

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

1952 January – May

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

By

Loren E. Gross

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Fremont CA

“UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse.”

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

“Supplemental Notes” consist of material under consideration for any revision of the original UFO history volume covering this time period.

1952

Acknowledgements and remarks:

Thanks to students of the UFO problem like Barry Greenwood, Jan Aldrich and Robert Todd, thousands of pages of declassified military files were obtained for UFO research. With such material now available, it is possible to see the year 1952 in a clearer light. Before reading these documents I found it a bit difficult to appreciate how unprepared the U.S. was for a Russian air assault and how this security issue smothered concern over the ET visitation hypothesis.

Sometime after the UFO history monographs covering 1952 were written, the papers of Dr. James McDonald were located and examined for new information. McDonald discovered a lot of valuable data that has been incorporated in this supplement. Every UFO researcher will welcome the opportunity to study McDonald's findings.

Major UFO collections that belonged to different individuals and UFO organizations contributed various items to this supplement. These items expand on my first attempt to explain what happened in the year 1952. The collections of Jan Aldrich and Barry Greenwood, for example, have many news reports not previously known. Both men are still active investigators and what they have compiled continues to grow. Other researchers of note, who have donated their accumulations to the author or otherwise made them available to myself and the public, include: Robert Gribble, George Fawcett, Murray Bott, Les Treece-Sinclair, Paul Cerny, and Leon Davidson. The files of APRO, NICAP, MUFON and CUFOS have a lot of cases "gathering dust" so it was thought best to bring them to the attention of those in the UFO community that do not have reasonable access.

Not many people or groups were very active in collecting data in 1952. Fortunately the Air Force subscribed to the New York Romeike press clipping service. It was also fortunate a decision was made to preserve the clippings on microfilm.

Finally, all of my supplements contain odds and ends I have picked up over the years from any number of sources.

—Loren E. Gross

1952. "Year of maximum danger."

The continued failure to obtain hard evidence had greatly eroded support for pro-UFO advocates at Wright Field by 1951. The core of the anti-UFO group included the Air Force Director of Intelligence at ATIC, Colonel Harold Watson, and his subordinates, Major A.J. Boggs and Colonel J.J. Porter. These officers occupied key positions, and as a result, the handling of UFO data degenerated into a farce, but then something changed everything.

The rapid increase in Russia's nuclear arsenal raised fears an aerial attack on the U.S. was a definite possibility. It was also noted that an adequate air defense of North America could not be in place until 1953, therefore 1952 was known as the "year of maximum danger" within the Intelligence community.

What exactly was being done to protect the country in the meantime? The Pentagon had to answer to Congress, the President, the news media, and the American public. In turn, the Generals in the Pentagon would have to ask one of their own for assurances. That person would be Major General Charles Cabell, Director of Intelligence, HQ, USAF.

General Cabell assumed that at least one part the ADC system was in place and functioning effectively, the UFO project in Ohio.

General Cabell got a rude awakening in September 1951 when the Fort Monmouth UFO incident made headlines. It seems a military pilot had an impressive aerial encounter with a UFO over the thickly populated East Coast. The apparent daring invasion of sensitive American airspace was embarrassing enough for Cabell, since he was responsible for the nation's safety, but the event was aggravated by uncontrolled dissemination of information and unauthorized statements that appeared to reflect official policy. The confusion prompted a personal inquiry by Cabell into the status of the Wright Field UFO investigative project. The Intelligence chief blew his top when he learned how sloppy the UFO effort had become. It also came to his attention, that although investigations had been inconclusive as to the nature and origin of UFOs, good sightings by highly qualified observers continued to be reported and such reports were being made in the vicinity of important military and scientific installations. The two facts about quality observers and sensitive installations were enough in themselves to warrant a revitalization of the Wright Field UFO project in view of the growing Russian threat.

New personnel.

Colonel Watson shipped out to Europe. No reason was offered but it certainly helped to have someone new as the top man at Wright Field. With Watson gone, Boggs and Porter no longer were significant factors in the UFO project.

A Lt. Edward J. Ruppelt was named to head a renewed project GRUDGE. With little experience with the UFO subject, Ruppelt had developed no bias, and his immediate boss at Wright Field was Watson's replacement, Brig. Gen. W.M. Garland, who was considered a "moderately confirmed believer." Garland was a big improvement over Watson.

Across the country at the Pentagon there were also new faces and they were in favor of a good investigation of UFOs. General Cabell had left his post to take the number two job in the CIA, but his replacement as the Air Intelligence chief, HQ, USAF, was General John Samford who apparently was wise enough to at least remain uncommitted on the existence of UFO. In any case, General Samford listened to briefings carefully and provided any cooperation required. Below him was Colonel W.A. Adams, chief of the Topical Intelligence Branch of the D/I. Adams' subordinates, Colonel H.S. Weldon Smith and Major Dewey Fournet were also favorably disposed toward UFOs, in fact Ruppelt considered Fournet the "most confirmed believer in UFOs in the Pentagon."

Air Defense Command.

The attitude of Brig. General Woodbury Burgess, D/I of the Air Defense Command under General Benjamin Chidlaw, best illustrated the basic thrust of the renewed interest in the UFO problem. Burgess, with Chidlaw no doubt concurring, was absolutely convinced every UFO report should be investigated completely even if it had a prosaic cause. The Air Defense Command, Burgess assured Ruppelt, would cooperate fully.

3 January. "Take positive action at once."

In a memorandum for General Samford dated January 3, 1952, ATIC's General Garland re-states much of what we have already covered. (See pages 3-4) (xx.)

(xx.) U.S. Air Intelligence UFO Files (R.G. 341) January-June 1952.

General Garland stressed urgency for a good reason. A review of America's air defence was just being completed and the results were so bad they boggled the mind.

During January numerous orders were issued to put new life into project GRUDGE:

- (1.) For one thing, compliance to old UFO directives had become so lax new ones were reissued.
- (2.) Orders were also given to establish radar/scope camera sites to obtain pictures of any unusual radar returns.
- (3.) A letter was sent to the Command-in-Chief, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, requesting that all UFO incidents occurring within his area of collection responsibility be investigated as completely as possible and any reports filed to include statements by the witnesses. (This was a departure from the Air Force policy of considering UFOs a purely domestic problem.)
- (4.) The Director of Special Investigations (OSI) HQ, USAF, was notified of the reorganization of the UFO project and it was asked to cooperate as fully as it had in the past. (xx.)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence Files (R.G. 341) January-June 1952. (See the series of directives issued in the month of January.)

Colonel Adams, whose job included replying to letters from the public reporting UFOs, signed off with the same words in every letter, words which reflected the reason and urgency of the renewed official interest in the UFO problem: "Your action certainly indicates a high sense of patriotism and duty."

6 January. Denmark. "Keep an eye out."
(See clipping to the right)

This Danish order may have been triggered by the request sent to the U.S. European Commander.

Dane Soldiers Ordered To Watch for 'Saucers'

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 6 (AP)—All Danish servicemen were ordered today to be constantly on the lookout for "flying saucers."

A deadpan communication from the general staff read at parade grounds throughout the country told the soldiers to "keep an eye on any strange apparitions in the skies" and to report immediately to their officers if they should see anything.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
By WLG Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985; SECRET -

SECRET

Auth CS, US



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

[Handwritten initials]
2 JAN 1952

3 JAN 1952

AFOIN-A

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SAMFORD

SUBJECT: (SECRET) Contemplated Action to Determine the Nature and Origin of the Phenomena Connected with the Reports of Unusual Flying Objects

Handwritten vertical text: flying objects

1. The continued reports of unusual flying objects requires positive action to determine the nature and origin of this phenomena. The action taken thus far has been designed to track down and evaluate reports from casual observers throughout the country. Thus far, this action has produced results of doubtful value and the inconsistencies inherent in the nature of the reports has given neither positive nor negative proof of the claims.

2. It is logical to relate the reported sightings to the known development of aircraft, jet propulsion, rockets and range extension capabilities in Germany and the U.S.S.R. In this connection, it is to be noted that certain developments by the Germans, particularly the Horton wing, jet propulsion, and refueling, combined with their extensive employment of V-1 and V-2 weapons during World War II, lend credence to the possibility that the flying objects may be of German and Russian origin. The developments mentioned above were completed and operational between 1941 and 1944 and subsequently fell into the hands of the Soviets at the end of the war. There is evidence that the Germans were working on these projects as far back as 1931 to 1938. Therefore, it may be assumed that the Germans had at least a 7 to 10 year lead over the United States in the development of rockets, jet engines, and aircraft of the Horton-wing design. The Air Corps developed refueling experimentally as early as 1928, but did not develop operational capability until 1948.

3. In view of the above facts and the persistent reports of unusual flying objects over parts of the United States, particularly the east and west coast and in the vicinity of the atomic energy production and testing facilities, it is apparent that positive action must be taken to determine the nature of the objects and, if possible, their origin. Since it is known fact that the Soviets did not detonate an atomic bomb prior to 1949, it is believed possible that the Soviets may have developed the German aircraft designs at an accelerated rate in order to have a suitable carrier for the delivery of weapons of mass destruction. In other words, the Soviets may have a carrier without the weapons required while we have relatively superior weapons with relatively

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X-322.7-ATIC

13 Feb 52
To: *File*
Edwin Bishop Jr
LT Colonel, USAF
A-11

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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
 By W.G. Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985

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inferior carriers available. If the Soviets should get the carrier and the weapon, combined with adequate defensive aircraft, they might surpass us technologically for a sufficient period of time to permit them to execute a decisive air campaign against the United States and her allies. The basic philosophy of the Soviets has been to surpass the western powers technologically and the Germans have given them the opportunity.

4. In view of the facts outlined above, it is considered mandatory that the Air Force take positive action at once to definitely determine the nature and, if possible, the origin of the reported unusual flying objects. The following action is now contemplated:

a. to require ATIC to provide at least three teams to be matched up with an equal number of teams from ADC for the purpose of taking radar scope photographs and visual photographs of the phenomena;

b. to select sites for these teams, based on the concentrations of already reported sightings over the United States; (these areas are, generally, the Seattle area, the Albuquerque area, and the New York-Philadelphia area) and

c. to take the initial steps in this project during early January 1952.

1 Incl
 Tech. Rept #76-45

W. M. Garland
 W. M. Garland
 Brigadier General, USAF
 Assistant for Production
 Directorate of Intelligence

9 January. Visit to General Mills Research Lab.

On January 9th Lt. Ruppelt phoned Mr. G.O. Haglund of the General Mills Aeronautical Research Laboratory, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ruppelt told Mr. Haglund he represented Air Technical Intelligence, WPAFB, Dayton, Ohio, and that he wanted to interview individuals on the laboratory staff that had sighted UFOs. The purpose was to study, evaluate, and compare the various reports. The project GRUDGE chief also said he would be accompanied by physicist named Armstrong. Ruppelt requested that all testimony be as accurate and as honest as possible. Factual information was desired—not opinions. (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Mr. C.B. Moore. From: G.O. Haglund. Subject: "Proposed Visit of Lt. Ruppelt, Air Technical Intelligence, WPAFB, Dayton." Inter-department Correspondence. 10 January 52. From the files of C.B. Moore. Photocopy in author's files.

Good data was a critical need and an article about sightings during the Minnesota General Mills operations had appeared in the February, 1952, issue of *Science Digest*. The magazine was on the newsstands in January and apparently caught the eye of the people at ATIC.

During his visit to the research lab, Ruppelt mentioned he had no authority to make GMI personnel record UFO sightings but that cooperation could well be "vital to the security of the nation."

If a UFO a sighting was made, Ruppelt wanted the Air Defense Command notified at once so fighter interceptors could be scrambled in time to make an identification. The following information was to be provided to the ADC: time, elevation, course of object, number of objects, and geographic locale of the observer. This action was to be followed up with a written report to ATIC, Dayton, Ohio. Ruppelt was especially keen on obtaining some definite data, such as relative size, elevation angles, traverse rates, and visual description. If such information was obtained, Ruppelt wanted the GMI people to contact him directly by calling KE 7111-54261 Dayton Exchange. (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: G.O. Haglund. From: J.J. Kaliszewski. "Interrogation by Lt., E. Ruppelt and Mr. Armstrong." 18 January 52. From the files of C.B. Moore. Photocopy in author's files.

Reports by the GMI people were probably Ruppelt's best chance of getting the definite data he so desired since the balloon experts were highly qualified observers. Moreover, it no doubt helped that all of the personnel at GMI claimed to have seen UFOs and it was the general opinion among them that real objects were being seen, however all did not go well. GMI member C.B. Moore expressed dissatisfaction with the Air Force's handling of UFO reports in the past. The unpleasant encounter between Ruppelt and Moore may have had some effect on the decision by ATIC of taking the unusual step of later allowing the UFO article in *Life* magazine.

10 January. The Germans again.

Another good measure that the Air Force was taking the Russian threat seriously was the rehash of the earlier Horton aircraft investigation. (See document on page 6)

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
By W.G. Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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AUTH OS, USAF

JAN 9 1952

AFOIN-E/CE
Colonel Thomas/76472
9 Jan 51

000.9. Agency Advice

AFOIN-E

(UNCLASSIFIED) Request for Information

Chief, Air Technical
Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

Dept of the Air Force
Hq USAF - AFOIN-E

10 JAN 1952
Col Thomas/76472

1. The Assistant for Production, AFOIN-A, has a requirement for the following information:

a. A summation of all facts available on the experimental or prototype unconventional aircraft that were being developed by the Germans at the close of World War II.

b. Any possible utilization of subject aircraft by the Soviets to be included.

2. It is requested that the above information be furnished on or before 25 January 1952.

for file
W. M. Greenwald
Brigadier General, USAF
Assistant for Production
Directorate of Intelligence

AFOIN Coordination Copy

AFOIN-E/AID

AFOIN-E

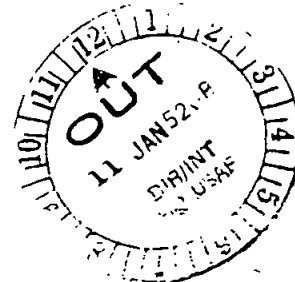
AFOIN-A

H. G. Barber

J. E. Thomas
Col, USAF

Sherman
Col USAF
OIN 148

✓ X-452.1 - general



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16 January. Artesia, New Mexico.

This report was incorrectly place in the year 1951. (See my monograph *UFOs: A HISTORY 1951*, p.4.)

17 January. Volcano Fuego, Guatemala. (3:00 p.m)

“Like a Goodyear blimp.”

Summary of UFO report taken from Dr. Willy Smith's UNICAT.

An American living in Guatemala was traveling in a bus about 10 kilometers southwest of Guatemala the afternoon of January 17th when he noticed an object in sky a greenish-gold color. The weather was clear, but there was a chill in the air since the highway passed over mountains 6500 feet above sea level. The object appeared to be an oblate shape, the vertical axis one-half the length, or somewhat like the “Goodyear blimp.”

The thing was seen moving horizontally and then it made an instantaneous vertical ascent. After the quick rise, the object stopped and hovered for approximately two seconds before it flew away toward the northwest. The UFO was in view until obscured by the terrain. Duration of sighting was about 22 seconds. No sound was heard. (xx.)

(xx.) UNICAT case #758. Dr. Smith states this is BLUE BOOK case report #24-322.

29 January. “Foo Fighters” over Korea? (See official report on pages 8-9)

? February. Binghamton, New York. (9:00 a.m.)

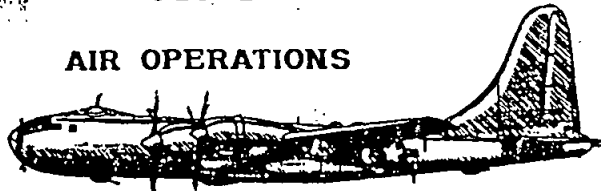
Dull orange object with “portholes.”

A NICAP UFO report form filled out by Miriam Wilson tells of an encounter at the Binghamton Girls Club one morning in February 1952. She had left to club to go home when she spotted something approaching out of southwest sky:

“[It]...first appeared as a small orange speck and grew larger. I thought it was the moon at first, with just the edge or something showing from behind a cloud [there were no clouds in the sky] but then wondered at its color...also I wondered ‘why should there be a harvest moon in February?’ [She majored in astronomy in college] All this time it got larger and larger, by now everyone there [other people leaving the girl’s club] had seen it and we all were sort of awestruck and stood there staring. At its biggest it would have covered two or three full moons it was so wide. I could see some sort of dark line, like a seam, around its middle and small spots circling this seam, looking like ‘portholes’—well that’s what they looked like even if it sounds silly. Because of the detail of the ‘portholes’ I don’t believe it was too far away but I can’t estimate a distance, I know how unreliable these distance estimates are with no reference point but I would say if a plumb line had been dropped from it, it would have landed between myself and court street (less than a mile away in a southern direction).

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AIR OPERATIONS



FEAF
BOMBER
COMMAND

Japan-based Superforts opened activities for the period with a night attack against Sinuiju airfield on 26 January. Located in Northwest Korea, and reportedly basing more than 60 conventional-type aircraft, seven B-29s radar-aimed 70 tons of high explosives on the airfield. Moderate flak was

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reports are recurring strengthens the probability that air to air rockets now have joined the list of weapons with which the enemy is experimenting in the Korean war.

Although there were two afternoon sightings of an aggregate of nine MIGs and two night sightings of unidentified type aircraft, all were without incident. Shortly before midnight, however, an extremely unusual sighting took the day's activity completely out of the routine. Two B-29 crews reported identical observations of round, sun-colored objects approximately three feet in diameter, which approached each aircraft from the eight to nine o'clock position and flew parallel to the course of the bombers, one of which was travelling at 148 knots ground speed, the other at 125. The object came no closer than an estimated 200 yards in either instance and no hostile or overt action was evident. After a few minutes, the object withdrew to the same clock position from which it had approached. In one of the incidents, the disc withdrew until almost out of sight, then returned to again parallel the course of the bomber, after which it pulled away at eight o'clock and disappeared. The two sightings occurred approximately 24 minutes and 63 miles apart and each incident was corroborated by two men on the same aircraft. In each sighting the object was under observation for periods of one and five minutes respectively and was described as brilliant to the point of being almost dazzling. There have been no sightings similar to these since the Korean war began and because of their unusual nature, special effort was made to determine the possibility that the sightings were attributable to causes such as reflections, searchlights, flares,

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natural phenomena or pure fabrication; however, as yet, no positive estimate has been possible concerning the identity of the objects. Investigation and attempts at evaluation are continuing in the belief that if the objects represent a new form of experimentation by the enemy, in all probability they will be sighted again within the near future.

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(xx.) *FEAF Weekly Intelligence Roundup*
Issue No.74. From 0001/1 26 Jan 52
To 2400/11 Feb 52 II.Enemy activity
in Korea. pp.II-3-4, Air to Air.

"Meanwhile I realized that it wasn't the moon I was looking at and I became frightened. It was slowly getting bigger (closer) and dipped edge on toward us. I had a strange feeling I was being observed or watched by someone and that they were moving closer for a better look (This is purely subjective of course, but I did have that feeling and the idea of this is what frightened me). About this time everybody turned, yelling, and ran helter-skelter back through the side door of the girl's club (we had just come out the door). I was one of those farthest from the door, but being one of the older girls I definitely was not the last one in the door. We breathlessly all shouted about 'a flying saucer being outside.' We had two young women who were directors: Miss Anne Caro and Miss Lee Leibster. If they could be located I am sure they might recall the incident. At any rate they tried to calm us but went to the doorstep for a look. I ran outside again with the rest. By this time the object had retreated and was less than 1/3 the size it had been when I turned and ran. As we watched it, it got smaller and smaller very quickly and poof, it was gone. The grown ups hadn't seen it too clearly and said was just the moon (I don't know whether they said this to calm us or if they actually thought that it was). At any rate after multi-voiced protest we all started home (I think I ran most of the way—about four blocks) and as I traveled south on Chenango street I saw (with no small satisfaction) that the moon was a white (not orange) crescent (not oval) about to set in the west, a completely different direction. This was no plane (at the close distance we would have heard the engines loudly) besides that it stood still. The thing it resembled most was a huge dirigible except for its coloring and illumination, absence of cabin underneath. It was not cigar-shaped and no dirigible ever took off at that rate of speed." (xx.)

(See drawing of object by witness to the right)



(xx.) NICAP UFO report form. Miriam L. Wilson. 1510 Plymouth Road. Apt. B-58. Ann Arbor, Michigan. 48105. 17 September 67. Photocopy in author's files.

16 February. East St. Louis, Illinois.

Wright Field causes a problem for itself.

(See clipping to the right)

18 February. Albuquerque, New Mexico. (6:45 a.m.)

"It was probably the most astonishing thing I've ever seen."

Our source states:

"At 6:45 a.m., just before sunup on Feb. 18, 1952, a photographer named C.E. Redman was driving through Albuquerque, New Mexico, on his way to photograph a wedding. Stopped for a traffic light, he noticed two bright things in the sky.

"They were hovering above Tijeras Canyon....The one to the north was on

**Flying Disc
Just Gas**

East St. Louis, Ill., Feb. 16,
1952—A wayward weather balloon set off a new flying saucer scare here last night. Telephone calls poured into the Scott Air Force Base, with residents asking "what is it?"

The balloon had broken loose from its moorings at Wright-Patterson Field near Dayton, Ohio, and traveled almost 350 miles.

its edge. The other was lying horizontally. They were bright, bluish white....It was probably the most astonishing thing I've ever seen. Those things were soundless.

They were not jets or vapor trails. I've seen hundreds of jets and vapor trails.' Redman was questioned later the same day by a *Life* reporter and a prominent scientist, working together. From his testimony, and from the lay of the land, it was estimated that the disks were 20 miles away and four miles in the air, and that they had a diameter of about 136 feet. Another witness saw the same objects Redman saw, and at the same time, but from the other side of town. W.S. Morris, a retired master sergeant of the Air Force who is now a newsdealer in Albuquerque, was out to drop off his morning papers when he saw two strange objects over Tijeras Canyon. 'I watched them for 12 minutes. They were a blinding silver, long and thin, gleaming all over. They hovered, one kind of above the other to the right.



HOW DISKS LOOKED in relation to each other is shown by C. E. Redman of Albuquerque.

They seemed brighter than the sun, which wasn't yet over the Sandia mountains. It just touched their bottoms and they glowed red. They didn't flutter or move. They just hung there. It must have been 20 miles away. Then they just suddenly dropped down behind the mountain, and the upper one tilted so that I could see its profile. It looked like a bell pepper—with a bump on top, that is.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Ginna, Robert and H.B. Darrach Jr. "Have We Visitors From Space?" *Life*. Vol. 32, #14. April 7, 1952. p.92.

19 February. Socorro, Magdalena, and the Rio Puerco area. New Mexico. (3:36 p.m.)

"I don't know what it is."

A day after the Redman sighting reports were made of something odd in the afternoon sky:

"It could be that a number of New Mexicans saw flying saucers yesterday. On the other hand, they may have seen some of the weather balloons sent from White Sands Proving Grounds.

"'Objects' and 'things' were reported and described from three communities in the state.

"Officials at White Sands declined to state positively that the objects and things were weather balloons, but noted that four large-sized balloons, about 10 feet in diameter, were released during the day.

"Sgt. Jack Williams, a weather observer at White Sands, said he considered it possible but doubtful that the balloons could have been observed from as far away as Socorro.

"Yet at Socorro, a man working on a roof said he watched a 'thing' for over two hours. He said the object seemed to stay in one position.

"State patrolman Eddie Jaramillo, stationed at Quemado, radioed headquarters at Santa Fe that he spotted a strange craft directly over Magdalena about the same

time—3:36 p.m.

“The patrolman described the object as round with what appeared to be a ramp [?].

“Also about that time, Jim Peckumn of the state game department radioed that he had seen a round, shining object hovering over the Rio Puerco area.

“‘I don’t know what it is, but I watched it though field glasses for some time,’ he said.

“Pekumn said he thought it could have been a weather balloon. He did not know of the balloons released at White Sands.

“State police queried Kirtland air force base at Albuquerque and were referred to Dr. Lincoln La Paz, head of the institute of meteoritics at the University of New Mexico.

“La Paz said he is being swamped with calls and letters from observers.

“Since his work has been entirely in the field of fireballs and meteorites, La Paz said he recommends that all eye-witnesses of saucer phenomena send their observations to the Air Force for expert evaluation.” (xx.)

(xx.) Santa Fe, New Mexico. *The New Mexican*. 20 February 52.

19 February. Korean sightings draw attention. (See clippings below)

20 February. Joseph and Stewart Alsop column comments on the Korean sightings. (See clipping on page 13)

21 February. The Senate Armed Services Committee.

Proof the Air Force was under pressure is the interest the Senate Armed Services displayed by its formal inquiry. (See page 14)

Korea ‘Flying Saucers’ Prompt Wide Inquiry

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 (UP).—The Air Force disclosed today that it had ordered a full-scale investigation of reports that objects resembling “flying saucers” had been sighted in Korea by crewmen of two American B-29 bombers.

An Air Force spokesman said four fliers described the objects as disc-shaped, bright orange in color and sending off occasional flashes of bluish light.

Two of the fliers were said to have thought the discs were about three feet in diameter.

In the past, the Air Force has forcefully discounted widespread reports of “flying saucers” or “discs.” But it was sufficiently impressed by reports from its own personnel to order a full inquiry.

The first report was submitted to Air Force intelligence officers from two crewmen of a B-29 bomber, who said they saw the object flying parallel to their plane at about midnight the night of Jan. 29. The plane was over Wonsan, Korea.

The same night, a B-29 from a different squadron returned to its base after a flight over Sunchon, Korea, some distance from Wonsan. Two crewmen said they saw flying discs moving alongside their plane at a high altitude. The time also was at about midnight.

“The objects remained with the B-29 over Wonsan for five minutes and with the B-29 over Sunchon for one minute,” the Air Force said.

Joseph and Stewart Also Weigh In Buffalo Courier-Express

2/20/52

Problems of Scientific Developments

WASHINGTON — What is nonsense and what is worth reporting? Are facts to be taken seriously if they are undoubted as facts, and have already caused a considerable stir among the government's intelligence chiefs and technical experts? Or are they to be laughed off, because they may mean nothing, and quite probably do not mean as much as their sheer mystery suggests? All these questions are raised by facts that follow:

On January 29th, one of our B-29 bombers performing a solitary mission in Korea was flying at somewhat more than 20,000 feet above the town of Wonsan. The bomber's speed was slightly under 200 miles per hour. The time was shortly before midnight. Simultaneously, two members of the B-29's crew, the lonely rear gunner in the tail and the fire control man in the waist, saw the same peculiar object.

It was round, and both airmen thought it was disc-shaped. It was orange in color, and around its circumference it seemed to have a series of small bluish flames, subsequently described as being like the flames of a gas stove. Judging its distance and size was naturally difficult, but both airmen thought close to their B-29, and only about three feet in diameter. To both of them, it seemed to fly with a revolving motion. For a full five minutes, this object moved parallel to the plane—or at least the two airmen thought it did—and then it disappeared.

When the B-29 completed its mission, the two airmen reported what they had seen to their squadron intelligence officer. Both men had experience combat in World War II as well as in Korea, and both were considered steady, sensible fellows. Hence the intelligence officer, who might otherwise have been inclined to ignore their tale, rather gingerly transmitted a routine report to headquarters.

At headquarters, the report might also have been ignored, as the product of fancy, if another, almost

closely similar report had not been almost simultaneously received. This second report, which came from an entirely different B-29 squadron, also concerned the observation of a fire control man and waist gunner in a B-29 on a mission on the night of January 29th.

This second B-29 had been flying, again at about 20,000 feet, over the town of Suncheon, which is considerable distance from Wonsan. At about midnight, the rear gunner and fire controlman saw a round object moving level with their aircraft or a little below. As subsequently described by them, what they saw or what they imagined was almost exactly what the other airmen saw or imagined, except that they were inclined to think the object was globular instead of disc-shaped. It followed their plane—or so they thought—for a minute or a little more.

Such are the facts. When queried about them, the highest sources in the Air Force have replied that "there is no doubt about the facts but the Air Force still does not believe in flying discs."

Apparently the idea of an elaborate hoax has been ruled out, since the crews of the two bombers did not know each other. That leaves the experts picking and choosing be-

tween all the other possible explanations, ranging from an oddly simultaneous illusion produced by the reflections of bright objects in the B-29's plexiglass windows, to a Soviet test of a new form of disc-shaped guided missile.

Whether as hoax, or as illusion, or as intimation of something unpleasant to come, the facts nonetheless seem worth recording to these reporters, simply because they are symbols of the opening of the Pandora's box of science. Here is a tale, in source at least not laughable but close to laughable in substance, which is not being laughed off. In fact, it is the subject of anxious enquiry at high official levels.

The plain truth is that this now-opened Pandora's box of science may contain almost any kind of disagreeable surprise; and thus the experts can no longer say with assurance, "This is silly, that makes sense." The further truth is that the Korean experience has convinced American experts of our earlier folly in underestimating Soviet technical capabilities.

Much more solid evidence than the two queer intelligence reports from the B-29 crews continues to pile up. Most recently, for example, information has come in of Russian production of a genuinely supersonic jet fighter, the MIG-19. The raised estimates of Soviet atomic output are in the same category. There is, of course, counterbalancing evidence, such as the startling withdrawal of the large Soviet air forces formerly stationed in East Germany and the European satellites, which suggests Russian air production problems. Yet over-all, it is clear that we can no longer rely drowsily on "superior American know-how."

It is also clear, one might add, that the habits of democracy demand much wider ventilation and more serious public consideration of the huge issues raised by the Soviet rummaging in Pandora's box.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 84150
By WLG Lewis HARS, Date Jan 29, 1985

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WILLIAM H. DARDEN, CHIEF CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

February 21, 1952

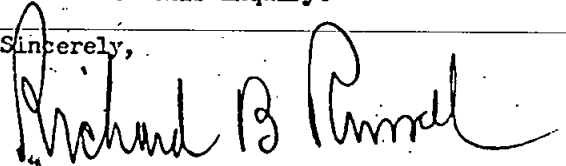
Honorable Thomas K. Finletter
Secretary of the Air Force
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Members of the Committee on Armed Services have expressed a desire to be informed of Air Force evaluation of recent news articles concerning the observation of "flying saucers" by combat airmen in the Far East.

I shall appreciate your furnishing for the use of the Committee an official report of these observations, together with your evaluation thereof and such other information as you deem pertinent to this inquiry.

Sincerely,



U.S. Air Force Intelligence Files (P. 631) 1/25/52

28 February. Project CHARLES.

The revitalization of GRUDGE was evidently linked to a major effort to boost the Air Defense Command, a project CHARLES. It might surprise the reader of these words to learn that the U.S. had its problems with its most reliable allies, Canada and Britain. (See pages 16-21)

? March. State of Georgia, U.S.A. (daytime?)

Tear in balloon.

According to our source:

“Colonel [?] Goddard, Chief of the Air Force Photo Reconnaissance Laboratory, reported that three of his men flying a B-29 were tracking a weather balloon over Georgia on (exact date unknown). Suddenly an unidentified flying object appeared and flew alongside the balloon. After a few moments the object dived and made a pass at the balloon, then proceeded to disappear [out of sight or faded?]. When the balloon was recovered it had a six foot tear in it. Colonel Goddard’s men believe this unidentified flying object made the tear in the balloon. Goddard vouched for his men making the report, stating that they were highly experienced and reliable Air Force personnel.” (xx.)

(xx.) Documentary movie *UFO*, 1956. Robert Gribble’s files.

? March. Naval Air Station, Barber’s Point, Oahu, Hawaii. (between 3-4:00 a.m.)

Domed circular object:

“While serving in the Navy, James Kuenzle was reporting for watch in the early morning hours, when suddenly he noticed a very bright object hovering over the airstrip [about 150 feet up and the same distance away].

“The object was circular with a flat bottom, tapered sides, and a dome on top. The entire object glowed with a blue-white light. In spite of the intense light, Mr. Kuenzle was able to observe the solid mass of the object.

“He studied its characteristics for 3 minutes as it hovered motionless [He estimated the object’s diameter as 50-60 feet across], then it moved out to sea at a fantastic speed. During the entire sighting, no noise was heard.

“Other seamen, already on watch, reported seeing the same object, but were ordered not to say anything to anyone. Mr. Kuenzle did not report this sighting at the time. Enclosed is a sketch drawn by Mr. Kuenzle of the object.” (xx.) (The sketch is shown on page 22)

(xx.) APRO UFO report form. Witness: James Kuenzle. 9821 East Concord. St. Louis, Missouri. 63128. Investigator: John Preisack. 2683 Bonusiol Drive, Oakville, Missouri. 63129. Date of interview: 3 January 70. APRO files. Photocopy in author’s files.

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority W.D. 813053
 By K.C. NEARA/Dzie 8/1/92

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 MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

TOP SECRET
 AUTH GS, USAF

RBB

AFOIN-P/MIC
 Col. Bliss/cw/72790
 28 Feb 52

PROBLEM:

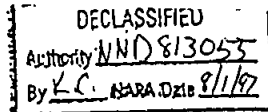
1. To reply to DCS/O Memorandum dated 25 February 1952, pertaining to U.K. proposal to hold a joint conference on air defense matters and to include discussing "Project Charles".

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. Project assigned to Colonel Bliss at 1230 hours, 26 February 1952.
3. "Project Charles" was jointly sponsored by the Air Force, Army and Navy and will extend into phase 3 to be known as "Project Lincoln". Major emphasis on "Project Charles" was given to the defense of the continental U. S. against air attack.
4. "Project Charles" contains detailed discussions on the following and other subjects, and deals primarily with our problems of detection and control relating to the air defense of U.S., directed toward correcting known weaknesses and exploiting technological advances.
 5. Such highlighted weaknesses include:
 - a. Present chaos of unidentified flights of civil, as well as military aircraft permitted under our present operational procedures.
 - b. Inadequate tracking capacity for a heavy raid.
 - c. Deficiencies in our detection and identification procedures.
 - d. The insufficient off-shore radar coverage and indicating the number and location of picket vessels required.
 - e. The dangerous features of our present network in its poor performance against low altitude attack.
 - f. The poor organization and inadequate equipment of our Ground Observer Corps.

Page 1 of 6 Pages
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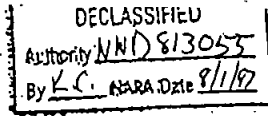
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- g. Insufficient armament of our interceptors.
- h. Inadequacies of ground to air weapons.
- i. No foreseeable air defense system will achieve total annihilation of an attacking force.
- j. The real danger with respect to "boundaries of responsibility", such as between U.S. forces and NATO nations, between Canada and U.S., between Air Force and Navy, and between Federal and State Agencies.
- k. Unlikelihood of our intelligence activities to produce the required warning.
- l. Lack of adequate U.S. and Canadian Radar Detection Stations (a map is included showing locations of actual and recommended installations throughout the U.S. and Canada).
- m. Critical target areas so near the coast that shore based AC&W stations cannot furnish sufficient coverage.
- n. Actual locations of our gaps in both high and low detection coverage.
- o. Delay in first reporting process.
- p. Problem of filtering for identity and selection purposes, the radar blips.
- q. Imperfections in the air situation picture at the ADCC.
- r. Improper control of local air defense weapons.
- s. Knowledge of enemy electronics equipment.
- t. Electronic countermeasures.
- u. Counter - countermeasures.
- v. Passive defense.
- w. Manpower and training.
- x. Electromagnetic radiation control.

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6. In addition to the weaknesses highlighted above, "Project Charles" also covers in Volume III:

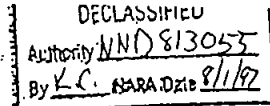
- a. Vulnerability of the U.S. to enemy air attack.
- b. Selected critical economic targets ("Vertical" bombing of our industry and stockpiles).
 - (1) b above, goes into detail on the specific vulnerability of certain basic industries, such as steel, oil, aluminum, etc.
- c. Population bombing (destruction of homes and human casualties, and its possible strategic effects in distorting our efforts.
- d. Dispersal - its cost, effects, sizes of plants, etc.
- e. Steel industry, by name, location of plant and output capacity of each plant plus total U.S. production.
 - (1) Amount in millions of dollars for new steel plant construction and their locations.
- f. Same compilations of information on the oil refining and aluminum industries as given on the steel industry.
- g. The steel and oil industries vulnerability to submarine attack, showing locations, capacities and attack potentialities.
- h. Capacity of our construction industry relative to the dispersal of population.
- i. Fire effects of bombing and defense of civilian population.

7. "Project Charles" during the discussions of the above weaknesses offers various recommendations for correcting the deficiencies. In addition other corrective measures are recommended to improve the overall air defense system, such as:

- a. Modifying organizational and technical structures.
- b. A centralized system involving such apparatus as a high speed electronic digital computer.
- c. Use of the interceptor as the most vital weapon, it being the most formidable and most versatile solution to the defense problem.

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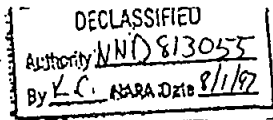
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- d. Armament requirement of interceptors.
 - e. R & D in various fields, such as guided missile and armaments requiring intensified effort.
 - f. Dispersal of our industry.
 - g. Required additional locations for U. S. and Canadian radar detection stations.
 - h. Possible remedies for communications and capacities.
 - i. Improvement of ground radar equipment.
 - j. Performance requirements of the system.
 - k. Ground Observer Corps requirements.
8. The U.K. requested twelve copies each of these documents from AMC on 10 October 1951; AMC referred BJSM to this Headquarters.
9. On 14 December 1951, BJSM requested the Foreign Liaison Branch for four copies each, which was denied by letter on 31 January 1952, as information falling within a declared field of the Burns-Templer Agreement. DCS/Development substantiated this denial.
10. U.K. has denied the U.S. a copy of their comparable study called "Plan Rotor" because of the sensitivity of the information and accordingly were reluctant to release it to the USAF.
11. This problem is closely related to the recent case involving U.K. Exchange Officers assigned to ADC.
12. The USAF has requested S-D MIC to establish an interpretation or "yardstick" defining just what constitutes "information relating to the defense of the Western Hemisphere", as currently stipulated in the U. S. Disclosure Policy as being non-releasable to U.K. Further, such information is a "declared field" in the Burns-Templer Agreement and also has been agreed between U.S. and Canada as non-releasable information.
13. In addition to the three military services attempting to arrive at their own criteria for presentation to the S-D MIC, that Committee has referred the matter also to the U.S-U.K. Permanent Joint Board on Defense for comments and recommendations.

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14. It is generally agreed by all concerned that there is a need to re-examine this phase of our policy with a view toward redefining just what information on Western Hemisphere matters should be non-releasable. However, it is a safe conclusion that the policy, even if relaxed, will never be so loose as to permit the release of this type of information in its entirety as contained in "Project Charles".

15. Our National Policy has not yet been changed; accordingly, this report is not releasable in its entirety. Further, since it is of joint Army, Navy and Air Force interest, Concurrence of Army and Navy on its release by documentary or oral means is required. In addition, Canada should be consulted.

16. There is no question but what the U. S. could gain somewhat from an operational point of view by discussing certain air defense problems with U.K. However, this report in itself is evidence that the U.S. has some competent "brains" in this field and we are not entirely dependent on U.K.'s experience gained in World War II. In fact, it would appear that U.K. can learn a great deal from "Project Charles", and it is believed for that reason the U.K. is desirous of discussing it.

17. The specific problems facing this nation and the Western Hemisphere with respect to defending itself against attack should be zealously safeguarded from anyone not having a "need to know". This includes U.K., for they do not have any need to know for our war plans and defense weaknesses.

18. In view of the above facts, it was planned to recommend to General White that discussions be permitted with U.K. but confined to (see par 6 - Memo).

19. On 26 February 1952, Colonel Bliss presented the problem before S-D MIC. Army, Navy and ~~STATE~~ voted against releasing or discussing the documents with U.K.

20. At 0845, 28 February 1952, Captain Duffill and Mr. Cope, ONI, called and advised that the Navy Project Officer on "Project Charles" had received a request from BJSM for copies of the report. This request was submitted about the same time as the one to the Air Force. The Air Force denied their request; however, Captain Duffill stated that the Navy had released several copies to U.K. during November 1951. He further stated Army or Air Force had not been consulted and admitted the release was a mistake and a violation of policy.

21. Colonel Bliss advised General Samford on 28 February 1952,

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2 - 2261

of Navy's release and it was decided that our planned action was no longer feasible since U. K. had the information.

RECOMMENDATION:

22. That attached Memorandum to General White be signed and dispatched by AFOIN.

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Page 6 of 6 Pages
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SECURITY INFORMATION



Mr. James Kuenzle
9821 East Concord
St. Louis, Mo. 63128

Case No. 1
Reported By
John C. Preisack
2683 Baltusrol Dr.
Oakville, Mo. 63129

Spring, 1952. "A large air base in central New England." (about 3:00 a.m.)

"Radar ghost."

Report to APRO:

"One evening during a night shift as Control Tower Operator, a buddy of mine who was radar operator on the same shift, called me rather excitedly on the intercom and asked me if I could see any object in the sky about 15 miles Southwest of the field [according to this witness the weather was clear except for some high scattered clouds].

"Using a pair of powerful binoculars I carefully scanned the sky in that direction and assured him that I could see nothing. It was then that he told me why he was so concerned. For several minutes he had tracked an object on radar, then all of a sudden it had stopped at a range of about 15 miles and remained stationary on the scope. Being an experienced radar operator he knew that whatever it was it was of good size, what amazed him was the fact that it stopped and remained motionless on his scope.

"A full half hour passed and still this object remained fixed in the same position on the radar screen. At this point I contacted an inbound aircraft, that would be passing near this object on radar, and asked the pilot if he would mind changing course slightly to take a look for us on the way in. I then turned him over to the radar operator who gave the pilot a new heading that would bring him directly toward this object on the radar scope.

"The aircraft got onto a line that would intersect the 'blip' on the scope, then as the minutes passed the aircraft slowly approached the object, both blips were equally bright and distinct. Then when it seemed that the two would collide, at about a half mile separation on the scope, the stationary object simply disappeared—vanished, seconds before the big transport reached its position. The crew of the plane saw nothing, and the object never returned. The puzzling part is why did it disappear precisely when it did?" (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: APRO. P.O. Box 358. Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. From: Norman Dean. 2 Davis Avenue, Danielson, Connecticut. 8 April 54. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

March. *Fantasic Adventures*. "Flying Saucers: Russia's Secret Weapon."

America is in big trouble when its worst enemy, Stalin and the Communists, become partners with the "Little Green Men." (See cover of the sci-fi pulp *Fantasic Adventures* on page 24)

Spring 1952. Near Nash, Texas. (about 7:00 a.m.)

Huge ball covered with flames.

Our source states:

"This took place in the early spring of 1952. I was stationed at Red River Arsenal which is located about 25 miles west of Texarkana, Texas. I lived off the base in Texarkana and rode back and forth with another person.

"On this particular morning around 0700 we were on our way out to the Arsenal. We had just passed through Nash, Texas. I was looking ahead to the west. It was a clear morning and the sun hadn't come up yet. I saw something in the sky west of us maybe five miles away. It was coming toward us at a fast speed. At first it looked like a plane on fire covered completely with flames. It kept coming at a very low altitude maybe 500 feet and kept growing in size. When it got closer I knew it wasn't a plane on fire or any thing like I have ever seen before. It was a huge ball covered with flames. When it got real close it looked like a ball about 100 feet in diameter with dozens of single fountains like flames spouting out its sides five or six feet. Each individual fountain of flame was of a solid color. [There were] yellow, orange, green, blue all mixed up in solid colors. The strange thing about it was that the fountain of flame wasn't effected by the speed it was traveling. It just spouted out straight like coming out of a gas orfits [?]. And wasn't bent or distorted in any way. You would think there was some kind of invisible shield or force surrounding the ball.

"To illustrate what it looked like take a styrofoam ball of about eight inches and insert several dozen golf tees into it, they represent the fountains of flame, or if you have ever seen a porcupine balloon fish with its needles sticking straight out that will also give you an idea.

"Now when this ball passed over head it didn't make any kind of noise at all. Then it made a 90-degree turn to the north and took off like a bullet with a tail of flame trailing out the back end and was out of sight in a couple of seconds.

"It was seen by many people on their way to the Arsenal and was reported in the Texarkana news papers. They said it was a meteor, I didn't believe till this day. (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: NICAP. 1536 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington 6, D.C. From: Frank Van Kouran. 2200 South King Street. No date. NICAP files. Photocopy in author's files.

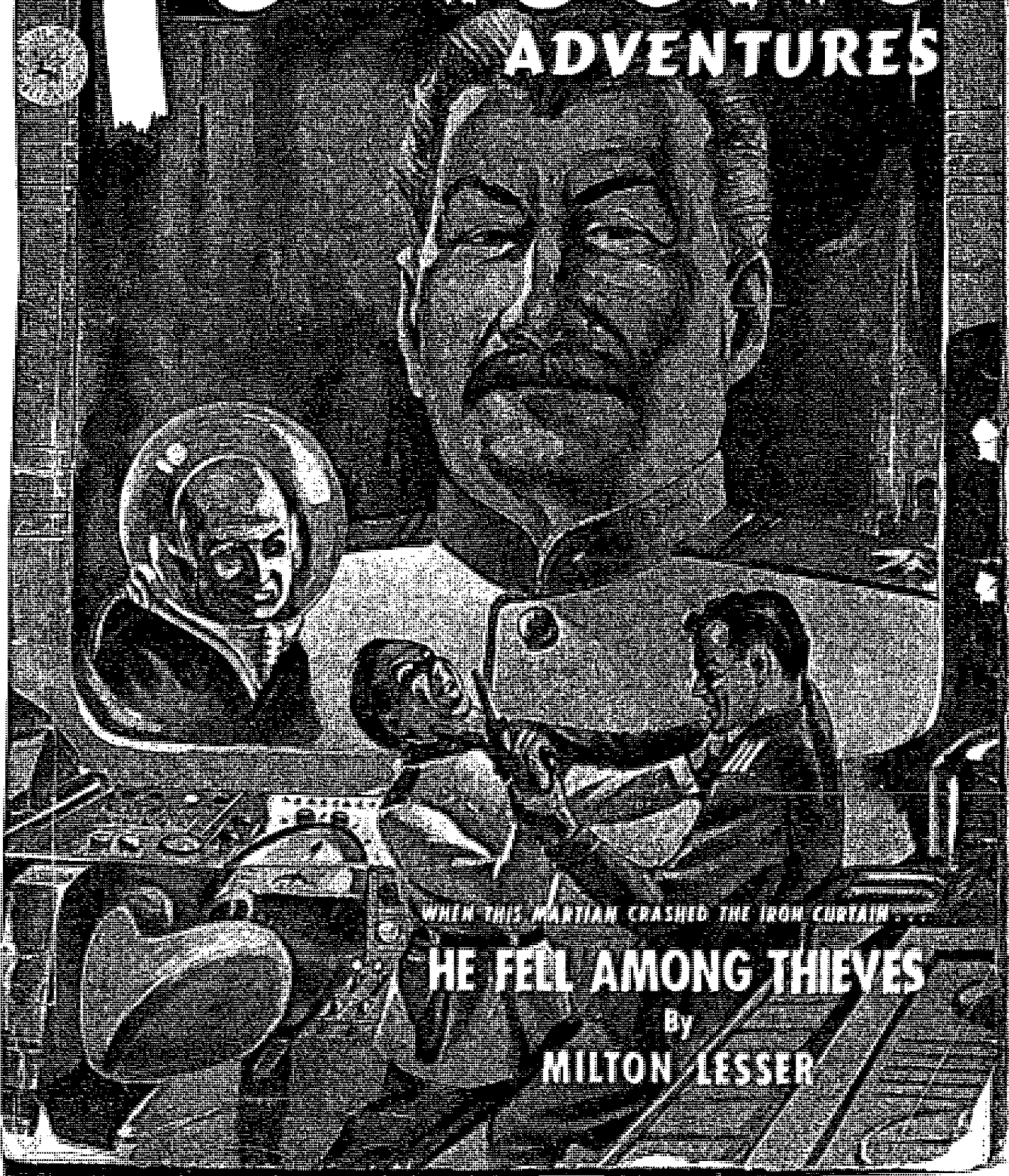
24

MARCH
25c

FLYING SAUCERS: RUSSIA'S SECRET WEAPON?

fantastic

ADVENTURES



WHEN THIS MARTIAN CRASHED THE IRON CURTAIN...

HE FELL AMONG THIEVES

By
MILTON LESSER

4 March. Air Force reply to Senator Russell.

Like similar responses to the public, the Air Force stressed possible prosaic explanations. (See document on pages 26-27) (xx.)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files. (R.G. 341) January-June, 1952.

22 March. Yakima, Washington. (6:56 p.m.-7:16 p.m.)

Radar visual. One of Dr. Willy Smith's BLUE BOOK "Pearls." Dr. Smith's "pearls" were the better cases to be found in Air Force BLUE BOOK files. (See page 28) (xx.)

(xx.) Document from Dr. Willy Smith's files now in the author's files.

28? March. The ADC's great need for data.

The air defense of North America was so precarious the military was now willing to reach out to civilian sources to develop pertinent investigative actions. A new Air Force Letter, to be merely classified RESTRICTED instead of CONFIDENTIAL to allow wider distribution, was drafted. A memo discussing the proposed AFL said in part:

"Inasmuch as instructions for reported information on unidentified flying objects are applicable to all units, overseas and ZI, and are near-permanent in nature, it is considered appropriate that they should be issued as a number Air Force Letter. This, in addition to other benefits, will insure distribution to all levels of command. wide distribution of reporting requirements are needed at this time, especially in view of *Life* magazine's recent feature which requests civilians to report such information to the nearest Air Force base." (xx.)

(xx.) Memorandum for Record. From: AFOIN-C/CC -9 Maj. Harlow. To: AFOIN-C
No date except a reference to March 28th. U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files.
(R.G. 341) January-June, 1952.

31 March. Possible declassification of BLUE BOOK material.

In order to "expedite securing of information on new incidents" it was suggested that project BLUE BOOK (as it was now known with the code word GRUDGE discarded) be declassified as much as possible. (See disposition form on page 29) (xx.)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files. (R.G. 341) January-June, 1952.

? April. Near Newman, New Mexico. (dusk)

UFO report by Dr. Louis W. Breck:

"In April of 1952, I was driving on U.S. Highway 54 about four miles north east of Newman, New Mexico (Newman is northeast of El Pasco on the New

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
 By W.G. Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985

Evaluation of News Articles Concerning Observation of Flying Saucers

Directorate of Legislation and Liaison
 ATTN: Analysis Division

4 - MAR 1952
 1 (Contd)

Director of Intelligence, DCS/O

Col J.G. Eriksen/vb/52466
 AFOIN-V/TC

fighters are arranged in a cluster on each side of the fuselage, and it is believed that the exhaust emanating from this installation, when seen at night, would give an illusion such as described in the reports received.

- (2) There have been several reports in the last few months of searchlights attached to jet and piston engine conventional aircraft which have intercepted F-84 bombers over Korea. These identifications have been stated to be positive in most instances. The use of such an airborne searchlight attached to a conventional aircraft on a very dark night would be a second possible explanation of the above incidents, since the attention of the crew would most probably be focused on the light source and this fact coupled with the difficulty of discerning an aircraft silhouette, under extremely poor light conditions, could conceivably account for a report of this nature.

H. J. KIELING
 Colonel, USAF
 Executive
 Directorate of Intelligence

No M/R necessary

OFFICE SYMBOL	1 AFOIN-V	2 AFOIN-A	3 AFOIN	4	5	6
Signature of Responsible Officer	<i>Robert Hartman</i>		<i>H. J. Kieling</i>			
Internal Office Coordination		<i>6/10/52 USAF</i>				

BLUE BOOK PEARLS

YAKIMA, WA

THE INCIDENT

Just after sunset on March 22, 1952 the radar at McChord AFB picked up an unknown target near Yakima, WA. According to the log the track was picked up at 0205Z and faded at 0213Z; the altitude of the target was given as approximately 35,000 ft. A F-94 fighter was scrambled at 0233Z arriving in the area at about 0243Z. Two visual contacts were obtained at 0256Z and 0316Z as estimated by the pilot; each view lasted 45 seconds. Both times the intercepting aircraft was turned toward the object in an attempt to have the radar observer pick it up. However, as he was under the hood he did not observe the target visually and also failed to pick it up on his scope.

The data for the two visual sightings are summarized in the following table:

Sighting	Plane altitude ft.	Plane heading magnetic	Time PST	Time ZULU
First	22500	30 deg.	18:56	0256
Second	25000	180 deg.	19:16	0316

TABLE 1

During both sightings the object appeared about 10 degrees above a level line of sight. The air speed of the aircraft (TAS) is given as 360 knots. The chase was terminated at about 0322Z.

OUTSTANDING FEATURES

The report of this case was found accidentally while perusing the BB files¹ and has some interesting characteristics which make it outstanding among the hundreds of irrelevant cases which clutter the official records.

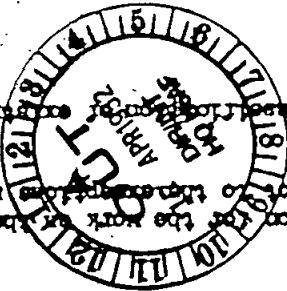
1) It is a radar visual (RV) incident, and an odd one at that: the radar involved was the ground radar, and the visual observation was made by the pilot of the F-94 fighter²

2) It appears as only one line in the May 1952 STATUS REPORT of the former Project GRUDGE³, but interestingly enough is the only one of 18 cases listed there that is classified as SECRET. The Blue Book files also contain a letter authorizing the change of classification from SECRET to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of AF Form 112⁴. Thus, the pilot deposition is not in the files, and we can only wonder what crucial information was contained there.

3) The body of the report contains enough information, obviously based on documents not now in the files. Moreover, the file also includes a very detailed and revealing map to be discussed below.

4) This is practically an unknown case, not mentioned in Ruppelt⁵, or for that matter, anywhere in the literature

2. Blanket authority cannot be given for the declassification of existing files
 paragraph 1 of Comment #1.
 1. The Directorate of Intelligence has no objection to the work on the subject project to be conducted on an unclassified basis, subject to the exceptions noted in



TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
 Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio
 FROM: AF01N-A Lt. Col. Bishop/55988
 Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
 From Hq., USAF
 Comment No. 2
 17 APR 1952
 FRANK L. DURN, Colonel USAF
 Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
 S/ Ray W. Taylor

4. The work of the project as a whole will be greatly facilitated if it can be conducted upon an unclassified basis with the exceptions noted in paragraph 1 above.

3. What amounts to declassification of this project, upon a temporary and informal basis, has taken place a number of times in the past through the giving of special permission by Hq USAF to various members of the press to examine project records. Such requests are increasing. It is extremely difficult to justify the giving of information to one without making it available to all.

2. Renewed emphasis upon this project makes it necessary that work be carried on directly with individuals of the public not cleared for security such as members of the Airline Pilots Association and the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association. It will also be necessary in future, to expedite securing of information on new incidents, for investigators to interrogate civilian witnesses and keep results of such interrogation upon an unclassified basis.

1. Request consideration be given to the declassification of existing files on Project BLUE BOOK (formerly Project GRUDGE), and future operations of the project, with the exception of those portions directly concerning intelligence sources and methods.

TO: AF01N-A
 Attn: Brig Gen. Garland
 From ATIC
 Date: 31 MAR 1952
 Lt. Col. Taylor/Im
 5210/Bldg. 263/2d Fl

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Declassification of Project BLUE BOOK Material

DISPOSITION FORM

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Mexico/Texas state line). It was dusk and almost dark. A long way in the distance between the Franklin Mountains and the Oregon Mountains, I sighted a yellow disk. I was traveling at a high rate of speed. I gradually slowed down intending to make a stop and look for the object carefully. As I was slowing down the object suddenly went straight up at an enormous rate of speed and soon disappeared entirely from sight about the time I got stopped. I did not have binoculars. It would have been impossible to photograph the object. I would describe the color as yellow orange. I looked around for about two minutes, saw nothing else, and since I was in a hurry to proceed to my destination in El Paso, I went on home.

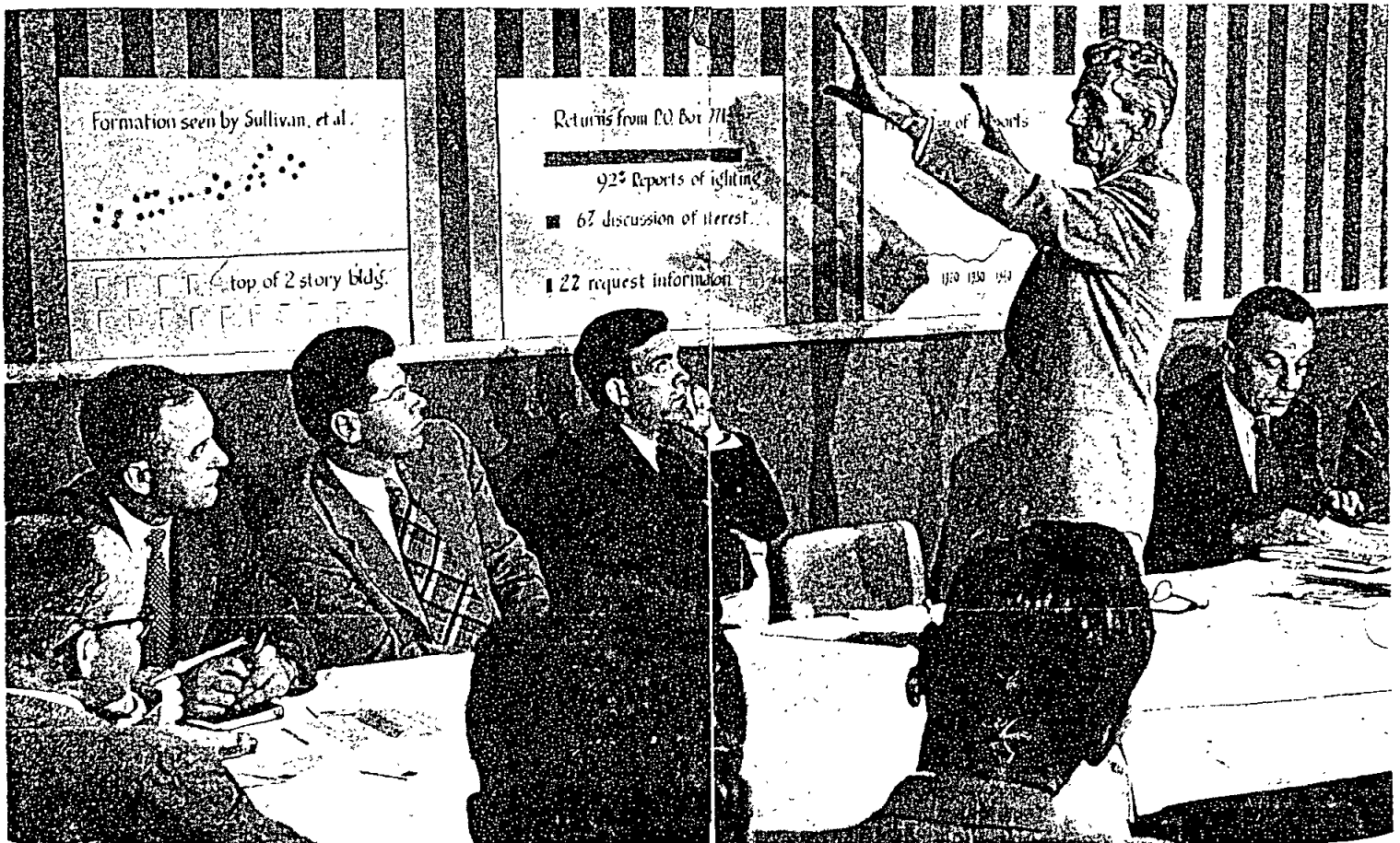
"Upon arriving home I telephoned the Biggs Air Force Base here and asked for the UFO Center. They informed me there was no Center but that an enlisted man took reports of such sightings. I reported the sighting to him and he recorded it. I asked if anyone else had seen it and he said not that he knew of. That was the end of the entire matter as far as I was concerned." (xx.)

(xx.) APRO report. "Sighting by Louis W. Breck, M.D." USA Newman, N. Mex. 52-4-. Photocopy in author's files.

2 April. "Minutes of meeting of Civilian Saucer Investigations held Wednesday, April 2, 1952, 8:00 p.m., in the Mayfair Hotel, Los Angeles, California."

Transcript of tape recording. (See pages 31-48)

2 April. Picture of CSI meeting in *Life* magazine. (See below) Sullivan standing



MINUTES OF MEETING OF CIVILIAN SAUCER INVESTIGATIONS HELD
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1952, 8:00 PM, IN THE MAYFAIR HOTEL, LOS
 ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, E.J. Sullivan, who introduced Col. Kirkland and Lt. Ruppelt, representatives of Air Technical Command.

1. Col. Kirkland: When we first heard of your group, we were very eager to get out and meet you and let you know what we are trying to do. The Air Force has gone through a series of attitudes on these gadgets. Lt. Ruppelt and I have not been with it very long; however, we were in the Technical Intelligence Center when the interest seemed to be renewed in this thing. In surveying the situation at that time, we found that there was a record of around 800 cases. Many of them had not been evaluated. The general effort seemed to be to prove that these things were known objects - planes, balloons, etc. The official attitude of the Air Force is that we would like to know what they are. We don't want to get caught in the trap of the gentleman who came out and said they were all Skyhook balloons. It is obvious that they cover too wide a range to be pinned on only one thing.

The effort that we are making now is to get more facts. We don't know what these things are - we haven't the slightest idea. In skimming through the LIFE article, I noticed one conclusion that we had not been able to reach, and that is the indication that these things are made by some intelligence that we do not understand. In the history of this project we have attempted to use specialists in various fields. To date, nothing significant has come out of our investigation. We have felt that we should have available a group of scientists as a sort of panel that we can call on. In other words, when we have a case that might be of interest to a man in a certain area, we can throw it to him. It might be if the green fireballs were given to a scientist and he was turned loose on the case, the results would be different. We welcome any suggestion as to how we can get more facts. We don't hear of all the cases. There is a report system set up for them, however, and if anyone who sees unidentifiable objects in the air would report to the nearest Air Force Base, the information would get to us. About 15% of the total reports defy explanation. They defy it possibly because we don't have enough facts. But we won't know until we get the facts.

2. Lt. Ruppelt: We are trying to adopt a policy not to be influenced by the fact that previous ideas have been that everything is balloons or that everybody is crazy who reports them. We are trying to keep on the straight and narrow. We have never had enough data to say that there was something. There is always one or two factors missing that we have to have. We have never had an altitude measure on anything. I'm very familiar with all reports in the last year. We have never had one on which they could get triangulation from two stations at once. If something is over 5,000 feet and you don't know how big it is, you don't have any idea how high it is. The final key factor is somebody's judgement. We are not saying that these people are not good judges, but we want the facts down in black and white. The first thing we are going to do is use a diffraction grating to try to determine the composition of these things. If we can get photographs of light sightings, that will give us a spectrum - a good lead. If these lights are not meteors, we can

go to radar or other devices like that. We have never had a visual sighting and a radar sign together. We have had ground sightings and sent fighters up. The fighters get a return but they have never been able to see what they got the return from. We have had two or three in Oak Ridge like that. One good sighting we had was in Dayton where some airline pilots reported seeing this object and it turned out that it was a very thin layer of ice clouds. At the same time Venus was very outstanding in that part of the sky. The pilots were seeing Venus and the radar scope was picking up the ice clouds.

We have thought of trying to tie in cameras with the radar sets. Then if we get any image at all on the film we will know that the radar is actually picking up an image. But we haven't got any cases at all where we have concrete facts.

This picture in LIFE of the V-shaped lights is a good finding. We don't see that these people aren't being truthful about these pictures. But we don't have any pictures taken under controlled conditions, and we have to have pictures taken under such conditions so that we know how they were done. We have taken some at White Sands, but it is difficult to tell whether they were meteors. These things may look like meteors and yet they may not be meteors. The only thing we have on night objects is the word of the observer. There is a whole set of unknowns that come in on a sighting of that type. All we want is good cold facts, and we are open to any suggestions. We are not trying to pull the idea that these things might come from Russia or that they might be interplanetary - we just plain don't know. We need facts to back up the money we have spent on this thing. We have developed a reporting system in the Air Force that has been in force for the last five years. In the last two years, most of our reports have come from military sources. In many cases, we have been able to pin down these objects as weather balloons.

There has been a lot of controversy on the case where pilots saw this thing in Alabama. Astronomers say they think a lot of the details are imagined. Now I don't know. I'm not going to take a side on that. I talked to one pilot about two months ago who gave the Air Force the very devil for shooting missiles in the airways. I never did convince him that it was not one of our missiles they were test firing over the center of Michigan. This is the impression some pilots get from these things. I would like to be very fair with these things and figure out every angle.

3. Col. Kirkland: One way we have been handling the material is by breaking it down into types and locations, etc. We have in the file all those cases that are definitely explained. Then there is a smaller group definitely unexplained. Then there is a segment that might be explained. Getting into the cost angle, it is awfully difficult when you consider that the chance of seeing one of these things is pretty slim. A radar sighting, unless it is of a known object, means nothing. One way electronics people rule it out, in addition to getting an actual photograph, is to have two sets on different frequencies picking up the same thing. These are the types of problems that we are running into. It is difficult for us to say that we are convinced the problem is so serious that we have

got to have every radar set focussed on this job. What we are doing now is on a limited basis. But if we find we are not getting any facts, we will go a little bit further.

4. Lt. Ruppelt: We have about 800 reports that have come in since 1947. We are going around the country to all the Government agencies that might have received reports that we have never gotten and filing these in one location. In 1947, more reports came from Washington and Oregon. In 1948, they seemed to move over to the east coast to a certain extent. For the rest of the time, they seemed to spread out over the United States. There is concentration around Oak Ridge, Los Alamos, White Sands, Dayton and Columbus. There are concentrations to a certain extent around the port areas such as New Orleans, New York, San Francisco. We don't know what that might mean. White Sands and Albuquerque area is the most logical place for us to start putting out our cameras, and that is where we are going to put them.

We have broken these things down according to shape. I think about 27% are this familiar saucer shape or sphere. That type of report has dropped off. We have a certain percentage (35%) that could very well be meteors or bright stars. About 2% could actually be some sort of aircraft like delta-wing. About 5% are groups of lights, About 10% are cigar-shaped or rocket-shaped articles. Any bright light that is moving through the sky will burn an image on your eye and be elongated. About 15% are just miscellaneous - just anything you can imagine. We have attempted to establish some kind of pattern for these, but we have so many shapes that it is a little difficult. Lights at night are very common. We get reports of those all the time.

This green fireball is the only type of sighting that consistently sets the same pattern all the way along. This is the first thing we are going to put our diffraction grating to work on. They seem to run in cycles. December and January seem to be the big months. I happened to see one like that down in Texas. They are very impressive. In fact they scare you. One idea is that they are something tied in with the aurora. Another suggestion is that it is a new kind of meteor that we have never heard of before, and that is possible. Even well-known astronomers feel that there is enough unknown about these things that we should concentrate on them, and we are going to do that.

4 The big percentage of the reports fall in the civilian category but a good many have been reported by Air Force pilots. About 5% are by scientists at White Sands, and people in that category. We are sincerely interested in those. We have a few reports from civilian pilots flying across country. We feel that military personnel are fairly reliable observers. When they send in reports through Air Force channels, it eliminates all possibility of a joke. If those military people ever got caught joking through channels !

A lot of people have been very interested in the 90-degree turns that these things make and a number of G's they pull in making those turns. The few saucer shapes we have had reported have actually turned out to be balloons. A balloon going up will appear to be flat. But the old standard report of a definite saucer shape has fallen off a lot. We have attempted to go into a little survey and find out whether these reports actually started in 1947 or whether people just became conscious of them and started to report them then. If we can't find a mention anywhere of these things before 1947, it must be that

they did start to occur in 1947. This book by Charles Fort - we have had a couple of astronomers look that over. They can't disprove that stuff, but they can't prove it in black and white either.

5. Knoll: Are his sources of information authentic?
6. Ruppelt: That we have not yet been able to check. But we thought we would check it.
7. Williams: We have received a few scattered letters of reports seen years ago.
8. Ruppelt: It is possible we will get those too. We threw away a lot of letters we got with similar information. One reason that we didn't want much publicity on this is because of the crackpot letters. It's our policy to answer every letter we get no matter what it says. We do get some reputable letters mixed in with the crackpot letters. We didn't have too many reputable letters with reports dated back before 1947. We had one from a mountaineer in Tennessee sitting before his fireplace and a wheel of fire went through his front room and he got over his arthritis. We get some reports from all over the world. I would say that one of every twenty comes from outside the U.S.
9. Ireman: What is the frequency of sightings now?
10. Ruppelt: There is some semblance of a pattern on the frequency of these things. We haven't had any luck on pinning them down. We checked with the atomic bomb tests to see if there was any correlation but there wasn't. Incidentally, we are going to start putting this stuff on IBM cards because we have got so much that we can't handle them with the card index that we have now.
11. Kirkland: People have come up with all sorts of ideas on correlations. One fellow we met said he had found that those cases he knew of all occurred at high and low tides. In checking this, we found no correlation. But there are all sorts of ideas.
12. Ruppelt: We have very little data we can go on except these trends in checks. If we plot these things, we have a peak, then a dead spot, then another peak. I don't know why that is. One thing is that in the last three years there has been very little newspaper publicity on this. But reports continue to come in to us at about the same rate. We can't pin down why that is unless it is something that occurs on some definite cycle.
13. Kirkland: We've had several reports a week over the past years. We don't have exact figures. I frequently pick up a paper and see of a sighting that we never hear about. There was interesting one over Columbus a few weeks ago that was explained by the newspapers. As many of you are aware, airline pilots are rather reluctant to report these things. They feel it might reflect on them in some way. Many of us have talked to various airline pilots we know and we find that they have seen things we couldn't explain but they didn't report them.
14. Nelson: This tone has run through a lot of our letters: "I haven't mentioned this to anyone because they would call me nuts, so I'm writing to you."

15. Ruppelt: The rumor has it that these airline pilots see a lot of things. We are going to try to work with the airlines and work out some kind of system so that the pilot's names will never appear on the reports. In certain instances we have known that a pilot has seen something and we will go and talk to the pilot and he will deny ever having seen anything.
16. Ireman: Did these things ever go into any final action that fits into a pattern?
17. Kirkland: No, except in specific types such as the green fireballs.
18. Ireman: Was there a pattern of the saucers blowing up?
19. Kirkland: There were cases of these things blowing up, but not many of them.
20. Williams: Did you ever run down the Farmington deal? It occurred two years ago this March for three days overhead. About two-thirds of the total population got out in the streets about noon each day and they saw hundreds of objects overhead. We have never been able to get information from the newspaper editor who reported them. He is still working there and we had actually wondered if he had been shut up by some governmental agency.
21. Ruppelt: We have never to my knowledge, told anybody not to talk about what they saw. We have told people not to go out and make a big deal out of it. And I can say that the FBI is not in on this. We won't call in the FBI because we just don't operate that way.
22. Knoll: Did you ever find how the farmer in Portland who took a picture got his picture?
23. Ruppelt: No. And the one up in Oregon where the guys picked up part of one and were flying back with them and their plane disappeared - that was hoax. The guy dreamed up the whole story. Two guys in a plane were definitely killed, but there was no connection with the flying saucers. It was just one of those things that happened. As a last resort, when somebody dreams up a story like this, we will go and talk to them and say now if you confess to us we will keep it confidential. We have done that in several cases.
- Our photographs that we do put some faith in never have enough details that we can tell what they are.
24. Bryson: How did you get your best pictures so far?
25. Ruppelt: I think these Lubbock pictures are the best we have ever received. This kid seemed to be very honest about the whole thing. The only thing that worried me was that his father was with him every time we talked to him. He may have started out as a joke and just been afraid to back out.
26. Sullivan: One interesting thing is that these lights are almost heart-shaped. In some letters we have gotten, the writer has gone to great lengths to draw exactly the same shape.
27. Ruppelt: Are you familiar with the fact that the college professor

says
/these pictures are fakes?

28. Ireman: How did the intensities compare?
29. Ruppelt: We checked intensities thoroughly. Roughly they compare to a bright planet at night.
30. Ireman: How did you hope to get a spectrum on these objects moving?
31. Kirkland: We have that in the hands of one of the professors who is working on it now. They haven't given it a trial yet - they don't know.
32. Ruppelt: We are going on the basis of these visual reports the people have been comparing in intensities with the full moon. If they get much dimmer, we are out of luck.
33. Ireman: I'm very much impressed with the lack of intensity. Those measurements in the hands of inexperienced people will, I believe, make the program a very tough one to carry out.
34. Kirkland: It is going to be rather interesting to follow it because so far they are pretty encouraging. If we get anything even approaching the light of the moon, we have got something.
35. Knoll: Is the Air Force or any agency concerned with trying to establish positively that there are two asteroids in the orbit of the earth - small bodies that might be ideal as a space station. They might be artificially placed there. If that is true, wouldn't it pay to observe these bodies with first class telescopes?
36. Ruppelt: The Air Force, in another project, does have astronomers working on various things, and I think if that existed they are aware of it and are working on it. That has been given some thought.
37. Knoll: Another hypothesis would be whether the moon has been used as a space station. It would be the first natural stop for somebody coming from outer space.
38. Nelson: Was any correlation made of the frequency of these sightings with Earth's position to other planets?
39. Ruppelt: That was taken up several years ago. I forget the results but it was nothing outstanding because we would have remembered it. Getting back to your question, Mr. Knoll, I can't answer that.
40. Bryson: Have you ever had any reports from personnel who work on the mountain of Palomar?
41. Ruppelt: No, we haven't. We have never ^{checked} there officially, however. We had a report from a very reliable astronomer. Another place we haven't had any reports from are those cosmic ray stations that are spread up and down the Rockies.
42. Ireman: A lot of those people are reluctant to discuss things. Have they been alerted?
43. Ruppelt: No, they have never been officially alerted.

44. Bryson: Could you give us any details on the pictures that were taken from an Arctic station of a trail burned through an overcast?
45. Ruppelt: That was looked at by astronomers and they all agree that it was a large fireball.
46. Bryson: Do you mean comet or fireball?
47. Ruppelt: Well, I don't know how we will define that term. A large meteor could leave that trail. Is that the one that was reported in 1948?
48. Knoll: Have you been in touch with the Brown-Townsend Foundation? They can demonstrate a saucer, its corona discharge and all.
49. Kirkland: We have heard a great deal of that. That was reported in detail by a gentleman who had spent some time with them, and I understand that he is still interested in it.
50. Ruppelt: Some of our best sightings had this discharge. That is a confusing thing. You don't see a definite object.
51. Dr. Riedel: My personal touch into that Foundation is not a deep one. The Foundation has once contacted North American Aviation but they never showed the experiment, only discussed it, and it came to absolute disinterest on North American's side. Mr. Knoll and I saw two saucers which they showed us. Those corona discharges are very interesting. The diameter of the total unit is nearly the width of this room.
52. Ruppelt: One company found out about this and they hired some physicists to look into it. They came up with the conclusion that there is not enough information either way to allow them to put any more money into it. But they are still watching it.
53. Kirkland: Frequently, companies will come to us and they strongly suspect that it is something we have got that is being seen, and that is how we happened to hear of this one.
54. Knoll: This thing is mounted on about 1/16 plexiglass sheet.
55. Sullivan: We first heard about this in a letter we received in our Post Office box.
56. Bryson: Could you give us an idea about how the Air Force changed its policy regarding saucers?
57. Kirkland: It is very difficult to say the Air Force changed its policy. I arrived at the Center about August 1950. We continued to collect data even after the impression got out that we were clamping up. We still had this group of cases that we could not explain. We have always had them. Within the last year, the top people in the Air Force have become more concerned, possibly because they have become more aware of some of those cases that were not explained. As a result, when the press or someone else came in to talk, they got the story. As far as I am concerned, at my level there has never been any change in policy. I think the attitude at the top has possibly changed. Our immediate superior in Washington has been interested and concerned the same as we have at the working level.
58. Bryson: I mean after four or five years of non-acknowledgement that such

things exist, why have they reversed their decision, for example, with the sightings over Korea? That was the first time that the Air Force ever positively admitted that unexplained objects were flying around.

57. Kirkland: I'm reasonably sure there were a lot of unexplained cases. At our level there has never been any inclination to deny it. For some reason the project was pretty highly classified. I suppose it was a reluctance to stir up any wave of hysteria. I'm quite sure that the impression got out the Air Force was pulling these things. The Chief of our Center was quoted as not believing in these things - I mean he really felt that they were explainable. I know Lt. Ruppelt and I, ever since we have been exposed to this thing, had had the feeling that there is the unexplainable in it and we would like to have the facts. There may have been some reasoning on the Air Staff level that I don't know about that supported this public announcement.
60. Bryson: There was no clear-cut policy at all?
61. Kirkland: To me there never has been.
62. Ireman: How about when Truman popped off, when he said absolutely and positively no?
63. Kirkland: I don't remember this.
64. Williams: One of the most widely published things was Henry J. Taylor's report in the Reader's Digest.
65. Ruppelt: I remember that.
66. Williams: My experience has been that that, more than any single factor, has impressed the public that these things must be ours.
67. Kirkland: We still run into that attitude.
68. Bryson: Maybe there is something the Navy has that the Air Force doesn't know about.
69. Ruppelt: It isn't at all impossible that this is something of ours, but if it is, it is a super-Manhattan, because we have tried in every way to find out.
70. Bryson: You say there are other projects where numerous astronomers are working for the Air Force. Do you get reports from those projects that would tie in to this one?
71. Ruppelt: Right. But we haven't had many.
72. Kirkland: We feel that it would surely have to be a super deal to be something of our own. Of course we would be foolish if we didn't admit that it is a possibility, but it is not very probable.
73. Bryson: Could you give us any details on the sighting station that was established at Vaughn, New Mexico?
74. Ruppelt: That is still classified to a certain extent. They had a system for using a diffraction grating on a camera. The thing was set up just about the time the Korean war started. A lot of personnel were lost to the Korean war. They picked up one sighting, that was all

they had. Those people may sit there for about six months and not see anything. One night this thing came along and they missed it.

75. Kirkland: It was rather poorly handled. The idea was good.
76. Bryson: Does Research and Development have projects going after this same thing?
77. Ruppelt: The minute we identify something then it passes out of the field of unidentified objects. Col. Kirkland made a comment about the classification of this thing. At one time they did have a classification as high as Top Secret. Now we are trying to get it down to Restricted so that we can offer this information to anybody who needs it. If it was completely declassified, than anybody in the U.S. would have access to it. That would entail much work. We put out a report once a month that is classified SECRET. The saucer project itself is not SECRET. If you hear that there is classified report coming out on this subject, that is the reason for its classification.
78. Kirkland: We are getting it down now so we can talk to anybody about it. The important thing is that we do occasionally get into a classified project. But that doesn't mean that we can't discuss the case with you.
79. Knoll: Has the AirForce worked out a standard report form or questionnaire?
80. Kirkland: Yes.
81. Knoll: Would that be available for our use?
82. Kirkland: Yes, indeed.
83. Nelson: Would it be possible to get our group cleared to work with classified material?
84. Kirkland: I don't think there would be any problem getting them cleared. There was great reluctance - in a few cases - letting us know what they were all about. But on this I don't think there would be any problem.
85. Ruppelt: In fact a lot of this stuff we will even knock down below RESTRICTED to give you. We can't give you any background on a person that might reflect on his character, for instance. But we can indicate a lot.
86. Knoll: Have you ever had a report on a sighting either on the ground or near the ground?
87. Ruppelt: We have had a few but they have always come from this type of doubtful character. There was one in Minnesota where a couple of kids saw one land and take off and it actually left a dent in the ground. There again we have no proof. We can't draw any conclusions unless we have actually got something to put our hands on. I've talked to an awful lot of these people, and you can, in your own mind, draw conclusions by just talking to them. Sometimes they are very sincere. You know they saw something, but you're not sure what. We have working with us now a couple of psychologists. They are trying to figure out just how much a person can imagine from seeing a certain object.

When you get into subjects like that, you are working with something very intangible.

On the same day the Lubbock pictures were taken, there were two ladies driving about 60 miles north of there. They saw this pear-shaped thing. They compared it to the size of an oil well. This thing hovered along, then took off all of sudden. These women aren't trying to feed us a line or anything. But all the information we had was just their story. We couldn't back it up.

88. Bryson: Do your patterns show any activity toward their trying to contact or get near anything of ours? Or any tendency to go away when they are sighted?
89. Kirkland: People have thought they saw patterns like that. You might think that since everyone of our important bases or areas have had sightings it would be significant, but again you can't pin it down.
90. Bryson: My question was isn't there tendency for them to disappear when there are any of our craft around?
91. Kirkland: There is a tendency.
92. Ruppelt: In other words, you mean has there ever been a report where one has tended to stay around? One up in South Dakota tended to stay around - if there was anything to it at all.
93. Bryson: Take for instance, your Lubbock report. Lubbock comes in the Albuquerque defense zone. Amarillo has a large fighter contingent. Were any reports received by the Air Force? Lubbock has an air base. Did anyone phone the base at the time?
94. Ruppelt: No. At that time things were fouled up and we didn't get that report.
95. Kirkland: I don't know why they didn't call the base in Lubbock. I strongly suspect that it was done and they just got hold of somebody who didn't make the report. You may have a policy established, but if you aren't following up on it people just forget about it.
96. Bryson: Can't you specify that Air Force officers be told about this?
97. Kirkland: What we intend to do is periodically follow up and make sure that all those people get the word.
98. Bryson: This LIFE article will probably help.
99. Ruppelt: It will spread the word around that we do want these reports. You are all familiar with military channels. Things go half way around the world before they get to the right people. Now we have changed that. Everyone is authorized to come to us directly with these things.
100. Bryson: You would think that radar would pick them up. What's the situation there?
101. Ruppelt: There was no radar at all in the Lubbock area which was on at the time. Now if we have to we will fly radar equipment in. Again is is a matter of judgement whether or not it would be worthwhile to do.

102. Bryson: Some fellow reported that every time they fired a rocket into the stratosphere these little discs would cluster around and that the Air Force had special objects for tracking them. Do you know about this?
103. Ruppelt: No, I don't think that is right.
104. Bryson: Well, he also said that these little discs clustered around planes frequently - foo fighters.
105. Ruppelt: That is something that I don't know about. I saw those over in the Pacific myself, and I'm thoroughly convinced that it was some kind of static electricity discharge.
106. Williams: Speaking of these small discs and lights and so on, there was an excellent report a year or two ago from the Hamilton Control Tower. Do you recall this report?
107. Ruppelt: No, I don't recall this. You will find that there is going to be a block of reports that never were thoroughly investigated. That will be about the time the Air Force cut back and they just didn't have the manpower to check these things. If we could ever get two radar stations on one object at the same time, we would get a lot of information.
108. Sullivan: Have you ever made any sort of contact in the pursuits that have gone up from time to time?
109. Ruppelt: No, not if they have definitely gone up after something.
110. Sullivan: A good possibility came in over our plant out in Downey. But nobody walked out with a camera.
111. Nelson: You can't have cameras in there.
112. Sullivan: It hovered in one spot and then moved over and lay there for fifteen minutes, then waggled and was gone. It was just a luminous spot.
113. Ruppelt: Weather balloons give us a lot of trouble because they reflect the sun. A balloon is launched at definite times during the day. They very seldom stay up for more than an hour from the time they are launched. They are launched every six hours, 4 in the afternoon and 10 at night, Eastern standard time. Balloons normally can't be seen above 6,000 or 8,000 feet, but if they pick up the sun just exactly right they can be seen up to 10,000 feet.
114. Bryson: What is the closest a plane has ever approached a saucer that you have gotten a report on?
115. Kirkland: That's a good question because they don't know what size object they are looking at. A Navy man flew over one to see if it was a balloon, but he never was sure what it was.
116. Knoll: Could he guess at the size?
117. Kirkland: Yes, he could because he flew over it and knew his altitude. He said it was a sphere. I'm still convinced that it was a balloon, but it did do some things that we can't explain. He judged it to be 30 feet in diameter. If it was, it would only have been two or three hundred feet high. It was over a densely populated area and somebody else would have seen it if these facts were true.

118. Sullivan: To prove that people don't see very much, there was a particular corner at the Plant where each morning for a week I laid down a dime, and each evening I picked it up again. I never lost it.
119. Ruppelt: We have thought about that a lot. We have thought of running some experiments on how much we could fly an object without noise or lights and people would not look up.
120. Bryson: Did you have a peak of sightings this January?
121. Ruppelt: Yes, to a certain extent we did. We may still be getting reports of things that were seen in January.
122. Kirkland: The peaks were, as I recall, after and around the holiday season and in the late spring. I have no idea actually how many total sightings we have in the file.
123. Bryson: Do your increased activities at this time come from a harder push from higher level?
124. Kirkland: It is about a combination. In my case, running the Analysis Division is like running a production line. It is pretty hard for me to see pulling a lot of strength off some other project to put it into something that we can't even feel justified in spending a lot of money for. In fact, this project was operated by one man for a while. The cataloging we have done on our own over the last year and a half. Now I think the greatest thing we are going to get out of the increased interest is coming up with ideas for getting more facts.
125. Bryson: You mean up until this time the Air Defense command had never been brought in?
126. Kirkland: Yes, they get every report that we do. But when it came to the point of getting somebody to take some action, to get more facts, we usually had a selling job. Lt. Ruppelt would frequently go to a base and he had the devil of a time finding the people concerned. They had submitted their story, and they just simply were not interested any more. It's not a normal mission for our organization.
127. Davies: It's not normal for the human race, and somebody has to have imagination about what they are.
128. Kirkland: In our case, we have put as much effort on it as we feel we possibly can. The greatest thing is that we can now go to other agencies and more readily get information that we couldn't get in the past.
129. Bryson: In your capacity as Chief of this project, would you say categorically that in your opinion that there is something in that 15% we don't know anything about?
130. Kirkland: I would say something that we have not been able to define because we lack the facts to do it. Take the green fireballs. They are like no known meteor. Maybe it is some aerial phenomena that we have observed for the first time. It is also possible with some of these things that have been seen, like the lights - I'm sure the people saw something - if we had additional facts they might be explained as something we know, or something we don't know - I can't say. When men like La Paz say they are positive it is not a meteor, I don't know. We have no direct relationship with La Paz on this project. We have gotten all sorts of reports on him from his colleagues. Most of them

boil down to the fact that they think he is a pretty competent meteorologist but a queer sort of duck.

131. Meryman: Did the Air Force try to call him in to go over your material at any time?
132. Ruppelt: No. At one time he did assist the Air Force. He was offered a contract to carry out part of it, but he turned it down due to his work load at school. He does go off on a tangent occasionally. He is very much interested in these green fireballs and he thinks that by making statements, he is going to draw public attention to those. He has helped out a lot.
133. Bryson: What about the copper collections in the air in that area?
134. Ruppelt: I don't know. They took a sample. I don't remember anything outstanding in the conclusions. That happened in about 1948 and it is too hazy to remember. It was reviewed by a lot of people but that didn't prove much.
135. Bryson: Did they attach any significance to the high content of copper in the air?
136. Kirkland: As I remember, they didn't.
137. Ruppelt: We had this sample from Lubbock analyzed. It was just a piece of clay.
138. Bryson: Are you able to state Dr. Kaplan's opinions of this?
139. Ruppelt: No, we had rather not quote him on this.
140. Kirkland: He didn't want to be quoted because he actually doesn't know any more about it than we do.
141. Ruppelt: ACTually his speculations are the same that you would make. They really aren't classified.
142. Sullivan: I think there ^{are} some things as an organization that we would be very much interested in getting from you. Our group consists of a board of ten people now, but we are going to expand that to fifteen. This will be the directing body. We are going to call in people with specialized knowledge to help us. We find a great deal of interest all over the country - people who have pretty good technical backgrounds, who are very anxious to assist us in communities in which they live. We intend to make use of certain people as direct associates, who could correspond directly with us and who would be available to go out and check cases in their communities. We have a post office box at the main branch in Los Angeles, Box (XXXX). We have been very fortunate so far.

TRUE magazine carried a nice little editorial about us. Mr. Williams is one of the editors of the MIRROR and he carried a nice Big story. We had a two-day story in a Long Beach paper and we are even getting letters now from people who say they heard about us over some ham radio station. The London Daily News called and they are really interested in getting a good story. The organization has taken hold in a fabulous manner and it has grown and grown and grown.

143. Williams: There seem to be a number of small groups of this nature around. We might have an open meeting at some later date and invite all these groups.
144. Kirkland: If you ever do that, let us know and we will come out.
145. Ruppelt: We first heard about you folks a couple months ago and we have been trying to get out here.
146. Nelson: Frankly, we are wondering how the hell we are going to get money to make investigations. I was wondering if we could work together, feeding information back and forth, and help to analyze it that way.
147. Kirkland: I don't see why we couldn't. I think that it would be a good idea, if you are interested. We would be happy to give you the results we get, and we would like to include all of your data in our card system, if you ever really get a big increase in volume, you will probably have to use a card system too.
148. Sullivan: Could you give us a rough breakdown of your classifications?
149. Kirkland: We have not designed a card to fit the questionnaire. I think there is quite a bit of work to be done there.
150. Sullivan: We would like to use the same classifications that you use.
151. Kirkland: If we went to IBM cards we could get a lot of things in that we don't have now. I think perhaps when you see our questionnaire you will get some idea.
152. Williams: I get back to Dayton about every summer. Perhaps we could see your files.
153. Sullivan: Several of the North American men go back occasionally.
154. Kirkland: We would be happy to show you our file whenever you do come back.
155. Knoll: Are there any Air Force or other governmental agencies in town to whom we could give our communications from outside, have them photostated and sent to you?
156. Kirkland: I would rather see direct communication. You people are a focal point.
157. Knoll: Right now we can handle these reports personally. Later on we might not be able to.
158. Sullivan: Already we are getting letters from people asking if we are doing the same thing that the Air Force is doing. They want to know when we are going to pop with information. There is a feeling that we might put out some sort of bulletin which might even provide the funds for the post office box and other expenses later on. In that case we hope that there might be some information you could give us which we might possibly include.
159. Kirkland: I can't forecast what might come up in the future that would require additional restriction. But right now I know of nothing. The fact that we are here right now talking to you folks is a pretty

good indication that the project is not too classified. I see no reason right now why you couldn't put out a bulletin. I will give you some of the things that people come up with. One thought is that some of these gadgets really could be of Russian origin. Isn't it a wonderful service that we would be providing them by telling them where we are sighting the things? As far as we are concerned now, anything is possible because we don't have the facts to believe otherwise.

160. Knoll: They are too far off their course - even for Russians.
161. Kirkland: But I mean those are the kind of things that we have to consider.
162. Ruppelt: So, in other words, there is a possibility that they may clamp security on the project if we did find out that they are from Russia.
163. Sullivan: This could be a very very interesting association.
164. Ruppelt: Well, we will help you out all we can.
165. Kirkland: And we feel that you could be a great help to us.
166. Williams: Are you interested in current reports only?
167. Kirkland: We are more interested in current ones, but we would like to have the others too. I think they would be of value.
168. Knoll: Do you want a copy of everything we get?
169. Kirkland: Your judgement there would be involved.
170. Nelson: I would like to see us work out some sort of arrangement where our method of evaluation is consistent.
171. Ruppelt: We are not going to fool anybody in the fact that we are really going to stick to hard facts in these things.
172. Sullivan: I would like to appoint a committee to work out the method of analysis in handling these letters. Dr. Riedel will be chairman and Messrs. Knoll, Nelson and Barnes will work with him.
173. Ruppelt: We can get you as many questionnaires as you want and we can probably use franked envelopes.
174. Sullivan: We have two members who are not cleared. Should we get them cleared?
175. Ruppelt: I'm afraid the only people who can get cleared are those working on an Air Force contract. We will check on this.
176. Nelson: Would it make any difference how we are organized - whether we are a corporation, etc.?
177. Kirkland: It might. I think that is one of the things we will have to check on.
178. Nelson: There has been some feeling that we would not like to get tied up too closely with the services.
179. Kirkland: I see no reason at all why we can't work together. I think it would be very foolish if we didn't. As to how close we are and the

regular relationship, that is something we can work into.

180. Ruppelt: There is another thing along that line. If you get your stuff by letter, your reports are probably a little old. If you ever get anything real "hot" and want further investigation, you can call us collect and I can go out, or send somebody out right away to check on it. You will find, I'm afraid, that this is going to develop into a full-time job. We are limited in our investigations. We have to have a pretty red hot one before we can go out and check into it. We try to check every angle and it usually takes us about a week, depending upon the sighting, of course.
- Operation Service has been in force for a long time now. It is a Directive to all pilots on how to report anything of an intelligence nature.
181. Knoll: The lack of response might be due to the bad publicity that the Air Force had.
182. Ruppelt: I think that is the truth.
183. Sullivan: You might be interested in the fact that Gerald Hurd is living in Santa Monica and he is making his entire files available to us. A group of us are going out to see him.
184. Ruppelt: Another interesting point, very very few people have ever reported sound with their sightings.
185. Sullivan: We have heard of a few swishes.
186. Bryson: How many radar sightings have you had?
187. Ruppelt: Say 7½%. Oak Ridge has sent in a lot. Goose Bay, Labrador, has had them. Others have been spread out.
188. Newton: Have these two psychologists been able to make any experiments as to whether the public would repeat a report that started some place?
189. Ruppelt: When we start running tests on the general public, we are getting on thin ice.
190. Newton: Well, what I mean, for instance, was to report a red fireball and see if that would elicit any more red fireballs.
191. Bryson: Was the Arnold report the first one you ever had?
192. Kirkland: It was the first one that we had in our file. But you can pick up any number of books that tell about aerial phenomena away back in history. I know during the war many men in the service saw something that was never completely explained. Personally, I don't look on this thing as starting in 1947, but it was the beginning of this project.
193. Williams: Did you ever get a report of any kind about one having landed in the Gulf of Mexico and some fishermen seeing it?
194. Ruppelt: A kid reported that. He later admitted that he made the story up to create some excitement.

195. Bryson: Did you ever get a report about one being filmed from a transport plane in Africa?
196. Ruppelt: We requested the film, but it was one of those cases where we never could locate the guy who filmed it. We never did find the film. There were supposedly some movies made in Alaska. That turned out to be a hoax too.
197. Bryson: Have you been attempting to get many reports from overseas?
198. Ruppelt: These Directives of ours are world-wide. There was a big outbreak somewhere in South America not too long ago. They turned out to be hoaxes.
199. Bryson: Where have you had your biggest outbreak overseas?
200. Ruppelt: They are scattered.
201. Dr. Riedel: At a time when the Peene munde Station was in activity, there were reports of them over Peene munde. Then they popped up in other places - Turkey, England, Italy.
202. Ruppelt: A peak of reports in the U.S. is usually followed by a peak of reports in other countries.

(Signed on original)
 Ruby C. Pryor, Secretary, CSI

(Signed on original)
 Approved: _____
 E. J. Sullivan, Chairman, CSI

THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING FALL WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS OF SECURITY INFORMATION AND AS SUCH MUST BE TREATED WITH STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.

Notes: The above Minutes were retyped for greater legibility from the ninth carbon copy in Feb. 1987. The fate of the original and other copies is unknown.

The "security statement" above was also put at the heading of page one of the original.

Willard D. Nelson
 4831 Foxhall Drive NE
 Olympia, WA 98506

Those in attendance:

Col. S.H. Kirkland, Chief, Analytical Section, US Air
Technical Command

Lt. Edward J. Ruppelt, Analytical Section, US Air Techn-
ical Command

Felix W. A. Knoll, Aeronautical Consultant, Northrop Aircraft
Co.

Edward J. Sullivan, Technical Writer, North American Avia-
tion, Inc. (NAA).

Dr. Walther A. Riedel, Project Engineer, NAA

John O. Barnes, Structures Group Leader, NAA

Norton H. Nelson, Electrical Group Leader, NAA

John J. Newton, Design Engineer, NAA

Ruby C. Pryor, Secretary, NAA

Invited Guests:

Richard W. Williams, Staff Editor, Los Angeles Mirror

Homer M. Daview, Jr., Executive, Columbia Motion Picture
Studios

John Bryson, Staff Writer, Life Magazine

Vic Meryman, Staff Writer, Life Magazine

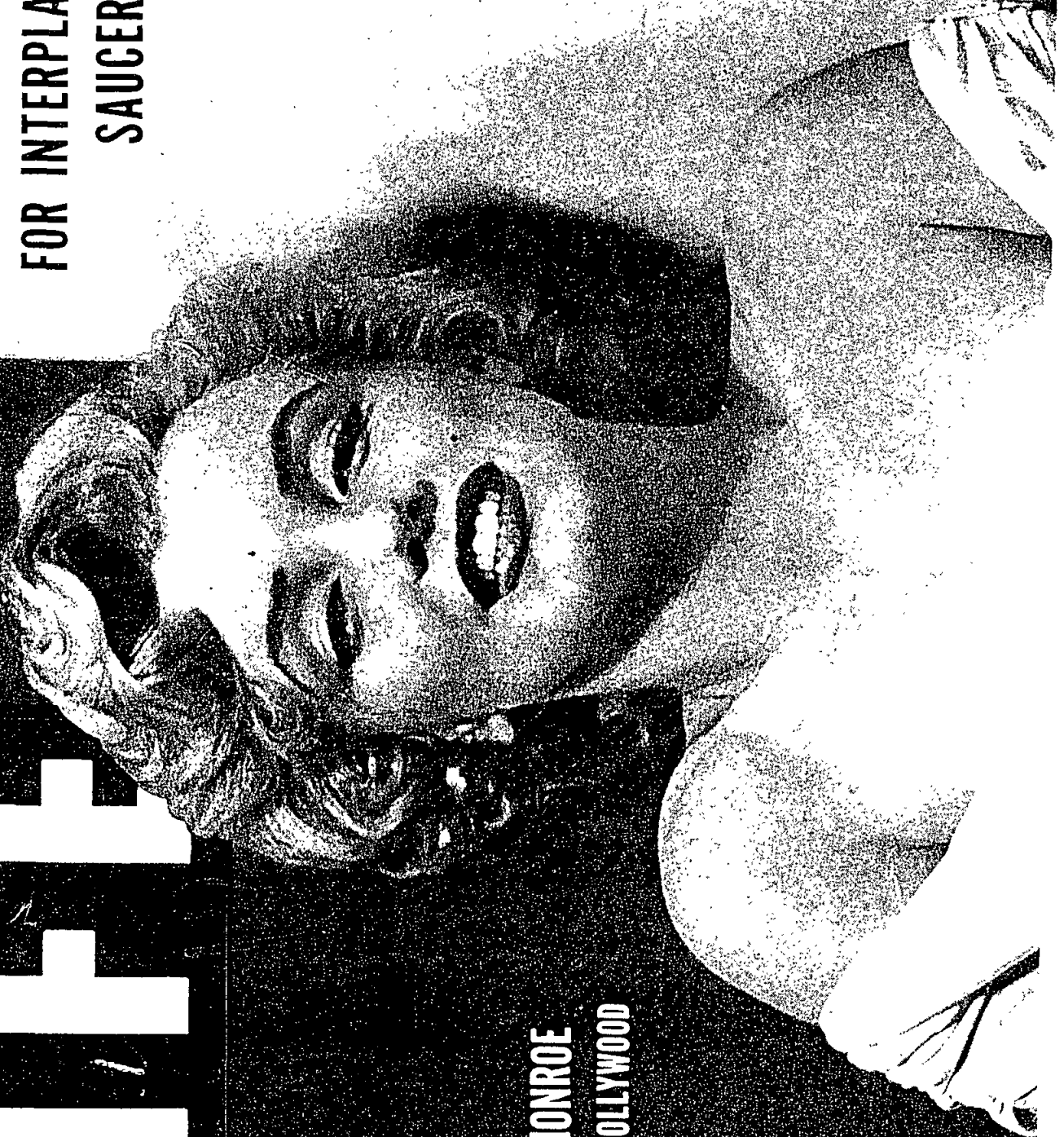
J. Ireman, Staff Photographer, Life Magazine

John Allen, Staff Writer, Time Magazine

THERE IS A CASE
FOR INTERPLANETARY
SAUGERS

LIFE

MARILYN MONROE
THE TALK OF HOLLYWOOD



HAVE WE VISITORS FROM SPACE?

FOR four years the U.S. public has wondered, worried or smirked over the strange and insistent tales of eerie objects streaking across American skies. Generally the tales have provoked only chills or titlers—only rarely, reflection or analysis.

Last week the U.S. Air Force made known to LIFE the following facts:

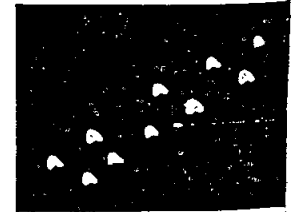
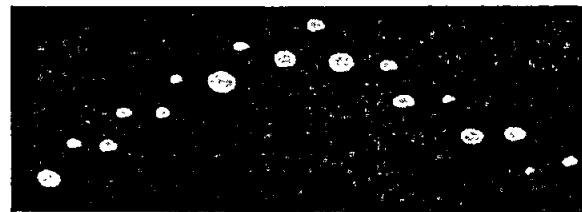
- ▶ As a result of continuing flying saucer reports the Air Force maintains constant intelligence investigation and study of unidentified aerial objects.
- ▶ A policy of positive action has been adopted to find out, as soon as possible, what is responsible for observations that have been made. As a part of this study, military aircraft are alerted to attempt interception, and radar and photographic equipment will be used in an attempt to obtain factual data. If opportunity offers, attempts will be made to recover such unidentified objects.
- ▶ Already all operational units of the Air Force have been alerted to report in detail any sightings of unidentified aerial objects. Other groups—scientists, private and commercial pilots, weather observers—all trained observers whose work in any way concerns the sky, and what happens in it, are urged to make immediate reports to Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio of any unidentified aerial objects they sight.
- ▶ Further, for the first time since Project "Saucer" was changed from a special-type project to a standard intelligence function, in December 1949, the Air Force invites all citizens to report their sightings to the nearest Air Force installation. All reports will be given expert consideration and those of special interest will be thoroughly investigated. The identity of those making such reports will be kept in confidence; no one will be ridiculed for making one.
- ▶ There is no reason as yet to believe that any of the aerial phenomena

commonly described as flying saucers are caused by a foreign power or constitute a clear and present danger to the U.S. or to its citizens.

These disclosures, sharply amending past Air Force policy, climaxed a review by LIFE with Air Force officials of all facts known in the case. This review has resulted from more than a year of sifting and weighing all reports of unexplained aerial phenomena—from the so-called flying saucers to the mysterious green fireballs so often sighted in the Southwest (*above*). This inquiry has included scrutiny of hundreds of reported sightings, interviews with eyewitnesses across the country and careful review of the facts with some of the world's ablest physicists, astronomers and experts on guided missiles. For the first time the Air Force (while in no way identifying itself with any particular conclusions) has opened its files for study.

Out of this exhaustive inquiry these propositions seem firmly shaped by the evidence:

1. Disks, cylinders and similar objects of geometrical form, luminous



THE LUBBOCK LIGHTS, flying in formation, are considered by the Air Force the most unexplainable phenomena yet observed. These photographs were made

The Air Force is now ready to concede that many saucer and fireball sightings still defy explanation; here LIFE offers some scientific evidence that there is a real case for interplanetary flying saucers

by H. B. DARRACH JR. and ROBERT GINNA

quality and solid nature for several years have been, and may be now, actually present in the atmosphere of the earth.

2. Globes of green fire also, of a brightness more intense than the full moon's, have frequently passed through the skies.

3. These objects cannot be explained by present science as natural phenomena—but solely as artificial devices, created and operated by a high intelligence.

4. Finally, no power plant known or projected on earth could account for the performance of these devices.

Let us first review some widely known facts.

The shapes and the inscrutable portents of the flying disks first broke upon the skies of the world in the early months of 1947, with several sightings reported to the Air Force. The story first reached the nation on June 24, 1947, when a private pilot named Kenneth Arnold was flying from Chehalis to Yakima, Wash. Some 25 miles away, Arnold saw nine "saucerlike things . . . flying like geese in a diagonal

chainlike line," approaching Mount Rainier. They swerved in and out of the high peaks at a speed Arnold estimated to be 1,200 mph.

Arnold told the whole story to his home-town newspaper, and like summer lightning it flashed across the country. Within a month saucers had been reported by people in 40 states. For the public (as LIFE itself merrily reported in its issue of July 21, 1947) the saucers provided the biggest game of hey-diddle-diddle in history. Any man, woman or child with talent enough to see spots before his eyes could get his name in a newspaper.

Nevertheless in serious moments most people were a little worried by all the "chromium hubcaps," "flying washtubs" and "whirling doughnuts" in the sky. Buried in the heap of hysterical reports were some sobering cases. One was the calamity that befell Air Force Captain Thomas F. Mantell on Jan. 7, 1948. That afternoon Mantell and two other F-51 fighter pilots sighted an object that looked like "an ice-cream cone topped with red" over Godman Air Force Base at Fort Knox, Ky. Mantell followed the strange object up to 20,000 feet and disappeared. Later in the day his body was found in a nearby field, the wreckage of his plane scattered for a half mile around. It now seems possible that Mantell was one of the very few sighters who actually were deceived by a Skyhook balloon, but the incident is still listed as unsolved in Air Force files.

There was no such easy explanation for the strange phenomenon observed at 2:45 a.m. on July 24, 1948 by two Eastern Air Lines pilots. Captain Clarence S. Chiles and Copilot John B. Whitted were flying in bright moonlight near Montgomery, Ala. when they suddenly saw "a bright glow" and a "long rocketlike ship" veer past them. They subsequently agreed that it was a "wingless aircraft, 100 feet long, cigar-shaped and about twice the diameter of a B-29, with no protruding



at Lubbock, Texas on Aug. 30, 1951 by Carl Hart Jr. Scientists say lights were not natural objects, but they traveled too fast and too soundlessly for known machines.

THIS IS A SCrupuLOUSLY ACCURATE EYEWITNESS PAINTING OF A MYSTERIOUS GREEN FIREBALL PUSHING THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY OVER NEW MEXICO 11



WAS DONE BY MRS LINCOLN IS PRO. WIFE OF AN ATTORNEY OR ARTIST BOTH SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAD OBSERVED THE FINGERPRINT FIRST HAND

Life magazine. 7 April 1952 issue.

Along with Elvis Presley and James Dean, Marilyn Monroe was a cultural icon of the 1950s. Marilyn was on the cover of *Life* five times but it was her appearance adorning the April 7, 1952 issue that was the most popular with her many fans, then and now. This particular issue commands a high price among Monroe collectors with bids reaching \$80 or more depending on the magazine's condition.

Unfortunately this economic fact puts the magazine beyond the reach of most UFO buffs who are only interested in the famous UFO article, "Have We Visitors From Space."

This cover of *Life* was suppose to make a cameo appearance in the 1956 film *UFO* but for some reason the movie director created a fake cover featuring ex-President Harry Truman. (See picture right)



This is a scene from the movie "Unidentified Flying Objects".

4 April. Saucers under study. (See below)

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT
Friday, April 4, 1952 **16**

Flying Saucer Reports Still Under Study

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force says it is continuing to check all "flying saucer" reports and welcomes them. But checking is done now through "normal staff channels" rather than as a special project.

"In most cases," an Air Force spokesman said, "the findings have proved to be weather balloons and natural phenomena.

"There remains, however, a number of reported sightings that cannot be thus explained, and as long as this is true, the Air Force will continue to study the problem."

All reports are turned over to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright - Patterson Air Force Base.



Justus in Minneapolis Star
Now, Just Suppose

NOTHING NEW

The spokesman said this continued interest should not be interpreted by the public "that new evaluations have been made or that new conclusions have been reached. This is not the case."

The statement was in answer to queries concerning a *Life* magazine report that the Air Force is taking new, serious interest in "flying saucers."

The article said the Air Force had changed from its previous policy of "official calm" and now is maintaining constant intelligence investigation of unidentified aerial objects.

"The Air Force is now ready to concede that many saucer and fireball sightings still defy explanation," *Life* said.

The magazine's 11 - page article entitled "Have We Visitors from Space?" said *Life's* own investigation indicated that solid objects have existed and may still exist in the earth's atmosphere which are not of earthly origin.

It is "plausible," the magazine said, that they originated on other planets and the answer may "come in a generation—or tomorrow."

4 April. LaPaz's reaction to the *Life* article. (See below) (xx.)

(xx.) *Lobo*. 4 April 52. (The *Lobo* is apparently the campus newspaper for the University of New Mexico)

Life Features

Dr. LaPaz

U.S. Air Force Admits Flying Disk Mystery, To Intercept Saucers

"Green Fireballs" and other flying objects of unknown origin, which received a 5,000,000-circulation "ride" in *Parade*, Albuquerque Journal Sunday magazine, have received even fuller treatment in *Life Magazine*, which goes on the newsstands today.

Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, UNM meteorologist, expressed a deep satisfaction today that the U. S. Air Force admits in the *Life* story the existence of "unexplained luminous objects in the skies."

LaPaz says that the action of the Air Force in officially ordering military aircraft to intercept and recover the unknown objects brought to mind similar orders issued in the days of the Japanese paper balloons back in 1944-45.

Out of some 34 sightings of "fireballs," flying saucers, and other unexplained phenomena by the most reliable observers, *Life Magazine* has selected 10 incidents which are the most sensational of the lot.

Eight of the 10 happened in southwestern skies and six of them within the boundaries of New Mexico.

The leadoff incident, featured in a colored painting by Mrs. Lincoln



Dr. Lincoln LaPaz

LaPaz, tinted the snowcovered Sandia mountains a bright greenish hue at dusk in January, 1949. This fireball was witnessed by myriads of observers all over New Mexico and Texas.

Incident No. 3, a fast high flying ellipsoid in the skies was reported by J. Gordon Vaeth, a Naval Research aeronautical engineer, as he and his group of five technicians were preparing to launch a Skyhook balloon near Arrey, New Mexico, at 10:20 a. m., April 24, 1949.

In the summer of 1948, Prof. Clyde Tombaugh, formerly a member of the UNM astronomy department and now director of the Optical Trajectory Section, White Sands Proving Grounds, sighted in the sky at 11 p. m. a strange cigar-shaped "ship" which gave off a blue-green glow.

For incident five, *Life Magazine* authors, H. B. Darrack, Jr and Robert Ginna, reported they were not at liberty to use the observer's name because as an Air Force officer he holds a top military post at a key atomic base.

This anonymous officer picked up on his radar equipment five apparently metallic objects flying south at tremendous speed and great height. New Mexico readers will probably tie in this incident with Alamogordo or Sandia Base. No location is given.

Incident eight has a local setting for us recently as Feb. 18, 1952, C. E. Redman, photographer, and W. S. Morris, newsdealer, both of Albuquerque, saw two "long, gleaming silver objects" hovering over Tijeras Canyon at 6:45 a. m.

Life reproduced pictures of Redman, Morris and others making gestures of how the space objects appeared to them.

At least 165 people reported in writing observations of incident 10 which occurred on Nov. 2, 1951, at the beginning of an "epidemic" of "green fireballs" to which the Southwest was subjected for a month or more.

Life's conclusions were:
They are not psychological phenomena.
They are not products of U S research

7 April. "Initiative and patriotism."

Replies by BLUE BOOK (AFOIN-V/TC) to civilians submitting UFO reports could have stayed with a brief, repetitive, "Thank You" when signing off, but language mentioning "initiative, and patriotism," continued to be stressed. One example in particular had so many words one can believe the sentiments were genuine:

"Your action in this matter is most commendable and indicates a deep sense of patriotism. It is our sincere hope that the American public will, in the future, show the same initiative which you have displayed whereby the Air Force will be afforded a better opportunity to collect all of the available data relative to unidentified flying objects." (xx.)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files. (R.G. 341) January-June 1952.

16 April. "Full scale alert."

The nation's survival depends on a very thin margin.

None of the new steps being taken to upgrade the ADC were questioned after April 16th. Here is the story:

"Late in the afternoon of April 16, 1952, a junior officer at Ent Air Force Base in Colorado handed Colonel Woodbury M. Burgess, the Air Defense Command intelligence chief, a report of unusual bomber activity in the Soviet Union. The report was labeled an 'indication,' a strong hint it came from a secret source privy to Russian military operations. That was enough for Burgess to take it seriously. Although due to go off duty, he remained in the Combat Operations Center with his entire staff. Only after hours of vain attempts to confirm the report did Burgess call it a day.

"Shortly after midnight, the long-sought confirmation arrived. An Alaskan air defense post had received a report of vapor trails spotted over Nunivak Island in the Bering Sea. Four unknown aircraft were winging southeast by east, toward the U.S. mainland. The sighting had taken place about ninety minutes before Colorado Springs got the word. The information had been passed through the chain of command to McChord Air Force Base in Washington State and onto Hamilton Field in Northern California. From there it had finally been relayed to Ent, where a duty captain called Burgess back to the operations room. This time the colonel notified Major General Kenneth P. Bergquist, the ADC operations deputy, who joined him at the center. Royal Canadian Air Force officials were also briefed.

"By 2:20 a.m. Colorado time on the seventeenth, air defense forces around the United States had been alerted, with sector stations and radar outposts in the Northwest told to be extra vigilant. Bergquist attempted to get back in touch with Elmen-dorf, but the line went dead before his call got through. Tensions mounting in the room, Bergquist phoned General Frederic H. Smith, the ADC vice commander: 'We have something hot—I think you better come over.'

"When Smith arrived in the control room, the two generals debated calling a

full-scale alert. The procedure for taking this unprecedented step had been established earlier by Ennis Whitehead, immediate predecessor to current Air Defense Command boss General Benjamin W. Chidlaw. It was a dramatic measure that meant rousing scores of Air Force personnel and ordering them to station. The issue still unsettled, a duty officer came running up with word that the Eastern Air Defense Force was reporting five 'unknowns' streaking south past Presque Isle in Maine. That ended the debate. At 3:11 a.m., Smith ordered the country's first Air Defense Readiness alert. Besides calling in Chidlaw, notification went over special hot lines to other Air Force brass, including Strategic Air Command boss Curtis LeMay and officers at the Pentagon's Air Force Command Post. Members of the Tactical Air Command, as well as various radar and fighter units, were contacted by commercial lines. The Army Antiaircraft Artillery Command got the alert at 3:41. All units were ordered to man their guns. It looked like war.

"No enemy bombers materialized. The original contrail report was never associated with known aircraft. In the meantime, three of the eastern seaboard sightings were identified as airliners off their flight plans. A few minutes after Chidlaw canceled the alert at 5:50 a.m., the Pentagon telephoned to admonish the ADC for panicking. Chidlaw refused the call, ordering Bergquist to handle it: 'Tell'em if the situation occurs again, I'll do the same thing.'

"The incident, which Chidlaw labeled *Next to the Real Thing*, took place just as Project Lincoln moved off the MIT campus to its permanent quarters in Lexington. No other real-life experience better illustrated the huge scale of the challenge ahead. The radar and reporting net was so slack the Air Defense Command had not even learned of the first firm evidence of unknown aircraft approaching the United States until ninety minutes after other Air Force personnel had it in hand. For hours after that, officials had no idea whether the sightings were real, or if other planes were also approaching the country's borders. In the end, commercial air traffic had triggered a nuclear alert, and from that stage it had taken anywhere from thirteen to thirty-nine minutes for the ADC to notify cooperating commands over commercial telephone lines, a potentially tragic delay. In his memo to Air Force Chief of Staff Hoyt Vandenberg, Chidlaw told how the incident had heightened awareness of 'the very thin margin'...on which the nation's survival depended." (xx.)

(xx.) Burderi, Robert. *The Invention That Changed the World*. Touchstone: New York, N.Y., 1997. pp.380-381. Also: "Next to the Real Thing." *The Aircraft Flash*. The Official Ground Observer Corps Magazine. Vol. I, No.3. December 1952. pp.4-5.

16/17? April. Yuma, Arizona. (9:00 p.m.)

"My God, it is huge!"

NICAP report summary sheet:

"It was twelve years ago, and possibly of little value at this point in time. However, no detail could be forgotten from that night in April, 1952. It was a calm night, hot as usual for Yuma, Arizona. My date, Lt. Gerald Williams, USAF, and I had gone to a drive-in movie. The movies start late due to the lack of darkness and the

first feature was approximately one-half finished when I decided to get out of the car. An extremely bright light caught my eyes from an angle to the right side of the movie screen. The object which emitted the light was one of the most awe-inspiring sights I have ever seen. I stood looking transfixed, for I had never seen anything like this. It was quite large, appearing to be the size of a car at the range, which I later judged, to be 350 feet. It was beautiful in a weird way. The shape was that of two gently sloping bowls...each with rims to the other and bottoms circular and flat. It almost seemed to be actually a portion of the landscape, for it was not very high in the sky and its form was completely illuminated by its own lighting system. The top portion rotated ever so slowly and I would not have noticed any movement if what may have been scars, indentations, or some type of markings had not appeared and disappeared. It was possible that the lower portion moved also, but I did not feel that it did. The center rim or ring housed the yellow and rose red pastel lights which completely bathed the object in light. This rim would not have extended more than an eighth of the diameter of the object and the reflected glow showed the band or rim to be of sizeable height. With all the car windows open and the volume of the car speakers on, it would be impossible to say for sure that there was no sound, but I do not believe that there was any. It merely sat there and the top moved slowly...I called into the car for Gerry and he too got out as soon as he saw my sighting. We stood by the car in absolute awe. Finally catching his breath, I recall him saying, 'I've never seen anything like that before in my life...My God, it is huge.' As I leaned over and tried to tap the shoulder of the man in the next car, the object's lights became a pale, honest green and the object moved steadily and smoothly up and down twice. I was sure it would come over the top of the cars for it did appear to be something that could handle itself with ease. But, instead, it veered to the rear at a 30 degree angle and in an extremely rapid time it 'flew' out of sight. I was speechless and we got back in the car. Both of us were limp by that time and I called to the man in the car next to us and asked if he had seen the peculiar object up there. He said he'd been absorbed in the movie and what was I saw. We merely said just something odd. We began to realize then that this was something very unusual and although Gerry was a pilot we had neither seen anything shaped, colored or with speed such as this. We decided to leave for home at that point and we went back to the motel where my family had been staying prior to finding a house. We were to be stationed in Yuma on USAF orders for my father who was at that time a Colonel. When we came in, my father asked if we had been in an accident. He said we both were white enough to have seen a ghost or been in an accident. When we related what happened, he called the YAFB and located the home phone number of the Public Information Officer. I do not know for a fact that the Captain that arrived some time later was the P.I. Officer or whether he was someone designated by him. The gentleman was obviously skeptical and took Lt. Williams' and my statement, in part, by longhand. He asked a few questions of us but the whole vein was one of ridicule, as far as he dared, with my father there. I do remember that he asked Lt. Williams why he was here: to which, he replied, that he was on leave from the Air Base in Portland, Oregon. P.I.O. asked him if he was on Medical or R&R. He was not on either but the insinuation was there, nevertheless. When the Captain was ready to leave he told all of us that it might be a good idea not to discuss this

incident with anyone. He left us with the air that it wasn't top secret but that it was a hallucination. After three weeks of checking the local paper, we have yet to note anything more or hear of anyone else having sighted this object. Yet after a positive 30 second time-in-view lapse and a very possible one minute-complete time, it does seem that something wasn't 'foul in Denmark,' but was foul in Yuma.

(Signed: Sally Ann Diggs)

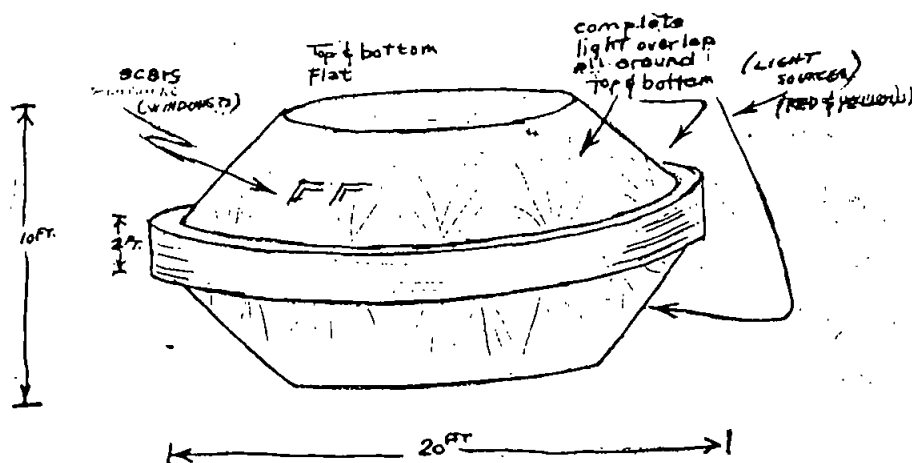
"P.S. I would like to add that my father the Colonel, was on orders to take over as Commanding Officer of the Yuma Air Force Base. At this time (1964) he is retired. He retired in 1954. His full name and present address is as follows:

Edward R. Diggs, Colonel, USAF Rtd.
1045 Shook Ave.
San Antonio, Texas." (xx.)

(xx.) Typed document from NICAP files titled: "Summary Sheet of Unidentified Flying Object April, 1952...Yuma, Arizona." Photocopy in author's files.

Yuma case. Further comments.

A sketch was included which is assumed had have been drawn either by the witness or with the witnesses' assistance. It should be noted in the narrative the figure "350 feet" is mentioned. It would seem that the number indicated the estimated distance the object was from the two witnesses and not the object's dimensions. The sketch gives estimates of size. (See below)



Copy in 3 dimensions & color
could this sketch make sense
etc.

The father, Colonel Diggs, was contacted by mail. The ex-Air Force officer replied to Richard Hall of NICAP to say:

"In response to your letter, dated September 23rd [1964], the best approximation I can give you as to the date of the alleged phenomenon is the 16th. or 17th. of April, 1952.

"As I did not observe the manifestation, there is little I can add, except to say that the sighting appeared to have caused quite a stir among those present at the drive-in theater at the time." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Richard Hall, Acting Director, National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Washington D.C.

Yuma case. Another comment.

Of additional interest, is the reports of UFOs at Yuma on April 17th and April 18th. (See my monograph *UFOs: A HISTORY 1952: January-May*. p.47.)

18 April. Flying saucers near Nevada test site (See clipping to the right)

Report to Coral Lorenzen from Zan Overall:

"In regards to a UFO report published in the Las Vegas, *Nevada Morning Star* in February or March, 1952. [It] ...could be located easily because the report coincided with an atomic test explosion. As my source recalls it, six to eight men working at Frenchman's Flats were quoted and named in a story describing the sighting of four to six saucer-shaped objects just after an atomic explosion. After the all clear, and after the men removed their goggles, the objects were seen to apparently pass through the atomic cloud.

"I heard of this through a fellow employee at Rocketdyne 'S.' (name deleted but on file with author), who tends toward the idea that UFOs are American secret weapons. He told me that at this time he was working at the Las Vegas radio station. The floor manager, named Steer, was a personal friend of one of the men quoted in the story and introduced the man to 'S' [name deleted]. The witness was an electrician or electrical worker of some kind. The man ('S' [name deleted] does not recall name, although a copy of the newspaper story might jog his memory) told 'S' [name deleted], and Steer too presumably, that he and the other witnesses were interviewed by the FBI, and told not to describe the objects seen to anyone. The witnesses signed an agreement not to tell anymore than they had already told.

"'S' mentions that the story never got on the teletype." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: APRO, Alamogordo, New Mexico. From: Zan Overall (no address given). 24 June 60. APRO files. Photocopy in author's files.

5 Say They Saw Flying Saucers

Tell of 18 Streaking Across Sky Near Atomic Base

LAS VEGAS, Nev., April 18 (INS).— A flight of flying saucers near the Nevada test site, where important new atomic tests are being made, has been reported by five men at Nellis Air Force Base, near Las Vegas.

Those who said they saw the saucers are U/Sgt. Orville Lawson, Rudy Tancer, foreman of the sheet metal shop, and shop workers R. K. Van Houtin, Edward Gregory, and Charles Rullifson.

The men said they counted 18 circular, dull-white objects streak across the sky in a half minute.

The objects—which the men declared definitely were neither planes nor observation balloons—were 40,000 feet high and were travelling at a speed of at least 1,200 miles an hour, leaving no smoke or vapor trail.

Van Houtin saw them first and called the attention of the other men to them.

Note: The Spring series of nuclear tests began on April 1st. The second in the series took place on April 15th with an air drop at Frenchman Flats.

18 April. Canada "Stumped." (See page 63)

21 April. "A higher Intelligence than ours?" One of the best UFO cartoons of the 1950s.



WILMINGTON MORNING NEWS, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1952

MYSTERY OF THE FLYING SAUCERS STUMPS DEFENCE RESEARCH BOARD

Announce 30 Reports Investigated

Open File On Probe of the Flying Saucers

By STEPHEN FRANKLIN, of the Journal

The Defence Research Board this afternoon opened its file on investigations made in the mystery of the flying saucers.

The Board disclosed it had proved in different reports of strange objects scudding through the summer atmosphere.

In the great majority of the cases the Board frankly admitted it was baffled.

It could reach no definite conclusion, but cautioned that the reports could not simply be dismissed as imaginative non-sense.

Among the 30 separate cases the Board reported in press relations officers this afternoon, was able to specifically find the cause or source of a "few" of the phenomena.

One was attributed to damaged balloons. A few others turned out to be meteors or bits of flying missiles.

But as to the rest the Board openly confessed, no firm conclusions had been reached.

In making his late afternoon report, the Board's press relations officer had come straight from the office of Dr. Alfred J. Langley, Director of Scientific Intelligence for the Board.

Dr. Langley has been working in cooperation with RCAF intelligence officers in the investigation of the flying saucers reported in the past.

Concluded on Page 4, Col. 3

Announce

Continued from Page One.

In the investigations, intelligence officers of the Armed Forces, particularly the RCAF, exhaustively questioned persons reporting the sightings of the saucers.

Each case investigated included full and complete data on weather, climatic conditions, date and time of the sighting, or disc, and notes on the character and details of those reporting the sighting.

Those questioned by the Services Intelligence agents who passed their findings to the Defence Research Board for analysis and possible conclusion, included weather observers, service personnel, farmers, mechanics, trappers, housewives, politicians and civilian pilots.

The following is a dictated report of a Board-selected number of cases on the DNR's flying saucer file.

"First report of a flying saucer over Canada was made by an Ottawa resident on June 15, 1947.

A month later a resident of West Shefford, Que., reported another sighting. This time the saucer was seen in his home. This proved to be the remains of a weather balloon.

"On August 7, 1949, 10 observers, most of them some distance from one another, reported an unusual celestial object seen over the Little Barstides area in New Brunswick.

"The following month an RCMP constable in the Yukon said he observed an object which he described as travelling through the air at an estimated speed of 400 m.p.h. He thought it was about two feet long. It was visible for eight minutes. Time of observation was 10.45 a.m.

"About this time the Minister of National Defence instructed the Defence Research Board to cooperate with the services in reporting unusual celestial occurrences.

The latest report on flying saucers came from RCAF Station North Bay, where two military policemen last Saturday saw a "bright amber disc" scudding across the night sky.

Four months earlier a similar phenomenon was seen over the same air station.

RCAF intelligence officers said they were investigating both reports.

Yesterday Canada's top scientist, the Dominion astrophysicist Dr. Prier Millman, Atomic Energy Control Board Chairman Dr. C. J. Mackenzie and Defence Research Board president Dr. O. G. Spangill stated that the report of the flying saucers could not be regarded as a hoax and that further investigation would be continuing.

All said they were keeping an open mind.

Hamilton Ontario THE HAMILTON NEWS CANADA APRIL 18, 1952

Ottawa Is 'Not Laughing' At Reports

Hamilton Visited By Mystery Orb

A mysterious object, vaguely described as a blimp and a saucer-like object, was seen in the sky over Hamilton and district Wednesday evening by dozens of spectators at widely-separated points. It finally vanished at terrific speed after hovering motionless for some minutes around 7 p.m.

Some 40 members of a snooty hunting party from Burlington and Hamilton, Ontario, and a few from a Hamiltonian group, were in the neighbourhood at approximately the same time.

At 7 p.m., Woodland, of 20 Birch Avenue, travelling in a car along the highway, saw a bright object in the sky. It appeared at first to be a dirigible. Then he noticed it start hovering against the evening sky.

As he watched it, it seemed to be a blimp, and a lighter color than the dirigible. It hovered about 200 feet, and it hovered around at a low altitude for what seemed like about 20 minutes. It disappeared at 7:15 p.m.

The second time he saw it, it looked whiter or at least a lighter color, and Gordon Chisholm, of 157 Main Street, Hamilton, Ontario, saw it hovering around at a low altitude for what seemed like about 20 minutes. It disappeared at 7:15 p.m.

Others who reported seeing the mysterious object included Gordon Chisholm, of 157 Main Street, Hamilton, Ontario, and J. L. Allen, of 157 Main Street, Hamilton, Ontario, and J. L. Allen, of 157 Main Street, Hamilton, Ontario.

Only a day or two ago, four other witnesses reported that they had seen what they described as a flying saucer hovering above North Bay, RCAF, authorized point, and the Clark River air of Canada's atomic energy project. Most reports were made from New Brunswick.

Hamilton Ontario THE HAMILTON NEWS CANADA APRIL 18, 1952

21 April. Was the *Life* article a good idea? (xx.) (See below)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files. (R.G. 341) January-June 1952.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
By W.G. Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

21 April 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, DCS/O
ATTN: BRIGADIER GENERAL W. K. GARLAND

SUBJECT: Air Force Cooperation with Magazines on Flying
Saucers and Green Fireballs

1. The recent LIFE MAGAZINE article on Flying Saucers has touched off a series of requests from magazine writers and editors for similar Air Force help for them. They would like to be able to speak to authorities in the Air Force who can tell them what opinion the Air Force has on flying saucers and green fireballs, what action the Air Force is taking on them, and they would like to see the same files which were made available to LIFE. Also, any additional help which the Air Force can give them in their research they are most anxious to have.

2. Request policy guidance and recommendations necessary for this office to answer these requests.

HUGH A. DAY
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Deputy Chief of
Features Branch
Information Division
Office of Public Information

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
 By WLF Lewis HARS, Date Jan 29, 1985.

AFOIN-3/Gen Garland/rms/52542
 Wrtm: 30 Apr 52

AFOIN-3

MEMORANDUM FOR OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Air Force Cooperation with Magazines on Flying Saucers

1. Reference attached memorandum dated 21 April 1952, relative to the above subject.
2. The Directorate of Intelligence will cooperate with the press through your office concerning unidentified flying objects up to the limits of Air Force security regulations. Green fireballs are not considered a part of the unidentified flying object program. Accredited press representatives will be allowed to review general information on sightings to be furnished your office by the Directorate of Intelligence.
3. Members of the press may be given access to reports furnished FIO on the subject of unidentified flying objects, provided the following instructions are complied with:
 - a. No copies or notes will be taken from the files made available to the press.
 - b. The names or addresses of persons who have made the sightings will not be disclosed to the press.
4. The Directorate of Intelligence desires to maintain a friendly relationship with the press and will cooperate to the extent possible under security regulations through PIO. The news releases now in the hands of the PIO, which indicate Air Force interest and action in connection with unidentified flying objects, will be used for the purpose of answering questions by the press concerning Air Force findings and conclusions in connection with this project.
5. In the future the Deputy Director for Estimates, Directorate of Intelligence, will be the point of contact within this Headquarters for further guidance on this subject.

1 Incl

Cy Memo dtd 21 Apr 52

Coordination on previous green copy valid _____

AFOIN-3

AFOIN-2

AFOIN-X

ATIC

AFOIN

Garland

McRogus
cc: [unclear]

FL DUNN

21 April. "What if I have fantastic luck and catch one?"

Some guy from New Hampshire asked the interesting question mentioned above. (xx.) The Air Force replied in some detail. (See below)

(xx.) U.S. Air Force Intelligence UFO files. (R.G. 341) January-June 1952.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
By W.G. Lewis MARS, Date Jan 29, 1985
APOIN-2B3
Capt. Fournet/jab/-5894
Wrtm 12 May 52

APOIN-2B3

14 MAY 1952

Mr. [Redacted]
[Redacted], New Hampshire

CUSTOM DESIGNATION MADE _____

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of 21 April 1952 has been received by this Directorate.

We assume that the information which you desire would be provided if the question posed in the last paragraph of your letter were answered, i.e., the ownership of objects of extraterrestrial origin and the utilization of information derived therefrom.

Actually, there is no law which specifically covers such a situation, and the courts would ultimately have to render a decision. Therefore, this question can presently be resolved only by the exercise of good judgment. It is obvious that an object of extraterrestrial origin which is not a part of natural matter (but rather something conceived and fabricated by living creatures) could constitute a potential threat to our national security and would, therefore, be of extreme interest to the Air Force. Consequently, a private citizen would be acting in his best interests by immediately reporting the discovery or capture of such an object, or information pertaining thereto, to the Air Force or any other federal or local government agency which he could contact promptly. We have no doubts whatsoever that a citizen who makes such a discovery will feel that it is his patriotic duty to relinquish all claims to the material and any information derived therefrom in favor of the proper government agency, which would probably be the Air Force.

Of course, under such circumstances, the Air Force would cooperate, to the fullest extent possible under existing security requirements, to release pertinent information to the discoverer for his personal use.

In summary, we feel that a private citizen, when confronted with a problem of this nature, would govern his actions in a manner befitting the responsibility which is an inherent part of his heritage as a citizen of our great country.

We sincerely hope that these comments will help to solve the problem presently confronting you.

Sincerely,
13/ Lt Col Springer

OUT
14 MAY 1952
61118

OFFICE SYMBOL	1 APOIN-2B	2 APOIA	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	[Signature]	[Signature]																		
INTERNAL OFFICE COORDINATION	[Signature]																			

William L. Adams

DECLASSIFIED FOR T-1

Winnipeg, Man.

Free Press

Apr 22 1952

PAGE 6

'Things' Flying In Air Get In Scientists' Hair

BY VICTOR MACKIE

OTTAWA, April 22 (Special)

—Flying saucers are flitting about with gay abandon over Ontario if reports of startled spectators can be believed. Officials of the defence research board may have their doubts, but they are no longer voicing them.

The past week has seen a rash of newspaper reports in eastern Canada quoting individuals as having watched "odd-shaped" objects plunging and soaring through the air at terrific speeds. "We simply don't understand," said Dr. O. M. Solandt, chairman of the defence research board and one of Canada's most distinguished scientists.

Confusing Pattern

"We have all the reports but they don't form a coherent pattern," he added.

Dr. Solandt reported that his fellow scientists in the United States were co-operating fully in trying to solve the mystery of the flying saucers, discs and fireballs.

He has made it clear that the best-informed scientists in this country know little more about the flying saucers than the public or the press. However, the board is continuing its investigations.

Latest mystery object was reported Sunday over the western area of Ontario. Those sighting it described it as a "dark cylindrical object." They said it streaked at speeds estimated in excess of 1,000 miles an hour.

Research board authorities and the R.C.A.F. said Monday they had been checking on the reports. They refused to say what it might be, but pointed out that vapor trails were reported to have hung in the air after it passed.

'Could Be'

Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Lloyd, chief of the RAF bomber command, left Montreal Sunday morning for Omaha in

a Canberra high-speed jet bomber. Its performance figures have never been released and it could have been the "cylindrical object."

Typical of the reaction from the board and air force authorities Monday was the reply this reporter received when he tried to determine if the Canberra jet was the object that mystified Ontario citizens Sunday. The authorities simply said: "Could be, but we don't know. We have had so many reports we are reluctant to say for sure just what it is that the people are seeing in the skies."

"We simply don't understand."

— Dr. O.M. Solandt

22 April.
Concern in
Ottawa and
Washington

LE INDEX DOVER DELAWARE TUESDAY APRIL 29 1952

SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE 'FLYING SAUCERS' BEING TAKEN MORE SERIOUSLY NOW

By STANLEY JAMES
Index Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 22

—Newsmen around the Pentagon knew for some time before it was publicly revealed in a weekly recently that the Air Force had stopped laughing at "flying saucer" reports and was conducting an investigation of the strange flying objects.

The time had arrived long ago when reports of wierd flying things were given the official poo-poo and laughed off. For a time, you will recall, these reports were lumped together and said to be natural phenomena mistaken by citizens for inexplicable flying objects. But the reports started coming in by scientists, sometimes by two scientists who saw same object the same night at the same

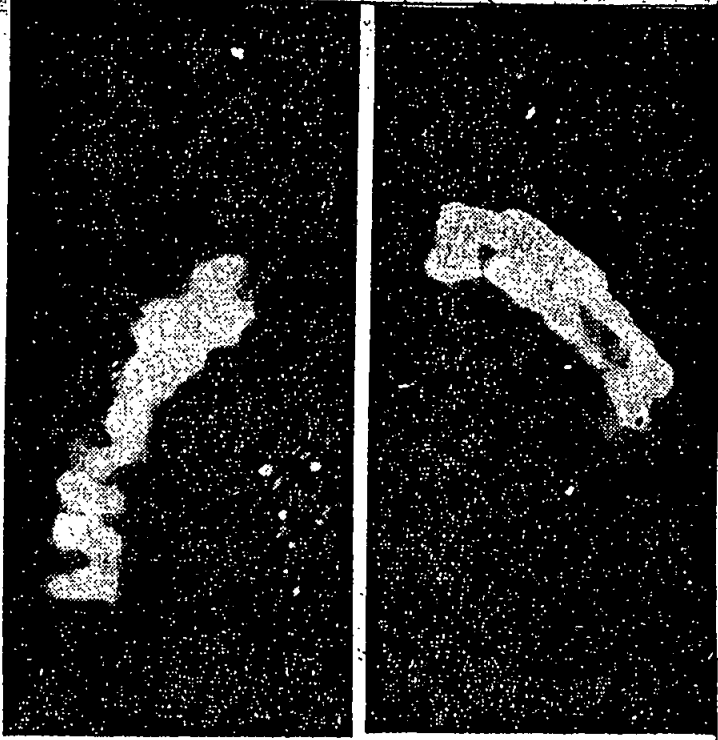
time, and their descriptions tallied. Airline pilots too repeatedly reported seeing strange flying objects. Citizens by the hundreds saw them.

Finally, about six months ago, or longer official concern over these reports reached serious proportions. Now the Air Force is ready to accept all reliable reports for study, has its flying bases alerted for strange flying craft.

The strange saucers which have been seen usually are traveling at an estimated speed range between 1500 and 3000 miles an hour. They can be handled in severe movements which would prove fatal to human beings. Who pilots them? Are they really flying machines? That one the Air Force is trying to answer now.

One thing is certain: the appearance of these "things" has U. S. intelligence up a gum stump.

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 24, 1952



WELL, THEY WERE UP THERE—These are separate prints made of two objects on a single negative. Film bore time exposure made Wednesday night of last week by 12-year-old Eugene Cisneros, 241 S. Third St. and shows the track of two unidentified objects he and his mother observed in sky above Alum Rock. Objects, say the Cisneros, were globe shaped, glowing red, and "slowly moving up and down." Family kept mum on subject until film used in boy's simple box camera was developed.

GLOBE-SHAPED, GLOWING

S.J. Sky Gazers See Unidentified Objects

Astronomers, amateur and professional, have a habit of watching the sky when they're walking at night, and the habit was rewarding Wednesday night of last week for Mrs. Marie Cisneros and her 12-year-old son, Eugene. They saw something in the sky that shouldn't have been there.

Mrs. Cisneros said when she and son left the Third St. exit of Long's Drug Store about 10 p.m. they saw two glowing, globe-shaped objects floating in the sky, apparently over Alum Rock Park.

They hurried to the Cisneros home, 241 S. Third St., and watched the globes through Eugene's 45-power refracting telescope. According to Mrs. Cisneros, the globes were close together and slowly moved up and down in the sky. She said there was no horizontal movement.

When they first saw the objects, Mrs. Cisneros said, she and her son thought the full moon was rising, but then realized the moon would not be rising from that direction. The objects appeared in the sky

23 April.

San Jose, California.
(about 10:00 p.m.)

Glowing globes "spy on San Jose," a prelude to an amazing UFO visit two days later on April 25th.

between the planet Mars and the star Polaris. They did not appear to be in space, however, according to Mrs. Cisneros, since they covered stars as they moved.

The objects glowed red, Mrs. Cisneros said. She said each object appeared to have a dark belt circling it.

Her son raced into the house to get his Brownie camera and took two time-exposure pictures of the objects. The family called Lick Observatory on Mt. Hamilton to report their find, but Lick personnel searching the sky with the naked eye couldn't find the objects.

Yesterday Lick workers said they had no explanation for the phenomenon. They said they doubted it was astronomical, or caused by stars.

Mrs. Cisneros said they hesitated to report seeing the globes because they were afraid people would think they were just "seeing things." She said they waited until they were sure how the pictures turned out before reporting the find to any one but the observatory.

Flying saucers?

Well

25 April. San Jose, California. (11:00-11:15 a.m.)

Are small disks spying eyes? (See this page through page 73)

November 10, 1969

Dr. Percy Carr
Department of Physics
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa, 50010

Dear Perc:

Press of other matters has limited the amount of time I've been able to put on the UFO problem in the past few months. The coming AAAS Symposium and the Boston meetings are necessitating my getting back on the job a bit. Tonight I finally got around to following up the lead that you mentioned in your August 7th postcard from Oregon. You were quite right; it was a sighting well worth checking on.

I am going to summarize it here, with just a slightly formalistic tone, Perc, since I'll then use my carbon of this letter as a smooth summary of my three pages of hastily scribbled notes based on the telephone conversation that I had with Whitmore about 20 minutes ago.

I located Dr. Robert A. Whitmore by phone on 11/10/69 (telephone: 714-682-1901; home address: 4462 Fourth Street, Riverside, California, 92501). He is still with Food Machinery Corporation, in their Riverside office. (Biochemist by training, with some chemistry and physics.) I informed Whitmore that Dr. L. A. Richards had mentioned the sighting to you, and that you had passed on a brief comment to me. On adding a bit about my own serious, scientific concern over the UFO problem, I was fortunate to obtain a detailed and coherent account of the sighting. Whitmore is a very straightforward person, quite articulate, and his entire account seemed free from the slightest hint of exaggeration.

The sighting occurred at San Jose, California, on April 25, 1952, during a 15-minute interval, 11:00-11:15 a.m. (The times were checked by car-radio time announcements that happened to occur just before the start and very near the end of the sighting.) The second witness was Dr. Stanley Yawger, a bacteriologist then (and now) with FMC, San Jose. I might mention at this point that this proved to be one of those relatively rare instances in which the witnesses, through their training, had the

Dr. Percy Carr
 November 10, 1969
 Page Two

presence of mind to immediately put down a rather detailed account. The two men saw the object from the parking lot at the corporation office, and, immediately upon termination of the sighting, they went in and dictated an account, which they put into the research files at FMC. (Whitmore and Yawger have recapitulated the incident in discussions over the years, their most recent meeting being three months ago, at which time they once again talked a bit about this sighting that impressed both of them. I, of course, asked Whitmore if he thought it might be possible to obtain through Yawger a copy of the original account. He does not have a copy in his own files, but will telephone Yawger tomorrow to initiate a search. The Research Department files have been moved around in the intervening 17 years, but he is hopeful that the account may be found.)

They were driving to the FMC office from downtown San Jose. Whitmore was at the wheel, when Dr. Yawger noted something that he said at first looked like a piece of paper in a breeze. However, he quickly noticed that it seemed to be moving against the surface wind. Whitmore could not see it at that juncture. They were near the FMC parking lot, entered it, parked, and got out to look.

Directly across the street was a small building, since taken over by FMC but then outside the corporation property. Directly over it (not merely in line of sight, but directly overhead, Whitmore emphasized) lay a small metallic-looking disc. The plane of the disc lay at about 20 degrees to the horizontal, and the object appeared to be rotating about a vertical axis, so that it wobbled or precessed ("like the motion of a disc in a water meter," Whitmore stated). His recollection of the slant range to the object at that time was not very much more than 50 feet.

The object was advancing towards them; it crossed the street and passed over electric power lines, which Whitmore subsequently determined lay at about 40 feet above the ground. The disc cleared the wires by what he estimated to be 5 to 8 feet, crossed directly over their heads at a vertical clearance that he thought was thus about 40-50 ft. In their discussions immediately after the sighting, the two men agreed that the diameter of the disc was about 4-5 ft.

Whitmore said there was a thin overcast, so that the ^{sky} overhead was rather bright, preventing them from seeing finer details. He said there was a faint suggestion of something like "rivet heads, "or other surface modulation", but he stressed that that was a marginal impression. In

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planform it was round. When they saw it at a greater angle, they estimated its vertical thickness to be in the neighborhood of 1.5 feet. Whitmore compared the general configuration to what one would have if the handles were knocked off two garbage-can lids and the two lids soldered together face to face, with perhaps some putty run around the rim to give a slightly rounded periphery. The edge was not sharp, he emphasized, but not cylindrical either. It was opaque, and seemed to them to be made of metal, as far as its luster might indicate.

As the disc went overhead, it continued to rotate in the same wobbling manner. It was completely soundless, and there was no exhaust or emission of any sort perceptible. It continued on past them, heading towards another divisional plant of FMC (John ~~Dean~~ division), passing over a large open area that lay between them and the ~~Dean~~ buildings (subsequently built up). It moved in a large arc, in plan, and seemed to maintain a constant altitude of around 40-50 ft during all this motion. He said their speed estimates were about the same, in the neighborhood of 8-10 mph. (I did not succeed in getting notes on the exact local geography relative to streets and nearby buildings, but the gist of it was that the object curved around when it got near some railroad marshaling yards, and then came to a nearby street and made a fairly distinct turn, heading back towards the two men.)

However, before the disc completed this large sweep, Dr. Yawger suddenly said that he saw something else overhead. Whitmore quickly saw what he was pointing to, a black object at high altitude that seemed to be hovering motionless under an overcast that the airport weather station subsequently indicated (on Whitmore's inquiry) to be at an estimated 10,000 ft. The object appeared to be round and was black, and, to the extent that they could estimate its altitude, it left them with the impression of being very much larger than the small disc, perhaps 100 ft. Whitmore stressed that that was a wild guess, based only on the impression that the object was near the clouds and the reported cloud altitude.

That the black object might, in fact, have been near the overcast was perhaps indicated by the next development. Suddenly two other seemingly identical objects came into position, as if they had quickly dropped out of the cloud overcast. The three objects "jittered around like boats in a stream", he stated, but held a more or less steady position relative to each other, aside from this erratic motion.

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By about this time, the small disc had come back near their position, very slowly. When it came just opposite them on the street that it seemed to be following, it stopped spinning, hung motionless a moment, and then rapidly climbed towards the north-northeast (towards Mt. Hamilton, he stated).

At the same time that the small disc began its rapid climb, one of the three black objects also left the formation and headed in the same general direction. The black object and the climbing disc seemed to be getting very near each other, when suddenly both seemed to disappear into the overcast.

The other two black objects maintained their original position for perhaps a minute or so, and then one of them headed off to the north, finally passing out of sight (I failed to ask for an indication of speed), while the other seemed to go directly up into the clouds, passing out of sight, and terminating the entire incident. The 11:15 a.m. news came on almost at the time that the last object disappeared, Whitmore stated.

As I mentioned earlier, the men went inside the FMC offices, dictated their account, and put it into the FMC files. Whitmore said that, at that time, there had been quite a flurry of UFO reports in the California area, most of them being treated in a more or less ridiculing fashion. He felt some obligation to make a report, and placed a telephone call to Moffett Field. However, after getting an answer and while waiting for them to find somebody at the other end who could take his account, he thought twice about exposing himself to personal ridicule and said that he decided to hang up and did so. Hence, there was no official report made to any Air Force or military sources. He felt quite sure that the filed account was never forwarded by FMC to any other agencies.

He remarked that he himself had viewed the UFO problem as a matter for ridicule up to that time, but not since.

I asked him if he or Yawger had seen anything comparable to that before or since, and he said that they had not. I asked if any of his scientific colleagues at FMC or elsewhere had, to his knowledge, seen anything comparable. He indicated that he knew of no such

Dr. Percy Carr
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instance. However, he stressed that, to him and Yawger, it was "a most disturbing experience." When I queried him as to why they regarded it as disturbing, he then stated, without any equivocation, that he and Yawger had been forced to the conclusion, at that time and without any subsequent basis for changing their minds, that they had been looking at some object of such unusual propulsion characteristics that it was difficult to think of it as anything other than extraterrestrial. As he put it, "it utilized some propulsion method not in the physics books." He said he has been "worried ever since," and, when I asked him why, he briefly mentioned the facet of human experience indicating that inferior civilizations tend to go under when contacted by more advanced technologies. He quickly added the comment that he realized that that was entirely speculative, but that was the way he was obliged to look at it, he said.

Whitmore's account was so systematically presented that the only additional feature that came out in my own subsequent questioning was that the apparent wobble rate was 8-9 times per minute, as he recalled.

~~This is just the kind of sighting that I wish Dr. Condon could have heard about directly from the witnesses. I am very grateful to you for having taken the trouble to let me know about the San Jose observations. As you may recall, the summer of 1952 marked one of the most active waves of sightings that has occurred in this country. Unreported sightings of this kind are all too frequent a facet of the UFO problem. (I was interviewing a witness last night by long distance phone to Reno, and after he recounted the luminous disc that had come down across his line of motion on the highway near Donner Pass and settled down in some very rugged terrain an estimated quarter-mile off the road, I queried him as to whether he had reported it to any official agency. He indicated that he had not and that he didn't intend to because of the bother that it might entail. Amusingly, only a few moments later in the conversation, this witness said, almost in an indignant manner, "You know, I think that most people don't even report these things when they see them." Unfortunately, that inconsistency in attitude crops up in all too many other interviews.)~~

December 17, 1969

Dr. Robert A. Whitmore
4462 Fourth Street
Riverside, California, 92501

Dear Dr. Whitmore:

On December 8, I contacted Dr. E. S. Yawger at his FMC office, to inquire whether the search for the dictation on your 4/25/52 sighting had turned up in the files. He regretted to say that the girls who did the searching had not come across it. I was, of course, disappointed.

At my request, Dr. Yawger sent me a marked map of the general area in which the sighting occurred. It came today, and I gather that you and he were located near the intersection of Coleman Avenue and Newhall Street, just south of the San Jose Municipal Airport.

I was a bit pressed for time when I called him on 12/8, and also did not want to take too much of his time during his business hours. Hence I did not query him on three different points where there were significant differences in his recollections vs. yours:

- 1) He recalled that the small object was perhaps a quarter of a mile up in the air. He thought it couldn't have been closer to the ground than about 500 ft. This is about an order of magnitude higher than your estimate of 40-50 ft clearance of the phone wires.
- 2) He recalled only one large object, and did not refer at all to the other two that you had mentioned.
- 3) His map indicates that the small object moved roughly westward when it took off to join the object higher up in the air. Your comments to me indicated that you recalled its departure as towards the north-northeast, *i.e.*, towards Mt. Hamilton.

Dr. Robert A. Whitmore
December 17, 1969
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Would there be any possibility of your discussing these three recollective differences with Dr. Yawger at some future opportunity? In any recall of phenomena of this sort, there are bound to be differences of this kind, obviously. I would, however, value a summary of how the two of you might arrive at any resolution of those three apparent differences. If you do have a chance to talk with Dr. Yawger about the sighting and could send me a brief note on the outcome of any discussion of those three points, I would greatly appreciate receiving it.

Best regards,

James E. McDonald
Professor

JEM/msr

Enclosed A.B.H. Summary

Boston Globe

April 27 1952

"Sky Wardens" Probe Mystery of Flying Saucers

LOS ANGELES, April 26 (NANA)—A vast army of "sky wardens" is being recruited in all parts of the nation and the world by a group of internationally known California scientists and technicians, who have pledged themselves to solve the mystery of the flying saucers.

The newest recruits are intelligence officers of the United States Army Air Force Base in Dayton, O., who arrived here recently to make liaison arrangements with the founders of the Civilian Saucer Investigation Group, and to open to the organization official chronicles of the saucer phenomena to date.

Though the lay scientific group has not yet arrived at any definite conclusions, most members are convinced that the concentrated effort to explore and explain the various aerial visions of the last half a century will result in a logical and factual solution within the next two decades.

Convinced Phenomena Exists

"We're convinced of the existence of the phenomena," the organization's founder, Edward Sullivan, insisted, "and we are equally convinced that their origin and purpose can be explained."

A technical writer at the North American Aviation Corporation in Los Angeles, Sullivan and his colleague, Werner Eichler, organized the Civilian Saucer Investigation Group last December as a protest against the general attitude which prevailed about flying saucers.

Their own report of a glimpse they had of 30 fireballs in flight had been greeted with raised eyebrows and less-polite skepticism by all but a few.

But among the few were Dick Williams, a reporter here, and Dr. Walther Riedel, former chief of development and research director at the German rocket center in Peenemuende, and presently engaged on secret research for the United States Government. Riedel, known more familiarly as the "father of the V-2," is convinced of the out-of-this-world basis of flying saucers, though he never has seen one.

With Riedel, Williams and 10 other scientists from California, Sullivan and Eichler began formal work on their investigation project, determined to use every scientific means at their disposal to identify and establish the origin of such unexplained aerial phenomena as disks, fireballs, lights and other configurations popularly known as flying saucers.

CSI Los Angeles gets more publicity.

On World-Wide Basis

After a breakdown and analysis of all reports to date, the group rented Postoffice Box No. 1971 at the Los Angeles Federal Building, and sent out a broadcast for new information. To date they have received communications from every state in the union, from Brazil, Argentina and other parts of Latin America, and from Europe and Asia.

Letters with accounts of new and old sightings are pouring in at the rate of 75 and more a day. Most of them are, as Sullivan boasts, "from responsible people"—both civilians and servicemen who seem to have been hitherto afraid of ridicule, and so did not report what they had seen.

"Most amazing," the board of directors declares. "Our organization seems to have filled some sort of void."

After a screening by the technicians, the annotated letters are passed on to the scientific committee for analysis, which includes studying time and location cycles.

Only the most basic patterns have emerged; but such things as the complete absence of sound, the high speed at which the objects fly, and the extraordinary maneuvers point to the possibility of superhuman and extraterrestrial origin.

The highest concentration of sightings presently, the investigators report, seems to be over Missouri and Wisconsin, just as there was a cycle over England from 1931 to 1952.

Emphasize Harmless Nature

The most cheering reports which have come out of the group meetings to date emphasize the harmless nature of the aerial phenomena. There never has been the slightest hint of aggression, the scientists report. Nor has there been any conclusive evidence that any of the strange objects ever have landed or crashed.

Unlike our own methods of transportation, "they are reliable," the committee says cryptically. "They are reliable."

In a properly scientific spirit, the civilian saucer investigation organization has undertaken its long-range exploration as a labor of love. But members' wives, who are not quite as scientifically minded, feel, for the most part, that seven nights a week are "too many" for a husband to be poring over reports and studying some other skies.

But domestic objections carry little weight, as, week by week, the vague shapes of patterns begin to emerge.

"We'll lick this mystery yet," Sullivan declaims.

"We will," echoes the board.

To do it, they say, they need the help of every responsible person in the nation, and in other nations, who has seen something strange, and who has something coherent to say about it. All reports of seeming significance will be passed on to the Air Force, though the identity of the sighters will be kept a matter of confidence between the persons and box No. 1971, Los Angeles, Calif.

Klaus Fuchs: saucers are real

A traitor talked of man's future

FACTS London News Bureau

In his English prison cell, atom spy Dr. Klaus Fuchs pondered man's destiny, discussed with a few favored fellow-prisoners interplanetary travel.

He declared that the problems were urgent, worked out mathematically that space ships now were practical.

He calculated—on the basis of the rate of earth's cooling, increase of world population and decrease of distributable food supplies—that the discovery of new habitable worlds was necessary for the survival of the human race.

Fuchs doesn't think flying saucers are a myth.

The age of stellar explorers and planet pioneers is at hand, he says.

Fuchs, one of the world's most brilliant scientists, was jailed for 14 years, in 1950, on a charge of having disclosed atom-bomb secrets to Russia.



FUCHS

"A cooling earth."

10 May. Ventura, California. (8:50 p.m.)

Flew in a pattern of a diamond.

The witness making this report was Airman 1/C Hermann Kalluaky. With him at the time was his uncle, Art Kallusky and wife Elmira. A fourth witness was Cpl. William Kallusky, the son of Airman Hermann's uncle and a military policeman stationed at Camp Cook, California.

The narrative reads:

"On the night of 10 May 1952 I saw four objects flying over Ventura, California. Getting a view directly under them, they were circular in shape and gave off a definite pastel orange color. There were no distinct markings as far as we could see. The entire area seemed to glow and therefore we could not distinguish the edges of these objects due to this hazy glow. We did not see a trail of exhaust or any other gases leaving the objects. These four objects flew in a pattern of a diamond with an object at each corner. We did not detect any sound which could have been from them. As we watched them they didn't gain or lose altitude to any great extent. Roughly, I would estimate they were 8 or 9 thousand feet above us and appeared to be approximately twice the size in diameter of a C-47 aircraft. They had a distinct swerving motion from side to side. I would estimate their speed at 1500 mph.

"As soon as they were out of sight, I looked at my watch and found it to be 8:50 Pacific Daylight Saving Time. They were within our view from 10 to 15 seconds. There was no clouds in the sky and it was a very calm evening." (xx.)

(xx.) "Statement of Observer." Hermann Kallusky. Airman 1/C. HQ 146th Fighter-Bomber Wing. George AFB, Victorville, California. 13 May 52. Photocopy in author's files.

17 May. Professor Paul Becquerel. (See clipping on page 78)

19 May. Jogarta, Java. (Approximately 8:43 p.m.)

Relatives of Colonel J. Salatun, Secretary of the Indonesian Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Our source states:

"Salatun's parents-in-law and whole family sighted a UFO for not less than twenty-three minutes over the town of Jogarta, Central Java. It was glowing like a red-hot coal and appearing at an elevation of forty degrees azimuth, and then traversed the evening sky in an S-shaped trajectory while performing oscillating motions and then disappeared at 20:43 local time and at an elevation of thirty degrees and azimuth eighty degrees. Everybody had the opportunity to watch the object though binoculars which seemed with the naked eye to be about eight times the size of Venus. It looked round, like a disc, had a red color like a coal, did not blink and did not admit any sounds. (xx.)

(xx.) Salatun, J. *The Mystery of the Flying Saucers Revealed*. 1961. No publisher or

THE ORIGINAL
ROMEIKE
PRESS CLIPPINGS

220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
Tel. CHelsea 8-8860

Cir. (D 86,285) (S 107,217)

This Clipping From
COLUMBUS, OHIO
CITIZEN

MAY 17 1952

Prof. Links Flying Saucers To Martian Space Craft

PARIS, May 17.—(AP)—A noted French scientist is waiting for a closer look at Mars this month before he discounts the flying saucers theory.

Prof. Paul Becquerel of the French Academy of Scientists said there may be a definite connection between the current wave of flying saucer reports and the approach of the planet Mars to earth.

Becquerel is one of France's foremost cosmo-biologists. He explained that astronomers all over the world are training their telescopes on Mars, which now is coming as close to earth as it ever does. The nearness of the two planets occurs roughly once every two years.

The Frenchman is a member of the school of outstanding biologists

and astronomers who are convinced life exists on Mars. He does not rule out the possibility that flying saucers may be flown by men from Mars.

Space Craft Possibility

"We cannot rule out the possibility of anything we do not know about," the scientist said. He had been asked whether he believed flying saucers could be Martian space craft.

Violent opponents of the possibility of Martian life say the planet, contains no water, is too cold and too dry and does not possess an atmospheric "blanket" to protect it from the sun's life-killing radiations.

Conducts Research

"I say for my part that all of these objections collapse in the light of the latest observations and the latest studies," Becquerel said. His own researches have shown him that Mars does possess a protective blanket, that water may exist there in liquid form and that the climate is no colder than Siberia or the Antarctic.

Telescopes Weak

He said even the most powerful of the present optic telescopes are not exact enough to determine whether Martian cities exist or to explore the Mars canals.

However, he said that within a short time scientists will have electronic telescopes capable of piercing the Martian mystery. Mars is six times smaller than the Earth.

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ROMEIKE
PRESS CLIPPINGS

220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
Tel. CHelsea 8-8860

Cir. (D 19,429)

This Clipping From
COLUMBUS, GA.
ENQUIRER

MAY 17 1952

INDUBITABLY

Flying saucers, according to a magazine article, may be visitors from other planets. And isn't that the way, though? "Company always drops by when everything is a mess.—Bill Vaughan in the Kansas City Star.

THE ORIGINAL
ROMEIKE
PRESS CLIPPINGS

220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
Tel. CHelsea 8-8860

Cir. (D 184,472)

This Clipping From
LOS ANGELES, CAL.
MIRROR

MAY 17 1952

Jaggers Talks on 'Saucers' at Olympic

Documented evidence that flying saucers are real and reasons why there will be more of them in the future than have been seen thus far, will be the theme of a prophetic sermon by Evangelist O. L. Jaggers, when he returns to the Olympic Auditorium tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

At Sunday's services, the evangelist will read testimonies with names and addresses of persons miraculously healed during his current campaign.

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220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
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Cir. (D 7,214)

This Clipping From
LAWRENCE, KAN.
JOURNAL-WORLD

MAY 15 1952

Mysterious Flying Saucers

Hays News

After all flying saucers do have their points. They never take nose dives, explode in mid-air or develop any kind of engine trouble. There is no known instance of a fatality or an injury. Beyond question they are the safest means of transportation as yet devised by man. Undoubtedly they are the marvel of the age but still impracticable for travel because no one knows where they land or take off.

page number available.

23 May. Increase of scope of BLUE BOOK. (See document on pages 80-81)

24 May. Ashland, Kentucky. (about 8:50 p.m.) (See clipping)

25 May. North Korea. (night)

According to military files crewmen of an F-94 jet interceptor reported the following encounter in the night sky over the front:

"...we saw a brilliant object above and in front of us and asked Bromide [the ground controller] if we could investigate. With his permission we made our first pass from north to south within 600 feet, then a succession of passes from cardinal compass points ranging to within 50 feet, but, because of the brilliancy of the light, we could discern no outline. On our last pass my Radar Observer looked back and said he thought he saw an object on our tail. I did not give much credence to his observation until Bromide called and said he painted an object on my tail. I then requested Bromide to vector me for an interception on this new unknown. (At this time the object was still in sight.) When I received my first vector I was south of the brilliant object and started a starboard turn to the intercept vector for the new unidentified. On a northeasterly heading my R/O gave me a lock-on, overtaking 50 knots, range 7,000 yards, nearly dead ahead and slightly above. When I closed to 6,000 yards, the object started to pull away and I threw the afterburner in (air-speed at this time was 250 knots). In a gradual climb and still with the object nearly centered on the scope, the range increased at a steady rate from 6,000 yards to approximately 26,000 yards in 12-15 seconds. At that range we broke lock. No evasive action was observed and no exhaust patterns such as might be expected."

(xx.)

(xx.) Air Intelligence Information Report No.52-85. Air Force BLUE BOOK files.

After checking the data, General Banfill released this conclusion:

"The distance covered by the object is approximately 68,500 feet. Acceleration is 650ft/sec/sec,(or approximately 20 'G' acceleration,(which is much more than the human body can stand for more than a fraction of a second). The final velocity is found to be 9450 ft/sec, or approximately 5580 knots (6420 mph)

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220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N. Y.
Tel. CHelsea 8-8860

Clr. (D 13,826) (S 16,412)

This Clipping From
ASHLAND, KY.
INDEPENDENT

MAY 25 1952

Three 'Flying Saucers' Seen Over Ashland

A local woman reported to the Independent last night that she and another woman saw three "flying saucers" over Ashland at about 8:30 p. m.

Mrs. J. Fred Miller, 1941 Carter Avenue, said she and Mrs. G. L. McClanahan, 333 20th Street, were standing on 20th Street near Carter Avenue when her attention was attracted to the sky.

Flying low and fairly close together were three objects, each with lights inside, Mrs. Miller said. The "saucers," she added, circled above, and then headed in a northwesterly direction "over the Elms Apartments" (in the 1900 block of Winchester Avenue).

Mrs. Miller said the "things" were not making any noise and looked to her like "large oysters with fish-tails."

After she watched them for a few moments, Mrs. Miller said she rushed into the Miller Funeral Home, which is operated by her husband, and called for Mr. Miller and home's attendants, but when they got outside the "saucers" had disappeared.

Mrs. McClanahan, when contacted by the Independent, said Mrs. Miller saw the objects first in the sky and yelled for her to look up. She said she got to see only one of the "saucers"—"a big round object, white in color."

If other Ashland residents saw the "saucers" the Independent was unable to learn. Police said they had gotten no reports from anyone about seeing "saucers."

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
 By WLG Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985

RESTRICTED
 SECURITY INFORMATION
 AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
 WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
 DAYTON, OHIO

23 May 1952

Major General John A. Sanford
 Director of Intelligence
 Headquarters USAF
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Sanford:

It appears that some increase in scope of operations of Project BLUE BOOK (aerial phenomena) will be necessary because of recent developments, and I write to ask your consideration of this matter.

The formulation of evaluations of BLUE BOOK sightings is presently conducted in the following way, speaking rather generally:

- (1) By securing all possible information concerning circumstances of sighting.
- (2) By examining all possibilities susceptible to analysis by established Air Force agencies, and
- (3) By submitting unresolved incidents to civilian scientific consultants for evaluation.

We feel confident that this method of operation is basically satisfactory as a working method, in general. As to our scientific consultants, in particular, we also feel they are thoroughly competent to handle this aspect of the investigation. However, because of recent increased official and public interest in the matter, it has occurred to me that we should perhaps also secure the advice and counsel of "name" scientists and government officials, well-known to the public and enjoying public confidence.

With this thought in mind, I am considering inviting a number of high level scientific personalities to form an advisory group. Such a group should be headed by a well-known figure from either science or government.

I have discussed this matter briefly with [redacted] of General [redacted] office in a purely exploratory way, and with your concurrence, I suggest that General [redacted] be approached officially. He played a significant part in the AMC-ARDC discussions leading to the organization of ATIC as a part of the Directorate of Intelligence.

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 841508
By WLG Lewis NARS, Date Jan 29, 1985.

Maj Gen Samford

23 May 52

Colonel Jack O'Mara will be the acting chief during my leave which begins 24 May. He and the other members of ATIC are briefed on our diversified activities and are well qualified to carry on the program. I will be here for approximately three weeks in July and August before going to Maxwell. I hope the new chief will have arrived by that time in order that he and I may spend some time together.

Sincerely,



FRANK L. DUNN
Colonel, USAF
Chief

"The radar sets are checked before and after every mission, and in this case appeared to be working normally. Even if it were assumed that the operator's timing, or the APG-33 [the F-94's airborne radar] calibration were off as much as 50%, the speed is still above any known type of missile.

"No information has yet been received from the ground controller at Bromide [K-13] as to the returns plotted or the length of time that object was held in contact by the ground radar.

"The phenomenal acceleration reported leads to the belief that the APG-33 was not operating correctly at the time of contact, despite checks before and after the mission[!!!].

Signed: Charles Y. Banfill
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy for Intelligence (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

28 May. Near? Montreal, Canada. (around 7:30 a.m.)

Orange spherical body. (See clipping)

30 May. Over the Sea of Japan. (6:55 p.m.)

"Not an aircraft or cloud in his opinion."

Air Force BLUE BOOK files state:

"At 1855, 30 May 1952, we took off from Tachikawa Air Base on a Troop Carrier in C-54 #2452. I was co-pilot on the crew. We climbed on course to Oshima to 8,500 feet, on a magnetic heading of about 180 degree and at a rate of about 500 feet per minute. Our indicated airspeed was 150-160 mph.

"From time to time after take-off and after climbing a few minutes I glanced toward the west observing the effect of the sunset behind the cloud formations. I noticed what at first appeared to be a black cloud detached from the rest of the formation and in a sort of trough in the contour of the tops of the clouds. After watching this for about one minute, I noted that my watch read 1908 hours, as I decided by this

THE ORIGINAL
ROMEIKE
PRESS CLIPPINGS

220 W. 19th St., NEW YORK 11, N.Y.
Tel. CHelsea 3-8860

This Clipping From

Montreal, Can.
Anzette

MAY 29 1952

ON AND OFF
THE RECORD

● **FLYING SAUCER?:** Commuters on a Rotemere-Montreal bus early yesterday were still wondering what it was they clearly saw about a mile north-northwest of the back river, and at an elevation of about 1,000 feet: It appeared to be a spherical body, golden orange in the rays of the rising sun, of considerable size. It was at first thought it might be a meteorological balloon, but it was too large for that. Then again, while it was being watched, it appeared to take off and move with great rapidity for about a mile before coming to rest again. Whatever the phenomenon, it was clearly seen and observed for several minutes by the commuter group around 7.30 a.m. yesterday. The only clear point is that it was something. What it was is a mystery.

time that the object was not a cloud nor did it seem to be any type of aircraft or helicopter.

"I called the attention of the aircraft commander, the engineer and navigator, who was not on the crew but was in the navigator's compartment, to the object. The aircraft commander, 1st Lt. Arblaster, was occupied piloting the plane and glanced only for a minute or two and remarked that it was not an aircraft nor a cloud in his opinion. The navigator told me later when I questioned him, that he merely glanced at the object and thought it was a cloud.

"I observed the object until it disappeared from sight at 1914. It appeared darker than the clouds and an almost circular shape but somewhat flattened on top and bottom. At some moments it seemed to wobble slightly. It hovered perfectly motionless from the time I first saw it at 1907 hours until 1913, when it started moving to the west on a heading I estimated to be about 285 degrees. It moved very rapidly and was out of sight at 1914.

"It seemed to move on a track away from our position and horizontally. I watched it until it became a mere speck and disappeared from view.

"I noticed another C-54 during the time I was watching the object. It was at a higher altitude than ours, about 10,000 feet and was to the northwest of our position headed in an easterly direction.

"The sky to the west was pink and the sun was not glaring. I did not observe any exhaust, flame or vapor trails around the object at any time. I am positive that the object was not an aircraft of any type I have ever seen. It was not a balloon and it was not a cloud.

"I could only guess at the altitude and distance of the object. I estimate it was about 20-25 miles west of my position and at 10,000-15,000 feet altitude.

Signed: William D. Leet." (xx.)

(xx.) Air Intelligence Information Report IR-4-52. Dated 7 June 1952. Air Force BLUE BOOK files.

31 May. Near Chorwon, Korea. (dawn)

Round, brilliant, bluish-white light.

Observers on the ground were the first to spot the fast-moving light in the sky. An F-94 jet interceptor was asked to identify the "thing." Air Force records tell us:

"The F-94 descended in a port turn to intercept unidentified object 6,000 feet below on a 90 degree course and altitude of 8,000 feet. Unidentified object began a port climb at the same time to intercept the descending F-94 and accomplished a maneuver which silhouetted the F-94 against the light of dawn. The F-94 turned on afterburner and tried two quartering head on passes with the unidentified object resulting in neither being able to get astern of the other. Hufberry's maneuvers ensued to 3,000 feet where more passes were exchanged for a few minutes. The unidentified object then increased its speed to an estimated 400 knots on a 45 degree heading and began pulling away from the F-94. When last seen the unidentified

object had seemingly increased its speed to approximately 450 knots whereupon the F-94 gave up pursuit at 0355 and returned to base.” (xx.)

(xx.) Air Intelligence Information Report IR-52-106. Air Force BLUE BOOK Files.

31 May. Near Darlington, Wisconsin. (about 3:15 a.m.)

Paused for 15-20 minutes.

A news clip says:

“Several persons, including a policeman and a reporter, said that they saw an ‘enormous blue-white light like a second moon’ move across the southern Wisconsin skies early yesterday.

“Policeman Glenn Winslow said that about 3:15 a.m. with a full moon lighting the countryside, he noticed that ‘it was suddenly getting brighter than usual.’

“In the sky, he said, he saw a body of light ‘as big as the moon’ coming out of the west.

“‘I thought I was seeing things, so I radioed the Monroe (Wis.) police station 35 miles east of here,’ Winslow said. ‘They could see it too and were all excited about it.’

“Winslow awakened Louis Graham, a United Press correspondent, and they drove to a hill on the edge of town where they were joined by Lafayette county Sheriff Lawrence James.

“‘When I first saw the light, it was about the size of a grapefruit, traveling very high and almost due east,’ Graham said. ‘It passed slightly to the south of Darlington, between us and the moon.’

“Lt. Col. Harry Shoup, commanding officer of Truax Air Force Base, said two flights of F-86 Sabrejets checked the skies over southern Illinois and found nothing unusual.

“However, J.B. Sharer, superintendent of a skywatch post at Monroe, said he heard jet pilots talking to their Chicago headquarters by radio about the light.

“All witnesses agreed that the light was globular, ‘like a balloon with an internal blue-white light.’

“They said that before reaching Monroe, it paused and hung in the air for 15 or 20 minutes, then changed course in a southeasterly direction toward Chicago.” (xx.)

(xx.) St. Louis, Missouri. *St. Louis Post Dispatch*. 1 June 52.

31 May. San Jose, California. More photos. (See page 85)

Considering the excellent UFO report on April 25th in the San Jose area, perhaps these photos had some merit. It should also be noted that at this time (1952) the San Jose basin had yet to become the important electronic manufacturing/research region it would be decades later. The area was mostly a bedroom community and food processing center in the 1950s.

San Jose Mercury

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 31, 1952

Second Section

Seen Any Good Flying Saucers?

At first the wise men said it was "mass hysteria"—that flurry of reports by persons seeing strange and dazzling objects coursing the skies.

Flying saucers, flying discs, whatever they were called, all were more thought about than seen, sun rays on a piece of cloud, a jet plane or imaginations—they said.

But then, before Hiroshima, most wise men who weren't government atomic scientists, were inclined to consider an A-bomb outside the realm of feasibility.

Whatever was happening a few years back, the U.S. Air

Force gave sufficient credence to the possibility of fantastic aircraft over the land that a special study project was set up.

To say the least, the Air Force's publicized findings after a year of research were inconclusive.

And people keep saying they've seen 'em, those flying discs, or saucers or globes.

Scarcely a week goes by without someone phoning such a report to the San Jose Mercury.

From the first, persons occasionally have brought in photographs of the "men from Mars" or their conveyances. Almost without exception the photo-

graphs have been obvious fakes or explainable photographic freaks.

The major exception has been startling.

Late in April a San Jose woman said she and her 12-year-old son have seen strange, globe-like, glowing and moving objects below the horizon over Alum Rock Park.

Somewhat timidly, she remarked that the boy had taken pictures.

The pictures, as later published in the Mercury, turned out to be unusual. The negatives were thin, but enlarged prints clearly showed two unidenti-

able, somewhat globular lights on the field of night.

Since then the two San Joseans, Mrs. Marie Cisneros and Eugene Cisneros, have been scanning the skies nightly.

They report seeing the phenomena again.

Five of the pictures on this page were taken by Eugene Cisneros since the first pictures he turned in. The prints were made in the Mercury photo laboratory by Bill Itegan.

The Cisneros do not pretend to explain what they say they have seen.

They just maintain "it's up there."



DOUBLE SHOT—Photo at right is two exposures of same object, giving tier effect. Cisneros say objects changed in relation to each other.

Here, after being strung out across sky as in first photo, they appear to be forming back into semi-circle. Pin points of light in pictures were caused by scratches on the negatives.

BUCK ROGERS' TRAIL?—If three space ships soared across the sky they might look like this. Eugene Cisneros' photo at left is of what he describes as three globes, moving so fast he couldn't follow with naked eye. Roy said blue and red light seemed to shoot from tail.



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