of which we speak is truly a police action. One thing for certain—there is *action!*

## 1956 — A LOOK INTO THE UNKNOWN

With the approach of 1956, CRIFO finds saucer and man at a crossroad. To many, saucers still don't exist, to others they are terrestrial and, of course, there is the smattering of non-conformists who still believe that saucers come from outer space. And, even among these few, opinions are sharply divided. Perhaps 1956 will produce the long-awaited *shocker*—the truth punch! As most of us know 1956 is the promised year when Mars comes to earth in its closest opposition, but it may also be the year when the U.S. or Britain or Russia may choose to unveil something discoidal of their own—who knows? We can only wait and see. Those of us who know saucers best also know it would be foolish to predict the turn of events, for the *Fate* bearing *Truth* is manipulated by man. In his hands, we may never fully know the real story unless another intelligence chooses to act first. But cheer up, saucers have been around for a long time and we're all still kickin'. For sure, there'll always be taxes and a Pentagon! It is in this lightsome mood that we wish to extend to each reader a *Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

## THROUGH THE TELESCOPE — LIGHTS ON THE MOON

We are not in a scientific position to pass judgment on the strange continuum of events happening in space: ours is merely to collect and report these events and whenever possible show their relationship to analogous events, and perhaps, point out a speculative clue which fits our hypotheses. Pertinent are two letters quoted from the November, 1955 issue of *Sky & Telescope*:

"On August 26, 1955, I was observing the moon with my home-built 6-inch reflector, using an Erfle eyepiece and Goodwin Barlow lens which gave a magnification of 200x and a 20-minute field. At 7:51 p.m. CST, while examining the neighborhood of the Apennines, I saw on the dark portion of the moon a bright flare that remained visible for about 35 seconds. It appeared roughly as bright as a 2nd magnitude star does to the naked eye. The terminator region of the moon had been under survey for about an hour, and I am certain that the flare was not present for many seconds before I first saw it. The position of the flare, as estimated in terms of the diameter of the field of view, was in the neighborhood of the Carpathian Mts. This seemed to be too far inside the dark portion of the moon for the object to have been an isolated mountain peak catching the sunlight. The flare remained fairly steady in brightness, fading only slightly before it *abruptly* disappeared. . ."

"Shortly after sunrise on September 8, 1955, I was looking at the moon, high in the sky, through a small 20x telescope. My attention was directed to the Taurus Mts., at the western edge of Mare Serenitatis when, at 7:35 a.m., EDT, I saw two distinct flashes of light, about a quarter second apart, that seemed to come from the edge of these mountains. There appeared to be nothing that could have caused reflections in my telescope. The sun was hidden behind trees at the time, and there were no aircraft in the sky."

## THROUGH THE TELESCOPE — LIGHTS IN SPACE

Case 111, Observatory in Abbeylakes, Lancashire, England, July 8, 1954—Contrary to the oft-told charge that astronomers have never seen a "flying saucer" we wish to quote, in summary, a case of tremendous significance from *Vega*, Vol. 2, No. 25. Mr. Harold Hill, the observer, is a well-known lunar astronomer of more than 20 years and is a member of the British Astronomical Association.

"On July 8 near 20<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup> U.T. at his observatory in Abbeylakes, Mr. Hill suddenly noticed at an altitude of about 55 degrees in the southern sky a bright, apparently stationary, star-like object. With 33x and 50x on a 12 inch reflector the "star" was resolved into a bright silvery object of indefinite shape, accompanied to the left by a loose cluster, with perhaps 15 or 20 members of what appeared to be minute stars of varying magnitudes. These were constantly moving about, a "hive of activity." After a short break caused by clouds, Mr. Hill saw two bright objects close together. The cluster had vanished, though perhaps merely outside the field of view of the telescope. "My attention was directed to the two bright objects which showed sensible motion. They were separating as I watched and not only appeared to be gyrating and flashing but also exhibited a slow pendulum movement about each other in a manner similar to dancing partners! The increased movements of the objects made it difficult to follow with the 12 inch and they passed out of the field as an adjustment had to be made of the telescope."

Mr. Hill adds, "The two principal members defied description; they flashed as they gyrated as though *metallic surfaces were reflecting the rays of the sun* (now below the horizon). Probably the closest analogy to what was seen is to be found in the flashing of the facets of a diamond as it is turned 'in strong light.'"

Mr. Desmond Leslie, of London, inquired into the case and received the following reply from Mr. Hill, and we quote: "What I could not understand was why the principal silvery object I first saw appeared double in the later stages of my twenty-five minute observation. It was much later that same night when I hit on the feasible explanation. I believe that what was seen was a cylindrical

1 Signed, K. E. McCorkle, Memphis, Tenn.

2 Signed, W. G. Lambert, Ironton, Ohio.

3 The VEGA report was carried in the STROLLING ASTRONOMER from which F. J. Kelley of Binghamton, N.Y., copied the account.

or cigar-shaped object viewed end-on at first. In the later stages the craft turned sideways, so that I could see both ends which were either illuminated or reflecting the light of the setting sun, so giving the impression of two separate objects. The much smaller 'stellar' objects might well have been the so-called scout craft having a rendezvous with the mother ship."<sup>4</sup>

ED: Mr. Hill's report parallels others on file, and moreover, bears similarity in certain details to one singular case known to the writer whose facts are so startling and incontestable (and confidential) that if all other cases were dismissed, it would prove that flying saucers are intelligently controlled devices, peculiar to earth! See case 10, Aug. 1954 Newsletter for the rudimentary facts . . . perhaps in some future issue of *Orbit* the story will be told in full.

### SAUCERS STIR PENNSYLVANIA QUIET<sup>5</sup>

Other cases with less detail are just as provocative and also deserve airing. CRIFO has many on file and we cite three recent isolated incidents occurring in Pennsylvania.

Case 112, Lancaster Pa., Oct. 9, '55—Amateur astronomer Henry Howell, peering through his Unitron telescope which magnifies 40 times, watched a fiery elliptical object moving in a huge arc in the sky. He said it made no sound and traveled from west to the southeast. Howell was certain the object was not an airplane or a meteor, adding, "I don't know what it was."<sup>6</sup>

ED: Same night, a soundless red object crossed from Northern Kentucky into Western Cincinnati, *making a sudden right angle turn*. Following day, strands and sheets of the mysterious angel hair were found strewn over the flight area of the UFO. The fiery object seen by Howell may have been the same object, for it is significant that Howell saw it coming from the west.

Case 113, Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 9, '55—Philadelphians looking skyward at 6:08 p.m. were treated to a brief bewildering sight of twelve white *wingless* objects. Moving silently at tremendous speed, the objects were described by most observers as appearing to about the size of a half-dollar. (Ed: Some said "dimes" but descriptions of size such as these are meaningless unless a comparison is made, such as holding the coin up to the flying object at arm's length, etc.) All observers were agreed however on one point—the objects were traveling in a V formation then switched to an A. One former Air Force observer said he estimated their altitude at about 3000 ft. and their speed about 200 mph.<sup>7</sup> CRIFO correspondent, H. G. Rovner interviewed one of the observers, Charles W. James, *Inquirer* photographer. James told Rovner the objects were white or silvery, round and wingless, flew in a straight line without undulating or odd motions and without sound. They did not change color in their hasty flight and quickly changed from a V to an A formation. James watched the UFO's with a photographer from the *Bulletin*, but could not get pictures, (according to James), because of the haziness. For professional advice, Dr. I. M. Levitt, director of Fels Planetarium was called. Dr. Levitt, who did not see the UFO's, said, "The only possible explanation is that they were a formation of military aircraft."

Case 114, Drexel Hill, Pa., Nov. 13, '55—The object was first seen by Mr. Harry Leisenring and his son, Ronnie, age seventeen. They called their neighbor, Meredith L. Evons, who describes the incident, thus: ". . . Ronnie first observed the object in the Northwest at about 10 p.m., E.S.T. I would place this in Cygnus. He

stated it was two or three times as bright as the underlight of the large planes that pass over frequently. He described the object as proceeding in a Southeast direction, occasionally circumscribing a small arc in a counterclockwise manner. It passed between Casseopeia and the North Star. About 10:05 I was called. When I first saw the object, it was close to the first magnitude star, Capella. Clouds intermittently hid the stars (including the brightest) but not the object, which seemed to have a steady glow, now about 2nd or 3rd magnitude. In about five minutes the object had passed on to the SE, passing east of Orion. At intervals it seemed to stop and make a small counterclockwise circle. No noise, no trail—just a steady glow, white or yellowish. The clouds did not hide it."

### DENVER'S DEVILISH DISC

Case 115, Denver Colorado, Oct. 3, 17, 18, 20, 21, '55—UFO's often behave devilishly but the case of the Denver disc exemplifies both devilishness and a pattern. The report was sent to CRIFO by Mr. C. H. Marck from which we summarize as follows: The UFO would always appear around 8:00 p.m. M.S.T. and would always come from the Southeast at an altitude of 20,000 ft. or more, then travel to the east then climb at a tremendous speed. On several occasions, Mr. Marck's father, mother and sister were visual witnesses while he watched some of the performance through his 4-inch reflector telescope with 175x eyepiece.

Visually, according to Marck, the object looked like a brilliant yellow-orange star. When viewed through telescope it appeared round. It had a light yellow center and was surrounded by a field of orange, tinged with a blue-green. On one evening (date not mentioned) Marck describes the object's behavior as follows: it blinked so rapidly it seemed to be pulsating; it made *square turns* at tremendous speed; it would suddenly accelerate from slow speed to fast speed, then come to a sudden stop; it would travel at tremendous speed, stop dead, then completely *reverse its direction in a split second*. This performance lasted about 12 minutes. Marck comments, "I wish Sec. Donald Quarles could have seen this UFO; his eyes would have popped!"

### MYSTERY LIGHT TAILS NEW ZEALAND AIR-LINER — CAUSES HEATED DEBATE

Case 116, Wellington to Auckland New Zealand, Oct. 31, '55—A bright "flying light" traveling alongside a National Airways DC3 completely ignored the recent U. S. Air Force statement blacklisting saucers. The object was seen by the pilot, co-pilot and several of the passengers. The *New Zealand Herald* reported the incident as follows, "The plane was piloted by Capt. W. T. Rainbow: his co-pilot, S. G. Trounce. Rainbow described it as an 'eerie experience' and, 'definitely not a comet or meteor . . . we see them often on night flights.' The mysterious light was first seen well behind the aircraft. It was flying along the coast on a parallel course and gradually overtook the aircraft, flew alongside it but 15 miles distant for a short period and then disappeared ahead. In the five minutes it was in view it traveled from Waitara to the Waikato River mouth, a distance of about 72 air miles. 'It was just above a layer of cloud and we could see it traveling against the white mass', said Rainbow. 'The night was clear and visibility excellent.' The light was fluctuating in intensity and changing from red to yellow and orange. A call to flight control in Wellington confirmed that there were no aircraft in the area, but the speed of the object, estimated at 850 mph. ruled out aircraft. An ex-pilot passenger commented, "I have never seen anything like it before."

<sup>4</sup> Quoted from July-Aug. '55 issue, FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, London, England.

<sup>5</sup> Since preparing copy, additional UFO reports have reached CRIFO from Pennsylvania, one occurring near the Eisenhower Farm in Gettysburg.

<sup>6</sup> Credit, Glenn C. Imber, Denver, Pa.

<sup>7</sup> Credit, Mrs. Thelma Uhle, Allentown; Charles Pontius, Phila.

In a separate item the *Herald* reported, Nov. 2nd: "Two men fishing on the upper reaches of the Raglan Harbor late Monday night claim to have sighted a mysterious light hovering close to an aircraft that passed over them. . . . Immediately they noticed a *bright white light waving from side to side around the aircraft* and keeping pace with it. Mr. Dryland, one of the sighters, said he was astounded to read that a similar light had been seen by a National Airways DC3 crew. No N.A.C. aircraft were over Raglan at 11 p.m. on Monday, but a Tasman Airways DC6 was diverted from Auckland to Ohakea and was in the vicinity of Raglan about 10:30 p.m.

But, the plot thickens. It turned out that Air Commodore, R. J. Cohen was aboard the N.A.C. airliner—fast asleep! Concerned, the Royal New Zealand Air Force called on the Commodore as a star witness in the top-level inquiry. Said he, "I was asleep when the pilot, (See copy below)



Capt. Rainbow shook me awake. He told me he had seen something strange. I looked out . . . and told him it was a planet—and promptly went back to sleep." The air commodore slept on. When he landed he checked with reference and decided positively that what he saw was Venus low down on the horizon. In the meantime, however, the Minister in charge of Civil Aviation, Mr. Shand, had ordered an inquiry, while the acting-Minister of Defense, Mr. Halstead instructed that the Air Force cooperate.

The *Herald*, Nov. 7th reported: ". . . The Air Force intelligence officers have spent hours probing reports and their only conclusion so far is that the object was *not* the planet Venus. Not only had Venus retired for the night at the time of the sighting—even taking into account the height of the plane (8000 ft.)—but low

cloud on the horizon would also have obscured her for minutes before that. During investigations, it turned out that the air traffic control officer at Hobsonville was also on the N.A.C. plane, and he too, had observed the object. The officer, Mr. A. R. Tuckett, a pilot with 2500 hours in his flying log, said the object appeared "orange red at first, then it turned steel blue." It moved away quickly and disappeared in a moment. "In all my flying I've never seen anything like it," he said.

ED: The writer is indebted to Harold H. Fulton of C.S.I., New Zealand for the massive clippings and information he sent to CRIFO for a story on the controversial "flying Venus" case. Speaking of Venus, it seems that she has become the proverbial "whipping girl." Can it be that the Venus-answer is so indoctrinated in the minds of officials that it may be used in split-second emergencies such as typified by the awakening Commodore? Fulton states in one of his letters, following a phone interview with Capt. Rainbow, that when the Commodore was informed of the fast-moving light he took one quick look and said, "probably a planet", then sat down and refused to look further—even when told of the light's progress!

SAUCER SUNDRIES: Visiting CRIFO in November was Gray Barker, editor of SAUCERIAN. Gray, the finest of the finest, does credit to objective saucer thinking. For many hours we discussed the inside angles and of course came to no positive conclusion, but it was fun for two publishers to talk things over. . . . Also in Cincinnati was Desmond Leslie, of London, England. Sponsored by Mrs. Laura Marxer of Detroit, Leslie spoke eloquently before a group of 500, supporting the view that saucers are peaceful. In a private "session" Leslie told the writer about saucers-behind-the-scenes in England. . . . We are more than curious about the *Joyita* incident and what happened to her crew of 25—and what caused the semi-circular *burned-out* section on topside. More later on this. . . . We're still compiling notes, already massive, on the mysterious sky-quakes over San Francisco and the Bay area. Earthquakes and jet sonic booms don't seem to be the answer for those which are rousing the public. . . . My wife wishes to remind readers who drop us cards complaining that their current issue of *Orbit* has not yet arrived to also let us know if and when it does arrive—helps bookkeeping and expenses.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## FLYING SAUCERS AND CENSORISM

The Cincinnati *Enquirer*, November 9, 1955, had this to say editorially . . . "Once again, and in the most unqualified terms, we have the word of the Air Force that the flying saucers seen by so many people in so many places were not there at all. Whatever all these people saw, they were not aircraft, missiles or spaceships from this or any other planet, according to Donald A. Quarles, Secretary of the Air Force. . . ."

"Even if the story stopped there, we could expect a good many flying saucer enthusiasts to ignore the *dictum* of the Air Force and to go right on accumulating their sightings, their theories and their campaigns to persuade the public that these saucer-shape space ships are real. . . ."

Our first thought, when reading the above editorial, was that its writer was drunk, but we soon realized that it was written *according to the dictum of the Air Force*, and was thus playing its vital role in the dramatic nation-wide smear campaign, designed to kill saucers in the mind of the public. According to this *dictum*, of which the *Enquirer* speaks, the true saucer facts had to be smothered quickly for two reasons, (1) To beat Major Keyhoe's new book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, to the punch, (2) To set the stage before 1956, when saucer sightings were expected to reach an all-time high.

The *Enquirer* editorial is typical of the attitude shared by many of the nation's great newspapers. While we know of no federal directive which muzzles saucer stories from print (as one editor told the writer, he "never saw an edict") there is, however, valid reason to believe that a clandestine "gentleman's agreement" has been effected, for rarely, and only weakly, have our truth-hunting editors challenged the agency concealing the *true* saucer facts. Instead, it seems, that some have gone beyond any "agreement" and for autonomous or other selfish reasons have conspired *with* the silence group; this done by snuffing out local sightings and tagging sighters as screwballs.

The writer's activities have frequently taken him behind scenes of the press. Here, most shrewd newsmen have a conversant respect for the saucer mystery, but, curiously, few, since 1952 have dared write up their beliefs, even though the facts at their command should have provided the trigger. On one occasion, while tracking down an Associated Press release, the writer was told by a top staff writer and columnist of a local paper that, while attending a press meeting in Washington, he learned that officials "were taking more than a casual interest" in the UFO problem. But, we have noted that this same staff writer has not reviewed or mentioned saucers in his columns since 1952.

### THE STRANGULATION OF CASE 100

Another telltale incident took place during the saucer spree over Cincinnati in the late summer of 1955. The writer, in the September issue of *Orbit*, had reviewed these local activities and was particularly proud of Case 100, the facts in which had been cleared by an official. Thinking that it would be of interest to Cincinnatians, especially since jets had been increasingly active over the city, the writer phoned one of the local papers.

Luckily, the very reporter I had in mind, answered. Knowing his sympathy to the saucer problem, I got to the point, first citing the highlights in Case 100 then reading it verbatim as it appeared in *Orbit*. I could sense his excitement, for without hesitation, he started taking notes for a story. In the meanwhile, others at the city desk had learned the news; their voices occasionally breaking in, to which the reporter would stop and answer. But, as the minutes ticked by, the interruptions became more noisome, and not infrequently, the reporter's cupped hand, while making his reply, made me feel uneasy. Finally, when the reporter returned to complete his questioning, he promised that a messenger would be sent out right away to pick up *Orbit*. It seemed incredible; for the first time, saucers would get a break, and the public would

know about the jet interception. But the dream bubble didn't last long for after another period of silence, with muffled voices, the reporter's voice again piped in, this time sounding like it was dragging. He said the messenger deal was called off. In so many words, he explained that Case 100 had been re-examined at the City Editor's desk—*there it was killed!*

### IN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION

Still another sign of *cooperative agreement* became evident in Lake Charles, La. While vacationing there during June of 1955, the writer visited the office of the local paper, the *American Press*. During the interview, which was set up for a possible feature story on CRIFO (tying it in with my wife having been born and raised in Lake Charles), we were told by the Managing Editor that PIO's from the adjacent SAC base had visited his office and asked that all saucer reports be directed to the base. We also noted that although the editor seemed warm to the idea of a feature story during the interview, nothing ever appeared save a notice that the Stringfields were vacationing.

One final and ironical note. This one illustrates how a censorious newspaper can even censure its editor. From a very reliable source we learned that the editor-in-censure, had, with his own eyes, seen a UFO coursing Cincinnati skies. But, he, like others among us, was deceived, for his own paper's editorial says it was "*not there at all.*" Summarily, armed with a vast knowledge of such machinations, CRIFO fully intends to go right on accumulating sightings, theories and will continue to campaign "to persuade the public that saucer-shape space ships are real." Let us proceed!

### LIGHTS OUT — A MYSTERY DRAMA

Case 117, Danville, Cal., Dec. 2-3, 1955—Oftentimes we receive bits of information, which, by themselves, look ostensibly free of any UFO connection, but, when, correlated show a remarkable Fortean pattern. Such is the "jig-saw" pieces of material sent to us by Dr. J. B. of Danville. Fitting together these pieces for evaluation we discovered that the finished picture bore a startling likeness to others on file. In light of this, we hasten to put the case on record. First, we summarize the clipping sent us, as follows:

"A \$45,000 project to provide emergency electrical power to the Danville area will begin next week, according to Pacific Gas & Electric officials who Sunday supervised efforts to remedy a 24 hour blackout, presumably caused by a low-flying plane which cut a 22,000-volt line in Pine Valley Canyon. . . . Under consideration for several months, the new project was spurred by the sudden power failure at 3 p.m. Saturday, which plunged more than 2000 homes and businesses in blackness. . . . Television station KOVR with its transmitter on Mt. Diablo went off the air, and power company officials were besieged with calls from anxious and irritated citizens who wanted to know what the matter was. The "matter" was a big, three-strand power line, which carries 22,000 volts of power some 1800 feet across Pine Valley Canyon, about 500 feet above the ground. . . . Hard-pressed utility crews which toiled up steep slopes to the almost inaccessible region, found evidence that two of the three strands had been snapped somehow, by a plane or possibly a gun shot. Earlier, a low-flying plane had been seen in the canyon, according to witnesses in the area. . . ."

(Continued page 2, Col. 2)

## C. R. I. F. O. ORBIT

Copyright 1956 by Leonard H. Stringfield

When reproducing material herein for publication or other public use give credit line to *Orbit*.

January 6, 1956 Issue

Vol. II, No. 10

C.R.I.F.O.'s 22nd consecutive monthly publication.

Founded March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....	\$3.00 per year
Foreign first class mail.....	3.60 per year
Foreign air mail.....	6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

"... I am 'fed up' and disgusted with the mendacity the Air Force and other government agencies are displaying about the UFO's and I know I speak for many others who never will get around to writing you. America is a land of freedom and freedom of the press and speech are two of the basic liberties comprising that freedom. But what do you suppose we Americans feel toward our leaders when we know we are being deceived, that the press is only given hoax stories on saucers to 'blow up' and the real ones are 'watered down' and put on 'page 39' at the bottom of the want ad column. . . ."

—Excerpt from letter sent to Secy. of the Air Force, Dec. 5, 1955 by Helen P. Currier, Stamford, Conn.

### LORD DOWDING SPEAKS A WISE PHILOSOPHY

The letter below, dated December 12, 1955, was addressed to the writer from Air Chief Marshall Lord Dowding of England. It is of special interest at this time for it expresses a deep and humanitarian appreciation of the UFO problem.

"Thank you for sending copies of your paper, *Orbit*. I am interested to hear that you had dinner with Desmond Leslie; I am hoping to see him soon after his return to this country and to hear his latest news and impressions from America.

"I must congratulate you on coining the word Ufobia, it is witty and apt. I am sorry though to note that the general tone of your paper is to encourage this phobia—"Interplanetary War" and "Little Green Men", etc. There is quite enough fear abroad in the world today and if people are encouraged to fear contacts with planetary visitors it inclines them to attack those who may come in peace and friendliness.

"Even from the lowest point of view: If an interplanetary war should come about, we should have no chance against the forces which could be directed against us. So, why act in a way calculated to start such a war?"

While Lord Dowding scorns the breeders of Ufobia, he also censures *Orbit* for suggesting the possibility of interplanetary war. He, indeed, is not alone, however, the writer believes that while only a handful of the world's people are cognizant of being on the threshold of a new age, introduced by saucers, that all avenues of interpretation, good or bad, should be equally aired until proof of one or the other is in evidence. While this wholesale "airing" may not lend itself favorably through the nation's great news media at this time, we do believe that a discourse of the pros and cons are safe in papers of limited circulation such as *Orbit*. But, in Lord Dowding's letter there is much wisdom for all of us to heed, therefore, we feel it mandatory that his interpretation be objectively reviewed and, we hope, his advice applied if open contact with planetary visitors should be effected.

In response to this public inconvenience, the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., drafted a letter, sending all Danville residents a copy. Our correspondent sent us his, and from it we quote in part as follows:

"P. G. & E. deeply regrets the inconvenience caused you by the long interruption in electric service on December 2 and 3. I know that in a great many instances the inconvenience was serious. The interruption was caused by a break in two of three wires on the side of Mt. Diablo. . . . Two witnesses have told us they saw an airplane in the immediate area just before the break. . . . Our own examination of the broken ends of the wires indicates that contact by some foreign object was responsible. We are searching for evidence to help us determine the exact cause of the break. . . ."

To which our correspondent adds, ". . . it was a beautiful clear day and I was on a nearby golf course, not knowing about the break. Nevertheless, the sight of five interceptors, streaking from a nearby base, caused one to stop and watch between golf shots. After 35 minutes they slowly returned towards home, not in formation, evidently having lost their elusive IFO. Incidentally, the tower that carried the lines was broken across the upper third, which was the reason of delay in restringing the lines. As of date (Dec. 11), there has been no logical explanation offered. . . ."

Case 118, Marion, Va., Sept. 16, 1954—Being of similar character, we quote the following story from the Lancaster, Pa., *Intelligencer-Journal* of Sept. 17, '54:

"Sam Peavler, manager of a department store, said he saw a round chrome-colored object about 10-15 feet in diameter whirling east toward Roanoke about 6 a.m. Peavler said the object, traveling swiftly and quietly at an altitude of about 200 feet, was in view for only a few seconds. He said a bluish streak of fire about 10 feet long extended behind the object. Officials at radio station WMEV said their transmitter failed to operate properly when the station went on the air at 6 a.m. Peavler said the object passed near the station's towers."

Ed: Although no wires were broken in Case 118, we believe it noteworthy that the object passed near the station's towers, which, in our analogy, might also explain the nature of the "foreign object" that passed near or into the Danville lines. These incidents also recall similar mysterious power failures, one in Seattle, Washington, several years ago, when UFO's were seen passing low over the city, and, in Monroe, La., on Aug. 28, '55—a date during a period when UFO activity was extremely heavy in the midwest, and presumably elsewhere.

### THE "GHOST PLANE" INCIDENT

The full story, if indeed, there is a story, may never be known—or, at least understood. That's the best way we can put it at this writing, for the facts surrounding the incident seem to touch more on the apparitional. In eight date-lined clippings sent to CRIFO by Ted Bloecher of New York, which completely cover the incident until officially closed<sup>1</sup>, there is not one clue that a saucer was involved, but again, we cannot be quite sure that *what was seen, was not a saucer*, so we shall let the case rest with the reader.

Case 119, Dark Hollow, Pa., Nov. 18, 1955—The first reports told of extensive search parties combing the mountainous region of Dark Hollow looking for a plane believed crashed. The search began after Dale Murphy, civil defense coordinator of Cumberland County, said he received reports from ten GOC members of either hearing or seeing a plane, "probably in trouble", flying about 1000 feet. One spotter said she saw it go out of sight behind a hill, then heard something like an explosion. However, checks with various air control agencies failed to turn up any reports of either a plane missing or in

<sup>1</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner for supplying additional information in clips from Phila Bulletin, and, Mrs. Fred Zimmerman, from Tamaqua Evening

trouble. On Nov. 21st, the *Harrisburg Evening News* reported that air-sea rescue planes were dispatched by Westover AFB in Massachusetts to aid ground crews in the search. The planes were requested by Murphy after two flares were reported over a deep ravine in Dark Hollow. But, the aerial search by the Air Force and the Civil Air Patrol along with nearly 300 firemen, police, civil defense workers and volunteers found no trace of a crashed plane. But the persistence of flares renewed the searchers efforts. On the 20th, yellow flares were reported at 1:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. At 9:30 that night Murphy ordered sirens blown on all fire equipment in the region. Fifteen minutes later, another flare arched into the sky. Murphy said the two flares fired at 9:45 p.m. on two successive nights "might have some significance."

Finally, on the 22nd Nov., the search was halted, and the "ghost plane" became a legend. "We didn't find a trace of a plane" reported Murphy. "We've checked all rumors, all reports, and we've come up with nothing." Reports of flares, bonfires and cries for "help" remained a mystery as the search ended. Last report of flares came from searchers on the 21st. The first, glowing green, was at 9:45 and three more were reported between 11:30 and 11:45. All told, seven distress flares were reported seen since Sunday, Nov. 20th.

Ed: Unmistakably, ten people saw and heard something over Dark Hollow, Nov. 18, and we cannot doubt that "lights", described as flares, were seen on the following nights. Yet, the search expeditions found not a single clue of a crashed plane or its distressed crew. If these contradictory factors are in the final analysis true, then we must either accept a supranatural explanation or its alternative, that the phenomena are Fortean. Assuming that it were the latter, we may rightfully ask, borrowing words from Ted Bloecher, "were the observers quite sure they didn't mistake a noisy saucer for the alleged plane?" A step further, is it not also possible that the "flares", described as yellow and green, were not distress signals but, instead, the *departure* of expeditionary saucers? Sometimes referred to as "scanners", this rare type of small, luminous globe has been seen haunting the wooded ravines west of Cincinnati during 1955, their disappearances sometimes vertical, like a flare. Perhaps timely, is the report of mystery flares seen 10 miles off the inner Massachusetts coast on Dec. 6. Reported by the sea-going tug *El Sol*, the Coast Guard sent two ships to investigate, but military and civil airports in the area said none of their planes were missing or overdue.<sup>2</sup>

### HOVERING SAUCER REGISTERS SOUND

Case 120, Spirit Lake, Iowa, Nov. 23, 1955—We quote from the November 24 issue of the *Des Moines (Iowa) Register* as follows:

"Two GOC members on duty about a mile west of Spirit Lake reported seeing a brilliant object hovering in the area for about 20 minutes. Earl Rose, a state fisheries biologist, and Gay Orr, superintendent of schools, said they noticed the object about 5:45 p.m. half a mile from their post, after they heard "a multi-motor sound" over an amplifying pickup system. Rose said the object appeared to be at an elevation of about 750 feet, moving in an erratic southwesterly direction. They followed the "thing" with binoculars as it moved forward, went up and down, then hovered over Center Lake about 10 minutes. Rose said the two felt certain it wasn't a balloon because its lighting changed from white to bluish white, green and red and it was moving against the wind."

Correspondent R. C. T. Wright observes, "There appear to be several significant points in this report: (1) the noise heard over the amplifying system, (2) color change of the object, and (3) movement against the wind."

### GREEN FIREBALL SOARS LOW OVER CINCINNATI

Case 121, Cincinnati, O., Dec. 15, 1955—A chemical engineering student who saw a giant green fireball with a short, bright red tail, like a flame, reported his sighting in full to CRIFO. He said he was getting out of his car about 7 p.m. near his home in Bridgetown when he looked up and spotted the object streaking low toward the southwest. Spotting it first at about 40 degrees above the horizon, he said the fireball shot down incredibly fast, and without sound, looking as "though it might have landed." When asked about the color of the object, the observer said it appeared like a "hot fiery ball—definitely the green of burning copper." Although the observer could not estimate the fireball's altitude, the writer, remembering the heavy overcast for that evening, checked with the Weather Bureau. He learned that the humidity for 7 p.m., December 15 was 68% while the ceiling was marked at 3400 feet.

Ed: Judging by the Weather Bureau's figures, the fireball was traveling low. While it was also Kelly green and soundless, as described by a competent observer, we may therefore conclude that the object was not the usual meteor. Beyond this we can only speculate, for while fireballs frequently slip into our atmosphere, breaking up like a bolide, they sometimes *crash into earth*. Just recently, we learned, two such objects crashed at a certain point in Ohio. Also recently, a large fireball was seen over Providence, R. I., before dusk. The first-hand report sent to CRIFO by Wayne Fenner, describes the object, seen by his brother and mother, as follows: ". . . It looked like it was on fire. When it got almost overhead, it began to come down in a flat dive—and it kind of broke apart . . . then, when it was almost broken in half, it went out—disappeared without sound." See also Cases 110, 71, 50, 33, 20, 19, 18.

### THIS ONE HIT . . .

Case 122, Eastern Kansas and Northern Oklahoma, Dec. 17, 1955—Hard on the heels of the Cincinnati fireball, comes the report of one hitting the dirt. In fact this timely news item from the *Topeka Daily Capitol* arrived just in time to make this issue, thanks to L. S. Parker of Topeka. We quote from the item in part, ". . . The bright fireballs were reported at 7 p.m. in Oklahoma, 7:30 p.m. in Northeast Kansas and at 8 p.m. in East Central Kansas. Two men reported they saw fragments from a meteorite strike the ground near Yates Center about 8 p.m. Two others said they saw a giant fireball about that time while they were driving near Ottawa. Numerous Topekans saw the meteorite at 7:30 p.m. flash down through the sky northwest of Topeka. Reports on this one came also from Emporia, Ft. Riley, Holton, Ottawa and Kansas City. A commercial pilot from Manhattan reported he saw the meteorite at 7:30 p.m. while driving near Iola. He said he estimated it dropped below 20,000 feet before it disappeared. He said it developed from brilliant white to green before it disintegrated. It 'lit up the ground', he said. Topeka appeared to be the center of a circle about 100 miles in diameter in which this meteorite was sighted. The fireball was traveling westward. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said several reports were received from residents of that state on the meteorite sighted at 7 p.m. Patrolmen said this one was traveling northward into Kansas."

<sup>2</sup> Credit, Rev. A. Baller for sea-flare clip from Springfield (Mass.) Union.

## SAUCERS RETURN TO GREENFIELD AREA

On December 8, Rev. Albert Baller of Greenfield, Mass., wrote to CRIFO these words, ". . . after a lapse of a year and a half, the saucers are back again." The clippings he enclosed and those he sent us later, confirm his statement. First we quote from *The Greenfield Recorder-Gazette* as follows:

Case 123, Ashfield, Mass., Dec. 6, 1955—"Several persons in far-flung parts of the city reported seeing a strange aircraft about 4:15 p.m. All seemed agreed on the description. At first thought an airplane on fire, it was a cigar-shaped craft with long rows of brilliant, reddish lights, apparently one row on each side. A South Ashfield viewer also reported seeing a single light at each side of the "fuselage". Two trails of smoke followed the object. There was no noise accompanying the ship on its southward journey and its progress was extremely slow. One viewer estimated at least five minutes

were required for the craft to float on a straight course before disappearing from view." Rev. Baller adds, in his letter, "This is the second report, in as many weeks, of strange objects not far from Greenfield. The earlier report was from the neighborhood of Bernardston and on the same night two independent sighters reported something strange in the sky from South Deerfield and from Sunderland."

In his letter of Dec. 12, Rev. Baller revealed more detail to the Ashfield sighting and we quote, ". . . I have found a person here in Greenfield who also saw this strange object. The sighter, Mrs. Lillian Steiner, told me that . . . she looked up at the blue sky (and saw the object) moving slowly toward the north and almost directly overhead. She said it may have been noiseless, but thought she heard a distant sound like a 'jet'. She

described it as 'silver, cigar-shaped and trailing four short tails' which tails she thought could have been short jets of black exhaust. The trails served to hide the end of the object so that she wasn't sure it tapered or just ended abruptly at the point of the emergence of the tails."

From Shutesbury came more substantiation. In a report later filed with the *Recorder-Gazette*, a man and wife, reported they saw a "peculiar cucumber-shaped object" in the south sky, brilliantly lighted up. The object, they said, floated slowly just above the tree tops and finally disappeared. The same couple also reported seeing two fiery balls shooting across the sky at 9 p.m. on December 13. But the story continues.

Case 124, Greenfield, Mass., 7:40 p.m., Dec. 15, 1955—From the *Recorder-Gazette* we have the following: Leo Bousquet, Jr., and James Graves, Jr., informed Rev. Albert Baller that they spotted the slow-moving, long craft re-



sembling those sighted earlier in the county. Rev. Baller questioned the boys closely and obtained a description of the object which was shaped like a cigar or frankfurter, long and rounded on both ends. An extremely bright red light glowed on the front end. A row of white lights, perhaps seven or eight, were seen along the center side and at the rear there was a cluster of white lights. The boys said there was no sign of any wings. The craft made a noise similar to a jet plane, but traveled very slowly.

In Rev. Baller's letter of December 17 he cites the names and testimony of others who had seen the object. Significantly he adds the following comments: "This thing might possibly have been the new A.F. giant helicopter, if one were to depend only upon the evening sightings, since it is conceivable that the whirling blades would not have shown up in the dark. *However, it has been seen several times in the daytime and the sighters maintain that there were no wings or blades to be seen.* They certainly would have shown up with the sun on them."

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.

7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

Mr. William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas



## JETS CHASE SAUCERS, HERALDING IN 1956

Twenty six hours after the new year broke, a lone, soundless saucer circled over Northwestern Cincinnati. Charles Deininger, member of GOC, described the object as a bright white light, its motion like that of a "fishtail." Closing out the old year, December 29, Ohio again came into the Ufological<sup>1</sup> spotlight, but like Case 119, it is abstract. The report was sent to CRIFO from Mrs. C. G. Schlesselman of Hammondspport, N. Y., who made notes from a local radio broadcast. She writes, ". . . I was listening to the radio. A report came on at 2 p.m. stating that the AP and UP had just released the news of a plane crashing in the hills near Cadiz, Ohio. A farmer had seen it explode just above the ground. Searchers were organized to investigate. The news program said details would be given at 3:30. However, at 3:30 no mention was made of the incident. Also, nothing was said on any of the TV news reports that night. . . ."

Earlier in December (see Editor's remark under Case 121) two fiery objects were reported to have crashed near Newark, Ohio. Here, also, search parties were organized, but no evidence of a plane crash was found. Unable to secure additional information regarding either the Cadiz or Newark cases, we cannot help but wonder about the *nature* of the crashing objects, and, whether the proximity of time and place was a matter of coincidence. As the "saucer flies" Cadiz and Newark are only 75 miles apart.

Lending weight to the recent Ohio activity, comes word from neighboring Indiana. Frank Edwards, News Director for WTTV, Indianapolis, sent CRIFO the following note, "There was a sighting near Lafayette last Sunday night which was reported in the local papers here, believe it or not, and a very unusual sighting on January 9 by the GOC people near Bedford, Indiana. Jets from Louisville were sent to chase the objects which turned out to be highspeed hallucinations, capable of out-maneuvering the jets."

Confirming the Lafayette sighting is an item appearing in the *Marion Chronicle*, dated January 9. It said responsible witnesses, including three officers of the state police post at Lafayette, told of seeing the object for 15 minutes. Said the *Chronicle*, "Maurice Moody, communications officer, said the light passed in color from red to green then white and after 15 minutes in a fixed position, moved over the southwest horizon and disappeared."<sup>2</sup>

Case 125, Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan. 7, 1956—While Ohio and Indiana seemed to be the usual focal point for saucer concentration, they were not alone in ushering in

the new year. Riley Crabb, of Honolulu, sent CRIFO the following report, "A glowing object hovered over one of the residential districts of Honolulu at an altitude of 1500 ft. for half an hour January 7. An army sergeant, his wife and four other people watched it through binoculars from their home, about a mile or so away and at almost the same level in the mountains back of the city. When a plane flew by at a higher altitude the saucer settled down in an uninhabited area, then took off fast leaving a shower of sparks. To the sergeant it appeared disc-shaped, perhaps 100 ft. across and had unusual color characteristics. I read his three page report before it was turned in to the Air Force, Sunday. He was asked not to make a statement to the press. Afterward, a group of us searched the landing area but found nothing unusual. A geiger counter was also used."

## FIREBALLS FLASH OVER OREGON IN DAYLIGHT

Case 126, Central Oregon, Jan. 9, 1956—On the same date saucers and jets cavorted over Bedford, Indiana, another variety of mystery object, fast, fiery and perhaps fissile, soared over Oregon. The *Eugene Register-Guard*, January 9, reported, quoting in part, ". . . Associated Press reports said residents in Klamath Falls and Lakeview saw the first fireball about 5 p.m. It was described as a green ball traveling at terrific speed. That one vanished over the mountains west of Klamath Falls. Two more reports of a second fireball were made a short time later to Phil Brogan at Bend, the new Northwest director for the American Meteor Society. The second flash was first seen as it sped south between Bend and Burns about 5:20 p.m. What was believed to be the same fireball was reported in Eugene by Eileen Dunn, deputy county clerk. She said she was driving to town when the fireball flashed across the sky. The object was green when she first saw it, then it turned to orange and red as it disappeared over the horizon. . . ."<sup>3</sup>

Ed: Looking at our Oregon map we find two factors, geography and time, which point to the possibility that three objects traversed Oregon. The fireball passing between Klamath Falls and Lakeview in the south was clocked at 5 p.m. We note that 20 minutes later a second object was reported flying south between Bend and Burns which are towns about 120 miles to the north. Unmistakably, two fireballs vollied south during this 20 minute span in Central Oregon, but the fireball sighted over Eugene, at least 80 miles west of Bend may have been the third missile, for between Bend and Eugene rise the Cascade Mountains Range, whose flanking peaks reach as high as 10,352 feet. Considering the mountain range and the reported low altitude flying of the usual green fireball (see Case 121) we believe that the fireball seen by Miss Dunn could not have been the same object seen between Bend and Burns—regardless of the time coincidence. See also Case 71.

<sup>1</sup> Recently Ted Bloecher of C.S.I. of New York gave us "Ufology" which helps get around the banal word, saucer.

<sup>2</sup> Credit, H. B. Williams, Indianapolis.

<sup>3</sup> Credit, Dennis Kier, Eugene, Oregon.

# C. R. I. F. O. ORBIT

February 3, 1956

Vol. II, No. 11

When reproducing material herein for publication or other public use give credit line to *Orbit*.

C.R.I.F.O.'s 23rd consecutive monthly publication.

Founded March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....	\$3.00 per year
Foreign first class mail.....	3.60 per year
Foreign air mail.....	6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

*"The London News Chronicle, 3rd January reports on the arrival of Professor Richard van de Reit Woolley from Canberra, Australia, to take up his new position as the Astronomer Royal. I see he has already qualified for his new job by stating that flights to the moon and flying saucers are 'utter bilge.'*

*"Honestly, it is high time these top arrogant quasi-scientists took a pull of themselves and brought their ideas up to date. Someone should recommend to the Atomic Commission that that body study the skulls of such men—their investigations may reveal 'a most effective screen' against cosmic and radioactive contaminations."*

—Harold H. Fulton, President of  
Civilian Saucer Investigations,  
New Zealand.

## NEW BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY OF SECRETARY QUARLES

Reports to date indicate that Major Keyhoe's new book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* will break all records. Cincinnati sold out the first week, likewise many other cities. If you don't have yours, don't give up—it's absolutely *must* reading.

On the current market is Captain Edward Ruppelt's new book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, published by Doubleday & Co. Ruppelt, now a research engineer for Northrop Aircraft, was formerly chief of Project Blue Book set up for Air Force investigation of saucer reports. In his book, Ruppelt cites many incontrovertible sighting cases which proves that UFO's are intelligently controlled devices. One such case was a light in the Saginaw Bay area of central Michigan, which was picked up by radar and pursued by a Lockheed F-94 night fighter, May 29, 1952. Said Ruppelt, "A lot of people I knew were absolutely convinced this report was the key—the final proof. Even if the thousands of other UFO reports could be discarded on a technicality, this one couldn't be. These people believed that this report in itself was proof enough to officially accept the fact that UFO's were interplanetary space ships."

Coming soon is a book with a new slant by Gray Barker, of Clarksburg, W. Va., publisher of the *Saucerian*. The publication date is tentatively set for April 20 and the title is *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers*.

On schedule for January or February is the *UFO Annual* by M. K. Jessup, publisher, Citadel Press. Jessup is the author of *The Case For the UFO*, a recent best-seller.

Concurrent is H. T. Wilkins' *Flying Saucers Uncensored*, a British author who wrote *Flying Saucers on the Attack*. Publisher

## METALLIC FRAGMENTS SPRAY OVER FIJI

Case 127, Yakobu, Vatulele, Fiji Islands, reported December 27, 1955—Whatever the origin and purpose of the fireball and its inexplicable behavior, i.e., much like a ranging missile, we look searchingly to other relative events for a possible clue. Such a clue may be found in the report reaching us from Suva in the Fiji Islands. The *Auckland Star*, December 27, '55 reported, "During a lightning storm, the village of Yakobu, in Vatulele, was showered with metallic fragments of all sizes. Nobody was hurt. A possible explanation, said the *Star*, "was that a meteorite exploded at a low level, causing a flash thought by the islanders to be lightning. Such an explosion could have caused a shower of meteorite fragments. Samples of the metallic shower are to be sent to the Fiji Mines Department."

Harold Fulton, of C.S.I., New Zealand, who sent CRIFO the news item, noted, "I am writing to Vatulele authorities for samples of the metallic shower." Perhaps remote, in connection with the Fiji incident, but not so remote by nautical miles is the bizarre affair of the *Joyita*. This 70 ton cruiser, which steamed out of Apia in Western Samoa for the Tokelau Islands, Oct. 3, 1955, had 25 people aboard, but for some mysterious reason the vessel did not reach the Tokelaus. It was found on November 10 "wallowing lifelessly in a light sea" reported *Life* magazine, but no one was aboard. *Unaccountable was the burned-out semi-circular section on topside*. We have no way of knowing, but the *Joyita* may have experienced a similar "lightning storm" like that over Yakobu.

## FIREBALL FINDS RANGE, WRECKS WORKSHOP

Case 128, Adelaide, Australia, June 15, 1955—Paradon the idiom, but let's face it, something's screwy! In a special report prepared by the Australian Astronomical Society, June 1955, we learn more about the ubiquity and character of the fireball. The report reads as follows, "There seems little doubt that the mysterious explosion that totally wrecked a shop in the Adelaide suburb of Flinders Park at 2:20 a.m. on June 15 was caused by a meteorite. The shop measuring 15' x 20' had its walls blown out, roof blown off and contents destroyed. Authorities have ruled out normal causes. Investigating the site before the dangerous walls and roof had been demolished, the secretary found no marks that could have been tributary to a meteorite striking the building. Later a watch was made as several tons of brick and mortar rubble was removed, much of it charred by the fire that followed the explosion. But, no trace of anything meteoric was found or could be seen. From the large amount of debris present, however, it was possible that the meteorite shattered into small fragments upon impact. Evidence favoring the meteorite theory was given by an eyewitness account by a neighbor who stated that before the explosion she had seen a bright fireball flash across the sky in that direction. . . . The direction of the fall of the fireball described by the witness agrees with the apparent entry of the meteorite into the building, as it was evident from the way the masonry fell. . . ."

Ed: The report also stated, ". . . the earth was passing through a Scorpius meteor stream on the date concerned." While we are aware of the fact that the fireball in question may have been a wayward *Scorpius*, we wonder what "meteor stream" can be blamed for the "meteor" that crashed into the home of Mrs. Hewlett Hodges of Sylacauga, Alabama, November 30, 1954.<sup>5</sup> Too often, the writer believes, it is convenient for astronomers to blame meteors for anomalies in the sky such as in the Adelaide case, or the "meteoric" explosion causing a gaping crater near Logan, Utah, May 1, 1954. See Case 20. See also CRIFO News-

<sup>5</sup> Credit, Fred Stone, Pres. of The Australian Flying Saucer Research

ORBIT WITH ADVERTISING GOES TO EIGHT PAGES FOR MARCH

The aim of ORBIT is to keep abreast of interplanetary events and to grow in size proportionately. Accordingly, the writer has accepted a self-challenge to try at least one "spectacular" issue of ORBIT giving the reader eight pages of saucer news and a more readable type face. If plans work out we hope to develop the March issue along these lines in commemoration of the founding of CRIFO, March 10, 1954.

Growing up, however, entails enormous expenses and a longer period of preparation. While the ORBIT format will remain essentially the same, we aspire to include advertising to help defray the costs. We have laid out a tentative program basing space rates in accordance with other publication media. Considering the shortage of time between today's date and our deadline for copy, February 25, we will not be able to accept advertising plates or mats, etc. Instead, the ads will be in the form of "complimentary" contributions, such including the name of the donor or the advertising firm. While the copy must necessarily be brief, it should contain the donor's name and address, with "message" and/or copy about a service or a product, etc. Space rates are as follows:

Two inch, one column ad. . . . .	\$15.00	(minimum this issue)
Three inch, one " " . . . . .	\$22.00	
Four inch, one " " . . . . .	\$28.00	(maximum this issue)

The success of the March issue depends on the advertising received before the February 25th deadline. If inadequate, then the idea of expanding to eight pages must be postponed until a later issue.

For the protection of advertising contributors, ORBIT will state, "the opinions expressed in ORBIT, past and future, do not reflect upon or coincide necessarily with the opinions of the advertisers herein."

ORBIT is widely read. While paid subscriptions hover between the 1200 to 2000 mark, the estimated readership nears 10,000. ORBIT is on file in the Library of Congress, is subscribed to by several Public Libraries in large cities, and is on display in countless scholastic and professional institutions.

All readers are invited to contribute in this promotion. While we seek mainly professional and private business, national or local, we also solicit contributors who may wish to convey a brief message with name and address. This will enable readers to make new acquaintances.

Following is sample "complimentary" two inch ad:

COMPLIMENTS

John W. Smith  
Attorney at Law  
215 Sutton Bldg.  
Cincinnati 3, Ohio

(three or four lines of message or copy  
if desired).

Space costs include type setting for ad.

letter, Vol. II, No. 2 for the story on fireball concentrations over Sweden, 1946-47. Paralleling the Adelaide case, we note the following incident from the Swedish reports, "... Some reported that they have seen the bombs crash. The strangest report came from Central Sweden where a newly built barn collapsed this afternoon without visible cause. Shortly after the collapse flying bombs had been seen. Then there was a sharp crack and the barn fell. . . ."

### FLAMING OBJECT BASHES HOLE IN SIDE OF HOUSE

Case 129, Lawrence, Mass., Aug. 11, 1955—Possibly related to the "meteoric" cases mentioned above is an incident reported by the Lawrence *Evening Tribune*, which reads, "Coming out of the sky in a cloud of smoke, an object not yet identified, struck the side of a house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Rei Bernard, shortly after 1:30 p.m. Thursday and made a good sized hole in the house, with a shattering of wood around it, before it fell to the ground. Sergeant Philip DiAdamo at police headquarters was notified of the occurrence by Edmund Rickard, whose wife was a witness to the object striking the house, and cruising car squads were sent to the scene to investigate. Mrs. Rickard stated that she was on her porch shaking out a mop when she saw the object come hurtling through the sky and hit the back of the Bernard house. She said that it came through the air in a cloud of smoke and hit with a resounding crash, after which it fell into the yard. Mrs. Rickard identified the object as being as big as half a manhole cover and said that it made a hole in the side of the house about eight inches by a foot, with a shattering of wood all around the hole. . . ."<sup>6</sup>

### A STORY UNTOLD—THE ADVENTURE OF THE "ARTIFICIAL METEORS"

We wish to emphasize that our purpose in citing the aforementioned near-tragedy cases is not to illustrate evidences of "interplanetary war", for it is obvious that a belligerent planetary intelligence would not choose a workshop, a barn, or a family dwelling as vital targets. If, however, the incidents are traceable to the fireball being a type of missile, and that the earth is its *random* target, then we must explore all the avenues of reasoning, no matter how freakish, for the motivation, and, it is here that we introduce "artificial meteors."

The subject of artificial meteors was first brought to the writer's attention by Dr. "L.D." in late 1954. At that time Dr. "L.D." strongly believed that saucers and fireballs were secret U.S. developments. In our pro and con discussions by letter he referred the writer to an article written by Dr. Fritz Zwicky, entitled "Artificial Meteors" which appeared in the July-August, 1947 issue of *Army Ordnance* magazine. Under the provocative sub-title, "Rockets Will Provide Tools for Interstellar Experiments", Dr. Zwicky writes in part, "To open up undreamed of vistas, the construction of very high flying rockets is imperative and should be undertaken without delay. The next step involves the launching of missiles which are capable of escaping from the earth's gravitational field and flying off into interplanetary space, never to return. . . . The artificial meteors are fast enough to circle the earth as 'near-by' satellites. Some may even escape permanently from the earth's gravitational field and thus can be used to explore the interplanetary spaces. If the particles can be made large enough, their collisions, that is, the resulting flashes on their landings on the moon, on Jupiter, and other planetary bodies, are conceivably observable with present-day telescopic equipment. . . ."

Dr. Zwicky's article was not science-fiction; early experiments were undoubtedly carried out, perhaps even before the historic 250 mile ionospheric flight of the WAC corporal in 1949. While we ponder over the dearth of official pronouncement concerning rocket flights into

space since that year, we wonder if the silence may also conceal the "artificial meteor" tests, which in having been successful in hitting the moon and Mars, may have, in a sense, *backfired!* For the theoretical possibilities we urge every reader to study pages 106-107 in Major Keyhoe's new book, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*. Not to be minimized are the issues discussed by Major Keyhoe and the pseudonymous Redell, and we quote from their conversation as follows:

Keyhoe: "... Missiles like that could cause real trouble. If they hit an inhabited planet—say Mars—the people would certainly believe we were trying to attack them. . . ."

Redell: "There's another bad angle. If these tests have been carried out recently the saucer people may think we're trying to hit their satellites. . . . So far this UFO race hasn't retaliated, though our jets have fired at them several times. But adding up the projectile angle, jet attacks, and then Nike guided missiles, it could be the last straw. . . ."

Keyhoe: "But if there's any proof of a base on the moon or Mars the government would surely have stopped the tests."

Redell: "The damage may have already been done."

### PROJECT TWINKLE—UNDER ITS WRAPS THE KEY?

Speculatively, we see a connection between the earth-shot "meteors" and the fireballs from outer space. In essence, if missiles can be launched from earth onto the moon or Mars, then it should be equally reasonable to assume that the same operations are practicable in reverse. But crediting the moon or Mars as the fireball's launching base is a far simpler matter than rationalizing its objectives, for the only pattern recognizable is the very *lack* of pattern! Like the "artificial meteors" to the moon, they may be relatively harmless missiles sent to test the earth's anatomy of air. Such testing would logically account for the fireballs' patternless or random behavior. Yet, other theorists aver the fireballs are partial to certain geographical areas such as the U.S. Southwest, which *does* evince a pattern. While this pattern may have been true in the Southwest in 1948-49, fireballs since that period have been sporadically universal and without knowledgeable pattern. But, being so widespread today may, in turn, lend reason to the fireballs' mysterious localization over New Mexico in 1948-49. Perhaps then the focal point was Alamogordo, and their purpose was to test and/or cleanse the atmosphere of its radioactive poisons; but today, with bigger atomic blasts and the widespread contaminations of the fall out, the "mission" of the fireball may have become expansively urgent! However, we have one contradictory note in this possible mission of mercy—it does not explain the fireball visitations over the Baltic area in 1946-47.

Still guessing, but coming closer to realistic evidence, we may also perceive in the fireball's persistent randomness, the stark possibility that it may be a type of ranging missile, a theory to which Major Keyhoe has long subscribed. Such a device would explain the recent random bombardments, and the occasional pinpointing of a particular area such as the Baltic and New Mexico. Whatever the objective of this ranging device, whether it be experimental, retaliatory or something far more unintelligible to our thinking, we feel that in our guesswork we should also take cognizance of the statements, written with Air Force approval, which appeared in *Look* magazine, June 1952. Under the title, *Hunt For the Flying Saucer*, it said in part, "Especially puzzling have been the horizontal-flying 'green fireballs'. . . . Another branch of the Air Force, the Air Research and Development Command, with headquarters in Baltimore and laboratories in Boston, has been studying them in a secret project called Project Twinkle. Although work on this project has been completed, the ARDC refuses to make public its findings. . . . Some Air Force officials feel the inconclusive Project Twinkle report will never be made

<sup>6</sup> Credit, Fred Collings, Lawrence, Mass.

public; they won't explain why. Some suggest it would expose a foul-up."

Is it conceivable that this *foul-up* could be in reference to the inadvertent artificial meteor program, and that Project Twinkle had learned that fireballs were retaliatory ranging missiles? Was Dr. Lincoln La Paz, world-famed meteoriticist, alluding to the interplanetary ranging missile when he said on September 13, 1955 that a "shrewd opponent" could wage an ice cube test war against this country? Said La Paz, "It is for this reason that since 1948, representatives of the Institute of Meteoritics have habitually asked observers of the yellow-green fireballs and other anomalous luminous phenomena whether or not pieces of ice or drops of water were detected falling from the sky at the time of the observed incident."<sup>7</sup>

But, whether the missile is made of ice or of a cupreous content, such action does not, we repeat, mean "interplanetary war" but it may be the reason for the USAF being *actively* concerned. If such are the facts,

then it is also understandable why the Air Force has repeatedly denied the existence of saucers, for to announce they exist and are interplanetary might well force their hand into revealing other more unpalatable information such as that under wraps of Project Twinkle, or, like in cases 128 or 129 or the air disaster of July 12, 1953 off Wake Island.<sup>8</sup>

Proving that secrecy is still under the iron fist, the writer wrote Captain R. C. White, of the Defense Dept., January 7, 1955, requesting certain information regarding the green fireball. The reply came from Major William W. James, Air Force Press Desk, stating, "Captain White is on leave prior to transfer to Spain after having completed his tour here. I am enclosing a copy of our latest press release which answers your questions in this letter." In the enclosed ever-popular press release the following line was underscored in red, "*No evidence of the existence of the popularly-termed 'flying saucers' was found.*"

<sup>7</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa.

<sup>8</sup> See pages 93-94 and 110, 111, 112 in *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

Da William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas

## SCIENTIFIC FILM VERIFIES SAUCERS EXIST

In the August 6, 1954 issue of CRIFO *Newsletter* we wrote briefly about the "eclipse photos" taken by a scientific expedition over Norway. We assigned Case 13 to the incident, hoping to obtain more information. Seventeen months later Harold Fulton of New Zealand sent us a clipping from the London *Evening News*, written by Robert Chapman, dated December 21, 1955, which tells the following remarkable story:

"What were the two silvery objects photographed by two Norwegian scientists high above the clouds between Oslo and Scaevenger? Experts were trying to decide in London today when the film was flown to London by Mr. Ernest Graham of the Swedish Travel Agency. The objects appeared on the screen for about 10 seconds. We saw them swoop into view from a frothing sea of white cloud 15,000 ft. up. Along the glowing horizon they sped like a pair of silver spotlights, keeping an even distance, one slightly above the other. They seemed tilted forward, then suddenly leveled off and vanished into the distance. This film was taken from one of three Norwegian aircraft in the area at the time. Among the passengers was General Jorgensen, Commander-in-Chief, Royal Norwegian Air Force. Most of the others were scientists of the Royal Norwegian Astronomical Society and movie cameramen. The film was taken by Mr. John Bjornulf, chief cameraman. Ernest Graham, who was in the plane, told me the objects were in view for

about half a minute. They were an estimated 15 to 20 miles away. 'They had the appearance of discs', he said, 'and a metallic glint. They must have been of enormous size and seemed to be solid. We could detect a rotary movement as they leveled off and dwindled out of sight.' Graham said, 'the objects were seen by 50 people from three aircraft, who afterwards wrote reports on what they had seen. But there was no public announcement that anything other than the eclipse had been observed. *After the film was developed the saucer shots were cut out.* It was feared, I understand, that the saucer shots would bring ridicule to a serious scientific expedition. A few days ago, however, the complete film was brought to London for study.'"

Ed: We note a few discrepancies when comparing the above report with the earlier one, but feel that the latter one is more authentic, for the film was released over many TV stations in the USA, and according to witnesses, the subject matter coincides with the British account. One such witness is Dave Reiner of Bellerose, L. Is., New York and we quote from his letter, "Last night, December 26, on most TV news programs in this area, a very interesting one-minute film clip (released by Gaumont-British) was shown raising some curious speculation. Taken in 1954 during the eclipse, Scandinavian scientists recorded on motion picture film *two* very large UFO's maneuvering overhead. Naturally, this question is immediately raised: 'why is this film being released now, with semi-official, scientific credence added to it?' Once again, contradictory actions mark the course in the ever-fascinating unfolding of the great UFO mystery."



## SPECIAL ISSUE: EVENTS AND COMMENTS— A Study of the Flying Saucer Problem

### THE INTERLOPER

Major Donald Keyhoe in *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* cites several singular cases in which aircraft have crashed or disappeared mysteriously. One such case is that of five TBM Avengers and the PBM Mariner which disappeared offshore Florida, December 5, 1945. According to official sources not a trace of wreckage or bodies was found though hundreds of planes and ships searched for days.

Readers interested in this case may welcome a clue sent in by Thomas E. Russell of Canton, Ohio. Stationed at Banana River Air Station at the time of the incident, Russell quotes from a clipping he had saved from a Miami newspaper which reads, "A merchant ship, the *SS Gaines Mills*, reported seeing flames shoot up 100 feet into the air off Ponce de Leon inlet, but no wreckage was found in the area Thursday."

But the clue, if indeed connected with the air disaster, offers no easy solution; instead, it deepens the mystery. While the unaccountable bursts of flames may suggest the simultaneous crash of the five Avengers, it fails to explain the crash or disappearance of the solo-flying Mariner. Even more inexplicable is the fact that in the theoretical five plane plunge, no debris was found. Among the many other probable answers to the "flame" mystery is the possible fireball answer. Conceivably, a fireball after vaporizing its target, might spew up flames upon hitting the water surface.

Since that fateful day ten years ago many freakish disasters have been heaped upon the mystery pile. Today, with tongue-in-cheek, we muse over the most recent air crashes, wondering if the elusive UFO is always so calculably evasive, or, if the friendly UFO shares the friendliness exhibited in animals. We can offer, as they say in the trade, no physical proof that UFO's are responsible for a decade of curious air disasters, but the stack of evidence suggesting this possibility nearly equals that which argues for the very UFO's existence.

Finding the true answer to the disaster phase may lead to a Quarles-some dead alley, but if there is proof of Ufoperil to aircraft then it is understandable why this news is stifled—and with it the entire saucer story. Being unable to break through the screen of military and CAB "crash" investigations, CRIFO and others of civilian status, must depend on the facts these agencies release—facts too often meager, ambiguous or contradictory. Hence, with so little *real* evidence we can only pick out the fallacies from each reported crash incident and tie in known UFO reports relative to the time and place of that incident. This is poor proof but the findings are better aired than buried—and sometimes show a shocking tie-in!

Case 130, Jacksonville, Florida, Dec. 21, 1955—The headlines of a Miami *Daily News* feature ran, "What Was The Thing Pilot Ducked in Fatal EAL Crash?" Staff writer, Damon Runyon, Jr., who by-lined the story on January 26-27, had this to say: "A post-mortem on an Eastern Air Lines Constellation showed the pilot was ducking 'something' when he crashed at Jacksonville Airport, killing all 17 aboard. But what the 'thing' was remained a mystery in what observers called the most confusing testimony in memory at a CAB investigation."

Mechanically, the Miami-to-New York liner was functioning normally on an instrument approach in foggy weather according to CAB. One aeronautical engineer said the plane was traveling at a speed of 140 knots when it crashed, although the engines had been cut off. Normal EAL speed for such a landing is 115 knots, he said, adding, "It appeared a pull-up maneuver was in progress at the time of the impact." He reported, the plane crashed with the nose slightly down and banked to the right. Expert observers who declined to be named said indications were that the pilot had seen something that caused him to make the maneuver. Adding to the mystery was the testimony of a Miami truck driver. He claimed he saw two jets shoot in front of the airliner. Said the driver, "I saw what I believed to be two jet aircraft, one following behind the other at approximately 200 ft. separation, at an approximate altitude of 200 ft. Each aircraft's silhouette had a red and white flashing light. . . . Immediately following this occurrence, I observed through my windshield a big flash." The driver said there was no "obstruction in horizontal visibility" but that he noted an overcast. No stars were visible.

In the testimony, William McKinney, who was observing the airliner on radar as it was attempting to land insisted that he saw no other plane in the landing pattern. George Van Epps, air safety investigator for the CAB, in summarizing the numerous statements said there was no known military aircraft in the area at the time of the EAL crash.<sup>1</sup>

### AIR DISASTERS WITH "MISSING LINKS"

Case 131, England and Sweden, January 21, 1956—While Case 130 stumps logical explanation, the following is more conjectural but merits study. In a January 21st report from London, the RAF announced the fourth military crash in Britain in 24 hours. In all crashes six persons were killed and 25 injured. The worst of the three was at Wadhurst.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Credit, Alan Wilcox, Ft. Lauderdale and anonymous contributor.

<sup>2</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner, Phila., Pa. and Ward Campbell, Glassboro, N. J.

# C. R. I. F. O. ORBIT

Copyright 1955 by Leonard H. Stringfield

March 2, 1956

Vol. II, No. 12

When reproducing material herein for publication or other public use give credit line to *Orbit*.

C.R.I.F.O.'s 24th consecutive monthly publication.

Founded March 10, 1954

The title ORBIT, introduced with the July 1955 issue, replaces the title, NEWSLETTER. The purpose of C.R.I.F.O. is not for monetary gain: officers do not receive salaries.

The opinions expressed in *Orbit*, past and future, do not reflect upon or coincide necessarily with the opinions of the advertisers herein.

Director and Publisher—Leonard H. Stringfield

Secretary-Treasurer—Dell Stringfield (wife)

Official Address: 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio

Telephone: BRamble 1-4248

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

U.S.A. and Canada.....	\$3.00 per year
Foreign first class mail.....	3.60 per year
Foreign air mail.....	6.60 per year

All back copies of the Newsletter and Orbit available at 25c each.

March 10, CRIFO enters its third year and a possible big year if the saucer cycle is correct. If so and we do witness another tempest of visitations while Mars is in close opposition, then perhaps something may happen to throw open the Pandora's lid, but I hardly think it will and it would be folly to believe that even a *localized* cataclysm would precipitate an official admission of the saucer's existence.

Looking back, CRIFO has ridden the crest of many great saucer events and through the *Newsletter* and *Orbit* it has tried to report objectively on the highlights. While we have made mistakes each was of human quality and from each we learned. In no instance was there an attempt to deceive or frighten—we worked with the best facts at our command, but saucer facts are different than the facts embodied in *normal* pursuits, like pipe-fitting, road-building or in elementary mathematics. In saucers, we're dealing with the unknown and the facts are a matter of relative personal interpretation. For instance, in the writer's "interplanetary war" thesis, certain known *facts* suggested a state of active "challenge" to the UFO by the military, but the motive for this challenge is highly interpretative. In a sense, it may be a military curiosity or a *fear*. If it is fear then the challenge may suggest a state of crisis or even "war". But the writer's choice of the word "war" was inopportune for many readers misconstrued its meaning or implications. Present-day words, like the facts in Ufology, are hardly adequate!

In a few instances, the writer has come within breathing distance of a hushed vital statistic, but in respect to the informant, the "secret" was never published. It is essential that confidences be kept in this business, but even without the confidant and his hot tips, the writer was convinced long ago that the UFO was an IFO.

While our goal is to do better in the future, we also like to point to one of our shortcomings—the failure to answer letters. It is not unusual to receive up to two dozen letters a day. Three days ago we got 29. While my wife ably handles all business correspondence, I'll have to admit that I'm guilty in not answering *your* letter. For sure they are carefully read and filed, but alas the workload is so great that only a staff could answer them properly and staffs do not come easily and without money. Also wish to thank the countless many who have sent us reports of sightings and clippings. Without this cooperation *Orbit* would not be possible. Tonight we are completing the copy for the March *Orbit*—a prodigious job. Now it goes to the typesetter—we'll probably be late, but we hope the issue was worth waiting for. . . .

The series of crashes by themselves show no reason to suspect UFO foul play, but another report from Arjeplog, Sweden, same date, may supply a tie-in. We quote from the *Newark Star Ledger*: "A mysterious explosion rocked more than 100 square miles of sparsely-populated Swedish Lapland along the Arctic Circle. Scientists believed a meteor had crashed into earth. No aircraft was reported missing and there was no other explanation for the blast. The source of the explosion was believed to be near Arjeplog a village of 850 residents, two miles north of stockholm. Residents said the 'meteor', if it was that, apparently crashed into a nearby mountain. One observer said he thought his house was blowing up. Rushing outside he saw nothing but 'a sort of lightning over the south horizon.' The sky was clear."<sup>3</sup>

Ed: We are not straining to tie these isolated incidents together. We cite them merely for the record, hoping that the date may later reveal additional information regarding either incident or new data.

Case 132, Near Okinawa, Jan. 27, 1956—Equally un-fological is the curious four plane demise near Japan. We know that four planes can run out of fuel simultaneously (the writer watched 13 fuelless A-26's crack up at Sidor strip, New Guinea, 1944) but the contradictory AP and UP reports aroused our suspicions.<sup>4</sup> First we review the UP story as it appeared in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* with Tokyo dateline.

"Four USAF jets valued at more than \$2,000,000, exhausted their fuel almost simultaneously and crashed into the East China Sea after their pilots parachuted to safety. Three pilots landed in the water. The fourth landed on Okinawa near Okuma. An Air Force spokesman said the four were flying on a routine training mission and ran into a storm while returning to Okinawa. He said they skirted the storm instead of risking their Sabrejets by flying through it and 'ran out of juice' 30 to 60 miles northeast of Okinawa because of the extra distance they had to travel. He explained, it was standard procedure for jet pilots to bail out when they ran out of fuel unless they had a landing field in sight."

The AP report, appearing in the *New York Journal American* with Tokyo dateline, read as follows: "Far East Air Forces said the four pilots 'were forced to bail out' at about 9:30 a.m. No reason for the multiple crash was given. The Air Force said "there is no indication sabotage was a factor." It added, a board of officers is investigating. The four F96F's of the 44th Fighter-Bomber Squadron were on a 'routine training mission.'"

Ed: Why did AP fail to get the "bad weather" and "no fuel" story when UP made these factors the obvious cause of the disaster? Certainly the weather cause should have been obvious in the beginning as the pilots would have radioed these conditions into the base. But the AP story hints at sabotage and talks of further investigation. Why investigate a *fait accompli*—the weather, unless the weather and fuellessness were merely excuses covering up another cause which "forced the pilots to bail out?"

Case 133, Near Marham, England, Feb. 8, 1956—Today's plane crashes are alarming in frequency but most are shorn of mystery. Occasionally, a "collision" looks suspicious for these, too, are as common as kites tangling in a March wind, but always weird are the simultaneous or follow-the-leader crashes involving multiple aircraft. We wonder if the real answer is *thermal* rather than petrol. See Case 21.

<sup>3</sup> Credit, John Detweiler, E. Bound Brook, N. J.

<sup>4</sup> Credit, Robert Lydford, S. Ozone Park, N. Y. and H. G. Rovner.

Probably not Ufological but for the record we cite the affair of the six British Hawker Hunter jets cracking up in the usually described follow-the-leader fashion. Official explanation: the fighters hit bad weather during a long training flight over Eastern England and didn't have enough fuel to ride it out. Four pilots bailed out one after another, leaving their jets to crash unmanned. A fifth cracked up during an emergency landing at nearby Marham Field. The sixth crashed out of control into a field, killing the pilot. Two other planes in the flight landed safely.<sup>5</sup>

Case 134, France, Malta, Feb. 18, '56—Highly conjectural, but tabbed for reference is the crash of the British airliner carrying 51 military personnel from Malta to England. According to the AP account the big plane "rolled down the runway at the RAF's Luqa Airfield, after a stopover, and took off. A few minutes later the airport tower radio cracked with a message from the pilot that he was in trouble and was returning. The big plane was seen by a Maltese farmer as it came swooping in from the sea. It lost height rapidly, then plunged into a field.

Reports reaching CRIFO, describing UFO's hovering near airfields, are frequent. While we have no reports of a UFO in the immediate Maltese vicinity, we were however, impressed by the report of a UFO loitering near another airfield on the same date. The report carried by most U. S. newspapers stated that a French airline pilot leaving Orly Airport, outside Paris, sighted a large UFO. Quoting INS, "At approximately the time the Air France pilot said he saw the object radar screens at Orly picked up an object said to be twice the size of any known plane. The supposed space craft would stand stock still for a time, then go tearing off at speeds estimated at 1500 mph. The pilot, who was bound for London, said he noticed that blinking red lights were above him as he took off from Orly. He veered away to avoid hitting the object, he said, and then watched it shoot away."

### THE LOUISIANA "BALLOON" STORY

Case 135, Louisiana, Jan. 26, 1956—On January 26, Joe Barbieri of New Haven, Conn., heard a radio newscast which reported, "a mysterious flash streaked across the sky of Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico, east to west. Citizens of Cut Off, La., are craning their necks skyward to watch an unknown balloon-like object for the past 18 hours. It seems to be anchored in the sky." Barbieri comments, "The newscast didn't say whether the 'balloon' caused the flash."

As expected, more news around these incidents came in. Richard Hall of New Orleans in a letter adds the following, "On January 26, the New Orleans *Item* printed a UP story from Golden Meadow, La. An object was seen over the Bayou Lafourche swamps to the east for about 10 days. It aroused a lot of interest and some pilots flew over it. Next day the *Item* printed a picture of a round weather balloon and said it was being used as a marker for some exploration group. That ended it. There were many contradictions in the reports—first the object was described as elongated, estimated by Deputy Sheriff Gilbert Duet as 30 ft. long and 12 ft. to 15 ft. wide (and that ain't round). The January 27th *Times-Picayune* stated that the object had been seen drifting east on Thursday (Jan. 26) afternoon, yet the final *Item* story said it was was a moored marker! The reporting was so garbled that it left doubt in my mind, mainly because the owners of the balloon were never identified."

<sup>5</sup> Credit, H. G. Rovner.

On Feb. 7th early risers saw a strange object bluish in color over New Orleans. According to the New Orleans *States*, weather forecasters "theorized" it was a large balloon. At first it was believed to be a fireball because of its changing shape and colors.

### CIGAR-SHAPED UFO SEEN BY PAN AMERICAN CREW

Case 136, Over Gulf of Mexico, "abeam" New Orleans, Jan. 22, 1956—William B. Nash, commercial pilot who resides in Miami, Florida, sent CRIFO the following report: "... At 8:30 p.m., Flight Engineer Robert Mueller, of Pan American Flight from Houston, Texas to Miami, Florida, was seated in the copilot's seat. At the moment of the sighting, the Captain was aft, and copilot Tom Tompkins was in the left seat. Tompkins had his head bent low over the pedestal adjusting the radio direction finders, and did not see the object because the engineer was so stunned by what he saw that the object was gone before he called out. He saw the object which he has sketched below. In his opinion, it was something very solid. There was a partial moonlight and only small wisps of high cirrus. There was a front visible over the southern U. S. to the left. The object must have been very large, he said, and it crossed from the southern horizon to beyond the front in about six seconds. It was only about 30 degrees up from level sight traveling from SSW to NNE. Prior to this sighting Mr. Mueller was a complete skeptic regarding UFO's. There was no trajectory to path of object."

The sketch, drawn by Mueller, shows a partial cylindrical object, the forward end amorphous; the body, pale blue luminescent. The tail or exhaust from the cylinder looks like a jet flame, bullet-shaped. The exhaust portion nearest to the cylinder is marked, "spurts of yellow flame or light." The bulbous portion of flame is marked, "pale yellow envelope of flame or light," while behind the exhaust is marked, "yellow flickering of light."

Ed: When is a balloon not a balloon, and, a saucer not a saucer?—for sure, the skies over Louisiana will bring no solution. I hardly believe Mueller saw a balloon, nor does a balloon seem right in trying to explain away the object resting over Bayou Lafourche. However, the recent international hubbub over balloons has given cause to blame balloons for many unexplainable incidents. One such case is the Czechoslovak charge, February 21, that a U. S. balloon caused the January 18 crash of a Czech airliner in which 22 persons died.

THE LIBRARY RESEARCH GROUP is happy to announce the *UFO Annual*, edited by M. K. Jessup, Author of *The Case For the UFO*. The *Annual* covers important UFO events of 1955, and scientific news bearing on Ufology, and news about the Bill in Congress to establish a Joint Committee on space travel. *The Expanding Case for the UFO*, by Mr. Jessup, will be out in a few months, and will trace the little man theme back through scientific data for 30,000,000 years; will show that a colony was probably established on the Moon about A.D. 1860, and that the number of "entities" has approximately doubled every 20 years; and a start will be made towards interpreting the Holy Bible in terms of Ufology by means of an extended and intimate analysis of the entire 13th chapter of St. Mark. Orders now being accepted. *Annual* \$4.95. *The Expanding Case* \$3.50. LIBRARY RESEARCH GROUP, 406-A, International Bldg., 1319 F. St., Washington 4, D. C.

## NAVY INVESTIGATES GROUNDED METAL OBJECT

Case 137, Ossabaw Island, near Brunswick, Ga., Sept. 27, 1955—Like Bayou Lafourche the marshes of Ossabaw Island held another mystery. October last, Charles Paisley of Atlanta sent CRIFO a clipping from the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, from which we quote: "A Navy helicopter will return to Ossabaw Island north of here when weather clears for another look at a metal object which was spotted in a marsh there last week. Cmdr. M. R. Clark, C.O. of the Glynco Naval Air Station, said that positive identification has not yet been made. Two pieces of the object have been under study at the station since turned over to the Navy."

That the objects under study were not easily identified is conveyed in the letter received from the Department of the Navy, dated February 9th. We quote from this letter as follows: "This is in answer to your inquiry of 8 January 1956 concerning the unknown object discovered in the marshes of Ossabaw Island, near Brunswick, Georgia. This is a matter which is still under investigation, and it is regretted that this office has no pertinent information with which to furnish you." The letter was signed by Commander O. F. Salvia, Head, Security Control Branch, Office of Naval Intelligence.

### "IT WAS NOT FROM OUTER SPACE"

Case 138, Near Porterville, Cal., Jan. 30, 1956—The *Los Angeles Times*, January 31 reported the following: "A guided missile crashed into an orange grove 10 miles southeast of Porterville but no one was injured. It crashed with a terrific explosion on the Baker Ranch after circling several times. The missile, from the China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station, uprooted trees and left a hole 25x10, according to reports received by Sheriff Sandy Robinson of Tulare County. It landed 400 yards from the nearest dwelling. National Guardsmen from Porterville guarded the area until arrival of a truck crew from China Lake."

Dale Nance Brown who sent the clipping comments, "This may be true, but I can't help wondering if it's more of "Operation Squash." William A. Kohl of Westfield, N. J., heard the story on the radio. According to Kohl, the Navy said that "weather affected it"—adding perhaps antithetically—"It was not from outer space." Kohl comments, ". . . it's peculiar that the Navy would fly in weather that would effect a missile and secondly, the mention that it did not come from outer space. Apparently, this point must have been mentioned somewhere along the line or why bother to deny it."

### MYSTERY MISSILE LEAVES BIG CRATER

Case 139, Newport, England, Jan. 5, 1956—"Something", according to a London dispatch sent in from Harold Fulton of CSI, New Zealand, "fell into a ploughed field near Newport (Essex) and exploded leaving a crater 20 feet wide and 15 feet deep." The blast rocked a large area and damaged a number of greenhouses. The police found large pieces of metal around the crater, some of which were 3 feet across and a half inch thick. RAF officers inspected the crater and took samples. A USAF spokesman said: "We had no aircraft flying in the area at the time." General Roscoe Wilson, of the 3rd U. S. Air Force was quoted by the *Daily Mail* as saying that a meteorite could not be ruled out. The Air Ministry confessed: "We are mystified." Later, an Air Ministry spokesman said the object had been identified as an American practice bomb.

Ed: In the time required for the report to reach General Wilson, why had he not learned the "practice bomb" explanation from his staff, especially so before playing up the "meteorite" angle? Certainly a pilot, dropping the bomb, would have reported the incident.

## SEA-Saucer OR SEARCHLIGHT?

Case 140, Redondo Beach, Cal., Feb. 9, 1956—It all began when patrolmen Marvin Poer and John Freeland sighted a "ball of fire" plunge behind the Redondo Beach breakwater. The mysterious object, bathed in flames, descended from the sky and bobbed eerily on the water's surface before sinking less than 100 yards offshore. Government agencies, including the FBI, were notified and expressed intention of joining the investigation. "It was a big thing" said Lifeguard Lt. Frank Rodecker, who rowed out to see the object. "It was maybe 15 feet across and it was still glowing down there under the water, almost until we got there."

Onlookers stood on shore until dawn. Finally, when it was light the lifeguards donned rubber suits and aqua-lungs and dove after the "Martians." After about 40 minutes, they found them—a U. S. Signal Corps sea search flashlight! Operated from a special water battery, the light turns itself on automatically when the battery has been in the water about three minutes. Mrs. I. E. Epperson, who sent CRIFO a raft of clippings covering the grotesquerie, comments, "As usual, there are discrepancies and the reader is left with unanswered questions. The police officers reported that the object was aglow *before* it hit the water. There was also no explanation as to what kept the solid object afloat for twenty minutes, or longer, and then automatically caused it to sink. If something kept it afloat—why did it finally sink? Ed: I concur and might add—Nobody heard or saw the aircraft which may have dropped the searchlight. And, according to the picture of the searchlight, supposedly found, the half-inch bulb certainly would not appear as a "ball of fire" as reported by several observers.

### THE VENEZUELAN SEA-Saucer

Case 141, Los Caracas, Venezuela, About mid-January, 1956—Horacio Gonzales, APRO correspondent, enclosed the following report with his statement seen elsewhere in *Orbit*. We quote from Gonzales' letter: ". . . four people saw a rapidly pulsating red light fly out from behind a mountain horizontally across the horizon and land in the sea near Los Caracas. The light then vanished but was seen afterwards floating on the surface of the water. The group watching the light, thought that a plane had fallen into the sea, and one of them, collecting a few men set out in a small launch to render aid." Gonzales explains that the rescuers ran into trouble when their launch's engine stopped. The next day they were towed in by the Coast Guard and they told their story which Gonzales investigated personally. Writes Gonzales, "I can tell you that the people saw some strange device which landed on the surface of the sea. The object was flying too slow for it to have been a meteor . . . and too low to have been a plane. The man who first saw the light exclaimed—'what the hell is wrong with that pilot?'"

**SCOTT MFG. CO.**  
3159 W. 68th STREET  
CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

We do not cast Aluminum Saucers, but we do cast  
a fine Aluminum Griddle.

**\$3.95 pp. Check or M/O — No C.O.D.**

Ohioans add 3% sales tax

Is he crazy to be flying so low in the darkness? A detailed investigation revealed that no plane was missing and all planes accounted for; besides the airports had no knowledge of any plane flying over that route at that time."

Ed: Gonzales is presently checking two mysterious plane crashes, one occurring near Capaya not far from Los Caracas.

#### AIR-SEA PUZZLE IN S. W. PACIFIC

While the *Joyita* case—unsolved—drew official inquiry in Fiji, new mysteries plagued the Southwest Pacific, one paralleling the fate of the vessel under investigation. We are indebted to Harold Fulton for the mass of clippings he sent us which bear on these late incidents and lend weight to our growing belief that saucers and the sea are not strangers.

Newest puzzle, what became of the *Arakarimoa*? Carrying eight passengers and a crew of 15, the sixty foot vessel left Tarawa for port in Maiana in the Gilberts and was never seen again. The cargo—700 empty copra sacks—was hardly a prize for a submarine, the latest suspect for foul-play. According to the *New Zealand Herald*, February 7, the *Arakarimoa* left Tarawa with her sister ship, *Aratoba*, December 28. Both ships were in sight of each other until midnight when the *Arakarimoa* put on speed and went out of sight. The *Aratoba* arrived at 5:30 a.m. on December 29 at Tebikerai anchorage, but there was no sign of the *Arakarimoa*. Engine trouble was doubted. Capt. A. B. Macadie, in Suva with his ship, the *Tunaru* for survey, said before he left Tarawa on December 9 the *Arakarimoa*'s engines were extensively overhauled. "I imagine it unlikely that the ship struck engine trouble," he said. Macadie said the maximum current drift was about three knots and the direction WNW and WSW. He said, "In 36 hours—between the time of the first alarm and the Royal Colony ship *Nareau*'s search—the *Arakarimoa* could have drifted no more than 100 miles." The *Nareau*, which began a sea search from Betio on December 30 returned the next night and reported it saw nothing, covering 1700 square miles.

Suspected were pirating submarines. On February 3, a RNZAF Sunderland searched for a submarine sighted near Kandavu in Fijian waters by the Captain and crew of the motorship, *Komaiwai*—but the search did not locate the sub, according to the Air Force. On another occasion a passenger aboard the *Tuivalavala* between Kandavu and Benqa Islands said he and others saw a dark object a mile away which resembled a submarine. After leaving his cabin he went on deck where passengers were pointing to an object between them and the sun. He described it as having no mast, but had something like a conning tower. It disappeared suddenly.

On February 10, the *NZ Herald* reported the following: "The Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear-Admiral J. E. H. McBeath, does not believe the reports that a sub was sighted NE of Kandavu Island recently. 'In all probability it was a whale sleeping on the surface,' he said. 'Our reports said that it came within 12 yards of a lighted ship. No self-respecting sub captain would take his ship as close as that unless something had gone wrong.'"

On February 14 came another report of an unidentified vessel lying inshore near Pawarenga on the west coast of Northland, N. Z. The strange vessel was seen by a fisherman, lying motionless, appearing about 40 feet long with no mast or funnel and with a sweeping bow and stern. However, the Navy, without investigating, said the strange vessel was probably a trawler. A spokesman said the report did not "fit in with what we felt would be the actions of a submarine." But not far away from Pawarenga is Leigh. On February 10, a violent explosion coming from the sea shook Leigh, but none of the explanations offered seemed to hold up satisfactorily.

South of Leigh, on the stormy night of February 3, five "rockets", thought to be from a craft in distress in the Haurika Gulf were seen from Kawau. They went up at two minute intervals. On February 6, the *NZ Herald* reported, "Rockets Seen Off Kawau Are Mystery." The item said that no ship has been accounted missing and merchant vessels in the area have not reported seeing any craft in distress.

With his voluminous clippings, Fulton sent CRIFO a map of the general area in question. He also sent us a two page report which describes the tracking of UFO's by radar on January 21st from the Whenuapai Air Force Station. Space prevents reproduction of this report but it is timely for the "six particularly strong blips" were tracked over Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula. We note that Pawarenga, where the strange vessel was seen offshore, is on that peninsula. While the dates of these two incidents are 24 days apart, the arena of Haurika Gulf from January 21 to February 14 seemed to be haunted by phantom ships, ghost rockets and "blips" in the sky.

Ed: Latest word, February 16, tells of a government announcement which has identified the mystery craft lurking near Fiji as a long-range Russian sub. Identification was made from sketches drawn by a Fijian skipper who spotted the sub when it surfaced.<sup>6</sup> Frankly, I'm not sold. . . . What of Admiral McBeath's "sleeping whale"?

#### BEHIND SCENES OF A SAUCER SIGHTING

Case 142, Gainesville, Florida, Oct. 31, 1955—Seldom do we receive so complete a report regarding a series of sightings and weird events, but thanks to J. H. Bruening's thorough investigation we can better understand why the Air Force is jellyfishing the saucer problem and the world don't care. We quote in part from Bruening's letter, thus:

"Several months ago there was quite a rash of sightings in this area. . . . I decided to do a survey of the people who saw the saucers. The results were interesting both for what we discovered and for what was not. . . . To begin, here is what we saw: My wife and I had just returned home, the time about 10 p.m. . . . and turned on the radio. There was a disc jockey show on and the announcer broke in and said there were flying saucers flying over the station . . . and we ran into the yard to see them. With us were people from next door. We stood in the front yard and saw four ovoid objects flying north directly overhead . . . then turned and flew south until they were out of sight."

Bruening then lists what he and wife had seen—Date, October 31, 1955; Time 10:00 p.m.; Number, 4-6; shape, oblong; color, red-orange, incandescent; sound, none; speed, quite slow; sensations, none; formation, straight line, later a vee.

"There was no way to tell the dimensions, actual speed, height of the objects at night. My wife said there were six objects in a straight line, I saw four that seemed to fly in a vee formation. (Here was a variation in the observations of two people looking at the same thing at the same time which makes any survey only half correct at best). The radio station was deluged by calls as was the police station. The official explanation was that it was a

<sup>6</sup> Credit, Jim McAshan III, Knoxville, Tenn.

Compliments

**DR. E. F. BARROWS**  
(For Basic Remedies)

142 N. Echols Street

Monmouth, Oregon

BETTER HAIR THRU BODY CHEMISTRY

A new and reasonable method for improving the health and growth of hair. Free details mailed on request.

flight of B-35 bombers refueling at 32,000 feet and there were eight in formation. The facts warrant some speculation on this however. The objects were silent, thus if they were planes they would have been at a high altitude, yet in appearance they seemed very close and large compared to aircraft I have seen that were flying high enough to produce no sound.

"The survey was handled like this: I mailed over a dozen questionnaires with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Also included was a personal letter explaining the survey. Results: not one returned. I then had a four inch article in the Sunday local paper explaining the survey and asking for information. Results: Two phone calls, neither person cooperative. I then had a spot announcement over each of the three local radio stations over two days. Results: none. I contacted the police, forest service, local National Guard. Result: 15 questionnaires filled out. The other questionnaires were filled out by people I contacted in person, total 26. One man was converted from non-belief as result of sightings, several said the objects were from another planet—as a rule no one changed opinion.

"There was a great deal of criticism of the people who saw the saucers. One police officer almost quit the force due to the ridicule. This social pressure I feel sure caused many people to deny that they had seen anything and caused the survey to be unsatisfactory. See *Scientific American*, Nov., 1955, "Opinions and Social Pressure" by S. E. Asch for an interesting experiment in which people denied an obvious conclusion under the influence of social pressure."

### SAUCER NUMBS POLICEMAN

Case 143, Williston, Florida, Nov. 2, '55—Two persons reported mysterious objects that lit up large areas of ground at night with a light brighter than the sun. One of them, C. F. Bell has been a Williston city policeman for three years. The Gainesville *Daily Sun* reported the story as follows: Bell was on routine duty Sunday about 10:15 and was parked in the heart of the town when he saw six lighted objects approaching from the south in formation . . . moving slowly. Occasionally, he said, one of the objects would be left behind and put on a burst of speed to catch up. Then after the objects had passed over Williston, one of them turned in a gradual bank and began losing altitude. Bell then rode about a mile and a half north where it appeared the object was heading. Bell said he got out of his car and the object moving very slowly, passed directly over him. For about seven minutes, Bell said he had the object in close view. The light from the object was so bright that it lit up an area 50 to 70 feet in diameter. The light was steady and the object so bright that, at that range, it could not be observed directly. The policeman said he judged the object to be about 150 feet distant from him and guessed it to be about three feet wide. It was shaped like a wash tub, was pure white and there were no marks, windows or other identification. There was no sound, reported Bell, and no odor but the heat of the object gave him a stinging sensation like he had never experienced. He said his clothes became hot. Part of his body felt like a foot or leg had "gone to sleep", tingling all over. The object then moved off to the east and disappeared from view. Bell had considerable experience with aircraft during World War II. Nothing, he said, resembled the object he saw and felt Sunday night. Bell was interrogated in Ocala by two Air Force officers.

Case 144, Williston, Florida, Nov. 3, '55—Monday night, Sam Verones, cafe owner, was returning from closing his place about 9:30 p.m. He told the sheriff that as he was approaching his porch the ground suddenly lit up as of from a spotlight brighter than any he had ever heard of. Before he could get a direct look at the object which was shining through the tree, he said it had moved across the railroad tracks. The only other witness to this object was a negro man in a car, and he jumped out of his car in fright as the area lit up.

Ed: The reports of UFO's over this general area are too numerous to mention, but we might add that Levy County Deputy Sheriff, H. A. Perkins, also of Williston reported seeing objects both Sun-

day and Monday nights, fitting the description Bell gave. Another notable report described a UFO over Ocala's Taylor Field airport. One of the observers of the strange craft was Air Force S./Sgt. J. Wright, left at that field to observe UFO's. Photographs were taken of the UFO Monday night by Fred Ward, photographer of the Florida *Alligator*, University of Florida weekly newspaper.

### FLYING SAUCERS AND PUBLIC OPINION

While saucers have been kicked from pillar to post in the press and slicker media, the lone ufologist—a tireless, patient and diligent worker—seldom rose to challenge. He knew from experience that the odds were against him, or remembered his social aplomb. Disarmingly, he said, "let Joe do it." But Joe didn't either. As it turned out the usual handful did all the moving and, gaining recognition, they became "experts." The writer has become an "expert", but actually he isn't—he's just one of the Joes willing to stick his neck out.

While this neck has been hacked at frequently it has managed to keep its head. Encouraging? Yes, if only to show that if one's conviction is strong enough, no odds will deter his cause. Today, UFO interest is growing and to keep apace of this prosperity, CRIFO calls on everyone to forget his social aplomb and join in the challenge. For this we need unity and voice. CRIFO now offers the *Orbit* as the "voice" and already many responsible people have complied with the writer's recent request for a statement touching on the UFO problem. We hope in the future, space permitting, that many more representatives will be added.

"The recent Air Force pronouncement that 'no objects such as those popularly described as flying saucers have overflowed the United States' is by no means a scientific finding. The extensive and expensive so-called investigation of this physical phenomenon of UFO's was carried out under the supervision of the military with a group of unnamed employed scientists serving as subordinate clerks and statisticians. The narrowly statistical approach to the subject no matter how administered or how exactly carried out could not under any circumstances yield anything like a solution to the problem and certainly not an explanation of these mysterious objects.

"The so-called findings, highly publicized by the Air Force Secretary is based upon the false premise that a temporary lull in the frequency of unexplained sightings proves the non-existence of these objects. Even if there were an abrupt end to reports of UFO's, and such is by no means the case, the great accumulated mass of substantial unexplained sightings throughout the world would still remain the greatest unsolved scientific mystery of all times."

—Charles A. Maney,  
Head of Dept. of Physics,  
Defiance College, Ohio.

"The now existent international silence about UFO's constitutes the most vital of the UFO mysteries. What great force could possibly behoove world governments into secrecy? All answers considered, fear of some great menace or danger is the only answer that fully answers the question. We have, by painful experience, seen the Air Force indifference to the UFO. If fear was not the reason, in my opinion, the silence would have ended years ago!"

—Charles W. Paisley,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

### Raise The Fabulous CHINCHILLAS

Easy and Fun to Raise—Can be raised in  
basement.

Cost as little as \$3.00 a year to raise.

For information write:

**RICHARD BULKOW**

1524 So. 9 Street

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

"Saucerites love to make hopeful predictions about a break in the censorship blackout. I believe this is wishful thinking and we should cure ourselves of it by taking a hard realistic look at the present situation. The Air Force, the scientists, and the press—the three groups that determine what the public thinks about saucers—are fully committed to the anti-saucer position. They have managed to defend it through thick and thin for almost nine years, and it will take a cataclysm to budge them now.

"And they exercise enormous power, by direct or indirect methods. Already they have created a climate of opinion in which anyone can publicly *attack* the extra-terrestrial theory in perfect safety—regardless of what gross ignorance or bias he displays in the process—but he cannot *defend* it without risking his business, his reputation, or his professional career. "Don't use my name"—that phrase is the give-away. The influential saucerites are vulnerable, one way or another. They do not feel free to speak out.

"The other saucerites are too few (compared to the total population), too scattered, and too insignificant to form an effective pressure group. True, there is a certain random, unorganized growth of interest in saucers among the general public, but this means absolutely nothing in terms of the influence, power, and pressure that will be needed to convince officialdom. The saucers themselves, of course, could prove their existence beyond question in 24 hours. But so far they have not cooperated, and what real reason do we have—aside from our desire for it—to expect that they will change their policy? Even a great rise in sightings in 1956, if it occurs, may have no result—large numbers did not change the picture in 1952.

"Let's continue to hope for the big breakthrough, but by no means count on it, still less try to predict when or how it will come. We are a resistance movement, not the main invasion army, and we may have to brace ourselves for a long fight. There is plenty to do. We should keep on recruiting new guerilla fighters. We should continue to collect, investigate, and analyze saucer sightings. We should encourage serious saucer research wherever we find it. We should continue to challenge the saucer nonsense that the press will continue to publish. Any fight is better than no fight at all—especially since the Air Force, with the present situation sewed up tight, would probably like nothing better than to see all civilian inquiries die of frustration and discouragement."

—Isabel L. Davis,  
New York, N. Y.

"We feel that the evidence in support of the UFO being hostile is so small in comparison with the more overwhelming evidence of their peaceful intent, that we so far cannot subscribe to any major idea of their hostility. This view is taken after a comprehensive survey of all reports from around the world, and feel had they a desire to have done so they could have made attacks long ago and with much more advantage for we were then totally without knowledge of them.

Regarding censorship of authorities: Speaking for Australia, so far we have had no censorship imposed on us as a society and can truthfully say that our Security Dept., on this subject has given us good consideration from time to time. Whilst they have made no open statement of their beliefs either way, they have in all correspondence and interviews stated, "The have an open mind on the subject." This is admittedly non-committal but at least they do not openly deny saucers as do other governments. . . ."

—Fred Stone, Nat'l Director,  
Australian Flying Saucer Research Society.

"I think I will let my book speak for itself on this very interesting and controversial issue of the UFO. I have done my best to keep it factual and unbiased and tell the complete story."

—Edward J. Ruppelt, Author of new book,  
The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects.

"It is beyond comprehension that the Air Force can possibly justify putting the American Public nine years behind in getting accustomed to the strong possibility that we are not alone in the universe. This is 'playing God' and is not included in Air Force duties or privileges. It is also placing a fearful panic weapon in the hands of our earthly enemies. It is my current belief that the public should be brought up to date and kept up to date by the public servants we are paying to investigate the UFO's in our skies. No group has the right to interfere with public education regarding the most significant thing that has happened to this planet since B.C. became A.D."

—William B. Nash,  
Miami, Florida.

"There is a growing belief in Venezuela that the UFO or 'Platillo Volador' is of extraterrestrial origin. I have spoken to doctors, clergymen, engineers, newspapermen, intellectuals and the Man on the Street and the majority of them can see no other explanation but the interplanetary one. Those who scoff, have not taken the trouble to study the matter and the hundreds of cases reported by persons of repute and professional standing. With regards to official circles and opinion, I have reason to believe that not only are the facts proving of interest but that the matter is being studied. . . ."

"Regarding hostility, of the six landings reported three have been of a hostile nature and one in which the hostility was provoked. In the Petare incident, Gustavo Gonzales, terrified out of his wits, grabbed the dwarf with the intention (as he says) of taking it to the truck. The dwarf, drawing strength from some unknown source, easily knocked him 15 feet away and he arose, jackknife in hand to combat whatever it was. His astonishment must have been great when, on stabbing at the dwarf, the sharp knife slid off some hard surface and an intense light, directed from the hovering sphere blinded him.

"From the reports of the Carora case, this was definitely an attempt to kidnap one of the boys, and if it was not for the desperate action of one of them, who knows what would have happened. Gomez, one of the boys says—"I fainted when one of the dwarves, with exceptional strength, tried to drag me to the spherical apparatus and push me inside"—The other, Lorenzo Flores, seeing his friend in the clutches of the strange being acted in desperation; he did not think of shooting, but seizing the gun by the barrel let the dwarf have it on the shoulder and the gun broke in two. What may have also saved the boys is that the lights of a truck came into sight at this time; the flattened illuminated sphere rose out of sight, the truck passed and the two boys beat all track records in getting to the police station where they related their story.

"The Zulia encounter is different. Jesus Paz might have surprised the dwarf in some act or other, or perhaps, the dwarf, seeing the car stop and one person emerge, decided to wait in hiding and observe. But then, why did it attack Paz clawing the whole length of his back.

"Then we have the Valencia case. In this case the jockey, Jose Parra really surprised the dwarves when they were pulling the boulders from the side of the highway and loading them aboard their strange craft. Parra had not the least idea of what was happening. He was out doing roadwork to lose weight for the races and was stopped short by the strange scene. He turned to run, the dwarves spotted him and one of them shone some ray which hit him in the back, knocking him flat. Scrambling to his feet and looking over his shoulder he saw the sphere rising vertically into the air. He also lost no time in reaching the police station and relating what he saw.

"My opinion is that these beings may not be hostile or have hostile intentions *but* will prove to be dangerous if provoked. The geodesic survey of the earth seems to be continuing and they may be planning to make contact with us. There is something on earth which has obliged them to visit in such numbers. This 'something' is what they are in need of or would like to have, and sooner or later they are going to make attempts to get it. I also believe that they have already made attempts to contact us by signals or some other means and that we have been completely ignorant of these trials. I strongly suggest that instead of trying to shoot them down, some comprehensive system be adopted to try and signal them first for friendly contact. We are up against a problem of tremendous importance and no resource known or facet of human ingenuity should be left unexplored to see that this problem be handled the right way and with the seriousness and attention it merits."

—Horacio Gonzales, G.,  
Caracas, Venezuela.

"As puzzling as the enigma of the UFO itself has been the attitude of the U. S. Air Force about flying saucers. I believe that the general consensus among civilian saucer researchers has been that the Air Force knows a great deal, if not all the answers, but is hiding the information from the public because of fear of panic or for other perhaps good reason.

"Of course we can only make what we consider good guesses, but throughout my research the opinion has swelled beyond all others that the Air Force itself doesn't know much more than we civilian researchers about the saucers. If we can believe Ruppelt's new book, and I believe we can, the Air Force has badly bungled

ESKY of ESQUIRE Dines Out on  
CHICKEN-IN-THE-ROUGH

Dixieland Drive-In Restaurant  
"Every Dish a Masterpiece"

Member of:

The Best The  
Diner's Restaurants Esquire  
Club United Club

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

the job of investigating UFO's, this because of the bureaucracy perhaps necessarily typical of a large military machine in peacetime. Their investigation's effectiveness has also been harmed by a constant negative attitude about UFO's, or in other words, the apparent will to explain away the phenomena, as opposed to a perhaps equally ineffective attitude of some civilian investigators to weight their conclusion toward an interplanetary explanation.

"My opinions, however, cannot explain the interference with certain civilian investigators who have stated they were told to "shut up" about saucers once they had what they considered information which would explain the mystery. Perhaps, as my new book, *THEY KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS*, will suggest, it may not have been the Government, but some other terrestrial agency, that has intimidated certain saucer investigators."

—Gray Barker, of Clarksburg, W. Va.,  
Author of coming new book, *They  
Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers.*

"Press releases hinting at the existence and at the same time denying the possibility of flying saucers, have led the public to the ultimate conclusion that our Air Force doesn't want its people to know the real facts behind the saucers. If this means danger exists, then the people should be told the entire truth, as they have been told on what to expect in atomic war. The public will resign themselves to accept the saucers. The present facts, good and bad, must be revealed gradually, giving the people time to think and form their own opinion."

—Frank C. Gallagher,  
Roseville, Mich.

"The Air Force policy of silence and evasion regarding the mystery of UFO's has been entirely successful in the past and there is little evidence that this policy will be changed in the future. Therefore, it appears to be up to responsible civilian researchers to carry out, as well as they can, a scientific system of research, investigation and evaluation in an attempt to bring reliable facts about this scientific anomaly to a sadly misinformed public. It is the sort of responsibility that must be discharged cautiously and objectively by serious investigators; there is no longer any place left for assumption and rumor, for the damage done by irresponsible story-tellers has beclouded a little understood subject with ridicule. Every aspect of the issue must be carefully examined and reliably confirmed before it is presented for general consumption; until all researchers realize this, the state of confusion now prevailing will continue indefinitely."

—Ted Bloecher, Pres.,  
*Civilian Saucer Intelligence,*  
317 East 83rd St., N. Y. 28, N. Y.

"The reasons for censorship are obvious: The foundations of the world, the 'isms' and 'ologies' would crumble. This will not be allowed unless there is no other course. The government must feel confident that our space entities will not reveal themselves to the masses. . . . If this be the case, then why upset our apperception, let the governments of the future worry about it then. This must be the prevailing logic. Therefore, I think, that only if circumstances so dictate will we ever get an official government announcement that the UFO is interplanetary. We may receive off-the-record remarks from lesser officials who are worried about the situation. . . ."

—H. G. Rovner,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

L. H. STRINGFIELD, Dir.  
C.R.I.F.O.  
7017 BRITTON AVE.  
CINCINNATI 27, OHIO

" . . . There are only two tenable explanations for the apparent duplicity of the U. S. Military in the matter of UFO. They are either: (1) Covering bigoted ignorance; or, (2) they are in possession of knowledge of such devastating import that its disclosure to the nation and the world would produce a paralyzing fear. The first alternative is the most likely, and an explanation for their reasons could take many facets. But none of them seem justified by a complete review of the facts. The sheer love of secrecy COULD be an explanation, but it is almost unbelievable. The fear of admitting ignorance or impotency is more likely. The bigotry of dogmatic pre-judgment is even more probable, but in the face of the evidence and its significance, the withholding of facts for such a childish reason seems to be beyond even the normal bureaucratic love of side-stepping issues.

"That leaves number two. Since we know that the UFO's are not any development of modern nations, then they are from space, and either originated there or in prehistoric terrestrial civilizations, as explained in *The Case for the UFO*. We will not debate these two possibilities, since the UFO come from space in either case. The point is that those UFO of the distant past have not demonstrated harmful intentions, so, if the Airforce is fearful, its fears are based on some type of horror whose nature they know and are concealing. In *The Expanding Case for the UFO*, to be published in a few months, I have delved very deeply into Selenology, the study of the Moon. There I find some evidence that a colony of some kind appeared on the Moon about 1865, when the crater Linne was covered by a white nebulosity about eleven miles in diameter. The number of these white spots has since increased to about 209, and the vigilant British Astronomers call them "Bowler Hats" because of their dome-like shape. Their number has approximately doubled every twenty years since the first one took over a prominent lunar crater. Is something coming now, from those colonies? Is that what the Airforce knows and fears?"

—M. K. Jessup, Author of coming  
new book, *The UFO Annual.*

"The most interesting aspect of creating the factual space travel television shows for Disneyland has been the exciting contacts we've made with the scientists, engineers and physicists connected directly or remotely with the government guided missile and artificial satellite program. The one question that seems to start the fur flying, good-naturedly and otherwise, is when we ask, "What do you think about flying saucers?" The answers run from, "It's very absurd!" all the way down to "If a flying saucer landed on my lawn tomorrow, I wouldn't be at all surprised!"

"Even though we have to be factually conservative on our television shows, we try to present the subject of space travel with an open mind, hoping the audience will be stimulated to receive the program the same way. However, where there's smoke, there's fire. I think your readers would be quite surprised and gratified to know that there are many young engineers reported to be secretly working overtime on the big important key to future space travel—the anti-gravitational drive!"

—Ward Kimball, Director,  
"Tomorrowland" TV Series,  
Walt Disney Productions.

Mr William E. Daniels  
3218 Roscoe St.  
Dallas, Texas