

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

V, No. 5

April - May 1977

OBJECT OVER LOS ANGELES OBSERVED BY MANY

UFOs that caused physiological and electro-magnetic (E-M) effects; an object that buzzed an ambulance and responded to a signal; others that bathed witnesses, a truck, and a home in light; a UFO that was photographed; an object that forced a truck into another lane of a highway; others that left behind physical evidence, caused an animal reaction, frightened witnesses, and emitted a sound; and UFOs that flew in formation over a large international airport were characteristics of sighting reports from at least three states and two foreign countries during the period January-March. Witnesses included a pilot, a helicopter crew, military personnel, police, firemen, a tower guard, and ambulance attendants.

Mark Hogan, a cargo handler at Los Angeles International Airport, was on duty at approximately 3:30 a.m., March 22, when he and a pilot friend observed two "teardrop"-shaped lights approach from Santa Catalina Island "and then fly in formation over the airport runway."

"In my opinion, they weren't natural," Hogan stated in the March 23, 1977, edition of the *Los Angeles* (Calif.) *Times*. "They were some sort of controlled vehicles."

At about the same time, sheriff's deputies in Long Beach and Firestone saw the brilliant lights, as did a Huntington Beach police helicopter crew. An observer in Firestone reported the UFOs "bathed his home in a flood of blue light."

A March Air Force (AF) Base spokesman admitted personnel at the base had seen the objects, and "there had been no rocket or missile testings which could have accounted for the lights."

At 12:15 p.m., January 12, John Kopinski and Ween Molongoski were taking pictures at a high school in Turners Falls, Mass., when they observed "a bright flash closely followed by a loud humming noise." Looking up, they saw a UFO "resembling a large trash can cover in flight." (See photo, left). Molongoski snapped a photograph, stated the *Greenfield* (Mass.) *Recorder*, January 15, 1977.

On the evening of January 21, Edwin Menesses and Robert Melerine, off-duty firemen, were in a boat on Dyke Canal in Yscloskey, La. They observed a bright, "round globe, about 50 feet in diameter hovering 75 feet" above them. The object bathed the witnesses "in a warm, brilliant light." Then the boat stopped.

"The motor was kicking, but we were moving ahead," Melerine stated.

The men discovered they could not move.

"Let's get the hell out of here!" one of them yelled, but they were still unable to move.

Melerine grabbed his rifle.

"No, don't shoot it," Menesses cautioned, believing the object may have been "government property."

The UFO left the area, and "the boat started off with a jolt, throwing the men back." Melerine's hair "stood out like wire."

The witnesses opened the throttle of the boat and sped toward the southeast, passing a oil gas processing plant, where they saw the object over a refraction tower. A guard stood on the bridge of the tower.



UFO Photo by Ween Molongoski,
Turners Falls, Mass.,
January 12, 1977

(Courtesy: Greenfield Recorder)

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"They turned right on Bayou Lafourche, where the UFO moved to the water tower," stated Or. Ted Peters, associate professor of religious studies at Loyola University and a member of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), who investigated the incident. "It hovered there about 30 minutes."

A few nights later, Menesses and Melerine "developed chills and high fever."

"One other new development... was that Melerine reported a loss of time -- 20 minutes..." Peters continued. "A few days after the incident..., Ysclosky Fire Station received an anonymous phone call from the refraction tower guard who said only: 'Those firemen aren't crazy. I seen it, too.'"

(Sources: *The St. Bernard* (Parish, La.) *News*, January 26 and February 9, 1977).

Witnesses in Canada saw the mysterious flying objects.

Tom Banks and Ken Scholfield, ambulance attendants, were speeding toward Haines Junction, Yukon, at approximately 7:30 p.m., January 2, to pick up a patient when they spotted a brilliant, white object near the Takhini Bridge.

"We saw what we thought at first was a very bright star," Scholfield remarked in the *Troudra Times*, January 5, 1977. "It seemed stationary. Then, all of a sudden, it started to move and was right down in our area in no time.... The object seemed to be traveling maybe a couple of thousand feet above the ground. It was traveling slow."

Then the UFO "took off with great speed over the mountain." It "instantly reversed its course."

The object "buzzed" the ambulance several times, causing E-M effects to the electrical system. At one point, Banks switched on the light beacon as the UFO came straight at them. Suddenly, the beacon ceased functioning, and "the object then stopped and went in reverse." At another time, as the UFO paced the ambulance, Banks flashed the beacon, and the object flashed back.

Just outside Mendenhall, the flying craft "veered into the draw of the hillside to the southwest." For a moment or two, the witnesses believed it would crash, but "it skimmed over the mountain top and disappeared."

While driving his truck near Fort St. James at about 4 a.m., January 5, an unidentified man watched an approaching saucer "large enough to fit across the highway."

The brilliant red light from the object "flooded the interior" of the vehicle. Approximately 20-30 feet away, the UFO "swooped down" in front of his truck, forcing him into another lane. His radio and motor "went dead," and he lost consciousness, stated the January 14, 1977, edition of the *Prince George* (Canada) *Citizen*.

About 20 minutes later, the witness regained consciousness and found he was sitting on the passenger seat of the vehicle. Peering inside was the driver of a car, who said he also blacked out after seeing the object.

That same evening, Mrs. Florida Malboeuf, Montreal, Quebec, encountered an oyster-shaped object about 15 feet across, reported the *Montreal Sunday Express*, January 9, 1977. It hovered over the roof of a nearby building, then disappeared.

Mrs. Malboeuf's son, Andre, examined the roof of the building and saw that "a 15-foot circle of snow had been melted away."

Three others from the same neighborhood also reportedly saw the UFO.

Also on the evening of the 5th, an unidentified couple took their spaniel for a walk across the farmland near their Suffolk, England, cottage when the dog growled and barked violently, then bolted and ran. The witnesses saw a huge saucer hovering over a nearby field.

"The saucer was about 100 yards away at a height of 80 feet....," the man stated in the *Daily Mirror*, January 31, 1977. "Its size was overwhelming -- the height of a double-decker bus. And I estimated its diameter as 50 feet... We just stood there, holding each other in sheer terror.... We quite forgot we were so cold. After about 20 minutes, the saucer suddenly took off.... It seemed to lift itself into the sky -- incredibly fast, faster than anything I have ever seen -- and in a fraction of a second it had gone."

The badly frightened couple rushed inside the cottage, where their 21-year-old son watching TV. He said that, for nearly 30 minutes, there was E-M interference to the set that cleared up just as his parents returned.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS SLATED

The first International UFO Congress is slated to be held at the Pick-Congress Hotel in Chicago, Ill., June 24-26 -- 30 years to the day following Kenneth Arnold's historic sighting over Mt. Rainier, Wash. Curtis Fuller, *Fate* magazine publisher, is sponsoring the event that will feature a cross-section of UFO experts and witnesses.

Arnold -- whose sighting on June 24, 1947, ushered in the modern "flying saucer" era -- will be "an honored guest" and lecturer at the function. Other announced participants include Betty Hill; Dr. Jacques Vallee, Institute for the Future scientist and UFO author; Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director, Center for UFO Studies; Dr. Berthold Eric Schwarz, psychiatrist; Dr. James Harder, professor of mechanical engineering, University of California at Berkeley; Dr. David M. Jacobs, assistant professor, Temple University; Coral and Jim Lorenzen, Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO); Dr. Frank Salisbury, plant physiology professor, Utah State University; Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, director, division of counseling and testing, University of Wyoming; Raymond A. Palmer, co-founder of *Fate*; and Dr. L. Gordon Melton, head of the Institute for the Study of American Religion.

"In all, more than 100 lectures, seminars and information-sharing sessions will be held as well as continuous screenings of films related to UFOs, plus an extensive exhibition area," Fuller stated in his press release.

Subjects expected to be covered include the CIA-FBI coverup, the parapsychical connection, the "men in black," contactees, abductions, propulsion systems, physical evidence, photographs, humanoids, historical aspects, ancient astronauts, and "the most convincing UFO sightings."

Cost for the event will be \$30 at the door -- \$25 advance reservations. Checks should be sent to International UFO Congress Ltd., 500 Hyacinth Pl., Highland Park, Ill. 60035. Contact the Congress offices or Dr. Melton at 312-446-6265, 540 Frontage Rd., Northfield, Ill. 60093, for more information.

ASTRONOMER DISCUSSES SAUCER PROPULSION

"UFOs move with very large acceleration..., on the order of 300Gs," compared with 15Gs most aircraft. This is "20 times stronger than the most extreme conditions in military planes." So stated Dr. Daniel Harris, astrophysics and planetary studies professor at the University of Arizona, Tucson, in a lecture at the school on February 18.

Harris said he saw a UFO in March, 1967, and reported the sighting to the University of Colorado UFO Project, who did "a sloppy job" on their two-year investigation of sighting reports. That same year, the astronomer met the late Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist at the university's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, who introduced him "to some of the better reports." Harris then proceeded to study "carefully more than a thousand" research cases and came to some fascinating conclusions.

The Arizona scientist said landing trace cases "seem to show that these objects have substantial weight"; a 12-20 feet in diameter UFO weighs "about 10 tons." UFOs are also "doing things that we can't do yet" such as being tracked on radar at speeds up to 10,000 m.p.h. without creating sonic booms. And their motion "is not aerodynamic." They are observed zig-zagging, bobbing, or hovering.

UFOs come in all sizes and shapes, Harris remarked, from very small discs to cigars more than 300 feet in diameter. Generally, large objects have more narrow shapes. Conversely, the smaller UFOs have wider shapes.

The mysterious craft "sometimes produce a very strong magnetic field," the astronomer said. This is demonstrated by water and foliage disturbances beneath the objects and the magnetization of metallic items at landing sites. The strength of this field can be compared to a current of 20 amperes in a 30-foot-in-diameter coil with two million revolutions of wire. Harris theorized the magnetic field is created by the utilization of electrodes strategically placed on UFO surfaces and tops. Numerous witnesses have often mistaken the glowing electrode for lighted windows or dome lights, he stated.

UFOR is indebted to Bruce Kennedy, Tucson, Ariz., for the tape and notes on the Harris

The next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing about June 15, 1977.

FAWCETT STUDIES 1976 SIGHTING REPORTS

"The most outstanding characteristic of the global wave of UFO sightings in the air and on the ground during 1976 was the noted increase in the number of reported landings, occupant encounters, abductions and physical examinations of witnesses," stated ufologist George D. Fawcett, North Carolina State Director for MUFON, in an "Analysis of 1976 UFO Sightings."

According to Fawcett, objects were tracked on radar in the U.S., Canada, Venezuela, a Iran. From one to eight UFOs were tracked at altitudes ranging from 900 feet to more than 72,000 feet. Pilots saw the strange objects over the U.S., Austria, Iran, Portugal, England and Japan. Landings were reported from the U.S., Canada, Sweden, Australia, Argentina, Peru and Uruguay. UFO occupants were observed in the U.S., Spain, Japan, Iran, Argentina, Peru, France, England and Venezuela. Characteristics included physiological and E-M effects, animal reactions and physical evidence.

The occupant reports include:

o January 2. Big Bear, Calif. A resident saw a "little man with big bulging eyes" that was floating in the air. The witness fired his shotgun at the creature, "but it was not hit and left the area."

o January 30. Sevilla, Spain. A witness was struck over the head by "two giant-like creatures" and left "a pair of incision wounds." A "trail of black smoke" emitted by an object overhead burned the observer.

o February 24. Kofu, Japan. A student fainted after being touched on the shoulder by a UFO entity 1.3 meters tall.

o July 18. Escalante, Spain. A couple saw a huge occupant "that floated above the ground," then entered a hovering object.

o September 8. Accompampa, Peru. A husband and wife encountered two humanoids from a UFO resting on the ground. The husband was touched on the shoulder and felt "intense heat" while the wife fainted.

o September 24. Regal, Mich. A frightened witness saw a 3.5-foot tall creature "floating outside his bedroom window." The occupant entered a cube-shaped UFO that "took off straight up."

o October 28. Lake City, S.C. A man and his son observed a flying object with a dome on top "about the size of an automobile." An entity "with pale white skin and claw-like hands" watched the witnesses through "windows," and the son "was treated for shock." A 15-20 foot in diameter area was left on the ground.

Only 300 copies of the second printing of Fawcett's 1975 book, *Quarter Century Studies of UFOs in Florida, North Carolina and Tennessee*, are left at \$4.50 (U.S., Canada and Mexico) and \$5.00 (foreign) per copy. Checks should be made out to George D. Fawcett and sent to Pioneer Printing Co., P.O. Box 407, Mt. Airy, N.C. 27030.

INDONESIA PLANS UFO DEPARTMENT

The government of Indonesia has announced plans for a UFO department in its National Aviation and Interspace Institute (LAPAN) to cooperate with other international UFO research centers.

The announcement came last December 20 following a visit by Dr. J. Allen Hynek at the request of Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik. Air Vice Marshal Salatun, LAPAN chairman, stated "eight UFO cases have been recorded so far in Indonesia, the last one being over an oil platform off the east Java coast," said the Mainichi, Japan, *Daily News*, December 23, 1976.

MENZEL'S LAST OPUS NO SURPRISE
(Book Reviews)

"The idea that Earth is under more or less constant, or even sporadic, surveillance by interstellar spacecraft... is, simply, preposterous." This is the basis of *The UFO Enigma; The Definitive Explanation of the UFO Phenomenon*, by the late Donald H. Menzel and Ernest H. Taves, psychoanalyst and science fiction writer. Menzel has long been a persistent gadfly to UFO researchers and, in this work, he and his co-author exhibit a close-minded bias th

must make the likes of Galileo and Copernicus revolve in their graves. Menzel, a respected astronomer, has long displayed scientific dishonesty in his UFO views, and this work is no exception. While saying that Dr. Edward U. Condon, head of the University of Colorado UFO Project, was "fair -- to a fault," the authors go on to explain away all of the "unidentified" sightings in the Condon report. With explanations reminiscent of many AF utterances, they lump all the cases in the categories of "chicanery, fabrication, mental illness, radar malfunction, anomalous radar propagation, physiological phenomena... and misidentifications of astronomical objects." Most, if not all, of these reports are "totally worthless," the authors state. Many of the witnesses can be discounted since they are "repeaters" -- having had more than one sighting. The authors' use of the word "repeaters" nearly conjurs up visions of criminal activity. And the tone of the work, in some places, suggests that those who do not agree with the authors are little better than criminals. The late Dr. James E. McDonald, a top atmospheric physicist, "was apparently entirely unfamiliar with meteorological optics." Like the contributors to the Condon report before them, Menzel and Taves go on for some time describing astronomical and meteorological phenomena that, in some cases, have little or nothing to do with UFOs. After a four-page discourse on the nature of comets, for instance, they say that, "to our knowledge, no one since 1947 has misidentified a comet as a UFO." "Hoax" attains a lofty position in the authors' vocabulary. Most UFO photographs are hoaxes, and the Pascagoula, Miss., abduction of October 11, 1973, is "a pathetically obvious hoax." In a long, cut-and-paste chapter on the airship sighting flap of 1897, Menzel and Taves have obviously done little original research and, by labeling the sightings as hoaxes and sensationalism, show their ignorance of the tremendous interest in -- and experimentation with -- airships during the 1890s. Their statement that "no document indicates that the 1897 inventors referred to ever got a patent on an airship" displays a further lack of in-depth examination of the sightings. C.A. Smith, of San Francisco, who predicted in November, 1896, that he would have an airship ready for a transcontinental flight by the following April -- when a nationwide airship flap did occur -- secured such a patent in August, 1896. There were scores of other individuals who also obtained airship patents prior to, during, and immediately following the 1896-1897 wave. And who is the only other person besides Menzel who has scientifically investigated the UFO phenomenon? Philip J. Klass.

[Donald H. Menzel and Ernest H. Taves, *The UFO Enigma; The Definitive Explanation of the Phenomenon*, Introduction by Dr. Fred L. Whipple (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., Inc., 1977), 297 pgs., \$8.95, Photographs, Appendix, Notes, Index]

Susy Smith's *Strangers From Space*, at least, is not scientifically dishonest. Indeed, one would have to stretch a point to call it scientific at all. Like Hans Holzer fairly recently, she is the author of numerous books on psychic phenomena, and this is her first excursion into UFOs. If her other works are as sloppily done as this cut-and-paste job in the popular vein, the reader can hardly learn anything new. In her UFO opus, there appears to be a total lack of original research. She quotes so extensively from others -- especially Coral and Jim Lorenzen, of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) -- that referring to her as the "author" of this slim volume might well be a misnomer. Pop editor would be a better description. There are no recent sighting reports in the book, and those cases that are included have been extensively covered elsewhere. Not surprisingly, Smith sees "a great interrelatedness between parapsychology and UFOlogy," and there is the now obligatory chapter on psychic Uri Geller. She hints at the mysterious deaths of "many" UFO researchers, including Frank Edwards, top UFO author and newsman, and Dr. McDonald without even beginning to make a case for such an assertion. The author is also not above contradictions. While generally not buying the "contactee" stories (à la George Adamski and the like), she states "there are plenty accounts of visitors from Mars and Venus that sound very authentic." In general, if the reader desires a welcome addition to his UFO library, he'd better look elsewhere.

[Susy Smith, *Strangers From Space* (Manor Books, Inc., 432 Park Ave., S., New York, N.Y., 10016, 1977), 188 pgs., \$1.50, Paperback, Bibliography]

ASTRONOMERS URGE SAUCER STUDIES

In the results of a survey that should -- but probably won't -- quell the decades-old myth that no astronomers take UFO seriously, 53% of 1,356 members of the American Astronomical Society responding to a questionnaire said UFOs "certainly" or "probably" ought to be studied and investigated further.

Twenty-seven percent of the astronomers believe there should "possibly" be further investigation. Another 17% stated there "probably should not be" more studies, and 3% said "certainly" not. But a large 80% expressed willingness "to help solve the problem if they could see some way of doing it," stated the *Los Angeles Times*, March 17, 1977. Sixty-two of the scientists said they may have been involved in UFO incidents.

Prof. Peter A. Sturrock, of Stanford University's applied physics department, conducted the survey.

FORMER TOP SECRET UFO REPORT FROM U.S.S.R. REVEALED

According to reports, Moscow has been abuzz over a former top secret UFO report that has been making the rounds during the past few months.

Dr. Felix Y. Zigel, of the Moscow Aviation Institute, was reportedly the author of "The Present Status of the UFO Problem" -- a transcript of a classified lecture by Zigel, who "supplemented his findings with more than 50 slides of... flying saucers and humanoid creatures from outer space." Zigel was the top name in the Russian UFO controversy 10 years ago.

The "contraband transcript" said Zigel reported that alien entities have landed on earth and that some "are strong enough to pick up tractors." He added the creatures are introverted, avoid contact with terrestrials "whenever possible," and have the ability to read minds.

Another Soviet scientist, Prof. Alexei Zolotov, said that, after researching the incident for 17 years, the object that crashed in Siberia in June, 1908, was "a nuclear powered vehicle from outer space."

The Communist youth newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, however, wasn't buying any of it. An article by Eremel Parnov, a science fiction writer, denounced the UFO subject.

"There is no proof of the existence in the past or present of a superior civilization able to create machines," Parnov wrote. "There is no proof that people have had contacts with other forms of life or reason."

(Sources: *Daily Yomiuri* (Japan), December 4, 1976; Mainichi, Japan, *Daily News*, December 8, 1976; and the New York *Sunday Newsday*, January 23, 1977).

GRENADA PRIME MINISTER BACKS UFOs

Eric Gairy, prime minister of the small Caribbean island republic of Grenada, believes UFOs are extraterrestrial.

"We are quite ready, willing and able to accept the phenomenon that there are flying saucers," he remarked at a ground-breaking ceremony in January. "There are people in other planets, and they have been visiting our globe."

At a United Nations speech last year, the island official asked world governments to make their UFO information available to the public.

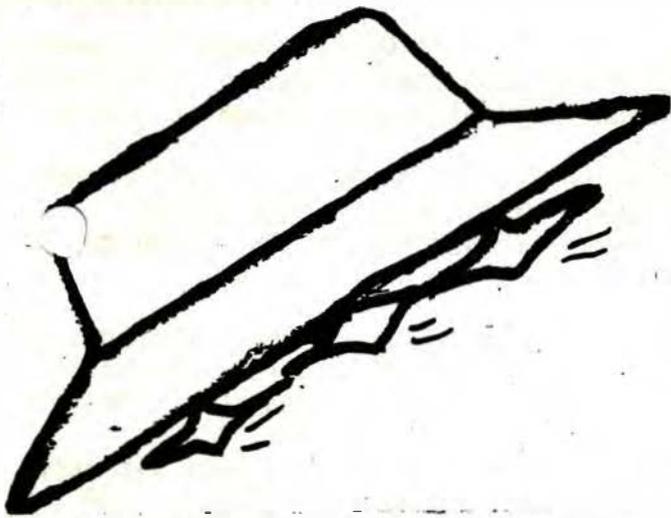
(Sources: the January 17, 1977, editions of the *Wichita* (Kans.) *Eagle* and *The Toronto* (Ontario, Canada) *Sun*).

OCCUPANTS, TIME LAPSE, PHOTOS, PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS CHARACTERISTICS OF 1976 REPORTS

Occupants; a time lapse; UFOs that caused physiological and E-M effects, materialized, emitted sounds and frightened witnesses; an object seen near transmission lines that disappeared before a train approached, then reappeared; others that were photographed; a UFO that caused a car to "shake violently"; an object that paced an automobile; another that caused a car to shudder and leave the road; a UFO that changed shape; and an object that illuminated the surrounding area are characteristics of sighting reports from at least five states and four foreign countries during the period July-December, 1976.

Warren Martin and four friends were standing by their car that was stuck in the mud near some railroad tracks at approximately 9 p.m., November 29, in Canton, Mass. Then they heard a sound from above.

"I thought it was a plane at first," Martin related in the December 9, 1976, edition of the *Stoughton* (Mass.) *Chronicle*. "Then I noticed that the colors of the lights were wrong. An airplane couldn't have stood up to the way it moved. The stress on the wings would probably have snapped them off."



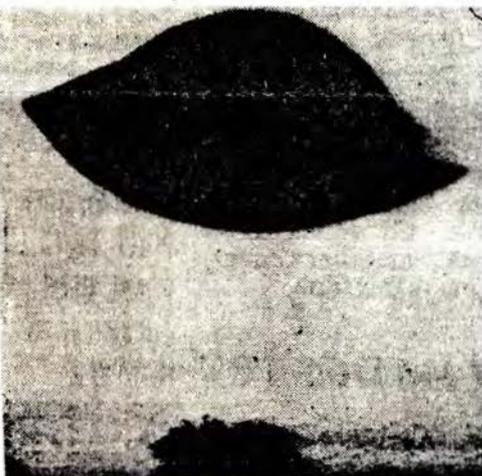
UFO Sketch by Warren Martin, Canton, Mass., Nov. 29, 1976

(Courtesy: Stoughton Chronicle)



UFO Photo by Dominic Fan, Morgantown, W.Va., November 18, 1976

(Courtesy: Dominion Post)



UFO Photo, Camptown, Fla., December 4, 1976

(Courtesy: Osceola Sun)

As the UFO "swooped to within 500 yards of the car," the witnesses saw it more clearly. (See sketch, left). The top hat-shaped craft had "three diamond-shaped lights at the bottom" flashing red, blue, orange and purple lights. Martin said it was seen near some transmission lines and performed "aerial games, dipping and swerving."

About 10 minutes later, the frightened observers saw the object disappear a few minutes before a train appeared. The UFO reappeared after the train left the area.

Fairfax County, Va., Police Officer Jesse Meekins was driving north on Rt. 495 at approximately 10:45 p.m., July 17, when he heard "a tremendous explosion, a real bang."

"Then I saw it up in the air," he remarked in the *Fairfax Globe*, November 11, 1976. "It was a [tremendous] craft of some kind and it glowed. What really got me was the incredible speed. When it took off, it went so fast that I don't think a human

being could have stood such acceleration.... I actually ran out of gas chasing that thing."

At 7 p.m., November 18, Dominic Fan, a medical microbiology graduate student, observed a "bright object" over a hospital in Morgantown, W.Va. The UFO was "irregular in shape and... appeared to have appendages," stated the November 19, 1976, edition of the Morgantown *Dominion Post*. (See photo, left).

Fan ran home to retrieve his 125 mm telelens camera and his roommate, Paul To, who also saw the craft. The main witness took timed exposures of the rotating object.

It was near dawn, December 4. James Setvin and several others were in Camptown, Fla., when they watched a large UFO approach from the west at 100-150 feet altitude. It "looked like two bowls with their rims together and another dome on top." (See photo, below left). Three evenly-spaced holes were seen on the bottom.

The craft "hovered above several astonished campers, then took off slowly towards the north."

"When it left, it sounded like the wind going over," Setvin stated in the December 7, 1976, edition of the Kissimmee, Fla., *Osceola Sun*.

One unidentified camper photographed the UFO with his Polaroid and gave a print to Setvin. Setvin's wife, Joan, took the picture to several engineers where she works -- Applied Devices -- "and they agreed the object was about 50 feet long after using a micrometer to measure the image."

William J. Adams stopped at a traffic light in Alexandria, La., at about 9 p.m., November 22. Then he saw a blue-green object flying "at a very high rate of speed."

"All of the lights in the area suddenly went out, including the traffic light," he said in the November 23, 1976, edition of the *Alexandria Town Talk*.

The lights came back on after the UFO left the area.

UFOR wishes to thank Bryan M. Hartley, Fylde Aerial Phenomena & U.F.O. Research Group, Thornton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, England, for the following three reports and the case from Portugal.

At 9:30 p.m., August 11, a woman, her daughter and two sons were driving near Ballymena, Ireland, when they observed "a bright white oval" descend and pace them for about three miles.

The UFO bobbed up and down. Then it rose into a cloud and reflected through it. A minute later, "it suddenly descended rapidly and... vanished."

The witnesses were badly unnerved. The mother said she "seemed to have no life" in her during the sighting and was a victim of "an unusually severe static electricity effect."

Apparently, there was a time lapse, since the observers arrived home in Ballymena two hours after first seeing the UFO.

Observers in England saw the flying craft. ✓

A woman and her daughter observed "an object like two saucers edge to edge, colored like aluminum" at about 5:10 p.m., July 21, over Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. The wavering, low-flying craft "obscured trees and buildings," flipped on edge, changed shape, "hovered over a new factory," and disappeared.

Paul Kennedy, a surveyor for the National Coal Board, was walking his dog near his home in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, at 12:30 a.m., July 28, when the area became brighter. He saw "a round silver object" that disappeared behind a hill. Kennedy was briefly "unable to move."

Mrs. Joyce Bowles and Ted Pratt were driving in Hampshire at 8:50 p.m., November 14, when the car "began to shake violently, finally careering onto a grass verge." They saw a 15-foot long "glowing orange cigar hovering in the road."

"We realized that three figures were watching us from a window...," Mrs. Bowles related in the January 31, 1977, edition of the *Daily Mirror*. "Then one of the figures materialized by the Mini. He peered through my window at the dashboard controls, walked to the back of the car; then he and the cigar simply vanished."

Mrs. Bowles said the slim figure was six feet tall and had "long blond hair and a dark beard. He wore a silver boiler suit fastened with a full-length zip."

It was 8 p.m. GMT, July 30. A British Airways Trident was cruising at 500 knots at a height of 29,000 feet just southeast of Lisbon, Portugal. Lisbon control tower operators asked a Tristar crew flying ahead of the Trident "if they could see a UFO they had reported." Both airplane crews saw "a big white headlamp... as they flew by."

A few minutes later, "a brown sausage shape materialized" by the original object, "and 30 seconds afterwards a second similar object" appeared. Both "were surrounded by vapor" and "appeared out of nothing."

A Portugese Boeing 727 also encountered the UFO.

Officials at Lisbon spoke of sending up interceptor jets, but apparently did not do so.

After refuelling at Faro, the Trident set out on its return to London. The radar was switched on as they approached the area where the crew and passengers had seen the object. A tremendous shape -- "10 times the size of an aircraft" -- that was "surrounded by two diffuse shapes" was detected.

A Puma helicopter, 19 Squadron B Flight, South African AF, with its crew of three, encountered a UFO north of Scottburgh, S.Africa, on the evening of November 15.

"It had a glowing light... and was like nothing I've ever seen before," stated one of the crew members in the Durban, S.Africa, *Star*, November 16, 1976. "By the way it was moving, it appeared as if it was controlled in some way."

According to reports, other residents in the Durban area saw "up to a dozen glowing objects."

"UNSETTLING DISCLOSURES" ABOUT UFOs RUMORED BY YEAR'S END

The following intriguing tidbit of information was included in the "Washington Whispers" section of *U.S. News & World Report*, April 18, 1977:

"Before the year is out, the Government -- perhaps the President -- is expected to make what are described as 'unsettling disclosures' about UFOs -- unidentified flying objects. Such revelations, based on information from the CIA, would be a reversal of official policy that in the past has downgraded UFO incidents."

Please send in your change of address.