The A. P. R. O. Bulletin

The A. P. R. O. Bulletin is the official copyrighted publication of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (A. P. R. O.), 1712 Van Court, Alamogordo, New Mexico, and is issued every other month to members only. The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization is a non-profit group dedicated to the eventual solution of the mystery of the unidentified objects which have been present in the skies for hundreds of years. Inquires regarding membership may be made to the above address.

ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO — JULY, 1957

UAO Hovers Over Holloman AFB

On June 4 at approximately 12:30 a. m. a pale, blue-green globe-shaped light approached Holloman Air Force Base from the direction of Sierra Blanca (referred to as "Old Baldy Mountain") in the northwest. The speed of the object was not great, and the outstanding feature of this incident is what the object did when it reached the air base.

During a period of between 10 and 15 minutes astonished civilian and military observers watched the weird object swing to and fro like a pendulum. There was no discernible shape except the light, which was either large at high altitude or small at low altitude.

The light, as though bent on a specific mission, swung in even arcs over the base, then headed for White Sands Proving Ground, to the Southwest, and when over that area, again began the pendulum-like swing. It was observed by military and civilian personnel at the Proving Grounds also. After 10 or 15 minutes (we couldn't verify the *exact* time interval) of this maneuvering, the light began a swift ascension and disappeared into the sky over the Proving Ground.

The Director waited several weeks, meanwhile gathering pertinent information, before calling the PIO at Holloman for confirmation. On July 10 at 7:35 a. m. she called and talked to Public Information Officer Major John W McCurdy. She identified herself, then stated that she had called to inquire about the sighting made over Holloman in June. It was apparent the Major was familiar with the Director's name, for he didn't ask for it again. Neither did he ask about what specific sighting, or the details.

Major McCurdy merely said that the PIO had no information or official release on the sighting, and that "technical people would be more concerned" with such a matter. Mrs. Lorenzen then said, "Then you will neither confirm nor deny the sighting?" The Major said that was correct. Mrs. Lorenzen then thanked him for his courtesy and time and hung up the telephone.

The whole situation is somewhat disconcerting, as it only adds to the already sound assumption that the AF is holding back information regarding UAO. Major McCurdy was evidently well aware of the sighting, for he didn't seem curious about it. Usually reliable sources other than the eye witnesses who told us of the sighting, have informed us that radar confirmation was obtained, at least at Holloman if not aot White Sands, that a CIA investigator visited Holloman and the Photo Lab, and that films of the object and its maneuvers were obtained.

Holloman Air Research and Development Center is one of, if not the most, important guided missile testing range in the United States. No planes were sent up to investigate the strange, unknown aerial visitor which hovered for at least TEN MINUTES over the Base on June 4. To even theorize that the object was one of our own test vehicles is ridiculous—test missiles are not ranged over the base proper because such tactics would be too dangerous.

This observation is without a doubt one of the most important sightings ever to be made of an unconventional aerial object.

Four Objects Over Kansas City, Kansas

We are indebted to Frank Inderwiesen for the following detailed account of four UAO in flight over Kansas City. Mr. Inderwiesen, an electronics engineer on business in this vicinity, had heard of us and stopped for a chat, meanwhile relating the following:

On 23 May, John Campbell, Theodore Cox, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Barnett, all employees of the main Quindaro Power Plant, observed four round, bluish-silver objects in the sky. Campbell and Cox were getting ready to do some painting, saw the objects and called to Mr. Wilson, head custodian and Mr. Barnett, the janitor, and they also observed the objects.

As they came into view, the objects were in a "box" formation with the first two objects about one diameter of the object apart, and the second two objects, also abreast of each other, spaced the same but about 6 or 7 diameters to the rear of the leaders. The observers estimated their speed to be betwen 300 and 500 mph, based on observations of the speed of B-47s they had watched.

Suddenly the rear pair of UAO flipped on edge, made a tight turn and headed northwest. The two forward objects continued on for a space, then flipped on edge, accelerated to catch up, then resumed formation with the others and the whole formation went out of sight. The UAO to the left in the rear formation was described as red, somewhat like a red neon sign, on top, and this red top was on the inside of the turn when the turn was made.

The observers said the objects appeared to be very thin when viewed on edge, as compared to the diameter. There was no sound and nó trail. A TWA constellation was at about 2,000 feet in the sky, and the UAO appeared to be much higher. Surface winds were mrom the north.

The pairs of UAOs, after flipping on edge, made a tight turn in a formation like the two rear wheels of an automobile would make in executing a turn. Also it was noted that the objects did not completely return to a horizontal position after the turn, but remained slightly tilted as they faded into the distance. The total time the UAOs were in view was estimated at one and one-half to two minutes. The apparent size estimate is compared to a 50 cent piece at a distance of 5 feet from the eye. The time: 8:30 a. m.

None of the observers were flying saucer enthusiasts prior to this observation. Their supervisor, Mr. Peterson, vouched for the character of the observers, and missed seeing the UAOs by seconds, himself.

UAO Seen At Close Range By Airline Crew

Valencia, Venezuela, June 9. The crew and passengers of a Linea Aeropostal Venezolana Douglas DC-3 reported seeing a strange luminous object which passed within a few meters of the plane at tremendous speed. The plane was piloted by Captain Vivas with co-pilot Rafael Hernandez and the object was seen on the route between Puerto Cabello and Valencia. All observers agreed that the object was luminous, flat, slightly round and travelling at a fantastic rate of speed. People residing in the region of El Cambur near the highway connecting Pto Cabello and Valencia also reported seeing the object, thus confirming the plane sighting, but from the ground. (Cr: H. Gonzales, from Ultimas Noticias, also personal radio report)

A BOOK REVIEW

A veritable gold mine of facts is the new book, "The Inexplicable Sky" by Britisher Arthur Constance, which deals with meteors, fireballs, mirages, things that fall from the sky and latest facts about flying saucers. This book, in the writer's opinion, is one of those rare tomes which is not only well written but well researched. Mr. Constance is a meticulous writer, and is not afraid to criticize the "experts" who have made a muddle of scieontific research. The reader will not have realized how little he knew about such commonplace things as rain, until he has read this book and we highly recommend it to any individual who is interested in pure, unadulterated truth. Citadel Press, 222 Fourth Ave., New York 3, New York. Price $3.95.

Supermatter For Spaceships

By C. F. KRAFFT

For years UAO enthusiasts have collected, filed and printed accounts of UAO sightings, gleaning bits of information about astronomy, the possibility of life on other planets. Only recently, however, has anyone come up with a feasible solution to the mystery of the propulsion of the unconventional aerial objects.

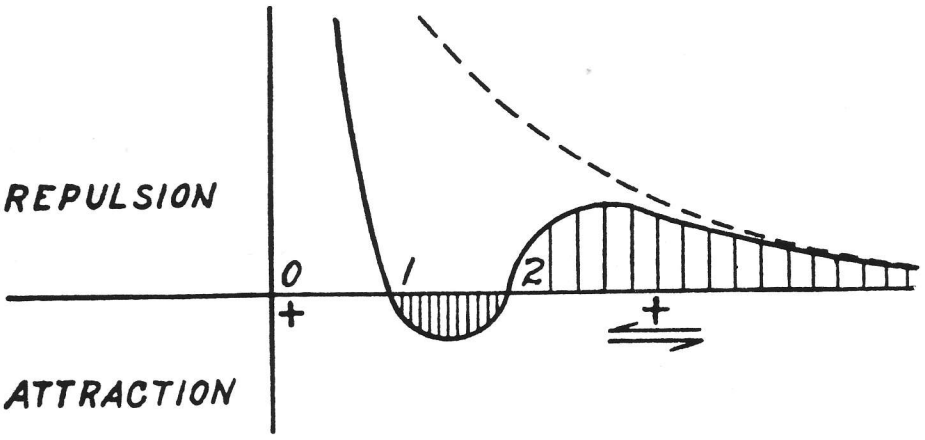
Dr. Krafft, the author of this article, has been with the U. S. Patent Office since 1913, and among his scientific accomplishments has been the successful prediction of the existence of the antiproton, which he prognosticated in 1933, and which was discovered over 20 years later. In 1931 he predicted "supergravitation" (the force of attraction between protons at close range), which was discovered experimentally by others in 1936.

Dr. Krafft is vitally interested in the UAO mystery, but has concerned himself primarily with the method of propulsion utilized by the seemingly infallible discs. To our knowledge, he is one of the very few who have entered into this phase of the UAO mystery, not only with enthusiasm, but with a tremendous background in scientific research. We feel sure our members will thoroughly appreciate the following article dealing with supermatter.

* * * *

Under the prevailing nuclear theory of atomic structure, atoms can be joined to one another only through their peripheral negative electrons acting as chemical valence bonds. A direct connection between the nuclei of adjacent atoms would be impossible under the nuclear theory because the peripheral electrons would be in the way. The nuclear theory however involves many contradictions, and is being challenged by the ether vortex theory which is free from contradictions but has never been permitted to appear in the scientific magazines. The time has now arrived, however, when the public should demand that the ether vortex be given a hearing, because our national safety may depend on it. The vortex atom does permit direct core-to-core connections between adjacent atoms which may lead to the production of a new kind of matter, namely "supermatter", which appears to be the material that makes flying saucers possible, and the first country that solves the flying saucer problem will be in a good position to have the rest of the world at its mercy.

When nucleated atoms form positive ions, the positive charges are always at the centers of the atoms, whereas positively charged vortex atoms have their positive charges in the peripheries of the atoms. It should therefore be possible to connect vortex atoms to one another by direct core-tocore connections, without the use of valence bonds, if we make use of the force of "supergravitation" which was predicted by the writer in 1931 and was discovered experimentally in 1936. The production of such supermatter would require low temperature, high pressure, and strong positive electric potential. Since these three conditions do not coexist anywhere in nature, such a material would have to be produced artificially, but since it would be obviously impossible under the nuclear theory, no attempt has ever been made here on this Earth to produce it.



The diagram shows one proton at the origin 0, and another proton at a point some distance away. The classical law of the electrostatics (Coulomb's law) is represented by the dotted curve, while the solid curve shows the actual relation of force to distance as determined experimentally, independently of any theory. Thus when two protons move sufficiently close together, the force of repulsion changes over to a force of attraction (supergravitation) in the region of the lower shaded area. The movable proton will be in equilibrium at points 1 and 2, but at 1 its equilibrium will be stable whereas at 2 its equilibrium will be unstable. Although the diagram shows two isolated protons, the same relation of force to distance would hold true where the protons are structural parts of atomic cores. For further infomation about vortex atom structures, the writer's book on "The Ether and its Vortices" should be consulted.

For use as a propellant, a supermatter made from an inert gas such as argon or from molecular nitrogen should be tried. If heated to a certain critical temperature, it should disintegrate into the same positive ions from which it was produced, and these could then serve as a propellant for a rocket motor. The positive electricity thus liberated would soon charge the rocket motor and eventually the entire spaceship electrostatically, so as to be repelled from the liberated cloud of ions. The downwardly dished circular flange that usually surrounds a flying saucer was evidently designed for being repelled from such a cloud of ions.

A continuous atomic fabric such as supermatter should also be effective to shield gravitational and inertial forces, but for this purpose it should be made from a monovalent metal such as copper or silver which is not very active chemically and is not easily melted. The polyvalent metals would not be suitable for this purpose because the multiplicity of valence bonds would prevent the atoms from being brought sufficiently close together for direct core-to-core connections. Acocrding to the ether votex theory, gravitational and inertial forces depend in some manner on pulsations sent out by the protons, and although these pulsations can pass freely through valence bonds, they would not be able to get through a continuous atomic core network such as supermatter. Upon encountering such a network, they would give up their energy to it and heat it up, sometimes to incandescence, as evidenced by the frequently observed luminosity of flying saucers. It represents a partial conversion of mass into energy. Underneath such a supermatter coating three is probably a layer of glass wool to serve as heat insulation for keeping the inside of the spaceship cool.

BOOMS IN 1920's

So these loud upper-atmosphere concussions are sonic booms from planes, eh? We quote from a member's recent account of what he experienced in Euboea, Greece in the mid 1920s: "There were several occasions for a few days at intervals when sonic booms of unknown origin were heard sharply in the town. They resembled the peal of a hollow echo of large metallic masses crashing against one another. The literates of the town sought to explain the sounds as due to subterranean activity, for that particular region happens to be located in a seismic zone, too. No quakes accompanied or followed the sounds, however. Back in the 1920s there were no such things as supersonic aircrafts to blast their way through the sonic barrier. Nor were there any jets." (Name withheld upon request—the Ed.)

We'd like to thank the many members who contributed information and clippings on the PAA-UAO near collision which was described in the last bulletin. There were too many to list, but we did very much appreciate the efforts and contributions.

ALPO REFERS SIGHTING TO APRO

The following verbatim report was forwarded to APRO by the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers after having made the rounds of the Scientific American "Amateur Scientist" column, Professor Wylie, meteor expert, an amateur astronomer in Southern California, and Prof. Haas of ALPO, Las Cruces, before coming to rest on the editor's desk.

It is interesting to note that someone, probably another amateur astronomer, penned a cryptic comment at the bottom of the carbon accompanying the report. It read, simply: "A very good saucer, Walter." We agree.

"REPORT OF ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATION made February 13, 1957, at 9:40 p. m. (PST) at Placerville, El Dorado County, California.

I was walking south on a road just west of the El Dorado County Hospital at Placerville, California, about 300 feet from where a N-S street runs into Mills St. I witnessed the following:

In an easterly direction, which was to my left, I saw the ionized track of a shooting star about 20 degrees above the horizon rising on about a 70 degree angle (vertical) and off about 45 degrees to my left.

I roughly calculated in my mind that it should burn out on a line directly south of my observation point, but soon realized that my judgement was in error it would burn out further to my left. I then started watching this ionizing trail, when I noticed it was widening at about 35 degrees above the horizon. At the same time I noticed it was veering more in a westerly direction.

At about 10 degrees east of due south I noticed the ionized width was increasing and it had a round nose. At this instant the ionized trail was almost to the horizon but was still climbing on about a twenty degree angle. The trail appeared to be about one-half inch wide. Suddenly a black disc appeared in the sky directly in front of the ionized trail, the diameter of which corresponded to the width of the ionized trail at this point it was about 5 degrees east of the North-South line. Its size corresponded to the size of a 5 cent piece held at a distance of five feet. I could see that its surface was not smooth, and appeared to be roughened by cross-checked canyons.

In the southeast quadrant was an area which seemed to have a few of these "canyons" filled with a very black material. On the northwest quadrant another area was visible which had dark streaks but on a lesser scale. Of these streaks the largest was in the southeast quadrant and seemed to be about 8 times as long as it was wide.

The object stood out very clearly in the sky, not unlike the moon in eclipse, although it seemed to stand out more It continued to travel now in an east to west direction parallel to the earth's horizon and retaining its maximum diameter. When it was about five to ten degrees west of my assumed north to south line of sight (the road), it began acquiring a white dusty appearance and still its apparent maximum diameter. Its altitude at its maximum I estimate at 40 degrees (90 degrees being straight up from point of observation). As it continued its westerly course, it turned white in color.

When its diameter reduced by ⅔, I witnessed the most beautiful sight I ever expect to see. I saw it take off into outer space.

In an estimated elapsed time of a half second I saw this white ball reduce its diameter from about ⅔ maximum to ⅛ maximum size and disappear. It appeared to be traveling directly away from me on a straight line about 60 degrees to my right from the north-south line. It seemed to keep the same altitude while at the same time diminishing in size. Just like letting the air out of a toy balloon.

Its diameter seemed to diminish in direct proportion to its distance from the point of observation (i. e. time, diameter ratio).

At no time was I able to see any fringe shadows around its perimeter or when it went into space I did not see any shadows. I am assuming its going out into the sun's rays caused it to appear white in color but there were no signs of shadowing.

(Signed) Steve Papina

Soledad, California

Venezuelan Indian Encounters UAO, Little Men

On the night of June 5th, several Indians brought a friend to a village named Uriman in Bolivar to have a deep gash in his arm treated. An LAV Captain who was on the scene, questioned the Indians and was told that they had seen a luminous object land and little men emerged from it. They tried to catch the small creatures, one of whom slashed at an Indian and cut his arm. The Indians became frightened, let the little man go, and hurried to the village to have their comrade treated.

These details were related to an airline pilot by the LAV pilot who interviewed the Indians. The pilot, a close friend of Joseph Rolas, related the incident to him. Rolas commented that Indians in that country are very reticent and serious people, and are not known to falsify for attention. The Indians are also known as having little or no imagination, which would be required to make up such a tale, and also are not often in contact with the civilized world where they might gather information of the 1954-55 "little men" sightings and contacts in Venezuela. The general consensus of opinion in Uriman is that the Indians saw and experienced what they claim they did. (Cr: Joseph Rolas)

ODDITIES . . . .

. . . . And then there was the case of the AF courier who saw prints taken of a "monkey" which had supposedly been used in a hoax. Funny thing about it was the fact that the "monkey" had a rump and a forehead . . . At 11:14 a. m. a "sonic Boom" rocked Los Angeles from San Fernando Valley to Whittier. Glendale was the center of the shock where windows were shattered. Jets were blamed . . . . Mrs. R. H. Thomas of Cucamonga, Calif., witnessed a rain of metal strips on Nov. 24 . . . . Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England, August 6: This towwn was blanketed by five feet of hail . . . . In Honolulu, Hawaii on Jan. 9, an 8-year-old boy was "floored" in his Pearl City home by a mystery explosion. This time, none of the military would take credit for the concussion. The noise was described variously as two loud claps and a prolonged roar. One woman said it sounded and felt as though something had fallen on the house — another housewife, a Navy man's wife said she had heard and felt sonic booms, this was not one of these. A Navy public information officer agreed with her. An AF spokesman said he was sure it was a sonic blast from a plane passing through the sound barrier, but that it was not any of the AF planes. (Ed. note: We have found that a flurry of UAO sightings follow these rashes of "sonic Booms" — the AF should try that for size. It fits better than any proferred explanation so far.) . . . . Another blast at St. Louis, Mo., on December 29 — no explanation . . . . On December 30 Keokuk, Iowa and Hamilton, Ill. felt the concussion of a sonic boom — no explanation . . . . An object described as having the apparent diameter of the moon, changing in color from red to green, orange and blue, streaked across skies over St. Louis, Mo., on January 4 at 7 p. m. It took an east-west direction, made no sound. Local regional director of the American Meteor Society referred to it as meteor, but asked for letters from observers giving in particular object's angular height above horizon at beginning and end of its flight . . . . The Aumoana, a pleasure yacht belonging to Lloyd Dorsey was found abandoned about 120 miles west of Kingston, Jamaica in December. Spoiled food found aboard, crew and passengers gone (another Marie Celeste?) . . . . (Cr: J. Sanders, G. Conway, J. Hopf, D. Lansden, J. Myers, A. Vogele, P. A. Hanson)

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An Interplanetary Space Patrol of ham radio operators has been organized by Texan Jim Lee of Abilene. Apparently connected with a pseudo-religious cult operating nationwide, Lee claims the UAOs originate from a space station called Schare, and the commandant is named Ashtar. Van Tassel and other visionaries were mentioned in the write-up on Lee, who at the time of the writing of the article about him in the Fort Worth Star Telegram, was at Giant Rock, California attending Van Tassel's "Spacecraft" convention. (Cr: V. Meadors)

AN EDITORIAL

Bowing to the wishes of most of the members, the Director has begun work on her book which is long overdue. We feel that UAO enthusiasts have been deprived of some most vital information because she has been unable, due to pressure of APRO work, to undertake this task. We would like to request that the membership keep all correspondence to an absolute minimum, freeing the local staff to do only Bulletin work and routine inquiry correspondence. The Director, who takes care of more than her share of correspondence, could then devote all of her spare time to the immense task of file research and writing.

Few of the membership at large are aware that Mrs. Lorenzen made her first UAO observation in 1934, and has sighted three unconventional objects since. Her active interest in the subject began on June 10, 1947 when she made her second observation of a UAO. From that time until she organized APRO in January of 1952, she carried out her own private research. Her files from 1934 to 1952 contain many sightings which have been hitherto unpublicized because of the space needed in the Bulletins for current developmnts and reports.

Mrs. Lorenzen recognized the rather hysterical explanations for the UAO for what they were in 1947, and, as will be enlarged upon in her forthcoming book, came to the conclusion that man was not alone in the Universe before most of the current UAO authors knew that the mystery existed. This book will appeal not only to UAO enthusiasts, but to the laymen and scientists in every field. Aid has been solicited and is expected to be forthcoming from well known and qualified scientists who, although they may not care for name credit, will be instrumental in the success of the book.

Many members are wondering why this book has not been written before, and the Director has stated that she didn't want to present merely another tome made up of old and new sightings, but rather she wanted to present some of the answers to many of the puzzling aspects of the UAO. She feels she has some of those answers now.

After the book is fiinshed, arrangements will be made with the publishers to offer copies to the membership and other groups at a greatly reduced price. If the sale of the book is satisfactory a part of the proceeds will be alloted to APRO's treasury.

* * *

On Saturday, 22 June, Mr. Lorenzen, the Director and their two children attended the movies at the Sierra Theater in Alamogordo to view the motion picture "UFO". They were somewhat surprised that it was not too well attended, and hoped that the Friday and Saturday night showings accomodated much larger crowds.

For the layman "UFO" would be an interesting picture, but he would have to be somewhat interested before attending. Many walked out of the movie during the performance, possibly due to the poor quality of "acting". We understand there was no real acting done, as most parts were played by the person being portrayed.

It would seem ,in view of Capt. Edward Ruppelt's recent book, that the AF is, slowly and ponderously, moving toward the unveiling of the truth about the UAO. It is understandable, however, that no sensational statements will be forthcoming until some way of stabalizing the stock market can be found. A stock market which fluctuates each time the President has a stomach upset, would take a nose-dive if any such tremendous announcement as the advent of space travel by extraterrestrials were made. At any rate, if the picture "UFO" should come to your vicinity, make a point of seeing it, if for no other reason than to reconvince yourself that USAF is still in there pitching.

One thing stuck out in that picture like a sore thumb: After several experts pronounced the "blips" on the Washington radar in 1952 as "definitely solid," Captain Ruppelt, hundreds of miles away in Ohio, pronounced the blips as nothing more than temperature inversions. Another example of lack of coordination which is so prevalent in a bureaucratic organization such as a military agency.

* * *

Our announcement that dues would be raised, and that those who felt the Bulletin and the information contained therein were worth more than the new $3.50 rate, could show their appreciation by paying an excess, brought immediate results. Things are looking up money-wise for APRO. However, we would like to urge members to renew on time. If your dues lapse and you renew after your file is pulled, it takes quite a little work to get you and your papers back in "current status."

It is difficult to bring up the next subject on this issue's editorial docket but it must be approached. We have become aware that in cities where there are quite a few members, there is a tendency to band together, exchange bulletins, information, etc. This is good. The thing that bothers us is that when such a local group is formed, one person subscribes to one UAO magazine, another to a different and etc. In at least 30 cities in the United States alone, APRO members have dropped out, keeping in touch with APRO news through companion members, and using this technique, at the price of subscription to one UAO periodical, have available all UAO news from 10 or 12 papers. We can easily sympathize with those who want to save money. This problem was approached in the editorial, May issue. What most of us don't realize is that local members in Alamogordo pay dues although they see the information as soon as it crosses the Director's desk. APRO is not the only organization suffering from financial malnutrition. We feel that if *any* periodical is worth reading, it is also worth supporting with subscription or membership fees. The upshot of this sort of philosophy will be the eventual bankruptcy of all research groups for lack of support. The "liberal" elements wil survive with their irrational claims because there are plenty of the crackpot element to support them. We would suggest that members get behind those papers or organizations which they feel are performing a service, and support them!

* * *

The projected business trip which Mr. Loreonzen and the Director had planned has been indefinitely delayed. Those members in Central and Southern California who invited the Lorenzens for a visit will be notified as soon as something definite about the trip is established. Many thanks to all for the kind invitations.

The South American Scene

Venezuelan APRO representatives Horacio Gonzales and Joseph Rolas have done an excellent job of reporting the unprecedented rise in UAO activity not only in the interior of that country, but also in nearby outlying districts in Venezuela. Mr Gonzales feels that a big operation seems to be in progress, and we present here, in two parts, plus comments, the latest sightings in Venezuela.

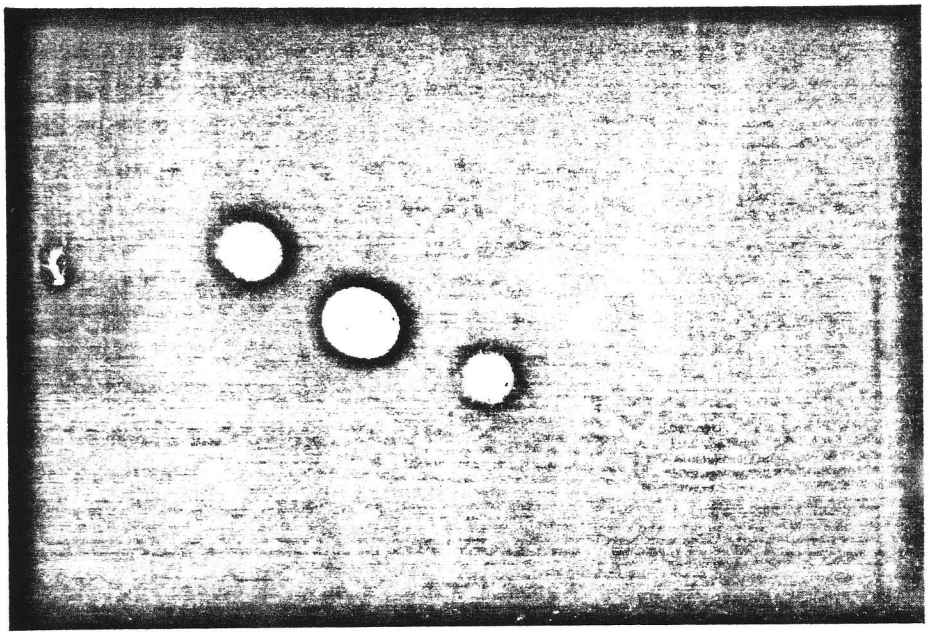
Sabana de Mendoza, June 4. Violent explosion was heard over 1,000 square kilometers at around 8:00 a. m. Witnesses said the explosion was caused by a luminous ball as big as the sun which flew over Arapuey. Residents of Arepuey fled out of their homes in panic at the sound of the explosion which was accompanied by strong earth tremors. They said that they saw the ball of intense light at a height of about 100 meters. (It must have been a tremendous thing, as the following details will demonstrate.)

Merida, June 4. A violent explosion accompanied by intense earth vibrations was felt in Merida at around 7:20 a. m. on June 4, and also in Cachapo, Ejido, Apartaderos, Lagunillas, Mendoza Fria. Trujillo, Monte Carmelo and other towns and villages nearby. Many persons said that they saw a strange red object shaped like a "cigarette" which flew across the skies at fantastic speed at the same time.

Valera, Trujillo State, June 4. Persons coming from Arepuey said that a luminous object had fallen there on the morning of the 4th producing earth tremors over many square kilometers. (Note: The region affected is actually more than 1,000 square kilometers as I measured it myself from the reports of where the object was seen, heard, and the tremors felt. H. Gonzales)

Coro, Falcon State, June 4. At 7:15 a. m., various persons reported seeing a luminous object of great size cross the skies over Sierra de Coro in east-west direction. The object, with luminous lights, and leaving a slight trail, disappeared immediately, but not before giving opportunity for it to be seen perfectly by the people who were at the local airport at the time. Witnesses confirmed the fact that the object was

(Continued on Page 5)



The above photograph was obtained at 9:07 a. m., 21 February at Yokohama, Japan by Mr. A. Komaki, member of Flying Saucer Research Group in Japan. The objects were yellow-orange in color, saucer shaped, traveling rather low and at about 100 miles per hour. See May A. P. R. O. Bulletin for details.

The South American Scene

(Continued from Page 4)

huge, luminous and perfectly visible at long range.

Bariquisimeto, Lara State, June 4. For the fifth time there ocurred one of the most surprising mysteries of our time: the appearance of a phenomena which was seen during the evening hours and afterwards in the night by various persons employed at the Cement factory of this city. Witnesses said that the object they saw was round and similar to a gigantic luminous disc. All witnesses registered surprise and mentioned the fact that this was the fifth time that this type of phenomena had been observed over Barquisimeto. The news report emphasized that this was the first time ALL OBSERVERS were in agreement as to the fact that they had seen some type of MANUFACURED APPARATUS which emitted one red light and another green and that the object was clearly visible and distinct.

News coming from the city of Carora, Falcon State, reveal that there was general agitation and alarm over the presence of VAROUS LUMNOUS OBJECTS which flew through the skies at tremendous speed at different times, not only in the afternoon hours of Monday, June 3, but also on the morning of Tuesday, June 4, date of the strange explosion which rocked 1,000 square kilometers between two states. Persons who have come forward to report are Mr. and Mrs. Felix Mariano Zubillaga, Messers Flavio Jose Herrera and Francisco Ramirez and others who saw the object emit flashes of blue light.

Coro, June 4. Strange luminous objects which produced sounds were seen over the town of Dabajuro in the evening. The objects were seen by night-shift workmen at the oil-pumping station of Uleamuay. The objects crossed over the region at such fantastic speed that no one could make out what they were. The noise produced was more strident than that of a plane.

Valera, Trujillo State, June 5. Some parts of the earth's surface in the region of San Jose de Palmira, mountainous zone in the State of Merida, is sinking and this is believed to have been produced or caused by the strange explosion which rocked the area on the morning of June 4, at which time hundreds of people rushed out into the streets thinking that the tremors were the results of a tremendous earthquake.

Merida, June 5. On receiving news of the strange explosion, the authorities sent out a group of the National Guard too investigate. Captain Vivas and co-pilot Lopez reported seeing "a red hot object" 10 miles off Puerto Cabello cruising at a height of 9,000 meters.

Barquisimeto, June 5, Lara State. The luminous object which was supposed to have fallen in the Andean mountains of Arapuey was seen to cross the skies of Barquisimeto going in a North-South direction and was best seen from the sectors of Central Hospital, Union, and Duaca Highway. Residents of this region, among whom are Messers Jose Elias Camarco and Roberto Gallardo, told the correspondent that they had seen the object, and ALL described it as ROUND and the outline it presented was that of a GIGANTIC LUMINOUS DISC.

Valera, Trujillo State, June 6. A group of men comprising members of the National Guard and other civilians and guides set out to investigate and search for remains of the luminous object said to have fallen in the Arapuey region. Investigation instigated by Governor of the State, Doctor Vincente Talamo. Luminous objects seen in the sky of Carora, in Trujillo State, causing much astonishment. Witnesses said they saw various luminous objects crossing the sky at tremendous speed and emitting flashes of bluish light as they passed.

San Felipe, June 6. At 6:30 p. m. Mr. Ramon Cordido Salom and his mother saw a luminous object of considerable size from their estate residence. "La Fundacion". Mr. Cordido said the object SEEMED TO FALL between two hills although later it continued its flight through the sky. Fifteen minutes after he saw the object, seven workmen arrived breathless and related that they had just seen A HUGE RED DISC flash out of sight in a matter of seconds.

Coro, Falcon State, June 3. At about 7:15 a. m. many persons observed a luminous object cross the skies over the town of San Luis in the Sierra de Coro. Described by Dr. Juan Moralas, Prefect Secretary and estate owner Mr. Luis Jimenez as being "rocketlike", going at a leisurely speed from east to west and emitting a brilliant light.

Yaritagua, June 6. A luminous giant disc-shaped object observed flying in a north-south direction over this city. Seen from center of town and also from Mataedro and Plazuela districts. Witnesses said it was lost to sight in a matter of seconds, leaving a faint trail.

Anaca, Anzoategui State, June 7. Workmen in oil perforation near banks of the Guario river observed a strange airship flying at a great height and speed toward the south. First thought to be a plane until observers realized there was no air traffic in this region at this hour. This is first time an object has been seen in this region but what was singular was that the object left a luminous trail and was sending flashes of light toward the earth.

Valera, June 6. A National Guard detachment left at dawn to investigate the region where an object supposedly fell on the morning of June 4 near Arapuey in Merida State.

Barquisimeto, June 7. Commissions comprising many persons are going in search of another object which supposedly fell in the mountainous Urdaneta district on June 7. After the object was seen to fall, a strange explosion was heard. Reports coming in from this region state that residents are getting panicky because of the fact that for the last five days they have been seeing a round appaoratus crossing and re-crossing the skies in the region. Mr. Jesus Rafael Nieto, well known and respected agriculturist of the region, said that since Tuesday the matter was brought seriously to his attention by the light reflected or emitted by some sort of unknown flying apparatus which descended near La Floresta. On the night of June 6 an explosion was heard and many guides and other persons went into the bush in search of some trail or indication as to what it may have been. Mr. Figueroa also states that the object passed fairly close to where he was and flew in the direction of the Aguada Grande Mountains.

Another news report coming from La

(Continued on Page 6)

We Have Visitors From Outer Space

By OLAVO FONTES

(Dr. Olavo Fontes is Chief of the Gastroenterology Section of the National Medicine School in Rio de Janeiro, and a respected and capable physician and surgeon. He became interested in UAO in 1953 when he read Donald Keyhoe's "The Flying Saucers are Real". We feel he has done a very good job of evaluation and correlation of sightings which have taken place in South America in the past three years. We present here an exclusive article written especially for th A.P.R.O. Bulletin by Dr. Fontes.)

"THE GREATEST of all causes of non-observation is preconceived opinion. This is which in all ages has made the whole race of mankind, and every section of it, for the most part unobservant of all facts, however abundant, even when passing under their own eyes, which are contradictory to any first appearance, or any received tenet" — (John Stouart Mill: A System of Logic, Vol. II, p. 332).

Yes, they are here. I don't know, of course, where or when the story actually started. I have no way of knowing what will be the end. Neither do you. Nor does anybody except God, the "visitors" themselves, and perhaps certain persons who aren't talking. But we know that already we have thousands of sightings, authenticated by thousands of witnesses of excellent reputation, indicating the existence of extra-terrestrial intelligences who are *very* interested in our affairs. I don't know why many people still imagine that the presence of these visitors from outer space will be—at last —recognized by the accumulation of sightings. The opening of this story explains why this is hopeless. We do not need a multiplicity of proofs; nor do we need statistical evidence. The answer lies in the field of logic rather than of evidence. It is a matter of "the-will-to-believe" or "the-will-not-to-believe."

Then why am I writing about the UAOs? Don't you understand? I don't blame you. I wouldn't either if I were you, there where you are now, reading what I am writing. But you will. You will understand some day and perhaps you will be worried. Did you ever hear about something called "fear-of-the-unknown"? I have. Yes, I have fear. Because I don't know WHY they are here and WHAT they want. And there are others like me. We want you on our side. We don't want to be the only ones who can't sleep well at night . . . . So, read the incidents I am going to relate to you—the most remarkable sightings from the number on record here in my country. But please, don't be frightened by my opening. We still hope they are friendly—and we haven't definite proof on the contrary. Make special note of the word HOPE, however. Because, my friend, you know and I know, everyone knows . . . . . hope is the only thing we have left.

Remember that in this field of investigation, about the things we call UAOs—one single incident is enough. A good "unknown", witnessed by reliable people. We need only one such incident to prove that we are not alone in the Universe.

Checked and rechecked, five cases out of Brazilian records are here presented in essential detail.

INCIDENT 1. At daybreak on December 18th, 1954, the Guard Commander in the Getete Palace, Rio de Janeiro (where the President of the U. S of Brazil lives), was suddenly awakened by shouts from the nearby streets. This officer—a captain of the Marine Corps — alerted the sentries all over the place and left toward the street to see what was happening. In his *Official Report*, which was later transmitted to the Air Force, he described the events he witnessed that night. Here is this Report, transcribed verbatim:

. . . . a). A 3:45 a. m., I was awakened by the alarm given by the sentries and, after ordering the garrison to assume combatposts all over the place. I contacted the sentinel stationed on Post 4. He informed me that he was observing a crowd of persons gathered at Flamengo Beach—in front of the Palace. The excitement had been caused by the

(Continued on Page 7)

The South American Scene

(Continued from Page 5)

Caracara estate reveals that residents of that region are now alarmed. Mr. Hector Montes de Oca, administrator, and Mr. Francisco Carrasco and others saw a gigantic luminous disc or umbrella-shaped device descend from the skies aoccompanied by strong earth tremors and a frightening noise. When they moved in the direction they saw the object fall, they were surprised to see it shoot up again at tremendous speed and disappear into space within a matter of seconds.

Coro, Falcon State, June 7. At 7:45 a. m. the strange luminous object was again seen passing over the Dabajuro district. This time it flew lower over the mountains and regions where the petroleum installations are located. Witnesses said that the luminous body left a slight trail and was oval-shaped. Some said the trail seemed to be a triple ejection of some sort. More than one hundred people saw the thing cruise over the installations at Paujislanda Tijuaje and it also emitted a very peculiar sound.

Valera, June 8. National Guard detachment sent to investigate possibility of landed UAO, returned. They could find no evidence of anything having landed. Extreme cold, mist, and impassable chasm made the going difficult. Another commission may be sent later.

(Ed. Note: The above reports were submitted by Horacio Gonzales, and it is not difficult to realize that some big operation is in progress in Venezuela. The objects seen were tremendous in size, and TRAVERSED ONE PARTICULAR AREA OF SEVERAL THOUSAND SQUARE MILES WITHIN THESE FEW DAYS. There may, however, have been only one object involved. We now continue this report with observations submitted by Joseph Rolas, our other Venezuelan member.)

La Guaira, June 12. A luminous object giving off streamers of smoke was seen by seaside residents as it fell off shore about noon. According to observers, the object was about the size of a commercial passenger plane, gave off flames and when plunging toward earth betoween Maiquetia airport and Catialamar, it trailed a wake of white smoke. Neither the Air Force nor meteorological offices reported any planes missing or strange objects in the area.

El Tigre, June 13. Movie goers returning home at 8:30 p. m. watched large illuminated object streak across sky at high speed. Their calls brought thousands to the street to view it.

Barcelona, June 14. Huge, oval-shaped object observed by many, including Maritza Gonzales and Bertha Marrero and Mr. Jesus Rodrigues. Mr. Rodrigues said, "It was something huge, which flew toward the downtown area at a great speed."

Ciudad Bolivar, June 20. A huge red cloud layer spread over the city, then moved in a north-to-south direction and was followed by a tremendous rainstorm of half-hour duration and intermittent strong showers which lasted until 10 p. m.

Coro, June 22. At 8:30 a. m. Pilots and passengers of a commercial airliner and thousands of persons on the ground observed a noiseless, unidentified object as it rose west of the city, flew in a parallel path over the city and disappeared into the cloud layer.

Punto Fijo, June 22. Huge, red cigar-shaped object observed by fifty persons at the Antonio Smith Hospital, including several newsmen. The object gave off a broad band of whitish smoke-trail. It was seen at 8:15 and 8:45 a. m. and was also observed by members of the Prevention Guard at Police Headquarters.

(Ed. Note: It certainly seems as though the 1954-55 UAO influx is repeating itself again in Venezuela ((APRO Bulletin for Nov., 1954 and Jan. 1955)). Another "little man" sighting has been made ((see feature elsewhere this issue)) and we can possibly expect more of the same.)

WE HAVE VISITORS

(Continued from Page 6)

coming of a "Flying Saucer"—said the soldier—textual words.

b). I stepped outside and ran toward Post 4 to investigate the phenomenon. When I still was about half my way, I saw an unknown object moving in the sky. It passed swiftly between Sugar Loaf Mountain and the buildings of the Navy School—following a N. E. course —and was coming fast in a straight line toward the Palace. Its apparent size at first sight appeared to correspond to that of an orange. It seemed to follow a steady course, flying at an unknown height across the background of stars. This round luminous object was emitting a bright yellow glow. No sharply defined outlines were visible at the time, neither were any details discernible.

c). When it came near enough to assume the apparent size of a large soccer ball, the unidentified object slowed down abruptly and stopped in mid-air. It came to a stop from high speed—all in about three seconds. It remained stationary over the sea, irradiating a glaring light which spread all over—illuminating the Guanabara Bay as in a moon-lit night.

d). It hovered in that position, absolutely motionless, for a long time—about *twenty minutes*. Then, it suddenly started to move again—at tremendous speed —and climbed up sharply in an oblique direction. During this movement, two small luminous objects were detected, flowing apparently from the lower part of the object. The whole maneuver was performed at a fantastic rate of speed and it required a time of only 4 or 5 seconds (if my computation was right). As the object disappeared into the night, the luminosity observed a few moments before also disappeared and the Bay was again thrown into darkness.

e). It was a round-shaped object with a steady bright light—a glaring yellow glow, hard to describe. The outlines were regular but somewhat hazy; no details were discernible. The form remained constant, not changing during the time the object was in sight. The total absence of sound was another significant fact, more so as the night was perfectly silent.

2. The night was cool and there was no wind. The sky was perfectly clear and cloudless at the time of the sighting and many stars could be seen. But there was no moon.

3. The sighting was witnessed by (it follows the names of the witnesses.)

This sighting was kept secret by the Air Force until October, 1956. The Official Report transcribed above was then released by Colonel Adil de Oliveira, Chief of AF UFO-Research Unit. He made the following comment about the incident: "It's impossible to explain away a sighting of this kind. There are hundreds more, thousands more, which —like it—still defy any conventional explanation."

INCIDENT 2. On November 22, 1954, strange events were observed at Santa Maria Air Force Base, in the city of Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul. That Base has a Meteorological Station transmitting hourly a weather bulletin, to keep informed all military aircrafts in operation. That night, at 9:45 p. m., a radio-operator and telegraphist named Arquimedos Fernandes, left the MS and walked toward a small building 100 feet away which had been built to protect the thermometers and other instruments. He was collecting data to prepare the next weather-bulletin. After registering the numbers for the temperature and humidity, he started to come back to the MS using a flash-light to light his way. But he had to make (in order to complete his observations about the weather) an examination of the sky, too. In doing so, he noticed what seemed to be a thin dark cloud, hovering above some small eucalyptus trees behind the building. He would have neglected that "thing" which seemed to be a cloud—if it wasn't a matter of professional duty. So, he tried to analyse its outlines. Suddenly he discovered an incredible thing . . . . Here is his report, transcribed verbatim:

"The cloud was a black object, enormous in size, shaped like a reversed wash-bowl, with a length of approximately 165 feet seeming to be suspended on the trees. It wasn't motionless, exhibiting a sort of slow oscillatory motion. This served to set the object as a rigid, if not solid body. I was already almost frozen by terror. I confess to be nervous, but that was enough to scare anyone. Keeping my eyes on the object, I ran to the Station. There I controlled my nerves and continued to observe the "thing" through a window. I watched it until the moment it started to move down softly—disappearing as by sorcery between the trees. But soon it climbed above them again. I could see that it showed a sharp and firm regular outline. On its upper-structure I noticed a small light which I would have called a "blackout-light". Then it dived again between the trees, almost in the same place I had seen it first. No one can convince me that the 'thing" wasn't controlled by an intelligence. I was so badly shaken that—for a time—I didn't know what to do. But the object moved again, now glowing faintly in the darkness as if it had assumed a more bright colour. I then came to life and started to call Porto Alegre (by radio). I told my story, spreading a full alarm. They told me to keep watching the object. I returned to the window. The object was there . . . . Again I went to the transmitter but this time I called the AF Flight Control and the Security Service, and made a complete report—answering all the questions and asking for a substitute. At 0:15 a. m., after a long time, the personnel Agency arrived at the Station with my substitute . . . . "

The startling report of Mr. Fernandes was substantiated by the appearance of other witnesses, who also sighted the UFO. At midnight, another radio-operator named Ruben Machado saw it from the window of his room, at the "Canobi Hotel" (at some distance from the Base). It was hovering over the Base — a luminous object, larger than the full moon. He called it to the attention of many other persons, who also had the opportunity to see the UFO maneuvering over the Base—before it disappeared to the North. At almost the same hour and from another place, the Varig radio operator — Mr. Juranir Ferreira — also spotted the UFO over the Base. But it was higher now, having the apparent size of a billiard ball. After some maneuvers, it headed towards the North and was gone . . . .

Next day this sighting was printed by papers all over the country and received wide publiicty. The authorities refused to make any comments about it—as was to be expected. In the F. A. B. files, the incident is still classified as "unexplained."

INCIDENT 3. On the night of December 13, 1954, just after sunset, three round, cone-shaped crafts passed across the skies of Campinas, one of the largest cities of Sao Paulo state. Moving noiselessly in a tight formation, the "unknowns" shot out of the clouds at high speed and maneuvered over the city for a few minutes—before finally disappearing toward the southwest. They were sighted by dozens of citizens all over the city. The most incredible report came from a woman who lived at Major Solon St. She refused to disclose her identity to the press because she didn't wish any kind of publicity. She reported being in the backyard washing some clothes when she saw the objects maneuvering in the sky at terrific speed. Amazed, she watched the spectacle. Suddenly one of the UAOs dived quickly in a new kind of maneuver, and came very low over her roof lighting up the surroundings for a few moments. This craft was dull-ggrey in color, round-shaped and resembled "two plates turned upside down and put together"; one of the plates was fixed, but the other was spinning like a top emitting a strong fluorescent light which illuminated the ground around her for a few seconds—like daylight. Then, in an unexpected maneuver, it abruptly rushed up into the night to join the others. But in that moment the woman witnessed an eerie spectacle . . . . A liquid substance had been dropped from the craft, apparently coming from the spinning part of it — and was falling toward the ground, like a "silver rain". Part of this material fell in her backyard (the rest over the nearby houses), in a cemented area near the washing-tank. Startled, she came closer to see what was it. A brilliant, glowing stain—10 centimeters in diameter—was spread over the cement. She even tried to touch it, but stopped in time when she felt the heat it radiated. The "thing" was incandescent—white-hot—and giving a boiling sound. Frightened, she called for help. A neighbor, Professor Benedite G. Nascimento (retired), came to the place. He was a man of solid reputation in the town and a correspondent of the local newspaper, the "Correio Popular". By a curious coincidence, this man was

(Continued on Page 8)

WE HAVE VISITORS

(Continued from Page 7)

a hard-boiled skeptic about the flying saucers and even had written some articles (published by the "Correio Popular"), trying to prove that UAOs didn't exist. And he had now before his eyes the best evidence — PHYSICAL PROOF — of the UAOs existence. If it was true, of course. But he was no fool. The 'substance clearly was some kind of molton metal," and he had to wait for it to cool off. In the meantime, he phoned some friends to come to the place at once; and reported the incident to newspapers and radio stations in the town. Before a number of witnesses the material was collected and brought to the office of the "Correio Popular". From that place, it was sent to the Young Laboratories (at 584 Francisco Deodoro St.) to be analyzed. One of the chemists told the reporters that "the sample had, at naked-eye, all the characteristics of TIN (symbol Sn). In a few hours the analyses will give the answer."

The metallic sample was analysed by the chief chemist, Dr. Visvalde Maffei, before several witnesses. Six hours later, Dr. Maffei released to the press the following report, transcribed verbatim:

"The sample analysed is a combination of *chemically pure TIN* (Sn)—88.91 per cent and oxygen (0)—11.9 per cent —as-oxide. *No other element or impurity of any kind was found* in the material in question. In other words, the analysis proved the "substance" to be really a metal, which was definitely Tin—in high concentration and exceptionally pure; and *with no impurities or trace-elements excepting oxygen,* which came from the oxidation in contact with the atmosphere.

Observation: The results above refer only to the sample received, which weighed 1.30 Gm."

Next day, in a press conference, Dr. Maffei was asked to explain better the analyses' report, to translate it into non-technical terms. In a strained voice, he made then the following statement:

"The 'substance' analysed had 88.91½ of tin, chemically pure tin. The rest was oxygen, derived from the righ degree of oxidation of the molton metal in the atmosphere. I can afirm categorically that this is the PUREST TIN EVER FOUND ON EARTH, IN NO PLACE ON OUR PLANET CAN A CONCENTRATION AS HIGH AS THIS — WITH SO PERFECT A PURITY — BE OBTAINED. I would like to stress, on the other side, that tin manufactured for industrial use has only 75 per cent of it—the rest being constituted of other elements, like iron, antimonium, lead, arsenium, etc. Even the purest tin manufactured by special procedures, with a percentage of 99.99 per cent, presents infinitesimal quantities of these elements—which can be detected by the spectroscopic analysis.

In the material analysed, however, *the metal is absolutely pure, chemically pure, with a percentage of 100 per cent.* The oxygen can be obviously discarded. It was not in the original material.

To conclude, I consider the material in question as *COMPLETELY UNKNOWN TO THIS EARTH . . .* .that is, *TIN OF THE MOST ABSOLUTE PURITY, IN CONCENTRATION NEVER FOUND UNTIL TODAY."*

Dr. Maffei finished this startling statement before a quiet, motionless audience. He was in a state of high tension. The spectators stood silent for a time, some faces worried, some confused and perplexed, a few bewildered. Then a reporter asked for his opinion about the origin of the material. He answered he was so disturbed about the whole incident that he could offer no solution to the problem. He did add, however, that metals in so high a state of purity are usually of meteoric origin as it happens, for example, with the iron-nickel meteorites. But this hypothesis could be definitely excluded here. *A meteorite made of pure tin has never been found till now . . . .*

The incident made headlines all over the country. The report and statement transcribed above were published and discussed by Rio's newspapers on December 22-23-24, 1954.

The Air Defense Command, at Rio de Janeiro, sent immediately an emissary to get a sample of the metal at Campinas. He was the RTTE sargent Nelson Banderiao da Silva. He left a receipt in the office of the "Correio Popular", where the material was deposited. The results of the analysis made by the Air Force, however, were kept secret. An official statement was promised, but never released. I was informed that exhaustive tests performed by AF chemists only confirmed the results obtained by Dr. Maffei. By an ironic coincidence, this information came the same day I read an article about the flying saucers by Major Ruppelt, USAFR, in the magazine "True" (May 1954), with the following statement (p. 134):

" . . . . in the seven years there has been no physical evidence of the existence of saucers. The Air Force . . . . has seen no "hardware" that it cannot explain as man-made".

Editor's Note: An analysis made of the material in the United States by. Prof. Meltz of Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, also confirms the analysis of the material made in Brazil by Dr. Maffei. Prof Nathan Meltz is Chief of the Chemistry Division at Defiance College and is well qualified to conduct such tests. Four tests in all were made: (1) The conventional test, using a silver coin and a strip of tin in a hydrochoric acid solution, (2) the rhodamin test, (3) the pyrogallol test and (4) the potassium iodide and pyradine test. None of these tests showed the slightest trace of antimony, a result that amazes those who know of this incident. The density of this small sample was found to be 10.3, whereas the density of tin as given in published tables is 7.3.

An interesting theory as to the possible use of molten tin is also submitted by Dr. Fontes, and would certainly satisfactorily explain not only the tin being in the saucer in a molten state, but that condition which would possibly be responsible for the expulsion of the same by the UAO.

According to Fontes' theory, the UAO might have been equipped with an atomic reactor, which provided the power to drive the airship and the energy to run its engines. Now, assume that no moderating material is used in this reactor to slow down the neutrons, and the latter produce fission (over a highly concentrated fissile material) which still have houndreds of thousands or even millions of electron volts of kinetec energy. You will have, then, a reactor of an interesting type—the so-called FAST REACTOR. Reactors of this kind could be easily adapted to an airship— if the shielding problem was solved—because they are very much smaller than those which use natural uranium. The core of the Experimental Reactor (a fast reactor) at Arco, Idaho, for example, is said to be the size of a football. The important point, however, is that fast reactors cannot be cooled by gasses at all, since the heat generated is too intense. In the core of the Experimental Breeder Reactor, for example, about 4 kilowats of heat are produced in each cubic inch. This heat can only be removed by using a liquid collant. The Breeder Reactor uses a molten metal—an alloy of sodium and potassium—which is circulated through the core and is heated up to a maximum temperature of 350 degrees Centigrade. The molten metal has its heat actually transferred outside the reactor, to a second, completely separate circuit which also contains liquid sodium and potoassium. The heat removed by this molten metal is used to produce useful power — electric power.

The material dropped from the UAO was a MOLTEN METAL. To be a liquid coolant, it needed to have a low melting point (like sodium and potassium), and had to be in a state of high purity, of course. The material in question fulfilled the two conditions. The analogy is, in Mr. Fontes' opinion, impressing enough to call attention to this theory. He considers it better than any other, because if tin could be a "by-product" commonly discarded by flying saucers, incidents of this kind would have been reported by thousands throughout the world. And it is not so. But a small leak in the coolant system of the kind described above could perfectly produce the phenomenon, in rare instances.)

INCIDENT 4. On August 6, 1954, at 5:00 p. m., a Varig DC-3 took off from Porto Alegre, Rio Grande de Sul, on a scheduled trip to Rio de Janeiro, with no intermediate stops scheduled. At 7:00 p. m. the airliner passed over Florianoplis, Santa Catarina. A few minutes later it was flying over the sea at 2250 meters. It was a pitch-black night; a high overcast even cut out the glow from the stars. Suddenly, Commander Nagib Ayub, the pilot, spotted a bright red light glowing at about 500 meters above

(Continued on Page 9)

WE HAVE VISITORS

(Continued from Page 8)

the plane and to the left, near the coast. It glowed brightly for two seconds and vanished. TWO HUNDRED KILOMETERS AHEAD, when the plane was flying over Guaratuba Bay (in the state of Parana), the light appeared again for a few seconds. This time the co-pilot, Mr. R. Pinheiro da Silva, saw it too . . . .

At 10:00 p. m. they were aproaching the Paranagua Bay (in the same state), when it happened again. But now it wasn't a mere light . . . The co-pilot was turning around to look at an engine when he saw it. From the coast (at about 90 kilometers to the left), a huge FIREBALL was closing in at a tremendous speed. He alerted the others. The strange UFO—growing in size steadily—looked like a round blob of hot metal sweeping through the night sky. It had an apparent size larger than a full moon. It came from below, *straight* for the airplane on a collision course. It approached swiftly, getting bigger and bigger . . . Frightened, the crew waited for the crash which seemed imminent. In the last moment, however, the "thing" maneuvered abruptly reversing course — and pulled away from the aircraft. It zoomed up, made another turn, closed again, and again turned out at the last instant to prevent the collision. This dangerous game was repeated again and again, for about 10 minutes. The nightmarish scene was watched by three frightened men, glued to their seats, with sweat trickling down their backs. Then Mr. R. F. Godinho, the radio operator, came to life. A frantic call was picked up by the ground operators at the airports of Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo and Rio. The incredible story was reported. Immediately a full alarm was spread. The AF Security Service and the Air Defense Command were alerted. The Varig Airlines' president arrived hurriedly at the Porto Alegre airport. Commander Ayub was reporting:

"After making several passes at the DS-3, the fireball is now following it. Now it has started a crazy dance around us, changing constantly and rapidly its altitude, course, speed and brightness—always tracking the plane".

In a strained voice, Ayub described the fantastic maneuvers of the UFO around the plane. It swerved in and out, pulled into sharp left and right banks, performed swift turns and reversed course instantly. It climbed up sharply, went into high-speed dives and again leveled out. It accelerated swiftly, or abruptly slowed down. At times, it seemed to go suddenly towards the plane, or away from it.

The UFO emitted a very strong light, but this light changed too. It was steady and looked red (or orange-red) and brighter when the alien craft seemed to put on power. When it slowed abruptly, the colour changed to amber, its bright glow dimming noticeably. And when the UFO accelerated rapidly, the glow seemed to take a bluish hue.

The "fireball" left no trail. It seemed to be noiseless, but obviously any observation of this kind was made uncertain by the sound from the aircraft's engines.

After the pilot finished his report, the ground controller called back; he said:

"We have checked and it seems that the object reported is an alien, unknown craft. There is no aircraft in your area. Now, how about switching off your lights and trying to escape it? But please, do it keeping in contact with us and reporting everything that happens."

Commander Ayub turned off all the lights of his plane, and started evasive maneuvers through the dark skies. But it was hopeless. The queer and enigmatic hunter certainly knew how to play the game and continued to follow the airliner, and to dance around it—even in the dark. THE CHASE CONTINUED FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS. All the time, the pilot kept contact with the Varig's president and with the ground operators. At the end—near Santos, Sao Paulo—he asked permission to try an emergency landing at Sao Paulo city . . . "before anything worse could happen". He got it and altered his course. This time the UFO didn't follow the maneuver. Ayub reported its position the last time he saw it.

Another Varig airliner, traveling from Rio to Porto Alegre, was at that moment nearing the area. Commander Edu Michel, the pilot, got Ayub's report and altered course to look for the unknown craft. He sighted it a few minutes later. It was going swiftly out to sea. He was so impressed that he decided it was better to land at once at Sao Paulo airport —as Ayub had done.

Two Air Force officers—a few minutes later—saw the same UFO. They were flying toward Sao Paulo in a N. A. interceptor. They saw it near Santa Cruz, between Sao Paulo and Rio. It was out over the Atlantic Ocean, moving fast. It quickly vanished into the night . . .

When the first plane landed at Congonhas Airport, Sao Paulo, a badly shaken crew was interviewed for three hours by AF Intelligence officers. Half an hour later came the second airliner. The last to arrive was the N. A. fighter. From the reports, it was clear that all the observers had sighted the same object.

Commander Ayub added that he couldn't judge the size and speed of the UFO, not knowing how far away it was. However, to follow a DC-3 maneuvering ceaselessly all around it and staying close all the time takes a mighty speedy craft. It had too much of a definitely circular shape, but he couldn't tell if the "fireball" was a light on the object, or if the whole UFO had been glowing—because of its extreme brightness. The outlines of the alien craft couldn't be seen behind the glare. Ayub concluded the written report of the incident, requested by the Air Force, stating the following:

"I think it impossible to mistake 'that' for any known man-made machine or device. It was not a jet plane, or aircraft. It was not a balloon. It was not a secret weapon (we have none like it). Nor was it a meteorite, a reflection or a mirage—because none of these things can fly at more than 200 Km/hour, following an airplane and maneuvering around it. I think it was an alien craft. one of the so-called 'flying saucers'."

Next day, the UFO story hit the headlines. The Air Force got a flood of queries from the press, as soon as they heard about the sighting. But the reporters were unceremoniously put off—the Air Force wasn't divulging any more information about the incident. A security lid came down tight around it. The incident had been thoroughly investigated and the conclusion still was: UNKNOWN. It seemed just too fantastic and it was better to keep silent . . .

INCIDENT 5. In the night of November 4, 1954, a resident of Pontal, Sao Paulo, was fishing in the Parde river, near the town. He was a laborer named Jose Alves. He was in a deserted place. The night was dark and silent, and a slight breeze was blowing from the east. Suddenly, he saw a strange craft glowing in the sky. It closed in quietly, the glow growing steadily in size . . . It was coming down from a westerly direction—and seemed to be "wobbling in mid-air" as it came slowly toward the ground, very near the spot he was placed.

Jose Alves froze where he was, getting the feeling he was in danger. He knew at once that the weird machine was unlike anything he ever had seen. And he wanted to run away.

Before he had a chance to run the "thing" was landing—so near he could have touched it if he had walked a few steps forward. It hovered about six feet above the ground—stopped in mid-air, motionless. It looked like something made of silvery metal and shaped like "two washbowls placed on top of each other". It appeared to be about 10 to 15 feet in size. Then, he saw three little men coming out of it. They were about 3 feet tall and had a dark brown skin. They were, those strange creatures, dressed in white clothes and had tightly fitting skull-caps on their heads. They left through what seemed to be a window at the side of the airship, and jumped to the ground.

Terror struck Jose Alves, terror so paralyzing he felt he couldn't move. "DEVILS", he thought, "NO MAN LOOKS LIKE THAT". He felt dazed; his feet didn't seem to be touching the ground, but he knew they were, for finally he realized he was backing out, slowly dragging them backward, while his eyes kept on the dwarfish figures.

The little men, however didn't suspect that somebody watched them. They were busy. They collected samples of grass, herbs and leaves of trees; and one of them filled a shiny metal tube with water from the nearby river. Then, they jumped back into the machine, which took off vertically. As before no sound was heard as the eerie craft rose swiftly out of sight.

"When Jose Alves told us that fantas-

(Continued on Page 10)

WE HAVE VISITORS

(Continued from Page 9)

tic story he was in a highly nervous state but not drunk, nor out of his mind", the residents of Pontal who had heard his report, told the press. It became apparent that he was a quiet man, living for his work and his family. He never had heard anything about flying saucers and even refused to discuss the possibility. When pressed for an opinion as to what he thought about the craft and its strange little men, he said: "What it was I don't know, but I know I saw it. Everybody laughs at me but I saw what I saw." And so ended another "space-creature story" few people would believe—except those who heard it firsthand — a story that will be discounted and forgotten by all but the few who know better.

(Editor's Note: This incident took place at the same approximate time as the "little men" incidents in Venezuela in 1954.)

In general, I don't pay much attention to the reports that involve saucer crews. Most of these tales are clearly a lot of nonsense concocted up by hoaxers, screwballs and saucer-cultists. Why have I included this one? For just one reason. Before 1954, there had been little similarity between any of the "space-creature" stories so far published; they were such obvious fakes that they were not worth considering. Since that year, however, a disturbing resemblance between some of the new "saucer-crew tales" became apparent. This residue showing common characteristics still is not large enough, in my opinion, to be accepted as evidence. But these reports have cropped up year after year since that year. The report of Jose Alves is a good model of the kind. Five more like it were recorded in my country in the same period (November - December, 1954). Dozens like it had been reported in Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Italy, France, Australia, etc. The last one has been put on the wires just now by the F. P. It happened on the night of May 10, 1957, at Beaucourt-sur-Ancre, a small village in northern France. An alien craft hovered in mid-air near the ground; four little men dressed in white clothes; a silent and swift take-off; five witnesses. And the police who examined the spot—finding two parallel marks on the ground and some black smears of a plastic substance, recently solidified. Did you hear of it ?

So that's where we stand. I have shown you three incidents dealing with aerial objects which cannot be explained by present science as natural phenomena—but solely as artificial devices, controlled and operated by an intelligence. No power plant known or projected on this planet can account for the performances of these devices, you know.

The fourth incident deals with what appears to be PHYSICAL EVIDENCE of the existence of UAOs. To realize the importance of this fact, you only need to remember what Capt. E. J. Ruppelt once said: (True, 34:134 May), 1954): . . . may bring you to the possibility that the saucers are craft from outer space. As staggering as the implications may be, to my mind this is the most acceptable theory—if the saucers exist. There is no other alternative".

The last incident of this series . . . Well, you don't believe it. It seems just too fantastic. I agree. But . . . who knows?

I said before I didn't know the real beginning of this UAO story—nor the end. But who knows? That's the riddle. Somewhere in the skies are those who know. Answers may come to us in a generation — OR TOMORROW .

Sleep well, friend.

REPORT FROM VENEZUELA

Horacio Gonzales, one of our Venezuelan representatives, had quite a few items in a recent letter, some of which are offered here:

"An interview of Capt. Matthew Van Winkle, pilot of the PAA airliner which avoided collision with a UAO on 9 March between New York and Puerto Rico, disclosed that Van Winkle had not disclosed all information to the press, and that the object was *not* a ball of light, but rather a flattened sphere, which shed greenish white luminosity and maneuvered above the plane for a few minutes after the near collision. The fusilage of the craft was cracked and the electronic instruments were out of order after the encounter.;

On the 23rd of March Luis Petrieira, an agriculturist of Puertot Escondido in the Maracaibo district, in company with others, saw an object plunge into the lake flying low in its vicinity.; The Prefect of the Bolivar District and other functionaries were notified, and all planes accounted for; The area where the object entered the water was dragged, but nothing was found. The witnesses still maintain, however, that a flying object did dive into Lake Maracaibo.

On the 8th of April *thousands* of people saw a luminous budy which flew over the coast from Northwest to Southeast over Catia la Mar. The time was around 9 p. m. and the object travelled at a very high rate of speed. The object flew in a horizontal trajectory, had a yellowish color and afterwards DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS, one of which turned red. Length of sightings: only a few seconds. (See Holloman AFB sighting in January issue APRO Bulletin—Page 5, Column 1.)

On the same night, reports coming from Coro state that more than five hundred people witnessed the passage of an oval, luminous object over the City. It apparently passed over Maracaibo, crossed the Paraguana Isthmus, Coro, Puerto Cabello, to reach Catia la Mar and covered the distance in less than half an hour. Witnesses said the object travelled from west to east and was first seen around 9 p. m. above Roosevelt Avenue in Coro. The audience at a drive-in theater saw the object, which flew over the dunes at great speed. Simultaneously, it was reported over the Coro-La Vela highway by Mr. Jesus Zavala, Air port chief for the district. On that same night observers in Los Teques saw luminous objects passing over the city of San Pedro de los Altos. The objects flew at great speed, were discoid in form and were entirely luminous.

News reports coming from Barquisimeto also stated that on the night of 8 April numerous individuals saw a luminous body, oval in shape, which flew over the Urdaneta District. This report receives confirmation by numerous travellers from Carora and Trujillo who reported seeing "an oval object wrapped in flame" which was playing around at incredible speed between Barquisimeto and Trujillo. Object also was seen by residents of Aguada Grande, Baragua, and Urucure. On the following day, 9 April, hundreds of students, coming out of school, congregated in the Bolivar Square to watch a luminous discoid object which maneuvered over the city. About half an hour after the passage of this object, a violent current of air was felt all over the area. It slammed windows and doors and tore off galvanized rooftops, and shredded huge trees of their leaves.

On the 12th of April, Lt. Col. Carlos Rincon Calcano, (Ret.) Consul for Venezeulea in Aruba, said that thousands observed the maneuvers of a strange object over that island. At times the object seemed to be suspended in mid-air. On the same day, persons traveling from El Tigre to Puerto la Cruz, saw a strange rotating apparatus shooting rays of light towards the earth, maneuver over the highway and shoot off towards the south.

On Saturday, 13th of April, residents of Guayamural, on Ocumere del Tuy, were frightenend out of their wits when they saw a strange apparatus descending vertically from the sky. Object was described as having a width of about 10 feet and about six feet thick. It made no noise and descended to a height of about 100 feet from the ground; it also produced a terrible whirlwind of air which made trees swirl and sway. It shot back up into the sky at a fantastic speed and out of sight.

New Saucer Group In Japan

A letter from Yusuke Matsumura of the Japanese Flying Saucer Research Group requesting sample copies of the Bulletin reveals the existence of a new UFO group which is badly needed in that part of the world. Despite having members in the Orient, it is not easy to obtain sightings from that area as our members there are English speaking and reading and Japanese and Chinese local papers are printed in the native characters. This new group will be an avenue to better and more detailed reports from the Orient. If the Japanese group's directors prove to be as meticulous in their investigations and reporting as they are in every other endeavor we should expect some really good reporting from that quarter.