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JAMES W. MOSELEY



IN THIS UNUSUAL PHOTO Luther Hawthorne, a professional astronomer in Seattle, Washington, is pointing to two holes in the dome of his observatory made by mysterious fireballs. The objects crashed through the dome in about 1952, while Hawthorne was working on notes concerning a space satellite project. The notes were burned up by the fireballs. Being a Bible reading man, Hawthorne considered this a message from God to stop work on the satellite, and he gave up the project as a result of the incident. (Photo by August C. Roberts.)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORAharon's Extraterrestrial Article in the Dec.-Jan. Issue: Pro and Con

I have just finished reading the article "Extraterrestrialism as an Historical Doctrine", by ibn Aharon - and find it fascinating! I have a feeling of having read other things by the same author, but cannot recall where....

I am looking forward to reading the second installment of this article. May I also tell you that although I am not a subscriber, I do have the opportunity of reading your publication regularly, and I find it exceedingly informative....

BERNICE T. UMLAND
Placitas, New Mexico

I don't pretend to know anything about Chaldaic literature, but I do know something about language and logical arguments. Aharon says (page 8), "All these statements concerning the existence, theory, and operation of magic devices are matters of fact, susceptible to proof and disproof". Pardon my skepticism, but how would one accomplish such a proof or disproof of the statements mentioned? If verification were possible, it would be a meaningful scientific question - otherwise not. But scientific verification is not accomplished through examining literature. Suppose, for example, that 2000 years from now someone digs up Adamski's writings and establishes them as real products of our civilization. He might then try to convince his contemporaries, on the strength of these "ancient" writings, that golden-haired space men actually landed on earth 2000 years ago. He might also discover "similar conceptions all over the world" (to quote Aharon) to bolster up his case. Moral: The written word is not necessarily the true word.

In a later paragraph Aharon relates the stories of "sonic and radionic science" sketchily. I suggest that he attempt to reproduce some of the alleged effects experimentally. If he succeeds, or even suggests a meaningful problem by his efforts, scientists would be greatly interested. But I gather from the tone of the article that Aharon is also a Rationalist and would not be concerned with such mundane affairs. He has made tell-tale lapses into illogic, and commits the usual Rationalist mistake of not clearly differentiating between factual language and conjecture. For example, on page 9 he has already assumed the actual physical existence of the "Golden Rod," and then reinforces the assumption by telling of personally sighting one in 1956. How, pray tell, does he know that what he observed was a "Golden Rod" (if such a thing ever did exist)? And how does he know it was "drawing its energy from the rays of the setting sun"?

The Chaldaic literature is interesting, but its truth or falsity cannot be established by reading it alone. Translating it into meaningful terms might help, but pretending that it is meaningful as it stands betrays a preference for esoteric knowledge - knowledge based on words rather than on verifiable statements of fact. In the example of the "Golden Rod" cited above, it is clear that Aharon accepts the "words" as literal truth, since he interprets a personal experience in terms of the "words". On that basis, anything at all could be "proven" about the past - but it would most emphatically not be a scientific proof. RICHARD HALL

New Orleans, La.

Earth Theory Attacked Again

In regard to your article in the Feb. 1955 issue of "Nexus", entitled "The Truth About the Flying Saucers", and your article in

the June-July 1956 SAUCER NEWS entitled "The Solution to the Flying Saucer Mystery", I wish to make a few comments. I realize that I am a little late in making these comments, but I only started to read your magazine a few months ago. At that time I ordered all your back issues, in order to bring myself up to date on the statements, suppositions, and conjectures that you have been indulging in.

Many things in your two articles are so contradictory and absurd, that they are an affront to one's intelligence....I don't know the mental level of your readers, but if they can swallow such obvious hogwash as the earth theory and the de-contamination of the atmosphere theory, they are a lot more gullible than I am!.....You either do not know what you are talking about when you discuss the technical aspects of your so-called theory, or else you are out to make a few dollars which you do not need, fooling people who are so brainless that they will swallow the most outrageous drivel that it has ever been my misfortune to read. I cannot imagine any reason for your printing such trash unless it is to make money, or to place yourself in the limelight.

You have my full permission to print this letter with my full name and address, but I doubt very much if you will dare do so.

RUTH NETHERTON

Chicago, Illinois

(This is the last letter of this sort that we are going to print. People who cannot even criticize us intelligently need not bother to subscribe!- Editor.)

Further Comment on our Saucer Exposés

.....You have been publishing material about some of our recently enrolled members - so-called expose sheets. These expose sheets were about Williamson, Adamski, etc. And now you plan to reprint the Adamski Expose. These and others are recent members of my own organization, and we of the Interplanetary Council are making a very thorough investigation of their contact claims, but with the republishing of your Adamski material, you will be confusing much of our work, plus the fact that you will be publishing information on members of my organization without my permission. This can be considered a scandal, as you will realize.

We feel that you will co-operate with us in our efforts at investigation, plus, no further information on these men will be released by you, unless we approve it. This may sound commanding, but it is for the good of all....

WILLIAM W. SUTHER, JR.

Interplanetary Fellowship,

Chicago, Illinois

(We do not take orders from anyone as to what material we will or will not publish! Furthermore, the Adamski Expose has already been reprinted.- Editor.)

Congratulations on your special issue about Adamski. You have really done a favor to UFO research in reprinting this fine material. Thanks to your efforts, the Adamskis and the Williamsons are beginning to withdraw into their shells, and saucer research is being put on a more scientific foundation than it was before. JOHN KETALAWICH

Fresno, California

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THE GERMAN SAUCER STORY

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article is an English translation of two chapters of a book called "Vienen los Platillos Volantes" (The Coming of the Saucers), written in Spanish by Enrique Miguel Borges. These particular chapters of the book were written by Ulbricht Von Rittner, a former officer in the Special Technical Services of the German army. Borges is of the opinion that the origin of saucers is still a mystery, but he turned over four chapters of his book to Von Rittner, who believes in a terrestrial solution. The translation was made by Auriphebos Simoes of C.P.D.V., a Brazilian saucer club. Simoes' translation has been edited carefully by James Moseley. We do not believe that the story you are about to read is true in every detail, but Von Rittner does give you some very important information that has not previously been published in this country.

When the American troops occupied West Germany after World War II, a special organization called the Joint Intelligence Objective Committee was given the job of gathering all products of German science and taking them to the United States. Thus, 1,500 tons of German scientific files arrived at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. Most of these files contained secrets and new weapons projects. There were also secret military projects such as how to utilize infra-red rays to facilitate night military operations. There were plans for a stratospheric medium and long-range bomber and 138 different blue-prints for various rockets, guided by Hertzian waves. Among these was the model A-4 - a 52-ton contraption, able to fly at speeds greater than 6,000 miles per hour.

To dispose of all these files, an office was set up in Washington, D.C. This office sold these German secret projects at the rate of \$1.00 per copied sheet. Naturally the best buyer was Amtorg, representatives of the Soviet Union in the United States. Amtorg bought the secret files by weight.

But the victors did not limit themselves to carrying to their countries this mountain of papers which represented the work of many hundreds of German scientists. They also carried away the scientists and technicians themselves, mostly those who specialized in weapons. Hunting for scientists became a very fashionable sport during the months that followed the end of the War. Russia and the U.S., the two competitors in this race, divided between them almost the totality of the German scientific staff. The Russians used force and threats to attain this purpose, whereas the Americans used their economic possibilities.

About 400 of these scientists went to the U. S., where many have become American citizens. Among these is Professor Werner Von Braun, who twenty years ago received the highest German decoration for his work in rocket research. He was boss of the mysterious German base where a giant rocket was being prepared to bomb New York. He now works at Fort Bliss (Texas) with his helpers Schilleng and Steinhoff, who are also rocket specialists. Rudolph Hermann and Professor Lippitsch are also in the U. S., as is Dr. Heinz Gartmann and many other technicians specializing in guided missiles, nuclear physics, aerodynamics, etc.

In the U.S.S.R. there is another team of German experts. Among them are Gustav Hertz, Nobel prize winner in Physics. He arrived there with his best helpers - Pose, Schmill, and Mye - and worked at the Russian nuclear laboratory in the Caucasus, where he was killed by accident in 1950. Other top scientists now in Russia include Professor Doepfel of Leipzig University, Bewilogua of Berlin University, Peter Thiessen, Fritz Vollmer, Max

Steenbeck, and others.

Most of the technicians and scientists who worked at the nuclear physics laboratory of Peenemunde during World War II and at the mysterious missile research center called A-10, are now forced laborers in Russia. Only a few have remained in Germany.

To those of us who knew these scientists and worked with them, it is clear that their presence abroad and the services they may render to the two great nations (Russia and the U.S.) will have a great influence on the development of warfare knowledge. In regard to rockets and missiles, Germany was far ahead of any other nation. American General Donald L. Putt stated a few years ago that Germany was ten years ahead of the United States in the development of rocketry when the War ended.

From this point on we will ignore other weapons in our discussion, and deal only with missiles, since missiles are really our only concern in this book, because of their connection with flying saucers.

Let us go back a few years. When the War ended, a small scale model of a new rocket had been begun at the secret research center called A-10. This model was designed by Professor Herman Oberth. The missile was expected to fly at about 6,000 miles per hour with a payload of two tons of TNT. This means that this missile, if launched from one of the German bases on the Baltic, would reach New York thirty minutes after its launching. Its enormous speed would render all defenses useless, and two tons of TNT exploding over New York's skyscrapers would probably have changed the result of the War.

At the same time other weapons with almost the same characteristics were being studied. There were more than 100 projected models of V-type rockets and some of them such as the V-8 and V-9, which existed only in blueprint form, had the round shape of a flying saucer. The destruction of Peenemunde by Allied bombers in 1943 impeded the construction of models or prototypes.

Based on the German rockets known as V-1 and V-2, the Americans have built several types of rockets which are not any secret or mystery. Several American magazines have published pictures of the missiles JB-L-1, the JB-LA, and the JB-2. These represent perfected versions of the V-1. These missiles, built in 1945 and 1946, are probably the grandfathers of the rockets now under construction in American laboratories and military installations. But times have changed, and photos of these devices are not published as carelessly as before. The same applies about divulging data about them.

Therefore there is no reason whatever to doubt that American rocket experts have started midway, limiting themselves to improving the V-1 and V-2. Perhaps they have also tried to build the V-3 and its sequels. If they have built the V-8 and the V-9, we already have a first solution to the problem of the flying saucers.

Naturally we have to see whether this possibility coincides with the known data about flying saucers and the different aspects of their appearance. Let us see what are the known elements of the problem:

In the first place we have the question of the sizes of the saucers. It is not possible to form an exact idea of their size from witnesses' statements, as the size varies widely in the various reports. But on the whole, the reported sizes vary between 12 feet and 100 feet in diameter. These figures in all probability are not correct. If the thing is only 12 feet in diameter, the rocket cannot carry its machinery, propellents, and the necessary installations for its maneuvers. On the other hand, 100 feet seems exaggerated. I don't believe it is possible yet to build such large machines. Simple computations show us that such a large circular missile would weigh more than 500 tons, and this is not possible at the present stage of

science. If the saucers are really as large as this, then the extraterrestrial theory of their origin must be true after all. However, I think the witnesses have overestimated the size as much in some cases as they have underestimated it in others. It is very difficult, even for experts, to determine the exact size of an object seen in the sky, since visual impression depends on altitude, relative transparency of the atmosphere, humidity, angle of incidence of light, etc. Practice has taught us that to reach an approximate conclusion - one that is relatively correct - the best method is to take the average size estimated by several witnesses. In regard to saucers, the real size would therefore be about 45 to 50 feet in diameter. These figures correspond well to today's technical possibilities.

Another question concerns the speed. The greatest speed that has been achieved with rockets is about 4,000 miles per hour, reached by the Germans with the V-2 in 1944. According to the information I have, none of the American models of the V-2 have attained that speed. But some people claim that saucers have been seen going as fast as 20,000 miles per hour. This figure seems highly exaggerated to me. An example from everyday life will show why these exaggerations occur: If a pedestrian walking along a road at 3 miles per hour (normal walking speed) is overtaken by a car going 30 miles per hour, he will see it disappear with "enormous speed". The witness would say that the car was going between 15 and 60 miles per hour, and many people would say that the car was going 20 times as fast as the pedestrian. Actually, the speed was only 10 times as great. The same type of thing may have happened in regard to saucers. Normally American fighter planes fly between 300 and 600 miles per hour, and if a saucer disappeared "as if by miracle", it would be sufficient for the saucer to be flying only ten times as fast as the plane, i.e., 3000 to 6000 miles per hour. This speed is not impossible for a rocket, but 20,000 miles per hour belongs in the realm of fantasy.

We now arrive at the important matter of whether or not the saucers are piloted. Can the human body resist such great speeds without damage? Science has already answered this question, and has stated that high speeds by themselves do not represent any danger for the human body. The dangers stem from sudden acceleration and from by-products of high speed, such as heat, vibration, noise, abrupt turns, etc. All these effects have been studied in detail, and it has been found that the human body can support almost unlimited speed, provided the necessary precautions are taken.

Therefore, it is not impossible that the flying saucers have human pilots in them. However, I do not believe that they do, because a pilot would be absolutely useless in a saucer. The technique of guiding a rocket by Hertzian waves is very advanced. Since the end of World War II, great progress has been made in this field, and remotely-controlled rockets are perfectly safe and steerable. Modern science has found that it is safer to guide a missile by automatic means than by means of a crew, since mechanical objects are not subject to accidents from psychological causes, nor are they subject to psychological influences such as fear, doubt, excitement, etc., as is the human organism. Therefore, no missile builder would think of trusting such piloting to human crews. That is why it seems absurd to think that the flying saucers have human beings inside them.

Thus, bringing together all the scientific information we have discussed so far, we can say that the flying saucers may be rocket missiles built by American technicians and their German collaborators, working in the United States. It is very possible that some of these missiles have escaped from their electronic control, and have arrived in areas that their builders never dreamed of sending them to. The fantastic stories about the extraterrestrial origin of saucers would therefore be the result of newspaper-

men's imaginations; or perhaps they are stories launched by the American authorities to lead astray the opinion of the public and of the Intelligence officers of other nations.

But this is only one of the possible answers to the saucer mystery. The saucers may be Russian as well as American in origin. Let us discuss some of the other facts involved in the situation:

In the great German research centers there were more than 3,000 scientists and technicians working during the War. The V-1 and V-2 passed from theory to practical achievement by the year 1943. A special technical team began their construction, and by 1944 a series of V-1 missiles was being built at the rate of 600 per month. But at the same time, the Peenemunde team went on investigating the possibilities of building newer and better missiles, based on plans made by Professor Von Braun and his helpers.

Several scores of scientists on this team were taken to Russia by the Soviets after the War. Besides the men already mentioned, we know that the Russians also took Manfred Von Ardenne, formerly head of the research laboratories of the German Air Ministry. Von Ardenne was also head of the Peenemunde research center. It would take a long time to list all the technicians who went, willingly or not, into the service of the Soviet Union; but the fact is that the Russians have gotten a greater number of these important men than have the Americans. The Russians were able to get their hands on Peenemunde and Swinemunde, as well as the shops and factories where parts for the V-weapons were built - places such as Treptow, Anklan, Strelitz, etc. All of these places are within the zone occupied by the Russians. An inventory of all the things found by the Russians in this area, would show that the missile-production equipment that the Americans obtained was small compared to that which fell into the hands of the Russians. But it is appropriate to say here that the Americans compensated for this disadvantage by the supremacy of their industry over Russian industry.

We can say, however, that in the first years after the War the military authorities of the Soviet Union got ahead of the Americans in researching and producing rockets. As early as 1946 and 1947, Russian rockets began appearing over the Baltic, and over Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. These rockets passed over the Baltic and Scandinavian skies at enormous speeds. Later they were seen over Western Germany and the Gulf of Kiel. I myself saw one of these missiles in June of 1947, and I want to speak in detail about the impression it made on me, because its characteristics were very similar to those attributed to flying saucers.

The missile passed by me at an estimated altitude of 15,000 to 18,000 feet. It is difficult to estimate the speed of the object, but it was clearly traveling faster than sound, as its "whistle" reached us much later - after it had disappeared on the western horizon. I was with some friends at the time of the sighting, and after a few minutes of discussion, we agreed that the missile's speed was between 2,000 and 3,000 miles per hour. But the most interesting detail of the sighting was the aureola formed around the rocket, caused by air condensation due to the jet reactor's flames, and producing the impression of a round rather than a rocket-shaped object. We had already observed this same phenomenon at the end of the War with the first flights of the V weapons. Under certain atmospheric conditions, mainly when there is a high relative humidity in the air, aircraft and missiles equipped with reactors form a path of condensed air behind them, leaving the impression of a white trail. If the altitude of the flight is great and if the sunlight dazzles the observer's vision, he receives the impression that the craft is a round body flying at great speed. On this morning in June 1947 we had exactly the same impression, but as we were used to such observations, we soon real-

ized that our impressions were optical illusions, i.e., a mistake due to the above-mentioned aureola.

About the same time, (1947), flying saucers began appearing over the United States and northern Europe, but their origin was not the same. Some which appeared over Europe were optical illusions of the kind described above. But public opinion was stirred up by sensationalism in the press, and I am sure that birds, meteors, etc., were many times reported as saucers. Those who primarily profited by this "saucer psychosis" were the builders of the flying saucers. After the Americans' experience with Russian spies and their efforts to get hold of the atomic bomb secret, the psychosis created by the saucers was exactly the thing they needed to force them to surround their research and achievements with a smoke screen. This is how many people have come to believe in the extraterrestrial origin of saucers. Perhaps the agents of Soviet espionage may themselves have been deceived for a time by this fantastic story and were led to hunt for pertinent data regarding saucers in various regions where saucers had never flown. If this technique of spreading false information about non-existent Venusians and Martians is organized by a proper agency or organization, then it is not surprising that the thing called "the mystery of the flying saucers" has been created. Millions of people have been taken in by this misinformation. The only people who most certainly have not fallen for it for long are those in the Intelligence or Espionage Service of the Soviet Union. Without knowing much about the technical details of the saucers, one can nevertheless be sure that a great behind-the-scenes battle is being fought secretly between the Intelligence Services of Russia and the U.S. concerning these saucer-like missiles.

As early as 1950 it was known that the U.S.S.R. has built 16 bases on its Baltic coast for the launching of rocket-bombs, i.e., between Graifsväl Bay and the Gulf of Finland. The most important of these bases is located near Porkala, the base ceded to Russia by Finland. The production of the Soviet missiles has been based on the V-1 and V-2. They have created similar missiles with a greater range than the V weapons had. Later the Intelligence services of the Western Powers learned that the Russians were trying to put nuclear warheads on their missiles. Still later it was said that they were trying to equip mines and torpedoes with nuclear explosives.

Naturally it is only possible to guess about the technical details and aerodynamic characteristics of the Russian missiles. But even if the details are not known, it is possible for a technician like myself to make intelligent guesses, for the principles involved are not unknown. Research on rockets dates back to 1933. There was not much progress until 1939, but after the beginning of the War a gigantic jump ahead was achieved, so that by the beginning of 1943, before the destruction of Peenemünde by British aircraft, we had made the first plans for the construction of the V-8 and the V-9, i.e., rockets which would have the round shape of the actual flying saucers! I will try to give a resume of the V-8 and V-9:

The round shape of these devices had been chosen by specialists in aerodynamics, who saw two main advantages in that particular shape: great lift surface and lessened air drag. Adding these advantages to the rapid circular motion of the devices, many factors in the field of gravitation unknown till then were thus put together. The procedure corresponds to the motion of a coin or other small object that is thrown out; it will go further if it is made to spin in flight than it would go if just thrown haphazardly. The rotation of a saucer is achieved thanks to reactors placed around the periphery, at an angle of 45 degrees relative to their respective radii. The pressure of the jet reactors, which is achieved very rapidly, causes the rotation of the whole machine, and because of this, great speeds may be ob-

tained. These speeds are regulated by increasing or decreasing the tempo of the reactors' explosions.

In the center of the rocket there is an immovable part which acts as the axis of rotation for the outer rocket. This stationary part contains the radar, oxygen tanks, alcohol, compressed air, peroxyde, hydrogen, and all things necessary to feed the engines, as well as the compression housing, tubes, and all the gadgets necessary to propel the craft. This inner mechanism is not very different from the V weapons, except for some details which were modified because of the round shape of the craft. All this is completed by a television installation and radar transmitter, which allow the pilots (who never leave the earth) to send the machine where they want it to go. The absence of a crew within the saucer permits the accelerations and abrupt changes of direction that have amazed the American pilots who have seen saucers. Also, the system of turbo-reactors distributed around the outer rim, and the jet of the propulsion, allow an equilibrium to be maintained among the propulsive forces when necessary, so that the craft can hover at a certain point if so desired. At these times the speed of the craft falls to zero, while its rotation increases enormously. If we add to this picture the testimony of American pilots such as Kenneth Arnold, who had the impression that the saucers always maintained the same distance from each other, as though connected by an invisible link, we have another proof that these missiles are guided by radar from a certain point on the surface of the earth. Human crews could never keep the saucers in such perfect formation, because speed is even more difficult for a pilot to control precisely in a jet aircraft than in an aircraft equipped with ordinary piston engines.

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The following are available upon request, from SAUCER NEWS Headquarters:

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Air Force Project Blue Book Special Report #14 (hard cover, 80 pages) - \$1.50

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#18 (June-July, 1956) - 35¢	#28 (Dec.-Jan., 1957-1958) - 35¢

Note: 35¢ issues may be had at the rate of 3 for \$1.00 or 8 for \$2.00. Several of the back issues and other items listed above are almost sold out, so to be sure that we can fill your order, please send your order as soon as possible.

THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF HUNRATH AND WILKINSON

- by James W. Moseley -

The sudden disappearance of Karl Hunrath and Jack Wilkinson in November of 1953 is an event which has aroused as much interest and controversy on the West Coast as did the strange silencing of Al Bender on the East Coast that same year. These two events are among the greatest unsolved mysteries in Saucerdom. In the February-March 1956 issue of SAUCER NEWS, we brought our readers an outline of the Bender Mystery, based on personal interviews with Bender himself and with several others who could help piece together the story. Now we bring you the Hunrath-Wilkinson saga, based on a recent interview with Mr. Jerrold Baker, a saucer researcher who was personally acquainted with the missing men for many months before their disappearance. Baker will be remembered by SAUCER NEWS readers as the man who furnished much of the material for our Adamski Expose.

Baker first met Hunrath at George Adamski's home in Palomar Gardens, California, in November of 1952. At that time Baker, Hunrath, and George Williamson were forming what was known as the Adamski Foundation, under Adamski's personal direction. Each of these three was to contribute his own special knowledge of saucers to the Foundation's fund of information. Hunrath qualified in that he was an electrical engineer; before coming to California, he had performed experiments with an electro-magnetic machine of his own invention, which he called "Bosco". This machine was designed in an effort to duplicate the magnetic power by which the saucers were assumed to operate. One of its more sinister purposes was to create a magnetic fault, which would cause any saucer operating in the area to come down in the vicinity of the machine.

However, Hunrath never got around to putting "Bosco" into operation again on the West Coast, because the Adamski Foundation soon became side-tracked into metaphysical rather than mechanical research. Thus began a series of fantastic episodes at Palomar Gardens. Williamson would go into medium-like trances, in which he would receive alleged space messages, which he would tell to his listeners in a voice unlike his own natural voice, and which they would write down. At times Williamson would even speak in a language with which the others were totally unfamiliar. These messages they would transcribe as best they could. Afterwards they would try to assign meanings to the various meaningless syllables in the messages, and Williamson would assign symbols to the syllables, based on his knowledge of ancient symbology. It should be added here that the strange language in which Williamson spoke may well have been one of the languages of the American Indians, as he had lived among the Indians for a considerable length of time, studying their customs, legends, etc.

In January of 1953, all three members of the Adamski Foundation had a serious falling out with their leader and teacher, George Adamski; this event has been related in detail in our Adamski Expose. Hunrath, Williamson, and Baker then left Palomar Gardens permanently, and went to Los Angeles seeking employment. Williamson had a knowledge of Indian dances, and for awhile he and Baker considered the idea of Williamson performing these dances publicly, with Baker doing the narration; but this idea did not work out. In the meanwhile Hunrath, because of his technical background, obtained a good job without difficulty, while his two friends were still without steady employment. A few months later, Williamson returned to his wife in Prescott, Arizona, and Baker and Hunrath moved into an apartment in Los Angeles together. About this time, in August of 1953, Jack Wilkinson joined Baker and Hunrath. Wilkinson was a man who had worked together with Hunrath in his earlier exper-

iments with "Bosco". He had been a foreman at an electrical plant in Racine, Wisconsin before joining the group on the Coast. From this time on, Baker had the opportunity to get to know both men well.

In the weeks that followed, the threesome made several trips to Prescott, to confer with Williamson and to participate in more seances, at which Williamson continued to act as medium. They also made trips into the desert, hoping to contact a saucer as Adamski had done, and they even expected to be allowed by the saucer occupants to fly away to another planet with them! To these men at that particular time, this expectation seemed fully justified, as they were all convinced by then that they themselves were Space Men! The seed of this weird idea had been planted by Adamski, and had been passed on by Williamson to Baker, Hunrath, and Wilkinson. Each had a "space name", i.e., Baker was Markon, Williamson was Mark III, etc. Not only this, but Hunrath and Wilkinson even started seeing strange symbols mentally; these symbols came to them as visions, at any time of the day or night, and were written down by them and interpreted. Wilkinson, who had begun as an objective researcher, finally started going into trances himself. It is quite obvious, then, that all of these men had gone into the subjective side of saucer research so deeply by this time that their very minds and reasoning powers were being seriously affected.

At this point Baker's mother became seriously ill, and he had to make a trip east to see her. He therefore does not know first-hand exactly what transpired during the final weeks before the famous disappearance. By this time, Wilkinson's wife and three children had joined him in California, and Hunrath was living separately in a rooming house. While Baker was away, Wilkinson wrote him a letter stating that he had found out definitely when and where a saucer was going to come down, and asking Baker to hurry back to Los Angeles as soon as possible, so that all three of them could go together to meet it - and presumably to fly away to Mars in it. This letter to Baker was never mailed, strangely enough, but Mrs. Wilkinson told Baker about it afterwards.

Baker did not return in time for the saucer rendezvous, however, though he says he would have gone along if he had been there. On his way east he stopped to see Al Bailey and Laimon Streeter, in Winslow, Arizona. These two men, together with Williamson, had conducted the ham radio experiments which resulted in the book "The Saucers Speak". It was in Winslow that Baker learned from Streeter that Hunrath and Wilkinson had disappeared a few days earlier while flying in a rented plane to their saucer rendezvous. An FBI man investigating the case came to talk to Bailey and Streeter while Baker was in Winslow, but Baker was not allowed to be present at the interview; and in spite of his close association with the missing men, he has never been questioned by the police or the FBI up till the present time.

In Los Angeles, Baker went to see Mrs. Wilkinson. She had never been interested in saucers, and was largely unfamiliar with her husband's research, although she gave Baker what facts she could. By then the Los Angeles newspapers had published full accounts of the disappearance. As stated in the papers at the time, mysterious symbols were found on the walls of Wilkinson's home and of Hunrath's boarding house room. These were the symbols which the men claimed to have seen mentally, and which had been transcribed on paper and tacked onto the walls. Naturally the newspapers made a big thing out of these weird symbols, but other equally important evidence never came to their attention. Baker helped Mrs. Wilkinson sell and otherwise dispose of her husband's property, which included a tremendous quantity of mechanical apparatus as well as saucer material. Because Hunrath owed rent in his rooming house at the time of his disappearance, his personal effects were put up at auction

in Los Angeles. Baker was a bidder at the auction, but was unable to bid high enough, and all of Hunrath's things went to a strange friend whom Hunrath had met after Baker's trip east to see his mother.

Hunrath and Wilkinson had just walked off their jobs, and had rented a plane at the Gardina County Airport (near Los Angeles) early one afternoon in November 1953. Before leaving, Wilkinson mailed some money to his wife, and Hunrath mailed money to his landlady. They apparently kept just enough funds to hire the plane with. The night before they left, Hunrath phoned Frank Scully, Manon Darlaine, and another Los Angeles researcher. In these phone calls he hinted about the trip he was going to make, and even invited these people to go with him. This fact leads Baker to believe now that Hunrath had gone even further "off the deep end" during those last weeks.

Although many conflicting rumors continue to circulate even now, there is no definite evidence that Hunrath, Wilkinson, or their plane were ever seen again. One rumor has it that the plane, partly dismantled, was seen from the air by a search party, but no ground expedition ever succeeded in locating it, although a thorough search was made. I should add here that after the disappearance, Baker quickly got over his high-flown ideas about being a Space Man, which he now says were solely due to egotism, and within a short time he was completely "back down to earth" after his adventure deep into the most subjective aspects of saucer research; since 1954 he has given up active research altogether. Nevertheless, he still believes that if by chance Hunrath and Wilkinson did not crash and die, then they are alive now at their destination - Mars. He does not believe any of the persistent rumors that the men are hiding out somewhere on Earth, for strange personal reasons of their own.

There are several other facts which, although perhaps unconnected, serve to heighten this baffling mystery. One is that a few weeks after the disappearance, the airport from which Hunrath and Wilkinson rented their plane was completely destroyed by fire, and every plane in it was burned. Another is that three other people closely connected with this case have died in the four short years since the disappearance, in addition to Hunrath and Wilkinson (if we are to assume them dead.) One is Mr. Detwiler, the professional photographer in Escondido, California, who used to process Adamski's saucer pictures. Another is Hal Nelson, a young Civil Service Investigator who was a close friend of Baker's, and who was well acquainted with all the principals in this case. The third is Laimon Streeter (mentioned above), the ham radio operator who is the mysterious "Mr. R." in Bailey and Williamson's "The Saucers Speak"; Streeter, who was a young man in his 30's, is said to have killed himself! Nelson, also a young man, died by drowning, and Detwiler died a natural death. Hunrath and Wilkinson were only in their late 30's, and according to Baker, they were happy and had everything to live for.

Another strange thing is that the day after the disappearance, a peculiar man in a white uniform visited Mrs. Wilkinson, and told her that her husband was alive and safe. He gave no details, but left his name and address. Baker contacted him, and became convinced that the man really did not know anything. Later other stories came forth contributing to the idea that the men might still be alive. One such story involved a newspaper ad in the "personal" column of a Los Angeles paper, in which the writer of the ad stated in a cryptic manner that he was interested in saucers and would like to contact like-minded people. Some of the people who had known the missing pair thought that Hunrath or Wilkinson had placed the ad in order to contact their friends secretly, but Baker followed up this lead, and says that the writer was a man unconnected with the case. Another story has it that the missing men took baggage with them, and skipped the country for Mexico in an effort to get

away from personal problems in California. The FBI is said to be of the opinion that they are hiding out in Mexico, and a recent rumor has it that they may have joined George Williamson's metaphysical colony in Peru. According to Baker, however, the only evidence to support these ideas is that Wilkinson had a minor fight with his wife the day before he left. Baker is convinced, from his long close association with Hunrath and Wilkinson, that if they were still alive and on this Planet, they would be continuing their saucer research openly, and their whereabouts would be known.

Looking at the case objectively, the balance of evidence seems to favor the opinion that the men are dead. It is known that Hunrath, who flew the plane, was not an experienced pilot. He had taken a refresher course in flying just the week previous to his disappearance. It is believed that the pair were flying in the direction of Prescott, Arizona, for a saucer rendezvous somewhere in that area. This would have taken them over a long stretch of desolate and almost unexplored country, in which there are mountainous regions where a plane could crash and not be found for years. Baker points out to me that several planes that have crashed in this general area have not been found till years later, and then only by sheer accident. Unless or until new evidence comes to light, therefore, we will have to assume that Hunrath and Wilkinson met a tragic accident while pursuing their unorthodox beliefs. Thus, together with Captain Mantell and several others, they go down in saucer history on the list of those who have lost their lives directly or indirectly due to the elusive flying saucers.

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Just before press time, too late for inclusion in the above article, we received a number of interesting additional details on this matter from Mr. Baker. If reader interest is sufficient, this data will appear in SAUCER NEWS in the near future.

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BOOK REVIEW

FLYING SAUCER PILGRIMAGE - by Bryant & Helen Reeve (Amherst Press)
- Reviewed by James Moseley -

"Flying Saucer Pilgrimage" is the story of one couple's introduction into the world of flying saucer believers. It tells how they started out as curious skeptics, and gradually became interested to the point of making a long trip to California and Mexico, to interview leading saucerers in those areas. Among the men they met and believed in were Adamski, Fry, Betherum, Angelucci, Van Tassel, and Mark Probert. Eventually they decided that both the physical and "non-physical" aspects of saucers must be considered in their studies, and the last part of the book is devoted to "New Age" philosophy and interpretations.

If the book is considered simply as a diary of this couple's adventures and hypotheses, then there is no doubt that Bryant and Helen Reeve have succeeded well in their literary effort. The book is interesting, very well written, and in parts it contains a homey if somewhat corny humor. Above all, the sincere enthusiasm of the authors is unmistakable throughout.

If, on the other hand, "Flying Saucer Pilgrimage" is considered in regard to unbiased, factual information about saucers, then it is practically valueless. On Page 6 the authors state, "Our real goal was just
(Continued on Page 18)

RECENT NEWS STORIES

DETAILED SIGHTING FROM PENNSYLVANIA: One of the most detailed and interesting sightings we have seen in a long time comes from the Milford, Pa. "Dispatch" dated Dec. 19th, 1957. It concerns an event that occurred on an unspecified date during the previous May. Miss Frances Stichler, who lives on a farm near Milford, was doing chores in her barn at about 6 a.m. one morning in May, when she heard a swirling or spinning sound and looked up. A flat bowl-shaped object 20 feet in diameter, with a broad rim 3 to 4 feet wide, soared into view over the barn, only about 15 feet above the ground. It stopped in a somewhat tilted position and remained poised there for nearly a minute. Then, with a spinning sound, it sailed in a large nearly-horizontal arc toward the southeast and disappeared over a wooded hill. Most interesting of all is the fact that Miss Stichler reports that a man in a light gray tight-fitting helmet and a loose-fitting shiny suit of the same color was sitting on the broad rim of the saucer, with his feet and legs in the lower portion of the object. The man sat on the part of the rim on the far side of the object, so that he was directly facing Miss Stichler. The saucer was tilted in such a way that his body could be seen down to his knees. The man was of average size, and had deep-set eyes and a rather long face, with a "quizzical expression" on his face, according to the witness. His skin was sun-tanned. The two people looked at each other for quite awhile, without speaking. For some reason it never occurred to Miss Stichler to speak to the saucer occupant. Just as she was getting over her initial fright and wondering what to do next, the object left and went out of sight. Because she had no one with her at the time, and no proof to back up her story, Miss Stichler was reluctant to tell anyone about her sighting, and thus it remained unpublicized for several months.

AIR FORCE CHECKING ON GROUNDED UFO IN MONTANA: On Dec. 30th it was reported that the Air Force was interested in a mystery object which had flashed down out of the sky near Giant Springs, Montana. The UFO imbedded itself in a dirt bank, from which it was dug out by local police. The strange object is about two feet long, in the shape of a cone. It was charred by smoke, and smelled of gunpowder or some other explosive. It was light in weight and bore the initials "U.S." just barely visible. After being dug up, the UFO was put under lock and key at the county jail, and only authorized persons were allowed to see it. An unidentified man who witnessed the object's fall, told local radio station KMON that the "thing" came down in front of his car as he drove along a highway near Giant Springs. It hit the dirt bank with a hard thud. The angle at which it hit would indicate that it came almost straight down from the sky, according to KMON's informant.

CLOSE SIGHTING IN OHIO: The following sighting, which occurred on the night of November 22nd, was reported to the Tiro, Ohio "World" on December 12th: Mrs. Richard Goff, who lives near Tiro, told the "World" that she and her brother saw an object which "looked something like a bed pan with eight or ten bright lights shining from the front edge." As it came closer to them, it looked much the same as a bank of field lights at a baseball game, according to the witnesses, who were driving in their car at the time. Said Mrs. Goff, "At this point another car came over the hill behind us, from the north, with bright headlights on, and the object began to back away. It then changed appearance and took on a more circular shape, together with a orangish-red color. It swung back and forth and up and down for a long time as it backed away. We watched it for at least fifteen minutes." Mrs. Goff furnished the newspaper with two sketches of her sighting.

ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN SEEN IN RUSSIA: A January 15th Associated Press story from Moscow tells us that A. G. Pronin, a member of a Soviet scientific expedition, saw a "yeti" or Abominable Snowman in Russia's Pamir Mountains. Mr. Pronin claims that on August 10th (1957), while on this expedition, he spotted a Snowman outlined against the top of a cliff more than 1,500 feet above him. "It was a man-like creature," he reported. "He walked on two feet, stooped, and wearing no clothes. He was stocky, with long extremities, and his body was covered with reddish-gray wool. At first sight I thought it was a bear, but after more careful study it became clear that this was no bear, but a man-like creature." The Snowman was seen walking out of a cave, and was observed to walk some 600 feet before disappearing beyond the edge of a cliff. Mr. Pronin said that he watched the figure for five to eight minutes. Three days later he saw the creature for a few minutes at the same spot. The area was otherwise completely uninhabited.

CLOSE SIGHTING IN WISCONSIN: On Dec. 11th, several motorists near Ellsworth, Wisconsin, reported seeing an unidentified object over Highway 63. The UFO was described as saucer-shaped, and traveling about 50 miles per hour. It was seen at about 4 p.m. Many cars stopped along the highway to witness the strange event. At one time the object was reported flying about 20 feet above the ground. It was said to be circular in shape, with a diameter of 50 feet, and with a small cabin hanging underneath it. It was orange in color and emitted a reddish glow. No windows or sound were noticed. The strange object stayed in the area for several minutes and then was seen to go straight up and out of sight.

THREE SAUCERS SEEN IN SOUTH JERSEY: An "almost local" sighting of considerable interest occurred in New Brunswick, N. J., about 40 miles south of Fort Lee, on January 4th. Paul Paster of New Brunswick said that he was driving his car at about 10 p.m. when his attention was attracted to a bright light in the sky. The UFO was not only brilliant in itself, but also cast out rays of light in three directions, according to Paster. He stopped the car, and he and his wife got out to gaze at the sky. Then, as they were watching this object speed across the horizon, two other UFO's came into view. The other two were at a greater altitude, and were not so bright. However, they each gave out the same three beams of light as did the first object. The three UFO's were in formation, forming "a sort of obtuse triangle", according to the witnesses. Noiselessly and swiftly, the lights sped toward New York City (and Fort Lee - where they were not seen), and disappeared from sight about 30 seconds from the time they were first spotted.

WISCONSIN MAN SEES EXPLOSION IN SKY: The following is one of a large number of reported fireballs, exploding objects, and weird bright flashes of light that were seen in various parts of the midwest during late December and early January. On the night of December 13th, Michael Hammes of Racine, Wisconsin, said that he saw a fast-moving brilliant object explode in the western sky. The UFO was about 3 feet long, according to Hammes, and it had the appearance of a large shell. When he first noticed the object, it seemed to be only about 300 feet above the horizon, over Highway 20, near Sturtevant, Wisconsin. While he watched, the object blew up in a flash of light and a cloud of dark gray smoke. It left a trail of smoke about 100 feet long. The whole episode lasted only a few seconds.

SAUCER DAMAGES CAR IN LOUISIANA: A mysterious UFO, which "resembled the rising sun", was sighted at 7-15 a.m. on Dec. 11th near

Chestnut, La., by Mrs. Mary Louise Tobin, a school teacher from Chestnut. She was driving on State Highway 1 at the time. Mrs. Tobin became concerned when, after spotting the object herself, she saw another car parked in the vicinity of the UFO and smoking as if it were on fire. The smoking car's occupants were attempting to get out. The driver of the car, who was an elderly lady, and a little girl accompanying the lady, came over to the Tobin car. This woman (whose name is not given in the newspaper account) showed Mrs. Tobin burns which the little girl had suffered, supposedly caused by the intense heat from the UFO. Said Mrs. Tobin, "We shared our frightened moments together, wondering if and hoping we would survive." Finally the damaged car stopped smoking, and they decided it was out of danger. The lady got in and tried to start it, but could do so only after a push from the Tobin car. Mrs. Tobin then continued on her way to work. - The newspaper account does not make it clear as to how long the UFO was in sight, or how close it came to the ground.

SAUCER NEWS EDITOR GOES ON LONG JOHN RADIO PROGRAM:

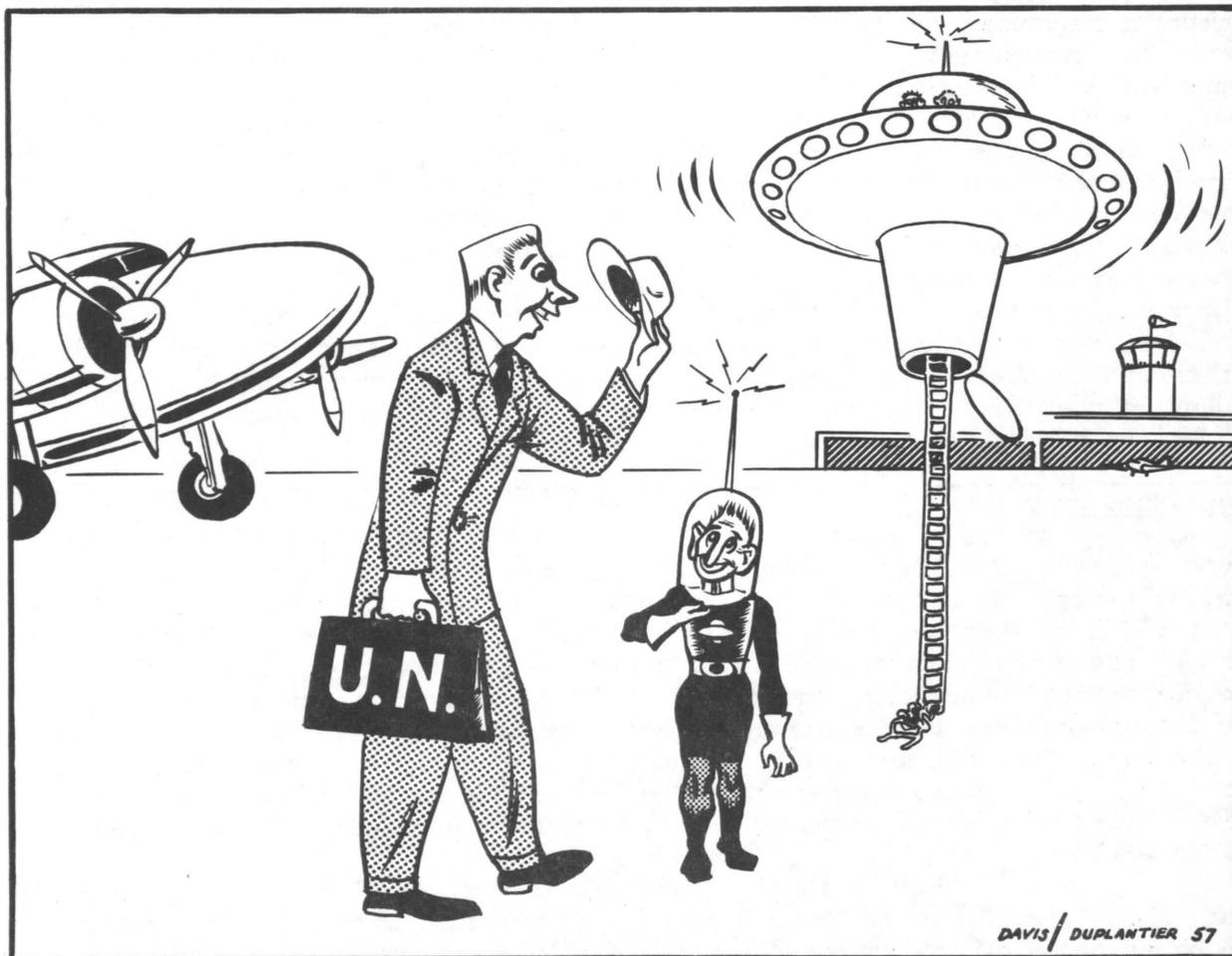
From midnight to 5-30 a.m. on Saturday, January 25th, James W. Moseley, Editor of SAUCER NEWS, appeared on the Long John Party Line radio program, over WOR in New York. The topic of the morning's panel discussion was Moseley's Special Adamski Expose Issue of SAUCER NEWS, which even at this late date is continuing to stir up a great deal of controversy, as will be seen from the "Letters to the Editor" column in this issue. Other members of the panel, in addition to John Nebel (Long John), were Dominic Lucchesi (Technical Consultant for SAUCER NEWS), Mel Schiloni, and Charles Leedham. Mr. Leedham demonstrated a passion for legalistic rather than logical argument, and due to his deliberate attempts to cloud the real issues involved in the Expose, only a few of Mr. Moseley's main points against Adamski were brought out in the course of the 5½ hour broadcast. However, Long John was good enough to recommend this Special Issue of SAUCER NEWS to all listeners who had read Adamski's books; and the large volume of mail your Editor received during the next few days as a result of this "plug," clearly indicates that most saucer fans are hungry for the real truth about Adamski.

CLOSE SIGHTING IN SOUTH DAKOTA: On the night of Dec. 18th, Howard Hendricksen, of Chamberlain, S. D., reported having seen a saucer which according to his estimate was a half-mile in diameter. Although we are highly skeptical of Mr. Hendricksen's ability to judge the size of an unknown object, his sighting is nevertheless a good one. According to his statement to the local newspapers, the UFO passed directly over his car at an altitude of about 200 feet, glowing with an intense greenish-white light, which he described as "like looking into an acetylene torch." The object was traveling slowly, at 20 to 25 miles per hour. Mr. Hendricksen stated that the saucer was tipped on its side, and that the bottom, which was the only illuminated portion, lighted up the area "as bright as day." Part of the top was dome-shaped, and the rest of it looked like the body of a large bomber. He could not be sure if there were windows in the bomber portion or not. There was no sound of any kind.

MAJOR KEYHOE "SILENCED" DURING NATION-WIDE TELEVISION APPEARANCE: On January 22nd, the Armstrong Circle Theatre (Channel 2 in New York), devoted its hour of television time to a discussion of flying saucers, instead of presenting a fictional drama as it ordinarily does. Out of the entire hour, only about five minutes were devoted to the pro-saucer point of view, which was presented by Major Donald Keyhoe of NICAP. The remaining time was spent mainly in long dissertations by two representatives of the Air Force

viewpoint, plus a shorter session with Professor Donald Menzel of Harvard, dean of the anti-saucerites. Two unscheduled things about the show were interesting: First, Kenneth Arnold, who was in New York and had been scheduled to appear and present his famous 1947 sighting, sent a telegram just before show time, stating that he could not go on the program after all. Arnold gave no concrete reason for this strange last-minute decision. His sighting was presented by the program's announcer, without mentioning Arnold's name over the air at any time. The second unscheduled occurrence was the fact that the sound (audio) was cut off by the studio technicians during the last part of Major Keyhoe's talk. The CBS Network later issued a statement signed by Keyhoe saying that the incident was due to a misunderstanding on Keyhoe's part about the rules for approval of script changes. Keyhoe is said to have admitted that no attempt at censorship was involved. Put more simply, he was cut off because it was a show involving prepared scripts, and when Keyhoe departed from his text, the management did not know what he was going to say, and therefore turned off the sound. The main point of Keyhoe's several sentences that were not heard by the viewing audience, was that if the Congressional committee investigating flying saucer censorship were to be forced to hold public rather than secret hearings, then it would be proven that saucers do exist. Keyhoe then asked his TV viewers to write their Congressmen, urging that the hearings be made public.

FIVE SAUCERS SIGHTED IN MICHIGAN: Jack Wiedman, a resident of Dexter Township, near Ann Arbor, Michigan, watched five UFO's sail through the skies over his farm for more than an hour on the night of Jan. 8th.



DAVIS / DUPLANTIER 57

INTERPLANETARY PEACE TERMS? HECK NO! WE WANTA BUY SOME ELVIS PRESLEY RECORDS!

He first noticed a long object with a flashing red light, hovering in the sky, at about 8 p.m. It soon began moving toward him at an estimated height of 150 to 200 feet from the ground. The saucer did not pass directly over him, but Wiedman said that it did come close enough to see dividing bars on the object, similar to those seen on the cabin of an airplane. Wiedman heard no motor, but did hear a clicking sound which apparently came from the UFO. The sound resembled that emitted by a Gieger counter, he said. A few minutes later four other similar-looking saucers came into sight, and were witnessed by Wiedman together with his whole family. The group of five objects continued to circle the general area of the farm, at a distance of two or three miles, for almost an hour. They then disappeared from view and did not return.

SAUCER BRIEFS: It seems that George Williamson's luck is still running strong. Two UFO's were seen in the sky seconds after the close of one of Williamson's lectures in Ventura, California, last January 10th. Saucers have also appeared after his lectures in three other California towns, according to Williamson, though we have no confirmation on this. Rumor has it, incidentally, that the self-styled explorer will be returning to Peru shortly....Nobel Peace Prize winner Lester B. Pearson stated recently that the best hope for world peace may be the discovery that space ships from another planet are watching us. "Then all of us on both sides of the Iron Curtain would get together and say, 'They can't do this to us,'" said Pearson....New York City's saucer book seller James Rigberg, after having declared bankruptcy about a year ago, is back in business again. Shortly before his bankruptcy, Rigberg's magazine "Flying Saucer News" disappeared suddenly from the scene. Now it has reappeared just as suddenly, with no hint whatsoever in the first issue as to its editor's financial problems. His new address is 337 First Ave., in case anyone is interested.....A new saucer "explanation", even more absurd than Professor Menzel's, has been offered by a scientist in the Air Force's Department of Space Medicine. Dr. Herbertus Strughold believes that "eye defects" are the cause of many saucer reports. He neglected to explain how these "eye defects" can get on film!....Latest new saucer magazine to make its appearance is "Saucers, Space & Science", edited by Gene Duplantier of 1157 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto 10, Ontario, Canada.....Unless you have a good deal more imagination than we do, you were not able to see any saucer in the second of the two pictures on the cover of our February-March issue. The saucer is visible in the top photo, and it was there in our original print of the bottom picture; but it disappeared in the reprint.

(Continued from Page 13)

one thing - to know the truth about flying saucers! The plain unvarnished truth - shorn of all propaganda, all pros and cons, all 'hooy'. We did not want opinions. We wanted facts. Facts we could 'put our teeth into' and hang onto, and know that we had something solid..." Unfortunately, the authors present no facts that have any scientific merit. They admit further on that they are not trying to convince anyone and that they are only attempting to explain how they themselves became convinced about saucers. If this is the only object of the book, then all is well. For the evidence that the Reeves present is not sufficient to convince anyone who is not already a Believer. Just because they were willing to accept Adamski, etc., at their word does not mean that the reader will.

In short, the book is very similar to "They Rode in Space Ships", reviewed by Bryan Essenhigh in our last issue; it is a rehash of the experiences of the saucer "greats" as told by sincere but overly credulous admirers.