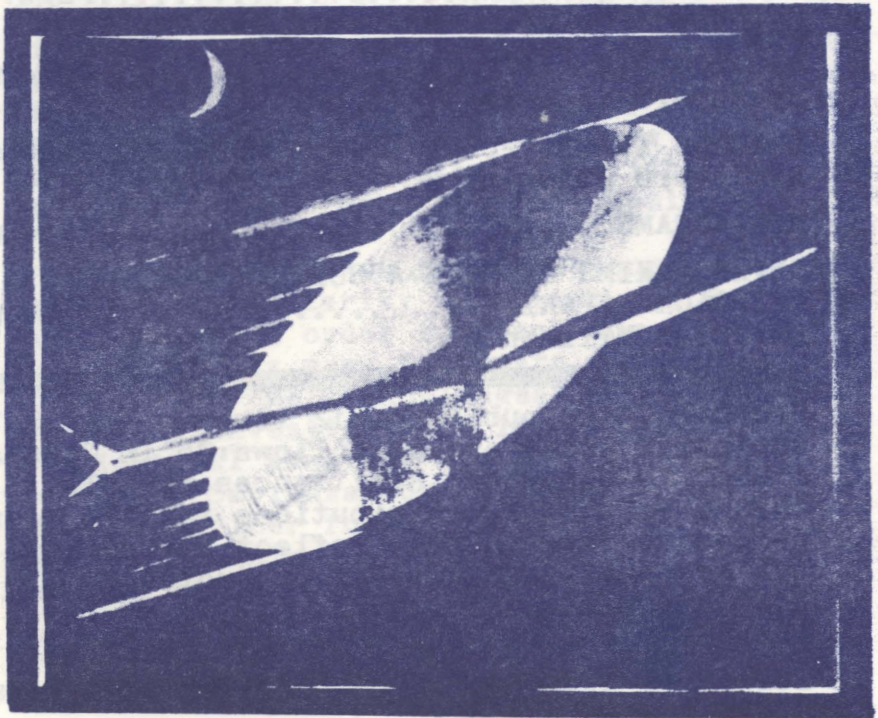




UFO CANADA

VOL. 1 NO. 5 NOVEMBER '77



"...We all know UFOs are real. The question is-where do they come from?..."

-ED MITCHELL ASTRONAUT

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

With this the fifth issue of UFO CANADA, several changes have been put into effect. First, in past issues the majority of articles which appeared were reprints for two reasons: the first being that the articles were of interest to the policy of UFO CANADA, and the second being that time was needed to establish this publication which, I may add has taken an enormous step in popularity.

Now that the journal is growing in popularity with each new issue, we must expand in order to reach our goals. Recently, I was very fortunate to meet up with an extremely knowledgeable researcher during my investigations into sightings in the Montreal area. The man I am referring to is Robert Sapienza. Robert is a flight operations officer for an international airline and has technical qualifications in areas such as Air Navigation, Meteorology, Flight-Planning, Air-Ground Radio Communications, Aerodynamics and other aviation-related fields.

After several meetings with him, Robert has agreed to work with me as Assistant Editor and Aviation Consultant for

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UFO CANADA. Together we hope to shed a lot more light on UFO reports and perhaps also improve the quality of investigative procedures. We intend to establish UFO CANADA as a respectable, objective and reliable publication.

At this point I want to make clear our policy and our attitudes. First, this Editorial page will be a regular monthly feature which will focus on various topics of concern to UFO research. UFO CANADA is a serious publication with an open-minded approach to the UFO phenomenon. We believe that UFOs exist. What are they? This we cannot say for certain, but there exists enough evidence to at least support the Extra-terrestrial hypothesis. This is not to say that we are setting out to prove that all strange sightings are alien space craft. As a matter of fact we consider this theory to be the most conservative of the enormous list. If someday we are proven wrong, we will accept it honorably and with satisfaction that at least the mystery has been solved. However it is this writer's opinion that this shall not occur. Insofar as our relationship with other UFO groups, it is our intention to co-operate to the fullest extent and we will not accept any competitive or jealous behaviour from anyone. It is our belief that the only way that the UFO enigma will be solved is through unlimited co-operation and solidarity. In conclusion, I would like to reassure our own readers that when UFO CANADA takes on a case we have at our disposal, the facilities to analyse and determine whether the report is authentic or not. So I take this opportunity to discourage the would-be hoaxer from attempting to give false information. Such persons shall be exposed as frauds.

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It is our goal to sweep up the the garbage that some organizations and magazines are leaving behind and give UFO research the reputation of a serious and contemporary science. I trust that we will gain your support in establishing UFO CANADA into an organization deserving of your respect and admiration.

Howard Gontovnick

HOWARD GONTOVNICK

EDITOR



"Venus, my foot...we're going to Cuba!"

UFOS OVER MONTREAL

This particular sighting involves at least twelve people. One set of witnesses is a family of five from Chambly, another family of five from Dorval and a married couple from Ville St. Laurent. The principal witnesses have requested that their name be kept confidential due to the father's profession and well known name. We will refer to him as Mr. A. His testimony has been taped. A reconstruction of what happened follows:

On Sunday, Oct. 23, 1977, Mr. A and his family were driving back to their home in Chambly from St. Jean after having dined in a local restaurant. They were headed north on Route 35 when Mr. A noticed a strange object in the sky to his left. Hanging there motionless, was a luminous object shaped like a half moon. To its left was a streak much like a jet's vapour trail. Both objects were standing still. Mrs. A did not give this matter too much importance at first so the family continued their drive. A few minutes later, the children remarked that the objects were still visible and had still not moved. Also the supposed vapor trail was not getting any longer as it normally should. At that point, they all became a little more curious and began to investigate a little closer. Mr. A turned off the highway in search of a small road where he could stop the car. He soon found one and parked the car in front of a telephone pole so that he could have a point of reference with which to detect any motion in the objects. At this point Mr. A noticed to his right that the moon was rising so he was sure that the mysterious object was not

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the moon seen through any atmospheric disturbance. The sun had just set and the sky was still very bright. The half moon shaped object was a red orange color and seemed to be reflecting the sunlight. Mr. A compares the size of the object to a nickel held at arm's length. The vapor trail to its left was the same colour as a normal jet trail...white. Its size was estimated to be approximately 2 or 3 inches long at arm's length. Neither object was moving at that point. Almost 15 minutes had passed since they first noticed the objects. Suddenly, the vapor trail took off and performed a large loop around the other object and sped off into the north-western sky. However, instead of leaving a steady trail the object left a broken line of vapor as if sputtering. Mr. A estimated that it took about 30 seconds for this movement to be completed. Seconds after this occurred, the main object followed suit and slowly moved off into the same area of the sky. By then all five people were convinced that they had witnessed a strange occurrence.

The following Wednesday, Mr. A got in touch with me via an employee of the SUNDAY EXPRESS newspaper. Mr. A agreed to have this story printed in the paper in hope that someone else might come forward to confirm the sighting. He emphasized that unless some competent authority came forward to confirm this observation, his name should be kept confidential. I agreed to this and advised him that if he was waiting for somebody from Air Traffic Control or the Police, he would have to wait a l-o-n-g time. As a result of the story in the SUNDAY EXPRESS, more people did indeed come forward.

Another family of five was en-

cont'd..

-route to their home in Dorval driving on Highway 2&20 from Ste.Anne de Bellevue.As they were approaching the Dorval Circle exchange,a bright round object streaked across their field of view.The object seen matched closely to Mr.A's description,but only one object was seen.Mr.and Mrs.Pfeiffer of Dorval claim that this occurred at almost 6:45 p.m.They said that the object was a bright metallic color and flew to the right of them in a downward slope across their windshield and disappeared into the horizon towards the river.The object emitted a trail of smoke,which soon dissipated.The Pfeiffers had the impression that the object was quite close.I asked them if they thought it might have been a meteor,but they said no because it was much slower than a meteor and not just a flash of light.They say the object had a definite shape to it and looked metallic.The Pfeiffers are quite familiar with airplanes as they live adjacent to Dorval Airport,and said that what they saw was not a normal configuration.

The next witnesses,Mr.and Mrs. M.Ward of Ville St.Laurent,saw two strange objects at the same time.Mr.Ward was on his roof installing a CB antenna when he first caught sight of the objects.One was a semi-circle shape and a very bright gold-like color.At that point,the object was not moving.Mr.Ward came down from the roof and ran into his house to get his telescope,and as he came out onto the balcony the object had begun to move away slowly leaving a vapour trail.It was then that he also saw another object shaped like a thin cylinder, also fading away.Whereas the first object was a bright gold color,the second was a dull silver finish.The duration of this sighting was from 3 to 5 minutes.

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Howard and I interviewed all these people and considered many possibilities. We feel that this may have been a genuine multiple witness observation of possibly 2 UFOs.Our evaluations follow:

1)RESEARCH BALLOON:Neither of the 2 objects was a balloon in our opinion,because after a check with the weather observer at the Mirabel Airport tower,it was found that the prevailing winds were FROM the Northwest and the objects moved against the wind.Also one of the 2 objects'configuration bore no resemblance to a balloon.

2)ASTRONOMICAL BODIES:Definitely not a meteor due to the slow speeds and changes in flight paths.A check with the Dow Planetarium confirmed that no stars or planets were visible in that area of the sky at that time.

3)AIRCRAFT: The larger of the 2 objects had no similarity whatsoever to any KNOWN aircraft.Also the other one exhibited the usual characteristics of UFOs such as hovering and sudden bursts of acceleration and deceleration as opposed to normal aerodynamic performance.

4)HALLUCINATION:Practically no possibility of this as more than one person involved and same scenario seen.

5)HOAX:Always a possibility but in this case we consider it highly improbable. None of the families involved know each other.We interviewed all these people and we are satisfied with the evidence presented and all of them were found to be normal people with good reputations and none of them wanting any publicity.Their knowledge of UFOs and related books is minimal.No one exhibited any strange or abnormal flaws in their characters,and most important of all,they all

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possess a very healthy skepticism, and as a matter of fact, Mrs. A does not accept the possibility of extra-terrestrial craft. But she admits that what she saw was strange and unknown.

At time of writing, there are more developments in this case, however they are in the process of being investigated and verified, so more information should be available in the next issue of UFO CANADA.

DETAILED INFORMATION

DATE: 23-10-77

LOCATION: Chambly, Ville St. Laurent & Dorval

TIME: Between 6:00 and 6:45 p.m. EDT

NBR. of OBSERVERS: 12

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Thin scattered clouds
between 2500-3000 ft.
Visibility 25-40 mi.
Temperature 7° C. Winds
310° at 15-25 kts.

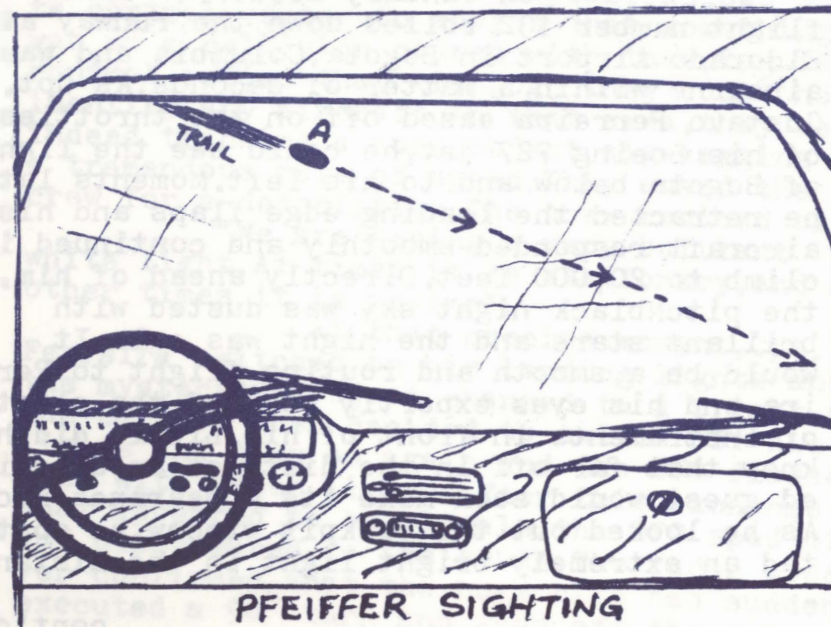
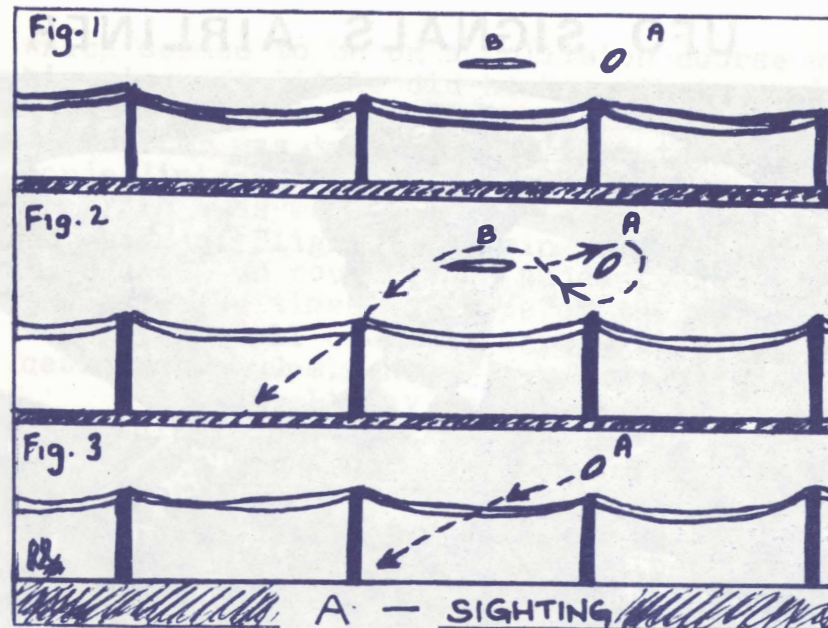
DURATION: Between 20 and 30 mins.

by

HOWARD GONTOVNIK & ROBERT SAPIENZA

(see following page for diagrams)

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UFO SIGNALS AIRLINER



On January 21, 1977, AVIANCA flight number 132 rolled down the runway at Eldorado Airport in Bogota, Columbia and was airborne within a matter of seconds. As Cpt. Gustavo Ferreira eased off on the throttles of his Boeing 727 jet, he could see the lights of Bogota below and to his left. Moments later he retracted the leading edge flaps and his aircraft responded smoothly and continued its climb to 20,000 feet. Directly ahead of him, the pitchblack night sky was dusted with brilliant stars and the night was calm. It would be a smooth and routine flight to Pereira, and his eyes expertly scanned the cluster of instruments in front of him. Little did he know that far off in the distance, an uninvited guest would soon make its appearance known. As he looked out the cockpit window, he spotted an extremely bright light in the distance,

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which seemed to be on a collision course with his aircraft. Little did he know that precise moment, four miles below, a veteran Air Traffic Controller was tracking the same thing also. Jorje Jimenez, the controller couldn't believe what his eyes were seeing. There was the familiar blip of flight 132 easing its way across his screen on course, when suddenly he noticed a blip three times the size of the airliner zig-zagging all over the screen at speeds excess of 20,000 m.p.h. !

It may be of interest to you that this is not a sciencefiction movie script that is being written, but a reconstruction of an actual UFO sighting. But let us return to the sky over Columbia.

It was nine p.m. local time, when Cpt. Ferreira caught sight of the UFO. His immediate reaction was to alert the other members of his cockpit crew and verify the sighting. They all saw the same thing. At that point, the co-pilot, Pedro Tapias, radioed Bogota control center to advise that something was on a collision course with them. Bogota control replied that although they could not identify any aircraft in that area, they were indeed tracking a huge object zig-zagging at a tremendous rate of speed. They asked the crew for a description. The crew radioed back,

"We are seeing a very brilliant white light. At times it is stationary, and at other times it is moving".

At that precise moment, Cpt. Ferreira switched on his landing lights and the mysterious object changed to a bright red. The captain then decided to switch off his lights and then on again and the UFO flashed back with green lights. After this exchange of what appeared to be signals, the UFO sped off and disappeared to the south. The radar observer confirmed that the huge blip had suddenly executed a 90° turn and sped off the scope.

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When Cpt. Ferreira was interviewed by the press he explained that in all of his 22 years flying he had never seen anything like it and that although he had always doubted the existence of UFOs, he could no longer deny their reality.

Something real happened on that night. There are qualified observers that will swear to it. The cockpit crew, including two stewardesses and most of the passengers saw SOMETHING. That something was definitely real and physical as it was seen both on the ground and airborne radar. Unless all the people involved had previously arranged to perpetrate a hoax, this sighting should be considered for serious investigation by aviation authorities, and it probably was although we'll never know. However, thanks to the courage of Cpt. Ferreira and others like him, we now have another one for Phil Klass to try and pooh-pooh! Good luck Phil.

ROBERT SAPIENZA

SOURCES: INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE
February 22, 1977.

EL TIEMPO
February 18, 1977.

National Enquirer
August 22, 1977.

Flying Saucer Review
Vol. 23 No. 2 1977

LANDING TRACES FOUND IN MANITOBA

While clearing the wheat fields on a farm outside Rossburn, Manitoba, four large, donut-shaped imprints were found.

The incident took place in early September (exact date not revealed), 1977. According to a reporter from the Brandon Sun: "The circles look as if a large saucer-like object came down vertically, gently rotating as it touched the ground."

Eleven circles were visible from the air. Their sizes varied from 15 to 18 feet in diameter. "The soil under the pressed wheat is not noticeably indented. The grain has a flattened appearance similar to grass kept under an object for several days. In this case, the grain in the smaller circles has been pressed into a neat counter-clockwise direction; in the larger circles, the wheat lies clockwise."

An RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) constable was quoted as saying, "I thought it was crazy until I went out. Another constable and I have both arrived at the same conclusion. They had to be made by Unidentified flying objects". No burnt marks were found.

CONCLUSION

Presently, this case is being investigated by members of the Manitoba Centre of UFO Studies. UFO CANADA is attempting to contact this group for further details.

SOURCE: Brandon Sun-September 10/77-Brandon, Manitoba, Canada.

Howard Gontovnick

MEDIAGRAMS



RUSSIAN SCIENTIST SUGGESTS TUNGUS BLAST WAS EXPLODING SPACESHIP

The explosion which was recorded all around the world and left an entire area demolished 70 years ago in Russia, may have been the site of an explosion of a spaceship from another world, says leading soviet physicist.

"It cannot be excluded that the Tungus meteorite was an artificial body from other worlds of the universe", says Alexei Zolotov in an interview with the russian magazine 'Turist'.

The explosion which was accompanied by nuclear reactions, has puzzled soviet and world scientists for many years now.

Many theories have been presented for explanations, but still it remains a great mystery.

SOURCE: The Montreal Gazette - November 5/77.
Montreal, P.Q., CANADA.

NOTE: UFO CANADA is preparing a special feature on the Tungus mystery.

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LIFE ON JUPITER?...MAYBE!...SAYS SAGAN.

Dr. Carl Sagan, famous exobiologist and professor of Astronomy claims that huge flying creatures, several miles in diameter, may exist on the planet Jupiter. Dr. Sagan has been quoted as saying that the redness seen frequently on the planet may just be balloon shaped creatures floating in Jupiter's atmosphere. Dr. Sagan is very well known for his skeptical attitude towards UFOs and UFO occupants, but admits that the possibility of life as we don't know it may exist on other worlds. Sagan feels that such creatures on Jupiter may expand themselves and propel themselves by expelling helium gas. The two unmanned craft MARINERS 11 and 12 will fly past the enormous planet next year and might shed some light on Dr. Sagan's theory.

SOURCE: The Daily Telegraph
(London), Mar. 10, 1977.

F.S.R. Vol. 23 # 2, 1977.

UFO DOCUMENTARY BEING FILMED IN QUEBEC.

The University of Quebec has given a \$ 1500. grant to Mr. Michel Minguy who is a student of cinematography and collaborator on the French C.B.C. program "SCIENCE et VIE. This will be a 30 minute documentary on UFO research in Quebec and will feature interviews with members of UFO-QUEBEC, a local research organization which publishes an excellent quarterly publication. The film will include startling evidence that Quebec is frequently visited by our mysterious friends. No dates have been issued for the release time as of yet.

SOURCE: Robert Sapienza.

SEVEN MAXIMS OF UFOS: A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH

M XIM NO.4 BEWARE THE PRINTED WORD. **PART 5**

I wonder why so many people take on faith what they see published in a journal or book. Just because something appears in print is no reason to assume its accuracy. Let me give one good example. Radio officer Z.T. Fogl on the S.S. Ramsay took two pictures in December, 1957, reportedly off the California coast as the ship sailed from Vancouver to the Panama Canal. These appeared in the British journal 'Flying Saucer Review' in the January/February 1959 issue. They clearly showed an artificial-looking craft with at least three radio antennas. Over the years this sighting was often quoted as an outstanding example of an alien spacecraft. Hall, of NICAP (1964) listed it in his summary 'The UFO Evidence', the Illustrated London News reproduced a photograph in the February 5, 1966 issue and Life Magazine, in the issue of April 1, 1966, published one of the Fogl pictures & compared it with the drawing of a current UFO sighting in Michigan. Finally, in the Fall of 1966, Fogl confessed that he had made a flying saucer from plastic model aircraft parts, hung it by a thin silk thread and taken the photographs. The hoax was exposed in the 'Flying Saucer Review' for September/October, 1966, and again in 'Flying Saucers-UFO Reports' No. 3 (1967) in an article by Rankow (see fig. 4). In spite of all this, in the Canadian journal 'Product Design & Value Engineering' for February, 1968, the Fogl photo appears once more, in a review article on UFOs (Barnes 1968) without any indication that it is a fake, and again this picture appears in the.....

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THE FOGL PHOTO ...AN ADMITTED HOAX

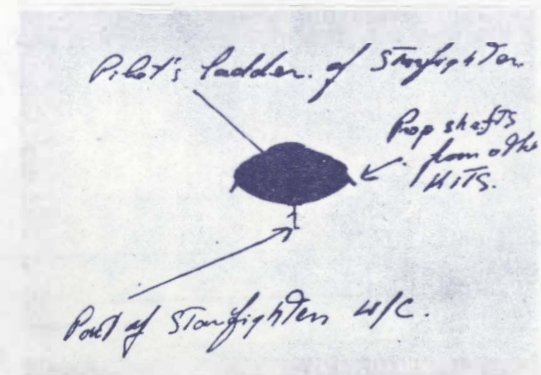


FIG. 4—The Fogl photo, reproduced from *Flying Saucers - UFO Reports*, No. 3, 1967, published by the Dell Publishing Co., New York. The lower view is annotated by Fogl himself to explain how he put the model together.

'Canadian Scientist' for September, 1968. This is only part of the history of one faked photo, covering over 11 years.

An important aspect of the newspaper accounts of UFOs is that the detailed coverage with scare headlines on the front page usually appear so soon after the sighting that only the most meager amount of fact-checking can be carried out. Inevitably, important details are missed, inaccurate ones are over-emphasized and a story, biased towards the sensation, results. In many cases subsequent detailed investigation solves the sighting completely, but very few newspapers are willing to publish this solution as it has no news value. In the few cases where the follow-up is published it appears as a small note tucked away on an inner page. For this reason a statistical study of a vast collection of newspaper clippings is a pure waste of time.

PETER M. MILLMAN

Next: MAXIM NO. 5 - Records are Never Complete

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