

The Flying Saucer Mystery

(By MARK McDONALD)

We conclude in this issue the article by Mr. Mark MacDonald.

In this last part of my article we will endeavour to establish the answers to a number of questions that usually arise wherever the flying saucer mystery is discussed. After carefully considering the reports in Part I, which dated back to 1882, we can now approach the question with a fair knowledge of the saucer, in its many forms and habits.

It is essential that you realise that a far greater percentage of the reports came from U.S.A., but I have avoided any American newspaper sensationalism, and only used those reports that had at least been scientifically considered.

Now here are the questions:
**IF THEY DO EXIST
WHAT DO THEY LOOK
LIKE**

From eye-witness accounts and photographs they are all round. Viewed at a great height they appear like a saucer or flat dish, hence the term "flying saucer." It is true some have been reported as being "elongated," "cigar-shaped" and so on, but anything round, moving at such speed, looks elongated and cigar-shaped, to the human eye.

Most have a plain underside, and a dome on top. They have varied in size; some have been small disc-like objects, sometimes singular, other times they have appeared in flights of a dozen or more. (Most of these reports sound as if the persons were suffering from a liver complaint.) The flying saucer that

were suffering from a liver complaint.) The flying saucer that was photographed in Brazil was about twice the size of a Douglas airliner!

**HOW ARE THEY
PROPELLED**

This is one of the many confusing issues. No one is quite sure whether they are jet powered, or are powered by some hidden or invisible propulsion unit. Some make no noise at all, while others are accompanied by an ear shattering, high pitched scream. Perhaps the frequency range of the power units' sound is beyond the limits of the human ear, just the same as a dog whistle. All flying saucers sighted at night appear to glow with a bluish white light, which might easily explain the presence of some power unit. Some do have a rocket exhaust, but none of the reports give any concrete details. Some power unit must exist but what it is and what form it takes, no one knows. It is certainly something that is far beyond aeronautical dreams at the moment.

**WHAT DRIVES A
SAUCER, WHO CON-
TROLS THEM**

Experts believe that they are radio controlled. At least that is the most satisfactory explanation of them all. As mentioned before an American author wrote a book in which he claimed the flying saucers came from outer-space! In his book he made the suggestion that they were piloted by strange beings from another planet. While all this sounds fantastic, no scientist has offered any reason why it should not be! These beings, he claimed, were actually super-ants, or bees which through some unaccountable twist in the evolution of the other planet had become the masters, just as man did on earth! He also claim-

man did on earth! He also claimed that some saucers are radio controlled, while others are manually operated. There are many prominent scientists who agree that the saucers could come from another planet; this might sound "far fetched," but 50 years ago Grandfather would have laughed at anyone who dreamed of London only 36 hours from Sydney! At the moment scientists are talking about establishing space stations 2,000 miles above the earth which will be supported by a centre of gravity similar to that which supports the world we live in; Grandfather would have called you mad had you told him that at the turn of the century!

There is no proof that these objects we call flying saucers do come from space, but no explanation has been found for them on our planet, so I guess we must look elsewhere!

COULD THEY BE AMERICAN OR RUS- SIAN SUPER JET PLANES

Aircraft designers say no! While nothing is impossible (even to space visitors) it is most unlikely that the U.S.A., Russia or Great Britain have advanced anywhere near the flying saucer era in aviation. This applies especially to Soviet Russia, who is well known to be dragging the chain in aircraft design! Some British jet designers say the flying saucer is only in their wildest dreams, and will remain in the distant future for some considerable time yet!

Internationally known journalist and radio announcer, Henry J. Taylor, claimed in a radio broadcast in 1950, that they were definitely experimental aircraft belonging to the American Navy and Army Air Forces. In his broadcast he

Forces. In his broadcast he made the statement that they ranged in size from 20 inches in diameter, to 250 feet in diameter! He went on to say, "they can stand momentarily stationary in the air. Then they dash off to the left or right, wobbling and picking up speed, in a lazy sort of way, airline pilots constantly report, until they move like lightning. But they are utterly harmless!"

He then went on to describe what the cigar-shaped, flaming objects were in these words: "This terrifying-looking thing is not a flying saucer. Nor is it really the shape of a cigar. It is nearly round, and unlike the flying saucers, men are in them. It is a U.S. Navy experimental fighter, a great jet airplane of incredible speed. It really looks like, and is shaped like a pan-

cake. Around the edge of its disclike body is a series of square jet-engine louvers which frame the blazing light of exhausts. They are not windows. Flying at night, it looks like a flat flaming disk in the air. It flies faster than I am permitted to say."

He concluded with these words, "This did not come from Russia or Mars. It came from Maryland. This the U.S. Navy confirmed, and I am free to tell you. But anything more must come from the military authorities."

COULD THEY BE HALLUCINATIONS

The Saucer Investigation Committee believes that 90 per cent. of all reports are the results of mass hysteria, or completely bogus from the beginning. Nevertheless one in ten reveals a genuine story, such as airline and Air Force pilots have given. It seems that although the greater number of reports are groundless, the

though the greater number of reports are groundless, the genuine few give one far more than just food for thought!

DO RUSSIANS SEE THEM TOO

Saucer reports have leaked through the "iron curtain," but none have been reported in detail. It is known that top level Russian security has been investigating flying saucer reports since the end of World War II in 1945. It appears that the Russians are just as anxious to find the answer as we are, for they fear they may be American jet planes, just as American fear they may be Russian!

FROM REPORTED ENCOUNTERS ARE THEY HOSTILE OR FRIENDLY

To all accounts they have been perfectly friendly so far, although two cases of violence on the part of saucers are evident. First was Captain Mantell's death while chasing one over Kentucky in 1947; the other was a fire ball shot at scoutmaster Desvergers in Florida last year! At the moment it seems safe to assume they are harmless while left alone!

COULD LIFE EXIST ON ANOTHER PLANET

This is a question that man has asked ever since the science of astronomy was first practiced. It would be wrong to consider our planet Earth as the only world capable of supporting life of some description, but there is no evidence of it existing on our immediate neighbours Venus, Saturn and Mars; although the latter has caused wide-spread speculation for many years. The new science of Radio Astronomy has opened up vast fields of new planets hitherto completely unknown to astronomy. These planets could be far ad-

vanced in evolution, and when one considers a world 1,000 years in advance of ours, nothing could be impossible regarding inter-planetary flight! The possibilities of space visitors may sound fantastic, but are nevertheless well worth considering.

CONCLUSION

Whether the reports and general information regarding flying saucers from all over the world, are correct or not, stories of flying phenomena from the past and present indicate that "saucers" in some form or

other will be with us for a long time yet!

Recent information to hand from Canada reveals that the De Havilland Company there are now perfecting a practical flying saucer! The type of engine still remains a mystery, but they do explain that the power unit has to be mounted in the centre of the airplane. Aircraft design is moving at such a terrific speed that new and revolutionary aircraft of "saucer" design may appear almost overnight. Apparently the Canadian "saucer" is the only one under known construction, and even its final success is not definite.

Aeronautical experts now agree that the best shape for aircraft intended to travel at enormous speeds is the disc or flying saucer design! This makes the flying saucer very possible even for the most doubtful among us!

U.S. Air Force Chief, General Hoyt Vandenburg, declared that the flying saucers reported were not "machines flown by men from Mars, nor from any foreign powers. Nor is the Air Force or any Military Agency... saucer."

sausage."

What are we to believe? It is true we have reliable information, even photographs to prove their existence, but we still face a blank wall! What are they?

Perhaps we will not have long to wait for the real answer, in the meantime we have one of the most interesting fireside arguments of the century. What do you think?