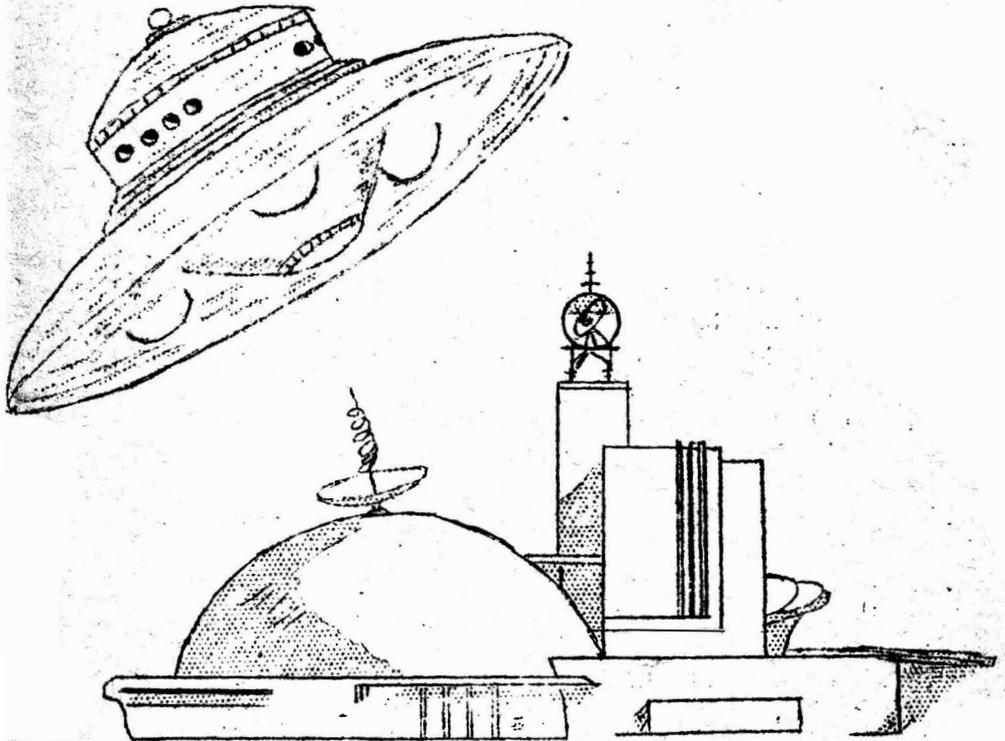


# U.F.F. FORUM

\*Official U.S. Government designation for  
Unidentified Flying Objects



PUBLICATION OF GRAND RAPIDS FLYING SAUCER CLUB

# UFORUM

FEB.- MARCH 1957

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VOLUME ONE

NUMBER TEN

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UFORUM is a monthly publication of the Grand Rapids Flying Saucer Club (a non-profit educational organization) -- Member of the Michigan Flying Saucer Federation. Any original article appearing herein may be reproduced by any other Saucer publication.

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ALL SAUCER SIGHTINGS OR EXPERIENCES WELCOME ! ! ! !

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## CO-EDITORS

Art Gibson

Bob Hillary

Don Plank

West State Reporter - C.L. Myers of Grand Haven

South State Reporter - E.W. Maier of Kalamazoo

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## SUGGESTED PERIODICAL READINGS

C.R.I.F.O. "ORBIT"...

7017 Britton Av., Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

SAUCERS (Flying Saucers International)

P.O.Box 35034, Los Angeles 35, California.

BORDERLAND SCIENCE RESEARCH ASSOCIATES (BSRA)

3524 Adams Av., San Diego 16, California.

LITTLE LISTENING POST

4811 Illinois Av. NW, Washington 11, D.C.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

F.S.Service Ltd., 1 Doughty St., London WC-1, Engl.

FLYING SAUCERS - Civilian Saucer Investigation

P.O.Box 1914, Auckland, New Zealand.

THE VISITOR (Interplanetary Relations)

14315 Haggerty Road, Belleville, Michigan.

PROCEEDINGS of the College of Universal Wisdom

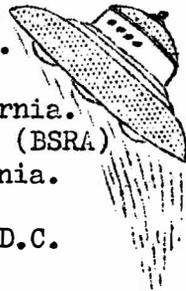
P.O.Box 419, Yucca Valley, California.

A.P.R.O. Bulletin (Aerial Phenomena Research Organ.)

1712 Van Court, Alamogordo, New Mexico.

THE FLYING SAUCER-(Flying Disks Research Center)

C.P.D.V.-P.O.Box 8449, Sao Paulo, Brazil.



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**N.I.C.A.P. REORGANIZES and BEGINS OPERATIONS**

The following is a letter received by your editor from Major Donald E. Keyhoe, the new director of NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena).

Dear Mr. Gibson:

March 7, 1957

I hope you'll pardon my sending you the enclosed information in mimeograph form, but I'm trying to contact the flying saucer magazines and clubs as quickly as possible with this belated explanation of NICAP's plans.

Admiral Fahrney, the other board members, and I, will be very glad to have your comments and suggestions--not only on the enclosed material, but on any points I have overlooked.

Meantime, I want you to know I personally appreciate your support very much; and as Director of NICAP I shall do all I can to promote the welfare and progress of all serious UFO researchers.

Sincerely yours,

Donald E. Keyhoe, Major USMC (Ret.)

At this point your editor would like to state that he thinks NICAP is just what the doctor ordered. It is the shot in the arm that the serious Saucer investigation has needed for a long time and for that reason your editor is behind it 100%.

There are those who believe that NICAP will act as a censorship bureau, which will stifle independent investigation, cause confusion in the ranks of Flying Saucer Clubs and through propaganda and subterfuge divide all Saucer clubs against each other and do the Air Force a favor by hiding the facts.

For the nearly ten years that I have been investigating Unidentified Flying Objects, the one

Reason most often given by the average American citizen for disbelief in Saucers is that no reputable person (scientist or statesman, etc.) has admitted to an interest in or belief in Flying Saucers.

To fill this crying need NICAP was formed.

After ten years of listening to starry-eyed visionaries relate fantastic tales of interplanetary, interstellar and intergalactical travel with the space "brothers" or "others", I see nothing but confusion in the ranks of the Flying Saucer clubs.

The powers that be, whether the Air Force or "Hush-Hush" group have had perfect confusion, adequate censorship, excellent propaganda and unparalleled subterfuge, so what possible reason would they have for setting up NICAP? They cannot improve upon the division and disintegration that has been the lot of Saucer clubs that have gone chasing off after one space phantom after another.

One thing that NICAP may succeed in doing is to expose some of the charlatans who have been using Saucer mythology to inflate their pocketbooks and their egos. Perhaps this is why the quacks are crying "foul" before the fight has even begun.

It is this very confusion that has led to the demise of one of the finest Saucer publications, C.R.I.F.O. ORBIT, the excellent Saucer paper published monthly at Cincinnati by Leonard Stringfield is no more.

In announcing its death, Stringfield cited the many problems and pressures brought to bear upon him while he was publishing ORBIT.

Stringfield said he was unable to keep up with the heavy correspondence. And the time involved was given at the cost of his private life and business responsibilities.

Another factor was that he felt that ORBIT, its format, policies, theories, etc.- seemed to be "out of character with the beliefs and principles of saucerdom's growing coterie of demagogues, extremists

and sensation-hunters. It seems," says Stringfield, "that to prosper in civilian research one must show sympathy with all the astronauts who frequently slip off to Mars or Pluto and come back with wondrous tales of omniscient races who want to help us poor earthlings." He continues, "Others who seem to prosper do so by their errant pixie-like personalities. Such rubs off in their writings or lectures and by this they sell themselves or subscriptions, rather than honest-to-goodness work. Then there are those who peddle only the sensational 'inside' stuff-- or a vitriolic hate for the Air Force. Following none of these courses, ORBIT soon got the cold shoulder in some quarters, and in others became the target of smear and surreptitious sniping....It is now obvious that ORBIT is 'over the hill' in this new era--its usefulness and prestige gone!"

It is with many regrets that UFOrum publishes this obituary of ORBIT, one of the finest 'saucer-zines' and one of the few which stuck to the facts all the time.

Following are excerpts from the mimeographed bulletin sent out by NICAP and its director, Donald E. Keyhoe:

..."This brief explanation covers the main points (of the past set-up) and explains certain false rumors you may have heard.

1. Mr. T. T. Brown has resigned from NICAP...His active participation ended 1-18-'57, on which date I was appointed Director
2. The report that the NICAP staff payroll amounted to \$85,000 was based on a suggested salary schedule which was completely disapproved by the Board at its first annual meeting in January
3. The "heavy commitments" rumored also were disapproved by the Board and arrangements have been made with creditors of the former regime- for

printing, office equipment, etc--which will dispose of these obligations in a short time. As a result, NICAP has emerged from an extremely shaky condition and is now beginning to operate as originally planned. It will take a little time to get up full speed, but from the nationwide response to Admiral Fahrney's press statements in January, we have no doubt of NICAP's success.

At present NICAP is operating with only TWO full-time workers: Mrs. Rose Hackett Campbell and myself. We have several part-time and volunteer helpers. This situation is temporary, since the volume of mail and preparations for the monthly publication has kept us swamped...Our investigation and evaluation work has begun. We have had offers of cooperation at small cost or no charge from experts in the various fields involved. However it is obvious that NICAP cannot operate without a full-time staff, even though it need not be a large one...So this brings up the point of 'paid workers' which has been mentioned by some UFO researchers. NICAP has no choice; either our staff must have other jobs to support them ---in which case they can work here only in their spare time---or they must have independent means. No one here is in this last category.

In order to make NICAP a success, anyone working here will have to take less than would be paid outside for identical full-time work. That applies most emphatically to me, and it will apply to others. It means we shall have to find editorial, research and office personnel who are willing to work on this sacrificial basis, because of their strong interest in solving the UFO problem; but even on that basis, no one will be added to NICAP's staff until he or she is urgently needed.

Contrary to rumors, we have NOT had huge donations

as yet. Our main support is coming from the members. We have cut our membership fee from \$15. to \$7.50; this will include a monthly 32-page publication which is to serve (we hope temporarily) in place of the 4-page newsletter and magazine planned by the former management.....

With your permission, we'd like to quote you regularly...We intend to have a special department covering the existing clubs and magazines--with reviews, resumes of their activities, etc. If you care to, we'd like to cooperate in setting up a nationwide, and eventually a worldwide reporting network...

Naturally we'll have differences of opinion--and NICAP has no intention of trying to force its ideas on any of you. It's not that we won't argue on key points, but we'll print your opinions and let the chips fall where they will.....And I'll be glad to have your comments, suggestions and criticisms on any of these ideas.

Sincerely yours, Donald E. Keyhoe.

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#### CLOUD 'SAUCER' DRILLS HOLE IN KNOXVILLE SKY

Knoxville, Tenn. (AP) (March 8 or 15, 1957)- A huge "hole in the sky" created quite a commotion at Knoxville Municipal Airport Friday.

A sudden downdraft caused a deck of cirrus clouds to fall 3000 feet through a layer of alto-cumulus clouds at 19,000 feet, creating a half-mile wide hole in the lower deck.

"I've been a weather observer 15 years and I've never seen anything like it before," said Meteorologist John Thach. "It looked like a huge flying saucer."

Thach said the circle hovered over the airport for a half hour before disappearing. Schools in the area dismissed classes so the children could see the phenomenon. (G.R. Herald)

## FLYING SAUCER LANDS IN SOUTH AFRICA

(The following is a condensation of an article which first appeared in the London Flying Saucer Review. The article later was published in Search magazine.)

A FLYING SAUCER landed in South Africa on April 7, 1956 according to Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer of Natal, South Africa.

When Mrs. Klarer was only seven, she saw a spaceship--a great orange-red wheel as large as a football, move slowly across the sky over the rolling foothills of the Drakensberg Range.

Then on December 27, 1954 a preliminary attempt to contact her was made near the family estate. It was about 10 a.m. that the saucer came gliding down towards the hilltop where Mrs. Klarer was standing. "The sun glinted on the craft as it came so close I could see clearly the face of the pilot through the porthole. Yet through uncertainty and fright, I instinctively stepped back...from the strangeness of it all, but my gaze remained fixed...upon the face of the pilot. He was blond...the most handsome man I have ever seen...his eyes gave the impression at that distance of being light grey...He smiled at me...

"Then the craft slowly rose and moved away in a southerly direction..."

Mr. Edgar Sievers, author of "Flying Saucers uber Sudafrika" vouches for Mrs. Klarer and insists that she doesn't suffer from any "psychicisms." He describes her as a "gifted pianist and music teacher, with studies accomplished in Italy and England, has a wide range of intellectual interests...is a lover of nature, horses in particular...and has both her feet on the ground..."

Mrs. Klarer did nothing but think of this saucer, hoping and longing that it would return...

Then on April 6, 1956 she had taken her daughter Marilyn, who is a Medical student, and son David, aged seven, to Durban for a few days by the sea, but

she experienced a compelling feeling to return to the farm and to her familiar hilltop, and so they all went back to the homestead.

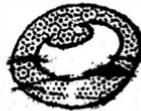
Then...early next morning, Saturday, April 7, that particular feeling having persisted, Elizabeth Klarer slipped out and after a brisk walk reached the hilltop, about 2½ miles away...

Now Mrs. Klarer takes up the story again:

"On reaching the top of the southern slope, I saw the scoutship resting on the ground near the eastern slope of the dip.

The rising sun had not topped the slope, so the craft was in the shadow.

My immediate reaction was not to hesitate as I had done the first time, but to run as fast as I could --I felt as if I had wings to my feet--down that very rough slope, straight to the tall blond man standing near the craft. It was the most natural thing for



*A Replica of the  
Photo taken by-  
Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer*

me to do, because I felt that I had known him all my life. I stretched out both my hands to him, and he took them saying, 'You were not afraid this time.' He helped me step into the craft--automatic door closed--and he gently sat me down on a soft circular bench, where I was able to regain my breath. What helped me more than anything was the wonderful invigorating freshness of the air in the cabin.

"An awful doubt assailed me when I saw the other pilot sitting at the controls. He was dark and stocky. So without thinking, I asked the tall spaceman, 'Oh, you are not a Russian, are you?' He smiled and answered, 'I am not from any place on this planet you call Earth. I am from Venus.'

"The interior of the craft was simple, and

beautiful to my mind. None of the mass of instruments and wires over dashboard as in modern aircraft, but simple rows of pushbuttons on some kind of a desk. None of the stuffy smell of fuel---it was all clean, efficient and simple. A gentle humming sound, soothing and pleasant, emanated from the floor of the craft, which gave me a sense of power and security.

"The porthole covers were open. Three sets of four. I looked out of one. I could see for miles, but it was far too hazy, and I was unable to see immediately below, because the hull of the craft was in the way. I did not think at first to look through the floor lens, until the Venusian gently drew my attention to it!

"The wonderful sight of rolling green country was breathtaking--I could now see clearly for miles --even the line of the blue sea in the distance.

"The tall spaceman and his companion were wearing dark-brownish suits, the trousers narrowing to the wrists and a high neckline. They were close fitting garments, but light and comfortable, made of a material not unlike a coarse shiny nylon.

"I was given refreshing water to drink, and a delicious red apple and other fruit similar to bananas. They are vegetarians. No wonder that they live and enjoy health so much longer than we do, with their diet and breathing such wonderful air. Yes, the tall, soft-spoken Venusian told me that the air I had been enjoying so much in the craft was Venusian air! He told me that there is a higher oxygen content in the Venusian atmosphere--that is, in the lowest strata of the atmosphere. That lower strata of the Venusian atmosphere is out of reach of the instruments used by scientists on Earth. The upper atmosphere envelope is poisonous and hot--extremely hot. He told me there is a great deal of water on Venus, and many rugged, high and beautiful mountains.

"The houses on Venus are built in a circular pattern--some are made of a special material that

permits the light to come through, but does not expose the occupants to the view of anyone on the outside. I said that I would love to go to Venus and to the Moon. Our Moon is not a dead world. Space people are based there. How kind, civilized and cultured they are!

"They are wise and understanding. They are watching us closely now that man is moving into space, and we have stated that the Moon is our first target. This will concern them vitally. Man will take war into space.

"The tall Venusian, who spoke perfect English told me how for a limited period he had lived and studied on Earth, travelling to various cities to see for himself how mankind lived and behaved. He was sad to see the mode of existence, precarious, and always with the threat of war. Aggressive, dominating nations would continue to rise to power, nations that are still uncivilized. The power of brute force still was rampant in the world. That was the tragedy, he told me, therefore how can the space people land amongst us?

"There was plenty of room to walk around in the cabin, but my whole attention was held by the personality of the spaceman. We talked about music, real and beautiful music. Not about the primitive jungle noise that is so popular throughout this world. The space people are highly sensitive to sounds--and music is a realm in which they all excel. Music is a part of their life. To most Earth people it is an education that takes many years to accomplish--if not a lifetime--and there are those on earth who can never understand music.

"I felt no movement in the craft at all, beyond the gentle humming. I was told they used natural forces to propel the saucer. How wonderful to harness these forces that the universe is made of. That is why eventually man must have a complete understanding of nature and the universe--until he does,

he is tied to limited mentality and capacities.

"The Venusian, who was sitting next to me as we conversed, said, 'I must now return you to the hill where I found you. Our time is up. Also David needs you. He is ill.' With sadness at leaving mingled with anxiety to return to see my son, we descended to land with a gentle touchdown on the hill.

"Both spacemen were very kind, gentle and considerate. The younger, shorter one had an olive skin and the older taller Venusian had a fair golden-hued one. The metal of the craft was smooth polished to touch, like a mirror. The automatic door opened and the tall Venusian led me through. Sadly, I waved goodbye, as I backed away from the craft and then stood to watch them take off. Without a sound, she rose slowly to hover for a moment--the rays from the setting sun flashing in rainbow colors on her sides, then gathering speed glided away into the southern sky."

Mrs. Klarer hurried home and found all as had been told her. David had a severe sore throat, which she was able to attend to...

Then on the morning of July 17, 1956, Mrs. Klarer was strangely expectant. She decided to go out into the open and picked up a box camera on her way. She climbed an elevation a short way from the home. While watching a storm brewing in the south, out of the clouds the saucer appeared. It flew all around her, ...doing various maneuvers...offering her an opportunity to use up the film...Of 7 photographs she took, 3 were particularly well-defined, while the rest were blurred.

Negatives and object have been examined and studied. Nobody could find anything that would arouse his suspicions. The family of Major Flowers, Elizabeth Klarer's brother-in-law, is in the position to testify that she took the photographs all by herself. Saucers and carrier ship have been seen over Major Flower's estate on more than one occasion...

(Readers may note similarities to Buck Nelson's story)

## SAUCER

## SIGHTING

## ROUNDUP

There have been no sightings in the Grand Rapids area reported to UForum for several months, so we are going to continue the condensation of sightings taken from C.R.I.F.O. "ORBIT"... which, by the way, has ceased publication as of March 1st.

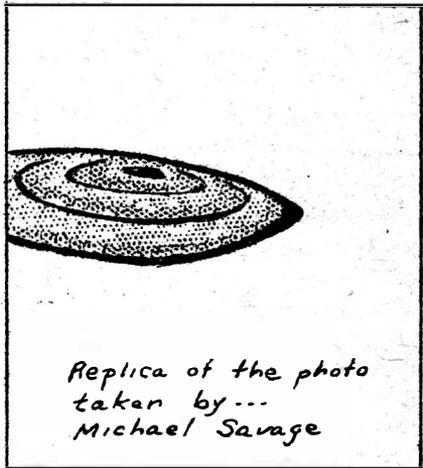
Case 172-Washington, Ind. (7-10-56) Frank Edwards of WTTV, Indianapolis sent in this one... "At 3:40 am I sneezed and awoke from a deep slumber. As I opened my eyes and looked out of the window, I saw this bright, star-like object moving in a due-east direction. Suddenly it stopped dead still...The object had a bluish cast and appeared to pulsate--- it was brighter than most stars....I focused binoculars on the object and made it out quite clearly. It consisted of eight lights. One bright light in the hub with two smaller ones on each side of the hub in all four directions of the compass...The center light...emitted a pulsating light that changed from red to blue, blue to red. All the lights would pulsate in unison...finally it moved toward the east again, made a semi-circle and stopped again...At 5:15 am the object began to climb higher and higher and moved off in a southeasterly direction."

Case 173-Gary, Ind. (7-14-56)-(Gary Post-Trib.) "The brilliant stranger appeared high in the southeastern sky, was visible for more than an hour and then moved into the infinity of the south...Five substantial citizens of Gary saw it...one, August Barnett said it was like a beautiful jewel...as big as a full moon...with a bright white light at its center...the outer edges could have been dotted with rubies it was so brilliant."

Case 174-San Bernardino, Cal. (7-19-56)-The San Bernardino Daily Sun carried a story and a large photo of a saucer, which was taken by Michael Savage 15, son of a doctor...His story follows..."I was

lying on the grass in my backyard, about to take a picture when a movement caught my eye. I turned to see it and saw a disc-shaped object not far away, which was receding rapidly. Immediately on seeing it, I turned my camera and took a quick shot at it because of its strange shape. After taking the picture I tried to watch the object and crank my film at the same time...as a result I overcranked and the next shot turned out to be a blank. The object did not disappear over the horizon, but seemed to shrink or dwindle as it disappeared. It was gone within 30 seconds after I spotted it." (Officers at George AFB expressed interest in the photo and wanted to see the negatives, orbit-cd) See below for a replica of the Savage photograph...

Michael Savage described the object as about 20 feet in diameter, it made no noise and had some apparatus or port-holes near the rear of the ship...It disappeared at a great rate of speed...at a 55° angle and was going against prevailing wind... AF Intelligence officers took the negative to Wright-Patterson AFB for analysis...(SAUCERS clip)



Case 175-San Joaquin Valley, Cal. (7-22-56)- Los Angeles Evening Herald Express said, "Authorities listed as 'flying saucer' stories reports of two mysterious flying objects over San Joaquin Valley. Investigators failed to find any trace of the craft which a woman near Fresno described as an oval object emitting a greenish light from its tail. A Tulare county resident said he saw a similar jet-like craft crash and explode near Pixley." Both incidents took place about 5:30 a.m., a little

more than five hours before the 'collision' between a C-131D and 'Unknown object' over Pixley.

Case 176-Sierra region, Cal. (7-22-56)- Miss Jane Purcell of Fresno reports..."A friend, Miss Imogene Okes, and I were camping out at Lake Mary, a spot of 9000 feet altitude in the Mammoth Lakes Region in the Higher Sierra country. At approximately 5:45 A.M., Miss Okes, unable to sleep, was looking at the sky...In the northwest she saw a ball of light followed by a short pointed tail. The colors, she said were similar to those of a bunsen burner and were arranged in the following manner: first the blue ball which faded into green, then yellow green, then yellow, then orange, and lastly diminishing into a trail of red sparks--the whole taking the shape of a cone with the axis in a roughly horizontal position...It was in view for about 3 or 4 seconds, traveling from east to west..."

Case 177-Cadillac, Mich. (7-28-56)- A brilliant white light which was reported in the August UForum in full...

Case 178-Bad Axe, Mich. (7-30-56)- Also reported in full in the August UForum.

Case 179-Brentwood, Cal. (7-28-56)- The Oakland Tribune reported that a three hour search failed to solve the mystery of a 'sparkling green light' which appeared to land in an orchard. Six residents and an Oakland visitor reported to the sheriff's deputy that at 9:55 P.M. Saturday they saw a "green flash going thru the sky and then fall or land in an orchard. Television reception was reported temporarily interrupted at that approximate time. Four sheriff's deputies and several reserve officers searched a square mile area at the 'landing spot' but found nothing. Officials at Oakland Airport & Hamilton & Travis AFB's said they knew of no planes in the Brentwood sky at the time.

**FLASH ! ! ! FLYING OBJECTS OVER SCOTLAND**

Just before UForum went to press, we heard the report over WOOD-TV that an object, much too large to have been an airplane was picked up on radar over Scotland. Radar observers in England were alerted to keep eyes peeled for this UFO apparently only seen on Radar. (wonder if this will make papers????Ed.?)

Two weeks ago a flying object was reported to have crash landed in North or South Carolina. Your editor did not hear broadcast but heard fragments of it from several reliable sources. Rumor has it that a man was injured by the crash...this report was carried on the Dave Garroway TODAY program but never made a single paper. Your editor spent hours poring over the pages of brainwashed national and local papers. Result....nothing to report...will investigate ...

**G. R. BIGOTS vs. FREE SPEECH**

Dr. Duncan Littlefair of Fountain Street Church, whose sermons waft like a fresh spring breeze over a dung heap of devil-worship, hellfire and brimstone was forced off the air (WGRD) by the complaints of Grand Rapids bigots...but little WMAX came to the rescue and will air his sermons at 4:15 p.m. every Sunday in spite of steady flow of gripes. If UForum readers want to strike a blow for free speech in this medieval(or is it mid-evil) town, write to WMAX asking them to continue these sermons.

**EVERY DAY BRINGS MORE TRAGIC PLANE CRASHES---WHY??****SECRET JET IS MISSING**

Burbank, Calif. (4-6-56)-AP--A search covering 3 states is under way for a top-secret Lockheed jet plane, missing since Thursday night on an experimental flight over Nevada. The plane called the U2 was on a high altitude test flight to determine its adaptability for extended weather reconnaissance.

## MICHIGAN FLYING SAUCER FEDERATION

MEETS IN GRAND RAPIDS MARCH 16th

The Michigan Flying Saucer Federation met at Van's Hamburg Shop on Saturday, March 16, 1957.

The meeting started at about 2p.m. and lasted until about 8p.m. Delegates came from all over the state. Two delegates each were present from the Interplanetary Foundation and Interplanetary Relations groups of Detroit. Two delegates each came from Plainwell Flying Saucer Club, Benton Harbor Flying Saucer Club, Kalamazoo Flying Saucer Study group, Grand Rapids Flying Saucer Club and UFOrum Bill Maier of Kalamazoo presided as chairman.

As the first order of business, it was decided that MFSF would support the newly reorganized National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena. In view of NICAP's new policies, most of the groups pledged their support and stated they would take out memberships in NICAP.

Much of the discussion centered around the adoption of new policy by MFSF but no new policy was adopted and the Federation will continue for the time being under the policies decided on at the first meeting at Plainwell last year.

A tentative meeting has been set for the latter part of April in Lansing.

The Interplanetary Foundation has offered to be host to a MFSF convention to be held in Detroit in June. It will be a two-day meeting and will probably include a picnic, and a Saucer lecturer of note.

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SAUCER NEWS from the LITTLE LISTENING POST...

...impassioned demands that Congress crash the 'iron curtain' that has dropped around this mystery of the ages... Chicago NEWS, 1-18 editorial said... "If there is an intelligence building saucers and scouting our planet, let's beat a path to them without delusion... saucer, is shushed...

**MYSTERIOUS PLANE CRASH IN COLOMBIA**

(Editor Bob Hillary tape-recorded the following excerpt from the Peter R. Clapper News Broadcast of March 10, 1957... 11 p.m.... station WJEF)

"In this hemisphere, the wreckage of a plane missing since Saturday (3-9-57), with 15 people aboard, has been spotted in the mountains of Western Colombia. Searchers said that a magnetic field, or possibly radioactivity in the Andes may have caused the crash. Compasses whirled as much as 180° off normal during the search."

Harold T. Wilkins, in his book "Flying Saucers on the Attack", states that, when one is faced with a mystery it is useful to look around and see if something similar has happened before...

On August 2, 1947, The British South American Airways' plane 'Lancastrian Star Dust', mysteriously vanished on a flight over the Andes. She was due to land at the airport at Santiago, Chile, at 5:45 p.m. At 5:41 p.m. she sent out a signal stating her time of arrival. But at the end of the message came the word "STENDEC" loud and clear, and given out very fast. The Chilean Air Force operator at Santiago, queried the word, which he did not understand. He heard it twice repeated by the plane. No explanation of this word has ever been found. Nothing further was heard from the plane, although calls were sent out. The plane never arrived and from that day to this, the mystery has never been solved. Searches by ski troops and planes were started and skilled mountaineers and motor cars hunted all over an area of 250 square miles, but in vain. 'Star Dust' carried a crew of 5, and there were 6 passengers. The pilot, Capt. R.J. Cook, had crossed the Andes 8 times as second pilot, but this was his first flight as Captain. He had been warned at Buenos Aires and also from London to take a different route if bad weather was experienced over the Andes. On the after-

noon when this plane vanished, a gale of 45 knots was blowing over the Andes, and the El Cristo pass over which he flew was veiled in snow and cloud. At 5 p.m., 41 minutes before the last message sent was received, Cook radioed the Santiago airport, stating he was climbing to 24,000 ft. There is no evidence that his plane overshot Santiago and fell into the Pacific. Indeed, it seems unlikely for the plane would then have been out of the bad weather.

Aboard the 'Star Dust' when it so mysteriously vanished, was a British King's Messenger on a mission for the British Foreign Office. He had had a hectic career in World War II and had spent some time in South America. Ex-police superintendent Askew, who was senior security officer at the foreign office, said..."There were whispers of sabotage, but nothing was ever found to explain the mystery of the airliner 'Star Dust' which vanished over South America."

Sabotage has become an overworked explanation. It does not explain the cryptic radio signal STENDEC! Who twice repeated that mysterious word "STENDEC", which the Chilean operator said was loud, clear & fast? Did something intercept the plane?????

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SAGINAW FORMING SAUCER CLUB

Mr. Joseph L. Wagner of 515 N. 3rd st, Saginaw 12, has requested that we announce that he is interested in forming a saucer club in the Saginaw-Bay City area. Anyone living in that area interested in helping to form such a group should contact Mr. Wagner..."Saginaw needs such a group".

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