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Number 112

THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL

MARCH 1977

Founded 1967

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF



MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.

\$1.00



This photograph was taken in Cluj, Romania, on August 18, 1968.

MUFON UFO JOURNAL

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Seguin, Texas 78155

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The MUFON UFO JOURNAL is published monthly by the Mutual UFO Network, Seguin, Texas. Subscription rates: \$8.00 per year in U.S.; \$9.00 per year foreign. Copyright 1976 by Mutual UFO Network. Second class postage paid at Seguin, Texas. Return undeliverable copies to: MUFON UFO JOURNAL, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, Texas 78155.

FROM THE EDITOR

Richard Hall, MUFON's International Coordinator, has forwarded an interesting article that was in the May 8 Washington Post. The article deals with police use of regressive hypnosis techniques.

The article is primarily concerned with the work of psychologist Robert Reiff, who recently requested that the Justice Dept. stop giving seminars to law enforcement personnel in regressive hypno-

sis.

Reiff stressed the influence of the questioner on the witness. To quote: "...improper questioning could cause a subject to distort his memory...hypnotized witnesses can create visual descriptions that never existed." He concludes: "Unfortunately hypnosis is seen as a magical solution. This view needs to be corrected."

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CLUES FROM CLUJ: UFOs OVER ROMANIA

by Michel Bougard

[Editor's Note: This case is described in detail in Chapter 6 of UFOs From Behind the Iron Curtain, Hobana & Weberbergh, Bantam Books, 1975]

The two witnesses are Emil Bornea 45 years old, who works in a factory, and his friend Zamfira Matea, 34 years old, who works in an office in the city. Both had gone to the wooded area of Baci, west of Cluj, for a picnic. Emil Bornea had gone into the forest to gather some wood for the fire when Zamfira called to him to come look at something strange in the sky. He did so and upon looking at the portion of the sky indicated by Zamfira saw a large, round, metallic object, appearing silvery under the rays of the sun. Silently, this ingenious device maneuvered around the trees that bordered the clearing: it appeared immense.

Sr. Bornea's initial reaction was one of disbelief. When the shock wore off, he reached for his camera. He set the aperture and exposure time and took the first photograph. The camera used was an FED-2, with an Interstar 2.8 lens (f:50mm), the film has a sensitivity of 17 DIN (ORWO). The time was 13.23 hours, in full sunlight, at a temperature of 36 degrees C with no wind. Certain to have at least one photo, Sr. Bornea calmed down and because the UFO was moving slowly was able to secure a second picture. He then noticed that the object had changed its direction and that it had increased in luminosity. The object sharply

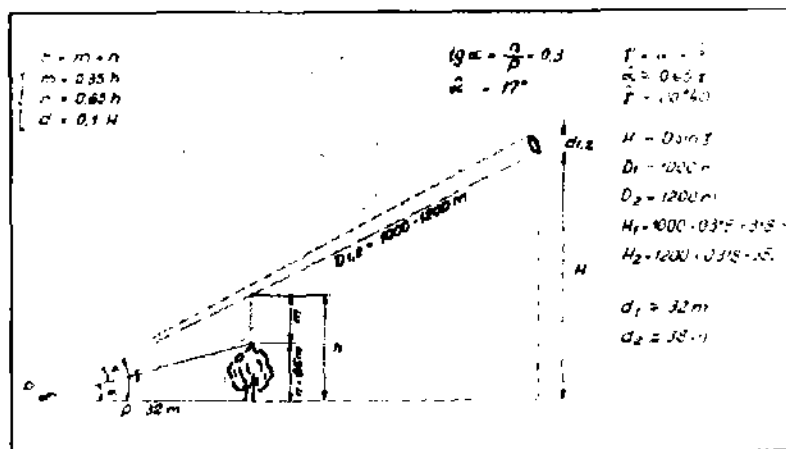
accelerated and disappeared in the sky. Bornea had time to secure two new pictures but the last one...shows the UFO disappearing vertically. After the rapid flight of the object, a light vapor remained.

At the time, Sr. Bornea was employed as a technician in a local industry; he was considered a serious and honest man by his colleagues. He had never displayed an interest in UFOs and viewed the whole subject with a degree of skepticism. Srta. Matea had the same attitude. Thus, there is nothing surprising in their lack of enthusiasm after the sighting.

Bornea has thought little since then about the events of Sunday, August 18, 1968. He went about his usual activities after that sighting only to find himself, ten days later, confronted anew by a strange object. Because of fear of ridicule, Bornea

didn't know what to do with the photographs. He only knew one person who was interested in UFOs, an engineer by the name of Florin Gheorghita, to whom he went. After seeing the pictures, Gheorghita sent them to diverse experts. According to Bornea, the altitude of the object was around 600m and it had a diameter of about 30m; the observation took place at an angle of elevation of 85 degrees with respect to the horizon. In the first part of its flight, the UFO had followed a NE-SW trajectory in a straight line; it had later modified its direction slowly moving towards the sun. Gheorghita went to two reporter-photographer friends one of whom works in the Romania National Press Agency, (Ager Press).

He then noticed a point which appears to exclude all possibility of fraud on the part of E. Bornea:



The diameter of the Cluj UFO was determined by triangulation of the reference points in the photos.

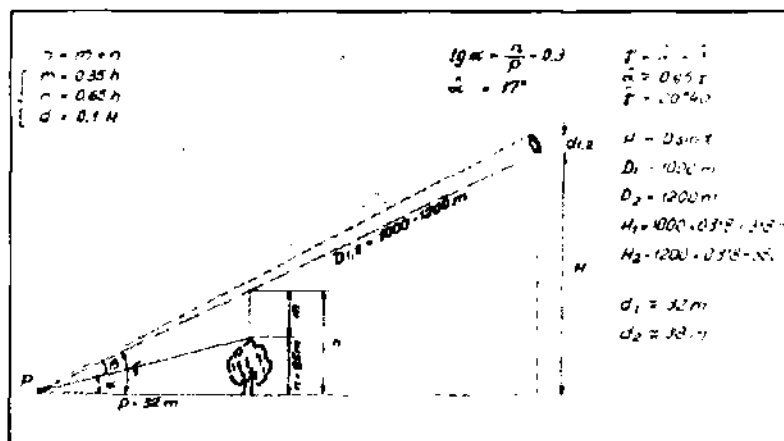
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TEACHER AND STUDENT SEE GLOBE-SHAPED OBJECT

BY DAVID L. REEVE

Place: Gloucester, Mass.

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Date: Jan. 9, 1976

At the time of the sighting, Robert Sampson was administering an examination to his science class at the Ralph B. O'Maly Middle School in Gloucester, Mass.

One of his students, Joseph Aiello, age 14, called Robert's attention to an object which he had been observing through a window for approximately ten seconds.

They both then viewed it for another five (5) seconds before it disappeared over the horizon. Neither could explain what it was they saw.

The object was described by both as white, globe-shaped and exhibited a yellow glowing band around its circumference. It was first noticed in the NE and moved in an arc to the N like a bullet would fall in trajectory before disappearing over the horizon.

The sighting was investigated by Mr. Raymond E. Fowler, MUFON Director of Investigations. Mr. Sampson is well known to Mr. Fowler and is considered a reliable and competent observer. He holds a responsible teaching position. He also has a masters degree in Biology and was a radar/sonar operator in the U.S. Navy. Joseph Aiello is considered one of Mr. Sampson's best science students.

After a thorough investigation, no natural phenomena (reflecting sun, etc.) or man-made object (aircraft, balloon) was found that could explain the sighting. The report was classified as being in the Unknown (ordinary) category.



Cluj is shown on this map of Europe. Actually Romania occupies a central location in continental Europe.

on two of the prints the object is not centered, but is found in the upper right hand corner. The author of a hoax would have been pre-occupied with producing a beautiful document framing the object well. Examination of the negatives was also made by the official laboratory of Cluj which confirmed the unlikelihood of fraud.

Further study confirmed the diameter of 30m. Study also revealed the presence, in the first picture, of a convex light on the left side of the upper portion of the object (no windows were detected). In the second print, the contours of the device are more refined while the surface retains the same smoothness. The object appears brilliant and the shadow, very well distinguished, looks like an aberration when

compared with the first print. Two specialists of the Bellas Artes of Cluj, consulted separately, arrived at identical conclusions: the UFO was self luminous and was not a shadow caused by the sun. In the third picture, the object appears almost vertical and fine examination of the image of the UFO discloses a curious curve on its upper portion (edge).

All who studied the pictures and the percipients feel that it is an accurate reporting of an event; the possibility of a hoax can be ruled out.

Reprinted from STENDEK No.21

Sept. 1975

Translated by Beatrice M. Zimmer

Maneuvering UFO Seen From Car

By

Ted Peters

MUFON State Director for Louisiana

It was dark and partly cloudy the night of Tuesday, February 8, 1977, when Mrs. Gayle Rodriguez, age 31, and her twelve year old son, Brian, followed a lighted flying machine in their car. They were driving southeast on St. Bernard highway, having just crossed Paris road, when Brian exclaimed, "Mama, look up there!"

"We looked up and we saw lights revolving around," Mrs. Rodriguez told MUFON investigator Ted Peters and James LaChute. "We saw white, blue—it wasn't a real bright blue but rather a soft blue; it was glowing—then came a light colored green. Then at the top there was a red light which was revolving around slower than the bottom part." She said she was certain it could not be a helicopter because she has seen and heard them often, even at night. "You can hear the noise of helicopters), but in this case we never heard any noise at all."

It was about 8:15 p.m. when the mother and son watched through the windshield as it crossed the highway in front of them, from left to right, and then turned to parallel the road and travel at the approximate speed of the car. Its movement was in uneven spurts, sometimes shooting ahead and sometimes stopping.

On one occasion it stopped its forward motion and tilted to and fro. It was shaped like an upside down saucer with a flat bottom and a dome on top in the middle. Near the bottom edge could be seen a row of individual lights which merged into a single blurr when rotating. The lights changed

color alternating between blue, green, and bright white. Atop the dome were three lights on what appeared to be antenna: two small white lights, and one larger red light. The top lights were less intense than the lower row. When it tilted back the bottom appeared flat with half-moon shaped holes around the perimeter. Brian described the surface as "silverish," like bare aluminum.

Both witnesses were reluctant to estimate how high or how far away it was. Its apparent size was greater than that of the moon and perhaps larger than a softball held at arm's length.

As they approached the village of Violet they passed through the oak tunnel (a stretch along which mature oak trees line the highway) and caught glimpses of the light through the branches. They continued to watch the UFO as they turned up their street and disembarked from the car at 2100 Kenneth Drive about 8:30. Mrs. Rodriguez nervously ran to the door and hollared for someone else to come and look. Her father, Mr Lyle Salez, came out on the porch and saw only the red light setting behind the

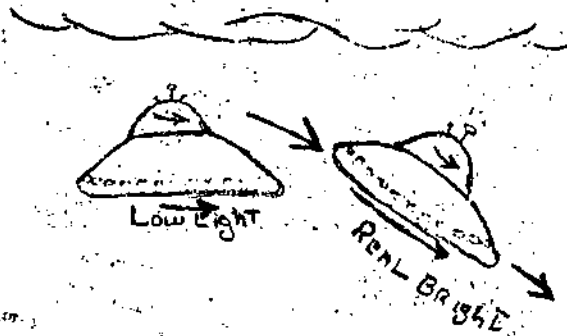
horizon.

A few days later a secretary from the St. Bernard News received a telephone call for a woman who gave only her first name, Leona; she claimed to have seen a brightly lighted flying object Tuesday night near the intersection of Paris and Judge Perez. She had no knowledge of the Rodriguez report and hence provides a possible confirmation of the initial stage of the sighting.

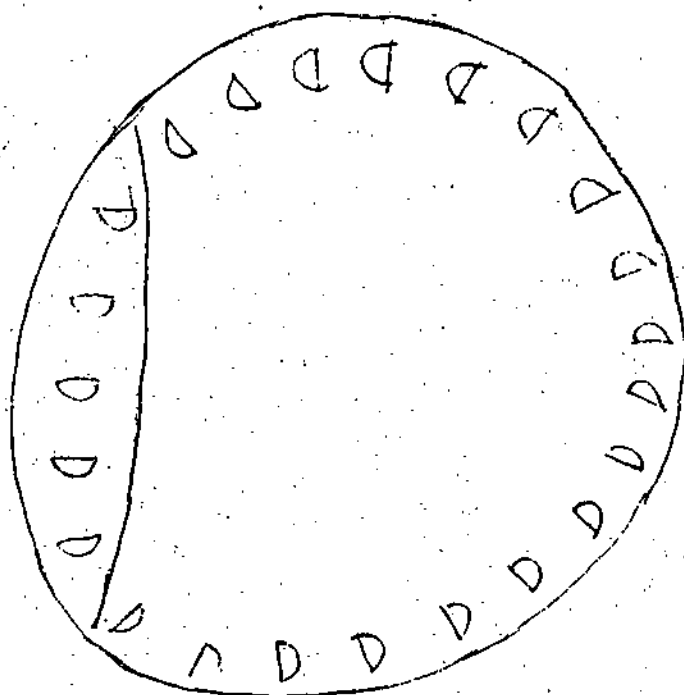
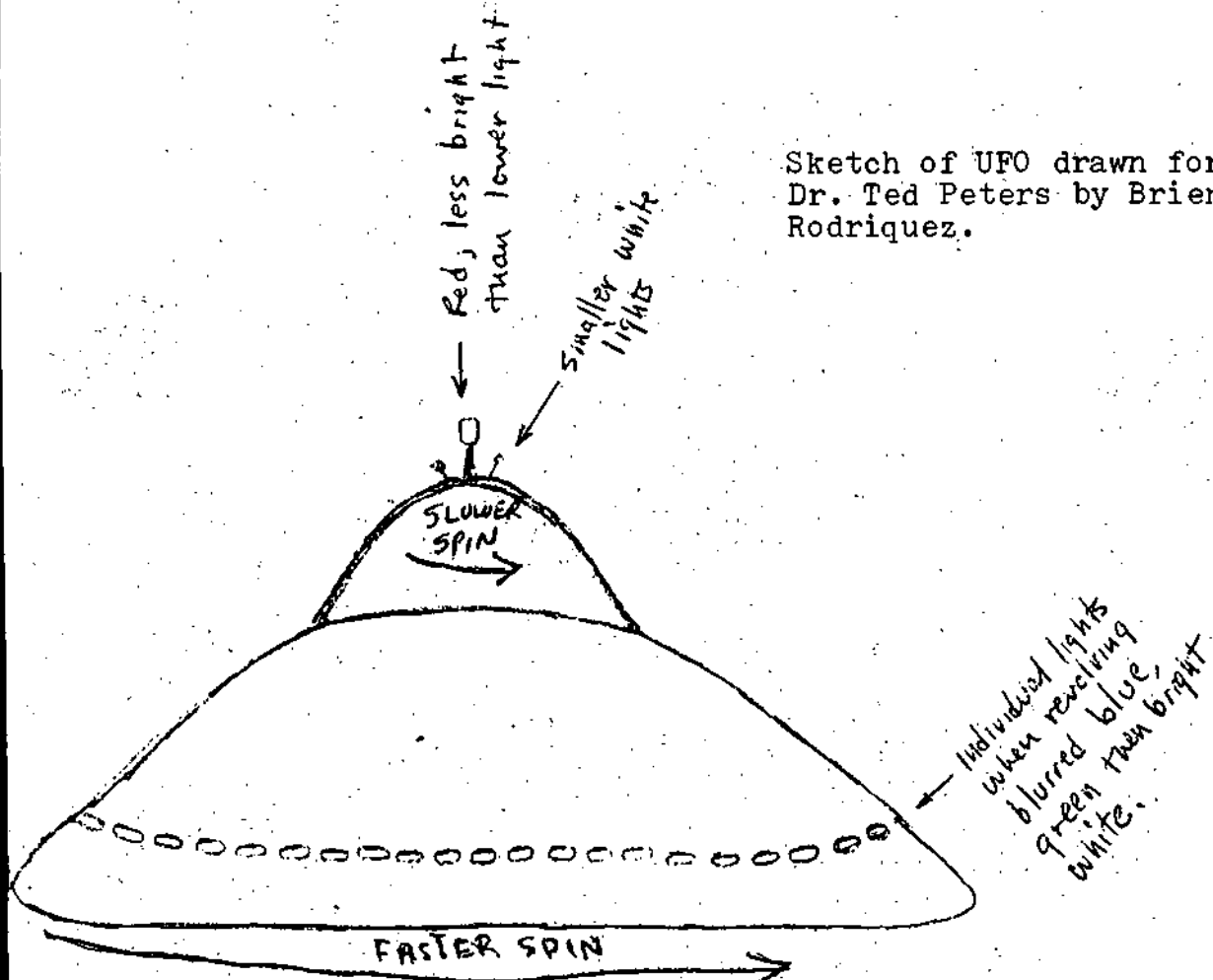
ADDENDA

During the interview the witnesses were told that the cassette tape would be subjected to lie detection on a psychological stress evaluator. Questions establishing pentrameters were included on the tape. Later in the week Mrs. Rodriguez telephoned one investigator to report a falsehood which the PSE might uncover. On the tape she had given her age at 32; she is really 31.

Both Mrs. Rodriguez's husband, Robert, and her father claim to have seen a UFO on separate occasions in the past. None advanced any theories regarding the origins of UFO's or even brought up subjects such as Von Daniken or extra-terrestrial life.



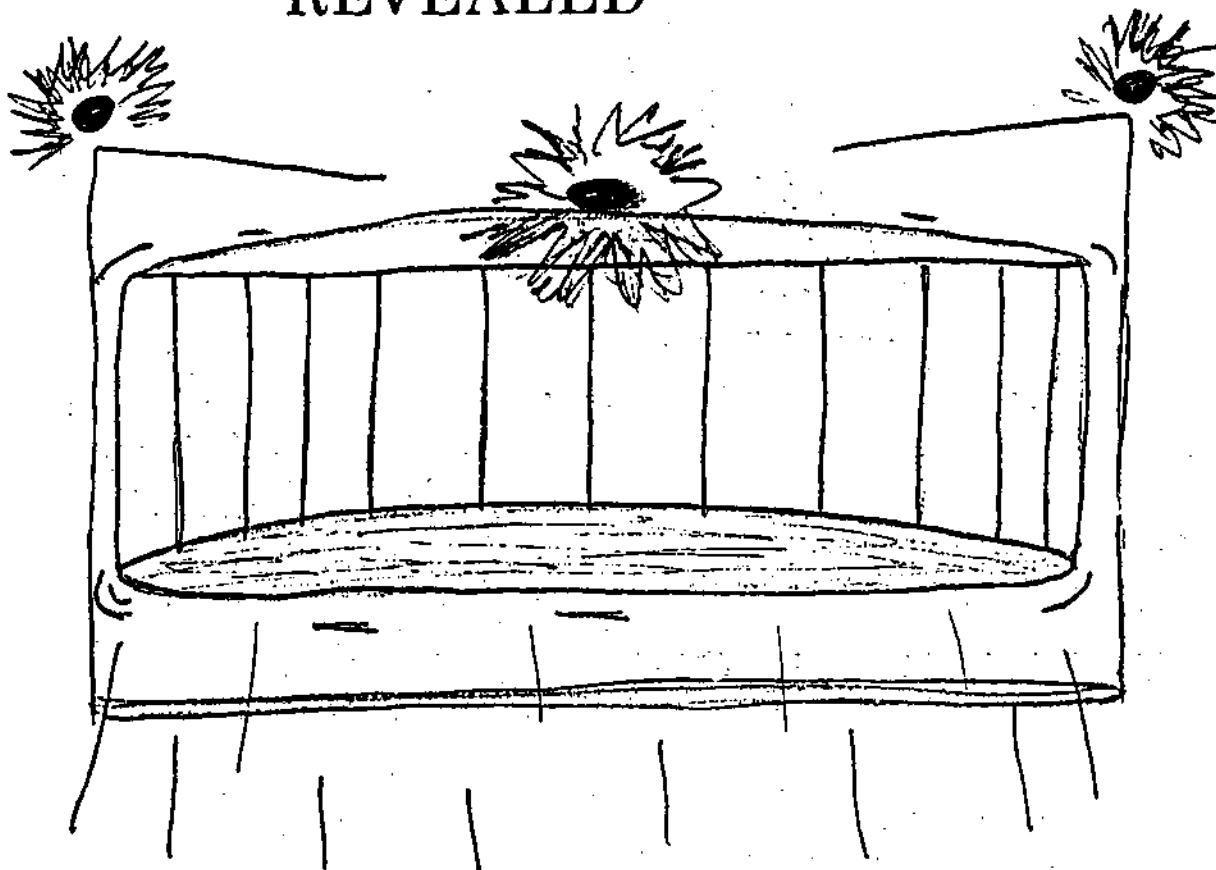
Sketch of UFO drawn for
Dr. Ted Peters by Brien
Rodriquez.



View of bottom, with
lights shining through
holes.

CALIFORNIA FLYOVER CASE REVEALED

BY
DAVE REEVE



Mrs. Roberts' sketch of UFO she observed for at least five minutes. The object hovered next to freeway and then flew over her car as she approached it.

Prior to June 25, 1976, Mrs. Ellen Roberts, in her own words, "had never read much or, been overly enthusiastic about seeing or reading material about UFO's.

But this changed the night of the 25th.

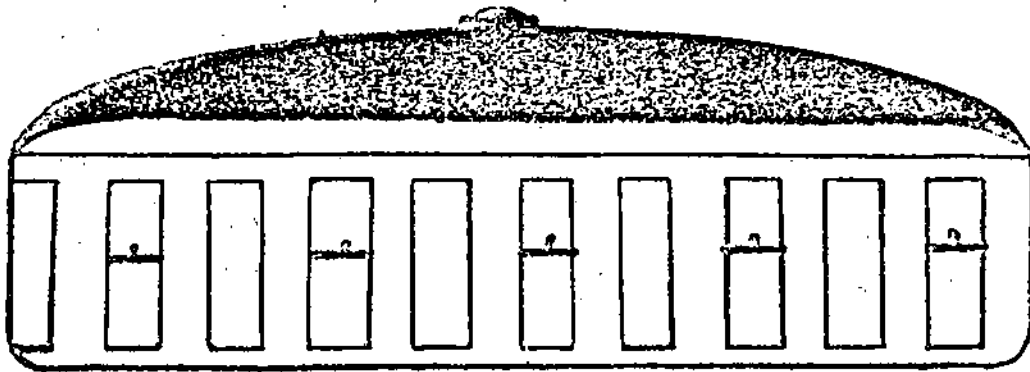
As Mrs. Roberts told MUFON. "My daughter, Jo (age 14), my sister Laura (age 12) and I were driving back from Santa Cruz on Hwy. 680 around 10:00 PM on the night of June 25th. My daughter saw it first, as it approached on our left and asked "what is that"

At first I just glanced at it - saw a bright light and assumed it was a helicopter with a spotlight. Then I took a second look and couldn't believe my eyes. We became very excited when we realized what it was we were looking at. I thought of stopping the car, but was rather apprehensive and waited for the next exit. But by then it was too late.

It was a warm and clear June evening. The object (about 150-250 feet away) was in sight (as it hovered alongside the freeway) for about five

minutes. It then flew over the car (car had slowed down to about 30mph) and disappeared over a nearby mountain. As the speed was not excessive, the time of observation was about ten minutes altogether.

The object was quite low and did not resemble a jet aircraft at any time. Instead, it was circular, estimated to be about 25' high and 40' long. It seemed to glow with an inner light and the women could see every detail quite clearly. No means of propulsion was visible, nor did they feel any

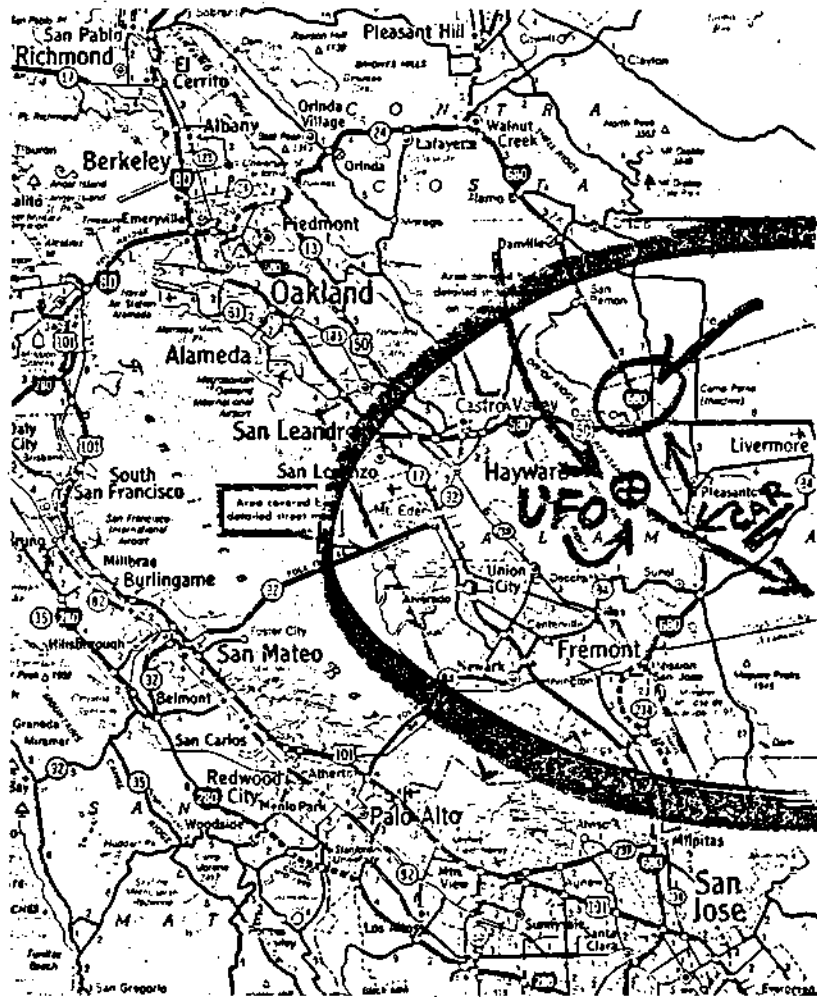


Note similarity of object seen by Ellen Roberts and UFO reported by George O'Barski in the Hudson River Park, NY.

affects or hear any sounds as it flew over the car. Laura, who looked at the underside as it flew over described it as round and revolving.

As soon as they got home, Mrs. Roberts had the girls draw a picture of what they saw and she did the same. All three drew a circular object with red and white lights. But each saw the lights differently. Laura saw them alternately red and white on the windows. Jo saw the red and white light revolving slowly from the windows but wasn't sure as to how they were arranged, just flashing and revolving. Ellen saw the red light as being on top. All three agreed that they couldn't see through the windows, they just glowed. They also all agreed on seeing two green lights, atop and on either side of the craft.

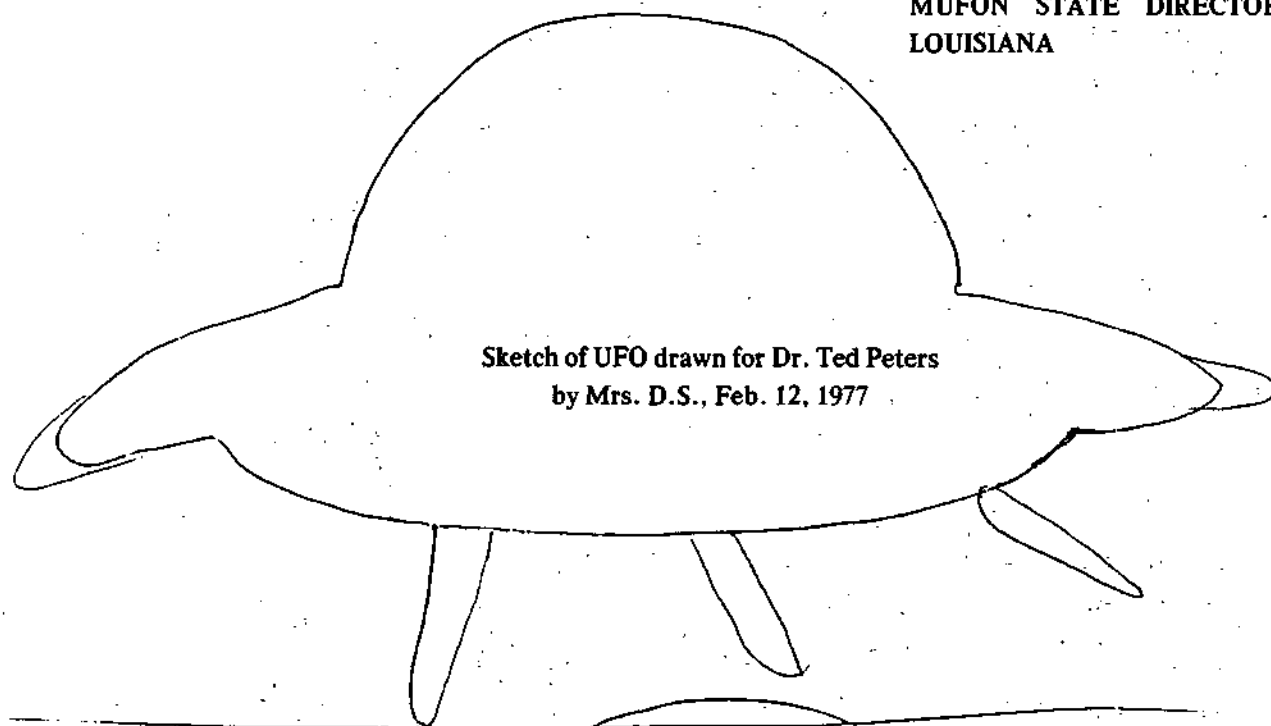
Mrs. Roberts is a senior secretary with two years of college. And like most unwitting witnesses, has received considerable kidding from fellow workers and friends. Prior to this encounter neither her daughter, herself or her sister had read any details on UFO's. The fact that the red and green lights are common to UFO's were a surprise.



Map shows position of UFO and car driven by Mrs. Roberts.

Near Landing In Louisiana

BY TED PETERS
MUFON STATE DIRECTOR FOR
LOUISIANA



The car was full of people when it pulled out of the Schwegman shopping center in Chalmette, Louisiana, about 7:30 p.m. on Saturdaynight, January 22, 1977. The driver was Mrs. D.S., age 35, who does not believe in UFO's and who requested her name be held confidential. In the car sat her daughter and son, Connie age 11 and Terry age 13, along with her brother, age 36, and a family friend, Mrs. a.b., who had her four year old son with her.

They turned north off Judge Perez Drive and on to Jean Lafitte Parkway. When they had passed a white trailer parked in the first block, Terry, sitting in the back seat behind the driver hollered, "mama, look! a UFO!" In the sky to the left they saw a large lighted flying craft hovering above and behind the auditorium. Mrs. D.S. stopped the car and for a period of five minutes its occupants leaned and

strained to watch it through the two car door windows.

The craft maintained a stationary position but never ceased moving. It made a "sort of circular motion." It was a metal machine larger than a car, perhaps the size of a small house. It was dome-shaped with extensions on either end. The witnesses were not certain as to just what angle the craft was positioned. Occasionally it would spin. The dome was flanked by two bright red lights with another light in the lower middle, either yellow or white. There is some disagreement on the number of red lights, D.S. saying there were 3 and A.B. saying there were 2. On the underside there were what Mrs. D.S. described as "three propellers." The whole machine, however, not just the propellers, was seen spinning.

The group was close enough to the

object, within 2,000 feet, so they were certain it was not an airplane, helicopter, or the Goodyear blimp which is seen in the area during Mardi Gras season.

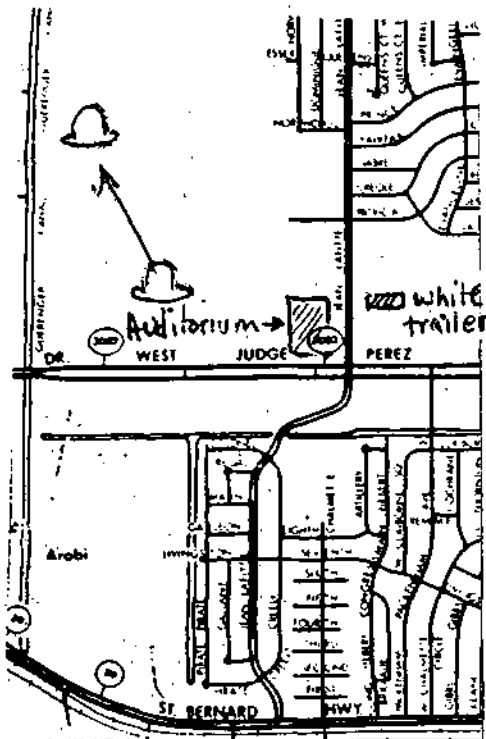
When the car behind them blew the horn, D.S. decided to drive on. The UFO too began to move slowly northward and the careful of watchers drove a quarter mile down Jean Lafitte at the same speed. When the object stopped Mrs. D.S. turned the car left into the boulevard cross-over and stopped. There the little audience remained for 10 minutes watching the show through the windshield. Mrs. D.S. rolled down her window and looked out on one occasion; she could see it but heard nothing.

After "bouncing around" for a time the craft began to settle down behind the trees which lay across the field. The machine would drop behind the

Chester, California
September 1956

The Wilson Lake Humanoid

By Paul C. Cerny
Western Regional Director



Map shows path of UFO.

trees and then pop back up again. Prior to its final descent it tilted severely. They could see the lights through the tree branches. The red lights disappeared first, then the white light. Overawed at what they had seen, the group drove home and told no one. Their testimony did not surface until other similar reports appeared in the local newspaper.

Mrs. A.B. described herself as a "nervous kind of scared." The children were frightened. Mrs. D.S. remained calm throughout, but indicates that the experience had left a deep impression on her. The brother of D.S. was unavailable for comment.

UFO investigator James LaChute in the company of Terry S. searched the woods as far back as The Guenger Canal on February 12, but no signs or traces of a landing were discernable at that time.

The approximate date would be September 1956. The place, Wilson Lake near Chester, California (a small lake). It was about 3 p.m. on a sunny warm afternoon. Four people in this wilderness area were deer hunting. The first part of the season allows only bow and arrow weapons. The party split in pairs to hunt nearby. The main witness was an off-duty deputy sheriff in the Butte County area who wishes to remain anonymous. He was hunting with his sister who was approximately 150 yards away from him at the time of the sighting. All she saw was some small person through the manzanita and brush and assumed him to be just another red-jacketed hunter.

The deputy sheriff was sitting down on a log in a small clearing resting with his bow across his lap. The area was mostly manzanita and brush with an occasional pine tree here and there, and deer trails running through this growth. Suddenly, in the remote silence, he heard gravel and rock rolling behind him where the mountain continued up a 15-degree slope several hundred yards to the top. As he spun around in response to the noise, he stood up face to face about 70 feet from a small, brightly clad little man about four feet high. This creature looked very human with fine facial features,

light brown hair just protruding slightly from a red and gold cap. He was wearing rather close fitting pants which were green with some sort of light brown low tight boots. A long sleeve jacket was also gold in color and open down the front where a tan pullover shirt could be seen underneath. No buttons, zippers or any type of fasteners could be seen. The general stature was quite human appearing, hands normal, body well developed proportionately. He could have been a small boy with the exception that he was very adult looking and appeared as if he may have been 35-40 years old. He was carrying absolutely nothing.

After "eye balling" each other at the 70-foot distance for about a minute (they obviously surprised each other), the creature whirled around and leaped up the loose gravel slope in twenty-foot strides until he cleared the top and disappeared. The astounded deputy then went down to their base camp and as he said, "I had a couple of shots of bourbon to steady my nerves and I don't drink!!" About a half hour later he finally "got his wits about him" and ventured up the slope to the top where he saw the creature disappear but could find no sign of him or of anything else unusual.

UFO Explodes Over Brazilian Town

By Otto Raymundo

According to a local newspaper report and presenced by a large number of people, a said Flying Saucer exploded violently, over Presidente Prudente town (Pop. 92,000), in Sao Paulo state, Brazil; throwing fragments all around, some having sizes up to 28 inches, which were found near a school yard:

A UFO dashed the sky, emmiting policolor flickering lights and descending in high speed. Hundreds of local inhabitants came outdoors scared. Making weirding loud sounds, the UFO set women and children in frightening condition. Suddenly, people panicked under a tremendous explosion. Fiery fragments sprayed all around, some penetrating 12 inches into the ground. Police collected pieces, cautiously. Material assembled submitted to Air Force experts.

With the presence of a countless number of witnesses and the local mayor, the alleged fragments were carefully collected by the police. Taken to the military authorities and afterwards, to the Air Force headquarters of the region, for further technical evaluation, these fragments were quite puzzling in its own appearance.

HIGH SPEED

At about 10 p.m. on August 6th, 1976, a strange flying object zoomed the skies at incredible speed, emmiting colorful beams of light, as yellow

green and blue. People who presenced such phenomenon, affirmed it was a Flying Saucer, according to its shape and the erratic directions it performed. It also was noticed as descending.

THE EXPLOSION

Coming closer to the ground in vertiginous speed and giving away so much light, it arose the attention of hundreds of inhabitants, also by its loud sounds. Many people came outside their houses, to watch the unusual happening. Among the witnesses, a professor by the name Galindo, from the Santo Amaro district, affirmed that it was a Flying Saucer alright, whatever they were presencing. Suddenly, a violent explosion occurred. The UFO became ragged in a matter of seconds, ablazing pieces all around, like a fire shower display; and throwing large fragments everywhere, like projectiles. Most of people panicked, running away, terrified, and looking for shelter. Women and children screaming, some individuals praying, all in total terror—as the world was getting to an ending in a matter of seconds—none with an exactly notion of what was really going on...

FRAGMENTS

Most of the debris thrown around, disappeared in few minutes, but some came down whizzing sharply and with a loud roar, crashing the soil violently. After penetrating the ground about 12 inches deep, some of those fragments remained buzzing and squeaking for a long time, weirdly, near a school

yard. The local mayor, name Leonildo Denare, came to the site, together with the policemen, who were very cautious in collecting such odd objects from inside the ground.

Afterwards, a few fragments were taken and at the first glance, presented the characteristics of a multi-layered plastic coverage, with the density of silicon and with a metallic foil sandwiched in it. Same material was taken to the Military Police quarters, then transferred to the Air Force Commandment, for a technical examination.

One of the fragments collected, weighed a little over one pound (five kilograms) and was covered by an alloy, composed of aluminum, nickel and antimony; supposedly capable of supporting a high impact in space flight, according to Professor Galindo, and testified in presence of lieutenant Cunha, who was formerly in charge of the investigations.

Unofficially, it was known that some American agency experts were present in the site, with full instrumentation, days after the incident.

Of course, an intriguing story like this may appear to be fictitious, but, considering quite a few other reports of the kind accounted in the past, this author might agree it deserves a closer study and some attention by the Ufologists.

Years before the word UFOLOGY began to mean something by itself, a few people started gathering some valuable data, most from private researchs, and a shape for this new



A UFO dashed the sky, emitting policolor flickering lights and descending in high speed. Hundreds of local inhabitants came outdoors, scared.

science became evident.

In September of 1957, a similar case was largely discussed by the press, also in Brazil, and is presently well exemplified into the Encyclopaedia Britannica 3, under the U.F.O. subject (Macropaedia, vol. 18, pg. 855):

"A flying saucer diving into the sea, eye-witnessed by three fishermen, exploded in thousands of fiery fragments, in Ubatuba, Sao Paulo. Several pieces were collected and sent to a government laboratory, that did the chemical analysis."

Conclusively, the results showed these fragments were composed most of "high purity magnesium", but with some impurities as zinc, strontium and others, totalling about 0.15 percent. However, compared to the industrial U.S. pure magnesium produced, which has less than 0.002 percent of impurities, said material presented an unusual amount of strontium, what reinforced the extra terrestrial hypothesis for the event. As outlined by the experts, strontium is not produced in commercially quantities, because two other alkaline-earth metals—calcium and barium—that resembles the strontium closely, and occur in much greater abundance, being its compounds most similar and cheaper.

Strontium is also malleable and ductile, acting as a good conductor of electricity. Although controlled amount of radioactive strontium has been beneficially used as a bone cancer treatments, and more; its misuse can surely lead to death by radiation.

The heat of its radioactive decay also can be converted to electricity, allowing long-lived, lightweight sources, for use in navigation

buoys—or space vehicles, etc. Strontium also reacts with water to yield hydrogen and strontium hydroxide. Finely divided, it spontaneously ignites in the air, its volatile salts imparting a brilliant crimson color to the flames. This property has often been utilized in highway and railroad signaling devices, as well as in fireworks. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, Micropaedia, Vol.9, page 618).

Up to the present, quite a few other cases of UFO fragments analysis has shown that the unidentified or unknown factor prevails most of the time. Even the Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory has tested some kind of fallen debris, from an alleged flying object that exploded somewhere in California, above a lake; with inconclusive results known. Also the respectable NASA scientists, have had the opportunity to mistaken an important analysis, of some metal fragments collected near a rocky site, where an allegedly spaceship scraped itself, in a landing operation near Socorro, New Mexico, in 1964.

Other exploding cases of UFOs have been well known, and sometimes are listed far back into the past; some with odd metal alloys unconclusively tested—and others with even more than 90% of unknown organic residues. Perhaps, an old and most intriguing event of this sort was the mysterious explosion occurred in 1908, in Tungus, Siberia; said of a gigantic atomic source, developed somewhere about 10 kilometers above the ground level—what still offers vast controversial kinds of opinions, among experts and scientists.

This article presents information based in a story published by the newspaper O DIA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on August 8 & 9, 1976.

1976 MUFON SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

(84 pages)

"Swamp Gas Plus Ten - And Counting" by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director of the Center for UFO Studies.

"Canadian UFO Residium" by Henry H. McKay, MUFON Canadian Regional Director.

"Heavenly Chariots And Flying Saucers" by Dr. Ted Peters, MUFON State Section Director for Central South Carolina.

"UFOlogy and the Digital Computer - A Lesson In The Evaluation Of UFO Secondary Evidence" by William H. Spaulding, Director of Ground Saucer Watch, Inc.

"The Operation ARGUS Concept - A New Look At UFO Event Sharing And UFO Data Sharing" by Ray Stanford, Director of Project Starflight International.

"Analysis Of Humanoid Reports" by David F. Webb, MUFON Eastern Regional Director and Co-Chairman of the MUFON Humanoid Study Group.

"Must We Stand Idly By? Social Reaction To UFO Reports" by Dr. Ron Westrum, MUFON Consultant in Sociology.

The 1976 Proceedings is available from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Sequin, Texas 78155 for \$5.00 post-paid.



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Walt Andrus' home)

CALIFORNIA REPORT

"ARE THERE MIMICKING UFOs?" Part 1

By Ann Druffel

Any UFO researcher worth his salt has come across particularly puzzling cases, in which credible witnesses will report close encounters with UFOs of odd design and structured detail, performing impossible maneuvers. These will seem at first to be first-class reports deserving of careful followup.

Checking out standard sources during the subsequent investigations, these puzzling sightings fall apart in the researcher's hands. An ordinary manmade object—a blimp, an advertising plane, etc.—will be proved to be in the vicinity of the sighting at the time stated. The witnesses must have been mistaken; they must have subconsciously embellished details and invented maneuvers that their "UFO" was supposed to have performed.

Go back to these witnesses, however and present the evidence uncovered. Try to interpret what has happened. Stone faces and unhearing ears greet the explanation. The witnesses have "seen what they have seen".

Cases such as these occur from time to time over Southern California skies and have caused the author and other local researchers much puzzlement. Invariably the sightings have been classified as IFOs or stuck out of sight into bulging files. No real use has been made of them over the years.

To illustrate briefly the kind of case which is the specific subject of this column, let us consider the Santa Ana, California sightings of January 2, 1973. On this smogless evening the visibility was fifteen miles on the ground, sixty miles one thousand feet above the earth. Unusually pure

air imparted a brilliance and clarity to lights and objects rarely experienced in this polluted basin.

Between 6:20 and 7:00 p.m., seven witnesses in four different sections of the city viewed a startling, vividly lighted metallic craft. The domed vehicle was complete with jaunty antennae and a lighted door. The author was, unfortunately, the investigator on this promising case. It was a dismal task indeed to have to inform the awed and frightened witnesses that they had mistaken the Goodyear blimp for a craft from another world.

The Goodyear blimp was cruising Orange County, including Santa Ana, that evening between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.. Three years before it had been outfitted by its enterprising owners with 7,560 colored light bulbs. Flashing in varied thirty-second patterns of green, red, yellow, and blue, they called the world's attention to the next breathtaking advertisement which followed in words outlined with ordinary white lights.

The brilliant colors and oval shape reported by the witnesses conformed closely to those of the blimp. The light patterns in most cases also were similar. But the structured details—antennae, door, dome, a sound "like an electric generator did not conform. (See Figures 1,2) Above all, the meteoric speeds, rapid decelerations, immense apparent size, and angled flight paths reported were not compatible with the clumsy airship, whose cruising speed is thirty-five mph, and which was carefully ambling along at minimum one-thousand-foot altitude. Perhaps the most eloquent statement

regarding the Santa Ana misidentifications came from blimp's pilot, himself. "How could they mistake it?" he asked. "It has Goodyear written all over it, and anyone within a mile of it can read the ads unless they are blind or can't read!"

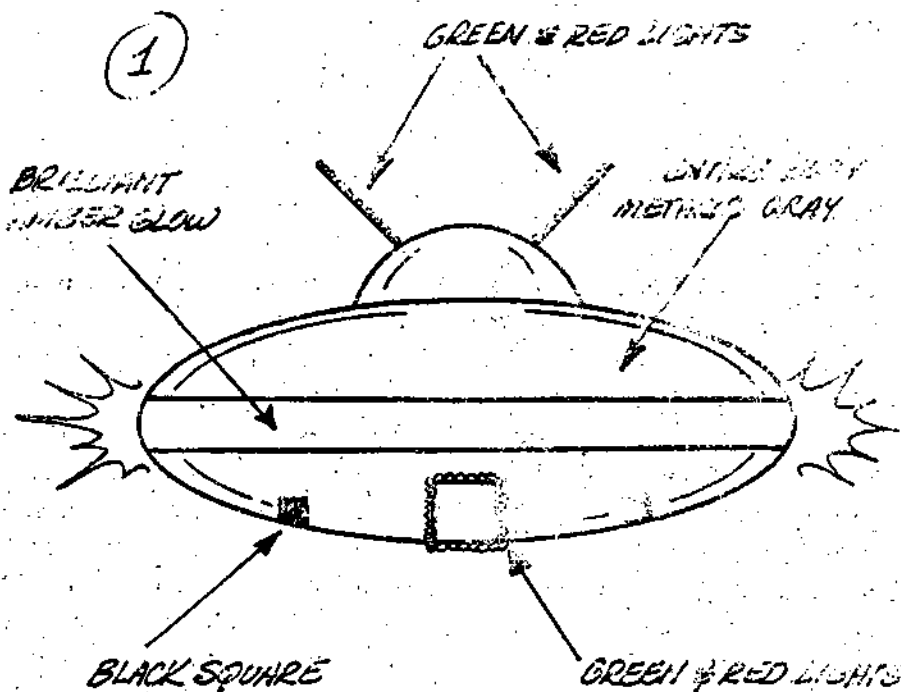
Sine functions and ratios applied to the apparent sizes, and angles of sight showed impossible correlation, in most cases, with what the blimp should present at normal cruising height.

For the sake of objectivity, however, it was decided that all the witnesses were wrong. In spite of our tactful efforts, seven puzzled, angry witnesses were left stoutly maintaining that the object was not, and never could be, the blimp.

The same thing happened three months later in Tarzana, California on April 10, 1973. In that San Fernando Valley community, not one but three startling craft whose colors and shape roughly resembled the blimp maneuvered together before departing posthaste at a speed considerably above the blimp's best efforts. But the blimp was cruising above the valley that night. Again, for the sake of objectivity the case was put down as "misidentification of conventional object". But by this time the author had begun to wonder.

Three years passed, during which whirling, lighted discs which circled larger lighted discs were identified tentatively as a new type of advertising helicopter. The witnesses were as puzzled as the investigator when she tried to tell them what they had seen.

On February 1, 1977 a sighting occurred which, lightly speaking, was



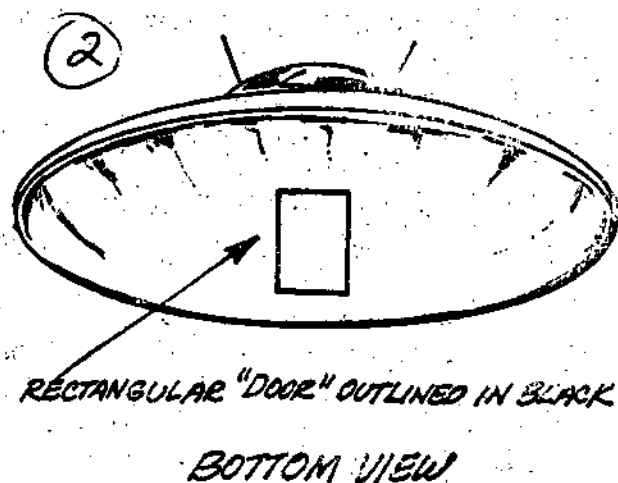
the straw that broke the ufologist's back. On that evening at 8:40 p.m. above Glendale, California two young professional men flying southbound in a helicopter at 1100 feet saw a bright yellowish light passing them, going northbound at an estimated 100 mph. It was about a thousand feet to their left and two hundred feet lower in altitude. Thinking that it was a fixed-wing aircraft flying at an illegal height the pilot of the chopper turned his ship toward the light in the hopes of catching its number and reporting it to the FAA. The object immediately came up to the helicopter's altitude and copied his turn precisely. In less time than it takes to tell, the men in the helicopter found themselves performing a Luffberry circle maneuver with the strangest craft they had ever seen.

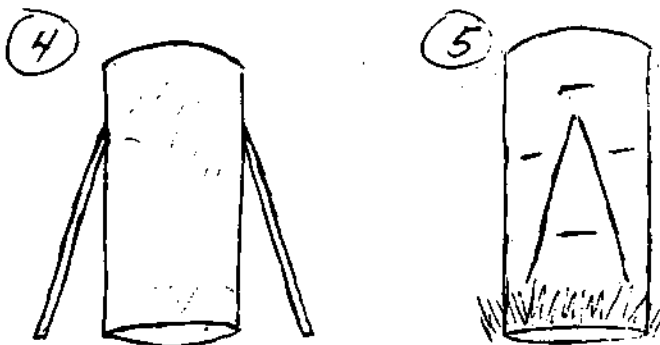
The word "craft" as used here is not by author's choice. It was a carefully chosen word used by two exceptionally qualified observers. Their own words speak more picturesquely than any paraphrasing could ever do.

"It was approximately 300 to 500 feet away, orbiting in a precise 180 degree orbit with us. We were in at least a 500 foot orbit and going 60 miles an hour. It was an unusual-looking light, really threw off a lot in light upward, illuminating an object above it to which it was attached. It appeared to be a cylinder-shape deal. (See Figures 4,5) This cylinder-shaped thing was approximately 10-15 feet high and 4-8 feet wide. It wasn't another aircraft, that's for sure.

It was upright, you know...it couldn't fly that way. We were wondering what the heck it was. Couldn't see any wings. Couldn't figure it out. We were more or less astonished at what we were seeing. We circled with it in precision flight for five or ten orbits. We saw markings or struts or something going up into a triangle type of thing and sticking out at an angle from the sides. The cylinder and struts or markings were dark color, or gray. We were seeing the struts or markings from the light reflecting up. As far as whether they were dimensional or not, it would be hard to determine.

"The light was right on the bottom. It was bright! It was a yellowish-white which resembled no aircraft navigational light we've ever seen. It didn't have distinct edges. We tried to get a closer look at the whole thing with our gyroscopic binoculars, but the gyros weren't turned on—the plug wasn't in, so there was a lot of vibration. When the pilot took the binoculars the object suddenly turned into us. It appeared as though it was going to change course and come at us. He quickly gave the binoculars back and took over the controls again, kind of veered to the right a little,





Sketches by two witnesses
in helicopter over Glen-
dale, Cal., Feb. 1, 1977.

to continue on a little wider orbit. But it then stayed in the orbit, but a little higher than us now.

"It definitely was too controlled, too exact, to be any kind of even remote-controlled thing.

"We said, 'Let's try to get a closer look. Let's go up after it'. We changed altitudes and were going a little higher. It went higher also, broke orbit and went off into the east-southeast at about 11 o'clock position and vanished, like it turned off the light. We were in the same area that it vanished, which was up another 1000 feet and there was no fog up there, no way it disappear in any fog or over to the east or whatever. It evidently turned off its light and took off."

This February 1, 1977 sighting should be a researcher's dream. It comprised well-qualified witnesses, exact detail, precision maneuvers and inexplicable manner of disappearance. Yet when massive efforts were made to locate ground witnesses, none could be located who had seen the circling object or the helicopter. What did turn up were a series of sightings, including one on February 1st, between 8:35 and 8:45 p.m. in the same area where the helicopter performed its Luffberry

circle with the strange craft. These sightings were of objects determined to be probable hoax balloons of an unfamiliar type.

In reading through the voluminous tape transcripts connected with this case, one is struck by the fact that the two witnesses in the helicopter qualified most of their statements. They were most careful in verbal and written description. The only thing they did not qualify was that they were sure the object was not a balloon of any kind. They "have seen what they have seen."

In this field of UFO research, where nothing is certain and where evidence often conflicts with "reality", it is probably acceptable to ask this question—"Do UFOs sometimes mimic conventional objects?"

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In the concluding Part 2 next issue, evidential material will be presented pro and con on the "balloon" theory. Also some surprising correlations will be offered, comparing the Glendale object with a classic Brazilian UFO, which was involved in one of the strangest abduction cases ever recorded.

POLICEMEN WATCH UFO

By Ernst Berger, MUFON
Representative for Austria

February 27, 1977, 0155 hours Central European Time. The Vienna sky is cloudy with cold northwestern winds. A police cadet is driving the squad car on night patrol with an officer on the second front seat. Both men request to remain anonymous. As the patrol reaches the open country road between Stammersdorf and Jedlersdorf (21st district, outskirts), the officer points to the west. "It looked like the sun going down, a dull fiery red thing in the night." Telling his cadet this can't be an advertising sign with neon tubes. (as the man suggested), the officer leaves the car. The object hovers at the level of Bisamberg radio tower, in the direction of central Strebersdorf, where a high tension power line runs north-south. "And it was huge, like the moon we saw much higher up. It wasn't full, but the lower piece cut off at an angle, very sharp. It looked like a body, not flat. We stood beside the patrol car for, say, 1 or 2 minutes, when it turned into a wedge quickly (2), then grew narrower and narrower (3) and finally went away rapidly as a dot to the west." Height and direction in the sky did not vary during the "zoom-off" (compare with Mr. A's 'zooming' objects on page 13, MUFON UFO JOURNAL 104, July 1976). No sound was heard, and the two men had no binoculars, but the good standard police eyesight. When I returned with the officer to the spot for a field investigation, I was impressed by his sincerity. "I'm no friend of UFOs," he said, "but I can't explain what it was." A full moon sized object should have been 20 meters across in 1.3 kilometers distance (where the power lines run), if it was as distant.



Lucius Farish

In Others' Words

Very few UFO-related articles have appeared in the two leading weekly tabloids in recent weeks. The March 1 issue of National Enquirer presented actor Leonard Nimoy's views on UFOs. Nimoy considers it possible that "we have been visited or are being visited now," but he also has some interesting comments on governmental policies regarding UFOs. The February 15 issue of reported on the UFO car-chase incident involving the Pecha family of Colusa, California.

Claude Mac Duff, the editor of UFO-Quebec, has asked me to announce that, beginning with their #9 (March 1977) issue, UFO-Quebec will have a new format, different typesetting, increased coverage of UFO activity, more varied subject matter and other improvements. For our French-speaking readers, this magazine is certainly one of the more interesting publications being issued today. Subscription in the U.S. are \$5.00 for four quarterly issues. The address is: UFO-Quebec - P.O. Box 53 Dollard-des-Ormeaux - Quebec, Canada H9G-2H5.

The May issue of Official UFO has its usual quota of interesting material, with articles by Alan Berry, Richard Hall, Kevin Randle, Howard Smukler, Bruce Schaffenberg, Dennis Anthony, Curt Sutherly and others. Sutherly's interview with Stanton Friedman is one of the best ones to appear in print thus far.

UFOReport also contains material of interest, although the contents of the May issue are largely on the speculative side. Contributors include Harry L. Helms, Jr., Brad Steiger, Richard E. Mooney, Kevin Randle, Gray Barker, B. Ann Slate, Wendelle Stevens and others.

Something of an improvement is also noted in the March issue of Argosy UFO, which contains articles by Curt Sutherly, Bill Quinalty, Don Wilson, Kevin Randle, Wendelle Stevens and others. If the amount of reprinted material from older UFO books could be lessened, Argosy UFO could easily become one of the better sources of UFO information.

Now we come to the latest entry in the magazine field, Quest. This bi-monthly publication is edited by Kevin Randle and is affiliated with the North American UFO Organization Inc. (P.O. Box 5885 - Kansas City, MO 64111). The first issue contains some material of interest, but there is a definite flavor of "super-skepticism" in the editorial. This is curious, as editor Randle has been one of the leading proponents of UFO reality in his articles for various other magazines (see his contributions to the three magazines mentioned above). Yet, in his Quest editorial, Randle says: "We would like to believe in UFOs and the Bermuda Triangle and Ancient Astronauts but we can't." There is much lip service given to "Truth" throughout the first issue of

Quest, but one must wonder if the publication of Rober Sheaffer's arrant nonsense is an example of the "truths" we may expect in future issues. In summary, I find this newcomer a bit disappointing, but one can hope for improvements. If you wish to join the organization which sponsors Quest, the membership dues are \$10.00 per year, for which you receive the six yearly issues of the magazine, an ID card, a "saucer emblem", etc. Subscriptions to the magazine only are available at \$5.00 per year and this certainly seems to be the best bet.

A fifth Edition of Flying Saucers: An Analysis Of The Air Force Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14 is now available from Blue-Book Publishers - 64 Prospect Street - White Plains, NY 10606 (\$5.95). This edition, like its predecessors, has been prepared by Dr. Leon Davidson. It includes reprints of articles by Dr. Davidson which were originally published in Saucer News and Flying Saucer Review some years ago, as well as copies of correspondence between Dr. Davidson and UFO researchers, military and governmental figures, etc. There are also reprints of Air Force Press Releases, the CIA Panel Report of 1953, AFR 200-2, the final AF summary following the closing of Project Blue Book and various other materials of interest. It is Dr. Davidson's thesis that UFOs are devices used by the CIA and that those contactee claims

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 18)

which he regards as genuine were merely elaborate CIA hoaxes. While I do not agree with this basic idea, I must give the author credit for bringing forth some very interesting material. Amid the profusion of UFO theories, Davidson's is certainly unique.

NORTH CAROLINA MUFON STATE TRAINING CONFERENCE

On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's UFO sighting in Washington State, George Fawcett, State Director for North Carolina, is announcing the First North Carolina MUFON State Training Conference on Saturday June 25 and Sunday June 26th in Winston-Salem, NC. It will be held at the Sears, Roebuck & Co. activity room (lower level) of the Hanes Mall. For directions proceed south on Interstate 40, using the Silas Creek Parkway Exit, then 1/2 mile to Hanes Mall. This event is being sponsored by the Mutual UFO Network and hosted by the Tarheel UFO Study Group. It will start on noon June 25th and conclude on noon on the 26th. All MUFON members, investigators, officers, and JOURNAL subscribers are invited to attend. Speakers will be Nolie Bell, President of the Tarheel UFO Study Group, whose topic will be "General Approach to UFO Investigations"; P. Wayne LaPorte will share some of his 1976 investigative work; George Fawcett will present a slide/lecture on "UFO Characteristics". He will also present a transparency/lecture on MUFON's "Field Investigator's Manual" as basic training in these techniques. There will be no charge for this training meeting.

by
Walt Andrus

On February 23, 1977, John F. Schuessler accepted the position of Deputy Director of Administration. As a founding member of MUFON in 1969, John formerly served as the State Director for Missouri and later as Deputy Director. He has been a MUFON Consultant in Astronautics since 5/31/69. John and his lovely wife Kathy live at 870 Seafoam Drive, Clear Lake City, TX, where he is employed at the NASA Space Center as a technical manager for McDonnell-Douglas Corp., working on the crew support system for the space shuttle program. John's mailing address is P.O. Box 58485, Houston, TX 77058.

Further reorganization of MUFON in Pennsylvania has been accomplished with the appointment of Robert M. Hipp, as State Director succeeding Stan Gordon. Bob is a Commander in the U.S.N.R. and a businessman. He resides at 7241 Paxton Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111 and was formerly a State Section Director. We had the pleasure of meeting with Bob at the recent FIRST INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS in Acapulco, Mexico.

Paul G. Johnson, Ph.D., 460 Bailey Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15211 has volunteered to be the State Section Director for Lawrence, Beaver, and Venango counties. Paul is a research chemist at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. T. Scott Crain, Jr., R.D. #1, Port Matilda, PA 16870

was selected to be State Section Director for Centre county.

Alfred L. Morrow, 704 West Park Plaza, Mattoon, IL 61938 was appointed State Section Director for Coles county. Nearly all of the members of their Citizen Band Radio Club have joined MUFON as Field Investigator Trainees as another means of utilizing their CB radios to report and investigate UFO sightings.

Mrs. Mildred M. Bieseke, 2017 Lincoln Circle, Salt Lake City, Utah 84117 has volunteered to serve as State Section Director for Salt Lake, Davis, Morgan, and Summit counties. She also has agreed to re-write UFO sighting reports into narrative style for publication in THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL.

If the motion picture narrated and produced by William Shatner titled "Mysteries of the Gods" has not appeared in your local theater, please be alerted to this fine documentary on ancient astronauts and UFOs. Playing a major role in the film, our JOURNAL Editor, Dennis W. Hauck does an outstanding job when interviewed by Mr. Shatner. We are extremely proud of his performance.

Thomas E. Bearden, 1902 Willis Road S.E., Huntsville, AL 35801 has become a Consultant in Nuclear Engineering to MUFON. Mr. Bearden has a M.S. in Nuclear Engineering and is employed as a Research Scientist (Air Defense)

RECAPPING AND COMMENTING

By Richard Hall (MUFON International Coordinator)

(Comments in this month's column are based, in part, on articles appearing in MUFON UFO JOURNAL No. 108, dated November, 1976).

Computer enhancement analysis of UFO photographs (or "creature" photographs, as in this issue) appear to be a useful tool for UFO research. Bill Spaulding and Ground Saucer Watch are to be congratulated for this important work. However, I have been disappointed by the seeming lack of critical discussion by others of GSW's findings in particular cases. The computer does not work magic, only human designs. It is a tool, not a panacea, and the techniques applied should be scrutinized carefully.

GSW has given a negative rating to the August 1965 Santa Ana, California, photographs taken by Rex Heflin. Frankly, I doubt the validity of this finding for two reasons: (1) I know something about the extensive investigation done on the case, which GSW does not appear to be taking into account; (2) the negative rating apparently is based on the computer's alleged ability to determine true distance where human beings alone cannot do so. Without a UFO of known size, or definite reference points relative to the image, distance simply cannot be determined. Any argument that the image is that of a small model close up must show convincingly how this is known. If enhancement of the image has shown something funny about the UFO suggesting fakery, then that information would have to be disclosed and demonstrated in order for a negative rating to be

justified in this case—or in any case where no other line of evidence suggests a hoax.

The GSW literature states that, "Pixel resolution equals distance with little or no bearing on camera/lens focus." No theoretical justification is given for this flat statement, yet acceptance of it is critical to evaluation of whether a photographic UFO is close and small (possibly a model) or distant and larger. This seems a mite too absolute for me, and I cannot help but wonder if this test of distance isn't considerably more inexact than the claims being made for it. Under what circumstances of given data can this test (or the other two modes of analysis) provide a finding of "uncertain," "possible," "probable," or "definite"? It won't do to say that "the computer told me so," since human beings have told the computer what to say when it detects a certain pattern. It is the human assumptions and logic involved that need to be clarified and discussed. I wish that knowledgeable photoanalysts would comment on these questions. I am sure GSW would welcome this.

My article about Ray Stanford's book on the 1964 Socorro, NM landing case contained some unfortunate typographical errors and omissions. On page 15, column 2, line 1, the word should be "sample" (not "same"). On page 17, column 3, near bottom, the editor of the former U.S. Flying Saucer Review was "Gribble" (not "Cribble").

Most importantly, the symbols (page 17, column 2) which Ray Stanford told us would justify suspicion of a hoax are here shown in Figure 1.

The symbol described to NICAP by Zamora (page 17, column 3) and subsequently verified is shown in Figure 2. The symbols were accidentally omitted from the article, and I suggest readers sketch them in the blank spaces where they were supposed to appear.



Fig. 1 - Symbols indicative of a hoax, according to Ray Stanford.



Fig. 2 - The verified symbol.



APRIL 1977

MERCURY—For about the first half of the month Mercury should be easily seen low in the west just after sunset; at greatest eastern elongation on the 10th it is about 17 degrees above the western horizon at sunset.

VENUS—At the beginning of the month Venus is very low in the western sky at sunset and difficult to observe. By mid-month it will be easily seen as a morning star rising about an hour before the sun.

MARS—It is in the morning sky but still too close to the sun for easy observation, being only about 10 degrees above the eastern horizon at sunset.

JUPITER—In Taurus it is well down in the west at sunset and sets about three hours later.

SATURN—In Cancer, it is approaching the meridian at sunset and sets about two hours after midnight.