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"It is my thesis that flying saucers are real and that they are space ships from another solar system. I think that they possibly have been sent out to conduct systematic, long-range investigations, first of men, animals and vegetation, and more recently atomic centers, armaments and centers of armament production."--Dr. Hermann Oberth (Father of Astronautics, Germany's V-2 rocket scientist) in "The American Weekly," Oct. 24, 1954

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A Message From Your Director

At the Midwest UFO Network, Inc. Annual Meeting on June 18, 1972, several members inquired whether the geographical name of our organization might be a handicap considering that MUFON has now expanded from coast to coast. Basically, one of our major objectives is to have a State-Section Director responsible for every county or group of counties in every state in which we operate. A survey of the map on display at the recent MUFON Conference disclosed that we have many counties in the midwestern states where competent individuals have not been found to represent MUFON as State-Section Directors. The success of our conferences, symposiums and picnics may be attributed directly to the proximity of our members and the personal contact thus made possible. The name Midwest UFO Network, Inc. or MUFON has now achieved international recognition through the outstanding work of our members, and the articles in "Flying Saucer Review." It would be unwise, at this point in time, to change the name of the fastest growing UFO organization in the World, creating possible confusion at a time when we are just becoming firmly established as a significant group.

Joining Stanton T. Friedman, Consultant in Nuclear Physics, in California, we are extremely proud to welcome William M. Murphy as State-Section Director for the northern California counties of Shasta, Tehama, Trinity and Siskiyou. Bill has a Masters Degree in Education and teaches in the Redding, Calif., school system. He is a former commercial pilot and has been a contributor to the pages of "Flying Saucer Review." Bill resides at 2045 Shasta St., #10, Redding, Ca., 96001.

Greater coverage of the state of Michigan has now become a reality with the appointment of Robert L. Stinson as State-Section Director for Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw, Oakland, Lenawee, Jackson and Livingston counties. Bob has his Masters Degree in Counseling and is employed by the Vocational Rehabilitation Service of the Michigan Department of Education as a Counselor. His past experience in the communication arts as a radio newsman and now also as a part-time Deputy Sheriff, provide ideal contacts to keep abreast of the current UFO situation in Michigan. Bill's home address is 1762 Devon St.,

Message, Continued

SKYLOOK, August '72

Ypsilanti, Mich., 48197. In the very near future, Bill will be announcing the names of Field Investigators working with him in the above counties.

Elmer Kral, State Director for Nebraska, has ordered ten more Field Investigator Manuals for distribution to potential State-Section Directors and Field Investigators as a means of introducing them to the techniques involved in investigations. He has also found that the educational credentials of MUFON's twenty Consultants is very impressive when inviting college or university professors to participate in the activities of the Midwest UFO Network.

Dr. Robert W. Baughman of the BioAssay Laboratory, P. O. Box 544, Ames, Iowa 50010 has accepted our invitation to serve as a Consultant to MUFON and make his private laboratory available for in-depth study of cases requiring his expertise. He has already conducted an analysis of the soil samples taken from the damaged area in the soybean field of Donald Slaiken at Goldfield, Iowa. Bob has had an interest in the UFO phenomenon for many years, but now welcomes the opportunity to become more directly involved.

Colman VonKeviczky, State Director for New York, sent a letter of greeting to the Third Annual Midwest UFO Conference on June 17, 1972 and enclosed a copy of the three page article from the July 10, 1972 issue of MIDNIGHT titled "The Truth About UFOs is being suppressed by the U. S. Government and UN." The keynote speech at the MUFON Conference by Charles E. Barnum, Executive Editor of the Quincy "Herald-Whig" newspaper would have given Colman a refreshing uplift if he could have been present. Mr. Barnum's outstanding presentation will be published in its entirety in SKYLOOK, since we were unable to include it as a part of the Conference proceedings. Mr. Barnum has taken an objective view in reporting events associated with the UFO phenomenon, and makes some very definite recommendations to both the news media and UFOlogists. This is "must" reading for everyone. We are indebted to Mr. Barnum for accepting the challenge to face this controversial issue in a straight and forthright manner.

During the process of composing a mailing list of the attendees at the Third Annual Midwest UFO Conference, it was found that one or more people came from nineteen states and one Canadian province. As would be expected, the majority came from Illinois and Missouri. However, visitors from distant states such as Florida, Georgia, California, New Jersey, Texas, Colorado and Idaho indicated the tremendous interest and attraction that the MUFON annual conferences have created. It is unquestionably the finest such event now taking place on a regular basis anywhere in the world. We should be justly proud of the many people who make these symposiums possible.

Walt Andrus,
Director, MUFON

Missouri Has "Creature"

This report is for our readers who find some relation between UFOs and alleged "monsters." Some residents of rural Louisiana, Mo., are keeping their doors locked and their children indoors because of the reported sightings of a mysterious, hairy, shaggy creature between 7 and 12 feet tall. One family closed their home and moved to town; a man said he saw "it" pick up his small foreign car, then drop it and run away. Another man said he saw "it" cross the road with a sheep or a dog in its mouth. Another said that, except for the height, the description fitted his daughter's boy friend!

"Mysterious" Field Damage in Iowa Caused by Lightning

Damage to soybean fields across northern and central Iowa, specifically Goldfield, Story City, Laurens and Glidden was reported early in July and newspaper accounts of the "strange" holes and plant damage appeared in the local Press and were picked up by more distant news media.

Donald Slaikeu, of Goldfield, reported to Wright County Sheriff Robert Shaw that his helper, Dick Slaikeu, while mowing in a field near the soybean field, found a large depression in the soybean field. The depression, measuring about four square feet, appeared to have been struck by something with a tremendous amount of force, Slaikeu said. The ground above the depression was baked but several inches below, the soil was moist. Soybean plants around the hole were not dead or burned. Close inspection of the depression by Shaw disclosed a row of holes about an inch apart and two inches deep. Inside was a silvery-like dust.

Slaikeu decided to check the rest of his farm and found a smaller hole in another field. Plants around this patch, he said, were burned and looked like most lightning burns appear.

Sheriff Shaw sent several samples of the silvery-like dirt and nearby plants to the BioAffay Laboratory in Ames, Ia., and a copy of Dr. Robert W. Baughman's report follows: "The soil sample from the Donald Slaikeu farm was subjected to visual and microscopic examination. The grayish-colored substances that appeared on the 'dry' side of the chunk of dirt could have been produced by intense heat on the soil for a very short period of time. It appeared to be efflorescent in nature rather than a deposition from some outside source.

"At this time the most probable cause for this phenomenon appears to be that of lightning in one of its many forms. To establish this for a fact it would be necessary to conduct a series of chemical and physical tests on soil samples from both the damaged and undamaged areas of the field. It is anticipated that this will be done. Until this is done no one can make a statement of fact concerning this phenomenon."

Mervin Teig, who farms 500 acres near Story City, read of the damage at the Slaikeu farm and went to see for himself because he had discovered a depression on his farm while cultivating a field on Wednesday, July 5th. Teig told a reporter the damage on the two farms was "identical"--the only difference being an unaffected stand of beans which comes up to the edge of the depression on the north side in one field and the south in the other.

Jerry Dean, who farms five and a half miles north of Laurens, reported two depressions on his farm and the description given of the holes and damage to soy beans is the same as the others.

Walter H. Andrus, Director of MUFON, followed the reports closely and was in touch with the Slaikeus, Sheriff Shaw and the newspapers. He learned Shaw checked the Slaikeu site with a Geiger counter and found no evidence of radiation.

Dr. Baughman, a MUFON consultant, reports a newspaper clipping from the "Glidden Graphic" states that J. Zimmerman, a farmer, observed lightning strike his soybean field while he was cutting hay in a nearby field at 7:30 p.m. on July 5th. Upon investigation he found exactly the same type depression in the soil as described in the prior three cases. There were four distinct holes, or craters, and wilted soybean plants in a 40-foot diameter circle. The soil contained a silver-like substance as previously reported.

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

Newspaper Editor Addresses MUFON Conference Changing Attitude of News Media Toward UFOs Reflected

Editor's Note: Charles E. Barnum, executive editor of the Quincy, Illinois "Herald-Whig" was the keynote speaker at the third annual MUFON Conference held in Quincy, June 17. His speech was not ready in time to be included in the 1972 Conference Proceedings, and we give it here as we feel every reader will find it very interesting--and because it reflects the changing attitude of the news media toward the subject of UFOs. This is important.

My good friend, Walt Andrus, asked me to discuss news media in relation to UFO sightings--and then bombshelled me by remarking, "We'll call your talk the keynote speech."

Inserting me as a keynoter in a scientifically oriented gathering such as this is much like asking a lifelong birdwatcher to deliver a paper at a meeting of NASA scientists on a subject such as:

"Location of the engine frame into an airplane's wing, just ahead of the leading edge of the wing, produces the greatest propulsive efficiency while maintaining the best aerodynamic results."

Frankly I'm here, as most of you are, to learn something; and hopefully to discover that the study of UFO phenomena may be off and running on a scientifically guided course.

As a newspaperman whose skepticism is representative, I believe, of journalists generally, I have approached the problem of handling news of UFO sightings gingerly, even apprehensively.

It's a scary subject; it requires mature handling.

The Orson Welles broadcast in 1938 based on H. G. Wells' "War of the Worlds" seriously disturbed more than one million persons, many of them to the point of panic, according to a study conducted by Hadley Cantril. The story was told in the form of a newscast, but announcements were made before, during, and after the presentation stating it was a play based on Wells' novel about an invasion from Mars.

And because "humanoids" are also involved in the UFO picture, editors and newsmen generally must develop ways of presenting reports of sightings which they receive so as not to cause uneasiness, or indeed fear.

Thus when I learned such a conference as you are now engaged in was contemplated here, I felt a sense of gratitude to the conference planners. We now have an opportunity to use conference materials as a basis for giving our readers coherent, more comprehensive and authoritative look at the UFO experience.

Additionally, such a conference has educational advantages for news media representatives, as well as others, to learn more about UFOs' activity in the context of deliberate consideration and discussion, apart from emotional even traumatic response to inexplicable strangeness.

Such knowledge should enable all of us in media work to handle news of UFO activity more intelligently, and perhaps with less skepticism. Our need--and this arises somewhat from the fact we've been susceptible to stories arising from misperceptions--is to achieve perspective on the whole complex subject. Moreover, we need to be

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helped by better screening of reports reaching us, so that we can provide our readers a better, more coherent picture of what is happening on the UFO front.

At least for several colleagues and myself, now that you are in town, a quote from Jack Taylor of Missouri seems apropos. He remarked about the new minister at his church: "Our new pastor is doing a wonderful job. We didn't know what sin was until he came to town."

I must acknowledge that as a skeptic I've had my skepticism blunted and my interest aroused by several books on UFOs, one book in particular. It is "The UFO Experience, A Scientific Inquiry," by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the department of astronomy of Northwestern University, your 1970 conference headliner.

After reading Dr. Hynek's book and some other material on UFOs, I'm prepared to acknowledge, "You're undoubtedly dealing with something that needs, not sniggering, but downright enlightened interest by the scientific community." And I might add, the something referred to needs our news media's careful attention and handling.

I will also acknowledge, on the basis of a somewhat superficial survey, as I did not have available a wide assortment of papers, that some of us in the newspaper business have not done enough to bring proper focus on the UFO mystery.

Bringing the UFO experience into a sharp focus entails much more than doing as we have generally done, reporting occasional sightings by individuals in our reading areas.

Even Jesus realized that the folks at home do not a prophet recognize, that one becomes an expert only when he travels far from home. So it is with the credibility of sighters in their own backyards. Their neighbors, and their hometown editors, don't credit them with the qualities necessary for expert observation. In this connection, Dr. Hynek's suggested method of rating credibility makes a lot of sense.

The study I made of reports in the press of UFO sightings impressed me in the same way that reports of the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy's charges did. As one read the McCarthy Blasts--all isolated--one had a growing feeling of unease, and an undeniable fear that Communists were taking over the government. As each story unfolded, the nation experienced a nervous binge.

What was lacking in the McCarthy case was this: A blockbuster wrapup of the whole McCarthy story, pulling all facets together so that the country could get a look at the complete McCarthy case. If his charges were solid, the wrapup would have shown them to be so and would have made him a national hero. But when such a compilation was done by a press association, the McCarthy story exploded and he faded from the national scene. There was no documentation of his charges, and nothing was found to substantiate his statements.

As for the UFO phenomenon, I consider the Dr. Hynek book an essential blockbuster wrapup of the UFO story--pulling together all relevant facets and offering the route to a scientific appraisal of available data.

The UFO story obviously is not going to explode, for Dr. Hynek shows that it has tremendous significance for us and our time, and possesses enough substance to warrant greatly accelerated scientific inquiry.

It was impossible for me to trace a consistent pattern of UFO handling by the news media. I found that some UFO sighters concluded they had been treated too lightly in stories detailing their reports.

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For our part locally, I can say that both the electronic and print media have treated UFO stories as straight news events, never minimizing their importance, nor over inflating their significance, or casting aspersions on the persons involved. Also we have reported talks by your local spokesmen, particularly Walt Andrus, fully and accurately.

As I study available materials on UFOs, I reached several conclusions which might be the same gained by other newsmen after studying the same documents. I cannot of course speak for any other newsman, but I can speak for myself.

My skepticism, which incidentally never reached the point of negative reaction for I tried to be objectively skeptical (whatever that is) has given way to deep interest in the whole subject of UFOs. I credit this change of attitude principally to Dr. Hynek's book. While I was at Northwestern University teaching journalism I kept abreast of this noted astronomer's activity, and I gained respect for him as a great scientist. So when he says in his book that it's his opinion "that data that now lie scattered about, if properly processed, could establish the substantive nature of the UFO phenomena beyond reasonable doubt, "I believe him.

He refers to these data as akin to low grade ore which must be processed and refined before it is of value. Let me quote him more extensively at this juncture in order for me to make a point.

Writing of this ore, he adds, "Or perhaps a more appropriate analogy might be the case of Marie Curie and the tons of pitchblende that she had to process before they yielded a mite of radium. Those of us who have spent time on the UFO problem are convinced that the probability is very high that there is 'radium in the pitchblende' in the quantities of reports. Although it will be a Herculean task to cull and refine existing UFO data, I feel a rich reward awaits a person or a group that assumes this task with dedication. For if there is indeed 'pay dirt' in the ore of UFO data, it might well represent a scientific breakthrough of major magnitude. It might call for reassignment and rearrangement of many of our established concepts of the physical world, far greater even than the rearrangements that were necessary when relativity and the quantum mechanics demanded entrance into our formerly cozy picture of the world."

Dr. Hynek, as you may know, concludes his book with these words: "When the long awaited solution to the UFO problem comes, I believe that it will prove to be not merely the next small step in the march of science but a mighty and totally unexpected quantum jump."

Now here is my point in quoting Dr. Hynek: Our News media have and will give space to comments like these coming from such an authoritative source. I cite you as an example the article on Dr. Hynek and his views in the Chicago Tribune Sunday Magazine of June 4, 1972.

The article interested me particularly because it opens with the following paragraphs and I quote them for a reason. Before reading them, however, let me say that if support on a massive scale is ever to be obtained to do the kind of research that Dr. Hynek, and obviously many of you, is interested in, then material like the magazine article will do much to establish credibility and authority for the project.

Now may I quote: "Hanging on the wall of Dr. J. Allen Hynek's office at Northwestern University is a framed cartoon. It shows a flying saucer parked on a college campus and five small creatures confronting a passerby. With antennae sprouting from their helmets and

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ray guns at their sides, they are asking, "Could you direct us to that chemistry professor who called us 'swamp gas'?"

"It was Dr. Hynek--an astronomer, not a chemistry professor, who said that strange lights sighted near Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1966 were nothing more than swamp gasses released by unseasonably warm weather. Despite his debunking of these sightings, Hynek is not ready to discount all reports of flying saucers. He believes there is a possibility we are being visited by strange craft--and even 'little people' from another planet. He believes that flying saucers or UFOs--unidentified flying objects--may be something more substantial than mere hoaxes or the results of traumatic experiences.

"Dr. Hynek is an astronomer of impressive credentials, a scientist of as much skepticism as intelligence--and that is considerable. His list of degrees, affiliations, and accomplishments is more than suitable reference for his credibility--and sensibility."

It is, of course, our job in news media to bring before our readers all relevant happenings on our planet, provided we can get adequate information about them. I don't know of any newsman who doesn't try to do this.

We cannot ignore the UFO phenomenon for one reason because many responsible people have become involved, and for another reason because responsible scientists like Dr. Hynek and Dr. David R. Saunders are lending their prestige to find scientific answers to the problem.

And while we have a duty to report much of what is happening on the UFO front--and to a limited degree we do--we also must keep our eyes open to the interrelationships that may exist between the UFO mystery and other scientific fields of inquiry.

One of our journalistic difficulties, or perhaps shortcomings might be a better way to express what I mean, is our reluctance--with some notable and laudatory exceptions--to seek out and report the context of events, or simply to put isolated reports, as for instance UFO sightings, in meaningful context.

Let me illustrate. Since the 1969 Condon report whose authors, I suppose, thought they were banishing UFO phenomenon from any further serious consideration, and closing of the Air Force Blue Book, UFO reports persist in tantalizing the imagination of scientists and others interested in the mystery of space and extraterrestrial life.

Indeed, the UFO phenomenon persists like our peculiar style of downtown architecture--contemporary neglect.

It is worth noting here that the Condon report's stature was most certainly enhanced when the National Academy of Sciences fully endorsed it and its methodology.

Were we to put the UFO picture in true perspective, therefore, a story is in order reporting continuous UFO sightings of various degrees of credibility--all over the globe. In other words, there's a story here that some of us haven't reported, and I haven't seen it elsewhere, although I may have missed it.

But there's another story of greater significance and import involving the National Academy of Sciences, and this story's dimensions embrace a subject closely akin to the subject matter engaging your attention at this conference.

The story was handled deftly and imaginatively by John Lear, science editor of "Saturday Review," in the June 10, 1972 issue. Lear's piece is a fine job of reporting, and is good journalism, for he has given scope in depth to another development of great scientific potential. You here could with justice hail the revelation contained in a document released by the Committee on Science and Public Policy of the National

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of Sciences that a special panel of two dozen astronomers believes that there is such a thing as extraterrestrial intelligence. The astronomers, in short, believe life exists on the planets of many stars other than the sun, and that the extraterrestrial creatures involved may be trying to communicate with other beings in the universe.

Lear's article was headlined, incidentally, "The search for man's relatives among the stars."

Lear introduced his article by posing an imaginative want-ad that reads as follows:

"Historic opportunity: Is a generous person who can afford to spend \$70 million of his own money willing to spend it in hunting for man's long-lost relatives far out among the stars? Will this person please contact Prof. Melvin Calvin, chairman, Committee on Science and Public Policy, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C."

Because I believe it has intense interest here, I am picking up Lear's paraphrase of the NAS document, a liberty I'm sure the "Saturday Review" will forgive, for it should whet your appetite to buy the magazine and read the entire article:

"During the last few years so many of the primitive molecules from which the building blocks of life on earth are made have been seen in the distant sky that the existence of life on the planets of many stars other than the sun can be taken for granted. The inhabitants of some of these planets must be at least as intelligent as we are and it is logical to assume that they use the electromagnetic spectrum to communicate with each other over long distances, as we do. We could eavesdrop on their messages now if we tried hard enough. Because our own fate as a species ultimately depends on our willingness to recognize ourselves as evolving creatures in an evolving environment, we cannot afford to wait much longer before beginning to listen seriously for clues as to the whereabouts of these remote civilizations, locate them, and try to engage them in conversation, pending the still unforeseeable time when discovery of new physical laws may allow us to visit them or permit them to visit us."

The NAS report said in addition that "at this instant through this very document are perhaps passing radio waves bearing the conversation of distant creatures, which we could record if we but pointed an existing radio telescope in the right direction and tuned it to the proper frequency."

The articles I have quoted from are excellent examples of good press coverage of man's search to unlock the doors to the unknown and thus enrich the destiny of all of us here on earth.

Dr. Hynek expressed the wish for a massive scientific investigation of the UFO phenomenon. Such an investigation would take the same kind of money Lear seeks for NAS's probe for extraterrestrial life--a goal believed entirely achievable if sufficient resources are forthcoming.

Unraveling of the UFO mystery, too is possible, in my view, after an altogether too brief study of press and book coverage of UFOs. But this will take time, effort and all the enthusiastic persistence you who are studying UFOs can muster. In fact, you'll have to go way beyond the motivation of a certain doctor in our town who doesn't operate unless it's necessary. If he doesn't need the money, he doesn't operate.

Meanwhile, back on the farm. I've been forgetting my purpose here. I'm a feeble keynoter; in fact, I've wandered a bit from the so-called topic Walt assigned me.

Strictly hewing to our performance record to date--with some ex-

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ceptions--our job is to remain objectively interested, reporting UFO sightings without bias.

In closing, I have several suggestions concerning the way UFOs should be reported--these suggestions come from many of us in the news media.

Rushing to news rooms with stories of isolated sightings by one or two individuals will neither serve the cause of UFO scientific inquiry, or the public's need to know. You realize only too well that sometimes you take months to verify the substance of such reports, so hasty publication might be misleading and present the whole UFO picture in a bad light.

Certainly, if a UFO is witnessed by several--say 5 or more--reliable persons, an immediate story may be in order and should be reported by someone like Walt Andrus who is level-headed about the phenomenon.

Other ways in which you may aid the news media in keeping the public informed of UFO happenings include:

1. Providing interviews with recognized scientists like Dr. Hynek and Dr. Saunders.
2. Holding conferences such as this which pull together the views of experts in the field.
3. Making appearances before groups such as luncheon clubs, always making sure speakers provide reporters with adequate summaries of their remarks.
4. Releasing pictures of sightings if they tell a significant story.
5. Assisting reporters and editors in pulling together isolated reports and facts so that they may be presented in a total context possessing meaning. A good example here is the significance of the events in 1954 as pointed out by Jacques Vallee.

These are some suggestions I leave with you in the hope that by obtaining your cooperation we in the news media can present a clearer picture of the UFO significance. Additionally, let me say that I'm sure you'll find news media representatives willing to give your field objective treatment if you'll make yourselves available for providing answers which newsmen may need to handle information about UFOs intelligently.

As your so-called keynoter, I'm privileged to welcome you to Quincy, an open-minded city, a truly great city that welcomes new ideas and a city wherein scientific research in many fields has reached a high level of sophistication. Thus the scientific trend in your exploration of UFOS will attract to its echo a warm welcome from all of us here to all of you.

Comment: In sending us Mr. Barnum's speech, Walter Andrus wrote: "It is invigorating to hear a man of this stature, education and position take a positive stand, especially as a news man." We couldn't agree more--and we suggest all our readers read the suggestions given in the conclusion of the talk very carefully. Knowing what the news media expects of YOU as well as well as what you hopefully expect from the media can bring about the cooperation we all want and sometimes fail to receive--and to give.

We hope our exchange magazines will quote from this article--or use it all, as we have. Its message should be spread. --Ye Ed.

Astronomy Notes

The August Sky - Venus is seen during the morning hours, rising at 2:00 a.m. CST, August 1st and at 1:50 a.m. September 1st. Mars is too near the position of the sun to be seen. Jupiter may be seen during most of the evening, the giant planet sets at 2:00 a.m. on August 1st and at 11:50 p.m. September 1st. This bright sky object is seen in the mid to high southern sky. Saturn is visible as it rises at 1:20 a.m. August 1st; it rises at 12:00 midnight on September 1st. --Ted Phillips.

The Constellations. Lyra (The Lyre) - Lyra is the Lyre, the ancient Greek musical instrument resembling the harp. To the Arabs Lyra was a bird. The Greeks pictured this constellation as the Lyre of Orpheus.

Lyra culminates at 9 p.m. on August 18 and its brightest star, Vega, is circumpolar to those who live north of the latitude of New York City. Vega holds the distinction of being fifth in brilliance of all the stars. It is a very hot blue-white star of spectral type A0 and it is 26.5 light years distant. At Vega's distance the sun would be at the very threshold of visibility if the observer were standing upon a mountain peak in Southern California. Vega is near the point in space that the solar system is approaching at the rate of 12 miles a second. Vega is approaching us at 8½ miles per second and this, combined with our speed of 12 miles per second, assures a close passage in about 325,000 years. Below Vega four stars form a parallelogram whose larger dimensions run north and south. One of the most famous planetary nebulae M-57 (the Ring nebula) is located in this constellation. Hidden among the faint stars in Lyra is a variable star RR Lyrae. RR Lyrae stars are also found in the most distant galaxies, which our greatest telescopes have been able to resolve. RR Lyrae stars have given us the most accurate measurements of our own galaxy and of the distance to similar systems. --Mark Herbstritt.

Unidentified Object Seen in Wisconsin

Austin Routhieaux, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, reports an unidentified flying object was seen in the vicinity of Gresham and Antigo, Wisconsin at 2:45 in the morning of June 22, 1972. The object was trailed by two officers for an hour on Highway 45. An official checked with the USAF for possible radar pick-up--none. A check was also made with local authorities re helicopters in the area. There were none in the air at the time. According to several Green Bay radio reports during the day, the object was seen by many.

Mr. Routhieaux, in making the report by letter to John F. Schuessler, expressed his surprise and disappointment that the sighting was not mentioned in the Green Bay "Press Gazette." If any of our readers has any further information on the sighting, we will appreciate hearing from you. We are glad to add that Mr. Routhieaux is also one of our readers.

Older Sighting in "25 Years Ago"-Column

July 9, 1947. Several Sedalians Tuesday evening about 7 o'clock had a glimpse of what they described as flying discs or saucers moving swiftly through the sky at high altitude. They were 3 in number and were described as appearing to be 2,000 feet or more, above the earth. They had a silvery, glistening appearance or were shiny aluminum appearing objects. Source: "Sedalia Democrat." Credit: Ted Phillips.

School Teacher Reports UFO Vercal P. Lager, 54, a teacher in Barrington, Ill., recently reported a UFO he saw in 1923. At that time he lived in Rend City, Ill., and was sitting on the front porch of his home when he observed an object which he first thought was a falling star as it seemed to be "coming down" from the north. Then it hovered, moved below the southern horizon, then reappeared and moved to its original position. The object was cigar-shaped and so bright, a newspaper could be read from its light. Mr. Lager and his grandmother watched the object for 30 minutes before it moved toward a swamp and disappeared. (Credit: Lon Moeller, reporting to Walter H. Andrus)

Missouri Woman Reports Glowing Object Mrs. Lena Miller and her 8-year old son, of Knox City, Mo., were on Highway 6, driving west, about 10:45 p.m. April 19, 1972. Mrs. Miller noticed a glowing object ahead and to the right. It appeared to be about the size of a street light and of a blue-gray color and brightened and dimmed as it moved along the highway at tree top level. Mrs. Miller followed it to Edina and at one point between Knox City and Edina, smaller lights "about the size of a basketball" left the object and one crossed the highway in front of the car. The object moved in and out of the clouds, then disappeared to the south. (Credit): Lon Moeller)

1967 Nebraska Sighting Told The sighting of an unidentified flying object in the Grand Island, Nebraska, area on April 9, 1967 has been confirmed by MUFON Field Investigator and State Section Director Eldon E. Ervin. A building contractor, his wife and three children were traveling east on Interstate 80 at dusk when the wife first noticed a bright object to the north, just north of the intersection of U.S. Highway 30 and Nebraska Highway 281 and adjacent to a Drive In theatre. The observers stopped the car, got out, and watched for 15-20 minutes while the object fluttered across the Cornhusker Ordnance Plant some 3 miles west of the theatre.

At times the object wobbled as low as 40 feet from the ground. Later it disappeared to the north. The family drove as far north as Silber Creek but could not sight it again. Upon returning to their home, they called the Grand Island Weather Bureau. They were told an investigator would be out in the morning, but none appeared. The local police were also called, but no one came to investigate. (Credit: Elmer A. Kral, State Director for Nebraska)

Large UFO Seen Near Air Base Two airmen at George AFB, California, verified each other's report of seeing a "bright orange object" about 1 a.m. June 19, 1972, that seemed to be 375 feet in diameter as it sank behind a building southwest of their security-police beat at the base.

The airmen, Gary Corley and Randolph Wogoman, said the UFO sighting apparently went unobserved by anyone else. They reported it to the air police, and to the Victorville Sheriff's Office and Adelanto Police Department.

No evidence was found of the object having landed, it was reported by the base information office. (Source: June 20, 1972 "Sun," San Bernardino, Calif.)

Have YOU seen a UFO? We would like to use your report in SKYLOOK. Send your letter to the editor. And do send us newspaper clippings re UFOs from your local Press. Be sure to give name of newspaper and date of issue, so we may give proper credit in using the report.

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

In the last issue of SKYLOOK I presented a brief look at three of the pre 1900 physical trace cases from the file. I will present some of the later cases moving towards the "modern" cases taking place after 1947. In the last issue the total cases were 433, as of this date (July 13, 1972) the total has reached 452.

Type B, File # 423 1922, County Donegal, Ireland. During a civil war, soldiers hiding in a cave heard a whirring noise and ran from the cave firing their weapons. They saw a dark object on the ground, rays of flame extended towards them, setting fire to bushes near the cave. The object ascended, it was seen by six men. (Flying Saucer Review, Feb.-Mar., 1957)

Type C, File # 362 1941, Middletown, Ohio. John Bradshaw then age 11, was doing some chores early one morning when he saw an object 40 feet away. It had an orange-red glow underneath, no sound. It resembled a bell with a black top. It headed towards the woods where he heard a crashing sound. A flattened area was found. (Ohio UFO Reporter)

Type B, File # 364 November, 1919. "Mr. Franklin told a most interesting story, one of his sons ran into the house and said, 'Papa, the sun has fallen into our wheat field and exploded.' Mr. Franklin ran out and saw a light so vivid that he had to shield his eye with his hands. In a few seconds it was gone, and when he went to the spot, he found the wheat had been lightly scorched. There was also an odor of scorching vegetation." (Lenoir News-Topic, Nov. 27, 1919)

Teachers Report UFO Over Decatur, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Donovan, of 1801 S. Fairview Ave., Decatur, Ill., sat up all night listening to the Democratic Convention on television and at 4:15 in the morning (July 11) decided to go out on the sundeck on the north side of his home for some fresh air and a snack.

The northern sky was clear and there a few clouds in the west. Mr. Donovan saw a bright star-like object, which moved from the north east to disappear into the northwest in a matter of four minutes. It was a white light, very bright and steady, and larger than the brightest stars or planets. It seemed to gain elevation as it moved, and there was no sound. Mr. Donovan does not believe the object was any conventional aircraft. It was observed at an elevation of 45 degrees. (Credit: Leonard Sturm)

Plan to Photograph Meteor Shower--Get UFO

Earl F. Watts, of Buncenville, Texas, and George Koch, both MUFON astronomy directors, were setting up equipment to photograph a predicted meteor shower some 5 degrees south of Vega about 11:10 PM CDT June 15, in Quincy, Ill. Watts noted a bright object traveling at a high velocity, north to south and Koch immediately moved the scope mounted camera on the object and obtained three photographs. The bright, white object was visible to the naked eye and was easy to follow. It was under observation from 40 to 45 seconds, and no sound was audible. Stars of 9.5 magnitude were also in the photographs. Credit: Walter H. Andrus.

First of all, let's see what some of the weekly tabloids have had to say about UFOs recently. The NATIONAL ENQUIRER continues to be virtually the only such paper to take the subject seriously. In the July 23 issue of the ENQUIRER, reporter Jack Kelley tells of the vast number of sightings over the English town of Banbury. In a 5-month period between August and December, 1971, residents of the Banbury area reported more than 1000 observations of UFOs. The July 2 issue of two other tabloids, NATIONAL TATTLER and NEWS EXPLOITER, contained articles relating to UFOs. The TATTLER article by Hayden Hewes reported seeress Jeane Dixon's views on UFOs--"they don't come from outer space--they are man-made and used for spying." The EXPLOITER (which is certainly appropriately named) featured an article by one "Eric Wendell" (and guess who he really is) on a shaved monkey which was passed off as a "spaceman" in the early 1950's. "Wendell" says maybe it really was a humanoid; or maybe it's just more of the "anything for a buck" school of journalism(?).

The August issue of FATE contains an article entitled "UFOs and the Air Force," which is an excerpt from Dr. J. Allen Hynek's new book, THE UFO EXPERIENCE. If you haven't read the book and would like to know what Project Blue Book was "really like," here's a good chance to find out.

Although this mention is a bit late, I do want to comment briefly on the "NORAD red alert" UFO article by Hayden Hewes in the July SAGA. I found the article quite interesting, but I am still unable to draw any definite conclusions as to what--if anything--actually happened on the night in question. I am inclined to think that very possibly something involving jets and UFOs took place, but I seriously doubt that we'll ever know exactly what occurred. The SAGA article is worth reading, even if you can't come to any definite conclusions after having done so. I regret not being able to comment on any UFO article which may appear in the August issue of SAGA, but this issue hasn't reached my local newsstands as I write this.

Captain Bruce Cathie, a New Zealand airlines pilot, created quite a stir in 1968 when his first book, HARMONIC 33, was published. In that volume, he proposed that UFOs were utilizing (and re-constructing) a world-wide "power grid" which served as a propulsive source for them. Various researchers and mathematicians suggested that Captain Cathie's equations (which he offered as "proof" of his theory) left something to be desired. Be that as it may, the basic idea which Cathie put forth is by no means refuted. His "grid" theory has now been refined and updated in a new book, HARMONIC 695. Subtitled "The UFO and Anti-Gravity," this new book is co-authored with journalist Peter Temm. From UFOs in history to disappearing planes to enigmatic governmental installations, Cathie and Temm cover subjects which they consider relevant to the overall theme of the book. I am no mathematician, so commentary on that aspect of the theory must come from other sources. I can see the book makes for most interesting reading. If Cathie's ideas are even partially correct, the implications are enormous. The book is published by A. H. & A. W. Reed Ltd., 182 Wakefield St., Wellington, N. Z. and the price as listed in a recent Australian magazine is \$4.75. No doubt postage is additional, so a note to the publishers will give you the exact price.

The UFO Problem, A Challenge to Science
By Professor Felix Y. Ziegler, Moscow Institute of Aviation

Moscow, U. S. S. R. Feb. 1968. The steady flow of information obtained by mankind sometimes brings with it problems of prime importance that can be solved only by a joint effort of all the scientists of the world. It is not ruled out that their solution will lead to a radical revaluation of values, to a revolution in our scientific world outlook. In astronomy such problems as the quasars and in physics and quarks.

The finding out of the nature of the unidentified flying objects, which have appeared in great quantities practically everywhere of late, doubtlessly belongs among such radical problems. Until recently the UFO problem was dealt with only by individual enthusiasts in the USSR. Finally, in 1967 a large team of scientists and specialists working in various fields of science and technology was formed and got down to a systematic study of these UFOs. They do not have a rich observation materials at their disposal--just some 200 reports. But even a preliminary analysis of this material suggests important conclusions.

On July 18, September 4, October 18 and other days of 1967 crescent shaped UFOs were seen mostly over southern parts of the Soviet Union (the Ukraine, the Crimea, and the Caucasus). Reports to that effect came from the Mountain Astronomical Station near Kislovodsk and from the astronomical observatory in Kazan, as well as from many private individuals.

The most characteristic type of UFO is a luminous orange-colored crescent with a diameter of 15 to 20 degrees of the arc, flying with its outward curve facing the direction of movement; its surface is usually only a little duller than that of the moon. The horns of the crescent give off jet trails, sometimes with sparks and the outer contour of the crescent is sharp and the inner contour blurred and wavy. A bright flaming disc preceded by a crescent is sometimes observed. And at other times the crescent is preceded and flanked by what appears to be a star of the first magnitude, which remains at a constant distance from the crescent itself. In some cases the crescent dwindled in perspective and turned into a disc or a small dot of light. One report states that a UFO of this type executed a maneuver when approached by a jet plane over the Ukraine on September 19, 1967.

Kazan astronomers, who carried out their observations from two points simultaneously set the diameter of the crescent-shaped UFOs at some 500 to 600 meters and their speed at some five kilometers per second. If we are to suppose that the crescent is the luminous head shock wave, the UFOs should fly at an altitude lower than 100 kilometers but higher than 50 kilometers (the flight is absolutely noiseless). It ensues from these rough estimates that these UFOs' diameters are close to 500 to 600 meters.

Obviously enough, such objects could not have been made by man. They are definitely not artificial earth satellites or space rockets.

Reports of the daytime observations of flying discs or cigars are not as numerous. Here is one of these cases, sent in by V. I. Duginov, director of the Kherson Hydrometeorological School: "On October 20,
(Continued on next page)

1966, as I waited for a trolleybus after a visit to the stadium, I saw, together with some fifty others, a round disc of about one-third the sun's diameter directly overhead. The disc was of a pearl-silvery color and it moved slowly eastwards."

And here is another interesting report: On July 26, 1965, Latvian astronomers Robert Vitolniek, Jan Melderis and Esmeralda Vitolniek were studying silvery clouds from the observation station at Ogra, Latvian SSR. At exactly 9:35 p.m. in the gathering dusk, they spotted an unusually bright star slowly flying west. Viewed through the eight power binoculars, the star appeared as a small flat spot. And the telescope revealed a truly amazing picture--there was a small ball in the center of the lens-shaped disc. The astronomers set the disc's diameter at about 100 meters. Around this disc at a distance of two times its diameter were three balls similar to the one in the center of the disc. The balls rotated around the disc, and the whole system dwindled as it receded away from the earth. Some 15 to 20 minutes later the balls began to depart from the disc in different directions. The ball in the center also left its place and flew aside. Finally at 10:00 p.m. all of the bodies, which emitted a greenish pearl glow faded into the distance.

Particularly interesting observation of a UFO was made from a plane V. I. Akkuratov the flag-navigator of the Civil Polar Aviation, writes the following in his report: "In 1956, having pierced the clouds over Greenland we suddenly spotted a strange flying aircraft to our port side moving parallel to our course. The craft resembled a big pearl-colored lens with wavy, pulsating edges. To avoid clashing with it, we went back into the clouds. After 40 minutes of flight in the direction of Medvezhi Island, the clouds suddenly receded and as we got into the clear sky we noticed the same flying object to our port side again. In order to get a closer look at it we changed our course sharply and began to approach it. In response, the unknown flying object also changed its course and flew parallel to us at an equal speed that we were maintaining. After 15 to 18 minutes of flight, the object changed its course sharply, surged ahead of us and shot straight up extremely fast, disappearing into the blue of the sky. We detected no antennae, superstructure, wings or notholes on that disc. There was neither a gas jet exhaust nor the inversion trail, and the speed of its departure was so great that the whole phenomenon seemed to be something supernatural."

We shall add to this that the crew of a IL-18 airliner (Commander Petrov) had a very similar experience at an altitude of 8,000 meters in the daylight hours, near Tiksi Bay.

The material we have gathered, to say nothing of the numerous reports from abroad suggests that the UFO phenomenon is REAL and that it cannot be identified with any known natural phenomenon--with the anomalous optical phenomena in the earth's atmosphere, for instance. Quite a number of UFOs were observed over the USSR and it is noteworthy that the UFO forms observed here fit into the same classification of these objects observed in the WEST and in the USA in particular. It is safe to state that the UFO problem has assumed a global character and therefore calls for a global research.

International scientific cooperation in the solution of this problem would have long ago become a reality hadn't sensationalism and irresponsible anti-scientific assertions as regarded the "Flying Saucers" interfered with it. But just as astronomy defeated astrology, the scientific truth will prevail in the UFO problem as well, we are sure.

(continued on next page)

I have a profound respect for the efforts of such well-known American scientists as Professors J. Allen Hynek and James E. McDonald who are vigorously and with good reason trying to attract the attention of America's public to the UFO problem. Unfortunately, certain scientists both in the Soviet Union and in the United States deny the very existence of the problem instead of helping to solve it. The main task at present is to organize the systematic instrumental study of the UFO from astronomical and meteorological observatories, to obtain good photographs and the spectra of these objects. When we have good experimental material and data on the modelling plasma in the UFO we shall probably be able to establish whether the UFOs are of a protoplasm origin or whether they come from another planet. The second hypothesis merits serious consideration, to my mind. Both hypotheses may prove erroneous and the real truth may lie somewhere else. I believe there is no sense in guess work. We must work calmly and thoroughly, employing all the methods of modern-day science. The UFO phenomenon is a challenge to mankind. It is the duty of scientists to take up this challenge, to disclose the true nature of these UFOs and to establish the scientific truth.

--Doctor Felix Y. Zigel
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Where To Order 1971-1972 "Conference Proceedings"

Copies of the 1971 "Conference Proceedings" are still available and may be ordered from UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc., Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo., 63366. The price is \$3.00 (\$3.75 outside U. S. and Canada). Articles by Walter H. Andrus, Sherman J. Larsen, Ted Phillips, William H. Hunkins, Alexander Calandra, PhD., Stanton T. Friedman, Leonard H. Stringfield and other UFO-related material.

The 1972 "Conference Proceedings" may be ordered from: Midwest UFO Network, 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill., 62301. This new book contains the text of the speeches made at the June 17 Conference held in Quincy, Ill., plus additional material. The price is \$3.25 in the USA and Canada; \$4.00 elsewhere. Both books should be in your library.

The "Field Investigator's Manual" edited by Walter H. Andrus and Joe Gurney is only \$1.50 to MUFON members; \$2.00 to non-members in U.S. and Canada, and \$2.75 outside USA and Canada. This book may also be ordered from Midwest UFO Network, Inc., 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill., 62301. Important guide lines for every UFO investigator.

Please Note Different Addresses for 1971-1972 Conference Proceedings

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GLOBE TROTTING UFO Escapes African's Shots Ft. Beaufort, South Africa. Police and a farmer opened fire on an unidentified flying object sighted near here. But the object which they said first appeared as a ball of fire and then changed color frequently, dodged the rifle fire, and flew away. Source: "St. Louis Globe-Democrat," July 4, 1972. Credit: Ron Schaulat

Football-Shaped Object Seen in India The "Times of India," Ahmedabad, India, reported on April 29, 1972 that a football-shaped luminous unidentified flying object hovered over Srinagar for an hour and thousands of people are reported to have sighted it rotating and throwing off bright flickers of light. "It certainly could not have been a satellite, for such objects move and never hover over a place," the report said, "nor can they be seen for more than a few minutes." Credit: Lou Farish.

Commercial Pilots See UFO in Central Europe March 20, 1972. During the week-end an unknown object was observed over Central Europe by pilot captains from Lufthansa and the Austrian company AUA. The mysterious object was first seen above Linz on the Danube, when it was flying towards West at a terrific speed.

At 7.18 p.m. the pilot on a DC-9 jet plane from the Austrian company AUA wondered at an inexplicable compass deflection of seven degrees. He was then situated with his plane - route number 405 from Frankfurt to Vienna - at an altitude of 3600 meter above Linz.

Seven minutes after the compass deflection had begun, he caught sight of the mysterious object. It looked like an exactly cone, the top of which pointed 50 degrees towards South. A sparkling light radiated from the cone, turning into a strong red color at intervals. The UFO moved at an enormous speed in a flat track about 20 degrees from direct Western direction. The luminous traces of the tracks could still be seen 20 minutes later.

Shortly after, a German Lufthansa pilot reported the same object to the aviation centre Vienna-Schwechat.

Alfred Wytek (50), leader of the centre, said: "Three pilot captains in all observed the UFO in the airspace above Linz at 7.25 p.m."

Five minutes later the mysterious object could be seen above Vienna and Montreux in Switzerland and above Ardeche in Southern France. Credit: IGAF Information Service, Tvaerhave 6, Molholm, 7100 Vejle, DK Denmark.

Glowing UFO Seen in New Zealand A glowing unidentified flying object was reported moving slowly over the Havelock hills early in the morning, May 19, 1972, by several Hawke's Bay people, including three policemen who followed it by telescope for an hour, and experts were baffled as to its origin, according to an account in the "Hawkins Bay Herald Tribune," of Hastings, New Zealand.

The object, appearing as a bright star behaving in a peculiar fashion, to the naked eye was described as barrel-shaped, but bluntly cut off at one end and with a band around the middle when viewed through the telescope. It hovered from south to east and the band, glowing brightly on the outer edges, constantly pulsated. The centre had a translucent appearance as the object moved in a 40-degree arc across a dark sky devoid of stars of any magnitude. Officials consulted believed it unlikely the object could have been a weather balloon, satellite, space projectile, space junk, meteorite or any other known object.

("Mysterious Field Damage--Continued)

And this report of an eye witness to lightning damage, together with Dr. Baughman's report, leaves little doubt as to the cause of damage to soil and soybeans.

In sending us news clips and his own notes on the above cases, Mr. Andrus adds: "Contrary to popular belief, many people believe that the discharge of a cloud during a thunderstorm to the nearby earth originates in the cloud. The initial "dart" of lightning does indeed start in this manner which ionizes the air particles or molecules and provides an even better path for an electron discharge from the earth to the cloud. This second movement of electrons from the earth to the cloud via the ionized particles is the strength of a stroke of lightning. The tremendous amount of current originating from the earth during the major stroke would cause the soil to erupt, consequently blasting out portions of the soil and plants simultaneously."

It is interesting to note that in all the news clippings received, no one reported seeing a UFO, altho some witnesses and investigators leaned to the theory that a "space vehicle" could have caused the damage. We mention this because we know our readers will be wondering about that.

This was written from news clippings sent in by Walter H. Andrus (also from his notes), Gary Lowenberg, and Ruth Gamble. The newspapers are: Ft. Dodge Messenger, Ft. Dodge, Ia.; Eagle Grove Eagle, Eagle Grove, Ia.; Des Moines Register, Des Moines, Ia.; and The Evening News, Harrisburg, Pa. We do not have the Glidden Graphic referred to by Dr. Baughman.

Organization Notes From Around the Network

The date for the fall meetings of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis are Sunday, Sept. 10; Sunday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Nov. 19. The time is 2 p.m. and the place is the Lemay Bank, 152 Lemay Ferry Road. . . About 75 members of the Benton-Pettis County Bankers Assoc. heard Ted Phillips, of Sedalia, Mo., speak on UFOs at the American Legion Hall in Cole Camp, Missouri, June 27th . . . Mr. Phillips will be a guest speaker at the Walnut Hills Country Club, Sedalia, Mo., July 25, 1972. . . . George D. Fawcett, of Mt. Airy, North Carolina, keeps busy--in June, he addressed the Winston Salem, N. C., Kiwanis Club, the FlatRock Elementary School Science Classes, Flat Rock, N.C. and the New Age Foundation in Charlotte, N. C. He also made his 8th appearance on the Lee Kinard "Good Morning Show" over WFMY TV (CBS-Channel 2) in Greensboro, N. C. and made his first appearance on Bill Boggs "Southern Exposure Show" over WGHP-TV (ABC, Channel 8) in High Point, N. C. He tells us he got in a word for MUFON. He was featured in a news story June 24 in the Winston-Salem "Journal & Sentinel," Winston-Salem, N. C. and again July 15, in a feature story by Darrell Sifford, News Editor for the "Charlotte News," Charlotte, N. C. (MUFON also mentioned). We do appreciate Mr. Fawcett's plugs and we know we're getting them because of the requests for sample copies of SKYLOOK and/or subscriptions. . . . looking forward to a report on the Carlyle skywatch and picnic, July 23-24 for our next SKYLOOK. . . Bill Christian has distributed the St. Louis Study Group's Alert Cards to the 48 St. Louis metropolitan police departments, along with a letter to each Chief of Police, and to 18 county sheriffs. These cards, which we have mentioned before, give telephone numbers to be used to report UFO sightings, day and night.

Organization Notes, Continued

The Tri-State skywatch will be held, Aug. 16, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Martha Holtman, Route 4, South 24th St., Quincy, Ill., and the September meeting of the Tri-State UFO Study Group will be held at the home of Fields F. Freeman, 1015 Rhapsody Road, Quincy, on the 20th. . . . Reports continue to come in re the very enjoyable reception given by "Walt and Jeanne" following the MUFON Conference, June 17, at the home of Director Walter H. Andrus in Quincy, Ill. . .

Last Words!

Because of Mr. Barnum's excellent article this month, we are obliged to omit other good material, but felt Mr. B's article should be published in full and given priority. Next month we'll tell you about the Mart, Texas, photo hoax (from Jo Clark's DATA-NET for June), a 1968 UFO Report made to Jerry Turner, more of Stan Gordon's fine Pennsylvania reports, some interesting copy from Brent Raynes (all held over this month) and we're still going to comment further on Bonnie Roman's fine ufozine. And we are sure there will be a lot of new material coming in too. We have our problems (this month the Monster drove us up the walls--please excuse messy print) but one problem we NEVER have is lack of copy--thanks to our fine staff and readers. --Ye Ed.

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