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August 1955 2 page one

MAN ENTERS GROUNDED DISC

The Caracas, Venezuela Daily Newspaper, "El Universal" carried an almost weird sequel to the events of last fall when on May 7 1955, the story of an engineer's encounter with a saucer and it's defunct occupants in 1950, was aired for the first time within it's pages. Our Caracas informant, Horacio Gonzales, forwarded to APRO along with one picture taken at the spot, the following story:

Doctor B was driving along the highway about 75 miles from his hotel in an isolated region called Bahia Blanca, in Argentina, when he saw the metallic discoide object resting on the ground to his left off the highway. He stopped the car to investigate and immediately decided it must be one of the much-discussed 'flying saucers'. He watched it for a few moments to see what it would do, but as nothing took place, he approached it and saw an opening or door in it's side. He looked inside and it appeared to be empty. There was a red light pulsating in the dome at intervals of one second. Curious, he went inside and was surprised to see a sort of curved divan with three seats; two of which were occupied by small beings covered from head to foot (except for an opening for the face) in a kind of tight-fitting overall of a brown color. He estimated the height of the beings to be about four feet. Their faces seemed charred or burnt, with holes where the eyes should have been. Another of the little creatures was sprawled in a seat situated in approximately the center of the enclosure. ate-colored eyes - Roar light tobacco-Colored faces

In front of them was a screen with rays playing on it, and on top of the screen was a globe of glass or other transparent material which was rotating. An ungovernable impulse urged Dr. B to touch one of the creatures, and it felt stiff and rigid. It was then, he said, that some inner voice told him to get out as soon as possible as he was in the presenceof 'strange life' and he rushed to his car and sped off at high speed, not-stopping until he reached his hotel. He related his story to a few intimate friends and armed with a camera, they decided to return. But as night had already fallen, and due to the isolation of the region, they refrained from going that very night but returned to the place the next day. On reaching the spot, all that was found where the disc had rested was a heap of ashes.

Dr. B. took 2 pictures of the ash heap and each of the three men of the group actually felt it with his hands which turned a purplish color.

Doctor B. and his friends were wandering around the site looking

for additional clues, when upon looking upwards, they saw three objects. One of the objects was cigar-shaped and situated at a very high altitude, and the other two objects were discoide and smaller. One of the discs was hovering above them at an estimated height of about 600 meters, and Dr. B. estimated it's diameter to be about 10 meters. He began to take pictures hurriedly. In all, he snapped 5 or 6 pictures, only two of which show the objects with any degree of clarity.

The group felt that they were observed during their search and picture taking for the two discs shot up, MERGED with the cigar-shaped object which, after travelling horizontally for a short distance, turned blood red, made a 90 degree turn and disappeared into space in a few seconds, ascending vertically. The Dr. estimated the speed to be about 12,000 kilometers per hour.

Dr. B. told Mr. Gonzales during a personal interview, that although the object which he had entered had a metallic appearance, it felt sort of resilient like rubber, and that there were some holes or vents in the floor. For weeks afterward he said, he suffered from a fever or high body temperature and his skin was covered with blisters. Although he consulted several doctors, none were able to diagnose his illness nor relieve it and it went away after a time. Dr. B. had been wearing green-tinted sunglasses when he entered the disc, and the outline of the glasses was impinged in red around both eyes. One Doctor tested him with a geiger counter but could find no trace of radioactivity. However, greenish spots were visible on his skin, and which diappeared with the application of Listerine.

Mr. Gonzales, when he forwarded one negative and two prints of one of the exposures made, also made a few comments about the social standing and character of Dr. B. Incidentally, Dr. B. is an aeronautical engineer with a Doctor's degree. He is about 40 years of age, Italian nationality, and speaks Spanish and English. He is an ex-war pilot. The whole incident took place in 1950 in Argentina. In 1953 Dr. B. moved to Venezuela and did not even contemplate telling of his experience until after the events in and around Caracas in the fall of 1954.

Doctor B. contacted a reporter with the El Universal and told his story, stipulating that his name be kept clear of the whole thing. This has been done and is the reason that he has been referred to as Dr. B. in this paper. We have carefully examined the negative and prints furnished us by Mr. Gonzales, and have decided that if <u>any</u> pictures purported to be of UFO are genuine, these certainly <u>are</u>! We are awaiting further detailed information regarding the interior of the disc, which will be published in the next issue of the Bulletin.

At this writing, efforts are being made to reproduce two sketches of the interior and exterior of the disc plus the picture of the disc hovering above Dr. B and his friends, with ozalid facilities. If this is accomplished, one copy of each will be attached to this bulletin and all members who wish glossy photo prints of same may obtain same by writing to the Director. We hope to have the cost of same

the air and space vehicles to the Air Force. There is a certain amount of superficial sense to this, and the end of this whole business will probably see the Air Force building and launching the satellite from the White Sands-Holloman AFB or Banana Run range, with Dr. Oberth presiding over the whole proceeding.

We are inclined to favor Oberth above many of the other scientists from his country for moral reasons. He was one of the few Germans who stuck to his own country to help in the rebuilding process while his exalted colleagues chose another country, another allegiance and the glamour and security of the American dollar.

SIGHTINGS

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK. May 15, 1955: Warren Siegmond took pictures of a UFO from his roof in New York City while photographing a friend. The friend, Miss Jeannine Bouiller, spotted the object in the sky and Siegmond proceeded to snap it. Siegmond said the craft wheeled as he photographed it, it's sharp metallic glitter faded, it became a blur and vanished. An Air Force officer, upon being shown thepictures said, "Whatever it was, it was moving." Whatever sober reflection may have been gained for the public through reading accounts of the episode were promptly lost to hope when the pictures were shown a NYC saucer club president who is also involved in spiritualism, etc. At first glance, this person ohed and ahed about them---proving without a doubt to the newspaper men that all researchers jump the gun and are over-hasty in their judgement. Nevertheless, these pictures seem to be genuine, somewhat resembling one of the first saucer photos ever taken---over Phoenix, Arizona in 1947.

Another one of those mysterious 'fireballs' was seen near CARSON NEBRASKA on the 7th of May. Three musicians returning from a dance date watched a 'great big fireball which looked like a firecracker'. The object appeared to the men to be about a half a mile away and not very high. Jack Schaff, one of the trio, said it disappeared into the hills after about 30 seconds.

Member Stephen Seach relayed the following report from Rockford, Illinois. Unfortunately no date was given but we assume it was in May. Stephen's duty watch is 8 to 10 p. m. and on this particular night two boys called to report a white object going from north to south. While talking to Stephen on the phone, they told him it had started to ascend vertically. Stephen then called the Supervisor of the GOC, also the Chicago Filter Center. The Filter Center told him to keep a sharp watch, and Gregory, the Rockford Supervisor, told him to report to him personally no matter what time it was if the object reappeared. Gregory then told Seach that 'they are out again

and we've had more than one report on them.' (Aha---so reports are declining---eh?---Ed.)

A flaming object was seen near Jonesport, Main, on May 9 and is still unidentified. The latest Air Force statement is that they have not determined whether it was a guided missile or meteorite. The object, reported to have 'exploded' early in the afternoon, was called a 'flaming object' by observers. No reports of missing planes, and a careful ground search in the area where the object is believed to have fallen after it exploded, yielded nothing.

On March 29 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rosplicka of Friend, Nebraska, observed a red light in the sky which looked like a quarter moon on fire, went through several maneuvers, then disappeared from view.

Sixty years ago on a nice warm summer evening at about 5 p. m., a little girl and her cousin witnessed a strange sight in the sky. Just a few weeks ago, that girl now 70 years old, wrote to the Director and described the objects she had seen. We can definitely say it is one of the best 'old sightings' which has come to our attention. Mrs. J. C. Allen, the witness, said the things looked like crystal or polished metal balls strung out in a zig-zag line with some sort of connecting links also resembling crystal or polished metal. The objects seemed to hang directly over her parents' farm, swinging like a pendulum, and getting higher and less visible all the time. The whole sighting lasted 20 minutes when the objects disappeared from view.

May 19, 1955, Montrose, California: Three silvery disc-shaped objects seen cruising high over the Montrose-La Crescenta area at sunset. Observed by the Sheriff and deputies, also Pasadena police who went out and got a good look for themselves after scores of puzzled residents began calling the station. Authorities at Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, after being informed of the sighting said they didn't plan to make an investigation. No weather balloons were aloft, and the formation was changing formation as if playing tag. These objects were over Mt. Wilson, and we're wondering if the boys at the observatory might have gotten a good look or photos with telescopes and camera equipment. The objects were definitely disc-shaped and silvery, bunched together, climbed one atop the other or hung motionless in the sky. This, members, is the sighting which was tagged as just a bunch of 'pelicanus erythrorhynochos'. That, friends, to saucer-lubbers like ourselves, is nothing; but in simple language it means---pelicans. Nuts. The fellow who called this tune was a fish and game warden who didn't even see the objects.

Several incidents which took place at about the same time as the 'pelican incident' are most unusual, to say the least. They go something like this: The Pasadena Filter Center said that the UFOs were 'three balloons linked together'---but the Weather Bureau said that no balloons were aloft!

The day after the Pelican incident, Friday, May 20th, a powerful

blast rocked 8 square miles of San Gabriel Valley and broke plate glass windows and a car windshield. It seemed to be worse in the Temple City-El Monte area. The papers called it the 'most powerful sonic blast ever felt here.' The sheriff's office said that 'some callers told of seeing a 'flash in the sky'---andhearing a plane. But Captain Griggers of the Aero Squadron explained that this was doubtful. He said the pilot may have been as high as 35,000 feet when he broke the sound barrier and he would have been miles away by the time the shock waves reached the earth. APRO members will recall the mysterious explosion that rocked the west cost of New Zealand's South Island on February 6 when people reported seeing a strange silver shape flash overhead at the time.

Member Jackie Sanders (who, incidentally, furnished us with the bulk of this information) remembers when she stood in the crowd at Edwards Air Force Base last June when the Armed Forces Day show featured a sonic boom. She was disappointed, to say the least, and recalls a new law which forbids 'sonic booming' over populated areas. We remember that one also---in fact, it is forbidden to do it over most Air Bases.

On Tuesday, 24 May, several 'sonic booms' were felt in the Los Angeles area---but the papers were silent. A friend of Mrs. Sanders sent a clipping from a San Gabriel Valley local sheet which described the booms and blamed them on a construction company blasting 'illegally' up in Sawpit Canyon.

Mrs. Sanders (who really knows her Southern California area) points out that she and her Mother felt and heard the blasts but they were faint---while her friend, who lives further away from the Sawpit Canyon area than she does, described them as having shaken and rattled houses, windows and doors. The sheriff's office at San Dimas said it was not felt there, but it was heard and felt at March Field. The latest attempt at explanation was a hazy thing about atmospheric conditions distorting the sound and disguising it's real origin.

The ORD QUIZ for May 5,1955, describes the harrowing 10 mile drive made by one Don Wiberg, a 17 year old high school student when he was alternately pursued and preceded from 6 miles north of Loup City, Nebraska to Ord, Nebraska, by a cigar-shaped (with sharp ends standing vertically) glow. The object, as described by Wiberg, was dense in the center, but the aura or halo around it was more or less tenuous and the light of the stars could be seen through it. The object was estimated to be 15 to 20 feet long and about 3 to 5 feet wide at the middle. Don encountered the glow at 1 a. m., 6 miles north of Loup City when he turned a sharp turn and saw the thing directly ahead of him about half a mile down the road. The object stayed the same distance ahead of him, seemed to brighten when he put out his lights at a dangerous curve crossing to see if a car was coming. He went on, the object was lost from view when he came to a heavily wooded area. Three miles later, Wiberg stopped to see if he had really lost the thing, saw it about 300 feet back of him in the middle of the road,

and moving toward him. He got into his car, drove to his home in Ord. His family later remarked on how excited he was when he arrived home. Don and Editor Bill Lee attempted to see the apparition again Friday morning, but had no luck. Three days later cattle on a nearby farm were stampeded through three fences---no one had an explanation of that incident, either.

Fresno, California, August 3, 1955: Two reports of unidentified flying objects over Fresno. Warren Langer, weather observer briefer stationed at the fede ral weather bureau at the Fresno Air Terminal, observed a round, silver colored object moving through the skies at a 'regular rate of speed'. Langer was making observations of a weather balloon at about 1:30 p. m. when the object passed through his field of view, travelling against the wind. "I was sighting through a theodolite at a pilot balloon," he said, "when the object passed close by the balloon". He said the balloon was at about 30,000 feet. " I followed for 20 to 30 seconds and it moved away at a regular rate of speed", he added. "I had no way of estimating its distance but it must have been up somewhere near the balloon. It appeared about one fourth or one third the size of the balloon, which is six feet in diameter. The other sighting involved the sighting of a mysterious speeding light over the city, by an International News Service Photographer. No further details.

Ainsworth, Nebraska, 9 August, 1955: The Hal Masters, Earl Smith and Lawrence Clapper families observed a bright object about the size of the full moon or larger which hung in the same position in the sky for approximately two hours between 9 and 11 p. m. The witnesses said that during short intervals the object disappeared and when it did, spark-like objects or rockets could be seen shooting northward from it. The observers all live about 20 miles southwest of Ainsworth. In order to keep track of the object it was necessary to climb a nearby hill.

LIMA, PERU, May 29, 1955: Eight persons, among whom are a pilot, radio operator and a meteorologist, saw a squadron of five UFO for a period of two hours maneuvering above the Pisco Airport situated about 270 kilometers south of Lima, Peru. The airport observers watched the object through a theodolite. According to the meteorologist Mr. Luciano Cardenas, he saw the saucers when he was tracking the flight of a trial balloon; they appeared to be rumboid in shape with brilliant borders and in their centers toward the rear part were rectangular marks, while from the rest of the surface there was emitted a brilliant white light. The objects were maneuvering in circles above the air field at an estimated height of about 3,200 meters. The objects were also observed by other employees of the airport, and also a Peruvian Air Force pilot who was coming in at the same time to refuel his plane. The pilot said that he could not identify them as any product of the aviation industry known on earth.

LA GUAIRA, VENEZUELA, June 2, 1955: A strange giant fireball was seen by the inhabitants of Gatia La Mar as it descended to situate

itself at a height of some 10 meters from the ground. Some of the persons who saw the object said that it had small windows in its upper section. After remaining steady in the air for a few minutes, the strange machine flew over the whole length of the beach until it disappeared.

PETARE, VENEZUELA, June 10: At about 8 p. m. the news spread like wildfire that again various UFO had appeared over the town. (See APRO Bulletin for January 1955). Reporters immediately rushed to the scene and Gonzalo Laguna Reyes, sewing machine merchant, said he heard a loud strange noise and went out into his yard to see what it was. On looking up into the sky he was astonished to see a squadron of flying saucers landing on the hill andleaving a trail of smoke accompanied by a ray of light approximately 4 meters long. Reyes described the objects as looking like 'flattened balls'. He called his family to see and they could all make out signs of movement of the occupants. They all decided to go up to the hill to investigate but at this very moment the saucers took off in a direction from East to West and gave the general impression that they were going to land at the Carlotta Airport. The statement of Reyes concerning the objects and their maneuvers was corroborated by Mrs. Carmen de Rodrigues who says that she also heard the sound, saw the trailland the luminous ray of light. She also said there were at least five of the objects, which flew as fast as jet planes and passed immediately above her house.

PUNTO FIJO, VENEZUELA, August 6, 1955: A luminous object was seen flying at a fantastic speed over Puerto Cumarebo by three gentlemen.. Mr. Clement Rodriguez, Rafael Martinez and Francisco Cruz Lemos said they saw an object as bright as a searchlight, and bright enough to be seen through the clouds. It crossed the skies from North to South and returned to its point of origin and disappear in space.

WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO, CANADA, July 13: Harold Prestage, who lives 2½ miles from Innerkip reported that on July 12 he saw 8 flying saucers between 8 and 9 p. m. His housekeeper also saw them. Prestage said that the oval, chrome-colored objects were clean-cut at the edges shaped like dinner plates and were in sight for 15 minutes.

LONDON, ENGLAND, May 26: The crew of a Portugese air lines Skymaster claimed when they landed in London May 25 from Lisbon that they had seen a 'long, cigar-shaped object without wings traveling at terrific speed as they approached London. Radio Officer Jaoa Almeida said that in nine years of flying he had 'never seen anything like it! "It was long and slim and seemed to be revolving as it flashed under the nose of the aircraft," Almeida said.. "It looked like it was made of aluminum and seemed to be only about 100 yards away, but I could be wrong." Flight Engineer Jose Silva said: "The object seemed to approach from the port side and pass right under the nose. To me it looked like a silver cigar, and there was no smoke trail coming from it". The Portugese plane was flying at between 5,000 and 6,000 feet at the time. A British Air Ministry spokesman said the report will be investigated.

FRANCE, July 5, 1955: AP Wire Service carried a photo and small description of what is called the "French Version of a Flying Saucer Machine". Looks like two saucers slapped together with an air bubble at the top. Typical newspaper filler stuff.

ENGLAND, July 5, 1955: Southern England badly shaken by one of those mysterious explosions. The usual 'meteoric explosion when a meteorite comes into contact with the atmosphere' and 'jet plane breaking sound barrier' theories were exhumed, but hours after the huge explosion shook an area 40 miles in diameter, Scotland Yard said: "It's still a mystery." Then---a jet pilot came forward (so the papers said) and admitted that while his oxygen tube got tangled in his parachute harness the plane swerved, gathered speed and rocketed through the sound barrier. This is one of the limpest explanations we've heard yet. Except for the most classified test planes still unproven, most jets have to be kicked through the sound barrier-they don't just wander through.

COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI, OHIO, August 3, 1955: Glowing round object seen over Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio. Many observers, little mention by press or radio.

XENIA, OHIO, August 13, 1955: Schoolteacher observes bright red sphere apparent size of a tennis ball with tail. Tail resembled vapor trail of jet, only colored a lighter shade than the object itself. Tail appeared to be 10-15 feet long, if compared with size of a tennis ball. Object traveling rapidly to the southeast, disappeared behind trees, hindering further observation. Seen only for a few seconds.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, March 30, 1955. Triangle-shaped object of silver color hovered over this Air Base for about 15 minutes early one morning. Reported on the 8 a. m. newscast but never mentioned again. Newspapers carried no account of this one either. Object observed by friend of APRO member Miriam Yoakley of Xenia. Observer was riding bus past the air base and everyone riding the bus also observed it.

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, August 11, 1955: Unnamed lady (by request) observed a triangular-shaped object at about 9:30 p. m. The front end of the object was dark, middle part was bluish green, and the rear of the object was very bright. Seen low on the horizon above the trees, heading north and slightly west. There was no sound, trail, and the light of the object was not hazy, but rather 'brighter than the sun', as the observer described it. The lady said that the object appeared to be about 10 times as long as the width of the crossbar of a TV antenna in the neighborhood. By way of estimating the length of time that the sighting lasted, she said that she walked about 60 feet toward the north while keeping the object in view. This would be from 15 to 20 seconds, depending upon the speed at which the lady walked. At any rate, taking into consideration the limit of time that a meteor may be observed, this sighting cannot possibly be called a meteor.

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odds 'n' ends

On May 23, saucer fans the world over were excited by the statement by Dorothy Kilgallen reporting that a 'British official of Cabinet rank' had told her that British scientists and airmen, after examining the wreckage of one mysterious flying ship, are convinced that the saucers are not optical illusions or Soviet inventions, but are actually space ships from another planet. We appreciate the fact that Miss Kulgallen got a little saucer news into print, but lament the fact that it is always the amateurs in this business who get the space sans ridicule. If a bona fide authority (not the AF) could get two columns a day in every chain paper in the U. S., without smartalec editor's notes, thepublic would soon begin to ask a few questions with blood in their eyes. But alas, the press in the United States is as silent about flying saucers after a sighting as a thief is after a robbery.

Mrs. Herold Taylor of Albion, Nebraska, supervisor of the GOC post there, mentioned along with a news release regarding her replacement, that she had just received some new instructions for operation of the post, including closer identification of unidentified flying objects.

On August 7, the Air Force announced at Denver, Colorado that Californians have nothing to fear from the plastic strips which have been falling in the Sacramento area---if the strips are from giant weather balloons released at Denver two or three times a week. This is nice to know---inasmuch as the news of the plastic strips hadn't gotten out as yet---and the 'if' in this report sounds significant to us.

OTTAWA, CANADA, May 18, 1955: Wilbur B. Smith, director of the Broadcast and Measurement Section, and the man who made such a splash with his 'saucer detecting station' a year ago, has declared his belief that the departmentwas premature in closing down operations in that field. Smith said that only the day after the first positive results were obtained on the instruments, the whole operation was closed down. (Our theory, Mr. Smith, is that the saucer hunting station probably still operates, but without your knowledge. It is not likely that the Canadian government has completely abandoned the search, but merely felt that in veiw of your unprecedented and frank statements regarding interplanetary saucers, it would be expedient to establish another station with someone else in charge---Editor).

STUART, NEBRASKA, April 7, 1955: Residents of this town were experiencing unexplainable static on home radio sets. The same thing was happening in neighboring communities, was described in the press as 'terrific static'. Nebraska has been experiencing quite a few reports of UFO---we wonder if there might be some connection.

TV is now featuring a good number of shows with saucers the focal point of interest. We are thinking specifically of "A Night of Terror in New Mexico" on the Sunday "Science Fiction Theater" and the "Sunday Matinee" show of August 2.

The Futility of Fear and Fear of the Unknown were repeated phrases in a Civil Defense film recently. This, coupled with the warning of the "World Interplanetary Association" that the Geneva conference is merely to decide what to do about our interplanetary visitors, may be the beginning of a new trend. Could that blurb about the Association be merely a feeler to measure public reaction? It was one of the few saucer articles carried by the news wires in over a year.

Our hands are extended to Dr. Charles Maney, head of the department of Physics at Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio. An article by him and published in the Toledo Blade is another link in the evidence for the UFO. He is another of many scientists who are forsaking fear of adverse public opinion for the sake of truth. The last paragraph is enough to spell out Dr. Maney's stand on the whole subject: "The true scientific attitude or approach to any subject for investigation is that of an open mind---to let the facts as they can be best appraised spell out the conclusions." We are happy and proud to say that Dr. Maney is one of our members. Other scientists who hold APRO membership cards might take a clue from the Doctor and his example.

La Paz of U. of N. M. Meteorities department is still chasing fireballs and still says he doesn't know what they are. Air Force spokesmen at Biggs AFB at El Paso state that the 'matter is by no means closed'.

We're wondering why all the pitch to promote GOC in the New Mexico-West Texas area. The area is literally lousy with radar and many other tracking devices. Could it be that the military is concerned about the 'hostile aircraft' which can be seen but not tracked by mechanical means?

A badly needed rest has kept the Director inactive since the April bulletin was issued. Back to normal now, she is hoping to be able to attach ozalid reproductions (experimental, as this process is new to her and Mr. Lorenzen) of the Argentine saucer of Dr. B's experience, and the sketches submitted by him. If enough requests come in, glossy prints of the photos will be issued to members at cost. Permission for reproduction in the United States has been given to APRO alone.

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