

UFO NEWSLETTER #10

- Incorporating: C.R.I.F.O.
Orbit, Satellite, and UFO Digest

Lee R. Munsick, Editor
P.O. Box 606
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FEATURING IN THIS ISSUE EXCLUSIVE NEW EASY-TO-READ FORMAT!

"Flying Saucers" Are Real — Tell Your Friends About UFO NEWSLETTER *
* U.F.O. — Unidentified Flying Objects

SPUTTERING OVER SPUTNIKS

I had in mind writing an editorial on an entirely different phase of our interests, but the Russians wound up the editorial conference between me and myself, by putting three hunks of metal and a dog into the sky, which are still orbiting and giving the working press an extended field day.

There are several different groups of people who were undoubtedly not in the least bit surprised by this sudden invasion of the world's skies by man-made earth satellites of Soviet design.

One group is our unheeded intelligence people, who report to unlistening military armchair generals. Another is the scientists who are working, in various ways, on our own missiles, rockets, and space research programs, who were aware that our efforts were being hamstrung by political 'experts' who are as equally ignorant in the ways of science and research as they may be expert in the wiles and ways of gaining votes and staying in office; scientists equally aware of the vast potential of Soviet war-making and research ability.

It has been no secret that after the war, a great number of the German experts in rocketry (and ponderers of space flight) were absorbed by the U.S.S.R. intact with laboratories, plans, books, and most important of all, brains. Just as many eventually found their way here, to name Werner von Braun and Hermann Oberth as illustrious examples. The difference is the Russians realized their importance and provided all necessary equipment and means, with one rocket program rather than three or more competing ones. They also started right after the war, instead of waiting ten years, as von Braun has noted.

Another group to whom this undoubtedly came as no surprise includes the avid and well-informed science fiction fans, who were also too painfully aware that science is not the great factor in our nation's plans as it is in Russia, where it is normal for all children, women or boys, to think of becoming an engineer, a great soldier, some kind of scientist, or an athlete; for the glory of the fatherland, or at least to avoid the dinginess and dreary life of the collective farms or worse, slavery in exile. And, too, the sci-fi boys were aware of the potentials in space plans, and were sure these things could, would, and were happening...not just pipe dreams.

Another group: the avid saucer fans, the sensible ones who find time to keep appraised of developments in aviation, rocketry, astronomy, and other fields to keep an intelligent background for their other interests.

This writer had assumed that the Russians could and probably would get a satellite up there first. He had fervently hoped the program announced by private industry along about the same time the government's Project Vanguard was announced, would succeed in getting a device aloft before our sluggish, quibbling, feuding government agencies finally—more in spite of than because of their programs—got something up to complete America's contribution to the IGY. But the private program disappeared, probably at governmental urging, and now the launching of Vanguard has been seriously postponed once, and probably would have been again were it not for the crisis promoted by the appearances of the Sputniks and Laika.

Personally, the writer is happy indeed that the U.S.S.R. has placed its contribution in the sky before we did, and expresses herewith his congratulations. They have, at best, won a political victory, and our people in Washington have given them this sort of victory-by-default so many times before, it makes one wonder what difference it makes. As for scientific milestones, it seems doubtful that they have gained much information from their satellites other than the orbitals.

Militarily they have undoubtedly scored an important goal, for they have shown they have the rocket potential (Sputnik was launched

from a rough ICBM-type rocket) and the guidance systems to get not only a satellite, but a huge, lumbering metal monster into the skies, and to a far, far greater altitude than that for which our people are aiming. This is indeed worrisome, and it should promote some excitement in Washington, but not so much, for instance these useless and nonsensical investigations Congress is planning, which will only 'uncover' what we all know, that it is this very same budget-minded and blindly economy-stressing Congress which forced the original postponement, along with an incapable, or at least poorly-advised Executive Department. But if the Judicial Branch can stub its toe so seriously, and so often, as it did this past term, then it appears we may expect the other two branches to follow suit. 2

Yes, Sputnik can be a good thing for the West, and especially for the U.S. and its people, for perhaps now the solid American citizen will get off his seat and learn something about these fields (if the press will live up to its obligation of keeping us informed rather than just keeping a good story going long after it is no longer good or a story; the latest word is that Sputnik may stay up a year (pity the poor newspaper people trying to keep the story alive that long!), and above all end this stupid apathy.

I noted before that serious saucer-minded people were probably not too surprised, told as they are regularly about other projects, such as the Operation Farside which was possibly going to launch a rocket to go around the moon, but which fell considerably short of that. I meant the serious ones, because some of the worst apathy among the American people, with regard to the Soviet menace and our scientific achievements, ironically, comes from the religious do-gooders and quacks, and the other 'camp' within saucerdom, the 'contact' people, who totally overlook the dangers in the world (except the atomic bomb and the earth's erratic spinning) in their sweetness-and-light chantings.

Recently one of the most avid of these clingers-on visionaries, when told the Russians had certain potentials in getting bombers here, through our 'defenses' and the even more ridiculous Civil Defense program, said something to the effect that "There's nothing to worry about because the Russians can't do it. With their dictator system and their unfair depressive methods they aren't capable of taking on the great (a little flag-waving here, now) United States, the land of the free, home of the..." Et cetera ad nausea. This fool had better sit up and realize just how wrong and dangerously foolish such an attitude is.

May I respectfully suggest that anyone with this sort of attitude (if he is close-minded enough—and apparently some are—to still remain this stupid after Sputnik and its after-effects and the other Russian announcements still to come) try to obtain an interview with General Curtis LeMay, former commander of the Strategic Air Command, or with General Thomas Powers, his replacement at SAC. If you can't do that, you might listen to Arthur Godfrey, who is inclined to recognize SAC's importance. This is the one outfit in our government (Bless 'em) which is keeping us out of war now, but as the missiles race continues, even SAC will be outmoded, and the time of the bomber Air Force will be gone. Then, my dear visionary and stupid saucer-evangelist, then you'd better stop looking for blond-haired saviors and dig a good deep bomb-shelter, with plenty of food.

And for those who are presently collecting in the Washington, D.C. area (sadly becoming the saucer-nut center for the U.S., second only to southern California and much, I imagine, to the consternation of Major Keyhoe), a warning that D.C. would be a prime target area, and perhaps you might better return to the sunnier climes on the west coast, where your rantings are somewhat more expected, less dangerous and troublesome, and fit in with the other crackpots out there.

No, this editor wasn't surprised at Sputnik, and he won't be too surprised at future events which indicate Russia's potential and activities. Perhaps the President's efforts to bring information on

research to the public indicates a change of heart...and mind. I 3
hope so. But I suppose it's still in the realm of wild ideas to
think anyone in such high position might mention anything about UFOs.

A man named Nevil Shute has written a book called "On the Beach."
It may well be the epitaph of the modern world. I would suggest all
you happy visionaries—and many of you others—read it. Then come back
to your senses and look at the saucers through somewhat less crazed and
glazed eyes, and be realistic.

There's entirely too much around us now that isn't real. Find out
what IS real instead of searching for something that isn't, such as
Clarion. If saucers are real, let's find out what they are, not what
some nice self-titled philosophical character thinks they should be.

NEW FORMAT AGAIN

This is the second issue being printed with the unique format which
allows the subscriber to read all the way through the magazine on the
right-hand page, thus avoiding turning back and forth, and allowing the
folding back of all pages in a uniform manner.

We would like to hear from the readers regarding reception of this
innovation. Thusfar we have received very few comments, and they have
been exactly divided regarding acceptance of the paging. Please drop a
line about this and other comments you may have to UFO NEWSLETTER, P.O.
Box 606, Morristown, N. J.

REGRETS

Mr. Munsick, who was on leave of absence from a position in the
entertainment business, has been in Washington for several months, as-
sisting Major Donald E. Keyhoe in the editing and publishing of the UFO
INVESTIGATOR, the publication of the National Investigations Committee
on Aerial Phenomena. He has now returned to radio in the eastern Penn-
sylvania area, and he requests that any correspondence be sent to him
not at the former Washington address, nor care of NICAP, but rather to
P.O. Box 606, Morristown, N. J.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This issue contains a flyer listing a quantity of subscription
rates for American magazines. These and practically all other non-UFO
periodicals, both American and foreign, may be obtained at low cost
through the UFO NEWSLETTER. The slight profits gained for this publi-
cation through this service are reinvested in the heavy costs of pub-
lishing UFO NEWSLETTER, so those taking advantage of the system are
helping both themselves and this magazine.

We'd like to take this opportunity to suggest that magazine sub-
scriptions make the finest holiday gift possible. A subscription pre-
sented on any occasion reminds the recipient of the giver's thought
every time the magazine arrives, and is a constant source of enjoyable
entertainment, news, and helpful suggestions. A special list of
Christmas rates is included, and other low rates apply to unlisted
magazines, available on request.

The special Christmas gift rates extend to the middle of January in
most cases, but in all events mail your gift requests early. A special
gift card will be sent to the recipient with your name if you wish;
please advise whether you wish the personalized gift card sent or not.

UFO NEWSLETTER suggests also that it is a helpful gift for a UFO-
minded friend, or perhaps someone whom you're trying to interest in the
subject. Special gift rates for this publication (expiring 15 January
1957) are \$2.25 for the first gift, \$2.00 for each additional gift from
the same donor.

Mail all subscriptions to the magazine address. We again stress
the need for additional help to continue publishing UFO NEWSLETTER;
this is certainly a helpful way for all of us to get the benefit of
such an arrangement. All rates same or lower than publishers'.

The number nine issue of this publication suggested that readers in the Sterling area remit through Bryan G. Essenhigh, our U.K. representative. Since publication of that note, we have received authorization from the Bank of England for a more direct system of arranging subscriptions to UFO NEWSLETTER.

Payments may be made direct under the official sanction, as shown in the letter below. Rates are 2/2d per copy, and 22/- for a ten copy subscription postpaid, copies sent from the U. S. A.

Correspondents in the U. K. area may still correspond with Mr. Essenhigh, who has also changed his address. Write Mr. Bryan G. Essenhigh, South Ways, Crown Fields, Sevenoaks, Kent, England.

The following may be noted as authorization, when applying for shipment of sterling money to UFO NEWSLETTER for subscriptions:

BANK OF ENGLAND

Ref: E/830 EC 754/RG.12.

22nd August, 1957.

EXCHANGE CONTROL

In principle, subscriptions to American technical societies from residents of the United Kingdom up to an amount of £10. 10. Od (approx. \$27.00.) may be remitted to the United States of America and applications to effect the payments should be made by the subscribers to their bankers.

Alternately, payments to the United States of America for magazines imported into the United Kingdom as single copies through the post may also be authorized by bankers in the United Kingdom under the authority delegated to them by the Bank of England.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Bank of England,
Exchange Control.

- GUEST EDITORIAL -

The kind of press that takes its origin from saucer investigation is quite different from the ordinary press. All UFO bulletins, papers, newsletters, reviews, magazines, etc., have a very definite characteristic. They are not only informative; they must also be technical, even though scientific instruments to divulge saucer researches (are few). Some magazines mix their important purposes with sensationalism. It is clear that UFOlogy has nothing to do with Flash Gordon and Buck Rogers stories. Thus, certain editors, although well intentioned, are always trying to print impressive cases. It seems that such a mentality is wrong. All UFO magazine editors have a duty before public opinion. They must exercise a severe watch on their own statements and attitudes, as well as denounce mystifications of any sort. It is necessary to enoble so belittled a subject and put aside cranks, dunces, opportunists and so on.

I suggest ten items to be followed by true saucer investigators:

- (1) To be honest. (2) To be open-minded. (3) To be scholarly and reliable on the subject. (4) To be worthy of statements and attitudes. (5) Not to be sensationalist. (6) Not to believe in rumors. (7) Not to be a merchant of UFO's. (8) Not to prejudge the saucers. (9) To repress nonsense and mystifications. (10) To search with a technical mind.

— UFO CRITICAL BULLETIN

KARACHI, PAKISTAN (AP)— Oversize hailstones killed 32 people, most of them teenagers, and injured an estimated 200 14 May in the Gujrat district of West Pakistan. Some of the stones weighed half a pound.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

5

To be considered for this column your letter must be signed. We will withhold publication of your name if you so request. Letters should be printed or typewritten, and as brief as possible, please.

THE READERS SPEAK

To the editor; I received your Newsletter #9, and have since read it through completely. I think it is a very informative publication, and the material you have in it is interesting and in good taste.

Gerrie Lee Fink
Trenton, New Jersey

To the editor; Some comments on UFO NEWSLETTER #9, received in slightly mangled condition. The new format was startling at first, but very sensible and handy when I got used to it. Your "Primer in Ufology" is something badly needed; I am one of those you mention who thinks many UFO papers are far over the heads of the public, hence defeating their own purpose of trying to get new readers.

I can't say that I agree with you that initiates should plow through the whole mass of "saucer" literature, though. To understand the UFO mystery (i.e. objects which are seen and not identified as anything conventional) probably two-thirds of the literature is wholly irrelevant. To understand UFO publications, probably all of the literature is relevant. That's the trouble with UFO papers, in my opinion. I suggest that editors strive harder to clarify the mystery and present the cold facts. Reports (and books) without factual basis or with obvious ulterior motives are cluttering up the field as it is. Why can't the initiates profit by the pioneering efforts of good UFO editors, and get right at the real, factually-based mystery. All schools of thought are represented in UFO papers anyhow, so 'prepared minds' would not be the case.

As I see it, there are two approaches to UFOs: (1) Critical, but not dogmatic; and (2) gullible. Unfortunately the latter predominates, and encouraging readers to read everything would not produce any worthwhile results.

Richard Hall
New Orleans, Louisiana

(Mr. Hall, formerly editor of SATELLITE, one of the finest magazines devoted to a discussion of UFO news, has perhaps taken your editor's suggestions a bit too literally. The one error we wish to avoid is that of assuming the position of telling others what to think. We ~~are~~ trying to make them think, and think sensibly. As to what they conclude, of course that must be based on their own studies and deductive reasoning capabilities. As for our policy, it is more about Ufology that we write than about the UFOs specifically. Perhaps the name of our periodical would more properly be UFOLOGY NEWSLETTER. It is unfortunate that Mr. Hall abandoned his sensible publishing. We have absorbed both his periodical and Leonard Stringfield's outstanding CRIFO ORBIT in our banner, and we are proud to publish an article by Mr. Hall on UFOs and logic in this current issue. -Editor)

FROM SOUTH AMERICA

To the editor; I was pleased to receive the issue of UFO NEWSLETTER and have enjoyed reading it. About the policy of your saucerzine I have no doubt it's placed on the right way. Such a policy is the same I have adopted for myself on my paper UFO CRITICAL BULLETIN, that is to say, the sober line to the searching of UFOs. No sensationalism, no commercialism, no statements without evidence. Since five years there has increased around the world spurious groups, simple-minded ones, others saucer-commercial. Such groups have belittled the investigations. They must be eradicated from the field. If true researchers

want the truth about UFOs, technical and scientific supports are necessary, not Jeremiahs-of-Space. 6

But technicians and scientists are quite retired ones to support our searching. Why? Because the field is crowded by crackpots, dunces, oafs, maniacs, profiteers, carpetbaggers, and so on.

Thus, believe me, it is time to clean our own UFO house, to clean the body before the main operation. I'm sure we must develop a conjugated action in this way.

Jose' Escobar Faria
Editor, UFO CRITICAL BULLETIN
Sao Paulo, Brazil

(For further similar views from Sr. Faria see the Guest Editorial and his own biography, elsewhere in this issue. -Editor)

NOISY UFO

To the editor; Four, five or perhaps six years ago I had an experience which I think will interest you. I cannot explain it but I can tell what transpired.

During the night I was awakened by some droning noise outside the house and pulled up a slat of the Venetian blind on the window and peered out. There, beyond and above the row of houses above the street, in the sky was this huge, round-shaped, orange-red object. I had impeding my view a maple tree in leaf and could only define it as a highly charged magnetic sphere that seemed to be hovering about intent on some kind of business. I was quite shocked by this and had to sit down on the edge of my bed to recover my courage. I felt compelled to look again and it was still there, making quite a noise and vibrating with energy. After a while I could see it move away from my view and vanish completely, all at once (not as most objects in the sky do, getting smaller and smaller until finally they disappear). This object took off in the direction of New York City or perhaps it was aiming for Teterboro Air Field also in that direction or perhaps just outer space!

Edith Hegi
New Milford, New Jersey

CALL THEM OSC (OUTER SPACE CRAFT)

To the editor; You publish the kind of outer space and sighting information and other related data on UFO matters which I believe should be secured and sent out to the general public, organizations, researchers, and scientists, who are sincerely interested in UFOs and general outer space cosmic conditions and phenomena.

We've ceased calling the UFOs that formerly popular publicity-catch headline, ridiculous and ludicrous, yet understandable name of "flying saucers." As there is really no such contraption in the skies above our earth, let's get on a realistic basis and drop it. In our 'growing up' from the kidding stage of pseudo-scientific 'sky childhood' we all called them 'saucers' but I hope we are now in the stage of no more kidding but are grown up so we can say "No more 'saucers' for me."

I have followed your reports and appreciate them very much, because you seem to have grasped this UFO problem in a realistic manner and understood the ramifications of the sightings and the superstitions which have arisen in regard to the seemingly very strange and unusual UFOs which have entered into the Earth's stratosphere and troposphere.

C. Lew Beachler, President
Akron UFO Research Association
Akron, Ohio

(Mr. Beachler continues to note his use of the phrase "Outer Space Craft. It is the opinion of this publication that the term Unidentified Flying Objects—UFO—is taking the lead, and will replace, to an extent, the former "flying saucers." -Editor)

UFO NEWSLETTER WISHES OUR OVERSEAS READERS SINCERE HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

UFOS...GHOSTS FOR TOMORROW?

7

by Alexander D. Mebane

In Lester del Rey's article "The Saucer Myth" in the July FANTASTIC UNIVERSE (a tantalizing amalgam of good sense and absurdity) a comparison is made that seems to me a valid and illuminating one.

"I can find more proof of ghosts," says del Rey, "than I can of seeing saucers; but there have been far more accounts of ghosts being seen. Men of the best possible reputation have reported ghost sightings. Men of considerable technical training have sighted apparitions. Huge groups have seen ghosts, and agreed on such a sighting. There has been far more agreement in the accounts generally than in the accounts of the saucers."

I think, allowing for some exaggeration, that this is substantially true. Del Rey continues, "With so much evidence from so many observers of saucers, say the saucer fans, there 'must be something to it.' Yet, only the most extreme of the cultists would accept the same argument in favor of ghosts!"

It is astonishing to see that Mr. del Rey considers this as an argument against the reality of UFOs. He says, in effect: "Although, ordinarily, it's a sound principle to form one's opinions according to the weight of the evidence, yet there are some topics where prejudice is a better guide than evidence. As you will all agree (unless you're an extreme cultist), ghosts are one such topic; and I maintain that saucers are another."

Well, by this criterion I'm a cultist of the most extreme type, since I don't admit any such exceptions to the rule that opinion should be determined by fact.

Yet, del Rey has much basis for his confident assumption that most of his readers will assent to the proposition that belief in "ghosts" is unthinkable, no matter what the evidence. He is making no mistake in appealing to this prejudice: it does exist. How did it arise? Self-evidently, not in any rational way. The prevalent blind faith in the non-existence of ghosts is in fact a product of early childhood training. The kindergarten children notice that the big, sophisticated first-graders laugh when ghosts are mentioned. That childish laughter outweighs a hundred—or ten thousand—volumes of Proc. Soc. Psychological Research.

If saucers are still taken more seriously than "ghosts," it is only because they are something new in our generation. But a full decade has now passed since Arnold's observation inaugurated the UFO era, and the golden age of innocence is ebbing away.

The charlatans and the exploiters are at work; the pathological liars and the paranoid schizophrenics are adapting their phantasies to the space age; and the children in the playgrounds are kidding each other about believing in flying saucers.

Lester del Rey's hopeful invocation of the ghost prejudice to banish the saucers is only a little premature. It won't be long now before we've outgrown the generation that was able to form its opinions in some sort of rational way, by looking at the evidence. Increasingly, we will be encountering "sceptics" who absorbed their views on saucers, like their views on ghosts, by the easier and more effective route of early indoctrination.

What success can we expect in trying to teach people like that to differentiate between the study of unidentified flying objects and the pseudo-religion that is growing up alongside it?

Our best chances are already behind us. With the second decade, the handwriting is on the wall for saucer research.

Unless UFO research succeeds somehow in breaking through to respectability and scientific acceptance within a very few years, the chances are slight that it will ever do so.

All indications are that the saucers are headed for limbo, with the ghosts. Once they have sunk to that status in the minds of the populace it's hard to see how anything short of a full-scale Martian invasion could ever undamn them; and anyone who expects to see a full-scale Martian invasion must be more of an optimist in a way than I am. 8

Alexander D. Mebane is well known to saucer researchers, at least on the Atlantic coast. One of the "big three" of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York, Mr. Mebane is now Administrative Vice President of that august and conservative body.

Mebane, an intense, dark-haired, slim young man with an impassioned interest—like so many of the legitimate researchers—in serious UFO research, is an organic chemist employed at the Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation in Raritan, New Jersey, not far from the state university, Rutgers, in New Brunswick.

Mr. Mebane holds a B.S. from Harvard University and an M.S. in organic chemistry from New York University. With an amazingly cool, analytical mind, Mebane adds a much-needed cautious, even somewhat skeptical, scientific mind, to eastern UFO research, which is perhaps one reason why at least some of the more vocal saucer interest emanating from the west coast does not quite seem to measure up to the average east-coast Ufology. This is no intended slight to the three or so fine researchers operating in the west.

Mr. Mebane is co-editor of CSI NEWS LETTER, along with CSI Research Director Ted Bloecher, and Treasurer Isabel Davis. His is the talent responsible for the poignant (!) poem-editorial which we reprinted from that publication, on pages 23-24 of UFO NEWSLETTER #9.

For our international readers... Please pardon the unsaucerlike material, but we just couldn't resist this one:

For several years, residents of Texas who build Ford motor cars within the state have proudly added a sticker to each car which proclaims to the world, "Built in Texas by Texans."

The idea caught on, and several variations are appearing, one of which applies to the little buglike German Volkswagens which have flooded the American market, many of which carry signs noting they are "Built in the Black Forests of Germany by Gnomes." (Some of them even bear out-sized crank-keys stuck to the rear-motor hood!)

Another tiny foreign car recently epitomized the trend with a perfect clincher reading "Built in Africa by Ants."

Still the best for saucer fans is "Made on Mars by Little Green Men."

NEW GROUP

A fairly new and active UFO group is the UFO Study Group in Indianapolis, organized and directed by Robert K. Beggs. This group accepts the NICAP attitude entirely, and is carrying on important work, including the publication of its well done UFO DATA SHEET.

Membership in the group, which includes the monthly bulletin, is \$3 per year. Write the group at P. O. Box 361, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

(Advertisement)

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UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

9

by Jerry Verlin

(Flying saucers, despite newspaper and official ridicule, have become a subject of serious interest by an increasing number of alert and interested persons. A great many of these are the keen and curious-minded younger people, ranging from secondary school age through college and university and post-graduate students who have, because of our accelerated work in various fields of science, learned to keep an open and inquiring mind which is ready to accept new and previously unthought-of ideas which, to older people, still seem totally foreign. A few older people with inquiring nature have recognized and been able to appreciate this interest, such as Hermann Oberth, the German rocket expert, who noted in a book some of the more fantastic aspects of space flight, "These are not mere fantasies. It seems to me that the atom bomb has shown that the most fanciful theory and most startling conceptions may one day have a forceful and surprisingly practical outcome." (See another page for a full review of Professor Oberth's book, "Man Into Space.") Too, the younger people are not yet hampered with the additional problems of domestic life, and are willing and able to devote more time and energy to flying saucer research and promotion. A fast check would reveal the majority of saucer "personalities" who publish or edit magazines and head up active organizations, to be in their early 30's or younger, yet every bit as able, conscientious, meticulous, and discerning, in some cases moreso, than the older generations who do not lower themselves to consideration of this important subject. An instance of the younger person's interest and ability is shown in the following work, which was written by Mr. Verlin while in his final year in a Philadelphia high (secondary) school. It was presented as a research project to the Astronomy Club of that city's Central High School. Mr. Verlin has given other reports on the subject, and is an avid follower of developments in Ufology. This report is typical, and not what might be termed an outright exception. Your editor has in his files three reports on the subject which he gave while in high school and college, and we are happy that a handful of other students have provided us with copies of their reports which were given in similar circumstances, all of which are very well prepared. -Editor.)

It would be well, I think, if this club would turn its attention from the highly technical phases of an exact science to some of the mysteries which its experts are required to "explain." Namely, unidentified flying objects, colloquially known as flying saucers.

I have never seen a flying saucer. I doubt that any of you has ever seen a flying saucer. This is no ground, however, to deny their existence. For the sake of example, who among us has ever seen an atom? None of us will deny that atoms exist. It is not my purpose to try to prove to you that these phenomena are real. I shall only attempt to acquaint you with the facts.

First of all, not all "saucers" are seen by crackpots. The U. S. government is called upon time and time again to "explain" these alleged sightings. Saucers have been picked up by the human eye and by radar. Unfortunately, both of these are fallible. The government has tried to group these sightings and has applied the least improbable explanation to each group.

POINT I:- Before I go any further, I should like to state that the following has been taken from a book (nonfiction) entitled "The Science

Book of Space Travel."¹ This book deals mainly with rockets and 10 not with saucers. Point I includes those sightings reported by radar. Radar, incidentally, at Washington, D.C., National Airport. The "experts" classify these as caused by "low inversion layers." This is a reasonable explanation.

It has only three loopholes. These are so big they make this theory next to worthless. One, inversion layers are far too rare to cover all such sightings. Two, they are most always found under specific atmospheric conditions. Radar saucer sightings are found under all atmospheric conditions. Three, we all know that radar shows objects by causing a return, or "blip," to occur on a screen. Radar experts can tell readily the difference between a hard blip and a soft one. Inversion layers cause a soft blip, but flying saucers cause a hard one.

POINT II:- Top Air Force pilots have reported sighting these things. They say that the UFOs had no trouble outmaneuvering our top planes. The government was stuck for an explanation. Yet this was another easy one for our "experts." Many sober, competent, superbly trained pilots of the United States Air Force are wasting valuable time and equipment chasing after the Planet Venus.

POINT III:- Saucers have appeared to the highly mature and responsible crews of commercial airlines. The government has come up with a different explanation for every different airline crew that has sworn it has seen these objects. For example: These commercial crews failed to recognize their own wing lights; or military aircraft; were chasing Venus; or were sufferent from temporary hallucinations. The only one of these which is at all conceivable is military aircraft. If the U.S. government has a plane which can go from 0 to 10,000 miles an hour in 12 seconds, I for one would like to know about it.

POINT IV:- 57.08% of all sightings are reported by civilians. There is an old adage which states fifty million Frenchmen can't be wrong. But apparently thousands of our countrymen belong in institutions.

The government has come up with "scientific" explanations for all reported "flying saucers." Science does not like to remember many of its "rational explanations." For instance; light is carried by the ether, and no man can go faster than 12 miles an hour and survive.

A breakdown by the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) showed just who sees these phenomena.

Civilians	57.08%
USAF pilots	11.02
Airline pilots	2.00
Airport tower operators	.86
Balloon observers	1.00
Technically trained personnel	3.29
Civilian pilots	4.14
Military personnel (ground)	18.03
Radar observers	2.58
TOTAL	<u>100.00</u>

ATIC goes even further. It breaks down the explanations into percentages. Mr. Goodwin got the figures for his book from the Ground Observer Corps official publication, AIRCRAFT FLASH.²

Balloons *	21.3%
Aircraft *	16.0
Astronomical phenomena *	20.0
Other unexplainable phenomena *	5.7
Unknown	21.0
Insufficient data for evaluation	16.0
TOTAL	<u>100.0</u>

1. Harold Leland Goodwin, "The Science Book of Space Travel," Franklin Watts, N. Y. 1954.

2. AIRCRAFT FLASH, GOC, ENT A.F.B., Colorado, January 1953.

* Possible and probable.

Scientifically speaking, 20% is a very large figure to be yet 11 unexplained. Assuming also that of the 20% listed under "Astronomical phenomena" some of the people just might not have been seeing Venus. The above percentages are, as far as I have been able to determine at the writing, the latest and least inaccurate astronomical conclusions. But the Air Force still flunks the test. It conceivably "explained" flying saucers in up to an absolute maximum of 65% of the cases. At least it can be credited for its honesty when it states about the remaining 35%, "I just don't know!"

As a frequent listener to astronomical papers, I realize that statistics tend to be very much boring. Hereafter, now that I have made my point, I shall steer clear of them. I presume that you are all wondering how I could have gotten interested in the subject of flying saucers.

As long as I can remember I have been interested in astronomy. My only acquaintance with flying saucers was that as far as I knew they were the butt of every practical joke, or possibly a test of one's sanity.

After a while I had almost forgotten they supposedly existed. A while back I had a very conservative and respectable English professor for a minor known as Public Speaking. One time a student made a speech on the subject of flying saucers. No one took him very seriously. At the end of his talk when we had all stopped laughing, the teacher calmly asked us if we had ever seen a flying saucer. When we all said no, he told us that he had seen one. He related the entire experience.

By this time I was almost ready to believe that there might be something to the idea. Even so, had somebody asked me, I would have told him there "ain't no such animal." Again, when I was just ready to forget about them, I was faced with the problem of getting a talk for this club. Going to the library the only book I could find was "The Flying Saucers Have Landed."³ I read the book, which incidentally has "photographs of saucers taken from a six-inch Palomar reflector," but took it with a grain of salt. That same night while listening to the radio I accidentally tuned in a man who stated that he too had read an Adamski book and didn't believe a word of it. I made up my mind that I was going to have to get a new subject for my talk.

This time I was going to be more conservative. The book was "The Science Book of Space Travel." I was all set to give a speech on rocket ships when I had to press my luck by reading the last chapter. Somebody up there must hate me because the flying saucers came back to haunt me. The thing that shook me up this time was that these books, one published in England and the other in New York, were very strangely similar.

Here is a list of the characteristics of the so-called flying saucers that I found most frequent. They:-

- A) are usually spherical or cigar-shaped.
- B) usually cast forth a brilliant light.
- C) can always easily maneuver our top military planes.
- D) appear in cycles.

There used to be a legitimate crackpot named Charles Fort who specialized in the "offbeat." After an "extensive investigation" Mr. Fort reported that the flying saucers were from outer space. Even more bluntly, Mr. Fort stated, regarding our relations with these objects seen floating, "I think we're property.....!"

In conclusion, then, these are the possible explanations of the mysterious unidentified flying objects. They are:-

- Our own military top secret aircraft,
- Military aircraft of another nation,
- Mass hallucinations,
- Mirages caused by "low inversion layers,"
- The planet Venus,

3. George Adamski and Desmond Leslie, "The Flying Saucers Have Landed," British Book Centre, N. Y., and Werner Laurie, London, 1953.

Weather balloons,
Commercial aircraft,
A lot of nonsense, or
REAL!

Carrying this idea one step further, we earthlings are:-

Alone in space,
Superior to the people on other planets,
About equal to the people on other planets,
Inferior to the people on other planets, or
"PROPERTY!"

JERSEY UFO SIGHTING

Two people who live near each other in Highland Park, New Jersey, but who didn't know of each other's report, saw a fiery ball and a shower of sparks dashing through the sky at between 7:40 and 7:45 p.m. 21 November. Newark Airport and the Trenton Filter Center said no objects had been reported by planes in the area. CSI of New York reported the object had been seen in New York City as well, however. A Brown University astronomer said a meteor "of intense brilliance" streaked across the southern sky (Brown is in Providence, Rhode Island).

COMING—A SPECIAL SF&FS EDITION

The next issue of UFO NEWSLETTER will be a complete departure from anything done by this or any other UFO magazine. The one-copy change is prompted by the onslaught in the science-fiction publishing field of material about, or connected with, UFOs and Ufology.

Not to be outdone in this respect, we are going to pull a "switch" and put the shoe on the other saucer. We will present a special Science Fiction and Flying Saucers (SF-FS) edition. Included will be a study of the science fiction magazines that have presented material on UFOs, and an evaluation of the articles they have published.

Hans Stefan Santesson, Editorial Director of FANTASTIC UNIVERSE magazine, largely responsible for the rebirth of interest in Ufology in the science fiction field, will contribute a work explaining the connections between the two areas of interest, and the reasoning behind a professional publisher's moves into Ufology.

Allan Howard, Director of the Eastern Science Fiction Association—one of the largest, oldest, and most important sci-fi appreciation organizations in the world—and one of the pioneers in UFO recognition in the science fiction movement, has written an article especially for our science fiction issue, entitled "What is This Thing Called Science Fiction?"

Isabel Davis, who wrote the excellent work on the contact claims, entitled "Meet the Extraterrestrial," for FANTASTIC UNIVERSE, has prepared a special abridged revision of the article for us.

And, completely departing from its past achievements, this publication will present an original, unpublished fiction work on the possibilities involved in legitimate meeting between earth citizens and those from another world, written by Charles and Carolyn Planck. Mr. Planck, mentioned widely by Maj. Donald Keyhoe in his books, is an avid Ufologist, responsible for a great deal of UFO information now in circulation. He is the Chief of Current Information of the Civil Aeronautics Administration in Washington, as well as a Special Advisor to NICAP. He and his wife Carolyn live in Virginia.

The special Science Fiction and Flying Saucers edition will be the #11 issue of UFO NEWSLETTER; normal format will resume in #12.

One of the growing mysteries of Ufology is the constantly increasing problem of the "Sky Quake," generally ascribed to Sonic Booms, but apparently unconnected in most really notable instances.

These strange sounds have not been limited to the east coast or the west coast, or even to the United States. While California and the New York-New Jersey and Washington metropolitan areas have been plagued by them in recent years, they have also bothered citizens of Great Britain and other, widely dispersed, areas.

Newspapers have generally attributed these bangs to jet planes crashing the sound barrier, much to the general consternation of the Air Force, which recognizes the hazards, dangers, and limitations of the sonic crash, and generally denies that particular long-range cases were caused by their planes, with similar statements coming from other agencies. Nevertheless the feeling persists among those who do not investigate that planes are responsible for this phenomenon.

But reports continue over too wide an area to be caused by one or even several planes, from areas where planes are not operating, and from times before the advent of the demonic supersonic flights.

One such report comes from the Yellowstone National Park area, and refers to an incident in 1924 involving unusual sky rumblings, and in another case involving an actual fatal lightning bolt which flashed out of nowhere, causing another sky quake. This latter case occurred in 1885:

Strange overhead noises at Yellowstone Lake have been reported many times from the earliest days of exploration to the present. These occur when the sky is cloudless, the air perfectly still and usually in early morning. This strange noise, heard only occasionally, is not like the sound of a distant flight of birds nor any shore noise, but is weird and startling. A description of this unusual phenomenon reported in 1924 follows:

"Our small boat was approaching Pelican Roost Island. The surface of the lake was mirror-like in the stillness of early morning. A sound rose overhead apparently from the west beginning with a low roar which gradually became louder and rose in pitch, then gradually faded away as the pitch lowered again, while the sound seemed to soar rapidly to the southward as it faded into silence.

"Then from another direction a similar sound was heard, and again from still another direction, the whole phenomenon lasting only half a minute. Although I am familiar with most of the sounds common to wilderness areas, this was unlike anything I had ever before heard. It was a mystifying sound which none of us in the boat was able to explain. If sound ever accompanied such a display, it is easy to imagine that we heard the sound effect that would have been used in a stage production of the spectacle of an aurora borealis."

In this connection it might be interesting to relate a story told to the writer by the late John H. Renshawe, who was the geographer in charge of a surveying party of the U. S. Geological Survey at Yellowstone Lake in 1885. Three members of the party were making observations, also in the northeast part of Yellowstone Lake, in a rowboat fitted with a mast and sail. The sky was clear yet the mast was struck by a bolt of lightning, accompanied by a clap of thunder. The oarsman next to the mast was killed and the other men in the boat, including Mr. Renshawe, were rendered unconscious but soon revived and brought their lifeless companion to shore, where other members of the party stated that they had heard the thunder. Mention

(Continued on page 18)

by Richard Hall

Capt. Edward Ruppelt's provocative question, "What constitutes proof...?" is the story of the UFO boiled down to its essence. Of what does a 'proof' consist? Quite often a 'proof' is nothing more than a logical demonstration that if one or more propositions are true, then another one (under consideration) must be true. The proposition under consideration is then 'demonstrated' or 'proved'. "Deductive reasoning enables us to discover what it is to which we must, in consistency, commit ourselves if we accept certain propositions."¹ Proofs are seldom conclusive, and always depend on the truth or falsity of the premises from which they follow.

In application to UFOs, the academic question of 'proof' must be settled on two levels. (1) What constitutes proof that UFOs are a unique phenomenon rather than merely misidentified conventional objects? In the first place, there is the consistency of the best reports in regard to general shape and flight characteristics. What conventional objects are generally circular, capable of hovering, making sharp turns, and accelerating at speeds which astound veteran pilots and experienced scientists and technicians. LIFE reported the astronomer who said the "remarkably sudden ascent convinced me (it was an) absolutely novel airborne device."² He had watched an elliptical object which was first hovering. What conventional objects evidence curiosity by pacing airliners, leading jets on fruitless attempts at interception by continually accelerating just out of reach, only to turn back and follow the jets as they return to base?³

This 'proof' enlarged a thousand-fold, is all documented and easily verified by anyone interested enough to look at the reports. The fact that there is allegedly no physical evidence to work with certainly does not invalidate these reports from experienced airmen, scientifically trained individuals, and alert citizens. The observational evidence for a unique phenomenon has accumulated rapidly throughout the years. The cry of "no physical evidence..." amounts to little more than exaggerated conservatism and, in many cases, a deliberate avoidance of important evidence. The motives behind the avoidance are a study in themselves.

To reach the second level of 'proof' it must first be accepted that UFOs (or better, 'unknowns') are solid, generally circular objects. Therein lies half the battle, and UFO investigators would do well to demonstrate, through careful selection of relevant evidence, that UFOs are solid, circular objects. (2) Granting for the moment that UFOs are unique, solid objects which have maneuvered as reported, the next required 'proof' is the nature of the objects. Here the problem is comparatively simple, at least in theory. Controlled objects of geometrical design could only be the products of intelligent creatures. Ruling out for the moment the possibility that some UFOs might themselves be intelligent creatures, the choice is clear. UFOs are either secret devices manufactured on earth, or interplanetary space-ships. The clearest reports do indicate the mechanical appearance and actions of UFOs, and there are the metallic appearing surfaces. Add to this the "silver rain" (i.e. bits of metal) that fell on Campinas, Brazil, from three typically circular UFOs in 1954, and it is clear that UFOs are manufactured devices.⁴

1. Cohen & Nagel, "An Introduction to Logic and Scientific Method," Harcourt, Brace, & Co., 1934, p. 22.
2. 7 April 1952.
3. Edward J. Ruppelt, "Report on the Unidentified Flying Objects," Doubleday & Co., New York, 1956.
4. UFO Critical Bulletin, July-August 1957, Rua 13 de Maio 1240, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Also BSRA, O Disco Voador, et al.

Once we have gone this far, accepting UFOs as mechanical objects, there is a proof available to settle the question of their origin. It is the reductio ad absurdum. If UFOs are not earthly devices, it follows that they are space-ships. Hence it is of utmost importance to demand from our governments clear-cut statements on well-known cases such as the 14 May 1954 case in which 4 Marine jet pilots tried to box in 16 discs flying in formation over Texas.⁵ Were those 16 discs secret U. S. devices? Dr. Leon Davidson, who thinks UFOs are secret devices, is on the right track for finding out. Unless science eventually recognizes the UFO problem openly, organized pressure on Congressmen and government officials could be the key for ending the UFO mystery. The best method of applying such pressure is to write your congressmen and urge them to support NICAP's 8 point plan of co-operation with the Air Force, as outlined in THE UFO INVESTIGATOR #1.⁶

Meanwhile though, here is a logical construction which, if the premises are true, proves that UFOs are space-ships:

KEY

UFOs are... R= real, solid objects; C= generally circular shape; I = intelligently controlled; U=unique objects; D=manufactured devices; M= manufactured on earth; N= not manufactured on earth; S = space-ships; *=conclusions.

LOGICAL PRINCIPLES USED

(Where p and q are statements)

- I. Conjunction: p, q, therefore p.q.
If you can state p and q separately, you can state them together (i.e. p&q).
- II. Modus Ponens: p implies q, p therefore q.
If p implies q, then if you can state p it follows that you can state q.

These are valid argument forms in logic.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Symbolically</u>	<u>Principle Used</u>
(1) UFOs are real, solid objects.	(1) R	
(2) Generally circular in shape.	(2) C	
(3) If real and circular, they are unique objects.	(3) (R.C) implies U	Conj. (1) & (2)
(4) Therefore they are unique objects.*	*(4) Therefore U	Modus ponens.
(5) UFOs are intelligently controlled.	(5) I	
(6) If unique and intelligently controlled, then are manufactured.	(6) (U.I) implies D	Conj. (4) & (5)
(7) Therefore UFOs are manufactured devices.*	*(7) Therefore D	Modus ponens.
(8) UFOs are not manufactured on earth.	(8) N	
(9) If manufactured, not on earth, then they are space-ships.	(9) (D.N) implies S	Conj. (7) & (8)
(10) Therefore UFOs are space-ships.*	*(10) Therefore S	Modus ponens.

If logically minded investigators would concentrate on 'proving', or demonstrating the truth of premises (1), (2), (5), and (8) —especially (8)—Ufology would have a potent argument that UFOs are spaceships.

5. Keyhoe, "Flying Saucer Conspiracy," Holt, 1955, p. 145.

6. UFO Investigator, 1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Short of an actual crashed 'saucer' complete with occupants, a 16 logical argument of this sort is the only possible proof. Many scientific arguments do entirely without direct physical evidence. We are told that stars are composed of flaming gasses. How do astronomers know this; through examining and dissecting a star in the laboratory? Of course not. They know from observational evidence—visual and photographic—and by means of logical reasoning which places stars in a framework of consistent knowledge. And, as astronomers are quick to say, there is nothing inconsistent about the notion of highly intelligent life in space capable of space-travel. There is ample observational evidence and, if premise (8) is true, a high probability if not deductive certainty that such space-travel is now in progress.

Proof? There is plenty of it. For a start on demonstrating the truth of the premises, consider the following:

- (1) in re: Solidity - solid radar blips, the "silver rain," the dented balloon reported in the movie UFO...
- (2) in re: Circularity - descriptions from Nash and Fortenberry, Adickes and Adams, the Montana and Utah films...
- (5) in re: Intelligence - the cat and mouse jet pursuits, the pacing of airliners, formation flights...
- (8) in re: Non-earthly manufacture - repeated government denials, lack of use in warfare by any nation, unlikely secret for 10 years, and see Charles Fort...⁷

If my logic is correct, an enlarged demonstration of these premises would provide proof, except for those who are either psychologically unable to face the facts or incapable of seeing beyond their physical noses. What constitutes proof? My Webster's dictionary puts it very well in the second definition: "That which convinces; demonstration."

A proof is nothing more than a convincing demonstration by means of logical principles. When physical evidence is scant, indirect logical proofs are always used whenever possible. Talk of "no physical evidence..." is not only false (the Campinas metal, "angels' hair," etc.) but also a very misleading phrase which, in effect, denies that UFOs exist. This absurdity is presented as final and conclusive, when it is really nothing but a case of evading the issue. The proof that UFOs are space-ships may not be conclusive—very few proofs are—but it has been proved beyond a reasonable doubt that UFOs are real. The evidence, observational and photographic, is overwhelming. Only real, solid, generally circular objects could lead to the consistent reports, and the clear images on the Utah and Montana movie films. Unless it can be demonstrated that UFOs are secret devices which have been secret at least for 10 years, the highest probability remains that UFOs are space ships. Can it be 'proved'? Yes. By demonstrating that UFOs are not secret devices.

Richard Hall is an Air Force veteran and student of both saucers and logic, which he combines in a most rewarding manner in the above article, written especially for this publication. Until recently, he edited a UFO periodical, SATELLITE, which most unfortunately ceased publication this fall due to financial pressures. We are proud indeed to include this title on our cover page, and to thus continue the name along with that of Leonard Stringfield's fine CRIFO ORBIT. We still look forward to seeing additional occasional works from Mr. Hall, who is also a regular contributor to UFO CRITICAL BULLETIN, of Sao Paulo.

A News Source Key was printed and distributed as part of the #8 UFO NEWSLETTER. Separate copies of this list are available without charge. Inclusion of a publication's title on this list does not necessarily imply recommendation by UFO NEWSLETTER; merely the existence of a source.

7. "The Books of Charles Fort," Henry Holt & Co., New York.

by Rene' A. Wurgel, M.E.

During the summer of 1954, I was quite a newcomer on observing the Moon and due to the fact that seeing in Rapid City, South Dakota was very good, I was still observing at 0100: Local time, while Luna was about $3/4$ full, at 125x on a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " reflector (Skyscope).

To my astonishment, I noted an object going from West to East, practically centered in the field. Since I was then also interested in meteor observing for the A.M.S., I instinctively began counting "seconds" while following this 'dark spot' trying to conjure or imagine what 'it' might be, trying to define its shape or form, until I had counted seven or eight seconds and the object had passed out of the field where I could no longer see it on the face of the moon. My unfortunate excitement resulted in not making a time record of the occurrence, because I figured the possibility of a very high flying aircraft. So I carefully listened while I hastily procured my binoculars and scanned the area near the moon, flat on my back, for about five minutes. I could hear no sound, could see no trail, and no lights were visible.

Since this was but eight miles from Ellsworth Air Force Base where B-36 bombers are located and a personal friend was on duty on the base that night, I asked him to check as to what planes might be on a flight, what planes might be expected, etc., telling him the approximate time and direction of the passage. He agreed to check and advise me accordingly.

Next morning he returned his report: No planes, B-36 or other, had been flying that night from to or from the base. No plane had been reported by the local Ground Observer Corps for 100 miles radius that night between 2300 and 0300.

So, since I have just read the words of Mr. Baum on a "Satellite of the Moon," I thought it would be a good idea to make a report of the above for what it may be worth.

As a final word, my location on the outskirts of Rapid City at that time of year, did not allow for assuming the flight of birds. There had been no visible "flapping" of any part of the object seen, but a steady transit of the spot. The stillness of the air, free from extraneous sounds made it a firm impression on my mind that not even a high flying jet could have been missed. "Seeing" in that part of the country is such that automobile headlights can be seen for twelve to fifteen miles and even more. I had not been drinking...I do not have hallucinations...and have not been prone to looking for men from Mars.

Mr. Rene' Wurgel is a retired mechanical engineer who now lives in New Jersey, pursuing his chief hobby as amateur astronomer. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, and several other well known engineering and astronomical associations. He is a regular submitter of lunar drawings to the British Astronomical Association, and is an advisor to the Junior Astronomy Club of New York.

Mr. Wurgel is 65 years old, and has been retired for the past 12 years. He has travelled extensively all over the U. S., Central America and part of South America. He was born and raised in Paris, and has been a student of astronomy since 1905 and a constant observer for many years.

The above report was originally published in the JUNIOR ASTRONOMY NEWS for February 1957, to whom we are indebted for allowing us to reprint this important article.

MOUNT CLEMENS, MICHIGAN (UP)— Mary Hunter, 58, had a tense moment when a "flying saucer" sailed through the air and struck her car. The saucer turned out to be a rear wheel that had slipped off a trailer!

The current rash of strange rumblings, crashes and bangs in the sky, some of which were accompanied by UFO reports, stories of strange clouds and lights, led at least one UFO writer to recall a description of two odd clouds, post-Forcean but pre-saucers, published in 1932 and written by a member of Yale University.

The author of the odd tales was John Zeleny of Yale's Sloane Physics Laboratory. Writing in SCIENCE, 15 January 1932, he presented a brief description of a phenomenon observed by him in Algonquin Park, Ontario, in July of the preceeding year. Zeleny speaks of a narrow cloud of approximately 200' diameter, low in the sky and rather tenuous from which came forth a continuous rumbling which he described as "quite loud." The storm passed over his head, and although Zeleny could see no lightning flashes, he still expected the cloud to be followed by a rainstorm, which did not come. Zeleny's only idea as to the cause of the heavenly noises were that the cloud might be the meeting place of two oppositely-directed air currents of different temperatures.

But he added, "It seems almost incredible, however, that so much sound could have arisen from the agitated air alone, and yet this seems to be the only plausible explanation of its origin. I steadfastly looked for small lightning flashes in the cloud and saw none, although they would have had to come in rapid succession to produce the persistent sound which was heard. The noise could not have come from the rattle of hail," continued Zeleny, "because the cross section of the cloud was too small to give time for hail formation, in any case no hail fell."

Zeleny, perplexed by this experience, drew from his memory another encounter with a cloud seemingly full of plain cussedness. For he had seen a brightly luminous cloud (this one was soundless, the other lightless) which stood alone on a clear summer night at Hutchinson, Minnesota, in 1898. This cloud was obviously larger; about 1/3 mile in diameter and in thickness roughly 1/4 mile.

It shone, he says, with a vivid whitish light, even while it passed over the small town. To add to the Forcean enigma, the moment it passed overhead it loosed a great shower of insects, which covered the ground all around, about 50-100 per square foot! Zeleny took pain to note the insects were non-luminous, and he guessed they were attracted to the brilliant cloud. He offers no explanation, however, for their sudden exit therefrom, continuing only to say regarding the cloud itself, "I have been at some loss to account for the luminosity of the cloud. It could not have been due to reflected light from a city."

He did not think the glow could be the reflected light from a bright moon below the horizon either, but just in case he added, "I have no recollection of having seen the moon rise later."

Stop laughing, Charles.

PRE-JET SONIC BOOMS

(Continued from Page 13)

is made of this tragic incident because it may be possible that the strange overhead sound is of electrical origin, due to the "grounding" of static electricity in the lake from the moisture-laden atmosphere above it.

Because they may add information helpful in the understanding and future solving of the skyquake enigma, we are printing these reports as they originally appeared in the "Haynes Guide to Yellowstone National Park," published by Haynes Studios, Inc., of Bozeman, Montana, to whom we are indebted for reprint rights.

SAVE MONEY - Enter Magazine Subscriptions through UFO NEWSLETTER - NOW

* Being a report on the reaction of the press to UFO developments.

WHO D'YA READ?

(With apologies to the NEW YORKER)

The following articles appeared within four months of each other. Both were written by Scripps-Howard Staff Writers. Both appeared in generally the same newspapers coast to coast. Both deal with flying saucers. Both discuss the quantity of sightings by trained pilots and other competent observers. Both discuss the Air Force official policy and attitude prevalent at the time the articles were written.

Otherwise, the two are absolutely and entirely different in nature, tone, and fact. There's an old saying about there being something for everyone in the newspapers. But coming from the same wire service, on the same subject, so close to each other, this is—somewhat—ridiculous.

TAKE YOUR PICK

13 February 1954

By Jim G. Lucas, Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Commercial airline pilots report between five and 10 flying saucer sightings each night, it was learned today.

Representatives of major airlines will meet Wednesday in Los Angeles with Military Air Transport Service Intelligence officers to discuss speeding up saucer reporting procedures. The idea will be to "get the reports in the quickest possible way" so that the Air Force can send fast jet fighters to investigate.

Pilots Gagged

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.

One well-informed source said that until recently the largest number of sightings were from the Southwest Pacific. Saucer sightings have been particularly numerous around Australia, where the British maintain a guided missile range.

Typical Reports

Recently, however, there has been an increase in saucer sightings in the North Atlantic. Simultaneously, the number of oil slicks and submarines in this area has increased. Experts, however, associate these sightings with the establishment of an Air Force B-36 base at Thule, Greenland.

Two typical flying saucer reports this week:

1.— A Colonial Airlines pilot, en route to Washington from Richmond, said he saw a saucer descend from the stratosphere, approach his ship, hesitate for a moment and then reverse its course. He said it appeared to re-enter the stratosphere.

2.— Two Northwest Airlines pilots en route from Seattle to Anchorage reported a strange object with several portholes which exuded a "blueish light" flew alongside their ship most of the journey, disappearing as they were about to land in Anchorage. The pilots tried several times to close the gap between their ship and the strange object, but could not. They said the object was "definitely under someone's control."

They were questioned for two days in Alaska before going on to Tokyo.

(Continued on Page 20)

The Air Force has a new flying-saucer mystery. Why have sighting reports dwindled from 1700 in the boom year 1952 to a paltry 87 this year?

Capt. Robert White, who receives the queries for the Pentagon, isn't complaining. He's happy. "I'd say the decrease in sightings is due to less publicity," Capt. White suggested. "Too, people can't sustain a high pitch of interest unless something new and sensational happens. And it hasn't.

June and July were record sighting months in 1952 and 1953. The season for seeing "flying saucers" is upon us. People are outside more, and there usually are meteor showers to be seen.

Temperature inversions—"sandwiches of hot and cold air occurring during summer heat waves"—also add to the confusion.

Still Looking

The waning of sightings hasn't lulled the Air Force, says Capt. White. The 75 special cameras distributed to control towers and ground observer corps are handy in case a Martian ship whizzes by. So far these cameras have produced two foggy prints of blurred spots of light, and the Air Force says they prove nothing.

Air Secretary Harold E. Talbott was involved in a recent rumor about saucers. Mr. Talbott was said to have spotted one while on a plane trip to California. Capt. White was asked by the press about this. He went to Mr. Talbott.

"Mr. Talbott said he never has seen a flying saucer," the Captain related. "He said he has traveled 160,000 miles in planes in the past 15 months, and he figures he had an excellent chance to see one - if any exist."

(Typical answer. The rumor didn't say Talbott had seen the object, but that the crew of his plane had watched it for some time. As usual the Air Force, unobserved by the press, totally avoided answering the question by inserting a slightly backhanded item of ridicule. -Editor)

Studying Reports

Continued interest in saucers by the Air Force was attested to by Gen. Nathan Twining recently in Amarillo, Tex. Asked by newsmen what was new in saucer information, the General said the Air Force still is studying reports. He said the best brains were working on the project.

Officially, the Air Force official stand remains unchanged. It says there is no proof that flying saucers exist. Capt. White says seven out of 10 sightings are found to be routine objects taken for something else, two present too little information for evaluation, while only one cannot be explained by the Air Force.

"Strangely enough, this breakdown doesn't change," he said.

Capt. White gets an average of five letters a day from people asking about saucers. He isn't allowed to let newsmen see them, but he gets a chuckle out of some. Sincere saucer fans are heated in their demands for information they think the Air Force is hiding from the public.

Radar operators at National Airport who startled the nation in 1952 with reports of strange blips seen on their glowing screens saw several again recently (in Washington, D. C. -Editor).

But a check revealed what they saw was a plane practicing landings at nearby Andrews Field.

Flying saucers, for want of a new happening, have reached the ho-hum stage, and Capt. White is contended to leave it there.

BERLIN— West Berlin can now boast a "flying saucer" just for the growing German children. The saucer is part of playground equipment in the West Berlin parks, for the young spacemen of the city to play on; it has all sorts of portholes, a most intriguing 'cabin' and a special slide - by which to get out.



JOSE' ESCOBAR FARIA was born 10 May 1914 in Santa Rita, Sao Paulo, Brazil, of Portuguese (Faria) and Spanish (Escobar) descent. He attended public schools in Piracicaba and Campinas and then the University of Sao Paulo, studying such diverse subjects as logic, literature, philosophy, and psychology, and completed his studies in the profession of law in 1943 with the degree of L.L.L.

Since that time Faria has held various private jobs as well as positions with both the government of the state of Sao Paulo and the national government of Brazil. He is a journalist for O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO which is compared to the NEW YORK TIMES. He has also written essays for several literary magazines in his home nation, and acted as well as a literary critic, in addition to his normal employment as a barrister.

With the government, he has been an Official on Statistics for the national census taken in 1940. He was an Expert on Official Documents for the state government, and then became President of Commissions on Administrative Prosecution in the legal division of that body.

At present he is an Official State Attorney for Civilian Affairs in the Courts of Justice of the state in its capital, the city of Sao Paulo.

An ardent investigator of unidentified flying objects, in June of 1956 Mr. Faria was a founder of the "Centro de Pesquisa dos Discos Voadores" (CPDV), or the "Flying Discs Research Center," in Sao Paulo. He was the chairman of that organization, and director of its magazine, O DISCO VOADOR, published in Portuguese, for three issues. The magazine is also reproduced in English as THE FLYING SAUCER. In November 1956 Faria withdrew from CPDV to begin the publication of his own saucer magazine, UFO CRITICAL BULLETIN, which is available in English, and has been in steady publication since January of this year.

He maintains a policy of strict objectivity on the UFO investigation. He is admittedly "against the so-called 'saucer-psychical researches'" which have become increasingly evident and obnoxious in the field during this year. The publication is a monthly one, and is sent gratis to a private mailing list.

Recently, Mr. Faria has been most outspoken in his native land in challenging the statements of one Professor Joao de Freitas Guimaraes, a member of the Faculty of Laws in Santos, who combines 3 distinctions of having a law degree, a medical degree, and a George-Adamski type "contact" with five space beings who took him for a trip in their "spacecraft." Mr. Faria has noted the marked similarity between the Guimaraes story and that of Mr. Adamski, whose book had just recently been translated into Portuguese for Brazilian readers, and he has repeatedly and publicly asked Prof. Guimaraes to back up his claims, which to this date has not been done.

Mr. Faria is married and has two daughters. He and his family live at 1240 Rua 13 de Maio (named for that date in 1888, when the "Golden Law" emancipated the negro slaves in Brazil, where they worked on the coffee plantations).

During recent months several portions of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania were plagued by a continuing series of ice chunks of varying nuge sizes which dropped from the sky, and are so continuing.

Several government agencies, the State Police, at least one sheriff's office, and other groups, worked to find out what caused the ice, and from where it came. None succeeded. Interesting is the federal government's information:

WASHINGTON, 17 October (AP)—Remember those mysterious ice chunks that have been falling, apparently from the sky, in Pennsylvania? Well, both the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the U. S. Public Health Service are trying to determine where they came from. So far, they're not having much luck.

A C.A.A. spokesman said today: "We have reached no definite conclusion as to whether the falling ice comes from aircraft or whether it is meteorological in origin." He added: "At present, we just don't know what it is but we are making every effort to find out." Incidents of falling ice have been reported in the Philadelphia area and in other parts of Pennsylvania off and on for several weeks.

It is interesting to note that the Public Health Service is one of the U. S. government agencies investigating. We had originally understood the C.A.A. was working with the U. S. Weather Bureau. Why is the health office involved? Surely not just because of the danger of a few people getting knocked cold by flying ice.

Is there some other danger from this ice? Could be: The unknown source of the mysterious chunks of ice remains just that - unknown.

Now, however, it's cobwebs in New Mexico:

PORTALES, NEW MEXICO, 24 October (AP)—The town of Portales in eastern New Mexico was blanked today by a cobweb-like substance which fell from the sky. Silky threads, some of them 50 feet long, draped across telephone and power lines. They created a nuisance in corn and cotton fields, where harvest is underway.

A possible explanation for the mysterious substance came from an engineer at Sandia Weapons Base in Albuquerque. He said it was caused by millions of minute particles of dust high in the atmosphere. He said the dust particles, rubbing together, cause a static charge. This, in turn, caused the dust to fall to earth in the cobweb form. The engineer said he had heard of similar occurrences in Bakersfield and Fresno, California.

Other falls, of course, have been reported in various areas in the world, and have come to be known as Angels' Hair, often connected with flights of unknown aerial objects over the same areas either before, during, or after the fall of the cobweb-like material, some of which then behaves in most unusual manner.

Perhaps another two-mystery enigma is forming. Some time ago it was cracked windshields and disappearing garden hoses, burrowing into the ground. Now, for the 1957 Hallowe'en season it was chunks of ice of large and somewhat improbable proportions coming from the sky (?), and cobwebs (again ?) covering entire towns!

WASHINGTON— The Air Force is reported developing a new missile to be called the "Goose." It's actually a decoy, released from a "mother plane" and it looks like a bomber, to fool enemy air defenses. Doesn't this sound vaguely familiar?

The publication of this periodical, beset by many production difficulties, was stopped at the last moment temporarily due to what will probably become known as the 1957 Winter Flap. There has been so much printed in the various newspapers, and eventually undoubtedly in other UFO periodicals, that we shall not at this time bother with the details of the many reports from such varied points of the globe as Texas, Chicago, the Fiji Islands, the Gulf of Mexico, and North Carolina.

For the first time in many months—years—decent UFO reports ran full-scale on the newswires and other press services for a period of days, after the first reports from Levelland, Texas.

As is unfortunately often the case, the "contact" people jumped on the running news story and made a good thing turn into a very bad story indeed. In the New Jersey-Pennsylvania area, Howard Menger chose this moment to publish a new picture, even worse than his earlier bunch, and further his story by saying the saucers undoubtedly could and might land en masse shortly, since they've been landing Venusians here for their earthly "employment" for years. In Nebraska, a former convict (Named Schmidt, thus his spacecraft was nicknamed—after the recent Russian Sputnik and Mutnik news items—Schmidtnik) told of his visit with the crew, and tour of the inside, of a "spacecraft." His story fell apart very quickly, but not before it gained national attention, bringing to Kearney, Nebraska, a reputation it undoubtedly will not cherish.

After this writing there will undoubtedly be others of the "contact" ilk. Others jumped aboard the band-wagon, either voluntarily or at the request of the press. Professor Menzel seized the opportunity to trot out his "mirage" answer again and dust it off, stating this indeed explained the Texas sightings. This actually was one of the few times he had pinned a particular mirage-explanation on a particular case, and with the expected disastrous results. He neglected to explain how an inversion could interrupt electrical systems in automobiles. This writer doubts he has any information on the weather conditions prevailing at the time of the sighting, also. He also conveniently overlooked the object sighted from a U. S. Coast Guard cutter in the Gulf of Mexico, which tracked a UFO on radar for 27 minutes, later estimated speeding at between 1,000 and 3,000 mph by the ship's navigator.

One fortunate thing in the whole business; between Sputnik, the U. S.'s poor showing in the outer-space race, and the current flap, the UFOs are probably back into a "decent" pigeon-hole, in the minds of—at least some—reporters and important people. Let's hope they stay there and that the "contact" people and other unthinking if not unthinkable idiots and opportunists don't have the opportunity this time to push UFOs back into the deep purple of enigma non grata.

One side-effect that should help Ufology is that the wire services, radio networks and stations, and TV outlets, called on such persons as Major Keyhoe, at NICAP, for statements. Concrete evidence that some persons have been impressed by NICAP's existence and purpose. If this brings the proper recognition to NICAP and the rest of decent and sensible Ufology, we'll all benefit by it. While perhaps this word will reach the reader somewhat too late for immediate action, it should be pointed out that if and when such a thing should happen again (your editor was just interrupted for two reports from the DAILY HOME NEWS in New Brunswick, New Jersey), it should be up to the sane and thinking researcher to aid a great deal by contacting his local paper and/or TV outlets, noting that he is interested in knowing more about UFOs, and that he feels the press has a duty to report on the more serious aspects of the research being conducted in the field.

This is a good place to remind you to support NICAP. Write Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Director, NICAP, 1536 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 6, D. C., for further information. This is important!

INSIDE SAUCER POST ...3-0 BLUE by Leonard H. Stringfield
C.R.I.F.O., Cincinnati 1957 \$2.50

One of the most universally respected and well known of the UFO researchers, and one of the longest in the business, so to speak, is Leonard Stringfield, Director of Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects, now head of another Cincinnati UFO group. Len started his publishing enterprises with the old NEWSLETTER, which later became the C.R.I.F.O. ORBIT, which most unhappily (for Ufology) ceased publication with the 1 March 1957 number, exactly three years and 36 issues after it began in 1954, certainly an early date in the annals of UFO publishing.

He immediately set to work on his new book, first to take care of financial obligations confronting him due to the suspension of ORBIT, and also because in book form he would have a better format and a finer and more formidable tool with which to present his important information to the reader.

He has written one of the finest works yet to appear on the scene. It is unfortunate that it is privately published, because this means that many more people aren't going to hear of it. But it is worthwhile that every serious student of the UFOs and, perhaps more to the point in this instance, Ufology, read, study, and keep this fine effort. UFO NEWSLETTER has made no bones about aiming its material to those who are interested in not only the flying saucers, but the field of inquiry that has built up around them. The ORBIT catered more to those who wanted to learn about important sightings. Of course this reporting has its place and is seriously needed...one more reason why the demise of ORBIT (being carried on through this publication in name at least, through Mr. Stringfield's kind consent) will have such an impact on the study of UFOs. But surprisingly enough Stringfield has skillfully combined UFO reports and a study of Ufology and the people and groups involved therein, for a most attractive and compelling achievement.

Most of his readers have no knowledge of the unusual connection between Stringfield and the Air Force, through the GOC and the local filter center. While not thoroughly understandable still, the picture is somewhat cleared and certainly enlarged in this book.

The publication, which is printed in the different styles of type so familiar to ORBIT readers, is easy to read, and the person scanning the first few pages will quickly find himself absorbing every word as he digests the important material, new insights, illustrations, and surprising revelations therein.

Stringfield's book, in a mild way, once again points out that the Air Force is very definitely acting in bad faith in its handling of the UFO situation. Stringfield makes no bold ringing accusations; he lets facts stand for themselves, and they stand in an arrow pointing straight at the heart of the matter - the Pentagon's vacillation and adamance regarding the UFOs. In one case he describes the results of one man's extended efforts to get his questions and legal proceedings recognized in Washington (we're currently getting the same runaround from the USAF through a New Jersey representative's office, so it's familiar at least, though no less disgusting), and how the man finally gave up when he realized it would cost him a great deal of money, time, and effort...and possibly get him into serious trouble if he pressed his case, despite assurances he had a valid legal and constitutional case, in an attempt to get the Air Force and the "Hill" to act.

Threats, silence, and doubletalk are effective weapons, and are often used by our Pentagonians as their "ultimate weapon" in dealing with their own employers, the American people...shocking as it seems.

Stringfield enters many phases of Ufology, but the reader of this review should not wait further...get the book. It is a most important one. 25

UFO NEWSLETTER would like to take this opportunity to say thanks for recognition given this publication by Mr. Stringfield in his book.

FADS & FALLACIES, IN THE NAME OF SCIENCE by Martin Gardner
Dover Publications, New York 1957 \$1.50

Most students of Ufology will be quick to admit that "saucers," while perhaps not quite the same, are but one of a series of unusual objects, studies, fields, that have intrigued mankind for years.

Others in the unusual, or off-beat interests, include the search for Atlantis, hypnotism, life-after-death, Orgonomy, Dianetics, ESP, etc. Inevitably, the student of any one field finds himself being intrigued by one or more of the other unaccepted subjects. The reviewer has been mildly interested in a number of such things, but flying saucers and his normal pursuit of life and work leave little time for other hobbies or studies.

"Fads and Fallacies" fills a small void in the sense that it provides background material on everyone from Psionics to Charles Fort, a great deal of which at least this reviewer had not known before. For instance, how many of those that know that the Fortean Society is headed by (and for all purposes, is) Tiffany Thayer, know that self-same gentleman is responsible for at least some of the advertising material heard or seen on behalf of a certain brand of cigarettes? While this may be the sort of information that TV winner Charles Van Doren calls "junk"—and rightly so, too—nevertheless it is of note and some value as background for further seeking into the unknown.

This book runs the gamut of the offbeat, and offers some little known facts about all of them. For this, Mr. Gardner should be congratulated and the Dover company should receive a pat on the book-back for putting out another very fine publication in a full-sized but inexpensive edition. But beyond this, at least Gardner should receive also a kingsize whack across the knuckles with a wooden rule.

At least in the flying saucer section (each subject receives a chapter's treatment), Gardner is way off the beam, not only in his surprisingly close-minded treatment (for a self-professed Fortean and follower of the strange, who obviously has enough interest to do some research) of the subject, but in the UFO field he's not used the best facts, and misinterpreted or misquoted those he did.

The cover cries that the book expounds upon "The curious theories of modern pseudoscientists and the strange, amusing and alarming cults that surround them...a study in human gullibility." Perhaps a great number of UFO followers are gullible, but it is hardly a responsible attitude for a learned man to dismiss everything, particularly when a great deal of the dismissed material is backed by extremely strong and reliable evidence, not coming from gullible or cultist personalities, unless professional astronomers, trained pilots, professional observers and the like can be called "cultists."

The cover on the early edition ("In the Name of Science," published in 1952 by Putnam's Sons at \$4) says the book discusses "the more extreme Flying Saucer experts." Gardner would do better to study some of the less extreme, but better qualified persons who do not approach the subject with a pre-set mind.

The reader is cautioned that the Dover edition is not, despite the impression fostered by the cover, a revision of the earlier work, as the body of the book remains totally unchanged after five years; there is, however, an addenda for each chapter, tacked on at the end of the second issue.

The work provides some enjoyable and lighthearted reading but is hardly to be considered the high-tone "expose!" the author intended.

Professor Oberth, who is currently a member of the U. S. Army Missile team at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, is one of the most widely known and respected men in the area of technical achievement.

The thesis for his doctorate in 1922 was written on the subject of space travel. It was rejected, but was later published and received widespread success entitled "By Rocket to Interplanetary Space." Prof. Oberth is generally known as the father of rocketry, and it was he who organized the German Rocket Society, and had the largest part in the designing and manufacture of the V-2 rockets during World War II.

Now 63, he has again put on paper some of his now-fantastic, soon-to-become-true ideas, in a book that can be described only as great. Any self-respecting student of rocketry, space-travel and Ufology would do well to include this fine work in his permanent library, for it is not only a bold and confident expression of Oberth's ideas regarding our efforts in space, but is a well-supported text, source book, general space atlas, and mechanical almanac of things to come.

Oberth wastes no time in explaining that a large part of the information reaching the general public, and thus accepted by them, regarding space and the factors governing future space flight, is utter bunk. Just for instance, take the time-worn idea that space is bitterly cold.

"Special attention must be given to temperature regulation. We often hear it said that it is 'incredibly cold' in space. This is not true. All bodies and objects in space assume a temperature which is governed by the relationship between radiation from the Sun, their own inherent heat, and radiation from their surface into space.

"On the shadow side of a celestial body or of a space station, and on the (space) suit's own shadow side, a considerable amount of heat is radiated into space. The result is that there will be enormous fluctuations and great temperature differences between the sun-bathed and the shadow sides. The outer surface of the suit should consequently be made highly reflecting; its wearer will look like a knight in shining armor...he will need no additional heating. In fact, the temperature will rise so high that some special form of cooling through heat dissipation will have to be devised..."

In this book, which is a most definite prediction of coming modes in space travel, Oberth shows off his charming sense of humor:

"Every fantastic space novel in which the 'atrocious cold' in space is used for dramatic reasons should go straight into the wastepaper basket."

But it also indicates his awareness of the other technicians and scientists who will be interested in and involved with such efforts, for instance, continuing the idea of heat and cold, the heating engineer, and those biologists and others who will want to work in the strangeness of space.

He notes in some detail the benefits to science from being able to work for long periods of time in low-temperature areas, he understands very well, and puts across even better, the vast benefits to astronomical research, methods of helping distribution of radio and news, new fields unveiled in radiation research.

Discussing another idea misconception, Oberth feels the much feared and publicized dangers of meteors and cosmic "junk" in space are overdone. The following, again, indicates his humor and understanding:

"If they are unlucky, the builders of a space station may see it demolished by a direct hit one minute after their job has been completed. But a man may be run over by a car one minute after leaving his home. Yet men do walk about the streets, because the probability of being run over is slight in spite of the ever-increasing number of accidents. The probability that a space station will be destroyed by a

meteorite is very much less. The probability figures can be calculated; the average time that would elapse between two direct hits is several million years." 27

Oberth notes also the cosmic dust danger, but adds that a double-skin on any space vehicle takes care of that with little or no effort.

Oberth describes many space-craft in his book, which he feels will be used for various purposes; astronomical, travel, radiation research, etc. One, a space-mirror, could be used to focus the sun's beams on the earth, to provide anything from better crops, health conditions, or day-round sunshine for various reasons, to the inevitable weapon; icebergs could be eliminated, frosts forestalled, arctic weather improved, rainfall caused in arid areas.

The book describes a most ingenious system being used at Massachusetts Institute of Technology to encourage young scientists to think in areas in which they are thoroughly strangers. Called "Project Arcturus IV," after the fourth planet of the star Arcturus, it envisions a member of the "Solar and Galactic Explorers' Union" landed on the planet a thousand years from now. Various strange conditions prevail, and the inhabitants are certainly weirder than most science fiction stories would have. Problem for the young scientist; figure how to get things to fit the planet, such as cars for the Arcturians, or other "earth-bound" gadgets. This sort of thinking gets the young men to ponder not only of outer space, but of our earth, in a detached, and objective manner...good training for any field.

Oberth describes his ideas for men, machines, and ideas in the coming space-traveling years. His book includes an addenda or appendix of mathematical data which he uses to support and explain his theories. In addition he adds much of his own philosophy:

"The scientist's philosophy of today is the layman's religion of tomorrow. A hundred years ago scientists were materialists...for this reason, we find many materialists at the present time among politicians, industrialists, jurists, and ecclesiastics; the Bolsheviks exploit materialism to the limit."

Further, on the mysterious red neighbor in our skies:

"A world of living creatures will undoubtedly be found on Mars and it would be a pity if these things were destroyed by earthly colonizing methods. I hope that the men of future centuries, who will have become more mature morally, will understand this viewpoint."

Oberth describes in some detail the type of spacesuit our vanguards (pun not intended) into space will have to wear, even down to the type of joint necessary in the ankles, knees, and elbows! There is no point in trying to review such material here; it must be read in the work to get the full—and it is broad in scope—worth.

Originally written and published in German, the translation by G.P. H. deFreville is what amounts to being a textbook of the future.

(Advertisement)

Many UFO Magazines Depend For Quality Upon Their Editors--

Norbert F. Gariety, Editor
S.P.A.C.E.

UFO Researcher for six years, Veteran of 4 years service with the U.S. Air Force, 2 years in Test and Development Unit of the Tactical Air Command at Orlando, Florida.

Saucer Phenomena And Celestial Enigma - S.P.A.C.E.

"One of the best..." - UFO NEWSLETTER

(Advertisement)

HOLLYWOOD— Walt Disney will present a special film release entitled "Mars and Beyond" for showing 4 December. Directed by Ward Kimball (one of the Fire House 5 Plus 2, and avid saucer fan) the film discusses various elements in the Martian theories, including the study of a planet's evolution, possible forms of life on Mars, and the methods of flight to get there.

The program also gives prominent mention to UFOs. The film includes films of Mars taken at Lowell Observatory, and a discussion on Mars with Lowell's Dr. E. C. Slipher, and Wernher von Braun.

An abbreviated (but worthwhile and permanent) version of the program is available in comic form (Suggestion for saucer "clubs"—buy the comic in quantity for resale or handouts?) under the title "Walt Disney's Mars and Beyond," Dell Comic No. 866, 10¢ single copies. Write Dell Publishing Co., 261 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

NEW YORK— Jules B. St. Germain (see UFO NEWSLETTER #8), Long Island attorney, is attracting extended fame both as a lawyer and as a UFO investigator-writer. St. Germain, who cooperated with editor Munsick on the Howard Menger investigation, and is presently Legal Advisor to CSI of New York, has written an article on Mr. Menger entitled "The Strange Affair at Highbridge" (this is an error contained throughout the article) which appears in the widely-circulated and respected men's magazine, ARGOSY. The article is illustrated with a series of photographs by Martin Dain, taken at the "Spacecraft Convention" run at Giant Rock Airport last summer by George Van Tassel.

While the article is obviously a highly restrained discussion of the unfortunate Menger business and as equally undertoned in its look at the entire contact field, it is well done and makes its point in a commendable manner, receiving deserving success before a neophyte readership.

At about the same time the article was being printed, St. Germain received wide publicity in the New York area when he won an upset decision in a court case in Flemington, New Jersey, only a few miles from High Bridge. St. Germain was called upon to defend a man in a morals case, and in spite of the fact that it had been generally considered by barristers and the press that the defense was a lost cause, St. Germain's thorough handling of the case produced a totally unexpected acquittal.

KELOWNA, BRITISH COLUMBIA (AP)— Orson Welles and the Russian satellite proved too much for some radio listeners 10 November in Kelowna. Radio station CKOV in the Canadian town devoted a brief newscast to the day's reports on Russia's Sputnik, now spinning around the earth.

Then, without an introduction or advance warning, the station put on a recording of Welles' famous "War of the Worlds" Broadcast of 1938. Twenty years ago thousands of radio listeners in the U. S. were frightened by the make believe report that men from Mars had invaded the earth. 60 phone calls came in within a few minutes to the station in Kelowna, from anxious folk who thought Sputnik had landed hostile Russians in North America.

WASHINGTON (CUA)— Space travel is a step closer with a recent Air Force announcement that ion beams for space ship propulsion are being investigated. If this method is perfected, it would greatly decrease the time required for travel between planets.

An answer concerning the feasibility of the ion beam method of space propulsion is expected within five years, the Air Force's Office of Scientific Research reported. The pure research contracts are for about \$200,000.

MADAWASKA, MAINE, 12 August (Bangor Daily News)— Better watch that 29 wind-swept trash paper more closely these days, it could be a new type of flying saucer.

Madawaska Town Manager Adrian O. Jacques spotted what he thought was a high flying piece of paper while working in the woods in the back settlements of the town on road construction 7 August. The speed, estimated by him at near 1,000 miles an hour on an almost still breeze soon eliminated this first impression.

Passing quiet, fluffy clouds at neck-breaking speed, the "piece of paper" was out of sight within 40 seconds, he relates. Flying east to west at a height thousands of feet up, it soon turned sharp to the north and disappeared.

Jacques reports it was made in the form of a so-called bat wing that he has seen in pictures, and was clear color like chrome metal.

(Editor's note: Subsequent investigation indicates this is a well-substantiated report of a UFO, witnessed by Mr. Jacques and several co-workers.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA (UFIC)— Kenneth Arnold, the American businessman-pilot who is sometimes credited with "starting it all" has sent an unprecedented letter to an Australian UFO group in reply to a letter from its director, Andrew Tomas. Tomas is Editor of the quarterly publication U.F.O. BULLETIN, published in Balgowlah, N.S.W.

The letter contains a unique suggestion, which will undoubtedly cause, as Mr. Tomas suggested, "A stir in the UFO investigating organizations in Australia as well as overseas." Arnold wrote:

If you and your organization have the time and the finance to build full scale models of UFOs, including flashing dome lights and all, and place these models in a very remote area of Australia, I'm quite sure the genuine UFOs can be decoyed at least close enough to be readily observed and studied. Even if some of the UFOs are interplanetary vehicles, I think you stand a good chance of attracting them. Why the United States Air Force hasn't tried such a thing, or even the British, has baffled me ever since 1947 when they found out they couldn't catch one in flight.

NEW YORK (KING)— The January 1958 issue of the FANTASTIC UNIVERSE continues its outstanding series on UFOs by CSI of New York, with a lengthy article on "Smells from the Sky." The forthcoming issue of the magazine, available now, contains another article by Ivan T. Sanderson, writing on "Continents in Space," as well as another of the informing and highly documented articles by the Research Section of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York. FANTASTIC UNIVERSE, like other outstanding non-UFO publications, is available by subscription through UFO N/L.

WASHINGTON (AP)— The Army has conferred its highest civilian decoration on Dr. Wernher von Braun. He's the former rocket weapon expert for Nazi Germany, now an American citizen.

The award was made at a dinner meeting of the Association of the United States Army in Washington. Army Secretary Brucker said it was for von Braun's part in creation of the Army's Jupiter Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile.

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS (AP)— A Chattanooga, Tennessee, Moonwatch team reported it saw the Russian satellite rocket fall the night of 28 October, but the Smithsonian Observatory at Cambridge said today it must have been a big meteorite.

Although no Moonwatch teams have reported sightings since the Tennessee report, Smithsonian astronomers said both the rocket and Sputnik are orbiting the earth high enough to remain safe from being burned up in the atmosphere for a month or more.

The Chattanooga team said it saw a bluish streak lasting several seconds.

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NEW BOSTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE (GRAV)— The Gravity Research Foundation here recently announced the results of its 1957 Essays on Gravity awards, involving the presentation to Harvard and Cornell doctors of first prize. The award went to Dr. Thomas Gold of Harvard, one of the world's leading astronomers, and Dr. Phillip Morrison, Cornell University physicist.

Speakers at the Gravity Day festivities included George Rideout, President of the Foundation, which was founded in 1949 by Roger Babson, as part of the Babson Institute in connection with its Sir Isaac Newton Library; and Mr. Babson, who reviewed the changes in the character of the essays that have been submitted during past years. He also noted that "Some arrangement of the atoms of matter in an alloy will produce a gravitational differential...which may be utilized for the production of power or the saving of energy.

Babson also said that he "was impressed by the point of view of the Princeton group," which maintains that in "sub-atomic or nuclear particles there might be some means of balancing the force of gravity."

Afternoon speakers at Gravity Village included Agnew H. Bahnson, President of the Institute of Field Physics which sponsors the North Carolina Project at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Joel E. Fisher, who described an experiment in which a rotating magnetic field appeared to produce a gravitational effect; H. Dwight Carle, Dean of Keene Teachers College, who spoke on "Gravity and the Birds and Trees," noting the floating and flying birds, and activity of tree-sap.

Among the audience, which saw a film on the major events in the life of the late Albert Einstein, were Igor Sikorsky, J. E. Coneybear, Dr. H. Horowitz (of Sikorsky Aircraft, Astra, and Goodyear Aircraft, respectively), and Mr. R. J. Land of the Army Transportation Research Engineering Command.

The Foundation also announced the 1958 Awards, noting that they will be made 2 June 1958 for the best 1500-word essays on the possibilities of discovering (a) some partial insulator, reflector, or absorber of gravity (currently being kicked about in a popular American cartoon strip), (b) some alloy, or other substance, the atoms of which can be agitated or rearranged by gravity to throw off heat, or (c) some other reasonable method of harnessing, controlling, or neutralizing gravity. The awards are, from first down, \$1,000, \$300, \$200, \$150, and \$100. Final acceptance date at the Foundation here is 15 April 1958. Entries must be typewritten in English in triplicate.

NEW YORK (AP)— A group of scientific experts, at a symposium in New York City, is talking about the things that may happen in the next hundred years. For instance:

Dr. John Weir of California Institute of Technology believes we may be able to transmit thoughts to another person without using words or gestures.

Rocket expert Dr. Wernher von Braun expects the mail to come in the form of radio signals carried by satellites. And Dr. Harrison Brown of Cal. Tech. predicts a 4 to 8 hour work week within the next 100 years.

What shall we do with all the spare time? Well, one scientist predicts there will be lavish excursion hotels on the Moon.

WASHINGTON (AP)— The U. S. Department of Commerce has issued a 34 page catalog of technical puzzles which it suggests inventors might solve to the joy of the armed forces.

They include such items as a device to get troops rapidly across rivers or canyons without bridges, a tunneling device to bore through the earth at 6,000 feet an hour without filling up the hole behind it, and—Charles Addams take note—a death ray!

NEW ORLEANS (SAT)— The following item appeared on the editorial page of the NEW ORLEANS ITEM on 16 June 1957: 31

"When the flying saucer crews start descending upon us, the way to handle them is obvious. Give them a series of civic luncheons and receptions, complete with long speeches and tours of interesting landmarks. They'll be heading back for Venus by 10 a.m. the next day."

WASHINGTON (AP)— One of the rockets launched during U. S. tests in the Pacific 22 October is believed to have gone more than 4,000 miles into space. The opinion was expressed by Air Force officers who conducted Project Farside at Eniwetok Atoll, in which rockets were launched from balloons 100,000 feet in the air.

The officers also conceded at a Washington news conference that technologically it might be possible to use somewhat the same balloon-rocket system for sending a rocket to the moon within a year. But they added this had not been the aim of the tests.

Announcements made 22 November advised that the armed forces has recently fired artificial meteors into space, which one scientist said probably rushed through space until they were attracted into the sun.

BUFFALO (CUA)— Cornell Aeronautics Laboratory, with a multimillion dollar contract with the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (OSR) is working on a full-scale, continuous, ultra-high temperature testing device of which a pilot model is now in operation. Called a "Wave Superheater," it is hoped to develop speeds in the air tunnel of 10,000 mph and temperatures as high as 9,000°F. The machine will produce these maximum conditions for periods of 15 seconds or more, which is far more than other current testing devices are able to do. The Wave Reactor Building was begun in Buffalo this summer, and will be erected on 16 acres of property leased from the New York Central Railroad.

MISSILE TEST CENTER, FLORIDA (AP)— The Air Force disclosed in Florida that a king-sized tracking camera, trained from a Navy gunmount, is being used in photographing rockets in flight. The camera, called a recording optical tracking instrument, is in operation at Melbourne Beach, 15 miles south of the Cape Canaveral launching site. Another will be installed at Vero Beach, 20 miles farther south. The telescope unit is capable of impressing both still- and motion-picture films.

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RELIGION & FLYING SAUCERS

The May issue of PROPHEMIC ENSIGN, a religion-belt publication, which has run saucer stories in the past, gives a hefty plug to NICAP, listing some of its Board of Governors, quotes of various pilots and scientists who have made remarks and other items about the UFOs and life on other worlds. It then continues to make the majority of its pages up with very good sightings from all over the world, including the Van Winkle case, a new report from Kaimuki, Hawaii, and several from the midwest, the territory served primarily by the ENSIGN.