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No. 53

A P R I L 1 9 7 2

Message From Your Director
Third Annual Midwest UFO Conference
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The Complete Program and Ticket Information
for the
Third Annual Midwest UFO Conference, June 17, 1972
In This Issue

"We tell it as it is"

SKYLOOK

The Official Publication of the Midwest UFO Network

Editor and Publisher

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MOVING? Send us your change of address immediately. Third class mail is not forwarded, but returned to us and we have to pay postage for the return trip.

Conference Proceedings; the Field Investigator's Manual, and the very professional publicity job for the St. Louis Group. He is already hard at work assembling the 1972 Midwest UFO Conference Proceedings.

A new Consultant in Mechanical Engineering joins our very competent advisory group. He is Arlan K. Andrews, Sc. D., 1608 Efland Drive, Greensboro, N. C., 27408; telephone AC 919 288-2436, a professional engineer with Bell Laboratories. Arlan indicates his prime interest in the study of the UFO phenomena relates to contact and technology.

The "Snippy Case" introduces a new State-Section Director for Colorado, none other than Donald S. Richmond, 329 Arthur Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado, 81004; telephone AC 303 453-4351. As a Deputy Sheriff and a postal clerk, Don will very ably represent the counties of Pueblo, Fremont, Custer, Huerfano, and Alamosa in MUFON. He continues to investigate unusual events in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. He has devoted four years of research into the strange demise of "Snippy" the pet Appaloosa horse.

Joining Frank Inderwiesen in Florida, it is a privilege to introduce our new State-Section Director for southeast Florida, S. Jack Briggs, 411 S. W. Eleventh Ave., Apt. #5, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 33312; telephone AC 305 552-0593. Jack is employed by the Motorola Communications Division in Plantation, Fl., as a Manager of Material Evaluation. A native of Wyoming, he completed four years of college work at the University of Wyoming at Laramie prior to his present occupation in the electronics field.

Charles M. Freiburg, 306 E. Jackson, Saybrook, Ill., 61770; telephone AC 309 475-8171, has volunteered to represent MUFON as our State-Section Director for McLean and Ford counties. Charlie has been an active member of the Decatur UFO Study Group headed by Leonard W. Sturm and has been interested in UFOs for over five years.

(Continued on next page)

Message from Your Director

Elmer A. Kral, recently appointed State Director for Nebraska, has announced that Eldon E. Ervin, 503 East 18th St., Grand Island, Nebr., 68801; telephone AC 308 382-8812, has volunteered to serve as State-Section Director for three counties in his immediate area. Elmer has found that the "MUFON Field Investigator's Manual" is a very persuasive device in recruiting prospective members. He has already purchased fifteen copies--if this gives a clue to his effectiveness. He has also found that the complimentary copy of SKYLOOK that each new MUFON member receives is an asset.

It is a pleasure to announce that N. Joseph Gurney, 3234 Gwen-green, Bridgeton, Mo., 63044; telephone AC 314 739-6358, has accepted the staff position of Public Relations Director for MUFON. Joe has done an outstanding job to date with his work on the 1971 Midwest

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The Indiana counties of Howard, Miami, Cass, and Carroll are now represented by State-Section Director, Lawrence E. Lawrence, P. O. Box 218, Galveston, Indiana, 46932; telephone AC 219 639-6289. Larry is best known in UFO circles for his very interesting and unique museum. He will be enthusiastically contacting his many friends in Indiana to train and develop a competent Field Investigators Network.

As amateur radio station KØJMA, Walter J. Martens has been "reporting-in" to the "Midwest UFO Radio Net" during the group's twice monthly drills for the past year. His interest in the UFO phenomenon has increased to the point where he is now ready to accept greater responsibilities in helping to resolve this scientific dilemma. Walt is our new State-Section Director for the four Iowa counties surrounding his residence at 310 South Cadwell, Eagle Grove, Iowa, 50533. His telephone contact is AC-515-448-4454.

The Annual Meeting of the Midwest UFO Network, Inc., will be held in conjunction with the Midwest UFO Conference on Sunday, June 18, 1972, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Executive Room of the Holiday Inn, Quincy, Illinois. By-laws will be adopted; an expanded Board of Directors will be elected; and officers will be selected as required business. Each State Director and MUFON staff members should be prepared to give a short report on his particular activities and future plans for the growth and scope of MUFON.

May we extend a personal invitation to all our friends to attend this year's Midwest UFO Conference on June 17?

Walt Andrus
Director, MUFON

Third Annual Midwest UFO Conference Will Be Held June 17, 1972
At the Holiday Inn, Quincy, Illinois. Reservations Now Available

The theme for this year's conference "UFO's--A World-wide Phenomenon" will demonstrate the depth in which the scientific challenge of the UFO enigma is being met.

The featured speaker for the 1972 Conference, which will be hosted this year by the Tri-State UFO Study Group, Inc., is the noted writer and research specialist, Dr. David R. Saunders, Professor of Psychology at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Dr. Saunders has titled his speech "New Lines for Orthoteny in UFO Research." His personal study of "orthoteny" (straight-line patterns of UFO sightings as expounded by Aime Michel) led him to conclude that orthoteny is a fact and that the relationship of this fact to extraterrestrial intelligence is a matter for further consideration in the context of other facts. He is probably best known for his book "UFO's? Yes!" which he co-authored with R. Roger Harkins, a Colorado newsmen. Dr. Saunders was one of the original members of the University of Colorado team which was contracted by the U. S. Air Force to conduct a Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects. As our informed readers know, Dr. Saunders did not go along with the Condon report.

Other speakers on the program have chosen subjects sure to hold the attention of all present, and the entire program appears on another page. It would be well to order tickets now as the large attendance at the past two conferences almost guarantees an even larger crowd this year. Tell your friends about this conference and ask your local newspaper to give it some space.

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Conference Program - 2

SKYBOOK

Evening Session

- 6:30 - 7:30 Dinner at Holiday Inn (Ball room)
8:00 - 9:30 "New Lines for Orthotony in UFO Research" presented
by David R. Saunders, Ph. D., University of Colorado,
Boulder, Colo.; co-author of "UFO's? Yes!"
9:30 - 10:30 Critique/Panel Discussion composed of all the Con-
ference speakers. A question and answer session will
terminate the Conference program.

A report on the 1972 MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE will be published and
will be available on the day of the Conference. It will include all
the speeches made by the Conference speakers as well as two papers:
"Quarter Century of UFOs in North Carolina" by George D. Fawcett and
"UFOs As A Religious Phenomenon" by Rev. Barry H. Downing. Price:
\$3.00 at the Conference; \$3.25 thereafter in U. S. A. and Canada; and
\$4 outside U.S. and Canada.

TICKET INFORMATION

Morning Session only	\$2.00	make checks payable to Tri-
Afternoon session only	2.00	State UFO Study Group, Inc.,
Evening session only	2.00	c/o Fields F. Freeman, 1015
All Three Sessions	6.00	Rhapsody Road, Quincy, Ill.
All 3 sessions & Dinner	10.00	62301
Dinner & evening session, only.	7.00	

For more information, telephone: Area Code 217 224-0407 or Area Code
217 222-8374.

Cut-off date for advance reservations is June 3, 1972. Room capacity
is limited, so please reserve early. Remittances will be acknowledged
by receipt in return mail.

Reserved tickets for the above events will be held for you at the
Reservation Desk of the Tri-State UFO Study Group at the Holiday Inn
on June 17, 1972.

Application for Advanced Reservations

No. Tickets _____ \$ _____ Sessions _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Tri-State UFO Study Group, Inc., c/o Fields F. Freeman
1015 Rhapsody Road, Quincy, Illinois, 62301

SKY BOOK

6:30 - 7:30

8:00 - 9:30

9:30 - 10:30

A report on the 1972 MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE will be published and will be available on the day of the Conference. It will include all the speeches made by the Conference speakers as well as two papers: "Quarter Century of UFOs in North Carolina" by George D. Fawcett and "UFOs As A Religious Phenomenon" by Rev. Barry H. Downing. Price: \$3.00 at the Conference; \$3.25 thereafter in U. S. A. and Canada; and \$4 outside U.S. and Canada.

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No. Tickets

\$

Sessions

NAME _____

ADDRESS

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Tri-State UFO Study Group, Inc., c/o Fields F. Freeman
1015 Rhapsody Road, Quincy, Illinois, 62301

In Others' Words--Continued

side, Kolosimo explores all manner of intriguing subjects--UFOs, Atlantis, prehistoric technologies, lunar oddities and the "standard" subjects usually included in such compilations. NOT OF THIS WORLD contains some interesting photos, some of which have not been previously published in books of this type. So, while one may accuse Kolosimo of lumping everything--good, bad and indifferent--between two covers, it would be unfair to designate the book as dull reading. An unwieldy conglomerate perhaps, but far from dull:

Bright Light at Beckemeyer, Ill.

A bright, star-like light was observed passing over the tree tops and across Route 50 at 7:10 p.m. Feb. 18, 1972, by Mr. and Mrs. George Jannett, of Beckemeyer, Ill., as they were driving west on Route 50. The sky was clear and the light was under observation for ten or fifteen minutes. The Jannetts turned off the road to pick up Tim Thacker, a freshman at Central High, and proceeded on their way to attend a basketball game at Breese. All three saw the light hovering in the sky as they returned to Route 50. They lost sight of it as they entered Breese.

Mrs. Jannett said it appeared to be about twice the size of a light on an airplane and was 150-200 feet above the ground.

Snippy Lives On!

Snippy, the Appaloosa horse, who met death by a flying saucer according to his owner, Mrs. Berle Lewis, of Alamosa, Colo., and many others who investigated the case, lives on--in memory, and the case will certainly become a classic in ufology records.

Every mention of Snippy brings us a newspaper clipping of the 1967 event, and Ye Ed is setting up a Snippy folder. When time and space permit, we'll do a special article on Snippy to refresh the memory of "old timers" and as "news" to those just becoming interested in UFOs. Thanks to Emil P. Uhor, one of our West Virginia subscribers, for the latest clip. Why not send yours to SKYLOOK?

Weird Glowing Sphere Seen in Arkansas

Don Shelton, counselor for the Newport School District, told police that he and his family saw a "weird glowing sphere" on the horizon at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 13, 1972. Shelton's son, Donnie, a senior at Newport high school, saw the object about 8:15 p.m. while coming home on state highway 17. He described it as "a glowing disk about the size of a basketball" and said it appeared to follow the car, changing colors from green to white and to reddish orange. The light emitted by the sphere was of an indirect nature "sort of like an indirect lighting fixture in a home," young Shelton said.

On reaching home, he told of the sighting and the family went outside and "saw it right away," Shelton said. "It was about a mile or two away and very low near the horizon." He also verified the weird glowing effect and unusual color changes, and said they watched it with binoculars until it disappeared from view.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Haley, their son, and Roy Hill, all of Newport, reported a glowing disc about the size of a baseball and orange in color while returning to Newport from a band clinic at Russellville. Mrs. Haley said it was first noticed between 7:30 and 8 p.m. when it appeared high in the sky beside their car.

Weird Glowing Sphere-2-

"It was utterly fantastic," she said. It was moving at high speed when first sighted. They stopped the car several times to watch the object which hovered at times, then changed direction, and moved on. "At one time," Mrs. Haley reported, "it got real close. I'd say it grew to the size of a dinner plate then."

Other Newport residents also reported seeing a mysterious glowing ball in the sky, including Steve Edwards, 11, who, after going to bed at 8:15 called from his bedroom to report seeing what he called "a flying car" flying low outside the apartment. The Edwards live in the Harmony Homes housing complex, about one mile from where the Sheltons watched the object.

The object was heading to the northeast when first seen, and reports were received by the Newport, Searcy and Swifton police departments. Source: "Newport Independent," Feb. 14 and "Arkansas Gazette," Feb. 15. Credit: Lou Farish.

To Our Readers : Because Joe Brill's "UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain" article is a long one and we don't want to use it in two parts, we will print it in full in the May issue. Don't miss his landing trace case in this month's SKYLOOK.

Ralph C. De Graw telephoned us to say he has gone into business for himself and couldn't get his Iowa report to us this month due to the heavy work load--so look for his article in the May issue. We are very pleased that he has consented to become our Iowa correspondent.

MUFON member Nils H. Paquette, of Toledo, Ohio, is investigating a UFO report of Feb. 11, 1972, and we hope to have more on that soon.

Staff member Ted Phillips will address the Lions Club in Sedalia, Mo., April 19th. His lectures on UFOs are arousing a lot of interest in the Sedalia area and we predict this young man will soon be in demand as a UFO lecturer throughout the Midwest.

Another reminder of the UFO meet in Oklahoma City March 24, 25 and 26.

Sorry to lump all these items together like this--but again, we ran out of space, and had to do it this way to get them in.

We have a fine UFO report from John Preisack for the next issue.

Mystery Fireball Seen in Arkansas

Twenty men, including a deputy sheriff and two state policemen from Batesville, searched for what was at first believed to be a downed airplane near Newport in northeast Arkansas, Wednesday night, Jan. 5, 1972, but could find nothing after searching the woodlands for more than three hours.

James H. Shaw was driving from Newport to his home at Thida near Oil Trough when he spotted an object he first thought to be an airplane in flames. He watched it over the timberline for five minutes as it slowly dropped toward the earth and finally disappeared behind the trees. He drove toward where he thought the object might have fallen and spotted a reddish glow about 14 feet in diameter in the timber on a hill near the Blacklands community. He notified the authorities, and continued the search himself on Thursday following their failure to find anything. He is positive something crashed in the woods. The object, first the size of a saucer, grew larger as it fell toward him, he said, and was the size of a plate just before it disappeared. Source: "Newport Independent" - Jan. 6, 1972. Credit: Lou Farish.

UFO or Plane

Mrs. Marilyn Holtman and her daughter Cheryl, age 12, of Route 5, Quincy, Ill., saw an unidentified flying object at 9:50 o'clock the night of Feb. 17, 1972; reported the sighting to Baldwin Field and was referred by Don Petry to Walter H. Andrus, Director of MUFON, who promptly interviewed Mrs. Holtman and checked with the Federal Aviation Agency at Baldwin Field (Quincy's municipal airport).

Mrs. Holtman, who is an employee in the office of the Brower Manufacturing Company in Quincy, and Cheryl were driving southeast on State Highway 96 when they sighted an object about 10 degrees above the horizon to the east. It was seen as a steady green light moving south as would an aircraft taking off from Baldwin Field. The object then changed direction, moving toward the observers and the light changed from green to amber and then to white.

As the observers reached the Herleman turn off road on S. H. 96, the object passed directly over the car. On first seeing it, Mrs. Holtman thought it was probably a weather balloon, but as it came closer, she became convinced it was neither a balloon nor any conventional aircraft. It moved faster than the latter, she said, and there was no distinguishable sound as the object passed directly over the car. At that point, it appeared to be about 75 to 100 feet above them and Cheryl thought the object was about 5 feet in diameter. Mrs. Holtman, driving and trying to find a place to pull off the highway to stop and watch the object, was unable to observe it as closely as her daughter. Both admitted to being frightened as the object passed over them. They did not have the car radio on, and the car engine functioned normally.

Cheryl later made a drawing of the object, showing a round figure which she described as being an "indistinct gray" in color and with red, white and green lights on metal poles or "legs" on two sides.

The object continued to move southwest down the Herleman Road and disappeared in the tree tops of the Mill Creek bottom. The light appeared to be a whitish green as it moved away.

Mrs. Holtman turned off on the St. Anthony Church Road to stop the car and watch the object disappear into the distance. She then went on to her home at the Country Lane Trailer Court and telephoned Baldwin Field to report the sighting.

Don Petry, the F.A.A. operator, suggested she call Walt Andrus. She asked if any weather balloons had been released and was told there were none. She then telephoned the Andrus home and reported the incident to Mrs. Andrus.

After the telephone calls, Mrs. Holtman and Cheryl got back in the car and drove down the Herleman road to see if they could see anything more of the object. After stopping the car and looking about a bit and failing to see anything unusual, they returned to the trailer court where Mr. Andrus interviewed them in their home.

As Mr. and Mrs. Andrus and a friend, Diane Irvin, left the Andrus home to drive to the trailer court, they observed an Ozark plane leaving Baldwin Field--this, of course, being after the sighting reported by Mrs. Holtman.

On checking the radio log at Baldwin Field, it was learned that a Cessna aircraft, Model 172, had taken off at 9:45 p.m., using the northwest runway and making a 45 degree turn to the left and leaving the flight pattern. The pilot had requested the Columbia, Mo., weather report prior to take off, so it is assumed this was his destination. He did not file a flight plan.

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Physical Traces - Material Evidence of UFO's? . . . By Ted Phillips

Editor's Note; This begins a series by our staff member, Ted Phillips, P. O. Box 615, Sedalia, Mo., 65301. While interested in any UFO sighting, Mr. Phillips' special interest is the landing trace case and he would appreciate you sending him yours--old or new.

The following series of reports are based on data gathered over the past twenty-nine months. Physical traces are reported as rings or burnt circles, "saucer nests," craters, burned road traces, imprints, damaged trees or plants and footprints. The reports are numerous and varied; however, they do seem to be remarkably consistent in many respects.

I have divided the total cases into four groups:

Type A - highest quality reports, multiple witness, sighting of long duration (2 minutes or longer), close range observation of UFO (250 feet or less), detailed description of UFO, ground marking of a highly unusual nature.

Type B - multiple witness, observation of UFO, ground markings.

Type C - single witness, observation of UFO, ground markings.

Type D - no UFO seen at site, unusual ground markings found.

The total number of reports found in each group (to date) is as follows: Type A, 44 cases; Type B, 81 cases; Type C, 167 cases; Type D, 100 cases.

A statistical review of the total cases indicates the peak sighting months to be October, with 12.5%, 44% of the reports between August and November. A definite time peak between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. with a secondary peak at 2:00 a.m. The reports date from 1490 to the current date with 71.5% taking place since 1964. Traces have been found in 30 countries including the Soviet Union. Occupants were seen in 16% of the cases; 69% of the occupants were sub-normal in size. 25% of the reported sites were between 20 and 30 feet in diameter, 40% were described as burned, 18% as dehydrated, 42% as depressed. In the United States sites have been found in 38 states. For a complete statistical review, see the Proceedings of the 1971 Midwest UFO Conference published last June. A current review will be available in the 1972 Midwest UFO Conference Proceedings available in June, 1972. A complete review is to be published in "Flying Saucer Review" in a future issue.

The following are examples of two types of trace cases. Cases of the various types will follow in later issues of SKYLOOK.

Type D, File # 346 June 24, 1971, Stewart Minnesota. Arnold Windschtl was awakened by a strange wind, the quacking of ducks and the interruption of electric power. The next morning he found a circle, 25 feet in diameter in a cornfield where green corn was burned. The circle was found a few hundred yards east of the farmhouse. The corn was bent over about one inch from the ground with the stalks all pointing radially out from the center. In the center of the circle was a circular depression, near the edge were five small holes, approximately three-fourths inch in diameter and two inches deep. (Source - "Stewart Tribune," July 1, 1971)

Type B, File # 366 November 28, 1971, C. P.*, California. Mr. G. C.* and his wife observed unusual lights on the ground in a nearby field. The lights seemed to be located at each end of a dark object. After several minutes the front lights suddenly went out, a short time

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later the rear lights disappeared. The object was not seen again. As the witnesses were only 100 yards from the object and could hear no sound, they felt that it was strange enough to warrant an investigation. The next morning they went to the field and found a bush that had been burned, along with imprints. Mr. C. gave this description: "The bush looked like it had been subjected to considerable heat; it was covered by a white ash. We found some triangular imprints around the bush. These were not quite right triangular in shape, being about 15" on each leg and 18" along the hypotenuse and from 10' to 18' apart. One spot was extraordinary indeed. Inside the triangle was a small rock and the inside of the triangle was not burned."

* Name and location on file. The witness is a professional engineer and does not wish to be identified.

1970 UFO Reported

Lawrence R. Hanna, MUFON investigator, recently obtained a report from David Cool, 1434 King Ford, Florissant, Mo. (in the St. Louis area). Cool and a friend, Ron Owens, had just stepped outside the Club Imperial at the corner of Goodfellow and West Florissant (north St. Louis county) when they observed a bright object in the sky.

It was about midnight on a clear night in April or May of 1970. The object was at a 45 degree angle in the northeastern sky and was the size of a golf ball held at arms length. Cool described it as "like a flying saucer, like two plates upside down, one on top the other." It had "a white and orangish glow," he said. After hovering for 3 minutes, it moved away, gaining altitude, and faded into the distance.

The two went back into the club and told others what they had seen. but upon being laughed at "dropped the subject."

Credit: John Schuessler

UFO Convention in Indiana, June 23-25

Gary Elvers, editor of HESPERUS BULLETIN, 607 West Miami Ave., Logansport, Indiana, 46947, asks us to announce the 9th Annual Convention of the Congress of Scientific Ufologists will be held June 23-25 at the YMCA-YWCA at 905 East Broadway, in Logansport.

Closed sessions for members will be held June 23-24 and the open session to the public on June 25, beginning at one o'clock and closing at 4:30. Speakers are Gary Elvers, Laura Mundo, Larry E. Lawrence, Gray Barker and Jim Moseley. Admission: \$1.00 at the door.

For any further information, write Mr. Elvers at the above address.

Order Your FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL

Edited by Walter H. Andrus, Director of MUFON, and N. Joseph Gurney of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis; this manual is an invaluable aid to anyone interested in the study of unidentified flying objects. Guidelines, techniques and suggestions on how to conduct UFO sighting interviews, investigations, filing reports, follow-up research and much more. Reporting forms, charts and investigative aids. Price: \$1.50 to MUFON members; \$2.00 to non-members in U.S. and Canada. \$2.75 outside the U. S. A. and Canada. Mail check or money order to:

MIDWEST UFO NETWORK, Inc., 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill. 62301

Back Track

We hate to leave out good copy, and here are some of our best "hold overs", omitted from earlier issues of SKYLOOK because of space limitations. We'll publish more of these from time to time.

There is an old concrete bridge over the Big Econ River on State Road 13 near Oviedo, Fla... where the young people of Oviedo gather to stand around uneasily while they watch for "the lights" which have a habit of appearing on this lonely stretch of road. One witness described them for a reporter from the "Orlando Sentinel"--"like a single headlight from a car. It comes down the road and stops at a certain point. The single light doesn't separate like car headlights do when they get close. It's bright, bluish-colored. You see it for a couple minutes, then it's gone."

The lights usually appear late at night with no pattern to their appearance. They are sometimes described as making a "whoosh" sound as they get closer. John Choldston, 21, Florida Technological University student did a series on the lights for the student newspaper and tried to photograph the lights, but was unsuccessful. Students helping him investigate drove on nearby roads to see if their car headlights caused reflections on State Road 13. They also looked for floodlights and spotlights at the few nearby homes. They could find no answer there. A professor at the University said the lights could not be caused by swamp gas. They remain a mystery. (Credit: W. E. Lefevre)

Mrs. Carmen Welch, of Longmont, Colo., wrote: "Our prize story about flying saucers is one that never received much publicity. I'll swear it happened and I know there are others who will say the same thing. This happened at the Vandalia, Ill., / Mrs. Welch lived at Ramsey, Ill. at that time. / airport, either in June or July of 1953. I wish I had kept the clippings about this, but didn't, so I can't recall the pilot's name--but anyway, this saucer kept hanging around the airport that day and some one suggested that perhaps someone should take a plane up there and see what might happen. The man, who did go up, was an experienced air force pilot and when he went up, the saucer took off and he followed it for quite some distance, then turned and came back to the airport. Blamed if the saucer didn't come back right behind him and stayed around sometime longer. There was no communication between the two craft but our man said, 'I don't know who's flying that thing up there but I do know he's a much better pilot than I.' The incident was written up in the "Vandalia Leader." / Mrs. Welch has a keen interest in UFOs and would like to hear from others living in the Longmont area who are interested in UFOs and invites them to telephone her at 303-772-1224 or write to her at 718 Sunset, Longmont, Colo. 80501. Keep in touch with us, Mrs. W. /

SP5 J. L. Aldrich, 040 34 9740, Battery D, ESBn, Fort Sill., Okla. 73503, would like to learn about a Kankakee, Ill., sighting involving angel hair which is referred to (no details at all) in an article in the Jan. 31, 1955 "Chicago American." The article opens with mention of "angel hair" often seen when UFOs are sighted and described as "the fine, thread-like substance" floating to earth in the wake of a UFO. "Reports of this phenomenon have come from all over the world, but one of the most graphic was told in Marysville, O., last October," the article continues.

On Oct. 17, 1954 "Marysville Jerome School Principal Richard Warrick a teacher named Mrs. George Dittmar and about 60 students watched a
(Continued on Next Page)

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huge cigar-shaped craft hover over the school for several minutes in mid-afternoon. Principal Warrick reported the object had no tail or wings but appeared to have some sort of windows. He said at times it glowed so brilliantly he had to shade his eyes. The craft suddenly flashed away at great speed, leaving a 3-mile trail of the strange substance that looked and felt like asbestos. Some drifted down in long strands, some in balls like cotton. Warrick and Mrs. Bittmar said the material was very strong, stained their hands green and suddenly vanished about a minute after it was touched."

This brings us to the white, cobweblike substance that fell on the St. Louis, Mo., area on October 16, 1970. Samples of the material were obtained by Joseph Gurney, an Administrative Engineer from McDonnell Douglas Corp., for detailed evaluation. Mr. Gurney had witnessed a similar fall on Oct. 8, 1969--a fall that covered more than one thousand square miles, but remained a mystery because no one bothered to undertake a detailed analytical study. The substance perpetuates its own mystery because it is extremely hard to handle. As noted by Mr. Gurney: "The clumps and strands of this white stuff were falling from north to south with the wind blowing from the same direction. The biggest pieces appeared to be about 12 inches long, both in strands and in clusters. I managed to pick some of it up and attempted to place it in a cardboard container. As I picked it up, it shrank or dissolved on my fingers. A four-inch specimen adhered to my fingers, making it necessary to pull it off. In the process it shrank to about one-inch." It is no small wonder that the layman would believe such a substance to be "angel hair," produced by flying saucers.

This turned out to be, on analysis, "spider web." As further explained by John F. Schuessler, who sent us this report, "A little research revealed the source of the mystery substance. To the north of St. Louis, along the Mississippi River, the hills are full of trees, underbrush and weeds; a natural breeding ground for spiders. One spider family in particular, the Linyphiidae, is noted for its colonizing habit of flying, or ballooning as it is called. On warm fall days the little spider climbs to the top of a weed or tree, lifts the tip of its abdomen to emit a globule of liquid silk. The thread is drawn out by the air currents and hardens as it is drawn. Once the thread is long enough to support the spider, it lets go of its support and flies away. Eventually the spider comes back to earth and releases his balloon. This again blows away, often becoming entangled in other threads to make large floating globules that land many miles from their origin."

On Nov. 22, 1971 "small balloon spiders riding parachute-like webs drifted through the air in south Texas by the millions during the weekend, covering the area from Houston south to the border" according to an article in the St. Louis "Post-Dispatch."

The angel hair picked up by Joe Gurney Oct. 16, 1970 (see November 1970 SKYLOOK) proved to be spider webs, and no UFO was seen at the time, as was in the Marysville, Ohio case; so it would appear the UFO and "angel hair" being seen at the same time was coincidence. It is noted the incident was in October (as in St. Louis) and the description of the substance fits that of the spider web.

While still on this subject, it is interesting to know that Don
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Worley, UFO investigator of Connersville, Ind., has framed pieces of spun metal which he believes to be "tracings from a flying saucer" according to an article "Hoosier Ghost Hunter" in the Oct. 31, 1971 edition of "The Indianapolis Star Magazine" (Credit: Lou Farish). In addition to Mr. Worley's interest in UFOs, he is also a "ghost hunter" and this is the topic the article features--and it contains some chillers!

Mrs. Alice M. Hearle, of Route 1, Cisne, Illinois, tells of the first UFO she and her family saw. It was a clear night in July, 1966, and the family were sitting on their back porch when "a huge light ascended from behind the woods about 1,000 yards away. It rose slowly and passed at tree top level almost directly above our heads, passing over our house and the trees in front, then disappeared."

They ran into the yard for a better view of the light as it passed over them. Mrs. Hearle said it was a large, very bright, white light and lit up the whole yard with a bluish-white color. It appeared to be about 30 feet across when overhead. It moved too slowly to be any kind of conventional craft, and there was no sound. At that time the Hearles did not report the sighting to anyone for fear of ridicule--but now openly admit their interest in UFOs and are active investigators for MUFON. See the August 1971 issue of SKYLOOK for Mrs. Hearle's remarkable experience in moving "backward in time and space."

At the University of Oklahoma at Norman, "An honors colloquium studying science fiction is conducting a study of unidentified flying objects. They are asking anyone who has had 'direct or visual contact with a UFO and willing to share that experience with interested researchers,' to contact them". (Oklahoma Daily, credit: Lou Farish) Paul Madden, Tulsa graduate student, reports about 15 persons have responded and some have been closely enough related "to lead us to believe that several Norman people saw the same object," he said. Several reported seeing a cigar shaped object over a Norman drive-in on the same date. They described "the lighted-metallic object as disappearing straight up." Madden hopes to get enough sightings so he can turn the study into a term paper.

The editor of Kansas "Hays Daily News" on Nov. 9, 1971 commented on the Delphos, Kansas report and added: "Before laughing, let's remember a U. S. spacecraft is heading for Mars right now, and is due to arrive this month. Also remember that we have been digging around on the moon quite a bit." (Credit: Lou Farish)

The November issue of "Aeronautics & Astronautics" gave considerable space to the first Soviet-American Conference on Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CETI) held Sept. 5-11, 1971, at the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, USSR. The Conference was jointly organized by the U. S. National Academy of Sciences and the USSR Academy of Sciences. Scientists from several other nations participated also. Particular attention was devoted to: plurality of planetary systems in the Universe, origin of life on Earth, possibility of life arising on Cosmic bodies, origin and evolution of intelligence, origin and development of technological civilizations, problems in searching for intelligent signals or for evidence of astro-engineering activities and possible consequences of establishing contact with extraterrestrial civilizations. (Credit: John Schuessler)

ASTRONOMY CORNER

The April Sky . . . By Ted Phillips

The planet Venus is a most prominent sky object during the month--it may be seen in the western sky for several hours following sunset. It sets at

10:15 p.m. on April 1st and at 10:40 p. m. on May 1st.

Mars is keeping just about the same hours as Venus during the month. It may be seen before setting at 10:40 p. m. April 1st and at 10:20 p. m. May 1st.

Jupiter is well placed for observation in the high southern sky during April--the largest planet rises at 1:15 a.m. on April 1st and at 11:25 p.m. May 1st.

The planet Saturn is seen as a medium bright sky object in the western sky, setting at 10:30 p.m. April 1st and at 8:45 p.m. May 1st.

The Constellations, No. 17. Ursa Major (The Greater Bear) By Mark Herbstritt.-- The Greeks called this constellation "The Greater Bear." It was also called the bear by the American Indians. The Egyptians identified Ursa Major with a hippopotamus. This constellation is better known as "The big dipper." The brightest star in Ursa Major is Epsilon Ursa Majoris (Alioth) of magnitude 1.79. Ursa Major culminates at 9 p.m. on April 25. The seven brightest stars in the Big Dipper range in distance from about 100 light years to 210 light years. There are hundreds of galaxies in this constellation that become apparent on long exposure photographs.

The Dipper is called "the plow" in modern England. The handle of the dipper is the handle of the plow, and the dipper's bowl is the plowshare. The dipper's handle will serve to guide the observer to other stars. The handle strikes out a curve of stars that leads to Arcturus in Bootes and Spica in Virgo. The two stars Dubne and Merah at the end of the bowl of the dipper points toward Polaris (the North Star).

Pioneer 10 Carries Message from Earth . . . Bearing a message for alien civilizations, America's Pioneer 10 rocketed at record speed Thursday night, March 2, 1972, from Cape Kennedy to start a 22-month odyssey to the giant planet Jupiter and eventual escape to wander forever through distant galaxies.

Pioneer 10 is aimed to fly within 87,000 miles of Jupiter on Dec. 20, 1973. It will take a series of relatively crude pictures of the cloud-shrouded planet and possibly of 10, one of Jupiter's 12 moons. Its instruments will examine the hydrogen-rich Jovian atmosphere and measure the radiation belts that might be so intense that they will damage Pioneer.

If all goes as planned, Pioneer will pass the orbits of Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto to eventually escape the solar system and drift toward the star Aldebaran, a journey of 1.7 million years. By the time the probe approaches the orbit of Uranus in 1979, Pioneer will be out of communications range of earth and will continue as a silent derelict of space.

"In an attempt to communicate with other civilizations that might exist in outer space," the Pioneer carries a plaque fixed to the craft's antenna supports. On the plaque are the images of a naked man and a woman, the man with his right hand raised in friendship--also a map of the 14 pulsating stars in the Milky Way and a schematic drawings of two states of atomic hydrogen and of the solar system.

Source: Newspaper clippings sent in by many. Thanks to all.

Landing Trace Case: Circle Found Near Palm Springs
Report from Taped Interview with Witness by Joseph M. Brill

Joseph M. Brill, MUFON investigator, was listening to a radio talk show November 1971, when a caller, of Lincolnwood, Ill., called in to ask the moderator what he thought about UFOs. The moderator had a "very dim view" on this topic, but asked the caller why he asked, whereupon Mr. Levin said he and his brother and a friend had sighted a UFO about a year ago and that on the following day they visited the site where they had seen the object and found a huge circle in the ground. He hadn't reported the sighting as he said he didn't know where to make such a report. The moderator then advised him to report to the Air Force.

At this point, Mr. Brill called the station and asked for the name of the caller. On being told the station was not allowed to give the names, Mr. Brill then asked if he could discuss UFOs on the air and was given permission--he then asked the first caller to telephone him at his home and in a few minutes Mr. Levin called Mr. Brill. A date for a personal interview was set up, and this took place.

Mr. Brill adds: "Some of the facts which were not mentioned in the interview is that Mr. Levin is a member of the Civil Air Patrol and is a very sincere individual who would like to find out what he saw the night of his observation. I have absolutely no reason to doubt his story and I believe that he has related all the facts as best he could recall. I should also make mention that when he states that he observed this object for almost two hours, but that he did not see it hover, he means that for the period he was observing it, it was, or seemed to be actually landed on the area in the hills near his home in California. He did not see it land but only noticed it after it had positioned itself in this location.

"What makes this case extremely interesting is the mention that on calling the nearest airport to check if they had any UFOs on radar they confirmed that they did have an unknown object on their radar. Also the EM effect on the radio they had on at the time of the sighting. In addition to all of this, when the object was struck by a light beam, it took off instantaneously at an angle, not straight up."

The witness interviewed was Lee Levin, age 19, and the object was also seen by Lee's brother Paul, 13, and a friend, Larry Cornbluff, 19, now living in Santa Monica, California.

The following account is from the typed transcript of the taped interview between Mr. Brill and Lee Levin at the latter's home on Nov. 18, 1971.

Question: "Could you give me a general account of what you observed and the time of day you observed it?"

Answer: "The time was about 11:30 p.m. to midnight, and it was around Christmas of last year. I was outside at the swimming pool with a friend and we looked up towards the hills behind our house and we saw something shiny. There were two round objects which were very small. They were moving to the east. We then got a pair of binoculars out of the car and observed these two objects. They were really something to look at but we couldn't make out anything specific. Then we noticed something even brighter behind them. So we called the airport / Palm Springs Airport seven miles distant / and inquired if they

(Continued on Next Page)

had any sightings or readings on their radar screens. They confirmed that they did have and we asked them to shine their beam to the house. Well, they shined it over towards the house and whatever had been there was gone. Just as the light beam hit it--zook! It was gone."

The light beam referred to was the rotating light used at the airport, and considerable time passed following the telephone call before the beam was directed toward the object.

Lee, his brother and a friend watched the object for about two hours. The first two noticed disappeared shortly after first being seen, so the questioning centered about the large object which was in landing position when first seen and remained so until it took off when hit by the light beam. The sky was without clouds and there was no wind that Levin could detect as his home was in a protected area and "any wind would pass right over us," he said. No other aircraft was observed during the period the object was being watched.

The young men had been sitting at the pool with the radio on.

"Previous to our spotting this object, the radio was playing as normal," Levin said, "and we were listening to music. Then, all of a sudden we started receiving this strange sound which seemed to resemble a code of some sort. It wasn't Morse code because I know Morse code and it was not anything like that. My brother got a tape recorder and made a recording of this unusual transmission we were receiving."

Levin said the sound was not like static or short wave transmission.

Asked for further description of the object, Levin said they could not observe a structure of any definite shape, but the light was very bright and lime-green in color. However, when it took off, he thought he could detect a "sort of dull finish."

"The people at the airport took their time about getting that beam directed at our area," Levin said, but when it hit the object, "it was gone."

"Well, it didn't exactly disappear," he explained. "It climbed up into the sky, but it climbed so fast that all I saw was a--or what appeared to be--a vapor trail of some kind."

It took off at an angle, he said, and there was no sound or any change in the degree of brightness of the light "brighter than a searchlight."

He estimated the size of the object as that of a dime held at arms length and the distance from the Levin home to be anywhere from 150 to 200 yards.

The day after the sighting, the young men went to the landing site which was "an old helicopter landing area"--bare soil with no vegetation of any kind. Here they found a circle which they estimated to be from 100 to 150 feet in diameter--and perhaps a little smaller or a little larger, Levin said. No measurements were made.

The circle was a depression in the soil, about an inch deep and consisted of "an ashlike substance." It was brown in color, Levin said, and "like a real fine powder ash."

Other than the one circle, there was no indication of any other soil disturbance in the area. No photographs were taken as no one had thought to take a camera along.

Levin seemed very impressed by the circle, saying he had never seen anything like that before, or since.

Space does not permit using the entire transcript--five typed pages-- but believe we have given all the relevant facts.

It must be apparent to all readers that a golden opportunity slipped away here. Had a trained investigator been present, what a different story this could be! The need for a network of trained ufologists, always available, is obvious.

Editor's Note: The writer is George M. Blair, an accountant & Tax Consultant, and the friend referred to is Jack Stalder, a stock broker both employed by Quincy, Ill. firms. The report was made to Mr. Andrus, Director of MUFON, in 1968, and is just one of the many old reports in his files. We will be publishing some of the best from time to time

My friend and I were driving north on highway 41 about fifteen miles from Everglades, Florida, at approximately 8:30 p.m. on April 18, 1968. The stars were out and it was a clear and cloudless sky, but the moon was not visible from the position and direction of the car. There was no other traffic on the road when a light from the left rear flashed against the chrome post of the windshield on the right side of the car (interior). I occupied the right seat as my friend, Jack, was driving.

I was startled, as I thought it was an auto trying to pass and which neither Jack nor myself had seen or heard approaching from the rear. I looked quickly to my left, as did Jack. I immediately observed through Jack's window (which was open) a bright, blinking, red light and a brilliant white light that was flashing in a cone shape to the ground. It was traveling in our direction (north) but was moving in a descending arc (by descending arc, I mean nearly parallel to the ground and not a vertical arc). Our speed was approximately 65 MPH and the flashing lights were slowly overtaking us.

It was no higher than 200 feet from the ground and no further than four blocks distant from the car as I could see the shrubs the white light was shining on very clearly. The white light was very prominent from its source to its contact with the ground. Each time it flashed, it looked as if the light would hit the ground and bounce back up and when it reached the level it originated from, it would flash again and repeat the sequence. The red light continued to blink and was directly above the spot the white light originated from. The red light did not seem to blink in sequence to the flashing white light but had a rhythmic pulsating. It descended slowly behind a tree line and the last time I saw a flash, it was just the white light through the trees as the trees must have blocked my view of the red light.

The duration from the beginning to the last flash I saw was no more than twenty seconds. The white light flashed about six times and the red light eight or ten times. The last part of my observance was looking through the windshield on Jack's side as it was going slightly faster than we were and parallel to us. Neither of us heard the slightest sound throughout (other than the slight hum of the car's motor and slight wind by an open window).

At the first flash when both Jack and I were startled and looked to our left, neither of us said anything. When we were aware it wasn't a car and we saw the lights, Jack said, "They must be taking pictures" and I said, "Yeah."

Then Jack, still watching, said, "If they fly that low and slow in Viet Nam they'll get their butts shot off," and again I said, "Yeah." I took Jack's statement to mean his line of thought was that the Air Force was conducting experiments in night photography.

After the last flash, I said to Jack, "We don't have anything that can take flash pictures from an airplane, at least as far as I know,"

(Continued on Next Page)

1963 Florida Sighting - 2 -

SKYLOOK

and Jack said the light was "concentrated" and was the first he'd seen like it. I then said that to my knowledge even a laser beam could not assume a cone shape in a matter of 200 feet or less. We discussed it a few more minutes and then dropped it, as there was really nothing else to say except we both hoped to see it again.

We traveled another few miles and we saw a wrecker pulling a car out of a ditch and we wondered if the driver had been observing what we had just seen when he flew into the ditch.

At this writing I have only one thought and that is if our forces have something like we witnessed, I hope they keep it top secret. Anything flying that low, slow and silent and carrying a power pack in a self contained unit that can emit a beam such as we saw is truly revolutionary. I have never seen a light as powerful in my life.

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UFOs --The Facts, Not the Fiction! UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER is a monthly, eight-page publication with the latest sighting information, statements from prominent scientists and organizations, UFO symposia, etc. Editor is Gordon T. R. Lore, Jr., senior author of the book MYSTERIES OF THE SKIES; UFOs IN PERSPECTIVE (Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1968) and former Assistant Director of NICAP. Send for further information or \$7.00 for a year's subscription to UFO Research Associates, P. O. Box 34252, Washington, D. C. 20034. --Adv.

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"UFOs - Myth and Mystery" is the title of one of Stanton T. Friedman's lectures on UFOs--and you can read every word of it in the "Conference Proceedings" published by the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and containing the entire proceedings of the 1971 Midwest UFO Conference held in St. Louis, Mo. June 12, 1971.

Be sure to read "Landing Traces: Physical Evidence for the UFO" - the lecture presented by Ted Phillips, Jr., of Sedalia, and SKYLOOK staff member. If reports on occupants and humanoids is your special interest, the first article you'll read will probably be "The Alien Intruders" as presented by Hayden C. Hewes and Hal Crawford. And there are other fine articles by Walter H. Andrus, Sherman J. Larsen, Wm. H. Hunkins, Alexander Calandra, Ph.D., Leonard H. Stringfield, and other UFO material. Whether you are just becoming interested in the UFO phenomena or if you've long been a serious investigator, you will find information in this book that is not published elsewhere.

The first printing was a sell out--the second printing is going fast. Better order yours now before the third annual MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE (June 17, 1972) proceedings will be published.

Do not send your check to SKYLOOK, as that will just delay your order--mail your check or money order for \$3.00 to

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Organization Notes

Tri-State Group Meets -- The Tri-State UFO Study Group met recently at the Walter H. Andrus home in Quincy, Ill., to discuss plans for the third annual Midwest UFO Conference to be held at the Holiday Inn June 17 and which the group will host this year. Committee chairman for the conference include Mrs. Anita Lavery, arrangements; Mrs. Ann Viar, treasurer; Fields F. Friedman, financial officer; Walt Andrus, program; Robert Smullings, publications; George Koch, reception; Wm. Schelen, master of ceremonies, and A. S. Petzoldt, publicity.

UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis met Feb. 20 for a short business meeting followed by UFO reports and discussion. Welcomed back were several long-absent members including Rosetta and Dick Holmes, Mae Jannett, Doris Schneider and Mary Lou Poor.

Mrs. Jannett told of two recent sightings of UFOs in the Breese, Ill. area. John Schuessler, Director of the group, played a tape recording of Stanton Friedman's interview on the TV show "Mantrap" Jan. 3rd.

Mrs. Jack Jareo agreed to assume the post of secretary as well as librarian, following the resignation of Renee Bourbon.

Dates of future meetings are March 19, April 30 and June 4 at 2 p.m. Meetings are held in the upstairs meeting room of the Lemay Bank, 152 Lemay Ferry Road. (Reporter, Carol Armstrong)

John Schuessler to Address Groups -- John Schuessler will address the Astrology Club at 7 p.m., March 26, at their meeting held at the First Capitol Savings & Loan Association in St. Charles, Mo.

Mr. Schuessler will again speak on UFOs at the noon luncheon meeting of the Ferguson Rotary Club to be held at the Heritage House Restaurant, 10915 New Halls Ferry Road, St. Louis, Mo., on April 3rd.

Midwest Astronomy Club Active -- Star gazers and sky watchers who would like to do more than gaze and watch are being invited by Midwest Astronomy Club (MAC) to join in a new satellite tracking and reporting service known as ZIPSAT.

Since a basic part of the service will be astro-photography, MAC members are expecting a response from professional and amateur photographers as well as astronomy buffs.

Part of the work in Quincy will be to locate satellite debris by recording the brightness of the objects on film. There are now 2,640 orbiting objects in space. Using sky maps provided by Goddard Space Flight Center NASA, members will photograph parts of the sky at times designated. Observational data will be supplied by ZIPSAT (computerized satellite tracking via Z IP mail). What is recorded will then be turned over to NASA. The information will also be used by the Midwest UFO network to identify earth-launched vehicles.

Persons interested in membership or further information should contact MAC Director George Koch or Gene Putman, of Quincy, Ill. Source: "The Herald-Whig," of Quincy, Ill. Credit: Walter H. Andrus.

Takes on Another Job

John Schuessler, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, is now writing a column "O'Fallon Fireside" for the "St. Charles Daily Banner News," St. Charles, Mo. He writes on matters of local interest--but it will be no surprise to our readers to be told that the subject of UFOs always comes up too. The splendid work by the St. Louis group is making the subject of ufology one of "local interest" throughout the entire St. Louis area.

More on That 1897 Airship

Farmersville, Collin Co., Tex. April 16

Last night about 9 o'clock a dim light was seen in the northwest, apparently moving slowly to the south or southeast. When first seen it did not look larger than an ordinary 50-cent silver piece. Those watching the queer light soon discovered that the object was approaching the city at the rate of 60 or 80 miles an hour. Some thought it to be a cloudless tornado and those who had storm houses lost no time getting into them; while the more unfortunate waited and watched the results of the approach of the queer object. In a very short time fully two-thirds of the citizens were out looking at what they then supposed to be a large planet or meteor approaching the earth. In a very few moments--in fact, in less time than one can tell it--the queer thing was almost hanging over the city.

City Marshal Brown was in the western part of the city making his rounds before going home and says the ship, or balloon, or whatever it was passed over him within 200 feet of the ground. Brown says he could see two men in the ship and something resembling a large Newfoundland dog. Mr. Brown says he was close enough to hear them talk but could not understand one word of their language. He is of the opinion they are Spaniards.

He thinks Spain has sent several of these airships into the United States with none but trusted officers of the Spanish government to make a survey of the country so in case the United States decided war against Spain the latter nation would know every weak seaport station in the United States and Spain would know just where to land her army and attack our weak points.

Source: "The Dallas Morning News," Sunday, April 18, 1897.

Credit: Jerry Johnson

Editor's Note: Do send in your Airship clips for publication.

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