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CONTENTS

	Page
Saucers Over Russia ...	3
The Secret Weapon Theory	6
Binding Forces: Wilbert B. Smith	7
A Flying Saucer with " Legs "	9
Brazil under UFO Survey: Olavo T. Fontes	10
Count St. Germain: W. R. Drake	15
A Near Miss	18
The Present UFO Position: Peter F. Sharp	19
The Under-Carriage: Dr. B. E. Finch	23
World Round-Up	25
Flying Saucers Over Tasmania	27
International UFO Observer Corps	28
The Unidentified Satellite ...	29
Book Reviews	30
The First Moon " Beep " ...	32
Mail Bag	iii

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What can we believe?

MANY of our readers from all over the world have written to us to ask exactly where we stand on the issue of the contact claims. It is a fair question, but it is not one that can be answered in a few words. We envy those who can say that they believe wholeheartedly, and we admire equally those others who are able to dismiss the claimants as a pack of liars. Our answer must be more circumspect. What we can say immediately is that to ignore completely the contact problem is a coward's way out of the difficulty. Whether we like it or not, the student of flying saucers who tries to convert will, sooner or later, be asked what he believes about the stories of visitors to this planet and what he thinks of those who claim to have met them. To answer that all these people are fraudulent is merely to ask for the objection that all those who say they have seen strange objects in the sky are similarly untrustworthy. To answer that all the claimants are telling the truth is to land oneself into even greater difficulty, for it must be admitted that, on occasion, the claimants contradict each other on some vital point. Nor will it help if one claimant is believed and the other rejected. The plain truth is that we do not know what to believe.

While we keep our mind open, however, it is as well to study the problem and its implications. We can accept as a starting point that the saucers are real machines, intelligently piloted or controlled and emanating from outer space. Also, we accept unreservedly the Papuan sightings so ably reported for us by the Rev. N. E. G. Cruttwell*. Therefore, we accept the fact that some of these machines, at least, have human pilots with intelligences similar, though probably superior, to ours. Having gone so far, we have to admit that we are not very far from accepting the *possibility* of truth in the claimants' stories. Their claims are not that much in advance of Father Gill's. In Papua the pilots waved, apparently in friendly greeting: in California and elsewhere there occurred, or so it is alleged, an inter-communication of ideas. From the one to the other is but a step, and a not unreasonable one to be asked to take. But an objection lingers in the mind and it had better be stated without hesitation.

The Rev. N. E. G. Cruttwell's reports are much more convincing than the claimants' stories. It is difficult at first to analyse the difference, but it appears to us that in the Papuan report there is a ring of truth that the others lack. Is it humility that is missing? Too many claimants tell their story on a " take it or leave it " basis and there

* See particularly our November-December, 1960, issue.

is no concession made to the doubter. They prefer to bludgeon the reader rather than to persuade and occasionally impute to him some moral inferiority if he should persist in his questioning. It is an attitude which jars upon the sensitive and finally angers. How much more reasonable is Father Gill's attitude. According to the Rev. N. E. G. Cruttwell's report, Father Gill, who has suffered a great deal of criticism, says that sometimes he wishes that he had never seen the object and that he is quite prepared to accept what he calls a "reasonable" explanation if one can be offered. Compare this cautious approach to those of most of the professional claimants: Father Gill recognises that his story is a "tall" one and has the good manners to meet his audience halfway. The others, with stories not that much "taller," often adopt a holier-than-thou attitude and hint that they have been chosen for some special merit, while to doubt their story is to commit blasphemy. All we can say is that it seems most unfortunate that those who are visiting us did not choose Father Gill and his mission boys for their earlier and closer contacts. If the purpose is to carry a message to a long-suffering world, then those who have been selected have proved a poor choice.

The apologists for the claimants will suggest that they have been chosen because they are often the simple-minded and that we cannot expect eloquence from such people. The immediate reply is that the very simplicity of many of the witnesses in Papua contributes to the ring of truth and that simplicity is the one quality that is lacking in those other contact stories. With Father Gill and his mission boys we feel that we have been told the whole of the truth as they saw it. With the others we feel that the claimant has stood, in some way or other, between us and the truth. Our conclusion must be not to dismiss these stories altogether as false, but to admit that there is a mystery behind a mystery. We only wish we knew the truth. What we cannot and will not do is to pretend that we know the answer and that there is no mystery at all.

The evolution of mystery

I too believe . . . that the study of mystery in all its forms is the noblest to which the mind of man can devote itself; and truly it has ever been the occupation and care of those who in science and art, in philosophy and literature, have refused to be satisfied merely to observe and portray the trivial, well-recognised truths, facts and realities of life. And we find that the success of these men in their endeavour, the depth of their insight into all that they know, has most strictly accorded with the respect in which they held all they did not know, with the dignity that their mind or imagination was able to confer on the sum of unknowable forces.

Our consciousness of the unknown wherein we have being gives life a meaning and grandeur which must of necessity be absent if we persist in considering only the things that are known to us; if we too readily incline to believe that these must greatly transcend in importance the things that we know not yet.

Maurice Maeterlinck, *The Buried Temple.*

SAUCERS OVER RUSSIA

Widespread speculation officially deplored

TRANSLATION BY
G.W. CREIGHTON

THE following article appeared in *Pravda* on January 8, 1961, and attracted world-wide attention:

"Various stories have appeared among us of late to the effect that at certain places in the U.S.S.R. people have seen the so-called 'flying saucer.' Certain lecturers have indeed spoken of them as actual facts. Readers of *Pravda* are writing letters to us asking that we elucidate this question of 'flying saucers.' Our Correspondent has accordingly requested Academician L. A. Artsimovich to give readers his opinion on the matter:

'There is not a single fact,' says Academician Artsimovich, 'to indicate the existence, in the skies above us, of the mysterious physical objects which have been given the name of "saucer." All the talk on this subject, which has been so widespread of late, stems from one and the same initial source, namely the unscrupulous and anti-scientific information contained in talks given in Moscow by certain totally irresponsible individuals. These reports contained fantastic tales, borrowed for the most part from the U.S. press and relating to the time when flying crockery was the principal sensation in the United States.

'It is necessary to say a few words about this sensation, which at times bordered upon mass-hysteria. "Saucers" made their first appearance in 1947 when an American businessman who was flying in an aeroplane in the area of the Rocky Mountains (in the western part of the U.S.A.) saw a group of shining objects, in form similar to plates, flying at great speed over the tops of the mountains. Following upon this first report, which attracted the attention of the newspapers, came a deluge of others. Plates*, saucers and other objects of unknown provenance were sailing to and fro in the American skies in swarms, by day and by night, and appearing from all directions, both singly and in whole crowds.

'The evasive attitude adopted by the American governmental authorities, to whom the public had turned for an explanation of these reports, resulted in the dissemination of the most absurd rumours. Amateurs were at once forthcoming who were glad to avail themselves of the exceptional effect begotten by reports of "flying saucers." And there appeared entertaining stories about space-ships aboard which, for some mysterious purposes, inhabitants of other planets or distant solar systems were paying visits to the earth.

'All these epic doings went on for some years. Then, when the uproar created by the newspaper stories had abated somewhat, the sober voices of certain American scientists began to make themselves heard in an endeavour to ascertain precisely what had in actual fact been observed in those cases where the reports were not faked and were not merely the results of self-deception or simple psychological hallucination. And it then became clear that the majority of the bona-fide sightings which had previously been considered to be proof of the existence of new flying objects could now be explained by far more mundane causes.

'The causes in question are the phenomena at times highly fantastic—connected with the passage of light through the atmosphere and the reflections of such light by clouds, drops of moisture in the air, ice-crystals and other components of the atmosphere. To the category such such phenomena, for example, belong the various types of mirage observed as the result of the bending of the course of a beam of light passed through air containing layers of varying temperatures. And to the same category of phenomena belong, likewise, the rainbow which is explained by the refraction of light in drops of water in the atmosphere and such things as "mock suns" and the columns of light observed at times of severe frost, etc. etc.

'To this same cycle of phenomena belong also effects of light which can cause a man who is unacquainted with the optics of the atmosphere to form conjectures as to the existence of hitherto unknown flying objects.

'The American astronomer Menzel devoted a whole book to the analysis of this question and came to the conclusion that "flying sau-

Это оптический обман,—говорят ученые

ЕСТЬ ЛИ «ЛЕТАЮЩИЕ ТАРЕЛКИ»?

В течение ряда лет в зарубежной печати появлялись материалы о полетах необычайных небесных тел. Их называли «летающими блюдечками», «тарелочками», «дисками». Главнейшим подтверждением их существования служили широко публиковавшиеся фотографии этих «летающих» тел.

Необходимо отметить, что в ряде случаев миф о «летающих тарелочках» был использован реакционными кругами капиталистических стран для антисоветской пропаганды, разжигания холодной войны.

Фотографии «летающих дисков» были получены и в нашей стране. Ниже мы публикуем рассказ кандидата физико-математических наук А. Микирова о том, что собой представляют эти фотографии.

Это случилось в Тикси 21 ноября 1959 года. Часов в девять вечера сотрудник полярной станции «Столб» Е. Мурашов сфотографировал метеорологическую площадку. Снимал он аппаратом «Старт», который был заряжен высокочувствительной пленкой (130 единиц ГОСТ). Но поскольку было очень темно, выдержка все же равнялась примерно одной минуте.

Сделав первый снимок, Е. Мурашов решил сдублировать его. Прочитав пленку, Е. Мурашов обнаружил на обоих снимках чрезвычайно странный предмет необычной формы. Он напоминал рисунок какого-то фантастического летательного аппарата и был окружен ореолом (фото № 1).

Сопоставление снимков показывало, что загадочный предмет перемещается в пространстве, причем это перемещение происходило с запада на восток.

Сам Е. Мурашов во время фотографирования ничего необычного на небосводе не заметил. Объяснил он это тем, что все его внимание было сосредоточено на фотоаппарате.

Снимки, которые сам Е. Мурашов, шутя, назвал фотографией «летающего блюда», стали предметом бесчисленных разговоров и споров. Многие начали перепечатывать эти снимки и выдавать их за доказательство существования «летающих тарелок». Более того: вокруг того факта, что Е. Мурашов при фотографировании сам не видел «летающей тарелки», стали происходить самые невероятные догадки. Одни утверждали, что изображенное на снимках тело излучало ультрафиолетовую радиацию, и поэтому Мурашов не мог его видеть. Другие, понимая, что стеклянный объектив фотоаппарата не может пропускать ультрафиолетовых лучей, утверждали, что Мурашов не мог заметить предмета, поскольку тело излучало инфракрасные лучи.

На самом деле все обстоит намного проще.

Если посмотреть на снимки, полученные Мурашовым, то видно, что на метеоплощадке справа вниз находились довольно яркие источники света. Были ли это прожекторы или просто осветительные лампы, сказать по снимку трудно, да это и не к чему.

Свет от этих источников, попадая на объектив, частично рассеивался и частично отражался. Отражение шло как от линз, так и от оправ объектива. Так как каждая линза представляет собой часть сферы, а оправа есть круг, то отраженный свет шел расходящимся пучком. Объектив, собирая этот свет, образовал некоторое тело вращения. А так как линз и оправ в объективе много и они достаточно близки друг от друга, то получалось несколько тел вращения, которые и образовали на снимке Мурашова изображение «летающей тарелочки».

В том, что это действительно так, может убедиться каждый фотолюбитель. Условия опыта чрезвычайно просты. Нужны яркий источник света и достаточно темный фон.

Регулируя угол между оптической осью объектива и направлением на источник света (см. чертеж), можно получить различные фигуры, вроде той, которая оказалась на снимке Е. Мурашова. Изменяя угол между оптической осью объектива и направлением на источник света, можно менять форму этих «летающих блюдец». Причем нетрудно получить изображения, окруженные не одним, а двумя и более ореолами.

Все эти изображения нетрудно увидеть непосредственно в зеркальном видоискателе. Для того чтобы они хорошо получались на снимке, нужна только сравнительно большая экспозиция.

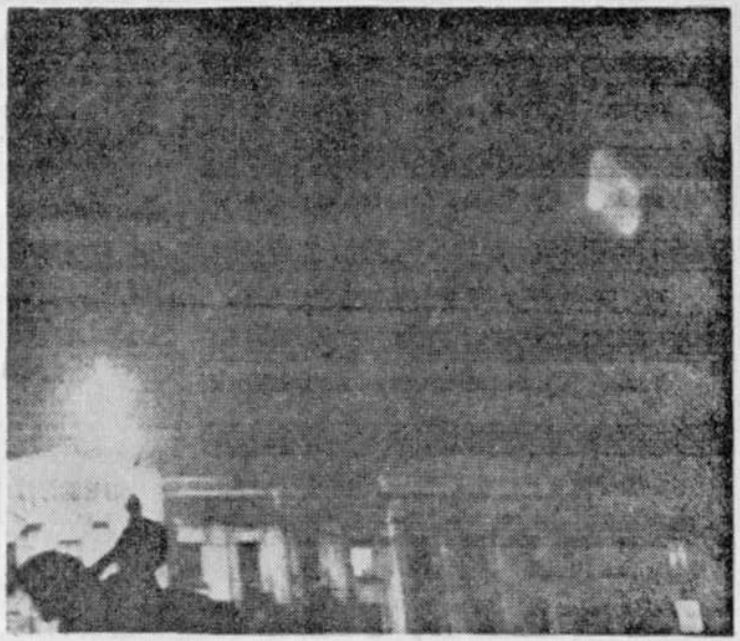
Таким образом, объектив фотографирует изображение, которое сам и создает. Естественно, что Е. Мурашов ничего не видел на метеоплощадке, так как видеть было нечего.

Если фотоаппарат вращать вокруг оптической оси, то изображение, не изменяя своей формы, будет перемещаться, что и было принято Е. Мурашовым за движение «летающей тарелки» с запада на восток.

Мы приводим здесь фотографии (фото № 2), сделанные в комнате. На темном фоне была установлена обычная лампочка. Во всех четырех снимках менялся только угол между направлением на источник света и оптической осью объектива.

Таким образом, разговоры о «летающей тарелке», сфотографированной в Тикси, об ультрафиолетовом и инфракрасном ее излучении являются следствием недостаточного знания законов оптики.

А. МИКИРОВ,
кандидат физико-математических наук.



Мы познакомили нашего фотокорреспондента И. Гречера со статьей А. Микирова.

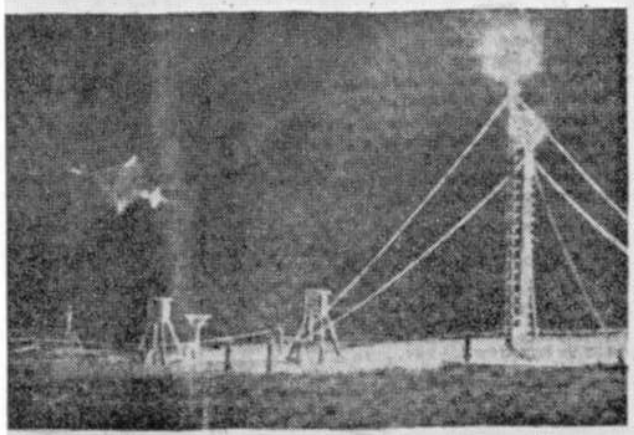
— Интересно,— сказал он задумчиво.— Попробую сам «сконструировать» «летающую тарелочку»... Через час я вернусь...

У памятника Юрию Долгорукому, как всегда, оживленно. Ровно в восемь часов вечера прохожие заметили на тротуаре человека, который снимал... небо. Напрасно вглядывались они в свинцовые облака. Ничего не было видно. А человек на тротуаре видел: на матовом стекле ясно вырисовывались очертания «летающей тарелочки».

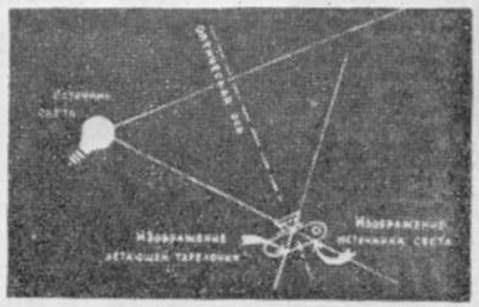
Через час на редакционном столе лежали только что отпечатанные снимки. На каждом из них — загадочный предмет, родной брат тех, фотографии которых обошли страницы западных журналов и газет. Взгляните на одну из этих фотографий: над памятником Юрию Долгорукому, над крышами домов висит загадочный светящийся предмет, который можно принять за что угодно, даже за космический корабль марсиан. В действительности же «предмет» является мнимым изображением на фотографической пленке. И главный виновник его появления — преломление световых лучей в объективе фотоаппарата. Этот снимок сделан на фотопленке «Изопанхром», 180 единиц ГОСТ, диафрагма 2, выдержка 0,5 секунды.

Такой некитрой оказалась разгадка происхождения фотографий пресловутых «летающих тарелочек». Ныне каждый может при желании изготовить неограниченное количество фотографий «летающих предметов» самой разнообразной конструкции.

«КОМСОМОЛЬСКАЯ ПРАВДА»
8 января 1961 г. 3 стр.



1. Проявив снимок, фотограф обнаружил на нем странные предметы. Не пресловутые ли это «летающие тарелки?» — подумал он.



2. Вот они, три образца «летающих тарелок». Их сконструировал в своей лаборатории кандидат физико-математических наук А. Микиров.

What Russia was allowed to read about the saucers. A photostatic reproduction of a page from "Komsomolskaya Pravda," issue of January 8.

cers" were nothing but an optical effect.

'One would have thought that enough had been said about the matter and that there was no basis for the resuscitation of ridiculous rumours that were laid to rest long ago. But now, after the lapse of several years, we are once more witnessing lively discussions on the question of the mysterious saucers and their cosmic origin. And this time—in our own country.

'Are there any fresh grounds for this? Have facts now been discovered which were previously unknown and which compel us to reconsider the question and admit the real existence of all this assortment of strange crockery floating overhead?

'No. No new facts whatsoever have come to light and we possess no grounds for surmising that Martians or Venusians are making mysterious trips to the earth. The simple truth of the matter is that there are people who are playing upon the natural interest which, for every one of us, pertains to everything about space. Consequently, there has been presented, before a trusting audience, material of the very lowest and basest sort, borrowed, for example, from such sources as the writings of the American adventurer Adamski, who, according to his own statement, contrived to book a seat aboard a saucer manned by Venusians and fly to Venus with them.

'These "captivating" items of news have been reinforced by a host of nebulous rumours about the appearance of saucers from space over towns in Uzbekistan and Tadzhikistan, in the Soviet Republics of Central Asia. There have also been reports of diminutive Venusians who, as soon as they had landed, at once began running about in all directions looking for cheap oriental sweets. And yet a further factor to intensify the interest shown in "flying saucers" has been the photograph of a "saucer" taken in one of the northern regions of the country. As has been demonstrated by the laboratory experiments performed at the Institute of Applied Geophysics (belonging to the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences), this photograph, too, is the result of an optical effect. This effect can be artificially reproduced by any amateur photographer and such photographs can be turned out by the million for gullible folk.

'The time has come to put an end to the dissemination of these fairy-tales, captivating as they may be. Saucers and other material objects which may perchance appear in the heavens exist to the same degree as do lights on water or the rainbow in the sky, that is to say simply as a play of light in the atmosphere. All else is either self-deception or wilful falsification of the facts.'"

Pravda's junior partner, *Komsomolskaya Pravda,* too, on January 8, attacked the flying saucers (see reproduction on page 4) and devoted greater space to a discussion of photographs, their significance and how they could be faked.

Pressure of public opinion

What caused this rumpus in the Soviet press? Presumably, the pressure of public opinion, as the result of a multiplicity of sighting reports which had become too great to be ignored any more. It should be noticed that the "expert" who is called in to denigrate the saucers cannot fall back on the old "party line" explanation which somehow or other implicated the Western imperialistic warmongers. Even peace-loving Soviet citizens have been seeing the objects, so Comrade Artsimovich was obliged to get out his copy of Menzel—it is interesting to notice that the subject had already received some attention on the other side of the Iron Curtain.

The story of the little men from Venus would seem to us to have had some ridicule injected into it: could the Venusians have been looking for sugar instead of sweets?

Whatever the truth of the stories which have forced a breach in the dam of Russian silence, one theory, at least, has been destroyed. It can no longer be held in the West that the objects are Russian secret weapons. No country would publicise its own secrets.

Whether Comrade Artsimovich believes his own nonsense it is hard to say and we can only hope that some Russian, braver than the others, will write in to *Pravda* to enquire how light refractions, etc., can have caused people all over the world to see solid objects with portholes and exhausts—objects which have also been tracked on radar.

The Russian press had hardly ceased its denunciations when the following item appeared in *Izvestia* for January 19:

"During the night of January 15-16, many

inhabitants of the islands off the coast of Northern Holland saw for a period of 15 minutes a large moving fiery ball at a height of 15 miles and at a distance of 50 miles from the coast. The Observatory at Utrecht is at present engaged in an enquiry into this phenomenon and witnesses have been invited to help."

This item of news is either a bad letting down of the side or just a part of a calculated policy of official "leaks" on the subject. Might the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW suggest to the leaders of the Western Powers that here is an opportunity too good to be missed. A message from the new President of the United States calling on all nations to give serious study to the mystery in the skies of the world rather than to waste the peoples' lives in futile argument about dreary ideologies might well bring about a thaw in the cold war.

* *Translator's note*: The usual Russian term for "flying saucers" is "letáyuschie tarélki," literally "flying plates," and the Czechs use a similar term. Less commonly, the Russians use the word "blyudtsa," meaning a "saucer" or "dish." I have used the word "plate" in my translation. Kenneth Arnold, as a matter of interest, did say that the objects "looked like flat pie-dishes." G.C.

THE SECRET WEAPON THEORY

A word to newcomers

DURING the last six months, the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has attracted a large number of new readers, many of whom, to judge from their letters of enquiry, are either completely fresh to the subject or are too young to have remembered the events of the fifties. As a result, we feel we must ask our older readers to excuse us if we devote some space to an examination of the theory that the flying saucers are really secret weapons.

The secret weapon theory deserves serious consideration and those who are anxious to convert others will have to explain very patiently the objections to this hypothesis. All of the objections are fatal.

Before we come to the objections, however, it is as well to remember that those who hold to the secret weapon theory have, perhaps unwittingly, rejected the temperature inversion, weather balloon, flying geese explanations which Dr. Menzel and others have employed. If the saucers are secret weapons then they are real machines intelligently controlled. It is as well to have this point firmly fixed at the start: some sceptics are inclined to shift their ground rather than to admit that the saucers are real and extra-terrestrial. If the secret weapon theory is demolished, the sceptic is sometimes tempted to fall back upon Dr. Menzel as his last line of defence. This he must not be allowed to do.

The history of secret weapons does not encourage us to believe that the flying saucer is one. In recent times, there have been two excellent examples of how countries react who possess such a weapon. Hitler boasted of his V-weapons: he made no secret at all that he had something up his sleeve. The Allies, on the other hand, took an opposite course with the Atom Bomb. The strictest secrecy was observed until its first use against Japan. With the flying saucer, however, neither course has been followed. Even if it be a weapon, it certainly has not been kept secret: saucers have been seen flying over every country in the world, either in broad daylight or brilliantly illuminated at night. The objects have been seen by tens of thousands and it is only man's incredulity that prevents their existence being even more widely known.

The other objection to the secret weapon theory is even more telling. If it is accepted that the saucers are real and intelligently piloted, then it can easily be proved by reference to Charles Fort and others that they have been seen over our skies for at least a hundred years. As Desmond Leslie has remarked, if they are secret weapons they must be the result of experiments initiated either by Queen Victoria or the Kaiser. Even if we start our studies with the Kenneth Arnold sighting of 1947, we have to admit that the experiments are taking a long time. Every month that goes by makes the secret weapon less tenable. Also, the flight and powers of the saucers would seem to us to have been perfected long ago and any country possessing a machine which made the jet plane look like a clumsy toy would have boasted about its engineering triumph. The secret weapon theory just does not work when tested by common sense.

BINDING FORCES

BY WILBERT B. SMITH

MATTER, as we know it, is held together by "forces" the nature of which we do not clearly understand. We have developed some very elegant theories to explain most of the observed phenomena, and we add sufficient "correction factors" to make the theory fit the rest. But every now and then we come face to face with something which our theory just will not explain, and rather than admit that our theory is inadequate, discard it and start over again. We just can't bring ourselves to throw out such an elegant mathematical masterpiece, so we usually just turn our backs on the new fact and refuse to recognise it. This is well demonstrated in the matter of binding forces.

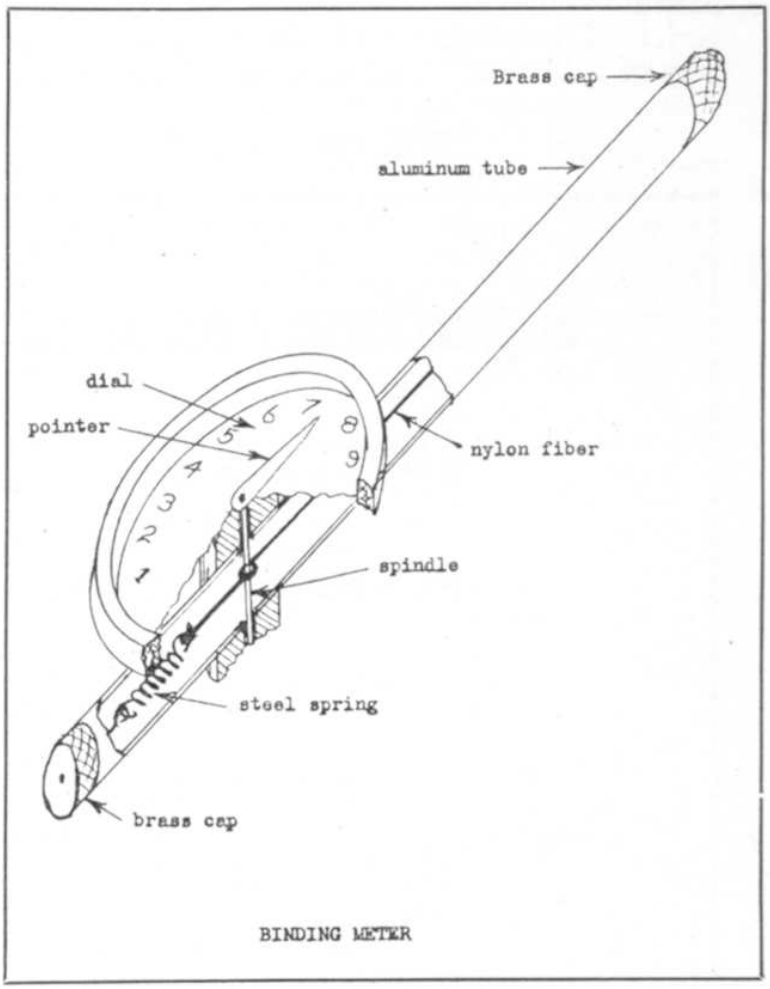
Some years ago, following several rather bad aeroplane crashes for which there was no satisfactory explanation, the people from "elsewhere" were asked through "contacts" if these crashes were possibly due to our craft flying too close to their craft. We were informed that while a very few of our craft had suffered in this manner much greater care was now being exercised by the saucer pilots so that this cause was virtually eliminated. We were informed, however, that our pilots flew around in complete disregard of the regions of reduced binding with which this planet is afflicted, and very often their craft were not designed with a sufficient factor of safety and came apart.

A counter argument

When we countered by saying that we knew nothing of such regions, we were informed that means for detecting them were easily within our technology and that we should build suitable instruments and then pay attention to what they registered. They also passed a few uncomplimentary remarks about our propensity for shooting off atom bombs which actually created a pair of such "vortices" with each explosion.

The principle of the "Binding Meter" was then explained to us, and we were left to work out its detailed design. The principle is quite simple: all matter is held together by the relative configurations of the three basic fields of nature, tempic, electric and magnetic. These configurations are characteristic of what we call the molecular structure, and the inter-actions of these fields is *not* linear. Therefore, since the fields interacting are the sums of the local fields and the background fields, such inter-action can be used to indicate certain characteristics of the background, through this very non-linearity.

Structurally the binding meter consists of a nylon fibre which is stressed close to its elastic limit (after having been overstressed to establish stability) pulling against a steel spring which is stressed well below its elastic limit. The nylon fibre is wound around a spindle which carries a



BINDING METER

pointer, so that any longitudinal movement of the fibre will cause the spindle to turn and the pointer to move across an arbitrary scale. In setting up the instrument nylon fishing leader was used and pre-stressed to the breaking point and this point noted. The instrument was then threaded and one end fastened to the spring and the other placed under tension to 75 per cent. of the previously noted breaking stress, and the end clamped under a friction washer which was somewhat softer than the nylon, to grip it solidly without deforming the nylon. The whole instrument was then set aside for a few days to make sure that it was stable, after which the pointer was slipped to mid scale and the instrument was considered ready for service.

Many successful instruments

By making the body of the instrument of aluminium tubing about ½ in. diameter and 10 in. long, the combination gives very good temperature compensation, and a range of temperature of 100°F. makes less than ½ division on an arbitrary scale of 12. There is no perceptible change over the complete range of humidity and no barometric sensitivity was observed. Dimensions apparently are not critical, and successful instruments have been made with quite a variety of parameters. Unfortunately, we have no way of calibrating these instruments at the present time, and the best we can do is use them for qualitative indication.

My colleagues and I have investigated the general areas through which aircraft have flown just prior to unexplained crashes and we have found several regions of reduced binding, the meters showing several scale divisions change. These regions seem to be roughly circular and about 1,000 ft. in diameter, and probably extend upward quite a distance. A few have been detected by air when planes have flown through them, but fortunately in these cases the craft were strong enough to remain intact.

Whether this is generally true or not we cannot say, but it does appear that things are somewhat stronger in the northern latitudes than they are farther south, and certain areas seem to be permanently afflicted with reduced binding. We do not know if the regions of reduced binding move about or just fade away, but we do know that when we looked for several of them after three or four months we could find no trace of them.

It would therefore appear that this business of reduced binding would stand quite a bit of further serious investigation. Unfortunately, because of the unorthodox source of this information, efforts so far to obtain official recognition have resulted only in more letters being added to the "crank file."

Sighting reports . . .

ENGLAND, EIRE, THE U.S.A.,

POLAND, SOUTH AFRICA, CANADA,

and AUSTRALIA

. . . in this issue

FLYING SAUCER WITH 'LEGS' LANDS IN NORMANDY

SINCE the 1954 flurry of sighting and landing reports—so ably correlated by Aimé Michel in his book *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery* — France would seem to have been by-passed by flying saucers during the recent world-wide intensification of their survey. The following report, however, is sufficiently remarkable to compensate for the lack of mass sightings over France.

Readers of Michel's book will be struck by the similarity of the object to many of those described by Aimé Michel and the "legs" will call to mind the object seen by Father Gill and his mission boys over Papua in 1959. It may only be a coincidence, but the fact that the saucer landed on a railway line could have some significance. Readers are referred to the extraordinary experience of Marius Dewilde on September 10, 1954. (See *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, American Edition, pp. 44, 45, 46, 47.) It is also curious to note that in both cases the dog reacted by howling.

The report that now follows is taken from *Paris-Jour* of November 20, 1960:

"Rouen, Saturday, November 19th. It was no more to be seen. No one spoke about it any longer. I wouldn't have believed it happened, had not Mr. Remy Carbonnier, a forty-eight year old roof repairer, seen one last night in the forest of Londe, near Rouen. One what? A Flying Saucer.

"Mr. Carbonnier doesn't drink, he doesn't wear glasses and he isn't subject to hallucinations. Until now, he didn't believe in them. But, like Saint Thomas, he has seen and he believes.

"'No, I didn't believe in them. I thought is was a poor sort of joke. But now I've had to come round.'

"Seeing me smiling sceptically, Mr. Carbonnier added: 'I assure you it is true. This is what happened: I don't sleep much on account of a old wound in my back. I was dozing, when a green light came into my room and woke me up suddenly. I sat up in bed. The light was still there. I looked at the clock: it was a quarter to three. I got up and went to the window. I wiped the glass and I saw . . .'

"'What?'

"'Something round and shining, about six metres across. It was on the railway (he took up a round wooden box of sweets) like that. Three things like legs were spread out under the machine, coming—so far as I could see—from the centre (Mr. Carbonnier demonstrated with his fingers and the sweet box).

"'I woke my wife, but she didn't want to get up: we have eight kiddies and when she goes to bed, she has had enough!

"'The thing, the saucer if you like, stood then on the railway track about 300 metres from my house. I saw shafts of orange light coming from it, just as though flash light photos were being taken.

"'Then a kind of dome on top of the thing started to turn round. The machine folded its legs and took off straight up above the tree-tops making no noise at all. In less than 20 seconds it went past the top of the hill (about 200 metres high) and disappeared towards the south-west. The time half-past three.'

"Mr. Carbonnier did not care to go out, not knowing what it was. But at first light he hurried to the spot where the strange thing had been. There was nothing on the ballast of the permanent way. But Belote, his dog, sniffed the ground and ran off, howling. . . ."

BRAZIL UNDER UFO SURVEY

By Olavo T. Fontes, M.D.

We are grateful to the *A.P.R.O. Bulletin* for July, 1960, published from 4407 East Linden, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A., for permission to reprint Dr. Fontes' careful documentation of the intensive survey to which Brazil was subjected on the night of May 13, 1960. The sightings followed a straight line pattern first discovered by Aimé Michel in France in 1954 (see his book *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*.)

IN 1954 uninvited guests appeared in large numbers in the skies of Brazil. It was the first mass UFO survey of this country. It seemed to be a systematic geographic investigation carried out by aerial objects of unfamiliar type which did not appear to have the slightest intention of interfering with us. That pattern, however, was changed somehow when they came again for their second mass investigation in the second half of 1957, from July to December.

A detailed survey

The 1957 visitation was evidently a step-by-step military reconnaissance of Brazilian aerial and terrestrial defences—including a careful and detailed inspection of every Air Force and Army Base, military plants, supply centres, dams and locks, power plants, railroads and highways of strategic interest, etc. Besides, some incidents were disturbing—suggesting the possible presence of hostile UFOs. But as soon as the "flap" was over, UFO activity dropped slowly toward a "normal" frequency of six to seven sightings each month and remained so through 1958 and 1959. A small but definite increase in the sightings curve had been registered in June (about 17 sightings), July (18 sightings) and August (10 sightings), 1959, but soon the number dropped again to normal. Saturn-shaped vehicles, flying discs and cigar-shaped UFOs were the types of objects usually seen, but their apparent behaviour indicated only some sort of patrolling activity—with a few disturbing cases that did not seem sufficient to alter the general picture.

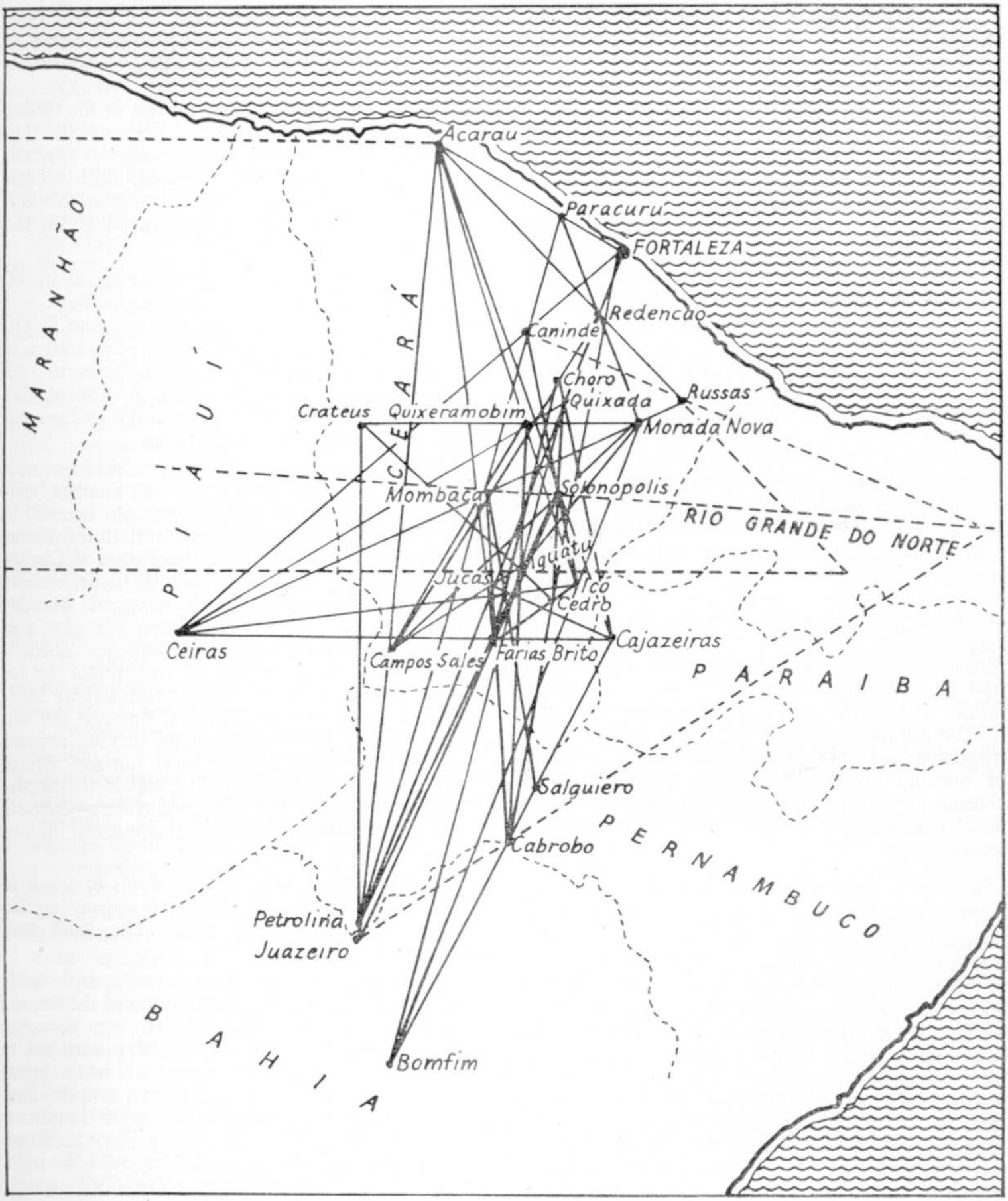
Then came a sudden and startling change which began during the first half of May, 1960.

On May 4 at 4 p.m., a giant cigar-shaped object crossed the skies over the town of Botucatu, Sao Paulo. It was flying at tremendous speed and was gone in thirty seconds, but was sighted by many excited citizens. Two days later, a giant luminous rocket-shaped UFO streaked through the skies over Vila Ezio, Sao Paulo. It was spotted at 9 p.m., remaining in sight for three minutes. That same day, the same (or a similar) craft crossed over Apiai, Sao Paulo, moving at high speed. It was sighted for three minutes and looked like a giant rocket. Three days later, on the night of May 11, two disc-shaped objects were spotted over a deserted beach near Paracuru, State of Ceara. The following night, a glowing spherical object, encircled by a luminous halo several times its size, was seen over Gargalheira-Acari, State of Rio Grande do Norte. It was perfectly motionless when first seen, but it moved away two minutes later at high speed, toward the east.

At this point, it was evident that something unusual was beginning. According to past experiences, such sudden outbursts of UFO sightings always heralded more important events, usually a new UFO "flap." The "flap" came as expected. But the startling series of events of May 13 were not expected—that is why the following reports are so important. For they carry us a step further—not merely do they give us more evidence about UFOs—they show us *what* they were doing there.

A true story

This is a true story, you must remember. You have to keep that firmly in mind because frankly some of the conclusions may sound like a science-fiction tale. You may reject these conclusions, of course, but not the factual evidence on which they were based. So, read the sequence of events



Map of Brazil showing sighting alignments for May 13, 1960.

I am going to relate and form your own conclusions.

In north-east Brazil the evening of May 13 was crisp and hot, the sky was clear and cloudless and the visibility perfect. That night strange aerial objects were observed from at least 33 towns scattered over an area which covered the surface of at least six Brazilian States. Sighting reports came from the following places:

State of Cerea—Acarau, Campos, Sales, Caninde, Cedro, Choro, Crateus, Farias Brito, Fortaleza (capital), Ico, Iguatu, Jucas, Morada Nova, Mombaca, Paracuru, Quixada, Quixeramobim, Redencao, Russas and Solonopolis.

State of Rio Grande do Norte—Currais Novos, Macaiba, Nova Cruz and Paralhas.

State of Pernambuco—Cabrobo, Petrolina and Salgueiro.

State of Paraiba—Cajazeiras and Picui.

State of Bahia—Juazeiro and Bonfim.

State of Piaui—Ceiras.

State of Maranhao—Sao Joao dos Patos.

With these 33 points over an area of dispersion covering at least six States, chance alone could not account for the pattern connected with them —for fifty-one absolutely straight lines meeting, and crossing, and converging into several multi-radial apices, forming a distinctive geometrical pattern closed up around the edges, with no point failing to lie on or within the borders established by the alignments; creating many triangles and trapeoids with several 90-degree angles and pairs of parallel or almost parallel lines, etc. That chance or coincidence should explain those features is extremely unlikely, as you are going to see.

The events of May 13

The events which took place in the north-east on the evening of May 13—between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.—were centred on the most backward part of my country. In this region of small farmers, of cotton and sugar-cane cultures, famous for its hard, dry climatic conditions, with people faithful to customs and manners which in part go back more than two centuries to the times of the Portuguese colonisation—here we would not expect to find people suddenly obsessed by flying saucers. Yet, a wave of UFOs spread over the whole region that night. The State of Ceara was the chief target, with more than twenty sightings scattered all over its territory, involving thousands of witnesses. The more outstanding reports are presented below in essential detail:

QUIXADA, 6.30 p.m.

Raquel de Queiroz, a well-known Brazilian writer, novelist and columnist, was at her farm near the town of Quixada. The time was 6.30 p.m., just after sunset. There was a cloudless sky and the moon had not yet appeared. Mrs. Queiroz was talking with her Aunt Arcelina in the dining room when her husband called her from the outside. She heard several shouts and ran towards the porch. Her husband was there with several workers and everybody was looking at the sky. Here is what Mrs. Queiroz reported about the event, transcribed verbatim:

"To the north, almost north-west, about 45 degrees above the horizon line, a light was glowing like a big star, perhaps less bright than Vesper. That light was orange and was encircled by a kind of halo, a luminous and misty halo which looked like a transparent, illuminated cloud, circular in shape and several times the size of the full moon.

"And that light with its gaseous-appearing halo was moving toward the east along a horizontal trajectory, sometimes at incredible speed, sometimes very slowly; at times it was strong and elongated, like those stars of Christmas pictures; or it was seen to fade, almost disappearing—reduced to a great cloudy, luminous ball. And those changes in size and luminous intensity came in sequence, according to the movements of the object in its capricious approach. But it never left its horizontal path. And so it moved through the sky for ten minutes or more. After moving around a good quarter of the total horizon circle, always to the east, the object was in the north-east when it abruptly changed course—toward the north—and suddenly disappeared like a lamp turned out.

"We waited for a few moments to see if it was coming back. It did not appear again. Then we ran to the clock. The time was 6.45 p.m.

"There were more than twenty people with us, gathered on the grounds around the house, and everyone saw what we had seen. Workers arriving next morning, living at places just a few miles away from my farm, told us the same story. Some of them said it was not the first time they had watched that same luminous body moving across the skies. They told us about four other sightings. They said the light had come closer in those other observations, and was bigger in size.

"What kind of a thing was that, moving across the sky with its glow and its halo? I think it is better to use the name already cautiously officialised: unidentified flying

object. I cannot prove it, yet it was a UFO. It was not a shooting star, nor a plane. It was not a meteor. It could not be a natural phenomenon—with that deliberation in its flight pattern, with those capricious stops and accelerations, with that ability to move so easily through the sky. No, inside that thing, giving life to it, there was something alive and conscious. . . ."

Mrs. Queiroz' farm is about thirty miles to the south-east of Quixada. I believe she sighted the UFO which was travelling along an alignment running from west to east—from Crateus to Quixeramobim and Morada Nova. It must have passed exactly over Morada Nova, to the north-east of Mrs. Queiroz' farm, then abruptly turned toward the north—in the direction of Quixada. It was also seen from those places. It was probably one of the so-called "cloudy, ovoid or cigar-shaped objects" so many times reported in the past.

Meanwhile, at almost the same time, the Mayor of Redencao, Dr. Jose Alberto Mendonca, spotted a similar object over his farm, about 50 miles to the north of Quixada. This UFO was going toward the east.

REDENCAO, 6.55 p.m. and 7 p.m.

This sighting was witnessed by hundreds of persons and reported to the press by the county judge, Dr. Antonio Carlos Costa:

"When we left the church that night, we spotted a nebula of great size and oval in shape, hovering over the town and emitting a strong glow. Measuring about 6 feet from one extremity to the other (angular size), that strange cloud-like thing had a kind of bright circumference at the centre and was absolutely motionless. It had come from the south-west, as I was told later by those who first saw it. In a few moments all the residents in the town were watching the phenomenon. Then it started to move again. When it reached the zenith, the glowing nebula began to climb up along a vertical trajectory. Its brightness diminished gradually but the luminous nucleus changed its shape and increased in size—to disappear about four minutes later."

This UFO was approaching from the north—probably along an alignment crossing over Sao Joao dos Patos, Crateus and Redencao. According to Dr. Costa's report, the phenomenon had been observed also from Acarape (impressing Father Antonio Crisostomo, the local priest), Guaiuba, Barreira and Choro.

At 7 p.m., another (or the same) luminous object was sighted in the sky over the area round Redencao, and also over that town. It was first seen about 45 degrees above the northern horizon line, travelling from west to the east. It looked like a first magnitude star, surrounded by a gaseous-appearing luminosity like a small circular cloud.

CRATEUS, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

At 6 p.m., a strange luminous body appeared over the town, causing panic and hysteria among the population. The object was round-shaped, emitting a greenish glow and moving at high speed. There was no information about its trajectory, but there are reasons to believe that this UFO was possibly travelling to the east (toward Quixeramobim), or to the north-east (toward Redencao). Such reasons will be discussed later.

At 7 p.m., a luminous red object looking like a huge star was spotted in the western sky. It was travelling along a south-north trajectory at high speed, emitting an incandescent glow. It disappeared into the northern horizon. The sighting was witnessed by a number of observers from the town. As will be seen later, this UFO was moving along the alignment Juazeiro-Petrolina-Crateus.

QUIXERAMOBIM AND IGUATU, 7 p.m.

At Quixeramobim, a strange circular cloud crossed the skies over the town moving at high speed. It was seen by a number of observers. They described it as having a kind of luminous focus at the centre. After travelling a large distance in just a few seconds, the object disappeared suddenly.

At that same moment, in Iguatu, a strange luminous smear was seen in the sky, moving from the west to the east, at very low speed. As it approached the town, it became evident that an object was inside the smear, glowing with a very intense blue light. Dozens of persons witnessed the sighting, including businessman Horacio Fernandez, the first observer to spot the strange object in the sky.

This UFO was travelling along a 790-km. alignment passing over Sao Joao dos Patos (Maranhao), Iguatu (Ceara), and Currais Novos (Paraiba). Another luminous object was seen over Iguatu, that same night, moving at high speed. This second UFO was sighted by a number of citizens as it crossed the skies over the town, travelling from north to south. Travellers arriving at the town during the next few days reported the sighting of a similar object (or objects) over the towns of Ico, Solonopolis and Cedro.

The towns of Jucas and Carius, in the same general area of Iguatu, were also visited by

round-shaped UFOs, flying at high speed and emitting an intense greenish light. The southern zone of Ceara State was included in this visitation. Similar objects were sighted from the town of Farias Brito. According to the press, hundreds of persons witnessed the sightings, which caused reactions of fear and panic among the observers. No information was released concerning time of sighting and trajectory of the UFOs involved.

CAMPOS SALES, 6.30 p.m.: The Great Cloud Cigar. CAJAZEIRAS, 7 p.m.

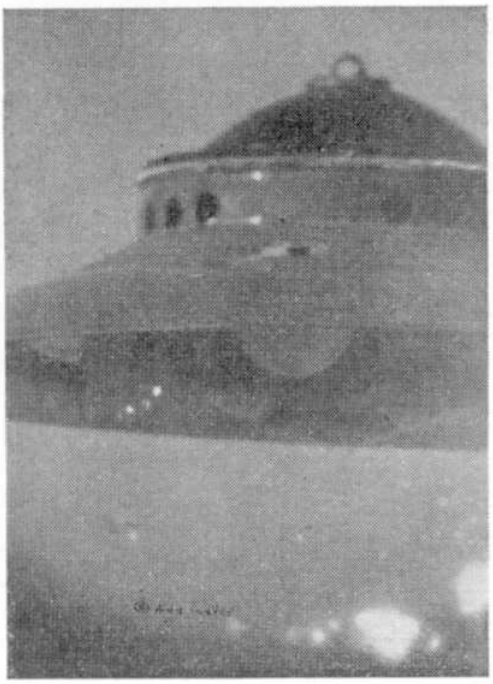
At this town, located to the west of Farias Brito, the whole population watched a strange UFO coming from the west at high speed. It was sighted for twelve minutes and disappeared toward the east. It looked like a huge cigar-shaped object, about 3 feet long and 1 foot wide (angular size). The tips were opaque and smoky, but there was a bright light at the centre.

Half an hour later, at 7 p.m., a luminous object was spotted in the northern sky by a number of observers at Cajazeiras, State of Paraiba. The strange phenomenon was shaped like a globe of some sort, huge in size, which was travelling from west to east along a horizontal course. It crossed over the town and then stopped in mid-air. It hovered at that position for a few minues, and suddenly was gone into the darkness. A sergeant-telegraphist from the Military Police, State of Paraiba, was one of the witnesses.

Campos Sales and Cajezeiras are placed on the same alignment, running from west to east and ending at Parelhas, State of Rio Grande do Norte, where another UFO was sighted the same night. The Campos Sales sighting was important because the UFO was obviously one of the great cloud cigars. The details involved suggest that the ovoid or round-shaped cloudy objects sighted from other places might be similar craft, flying in a tilted position, seen from a different perspective.

(Dr. Fontes will conclude his survey in the May-June issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.)

PHOTOGRAPHS



The following photographs are available in half-plate size at 1s. 6d. each (post free). Complete set of 10 for 15s. (post free).

1. Venusian scout ship photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
2. Venusian scout ship rising, showing underside details. Photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
3. Flying saucer over New York. Photographed by August Roberts on July 28, 1952.
4. Mother ship releasing scout craft. One scout has begun to leave.
5. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Two scouts have taken off.
6. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Five scouts have left the ship.
7. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Six scouts are now to be seen.
8. Giant carrier ship photographed at 7.58 a.m., May 1, 1952, by G. Adamski.
9. Submarine type space ship, photographed March 9, 1951, by G. Adamski.
10. Space ships photographed near the moon, May 16, 1951, by G. Adamski.

When ordering please give numbers of photographs. Send order with remittance to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, England.

COUNT ST. GERMAIN THE MAN WHO NEVER DIES

By

W. R. Drake

RECORDS from antiquity suggesting that flying saucers have had our Earth under surveillance since Egyptian times evoke the obvious speculation as to whether any Spacemen can ever have landed and lived among us. We feel that the clouds of obscurity should part at least once to reveal among the galaxy of historical personages one individual who, his contemporaries agreed, was not of this world. We think of the culture-heroes of pre-history, of Moses, Elijah, Appolonius of Tyana, possibly Roger Bacon. Then we stop in eighteenth-century France and marvel at the mysterious, grandiose, glittering Count St. Germain.

Our factual, unromantic *Encyclopædia Britannica* describes Count St. Germain as a celebrated adventurer of the eighteenth century famed all over Europe as "Der Wundermann"; of his parentage and birth nothing is definitely known; his death is equally obscure. Voltaire, a cynic not easily impressed, extolled this "Wonder Man" to Frederick the Great as "A man who never dies and who knows everything." Some believed St. Germain to be a bastard of the King of Portugal; others the son of a widowed Habsburg Queen of Spain and a Portuguese-Jewish banker of Bordeaux; Viennese records credit him with being the younger son of Prince Francis Leopold Racoczi and Princess Charlotte Amelie of Hesse-Wanfried and born about 1696. His origin was generally esteemed as of the very highest rank, for he was welcomed in all the most exclusive Court circles of Europe, being received with deference by Louis XV and the nobility of France. The Count himself made no positive assertions, blandly hinting that he might be older than Methuselah.

Many contemporaries from Madame de Pompadour to the German philosopher, Grimm, in letters and diaries all stress the Count's extraordinary talents for story-telling, his command of all languages, ancient and modern, and his wondrous knowledge of historical details so that his enthralling anecdotes of Cleopatra, Pontius Pilate, Mary Tudor, Henry VIII and Francis I, recounted with all the colourful detail of an actual eyewitness, really convinced his entranced listeners, including Louis XV, that he was actually describing his own experiences. Andrew Lang wondered perhaps facetiously if Count St. Germain could be Moses, whose grave was never found. Our modern psychiatrists may quote similar obsessions from their own case-books, but in that boasted Age of Reason, St. Germain was everywhere regarded with awe. Indeed, he seemed to be the sanest man in a mad world.

Contemporary descriptions

This man of mystery, fabulously rich, handsome and fantastically accomplished, appeared among the Courts of Europe towards the middle of the eighteenth century, bedazzling even that glittering Society with his bejewelled magnificence and amazing knowledge. In 1760 Madame du Hausset described St. Germain as looking about fifty. He was neither thin nor stout, had polished manners, seemed clever and dressed simply but in good taste and on his fingers as well as on his snuff-box and watch he had brilliants of the first water; the diamonds on his knee and shoe-buckles alone were valued at 200,000 francs; in his ruffles glistened rubies of extraordinary beauty; Countess d'Adhemar recalled that his figure was graceful, his hair black, his glance soft and penetrating, his eyes beyond description. Countess de Gengy remembered meeting him in Venice fifty years before in 1710, when he called himself the Marquis Balletti, like the musician Rameau with identical recollection, she vowed he looked younger. The Count himself

attributed his youthfulness, oddly enough, to purifying himself with senna-pods—still known today on the Continent as St. Germain tea! His habits were known to be ascetic, he strictly dieted and drank only a little wine, and probably practised Yoga, which he may have learned during a visit to the East in about 1740.

The Count spoke German with the greatest purity, perfect English, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese; his French was alleged to betray a Piedmontese accent. The author, Horace Walpole, wrote that in 1745 Count St. Germain was arrested in London as a Jacobite spy and commented that the Count sang, played the violin wonderfully, composed, was mad and not very sensible, and was believed to have married a great fortune in Mexico and run away with his wife's jewels to Constantinople. The Prince of Wales showed unsatiated curiosity in him; the Government made no case and the Count was released. The gossips of the day lauded not only the County's brilliant violin-playing but his talent on several instruments and commented on incredible feats like conjuring proving him more than human; all stressed his chief talent was storytelling. It is easy to understand in those days before radio or television how such a brilliant raconteur charmed the Courts of Europe.

Remarkable powers

Count St. Germain's inexhaustible wealth aroused particular intrigue. People conjectured he must own a private diamond factory, an enterprise less fantastic when consideration is given to his knowledge of chemistry, surprising in that century. He was generally credited with powers of washing diamonds to enhance their value, melting diamonds or fusing several into one large stone or even making excellent diamonds, feats which would tax our own nuclear scientists. One day Louis XV showed him a stone with a flaw valued at 6,000 francs; a month later the Count returned the diamond, the flaw removed, its value increased to 9,600 francs. St. Germain never claimed to have discovered the art of transmuting base metals into gold, though he perfected a striking alloy of copper and zinc, dyeing stuffs. He concocted many beautifying preparations and a pomade for Madame de Pompadour, which maintained her hair beautiful until she died. The Count also had a remarkable flair for international finance, unusual in that age, and was known to have advised governments and cities on financial operations.

Such a cosmopolitan personality moving among the Court of Europe inevitably played a mysterious role in international politics. From Venice in 1710 he disappeared, perhaps to the East; the Countess d'Adhemar records his materialisation at the French Court in 1743 apparently from nowhere, when his magnificence bedazzled even the Parisian aristocrats; in 1745 he was in London and from 1746 to 1755 he was a privileged figure at the glittering Court in Austria, where he called himself Prince Rococzi; in 1755 he is said to have met Clive in India. St. Germain appeared at Versailles about 1757 and there enjoyed extraordinary influence; his ready access at all times to Louis XV scandalised officials of the French Court. He spent many evenings alone with the French Monarch and in his grand manner treated the great seigneurs as if he were at least their equal. Acceptance in such illustrious circles shows the Count to have been no adventurer like the libertine Casanova or the notorious Cagliostro. He is believed never to have married or to have had children. His affairs with the ladies of the Court seem to have been singularly platonic for that licentious age. He apparently instructed them into the inner meaning of life and, foreseeing the imminent Revolution, comforted them with vistas of the spirit-world to come. St. Germain prophesied to Marie Antoinette the day and hour of her death; the Queen herself testified that he appeared to her in her prison cell in his astral body and uplifted her soul with the certainty of the glorious life hereafter, which inspired her noble dignity on the guillotine.

The Count possibly initiated Louis XV into one of the occult brotherhoods for which he was so renowned among the mystics of that age. Unknown to his Ministers, Louis employed St. Germain as a secret agent, sending him in March, 1760, to The Hague, where he caused a great sensation by arranging peace with Prussia at the expense of Austria. The Duc de Choiseul, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was so incensed that he insisted the Count be arrested, bound hand and foot, and thrown into the Bastille. The Dutch authorities, evidently charmed by St. Germain, refused to extradite him, and he proceeded to England and in June, 1760, gave an interview to a London newspaper, whose account is unhappily lost.

His years in Germany

After a year in London, St. Germain is asserted to have gone to Russia and to have played an important part in the conspiracy against Emperor Peter III in July, 1762, a plot which placed on the Russian throne the formidable Catherine the Great. In 1769 he established in Venice a factory converting flax into a textile resembling silk; in

Italy he enjoyed considerable reputation in the plastic arts. The following year the Count presented himself in the uniform of a Russian General to Count Alexis Orloff at Leghorn and was treated by that haughty aristocrat with unusual distinction. For several years St. Germain lived in Germany with the Landgrave Charles of Hesse teaching him experiments in science; he offered Frederick the Great a list of various chemical operations, which, had that Monarch taken seriously, might have given Germany the lead in the Industrial Revolution, making that country master of Europe.

Perhaps the Count's greatest work and the secret of his friendship with so many notable personages lay in his arcane influence in the mystery brotherhoods, such as Freemasonry, which he founded; to the Initiated he possibly revealed his true origin and purpose on Earth. Mesmer claimed the Count instructed him about the subconscious mind, thus preparing the way for our present-day psychiatry.

His later years

The place and year of St. Germain's death remain unknown; in his later years he was waited on only by women, who nursed him like Solomon. It was alleged that gradually he grew weaker and died in their arms some time between 1780 and 1795. Occultists suggest that his rumoured death merely symbolised a withdrawal from worldly affairs; that renowned theosophist, Madame Blavatsky, a century later, insisted that the death of such a celebrity would surely have been publicised widely in contemporary accounts, and that the fact that it was not, proved he must be still alive. The Count was reported to have had an important conference with Catherine of Russia in 1785, to have appeared to Madame du Barry on the scaffold in 1793 and to have talked to Madame de Genlis during the Treaty of Vienna in 1821. St. Germain was said to be a close friend of Lord Lytton in 1842 and to have suggested the latter's great supernatural character, Zanoni; in 1867 he is credited with attending a meeting of the Great Lodge in Milan, and later with inspiring Chopin and Tchaikovsky. Dr. Annie Besant, the theosophist, is quoted as having met St. Germain for the first time in 1896.

The Count is said to have frequently puzzled his contemporaries by describing inventions such as the train and the steamboat unknown to the eighteenth century, and he once intimated that he had received cryptic instruction to proceed to England to prepare for their development. Andrew Lang, writing in 1904, after exhaustive study of many Continental authorities, refused to accept St. Germain's death, and believed him to be that Major Fraser living in Paris in the 1860s, a mysterious individual of great wealth, who claimed undying friendship with Louis XV and Madame de Pompadour. No record existed of Fraser's death; Lang speculated as to whether Fraser, that is to say, St. Germain, became that mysterious Muscovite, who at the turn of the century was adviser to the Dalai Lama.

Viewed in our flying saucer context, the appearances and disappearances across the centuries of this fantastic man with phenomenal talents and inexhaustible wealth, without origin or social background, which so baffled his contemporaries, become suddenly illumined in one startling wondrous revelation. Is it not plausible to suggest that Count St. Germain was a missionary from Space, an avatar from Venus with remarkable powers, who throughout the ages has selflessly descended to Earth to direct Man's evolution, and who periodically returns to Venus in spaceships to recuperate? His extraordinary longevity may be normal for that lovely planet, the source of his diamonds; his spiritual ideals and nobility of life, acknowledged by all witnesses, testifying to a civilisation there far transcending our own.

We can only hope that Count St. Germain under some famous name is working here among us now, directing our Earth's destiny; if so, our strife-torn world will not be lost, for through his secret wisdom Humanity will spiral to new glory.

A NEAR MISS

Canadian Air Marshal averts disaster

IN a previous issue we warned that while the official policy of silence on the subject of UFOs was understandable in human terms, the point was being reached when the sudden appearance of a UFO might easily trigger off a nuclear war. We therefore print the following report taken from the *Montreal Gazette* of December 23, 1960 with only one comment. Those who can believe that the Moon was responsible for the scare must, in truth, be lunatics.

" Steel-nerved Royal Canadian Air Force Marshal Roy Slemon refused to panic when he received radar information on October 5 which made it appear that long-range missiles had been launched against North America, highly-placed informants said on Thursday.

" Slemon, deputy commander of North American air defence command, quickly determined that the information was false and did not flash an alert. He was occupying the 'hot seat' at NORAD headquarters at Colorado Springs at the time.

" Officials here said Slemon showed nerves of steel because he had less than 15 minutes in which to prove the radar information erroneous. This is the time it would have taken missiles to reach this continent.

" Air Marshal Slemon said last night reliance will not be placed in the new Ballistic Missile Early Warning System until it is throughly checked.

" He said in a statement issued here that 'reliance will not be placed on the information obtained from this system until it has been thoroughly checked out by extensive tests and until adequate experience has been gained with the capability of the system.'

" He said at another point: 'Refinements will continue to be made to give the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System computer the capability to screen out all radar reflections which could possibly produce uncertain or irrelevant information and lead to possible false alarms.'

" The missile warning system started its operational tests on October 1 and they will last for several months, Slemon said.

" Slemon confirmed that on October 5, the missile warning system 'commenced indicating an activity far out in space and the warning levels began to register.'

" However, no alarm was felt by those in authority, because the system 'was not registering certain important information which would indicate that the activity in space was similar to that which could be expected from ballistic missile movements through space.'

" The 'object' turned out to be the moon.

" Officials here (Ottawa) said Slemon didn't hit the panic button during the incident, but ordered the information from the missile warning radar at Thule, Greenland, ignored because it could not be confirmed by any other source."

AGREST REBUKED

IN the May-June issue of the REVIEW we published an exclusive translation of Alexei Agrest's hypothesis that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah had been caused by an atomic explosion and that the mysterious Tektites found in the Libyan Desert were caused in prehistoric times by space-craft from another world. Alexei Agrest is (or perhaps it would be better to say *was*) a respected Soviet physicist and his theories were originally published in the Russian *Literary Gazette*. Russian Embassies all over the world reprinted it in their official bulletins.

Recently Agrest was rebuked. The Academy of Sciences met in Moscow in early November, 1960 and announced: " Agrest's hypothesis is anti-scientific and harmful." The poor man was then referred to as " a person ignorant both of technique and history " by his fellow Russian scientists.

" Poor Alexei! " comments the London *Evening Standard* of November 4 which reported his unfrocking, or whatever degradation is meted out to a scientist who allows himself the luxury of an unconventional thought.

AN APPRAISAL OF THE PRESENT UFO POSITION

BY PETER F. SHARP, B.Sc.

WHEN a problem takes on a frightening magnitude and complexity it is often advantageous to go back to first principles, to set out the soundest evidence and to examine past reasoning. Although this procedure may not solve the problem, it usually provides one with a deeper insight and a closer understanding of where each part lies in relationship to the whole. By this method the mind becomes more receptive to fresh evidence and can place it in its context in a more profitable way. Today ufology presents a bewildering variety of phenomena and an equally bewildering set of theories which attempt to explain these phenomena. Hence let us resort to fundamentals and then examine the reasoning of the hypotheses which stem from the evidence. It must be pointed out that the analysis that follows is necessarily over-simplified for clarity and brevity and the emphasis of certain aspects of the subject may be somewhat unbalanced as a result of this. However, this article is an attempt to outline the whole subject, not to concentrate on its parts.

Science as a tool

As the author has undergone a scientific training he makes no secret of the fact that he favours those hypotheses which clash least with established scientific fact. He does this as he is convinced that the scientific method applied by a liberal mind is the most powerful tool man has for probing the secrets of natural phenomena.

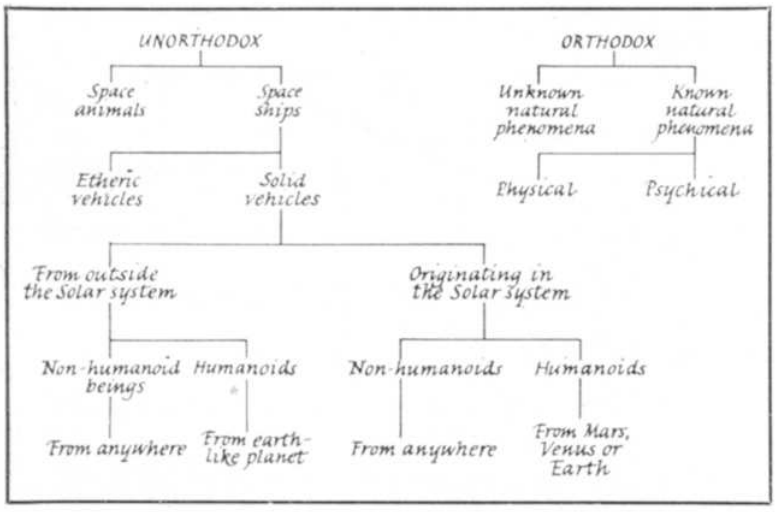
The evidence which any theory on UFOs must consider and explain can be broken down roughly into six groups as follows:

1. Basic evidence:
   - (i) Visual sightings by people from every walk of life.
   - (ii) Radar trackings.
   - (iii) Photographs and films.
   - (iv) Telescope, theodolite, etc., sightings.
2. Evidence suggesting intelligent control:
   - (i) Flying in formation.
   - (ii) Following airliners, rockets, etc.
   - (iii) Making off when approached.
   - (iv) Repeated sightings over areas one would expect to be of interest, e.g., airports and atomic installations.
   - (v) Orthoteny.
   - (vi) Concentration of attention on one area of the globe at a time.
   - (vii) Mother-craft reported.
   - (viii) Structure—domes, portholes, etc.
3. Performance of the objects:
   - (i) Lack of noise except at close quarters in most cases.
   - (ii) Colour changes associated with speed changes.
   - (iii) Right-angle and 180° turns without loss of speed.
   - (iv) Very high accelerations.
   - (v) Very high speeds in the atmosphere without burning up.
   - (vi) "Falling leaf" manœuvres often reported.
   - (vii) Changes in shape reported.
4. Associated phenomena:
   - (i) Stalling of car engines.
   - (ii) Heat radiation reported.
   - (iii) Atomic radiation reported.
   - (iv) "Angel's hair."
   - (v) Animals affected.
   - (vi) Eccentric patch.
   - (vii) Colour changes produced in terrestrial objects.
   - (viii) Tingling sensation produced on humans at close quarters.

5. Contact reports:
   (i) Humanoids seen in objects in flight.
   (ii) Humanoids seen near objects on ground.
   (iii) Humanoids conversed with.
   (iv) Non-humanoids seen near objects on the ground.
   (v) Alleged flights in UFOs, visits to other planets, etc.

6. Other evidence:
   (i) Sighting waves occur.
   (ii) Reported extensively since 1946 and less extensively for several hundred years.
   (iii) Slags and metal foils reported as dropping from them.
   (iv) Radar echoes from invisible objects.
   (v) Strong beams of light projected.
   (vi) Absence of reports of extra-terrestrial radio signals consistent with large numbers of alien craft visiting Earth.

The various explanations of the evidence outlined above and where the primary explanations lead to are shown in the diagrammatic scheme below.



The scheme shows more clearly than anything else the fact that once certain decisions have been made others must follow automatically. For example, once we decide that UFOs cannot be explained as natural phenomena, we are led step by step to the conclusion that there exists intelligence in outer space. In order to be brief, the present analysis does not consider such problems as whether the beings who would fly UFOs are friendly, hostile or indifferent to us. The analysis stops just short of deciding precisely where the UFOs come from because all the evidence we consider, except that of the contact stories, is insufficient to provide sound conclusions on which to base further analysis. There is such a marked disagreement between most of those contact stories in which an actual conversation took place, and so much of the information obtained in this way clashes strongly with accepted scientific fact, that this evidence cannot carry much weight at this stage.

It must also be remembered that the further we proble into the origins, motives, etc., of the hypothetical space visitors, the more we are compelled to rely on fewer and fewer observations. As the deductions we make from the evidence become more elaborate their reliability decreases, therefore.

The choice

When considering the diagram, the line of least resistance will be followed. That is at each alternative explanation the available evidence will be consulted and the choice most consistent with the evidence accepted. The first decision of all, whether to accept the orthodox or unorthodox explanation, requires the greatest amount of thought and analysis because once this decision has been made so much of the rest must follow.

There is no need to reiterate the orthodox views here as most readers of the REVIEW will be conversant with them. These are the astrophysical and meteorological explanations expounded by Menzel *et al.* and the psychical expounded primarily by Jung (though see "They Come from Inner Space," by J. B. Priestley, in the *New Statesman* of December 5, 1953). Most readers will agree, I think, that the overwhelming weight of evidence points away from simple misinterpretation of natural phenomena and wish-fulfilment hallucinations. The possibility that there is a completely unknown natural phenomenon or group of these which could produce the characteristics listed above of the bona fide UFO is so unlikely that the alternative explanations seem more plausible.

We come then to space ships or space animals (I use the word in its widest sense) as the possible explanation for UFOs. The evidence for animals rests largely on the ability of UFOs to change shape and photographs of nebulous-looking objects. When we compare this with reports of domed objects, portholes, fantastic accelerations and right-angle turns we realise that at best space animals could account for only a small part of the UFO evidence. In view of the fact that some of the evidence, such as shape changing, can be explained by the peculiar properties of one of the suggested propulsion mechanisms of UFOs, not

to mention the biological difficulties involved, we leave the space animal hypothesis with grave doubts as to even its partial validity.

The evidence indicates that the UFOs are space vehicles, but are they composed of matter as we understand it or are the strange phenomena associated with UFOs best explained by postulating that the objects are "etheric" or come from another dimension? Here the scientist has no hesitation in rejecting the latter and on first thoughts may accept the former. However, on reflection he may reject the former also because UFOs in many aspects of their behaviour (right-angle turns without slowing down, speeds in the atmosphere that would cause a normal body to burn up, etc.) appear to behave contrary to the laws of physics. Thus the scientist would have to choose between two alternatives, both of which involve a contradiction of many scientific laws. I believe that it is largely because of this difficulty that so many scientists reject UFOs outright and bend over backwards to find conventional explanations for the evidence. Once the scientist admits that a UFO sighting cannot be explained by orthodox means he must face this decision—or become an ostrich.

The way round

The way round this dilemma lies in the propulsion of the UFO. If we postulate that the UFOs have some form of gravitational force as their prime motive power, then much of the evidence drops neatly into place. Fantastic accelerations that no living thing could stand, right-angle turns, colour changes, no burning up at high speed, the eccentric patch, all these and many of the other peculiarities of UFOs can be explained by the gravitational propulsion theory. (For details see *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer,* by Cramp, and *The Truth About Flying Saucers,* by Aimé Michel.) It is interesting to note that although gravity propulsion sounds like Dan Dare it is the subject of much scientific research, especially in the U.S.A. (see "Electrogravitics. What it is—or might be," by A. V. Cleaver, *Journal of the British Interplanetary Society,* Vol. 16, No. 2). Etheric saucers, the alternative explanation, involves a far more radical alteration in modern physical concepts and until the feasibility of a gravitational field propulsion system is shown to be impossible we can regard it as a blind alley.

From whence do they come? If the UFOs are manned (if such a word may be used in this context) by beings biologically similar to ourselves and come from within the solar system, then we are compelled by the astronomical evidence to accept that they originate on Mars, Venus or Earth. The last explanation can be rejected immediately for the reasons given a decade ago by Keyhoe, Heard, etc. The astronomers tell us that so far as their present knowledge goes (which is quite a long way in the case of Mars) no technological civilisation could be supported by either planet. This does not, of course, preclude the possibility that a race may have flourished on Mars when the conditions there were more favourable for advanced life forms and this life might have evolved in some way to preserve its foothold on the dying planet. A civilisation might exist in an artificial environment underground, for example.

If UFOs came from Mars or Venus we would expect an increase in their numbers when those planets were nearest to us. Such an increase has been reported in the case of Mars, but the evidence is not at all clear-cut.

The great majority of the better authenticated landing reports (e.g. those involved in an orthotenic series of sightings) describe the occupants of UFOs as small humanoids. The evidence for non-humanoids is based on a few "monster" stories which can be rationalised when one allows for the possible misinterpretations caused by fear and darkness. In view of this it is reasonable to take the conservative view that the pilots of UFOs are humanoids. If we reject this view, then saucers could come from anywhere, as we have no conception of the conditions of non-humanoid existence.

Time dilation

The nearest star is four and a third light-years away from us. The UFOs must come from distances greater than that if they do not originate within the solar system. There is still controversy amongst theoretical physicists about a prediction of the theory of relativity which states that time moves slower for a moving observer than for an observer at rest. This effect becomes marked at velocities approaching that of light. Thus a person in a space ship travelling at a substantial fraction of the speed of light would not age as quickly as a stationary observer, hence on the space traveller's return he would find his less adventurous friends more aged than he himself was. There is a school of thought that states that this effect is destroyed during the periods of motion in which the rocket is accelerating or decelerating. If time dilation does occur, then we may indeed be being visited by beings from planets of a distant sun.

If time dilation does not occur, then we rather

flatter ourselves if we imagine that beings are travelling for periods of many years to pay us such fleeting visits, unless they have very long lifespans. An alternative theory is that we may be witnessing the passage through our solar system of a whole race of beings that are searching for a new home following the destruction of their own in some cosmic catastrophe. Prof. Oberth suggested this hypothesis and named the race "Uranides." To decide between this and many of the other possible hypotheses which crop up at this stage is the next problem for UFO research. In this respect the history of UFO phenomena is important. Have we witnessed towards the end of the Second World War the coming of the Uranides scout ships and have since seen the passage of the main body of their vessels and are now witnessing the departure of the stragglers? Or have UFOs been seen in numbers since the dawn of history? Is there a systematic reconnaissance of our planet or are we being watched indiscriminately?

These are exciting questions and I believe that we are capable of finding the answers. Ufology today is suffering from a lack of co-ordination and purpose; if vital questions are posed we can mould our researches to find the answers and gain some dynamism. Unless this occurs our subject will sink into a thick muffling blanket of woolly thinking and divergent purpose trimmed with a lunatic fringe.

Let us sum up. We have seen that the best interpretation one can put on the evidence for UFOs is that

(a) UFOs are space ships,

(b) they come from Mars or Venus or from an earth-like planet of another sun.

The first conclusion is dependent on the gravity propulsion hypothesis and the second follows from the first and assumes humanoid builders. The place of origin can be more precisely determined by the resolution of the time dilation problem and by astronomical discoveries. It is clear that the developments of modern science are very important for ufologists and so they should be working with, not against, the scientist.

Welcome to our Russian readers

THE only reason we have not, in the past, been able to boast of a world-wide readership has been because we had no direct evidence that the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW had penetrated into the Soviet Union. For some time, however, we have had subscribers in one or other of the Iron Curtain countries.

We take this opportunity of welcoming, at last, a number of Russian readers, and we hasten to assure them that we believe the saucers to be inter-planetary and that we have not invented them as "figments of imperialistic warmongering imaginings." If ever we believed the objects were Russian secret weapons, that day is long past, and we trust that our new readers will believe us when we also say that neither are they American.

If these new readers accept both the reality and the inter-planetary origin of the UFOs, which have, we learn, been appearing with some frequency over the Soviet Union, they will realise, even if they cannot openly admit, that the advent of our visitors transcends all ideological differences and offers the only hope available to man of an ending of the cold war and a prevention of the hot one. We, on this side of the world, sympathise with our Russian readers on the ridicule which believers are at present facing in the Soviet Union and it may help them to know that we, too, have had to suffer the same sort of hostility. They may also like to know that this hostility is fading in the western world.

THE UNDER-CARRIAGE

BY DR. B. E. FINCH

Dr. B. E. Finch, one of the most original researchers in the field of flying saucers, has contributed a series of articles in recent issues on little known aspects of the mystery. The article that follows deals with a puzzling feature of many sighting reports and photographs, and attempts a reconciliation between what has appeared to be two differing types of UFO.

IF we examine the thousands of sightings and photographs of saucers, it is found that they all appear to fit into two categories, (A) spindle-shaped saucers with legs and (B) inverted saucers with three spheres beneath. If one examines the photographs of the A-type, for example the saucer photographed by Radio Officer T. Fogl[1] (see Diagram) and photograph

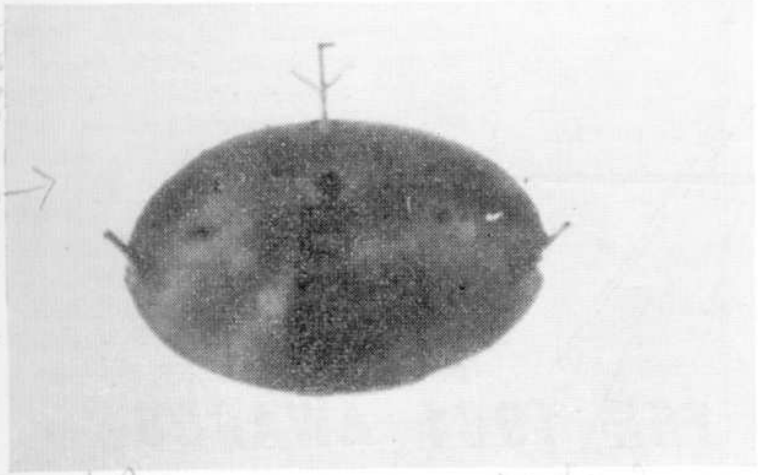


Fig. 1.

(Fig. 1) and the saucer seen in Papua by Father Gill and others[2], it is found that the common element is the "legs." These "legs" have also been well recorded by Aimé Michel in his reports of sightings. Careful examination of the "Fogl" saucer shows a dark "ladder-like" line extending below the saucer from its edge to its centre (Fig. 1).

On closer study of an enlarged photograph, this "line" resolves itself into tooth-like projections which appear to meet an opposing edge—rather like the two edges of a closed fan in close approximation. In the chinks between the "teeth" can be seen the darker under-surface of the upper structure.

This appearance has been described many times on the under-surface of saucers when hovering and in flight. However, on landing, or near the ground, the spindle-shape saucer gives way to the inverted saucer of the "Adamski" type B. What has happened? It is my conjecture that we are here viewing a characteristic mechanism of "preparation for landing" and "landing" of saucers. The landing mechanism of three spheres is tucked away below the rim of the upper inverted saucer and covered by a lower structure resembling an upright saucer. This lower mechanism opens and closes like a fan, thereby rendering the vehicle streamlined when in flight through the atmosphere. Thus, as soon as a landing is desired, the lower "sheath" fans open, and the landing spheres are lowered.

Legs are "electrodes"

Again, in all reports of flight, and hovering, three brightly luminous "legs" or projections are seen. Analysis of all observations points to the fact that these so-called legs are really "electrodes." They are responsible for the intense ionisation of the air below the saucer and for the surrounding "force-field" which is greatest in

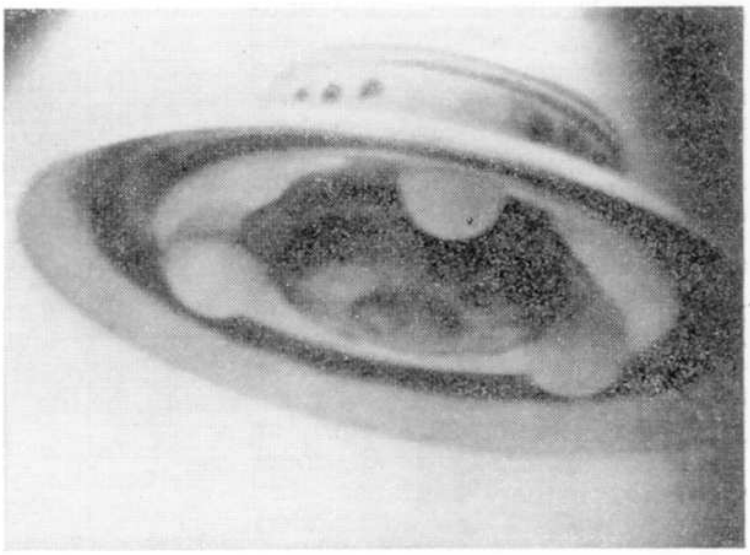


Fig. 2.

the vicinity of these electrodes.

To sum up, it thus appears that in flight the UFO is spindle-shaped, the "under-carriage" is withdrawn, the sheath-like covering is closed, the electrodes are projected, the force-field is at its maximum and the central "exhaust" is narrowed. On landing, the electrodes are withdrawn (propulsion is no longer required). The lower protecting sheath fans open, the exposed under-carriage descends, and the central "exhaust" opens wide (Fig. 3).

Every one of these observations can be confirmed by studying the evidence, but I do not pretend, however, that this is the full story.

[1] For the full story of Radio Officer T. Fogl's sighting see FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Jan.-Feb., 1959, issue. Mr. Fogl took his photograph aboard the s.s. *Ramsay* when it was off the coast of California during the early part of December, 1957.

[2] See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Nov.-Dec., 1959, May-June, 1960, and Nov.-Dec., 1960.

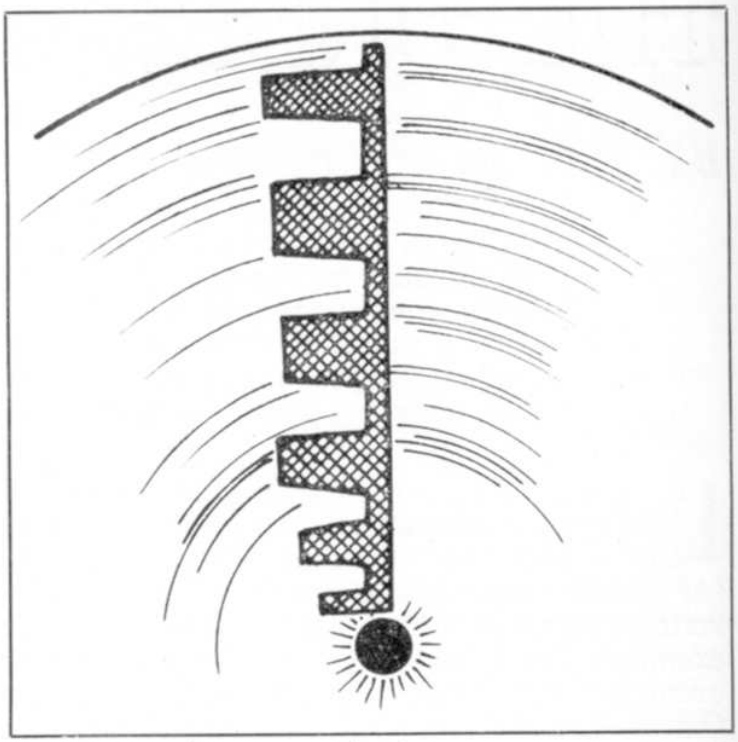


Fig. 3.

GRAVITY RESEARCH: THE 1961 AWARDS

THE Gravity Research Foundation of New Boston, N.H., U.S.A. announces that the Trustees are offering for their twelfth year five awards for short essays with the purpose of stimulating thought and encouraging work on the harnessing of gravity. The stipulations are as follows:

1. These Awards will be made by us on June 1, 1961 for the best 1,500 word essays* on the possibilities of discovering:—(a) some partial insulator, reflector or absorber of gravity, or (b) some alloy, or other substance, the atoms of which can be agitated or rearranged by gravity to throw off heat, or (c) some other reasonable method of harnessing, controlling, or neutralising gravity.

2. The First Award will be $1,000.00; the Second Award will be $300.00; the Third Award will be $200.00; the Fourth Award will be $150.00; the Fifth Award will be $100.00.

3. Essays must be received before April 15, 1961. One essay only will be accepted from anyone who is seriously interested in the application of gravity to practical uses for the benefit of humanity.

4. All essays must be typewritten, double space, in English on paper 11×8½ inches, *with two carbon copies.*

5. The decision of the Judges will be final. No essays or copies can be returned but writers are free to publish after June 1. Preference will be given to essays written especially for these Awards.

6. Please write a title covering the area of thought expressed in your essay; and a summary paragraph of 100 words or less on a separate sheet.

7. Please attach a separate sheet giving a short biographical sketch of yourself for use by the press in case you earn an Award.

Address: Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H., George M. Rideout, President.

**It may be less than* 1,500 *words; but if more the judges have the right not to accept same.*

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

ENGLAND:

Coventry sky mystery

A large glowing object in the sky was seen by several Coventry people on December 2, 1960. Local experts declared that it could not have been the Russian space-ship Sputnik VI.

Those watching the object from Telephone House, Coventry, said that the object was travelling roughly south-west, and according to Mr. H. G. Miles, an astronomer, the satellite was, in any case, on a west to east course. Mr. H. Hobbs, area engineer at Telephone House told a reporter that at 4.15 p.m., just after sunset, someone glancing out of a window in Ironmonger Row saw a gleam in the sky overhead.

" Half a dozen of us watched it through binoculars for about five minutes," he said. " It was like a long cylinder, glowing white and about four times the size of the fuselage of a big airliner. We saw a very big puff of smoke followed by several smaller puffs."

Mr. Hobbs, who said the object was not an airliner, added that it went south-west, travelling downwards at an angle of 20 degrees.

This report, which is taken from the *Coventry Evening Telegraph* for December 3, 1960, concludes with the usual attempts at conventionalisation. Mr. John Friend, Coventry's weather expert, said that unusual effects can be seen when the setting sun is shining on an aircraft. With that remark there will be general agreement, but, once again, we prefer the eye-witnesses' accounts to those of a man who wasn't even looking into the sky at the time.

(Credit to Mr. Donald P. Speed.)

U.S.A.:

Unidentified satellite probe

The U.S. Air Force has announced plans for a space vehicle to intercept and identify unknown orbiting objects. The research and development programme has been given the name of " Saint."

Lt.-Gen. Roscoe C. Wilson, deputy chief for development, told a joint meeting of the Night Fighters' Association at the weekend that the Air Force and other elements of the Defence Department are acquiring the capability of keeping close track of the various man-made objects now orbiting the earth.

" We do not, however, have the capability of determining at close range the nature or intentions of objects in orbit, and future circumstances may require that we have the ability to do so," Wilson said. (Report from *Pretoria News*, South Africa, September 26, 1960.)

Toledo mystery

We print the following report with due acknowledgments to the November 1960 issue of *S.P.A.C.E.*:

" Chicago, October 18, 1960. Passengers aboard a New York-to-Chicago jet flight got a good look at an unidentified flying object as they flew over Ohio yesterday. Capt. Lorne V. Petrie, commander of the 707 Superjet, manoeuvred his craft so passengers could watch the UFO which was reported at an altitude of about 11,000 feet.

" Petrie even took pictures of the object. On landing at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, the film was rushed to the Air National Guard, which developed the negatives and confirmed the sighting of an object.

" The craft, authorities said, was a weather balloon, believed released in the Detriot area. (Detroit *News*, October 19, 1960.)"

The Editor of *S.P.A.C.E.* pertinently remarks that an experienced air pilot would hardly bother to take a photograph of a weather balloon nor would he be likely to manoeuvre his craft so that his passengers might have a better view of such an ordinary object. Stranger still was the rush to get the Air National Guard to process a film of it.

Alaska alert

The story of another sky mystery is told in three brief news items taken from English sources:

" The United States Air Force said that one of its Alaska radar stations has detected an object like a missile coming from the direction of Russia." *Daily Express*, January 13.

" Soviet scientists were sceptical today about U.S. Air Force reports that Russia may have launched a rocket towards the Pacific. Mr. Viktor Bazinkin, head of Moscow's Planetarium, told inquirers: ' I have heard nothing and it seems to me pure invention'." *Evening Standard*, January 14.

" U.S. Air Force officials in Washington said last night that an Alaska radar station had declared an object with the behaviour of a missile, coming from the Soviet Union and heading south-east.—Reuter." *Evening News*, January 14.

After that both Americans and Russians seem to have got tired of the whole subject and the comedy of errors was allowed to fade out of the news.

CANADA:

We are indebted to our reader Mr. Ronald W. J. Anstee who sent to us the clipping from the Canadian paper *Midnight* and who subsequently investigated the sighting there reported. The issue of *Midnight* was dated December 21, 1960, but its actual date of issue was Monday, December 19. The report reads as follows:

"Top secrecy has been clamped on the report by Captain C. Ward of Trans-Canada Airlines that he observed an Unidentified Flying Object on his run between Montreal and Seven Islands. The day was Saturday, December 10.

"Captain Ward is a reputable, experienced pilot and is considered to be one of the best in TCA. The sighting was verified by his co-pilot as well as by passengers in his plane.

"The object was travelling at a moderately fast speed on a horizontal path. As it passed to the north of the aircraft's position and disappeared in the west, Capt. Ward noted that it had a long blue tail. At no time did he hear any sound.

"When Dorval first got the report from Capt. Ward, the first reaction was that the object seen was a large meteor. But Capt. Ward's report at the time of the sighting showed that there had been a solid 6,000-foot-thick overcast at 4,700 feet. And meteors don't go that low!"

Mr. Anstee's investigations into this matter have been most thorough: the replies he received from various officials have, however, followed the familiar pattern of evasion and double talk.

SOUTH AFRICA:

No balloon

The *Rand Daily Mail* of January 3 reported that a shining balloon - shaped object was reported to have been seen for about two hours over Johannesburg's northern suburbs on the previous night. Then, according to one report, "it suddenly whizzed away."

Some people from Illovo and Rosebank telephoned the paper to say they had seen the object, "which seemed to shine with a white light," at dusk. The only meteorological balloon that could be traced as having been sent up about the same time was one released at Jans Smuts Airport.

An official at the airport, however, said that according to the prevailing winds the ballon would have drifted in the opposite direction to where the object was seen.

(Credit to Elizabeth Klarer.)

POLAND:

Saucer over village

The *South China Morning Post*, published in Hong Kong on October 11, reported that a flying saucer was seen on the night of October 4 over the village of Staroleka near Poznan. The mysterious object was giving off an intense glow and was said to have turned in various directions at different heights. The object was observed by a large number of people, including the Poznan police.

Although this report is not of any great interest in itself, it is of importance in that it occurred behind the Iron Curtain. We would be grateful to any reader who could obtain for us a cutting of the original Polish paper in which the incident was first reported as we are anxious to see if the expression "flying saucer" was in fact, used.

EIRE:

Dublin sighting

Miss D. Vanstone of Dublin writes to us as follows:

"On October 11, at 6 o'clock in the morning, I looked out of my window . . . I saw a bright gold object moving down a belt of mackerel clouds. At first I thought it was the moon, but recollected that the moon is on the other side of the house in the morning. This golden object was high above the Power Station which is on the sea, slightly to the right of the Station, and moving down in a slightly leftward direction. From the top end of this golden object was a long white line (of smoke?).

"As I watched, it emerged below the mackerel clouds into a stretch of clear sky, and I saw that it was shaped like an elongated gold nugget. It descended behind a belt of cloud and disappeared for a moment, then reappeared, and I saw that it had lost the white line and that it had changed its shape to a round shining sphere. It remained perfectly still for a minute or two, then very slowly moved to the right, getting smaller and smaller, until it became a mere speck, and disappeared. I had been watching the object for seven minutes.

"Half an hour later, glancing out of the window, I saw another long white streak of smoke more to the right of the Power Station and very high up. At first I could only see the white line, but then saw that the end of the white line nearest the earth was a shining pale yellow. This yellow line went behind a bank of cloud and when it emerged below it had lost its white tail and changed its position to a horizontal one. The shining pale yellow line remained horizontal and perfectly still for several seconds, then it vanished."

Australian politician takes saucers seriously

According to a report which appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* for October 14, 1960, Mr. L. C. Haylen (Labour, New South Wales) has suggested the appointment of a committee to investigate flying saucers. Mr. Haylen, in the House of Representatives, further suggested that the committee should consist of Mr. A. A. Chresby (Liberal, Queensland) and Mr. D. J. Killen (Liberal, Queensland)—two members with whom he had argued recently on the subject of Communism.

Mr. Haylen asked the Minister for Defence, Mr. A. G. Townley, whether he had investigated a statement by a Tasmanian clergyman that he had seen five flying saucers over a Tasmanian town.* Mr. Townley replied that he had read the report.

*See page 27 of this issue.

FLYING SAUCERS OVER TASMANIA

Clergyman's remarkable testimony

IN World Round-Up for January-February we printed a brief report of a sighting over Cressy. We are indebted to our reader Mr. A. T. Collins who has sent us the following account which appeared on the front page of the *Examiner* for October 10, 1960. The incident took place on October 4.

An Anglican minister and his wife, previously sceptical about reports of visitors from other planets, are sure they have seen flying saucers and a mother ship.

The Rev. Lionel Browning and Mrs. Browning, of Cressy, revealed their experience yesterday although it occured on Tuesday night.

"We did not say anything about it before because we were reticent about releasing such fantastic information," said Mr. Browning.

Other Cressy residents have reported a mysterious, frightening explosion on the same night.

At 6.10 on Tuesday night Mr. and Mrs. Browning were looking east through the rectory window at a rainbow.

Mrs. Browning said she saw a grey cigar-shaped object emerge from a rainstorm. She pointed it out to her husband.

Mrs. Browning measured the object with a needle held at arm's length.

"It was about 300 feet," she said.

"It was three or four miles away, travelling north about 400 feet off the ground."

"There were about four vertical bands along the side of the object.

"At the bow end of the ship there was a rod jutting out with what seemed like a small propeller or some radar device on the end."

Mr. Browning said that the object had a dull surface, even though the setting sun was shining on it.

He said that any noise would have been drowned by the wind.

He estimated that the object was travelling at less than 50 m.p.h.

He said that previously he had been sceptical about reports of flying saucers.

"At first I thought this object might have been refracted light, but the thing had too much substance," he said.

"And it was certainly no normal aircraft because it was travelling below stalling speed."

Mr. Browning said that the "ship" was travelling below cloud level at the time.

He said: "The ship travelled in a perfectly straight direction towards Western Junction.

"After about a minute of steady movement, the ship stopped in mid air.

"It hovered above the Panshanger Estate, about three miles away.

"We watched the stationary object for about 30 seconds, fascinated.

"Then out of the clouds above and behind the ship, five or six small discs came shooting at terrific speed.

"They came towards the ship like flat stones skipping along the water.

"The small objects stationed themselves beside their mother ship within a half mile radius."

Mr. Browning described the smaller objects as "flying saucers, about 30 feet in diameter with a flat underside and a rounded dome on top."

He said the objects were light grey in colour but bore no other distinguishing feature.

"After several seconds the ship, accompanied by the saucers, reversed the way it came," he. said.

"The ship did not manoeuvre to return because the rod end was the last section of the ship to be covered in the rain cloud.

"It returned faster than the speed at which it had emerged and was gone from sight after 30 seconds."

Mr. Browning said that he believed the object was travelling towards Western Junction under cover of the thick rain.

"It appears the ship sailed on for some seconds unaware that it had shed its protection," he said.

"Possibly when this was discovered the saucers were called to the mother ship.

"The objects then moved back into the cover of the rain storm."

Asked why he had not made the sighting public earlier, Mr. Browning said that both he and his wife were reticent at releasing such fantastic information.

"However, I informed Launceston Airport officials immediately after the episode," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Browning decided to release the information when they heard there were other witnesses.

Two hours after the sighting, many outlying residents in the Cressy-Perth district were disturbed by a loud explosion.

Mrs. J. D. Robson, of Barlington Estate, said the explosion was too loud to be coming from Poatina.

"It was a loud explosion like someone banging heavily on the wall; I could feel the earth shake," she said.

Mr. Brad Spencer, who also lives in the district, said there was a great explosion followed by rumbling and vibrations.

"It was like a bomb or an earthquake," he said.

Mrs. H. Spencer, of Woodlands, Cressy, said that the explosion shook the house.

The reports indicated that the

explosion came from the direction of Panshanger estate, over which the sightings were made.

Civil Aviation Department officers said they had made a report to headquarters of Mr. Browning's sighting.

No aircraft were in the vicinity at the time of the report.

As might be imagined, the Rev. Lionel Browning's account of his sighting caused a tremendous amount of local interest. His rectory was besieged with enquiries to which he replied: "I do not believe that the saucers come from another planet," and added that in his opinion their source was Russia. "Their movements seemed to suggest that they were accustomed to the earth's atmospheric conditions and local terrain."

A scientist approached by the *Launceston Examiner*, Dr. Bruce Scott, could not ratify or discount Mr. Browning's report. He conceded, however, that "things did happen beyond our experience and understanding." Dr. Scott is a senior lecturer at the University of Tasmania. He is generally recognised as the Tasmanian authority on satellites and objects from outer space. After having given very careful consideration to Mr. Browning's story, he made the customary observation that may saucer sightings could be conventionally explained, but had the honesty to admit that "it does appear that there are occasions when something beyond our present range of experience and understanding may be involved." He concluded: "But I don't disbelieve in flying saucers."

International UFO Observer Corps

THE FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Volume 2 No. 5 (September-October 1956) announced the formation of the International UFO Observer Corps. This step grew out of the world-wide interest aroused by the two International Flying Saucer Sighting Days in 1956: sighting forms were provided and Observers were asked to watch the sky, with one or more companions, for a regular definite period each week.

During the past year we have noticed that:

1. The great majority of sightings reported to us continued to come from people having no previous knowledge of flying saucers. Organised watching, though more productive of results than looking for a needle in a haystack, was not sufficiently so to encourage constant repetition. Corps Observers could not achieve the convincing and occasionally spectacular sightings reported from chance encounters.

2. If the crews of extra-terrestrial craft, which we believe flying saucers to be, wish to make contact with people on earth or, at least, gently to convince greater numbers of their existence as visitors to this planet, they have been either unaware of Corps activities or unwilling to take advantage of the opportunities provided.

3. Lacking the encouragement of gathering evidence, some Corps members turned to other sources of information, through medium ship, myths and traditions, leading to preconceived opinions inimical to research with open minds.

After much consideration, therefore, FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has decided to discontinue the Observer Corps in its present form, but to widen its scope and to invite *all* its readers to send in reports of sightings which they have either personally witnessed or have investigated in their neighbourhood. This step is really a recognition of a state of affairs that has, in fact, been in existence for some time. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW takes this opportunity of thanking those readers who have sent in such competent reports of sightings from all over the world.

In future, printed sighting forms will not be supplied. It has been found that witnesses have presented much better reports if uninhibited by any stereotyped form of questionnaire. Naturally, we would like the time, date and place to be stated precisely, but we feel that the other details can be better expressed in the reader's own style.

THE UNIDENTIFIED SATELLITE

GRUMMAN AIRCRAFT WRITES TO ONE OF OUR READERS

IN our January-February 1961 issue there appeared an article by Gordon W. Creighton together with a tracking photograph released by Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation of Bethpage, Long Island, New York. This photograph showed the direction of a mysterious object together with the relative positions and movements of the stars in its neighbourhood. The significance of the photograph lay in the fact that the object was in a course the opposite of those followed by earth - launched satellites. One of our readers, Mr. John D. Llewellyn of Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, has received a letter from the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation dated December 13, 1960, reading as follows:

"The satellite - like object photographed by one of our tracking stations on the evening of August 25th remains unidentified.

"The information gleaned from the sighting has been released to the press and is as follows:

"1. The color of the object varies from carrot to straw.

"2. It travels at a rate which appears to be comparable to previous satellites.

"3. The course followed by the object is an easterly to westerly direction.

"4. The object usually appears at about the time of the first visible evening pass of Echo I.

"Any statements beyond these, at this time, would be pure conjecture.

"Your reported observation of the object is being carefully evaluated by our physicists in an attempt to increase our knowledge of its behavior to a point where we can predict future transits.

"Please accept the enclosed copy of our photograph in appreciation of your interest in Grumman's tracking efforts.

Cordially,

GRUMMAN AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING CORPORATION,

J. B. Rettaliata,

Asst. to the President."

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

In an attempt to contain the constantly rising costs of printing and distribution and to keep the subscription rates at their present level, our print order is being restricted to a figure as near as possible to that of the existing demand. This means that we shall not, in future, carry any large stocks of current or back numbers.

An annual subscription (see rates on leader page) covers six issues and, in order to give plenty of warning, particularly to overseas readers, a first reminder of a pending lapse is included in the fifth issue and a final notice in the sixth. Readers wishing to renew and to ensure a continuity of supply are, therefore, advised to post to us their renewal forms with an appropriate remittance as soon as possible.

BOOK REVIEW

FLYING SAUCERAMA, Vantage Press, Inc., 120 West 31st Street, New York 1, N.Y. $3.00.

MY FRIEND FROM BEYOND EARTH, International Evangelism Crusades, Inc., 7847 61st Street, Liberty Park, Glendale, New York. By Dr. Frank E. Stranges.

FLYING SAUCERAMA, published with illustrations in 1959, is soberly written; it describes many sightings in a little over a hundred pages and explores possible explanations of the whole phenomena; its eight chapters include one on "Fakes, Frauds, Forgeries and Foolishness" and another on The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (1936 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, 6, D.C.), known as NICAP. Dr. Stranges is a member of NICAP and his book evidently owes much to information obtained from this authoritative organisation; indeed Major Donald E. Keyhoe, U.S.M.C. (Ret.), Director of NICAP, is first in Dr. Stranges' list of acknowledgements.

The calibre of this book is shown by the following quotation from the foreword:

> "If the thousands who declare they have seen UFOs are mistaken, the reason should be made known. The nation should be aroused to the possibilities of danger, if nothing more. Deliberate deception should be exposed.
>
> "On the other hand, if 'intelligent beings' from other planets are visiting earth, we ought to become acquainted with them. Is it too much to expect that 'intelligent beings' on earth can solve this mystery? What steps can be taken toward solving the riddle?
>
> "Confronted with a problem of this nature, many are indifferent. Others resent threats to their way of life. Some think it is morally wrong to look beyond orthodox science and religion. A few search diligently and sincerely for authentic information.
>
> "The history of progress proves that dedicated minorities often change history itself."

Dr. Stranges is an evangelist and his own conclusion is that these are angelic visitation, the world being in a bad way and getting worse: "Almost every flying-saucer story is highlighted with warning to the effect that man is so sinful that he is not ready for visits to other planets" (p. 114). There are, happily, other explanations of the uninviting evasiveness of flying saucers and this quite popular reaction to a more advanced technology appearing out of the blue is not unlike an earthbound opinion of aviation, expressed at the beginning of the century: "If God had intended men to fly, he would have provided them with wings."

The second book is a contrast; privately and not very well printed, it appears to have been carelessly and hastily written and it brings us to the problem of contact claims and their creditibility. We are not going to pronounce for or against any claimed contact with a person from another planet but, because we may not be able to resist poking fun at the peek-a-boo brethren who think that flying saucers are manifestations vouchsafed to the deserving and especially to be looked for in the neighbourhood of lectures on the subject (we do not say this is impossible, although we should find it very odd), we ought to make our own standpoint clear.

Believing, as we do, that flying saucers are mechanical inventions by the inhabitants of other planets, we are interested in such as may carry human beings resembling ourselves—if any do. Not being practically concerned with fabrication of the imagination, magical appearances or philosophical and theoretical hypotheses, we are prepared to receive visitors and we have issued invitations through third parties who claim contacts; so far, without response.

Why do spacecraft appear in our skies openly and inoffensively, sometimes as if to gain attention, but their crews (if they exist and are human) avoid those who wish to understand and explain them to our public? Yet, if some contact claims are credited, they get in touch with chance comers of whom some have, or later develop, symptoms clinically associated with the onset of insanity. It may be, of course, that all contact claims are fabrication or hallucination and spacecrews (if they exist) are unaware that there is a FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, or a NICAP, both seeking to learn and publish the truth. Or, the answer may be that the gap between our civilisation and theirs is greater than we imagine, and, by this, we do not mean that theirs need be morally superior to ours: it is enough that it should be different.

A hundred years ago (*The Times*, January 27th, 1961) three brothers Barkley, civil engineers, arrived in Turkey to begin work on the first railway connecting the Danube with the Black Sea. "When at last the line was finished Henry Barkley was astonished by the lack of curiosity on the part of the Turks, who would not even look at the passing locomotive. On enquiring he found that the whole thing was considered to be an English trick by which a strong young devil was trapped in the big fire-box on wheels and made to turn a crank!"

An explorer is at a loss when holding out his hand to people who rub noses; if he, later, performs the technologically superior trick of striking a match they may fall to worshipping him. We wish to be like some level-headed native, his imagination servant to common-sense, who quickly wonders how it was done; obtaining

a box of matches, he learns to use them and thus takes a step towards acquiring new values and preparing himself to hold his own with those who follow the first explorer.

Our problem is to attract the explorers; visitors to this planet must be more accomplished than we are and therefore we regard them as having a higher education and we hope they will make the first move towards reaching an understanding with us, if they are friendly and so desire. We look upon them neither as gods or angels, nor as trespassers and intruders in our airspace, even if politically the world is not without sympathy for the Russian attitude towards sky flights and has not yet accepted ex-President Eisenhower's "open skies" proposals.

More fortunate than we have been, Dr. Stranges met a visitor: "One cold morning in December, 1959, through strange and unusual circumstances, I was invited to speak with a man from another world. This took place during an evangelist crusade which I had the pleasure of conducting in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

"The invitation was given me by a person who, for obvious reasons, cannot be named in this writing. However, suffice it to say that person is a born-again Christian with a sound mind and a good position at the Pentagon building."

Dr. Stranges met Val-Thor from Venus, whose retouched photograph appears on a page next to clear photographs of the author and of his wife, in the Pentagon where he had been available for three years, being due to to depart on March 16, 1960. "Claiming that he would not use force to speak with men in authority in America, but would be happy to consult with them at their invitation, he further stated that thus far only a few men in Washington knew of his existence in the Pentagon and few leaders have availed themselves of his help and advice during the past three years."

The meeting was in an office where typists were working; Val-Thor wore ordinary clothes, but produced his own remarkable one-piece garment from a cupboard for inspection; he had no finger-prints. "He stated that he came in order to help mankind return to the Lord" and he encouraged Dr. Stranges in his evangelical work.

Over a year later, NICAP are still without a report from Dr. Stranges on this unusual interview.

—Our Reception Committee

THE PAPUA STORY

FLYING SAUCERS OVER PAPUA : A Report on Papuan Unidentified Flying Objects, by the Rev. Norman E. G. Cruttwell, is a 45 foolscap page report—fully attested and related with great detail and conviction—on one of the most important series of events in the history of the UFO. The broad outlines of the extraordinary story will be familiar to readers of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, to which Mr. Cruttwell has contributed a number of articles, but in his report is given for the first time the complete account, with diagrams and names and descriptions of all the witnesses and verbatim reports of the principal events.

We recommend this report to all our readers because it is the first unchallenged account of the sighting of a saucer with human occupants. The sceptics have preferred to ignore the story altogether and apart from the articles in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, already mentioned, the events in Papua in 1959 are completely unknown to the vast majority of people in Great Britain and the U.S.A. We therefore advise our readers to obtain a copy of this report as we believe that in time to come it will be of historic importance.

Copies can be obtained for the price of 6s. each from:

Mrs. F. G. Yalden Knowles,
Garstons,
Sparsholt,
Nr. Winchester, Hants.

OUR FRIEND THE MOON

"THE astronomers and the new breed of men, the lunar map-makers and geologists, are striving to squeeze all the information they can out of the Moon by optical and radio methods as quickly as possible. What is surprising is that some are prepared to take up firm positions on this or that theory, because now it is only a matter of time before the decisive experiment is performed — that of going to the Moon to see what it is really like." This comment was made by Nigel Calder at the conclusion of a most interesting article on the Moon which appeared in the *New Scientist* for December 22, 1960.

We would add to this comment the observation that in spite of the moon probes and surveys already undertaken very few results and conclusions have been released to the public. About the only positive discovery so far published has been the photograph of the other side of the moon which revealed nothing very sensational and was, in any case, hotly disputed. We cannot believe that nothing has been discovered, but we suspect that what has recently become known has been promptly classified as top secret.

In the course of his article on the Moon, Nigel Calder recounts the claim made by Nikolai Kozyrev of Pulkovo in November 1958 to have seen a reddish glow near the central peak of Alphonsus and to have obtained a photograph of the spectrum which showed the presence of carbon in an excited state. It was suggested at the time that the event was a puff of gas which was stimulated to luminescence by the Sun's rays. Controversy followed this announcement as to whether what had been observed was, in fact, a volcano. Readers of Donald Keyhoe's *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy* will recall his chapter "Enigma on the Moon" in which he lists a number of anomalies observed on the surface of the Moon, the most notable of which was undoubtedly the artificial bridge reported by John J. O'Neil, science editor of the *Herald Tribune*, on July 29, 1953 and later confirmed by the English astronomer, the late Dr. H. P. Wilkins, who broadcast about the astonishing discovery. To insure himself against ridicule, Dr. Wilkins referred to the bridge as "natural," but everything in his description of the object pointed to its being artificial.

There have, of course, been a number of strange sights on the moon during the last fifty years and more and the Works of Charles Fort refer time and time again to these phenomena: the orthodox astronomers, however, continue to insist that the Moon is a dead planet. According to the Astronomer Royal (Dr. Richard van der Riet Woolley) the surface of the Moon is so inhospitable that there is no question of living on it. Yet, if what other equally reliable astronomers claim to have seen is true, then the Moon is already inhabited. We wonder if this fact is already known, but held back from the public for military reasons. It is tempting to say that we shall know before long, but secrecy in the sphere of space travel might be much more easily and longer maintained than is possible with man's affairs on earth. To begin with, the majority of people in all countries are firmly of the opinion that in the solar system, at least, Earth is the only planet that supports intelligent life. This fact, alone, would play straight into the hands of those who were determined to censor any discovery which might challenge such an assumption.

THE FIRST MOON 'BEEP'

An historic occasion

FIFTEEN years ago, on January 10, man for the first time received an answer to his tentative feelers into outer space.

It was on January 10, 1946, that the United States Army Signal Corps researchers sent a radar signal to the moon and heard it bounce back 2½ seconds later after its 276,000 mile round-trip in space. It will be recalled that a year later the subject of flying saucers broke into the newspaper headlines after Kenneth Arnold's historic sighting in the Rocky Mountains. It may well have been this radar exercise which drew attention to ourselves and gave the impression that we were trying to contact beings in outer space.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Tin from Campinas

Sir,—The Campinas tin affair looked like something worthwhile at one time and I obtained some "inside information" from Brazil. However, it fizzled out. I have looked through my file on the case and one thing sticks out above all others: it cannot be proved even that the stuff did fall from a UFO. No one actually saw the source of the material, it was only seen to fall from an apparently empty sky. The scientist supposed to have analysed the material was never traced and although it has been quoted that the material was subjected to a spectographical analysis, this was not the case. The Campinas tin affair is just another dead end.—David Wightman, "Vimana," Sandy Lane, Hindley, Lancs.

Is disarmament wise?

Sir,—The appeal by John Lade in his article in the November-December 1960 issue urging readers to support national and international space exploration programmes as a means of averting war is pathetic in its blind innocence. Does Mr. Lade (or Adamski, for that matter, as he is credited with the origin of the appeal) think for one moment that the Russian and Chinese hierarchies would entertain such appeals from their own people, or that they would abandon their plans of world conquest as a result? On the contrary, none of their people would dare to make such an appeal—it would be tantamount to suicide. And as for the value of such appeals in the West—a Western civilisation preoccupied with space research to the exclusion of military preparedness would be a "gift" to the Communist powers.

The realities of the world situation force one to the conclusion that history is undoubtedly fulfilling Bible prophecy. Our endeavour should rather be to discover what part, if any, the flying saucer "invasion" has to play in the coming climax or the events leading up to it.—Kenneth C. Bayman, Benoni, Transvaal, South Africa.

(What do our Russian readers have to say about this?—Editor.)

Saucers and science

Sir,—Dr. Rolf Weber's article on why the scientist stands aside would have been more arresting if he had been able to give some specific examples of the sort of approach which he finds unacceptable. Would Dr. Weber therefore let us know which article in the January-February issue he finds "unscientific"? For instance, what does he think of Aimé Michel's article? Michel, himself a scientist, would seem to me to be just as unscientific as anything Weber complains about. To begin with he confesses that he cannot, or will not, disclose the name of the Belgian workman who took the photographs of the flying saucer. As much depends upon the integrity of this man, the reasoning that follows seems to me irrelevant. Why should the "scientist" blindly accept M. Michel's uncorroborated testimony any more than M. Michel is prepared to accept Adamski's? I am not arguing that the photographs are faked — I happen to believe with Aimé Michel that they are genuine—but sauce for the goose is still sauce for the gander.—"Saucerer," Leeds.

(Full name and address supplied).

Mid-Cornwall UFO group

Sir,—The Mid-Cornwall UFO Group has recently been formed in Truro to investigate the problem of UFOs and I should be glad to get into touch with any readers of the REVIEW in Cornwall who are really interested in the subject. — E. V. Inglesby, Hon. Secretary, 4 Treyew Road, Truro, Cornwall.

Unidentified satellites

Sir,—May I comment on the article by Gordon W. Creighton about unidentified satellites (see January-February 1961 issue)? He mentions the satellites alleged to have been discovered in 1954 by Professor Tombaugh in the U.S.A. The authenticity of this is very doubtful, although Keyhoe gave it great prominence in his book *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*. I quote from *Rockets, Satellites and Outer Space* by Willy Ley, the famous astronautical writer: "To complicate matters there came a report one day that Tombaugh had discovered a small moon at a distance of 400 miles from the ground and another one at a distance of 600 miles. To this day the origin of the report is a mystery, but it is certain that it was a canard. When I asked Clyde Tombaugh about it he replied that not only had he not discovered any additional moons

but that he had not even searched the regions 400 and 600 miles distant."

The 1960 discoveries sound much more reliable, and I hope more is heard of them.—Christopher Allan, 300 Foleshill Road, Coventry.

(While we readily publish this correction, we think we should warn Mr. Allan and others that denials and recantations are very common in the field of unorthodox studies. Galileo provides a notable illustration: and, more recently, Ruppelt. We do not say that in Tombaugh's case this denial was not genuine, but it should be noted that the fear of ridicule is today as potent a deterrent as the rack—Editor.)

Darwin's theory

Sir,—Thank you for what you say re Darwin's theory of evolution in your leader (January-February issue).

As a boy (I am 71 now) I was told that Darwin himself didn't believe in it by the time he had finished his book on the subject, but he had talked about it such a lot and spent so much time and work on it that he felt he had to publish it.

No missing link is, I think, the strongest argument against his theory. Another strong one is: "When did the apes, who had been chosen to become men, or who were evolving into men, receive their souls and get a sense of right and wrong and an awareness of God? At birth? If so, how did their parents teach them to live on the ground instead of in trees? If, say, at 10, how did they adapt themselves to their changed life?" The theory is absurd.—Col. Hugh S. Browne, Bordon, Hants.

Space intelligences

Sir,—I use the term "Space Intelligences" to embrace all those reported "contacts" with other planets, and alleged communications from other dimensions, which seem to me acceptable, though some critics may disagree.

Mr. Hebt's statement "It has been proved that light moves at 186,000 m.p.s. approximately in a vacuum recalls Charles Forts shattering ridicule of the Masterminds who measure light and obligingly find the speed they are looking for. Some philosophers believed that light does not travel; not having been in space I cannot confirm this from experience. But neither have I seen the end of a ray of light speeding on like a super express-train.

If only the good Lord had said "Let there be light at 186,000 m.p.s.!" He could easily have waited a few thousand million years until it lit up all His universe. But I don't think He did!—W. R. Drake, 8 Rosedale Avenue, South Bents, Whitburn, Sunderland.

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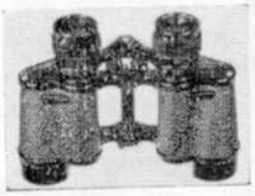

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