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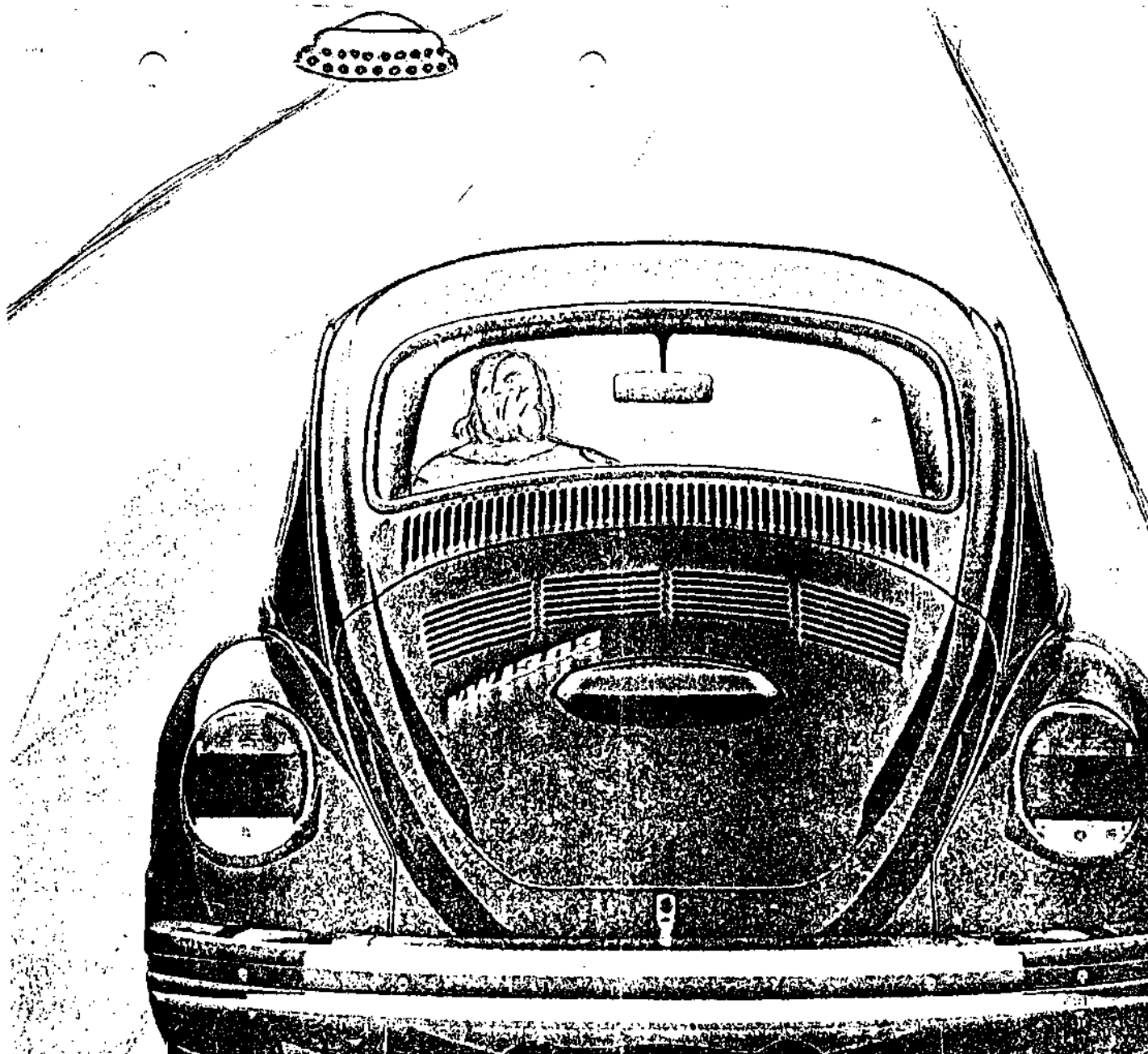
The UFO Monthly

February, 1976

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF



MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.



A very unusual effect from a UFO was reported by Mrs. N. D. as she was driving her Volkswagen in central Belgium. Her engine seemed to die, as did her radio, as she approached the UFO sitting on the highway in front of her. While this is not

unusual, the strange effects did not stop there. As the UFO moved away, the car reportedly restarted itself and began moving forward—in fourth gear. This and other reports from Belgium begin on page 10.

Founded 1967
SKYLOOK

The UFO Monthly
26 Edgewood Drive
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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Editor's Column

Part two of the saga of Travis Walton is included in this issue. It is interesting to read the reports of APRO, NICAP, and GSW (Ground Saucer Watch), but it is also frustrating. APRO indicates the case involves a valid sighting and abduction, while NICAP and GSW feel the abduction portion of the story, at least, is a hoax or "a psychological phenomena."

On the surface it appears that APRO, while not first on the scene, ultimately produced the best-qualified consultants to aid in the investigation. Perhaps they also entered the case with less initial skepticism, which, whatever its possible demerits, made APRO more acceptable to the Waltons.

NICAP apparently questions the sighting itself, saying that the polygraph tests of the witnesses were not conclusive. GSW seems to accept the sighting portion, but not the abduction story.

It is interesting that GSW and NICAP question the background of the Waltons, empha-

sizing what GSW indicates is an obsession with UFOs, while APRO contends the Waltons had only a minor interest in UFOs prior to the sighting. What are the sources for these varying reports on the witnesses?

Obviously, this sort of variation between the findings of established UFO groups does little to encourage confidence in cooperative ventures involving investigations, since one group would naturally question the approach and competence of another. Likewise, the general public is likely to wonder why major groups investigating the same case have come up with opposite findings.

Whatever the results, all groups involved deserve a vote of thanks for releasing at least the main details of their investigations, rather than saving them for a future book or "technical report," or delaying release on the pretext that the case has not been completed. (Is a case ever completed?)

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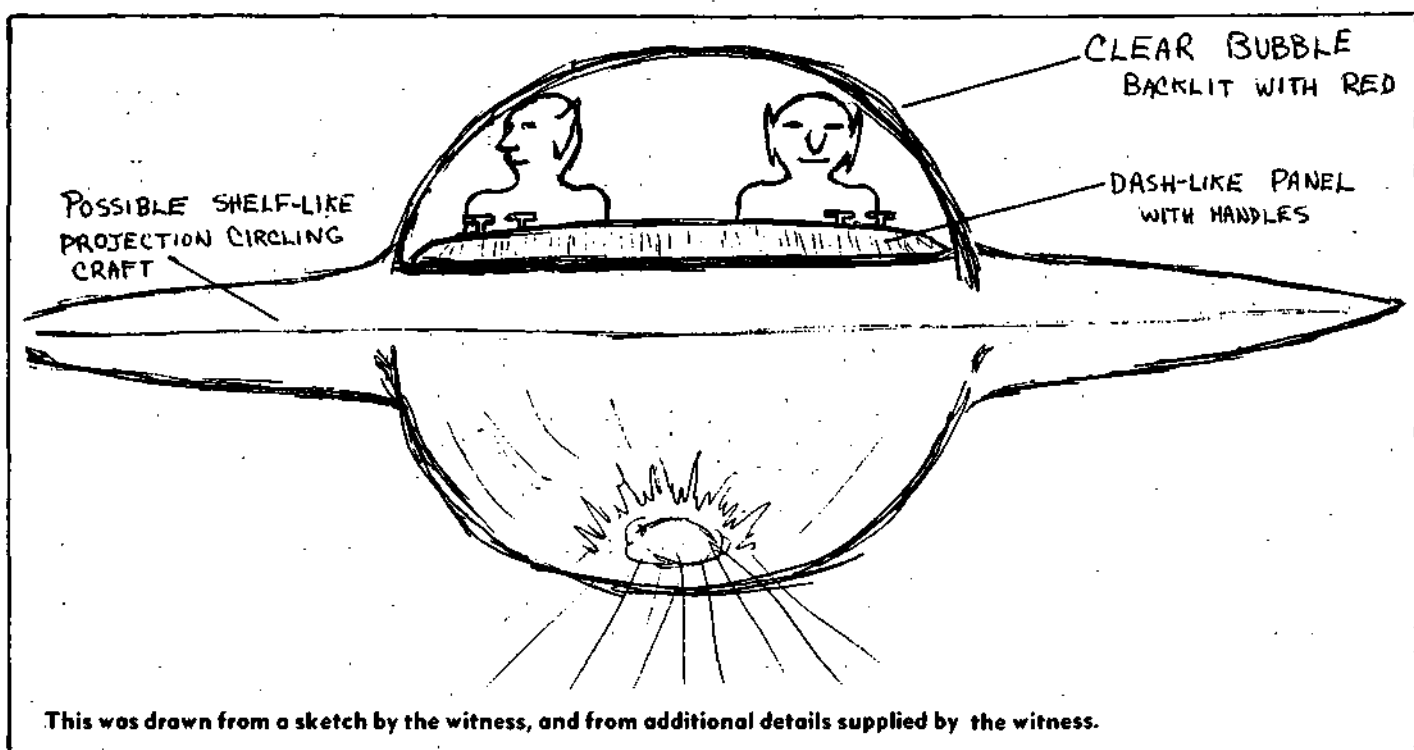
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SKYLOOK THE UFO MONTHLY is published monthly by Dwight Connelly, 26 Edgewood Drive, Quincy, IL 62301 USA. Subscription Rates: \$8.00 per year in U.S.; \$9.00 per year foreign; single copy, \$1.00. Advertising rates: \$5.00 per column inch. All ads subject to approval of the publisher.

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Texan says truck buffeted, lights went out

Two occupants in craft

Date of sighting: May 3, 1975.

Location of sighting: San Antonio, Texas.

Investigated by: Gary Graber.

By Gary Graber

On the evening of May 3, 1975, Mr. Alois Olenick, 48, was westbound on Mogford Road south of San Antonio at approximately 9:15 p.m. when his vehicle, a 1959 Chevy pickup, was approached, spotlighted, and nearly buffeted off the road by an unidentified craft carrying two occupants, he said.

Mr. Olenick states that he was driving to a nearby store when he noticed a strange amber colored object "rise rapidly upward" from a grove of trees about 900 yards into the pasture adjoining the road. This object then approached the Olenick vehicle "at a terrific rate of speed, losing altitude" as it closed on the pickup.

During this rapid approach, the primary light on the front

of the vehicle changed from amber to a "bright, cherry red," becoming most intense during the close encounter.

Says Olenick, "When the craft got directly over the top of my pickup my lights went completely out and my engine was dead. And as I was trying to get out of the pickup, I thought it was a chopper passing on top of me, at first, it happened so quick. Then when they hovered over the top of me and I got a good look at it, I knew it was no chopper. I thought to myself, 'That's got to be a UFO.'"

Globular shape

As the object hung in place above the pickup, Monk Olenick saw a craft globular in shape with two roughly conical protrusions, that may have constituted a shelf-like projection encircling the transparent upper section. The bottom of the vehicle was "highly polished metal" that cast a reddish glow, possibly as a result of reflection from the primary red

light. (Possibly due to air glow)?

Olenick told this investigator that the hovering phase of the encounter, during which he clearly observed two occupants, was on the order of only 10-20 seconds.

During this time, however, the vehicle was tipped at an estimated 37-40 degree slant and oriented so that one of the occupants was directly in Olenick's line of sight. The transparent upper portion through which they were seen also seemed to be backlit with a diffuse reddish light, making details of the occupants' features quite plain.

"They appeared to be just as interested in me as I was in them," Olenick says. "One of the occupants, the one farthest away from me, appeared to be the pilot and had his hands on what looked like controls. He was looking up and away from me. The other occupant looked directly at me, a side view right at my windshield, and ap-

peared to be observing me.

Got a good look

"I got a good look at both of them. They weren't human beings like we see here." When asked to describe their physical appearance, Monk stated that "they couldn't have been big men, probably not over 5 feet tall. They were bald, with long prominent ears, and a long nose. Their eyes did not appear very plainly, they just looked like slits." (INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: there is a possibility here that more prominent eyes were covered by lids or protective membranes, against the glare, giving only the appearance of slits.)

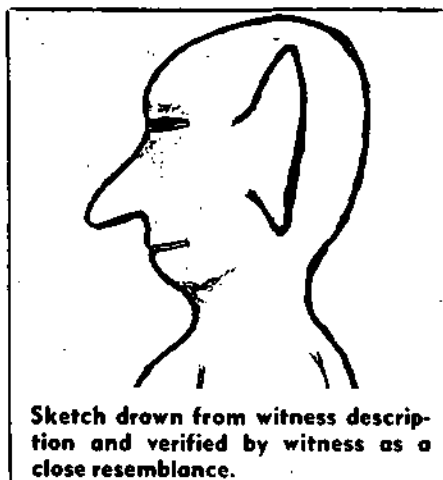
Olenick added that their skin was "not like our skin; it appeared to me to look sort of like sharkskin, sort of a grey color." He also noted that the skin was tight and firm, without wrinkles. The two occupants had a wiry, firm build, but he could see only a portion of the arms and upper torso.

Olenick never got a look at the hands of either occupant. They appeared to be resting on controls below a dash-like panel, above which he could see several apparently T-shaped handles.

The witness also seemed certain that neither of the occupants was wearing a headset or other such apparatus. The only possible article of clothing might have been a shirt-like garment on the torso, made of material like leather. He is not sure about this point, however. "It was over so fast that I have to think carefully about the details."

No motor noise

Olenick says that he watched the object depart. "There was no motor noise during the time it was over my truck, just a whirring (shriek) of wind. It was very loud; it sounded to me like a cyclone, and I've been in a lot of storms. I did not hear any engines whatsoever, no



whir as from engines."

He says he saw the bottom of the craft as it "took off straight up. There was a terrible thrust that buffeted my pickup and then it vanished almost instantly." When asked if he felt the object actually vanished or merely turned off its lights while leaving very fast, Olenick had no real opinion. "It was just like turning off a light bulb. It happened instantly."

Several additional details are worth noting. Olenick noticed a "very (strong) severe odor, like burning copper or electrical wiring" as the craft hovered over his truck. He states that this odor persisted in his truck for a long period after the incident.

The witness also suffered eye strain (and possible slight damage) from the intense red light present on the craft. At the time of the interview, on Aug. 22, the witness (who works on an outside sheet metal job) was still wearing dark glasses to protect his eyes and prevent headaches.

He experienced no physiological effects during the encounter, such as paralysis. Other than emotional stress and prolonged nervousness, which may or may not have had a physical cause, Olenick has probably had no other lasting effects from the encounter. "I feel like they got a look at me, and maybe got my picture or something, and then turned their lights off and vanished."

Questions remain

There are a number of questions regarding this case and other sightings in the area stretching back several years that remain to be answered. Some positive points seem clear, however.

The police, for instance, did log a report from the Olenicks at 9:30 p.m. on May 3, and responded within 20 minutes. This was probably due to both the agitation of the Olenicks and the fact that the police were interested in any possible connections with the rash of mutilations in their territory (as they told the Olenicks).

Despite several previous unexplainable sightings, this is the first report made by the Olenicks or their neighbors. Like other citizens of San Antonio, which has at least three major Air Force bases, the Olenicks are familiar with the types of aircraft they often see.

The likelihood that Alois Olenick could have misidentified a helicopter seems extremely slim even if we disregard the reported electrical effects and descriptions of the occupants. A helicopter, even at night, would have shown many details of superstructure, the characteristic air chop of the blades, and a distinct motor whine--none of which was reported even at close range.

It is this investigator's opinion that the majority of events happened as related and that Mr. Olenick has sincerely done his best to accurately describe the sequence of events that occurred. His account on Aug. 22 was nearly identical to that printed in THE SAN ANTONIO LIGHT on May 5, two days after the event.

Further field investigation is needed to verify air traffic patterns on the night of this sighting and to expand the list of other possible witnesses to sightings in the area in the recent past.

Travis Walton case continues

APRO, NICAP, GSW reports disagree

The APRO BULLETIN for November, which was received Feb. 4, has what is apparently the latest and probably the most detailed information on the Travis Walton case. (See December SKYLOOK for the basic story.) Additional details of the case as reported in the APRO BULLETIN include the following:

The object allegedly seen by the seven-man forestry crew south of Heber, AZ, on Nov. 5, 1975, at approximately 6:15 p.m. glowed like "a Coleman lantern just being lit." The glow of the object was interrupted by dark, opaque dividers or a framework. (See sketch on page 6 of December SKYLOOK.)

Walton had jumped from the truck carrying the workers, not waiting for the truck to come to a halt, and walked quickly toward the object, which was hovering over a pile of brush.

As Walton approached the object, other workers in the truck heard a "beeping" noise which sounded like a warning buzzer in the passenger section of a commercial airliner. Then, as Walton stood looking up at the hovering object, there was a sound described as like a generator starting, and additional rumbling noises.

At this point the object began oscillating or wobbling about its vertical axis. Suddenly a bright narrow ray of greenish-blue light came from the object, striking Walton. He was raised about 12 inches into the air, knocked backward, his arms were thrown outward, and his head was knocked back.

The crew, terrified, hurriedly left. One witness said he saw Walton fall back to the ground. Approximately one-fourth of a mile away, the crew stopped, looked back, and saw a light rise and streak to the northeast. They decided to return to the scene, arriving a-

bout 15 minutes later. Neither Walton nor the object could be seen.

The frightened crew then rushed into Heber, 15 miles north, and reported the experience to Deputy Chuck Allison about 7:35 p.m. Allison said the men were very upset, and that one was weeping. He is quoted as saying that if the witnesses were lying "they were damned good actors."

Despite extensive searches by the authorities, Walton could not be found, and he was listed as a missing person Nov. 7. (Three of the witnesses had returned to the scene with the authorities, while three refused.)

The witnesses submitted to a polygraph (lie detector) test administered on Nov. 10 by polygraph expert Cy Gilson of the Arizona Department of Public Safety. Five of the witnesses "passed" the test, while the sixth (Allen Dalis, 21) was judged "inconclusive." Gilson reportedly considers it impossible for that many persons to lie without being detected by the polygraph procedure. He indicated that perhaps Dalis had not seen the entire incident.

According to Deputy Allison, tests by the Sheriff's Department showed no unusual radiation at the scene of the sighting. Bill Spaulding of Ground Saucer Watch, one of the first researchers on the scene, said he detected "high residual magnetism" at the site.

Walton returns

In the early hours of Nov. 11, Walton, missing for more than five days, reportedly called his sister's house from a phone booth at a service station in Heber. Slowly, Walton's story of being aboard a UFO came out:

After being knocked uncon-

scious by the light beam from the UFO, he said he regained consciousness and found himself lying on his back on a table. The lighted ceiling seemed very close to him. There was some sort of apparatus lying on his chest, and he felt pain in his head and body. The air seemed moist and heavy, and it was difficult to breathe.

Three entities were present. He described them as being about five feet tall, with large eyes, no hair, small noses, small mouths, and small ears. Walton said they reminded him of human fetuses. All were dressed in what appeared to be loose-fitting brown coveralls.

Frightened, Walton said he jumped up, knocking the apparatus from his chest; he said the apparatus rocked back and forth on the floor. He struck out at the creatures, who seemed not to be disturbed. However, they did leave the room.

Walton says he also left the room, went through a corridor, and found another room. In this room was a chair with push buttons on the arms and what appeared to be a transparent wall (what seemed to be stars were visible). He sat in the chair, pushed some of the buttons, and the "stars" seemed to move, so he quit pushing buttons.

A humanoid appears

Soon a man wearing blue clothing and a transparent helmet entered the room, gesturing to Walton to come with him. Smiling, but refusing to respond to Walton's questions, the man took Walton out of the craft, through an "airlock," and down a ramp. The lighting was now brighter, the air fresh, and breathing was easier. Walton now found himself in a large enclosure containing several disc-shaped objects.

The man took Walton to an-

other craft, where he saw three more humanoids--a woman and two men--who closely resembled one another. They also wore blue clothing, like his guide, but had no helmets. The guide left the craft, without removing his helmet.

At this point something similar to an oxygen mask was placed on Walton's face and he again lost consciousness. When he regained consciousness the second time he was lying on his back on the cold surface of a road. He felt heat from a disc-shaped object which he saw rising into the sky; doors on the bottom of the object were closing.

Walton recognized the road as being the one leading to Heber, so he walked into town and called his sister's home. He had been in the UFO just over five days, according to his account.

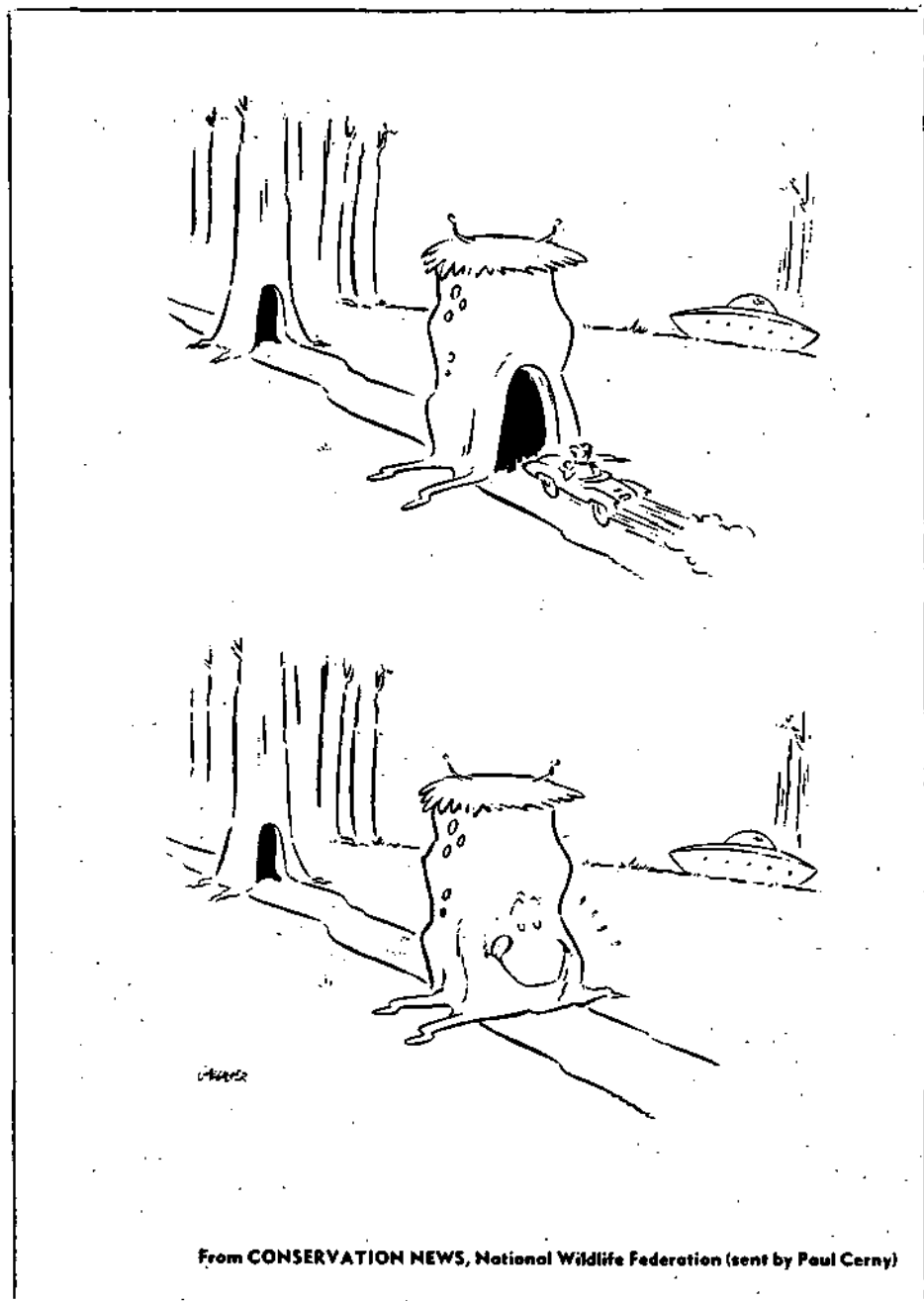
After Bill Spaulding left this case, following difficulties with Travis Walton and his brother Duane, APRO took over the investigation. The NATIONAL ENQUIRER agreed to pay expenses involved in keeping Walton in a Phoenix hotel sequestered from the press until he could regain his composure.

The APRO investigation

Dr. James Harder, APRO director of research and one of two key investigators handling the Pascagoula case in 1973, arrived on Nov. 13. Harder reportedly used hypnotic techniques to relieve some of Walton's tension.

An analysis of a urine specimen (Spaulding had requested that the first urine sample taken after Walton's return be saved) and a blood sample taken Nov. 13 from Walton showed "absolutely no evidence of drug use." (One individual involved in the case early had suggested the possibility that Walton had been hallucinating as a result of drugs.)

APRO says Walton did not take the polygraph test as scheduled because "the press had literal-



From CONSERVATION NEWS, National Wildlife Federation (sent by Paul Cerny)

ly laid seige to Duane's home and were camped at the building where the test was to be administered and Duane did not feel his brother was ready to face the press."

APRO says that Duane's judgment "was vindicated later by three psychiatrists...who said that a polygraph test at that time would be meaningless. The polygraph measures stress--not lies--and Travis Walton was in a very distressed state during the two weeks following his ordeal."

The Rorschach (inkblot) test

has been administered to Walton by Dr. Harold A. Cahn, a physiologist and APRO's consultant on parapsychology. The test reportedly indicates that Walton "is not highly suggestible, and has good, normal basic personality structure."

The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory test was conducted on Walton by Lamont McConnell on Dec. 16. This test indicated that Walton was normal and showed no deviations pointing to psychosis.

Jim Lorenzen, international director of APRO, says there

has been no change in any detail of Walton's story to date. APRO also says that, despite reports to the contrary, Walton and his mother, Mrs. Mary Kellet, are not UFO buffs. Walton "had a mild interest in the subject," according to APRO. Also characterized as inaccurate was a report that Mrs. Kellet had said upon learning of Walton's disappearance that she did not expect to see him again.

NICAP's investigation

NICAP has apparently taken a somewhat different view of the case, according to the January issue of the UFO INVESTIGATOR. The NICAP article begins as follows:

"As with all contactee cases, the alleged abduction of a 22-year-old forestry service crew member has created undue excitement and interest throughout the country."

NICAP says that its investigator, Dr. William S. Bickel, questions the lie detector (polygraph) test which was administered to Walton's five companions. According to Bickel, the test was given in three parts:

(1) Was any witness involved with foul play or angry at Travis Walton? (The polygraph test was given at the time Walton was still missing.)

(2) Did any witness know if anyone else was involved with foul play?

(3) What did each witness see?

Bickel says that correct answers to parts one and two of the test constitutes "passing the lie detector test," even though part three is failed completely. He considers part three to be the only relevant question, however, so far as the abduction is concerned.

NICAP also reports that Sheriff Marlin Gillespie said that Walton had called the MC of a radio talk show before the abduction and volunteered to appear on the show. The MC reportedly called Walton a

"kook." Following the alleged abduction, Walton reportedly again called the MC and asked, "Who's a kook now?" (It should be noted that this information may or may not be correct.)

Based on these reports, NICAP concludes: "These facts naturally throw the case under great suspicion, and it would seem that either a hoax has been committed or that a psychological phenomena is involved."

GSW conclusions

On Feb. 6 SKYLOOK received a final report from Ground Saucer Watch, Inc. (GSW) which also concluded the abduction was a hoax. This GSW report included the following comments:

The six witnesses were given lie detector (polygraph) tests, with five of the tests indicating they were telling the truth about what they saw. The sixth test was inconclusive. Some of the questions asked included, "Did you kill Travis Walton," and "Did you see Travis taken aboard a spacecraft?" They all answered "No." Inconclusive data.

Walton was scheduled to take a lie detector test on Nov. 14 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) headquarters in Phoenix, but failed to show up. He has never taken a polygraph test! Sheriff Gillespie issued a statement saying no further attempts will be made by his office or by the DPS to administer a lie detector test to Walton. Gillespie said earlier that he had doubts about Walton's story based upon an interview with Walton on Nov. 11.

William Spaulding, director of GSW, said he also had information that led him to doubt Walton's story. Spaulding terminated the investigation by his group due to Walton's refusal to submit to scientific testing, including an interview with Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

Dr. Lester Steward, a consultant for GSW and MUFON, interviewed Duane and Travis Walton and said their behavior

made him suspicious of their story. They refused professional testing and evaluations.

An on-site investigation of where the UFO was reportedly seen was conducted by experienced GSW field investigators, and high residual magnetism measurements were recorded. No indications of any radiation phenomena were observed or measured, nor were there any ground markings, including heat affected areas.

GSW Evaluation:

After a time-consuming investigation, the Travis Walton case is considered a hoax based on the following:

1) Walton never boarded the UFO. This fact is supported by the six witnesses and the polygraph test results.

2) The entire Walton family has had a continual UFO history. The Walton boys have reported observing 10 to 15 separate UFO sightings (very high).

3) When Duane was questioned about his brother's disappearance, he stated that "Travis will be found," that "UFO's are friendly." GSW countered, "How do you know Travis will be found?" Duane said, "I have a feeling, a strong feeling." GSW asked, "If the UFO 'captors' are going to return Travis, will you have a camera to record this great occurrence?" Duane, "No, if I have a camera 'they' will not return."

4) The Waltons' mother showed no outward emotion over the 'loss' of Travis. She said that UFO's will not harm her son; he will be returned and that UFO's have been seen by her family many times.

5) The Waltons refused any outside scientific help or anyone who logically doubted the abduction portion of the story.

6) The media and GSW were fair to the witnesses. However, when the story started to "fall apart" the Waltons would talk only to people who did not doubt the abduction story.

7) The Waltons "sold" their story to the NATIONAL ENQUIRER and the story was completely twisted from the truth.



California report

The mystery helicopters

By Ann Druffel

Gradually, over a period of two or three years, there have been hints of helicopters of unknown source connected with UFO and possible UFO-related incidents. Are these cases merely coincidence or misidentifications, or is there, indeed, mysterious helicopter surveillance of UFOs?

A startling example occurred on September 3, 1975, in Tununga, California, a mountain community about fifteen miles northeast of Los Angeles civic Center. Nestled in the foothills of the Angeles Crest mountains are numerous homes and cabins built on steep, winding roads.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. C.¹ boasts an east to west view of the mountains. About eight o'clock p.m. Mrs. C. heard a helicopter over a nearby canyon. Since the sound of a helicopter is often the first sign of jeopardy from brush fires, Mrs. C. stayed out in the yard to watch, accompanied by Mrs. C. B., her sister, who was visiting in the home.

Mrs. C., particularly, is familiar with helicopters at varying heights, since the area is patrolled regularly in this fashion. She was struck by the extreme height at which this copter was flying--in her estimation about 2500 feet. As she watched, she noticed a round, brightly lighted object above the helicopter, an estimated 1200 feet higher up.

Intrigued by this hovering light, Mrs. C. got binoculars, and she and Mrs. B. took turns looking at the curious object. In the field of the binoculars the object was magnified to about one-half degree angular diameter, or about the size of the full moon.

A vari-colored light pattern was clearly visible. The top

was a vibrant blue-green, the middle portion white and the bottom a distinct glowing red. The light pattern encompassed the entire disk, and the whole object was "very brilliant."

Helicopter circles below

The object remained stationary in the southeast sky while the helicopter circled below it in a tight surveillance pattern, as though studying it. As the two women continued to watch they were amazed to see the object "changing shape from round, to diamond, to chevron, and into a classic saucer." It then started to zigzag over a six-degree area of sky. Mr. C. joined the women in watching the object at this point.

This "snake dance in the sky" was not caused by eye-jiggle, magnified by the binoculars. She firmly anchored the glasses on a stationary stand to check this. Even without the binoculars, the shape changes and the color pattern, plus the frantic gyrations, were visible to the naked eye.

After a few minutes of surveillance, the helicopter sped off; presently two helicopters returned, flying in tandem. It seemed they were trying to follow the object in its wild motions, keeping always a certain distance from it, as though cautious. The gyrations of the object and the movements of the choppers were such that the witnesses were forced to watch from different areas of the yard to keep them in sight.

Mrs. C., with the aid of the binoculars, could see into the cabin of the helicopters and noticed a faint red "flash" within from time to time. She had seen this same phenomenon at close range during a drug raid in the neighborhood, several years previous. On that occasion a police helicopter

pink flashes from within the cabin. Mrs. C. had been told by a neighbor that the police were taking "infrared photos" of the action on the ground. She assumed, therefore, that the flashes noticed during the UFO sighting indicated that the chopper was obtaining photos of the UFO.

Eyes start hurting

After the first twenty minutes of the sighting, Mrs. C.'s eyes began to hurt, and she put on colored glasses, which are designed to show true color. But the entire incident lasted about three hours. The witnesses did not watch all that time; Mrs. C. watched more than the others. At about 10:30 she "saw the lights go on at the Nike missile base," in the mountains near her home. This was an extremely rare occurrence, and she wondered if it had something to do with the UFO's being in the area. At about 11:00 the object disappeared from view in the west, still followed by a chopper.

All three witnesses reported that their eyes hurt after the incident. Mrs. C. suffered blurred vision. All three witnesses' eyes were streaked with red that night and felt as though sunburned. The next morning they were still flecked with red and felt "grainy." By that afternoon, Sept. 4, their eyes had returned to normal.

Mrs. C. stated that all three witnesses seemed "hypnotized" by the object. She personally felt "the object was focused in on her." Although the street on which the Cs live is not isolated, it did not cross their minds to seek additional witnesses. Mrs. C. thought once that the police should be called, but Mr. C. abruptly decided it was not necessary. He judged that the authorities

were aware of what was going on, because of the helicopters' surveillance. Mrs. C. followed his advice.

Looking back on this, Mrs. C. regarded her failure to contact the authorities as unusual. The next morning she determined to track down a source to which she could report it. She made several phone calls to public service agencies, and finally was referred to SKYNET by the Griffith Observatory.

Use of helicopters denied

Checking out the possibility that photos of the UFO might be obtainable, the writer called every known facility involving official and private helicopters within a 300 square-mile radius of Tujunga. Absolutely no source would admit to sighting the UFO, or to having helicopters in that area at that time. Most of these agencies indicated that only rarely do their choppers fly in tandem, since doing so creates dangerous air currents. The only helicopter which admitted to being in the area at all was a Los Angeles Police Department craft. The pilot stated that he took off from the LAPD Heliport at 8:00 p.m. in constant communication with Burbank Airport. He had no infrared photographic equipment aboard. He remembers traveling up a wash near the scene of the sighting, but it was a straight flight which encompassed only a few minutes. He did not see any other helicopters or any unusual object in the sky. However, surveillance helicopter pilots generally look down at the ground, not up at the sky.

Regarding the report by Mrs. C. that "the lights went on at the Nike missile base" nearby, it was learned from an Air Force Public Information Office that Nike missile bases are no longer operative, having been phased out over the past year. The base in question had been turned over to the Army Corps of Engineers. Why the lights

went on at the base during the UFO sighting remains a military secret.

No infra-red used?

During the search for the helicopters' source, inquiries were made at the various official agencies regarding the use of "infra-red" photography, possibly involving faint red flashes. All sources denied that any type of equipment like this was in use.

In consulting with Adrian Vance, former MUFON photo consultant, it was learned that in the 1950's infra-red cameras with red filters over flash bulbs were being used, and that people viewing this camera in operation straight on would see a faint red flash. However, infra-red cameras now in use do not involve any light source visible to an onlooker.

This case is strange; equally strange are other mentions of "mystery helicopter" in UFO literature. For instance a recent NICAP case² concerned an oval-shaped object hovering low over a field, seen in Enfield, Connecticut, at 9:30 p.m. on March 4th, 1975. The lights it emitted were blue, green, and red, strangely reminiscent of the Tujunga case. It was moving slowing in an easterly direction and was in full view of two witnesses over a period of forty-five minutes. During the observation the witnesses saw a helicopter flying very close to the object. The NICAP investigator and the Enfield Police Department tried to find out the identity of the copter. All military and private installations were checked; all inquiries proved negative.

Animal mutilation cases

Reports of mystery helicopters have been linked with the animal mutilation cases of recent months. Whether or not some of these weird events are UFO-linked is still in question. Although articles have

been printed in popular magazines³ claiming proof that the mutilations are performed by satanic cults, the mystery is far from solved in some researchers' opinion. Equally as strange as the way some of the animals are drained of blood and mutilated without any traces left in the area are the numerous reports from citizens in Kansas, Colorado and other states who have seen helicopters hovering over cattle pens and other areas where mutilated cattle have been discovered. The mystery helicopters in the cattle mutilation cases often are described as Army Bell helicopters. They often fly without lights and extremely close to the ground, and in some incidents where they have appeared close to witnesses, no numbers were visible on the craft.

What is the answer to these seemingly related mysteries? In the Tujunga case, were there truly two helicopters of unknown origin, flying equipped with 25-year-old cameras? Which can we believe--the rational witnesses or the denials by official sources? Is it possible that the aerial displays in Tujunga, California, and Enfield, Connecticut, were from a source inaccessible to civilian researchers? Were they from the military complex of the United States?

Is there a pattern here? Do other researchers have cases in their files regarding similar incidents? Perhaps it would make an area of specialization for a researcher so inclined.

Footnotes

¹MUFON report, investigated by Ann Druffel. Contains full identifying information on all witnesses. In MUFON files.

²UFO Investigator, August, 1975, published by NICAP, National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

³For example, SAGA, November 1975 "The Terror Cult Terrorizing Mid-America"

SOBEPS investigation in Belgium

Woman says UFO restarted

By Richard Hall
International Coordinator

(Credit: Societe Belge d'Etude des Phenomenes Spatiaux-SOBEPS)

As part of an international information exchange program, the Belgian UFO group, SOBEPS, headquartered in Bruxelles, has submitted two carefully investigated 1974 UFO cases. The reports are titled "Landing at Aische-en-Refail" (6 pages) and "Easter UFO: A SOBEPS Inquiry" (9 pages).

Electro-magnetic effects

The landing, in central Belgium January 24, involved electro-magnetic effects on a car motor and radio.

A few minutes after 4 p.m. on a clear day, Mrs. N.D. was rapidly approaching a hill, driving her Volkswagen 1300 model, when she noticed a red object about 150 m away on the ground to the left of the road.

Suddenly her motor began to slow down, and she thought she was running out of gas or had a carburetor problem. Her car continued to slow, the radio went dead (except that its light remained on), and the car coasted to a stop as the motor failed, with the shift still in 4th gear.

She was now only about 10 m away from the object, which was about 1 m in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ m high, and had a red flattened dome on top and two rows of "spots" around the circumference (see cover sketch). The surface appeared like unpolished metal, non reflective.

After 4-5 seconds the UFO began to move, rising about 50 cm, then dropping back to the ground. This action was repeated a second time. The third time it rose slowly and steadily to 3 or 4 m above the ground and moved above the car, revealing a flat, gray, feature-



Jose Maniet, above, (and, earlier, his wife) observed a moving object which was white on top and cherry red on the bottom. It disappeared by blinking out—first the top, then the bottom. The sighting took place about 9 p.m. on Sunday, April 14, at Vedrin, Belgium.

less underside.

It seemed to hover over the car for a few seconds, then reappeared to the left side and moved away on a curved trajectory, but without zig-zags or oscillations, making no sound.

Motor restarts itself

It was then that the most startling event happened. The car motor restarted by itself without Mrs. N.D. touching the starter and, still in 4th gear, the car began moving forward. The UFO could be seen disappearing to the ENE.

SOBEPS had investigators on the spot within 48 hours, checking for physical evidence. However, no traces were visible on the hard clay ground and no radioactivity was detected. The SOBEPS investigation included six hours of questioning, and reconstruction of the incident. The car had recently been through a check-up and was in good working order. The witness had nightmares for several days and suffered from "abnormal lassitude." Otherwise, she was unaffected. She was not a UFO believer.

Later that spring the car

started having problems with the motor misfiring, and was finally taken in for a garage check in July. It then had a faulty distributor which had to be replaced.

The Easter UFO

On Sunday, April 14, mostly in the same area of central Belgium southeast of Bruxelles, there were widespread and independent sightings of a UFO between 8 p.m. and midnight. SOBEPS documented 12 sightings, interviewed witnesses, and checked weather conditions, satellite passages, and other conventional possibilities without finding any explanation.

At Floree, a silver-white globular object was seen crossing the road. At Couthin, a luminous red "bar" with well-defined edges, two times the moon's diameter, was observed motionless at first, then moving slowly NE. At Barbencon, a spinning disc with two rows of lights was seen.

Two of the more detailed sightings occurred at Vedrin and Hoeilaart. At Vedrin, a moving ellipse, white on top and cherry red on bottom was

her auto

St. Louis group reviews 156 reports from 1975

By David Schroth

seen at 9 p.m. by Mr. and Mrs. Jose Maniet (see sketch). The UFO disappeared by blinking out, first the top portion, then the bottom. A red crescent-like object, apparently the same UFO, was seen independently from a separate location in Vedrin.

Two cars of witnesses driving in Hoeilaart saw a large, cylindrical, apparently metallic object "like a dull-gray torpedo" hovering at tree-top level above the road. Eight to ten lights were visible on the undersurface. Both cars drove directly beneath the UFO without incident.

The final sighting in the series was about midnight at Les Bulles, where a round, dull gray-brown metallic looking object moved slowly across the sky from NE to SW. At its front was a blinking red light, and at its rear a steady yellow-white light. The UFO passed low over a nearby farm, illuminating a farm building with a reddish glow.

International coordinator needs exchange materials

MUFON International Coordinator Richard Hall notes that he is now receiving valuable data from all over the world: first-hand reports, journals, newspaper clippings, photographs, conference reports, etc.

Hall is issuing an appeal to all MUFON members and supporters for spare copies of reports and newspaper clippings, photographs, or documents "to send to our generous allies and supporters overseas in exchange."

Hall concludes, "Anything you can spare will be gratefully received, and will constitute an important contribution to MUFON's international data exchange program. Address them to me: 4418 39th St., Brentwood, MD 20722."

Highlighting the January meeting of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis was a review of UFO sightings reported throughout the greater St. Louis area in 1975. This year-end review of local UFO reports was presented by Mr. Leo Wicklinski and Mr. William Christian, two of the group's most active field investigators.

In addition, details of a close encounter UFO experience that occurred in November, 1975, were discussed by the principal witness in the event.

For some years now, Christian's residence in south St. Louis County has served as a reporting center for persons wishing to report UFO sightings or to request information about the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis.

Christian reported that in 1975, a total of 156 telephone calls were received from persons reporting UFO observations. These 156 calls were evaluated as follows:

Astronomical Phenomena (stars, planets, meteors)....	92
Aircraft (advertising aircraft, helicopters, planes)....	24
Balloons (all types).....	19
Satellites.....	6
Insufficient Information.....	5
Unknown (no apparent conventional explanation).....	10
Total:	156

Christian reported that the figure of 10 "unknowns" for 1975 was consistent with the percentage of unknowns in previous years, when anywhere from six to ten percent of all calls received remained unexplained.

Details of a close encounter UFO experience that occurred on the night of Nov. 15, 1975, were related by the principal witness, Mrs. Betty Prichard.

Mrs. Prichard was driving with three companions near Pacific, MO, when the incident

took place. Shortly after 8 p.m. she and her companions spotted a luminous red object hovering in the eastern sky. They kept this object in view for several moments and reported seeing a smaller white light emerge from the original object.

Mrs. Prichard estimated that the original object appeared to her to be about as large as a basketball held at arm's length. (It is felt that this is most likely an exaggeration. Subsequent questioning of Mrs. Prichard suggested that the object's apparent (angular) size was probably on the order of 1.5 to 2.0 moon diameters--i.e., about 1 arc-degree. However, this exaggeration by Mrs. Prichard is not considered to diminish the value or credibility of her report, for most persons have a tendency to overestimate angular sizes of objects in the sky.)

Mrs. Prichard reported experiencing an unusual impulse to get out of her car and approach the UFO (which remained airborne throughout the experience), although she did not do so. It was also reported that interference on her car radio was noted at the time of the UFO experience.

Following the incident, Mrs. Prichard contacted the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis. The next afternoon, Mrs. Prichard was interviewed at the site of her UFO experience the night before. A search for physical traces revealed nothing out of the ordinary. However, a magnetometer held in the vicinity of Mrs. Prichard's auto (and several other cars, for comparison) indicated an unusual amount of magnetism was present in the car.

This incident was investigated by Leo Wicklinski, William Christian, Erwin Enders, and Thomas Mulligan. A complete report on this case will be submitted at a future date.



In Others' Words

By Lucius Farish

The Jan. 6 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER featured an article on the Air Force's Project Blue Book files. Significant information is now being deleted from the files and the public will be permitted to examine only censored versions. The Jan. 13 issue of ENQUIRER summarized some of the many 1975 reports of UFOs from Wisconsin residents.

The Dec. 23 issue of THE STAR contained a UFO article. Two other weekly tabloids have recently published special UFO issues. NATIONAL TATTLER's special is available on newsstands for 50¢ and the MODERN PEOPLE issue is available from: UFO Special - 11058 W. Addison St. - Franklin Park, IL 60131. The price is \$1.00.

ASTRONOMY magazine has published a special reprint of all their material relating to the Betty Hill/Marjorie Fish "star map" research. For those who did not obtain the individual issues of ASTRONOMY containing the article by Terence Dickinson and letters relating to it, this special edition is particularly welcome. It is titled THE ZETA RETICULI INCIDENT and may be obtained for \$4.00 from: Zeta Reprint - ASTRONOMY - 757 N. Broadway, Suite 204 - Milwaukee, WI 53202.

The February issue of FATE features an excerpt from Dr. David Jacobs' book, THE UFO CONTROVERSY IN AMERICA. This pertains to the CIA involvement in the UFO subject.

The #6 (Feb.) issue of OFFICIAL UFO is available at this writing. It contains the usual amount of interesting material, including articles by Joe Brill, Don Worley, Claude Mac Duff, Walter Webb, Wendelle Stevens, Dan Clements and Don Berliner. This issue also contains a profile of MUFON by International Coordinator Rich-

ard Hall.

An article in the February issue of SAGA discusses the possibility that there were survivors of Flight 19, the 1945 incident which seems to have begun the "Bermuda Triangle" controversy. Military reluctance to discuss the question of possible survivors may be interpreted in various ways, but this article is written from the viewpoint of the wife of one of the missing men.

SAGA will also be publishing a 1976 UFO ANNUAL, consisting largely of reprinted material from the four 1975 issues of UFO REPORT. This should now be available on newsstands.

Two additional booklets by Dr. J. R. Jochmans are now available. These are THE MEASURING OF THE MACROCOSM (\$1.25) and AFTER THE FALL (\$7.50). The former title concerns itself with "out-of-place" astronomical knowledge in ancient times. The author cites such examples as Babylonian inscriptions which mention the crescent phases of Venus, supposedly visible only through a telescope, Hindu astronomical texts which speak of the Earth as a "globe in space," as well as several other thought-provoking passages from ancient works. The latter booklet is largely devoted to Biblical chronology and genealogies, although it also contains material related to supposed "Antediluvian" advanced technologies and scientific knowledge, a la the theories of von Daniken and other writers. These publications may be ordered from: Creation History Research - Box 6463 - Lincoln, NE 68506.

Don Wilson's OUR MYSTERIOUS SPACESHIP MOON is an interesting compilation of material which details the various mysteries of the Moon. Wilson cites the many examples of "transient lunar phenomena"

which have been reported virtually since the invention of the telescope. The basic theme of the book revolves around the concept put forth by two Soviet scientists, suggesting that the moon is actually a giant spaceship which was placed in Earth orbit by an alien race. Far-fetched as this theory may seem at first, the many "coincidences" and peculiarities connected with the Moon are enough to make one wonder. There is also considerable information on lunar UFOs, the Apollo expeditions and other similar topics. If one allows for a bit of occasional over-enthusiasm on the author's part, this is a good summary of lunar riddles. It is available for \$1.25 (plus 25¢ for postage and handling) from: Dell Books - P. O. Box 1000 - Pinebrook, NJ 07058.

Hynek resigns from Blue Ribbon Panel

Dr. J. Allen Hynek has announced that he will no longer serve on the NATIONAL ENQUIRER'S Blue Ribbon Panel. Says Hynek:

"The Center for UFO Studies, in an effort to expand its scientific and educational operations, has necessitated a reassessment of my priorities. I must give increasingly greater attention to the primary goals of the Center.

"In view of the above I feel that I must withdraw as a member of the Enquirer's Blue Ribbon Panel whose aims have not proved to be in harmony with the scientific objectives of the Center and its associated scientists...."

Hynek has not indicated what effect, if any, his resignation from the panel will have on the employment of CUFOS Office Manager Margo Metegrano. Half of Miss Metegrano's salary was reportedly being paid by the NATIONAL ENQUIRER.

UFO broken by woman's broom?

Strange reports from Pennsylvania

By Stan Gordon
Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research

Even though most of the reports of flying objects that fall into the unexplained category normally are in excess of ten feet in diameter, there are a number of reports from all corners of the world that describe small, aerial devices ranging in size from about five inches to one foot in diameter.

Some of these objects appear solid, while others appear more transparent. These mini UFO's have reportedly been observed during daylight on heavily crowded streets, inside of homes, and even gliding around inside parked cars.

It is speculated that these devices are remotely controlled and act somewhat like a two-way audio-video transceiver which would be used by the UFO occupants of a larger craft to obtain various types of information on the area which they might be studying at that time.

Two reports

There have been two reports of these devices in Pennsylvania in recent months. The first sighting occurred on Sept. 20, near Punxsatawney. A married couple was cleaning their mobile home about 9 p.m. when the wife pointed out to her husband a strange-looking "spider web" that was about eight inches in diameter and shaped like a disc, about two feet outside their back door. They watched it for a few seconds, then realized that it was not a spider web, as it turned on its side and flew from about six feet from the ground, where first observed, to about ten feet into the air.

After a few seconds it returned to the ground and repeated the movements and hovered over the top of the witness-

es' trailer. They noticed no sound. At this point, the wife became disturbed by this unwanted guest and took a nearby broom and hit the object, breaking it into two identical smaller devices, and each flew off in a different direction.

Power failure

About five minutes after she hit the device, there was reportedly a complete power failure in the trailer as well as the neighbor's trailer next door that lasted for only a few seconds, and unusual TV interference prior to the power outage.

The second monitor device was reportedly observed by a young housewife in a rural area outside of Greensburg. At approximately 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 2, the woman began to take down some curtains in her bedroom when she was shocked to find a metallic, spherical object about a foot in diameter hovering just outside her window. The object was described as being a brownish-green color and having spikes sticking out of it on all sides.

A low beeping sound emitted from the object. She looked at the object eye to eye for several seconds when suddenly the device spun slowly around, and with what looked like an opening, pointed at the woman. The object then ascended straight up into the sky and vanished.

Hynek's conference set for April 30 - May 1

The controversial and formerly secret "state of UFO research" conference called by Dr. J. Allen Hynek has now been scheduled for April 30-May 2 at the Lincolnwood Hyatt House in Chicago.

The "think tank" meeting of "workers in the field" will feature discussions in small

Virginians report exploding object

Several persons in the Emory, VA, area reportedly observed on Sunday, Jan. 18, 1976, a mysterious ball of light that moved across the countryside before exploding.

One witness, Mrs. Roy Barrett, said the object, "about as bright as a car's bright lights," drifted slowly across the clear sky, passed in front of the moon, moved between two hills, landed, "glowed for a while," then exploded.

"When it passed in front of the moon," said Mrs. Barrett, "you could see something like gases coming out of it." The object was observed about 8 p.m.

Dan Ryan, assistant chief of the Meadowview Volunteer Fire Department, said reports from witnesses in three separate residences indicated that the object appeared to explode somewhere in a triangular area having sides of about two miles and a base of one-half mile.

An intensive search of a small grazing area near Meadowview Sunday night and Monday afternoon failed to uncover anything unusual. However, a number of low-flying military jets were observed in the area on Monday, an unusual occurrence. The Air Force denied having planes in the area. An FAA official speculated that the planes may have been conducting training exercises in connection with a military facility 15 miles west of Emory.

(SOURCE: Bristol, VA, HERALD-COURIER, Jan. 19, 20, 22; submitted by Joe Brill.)

groups and selected papers "which can serve as springboards for discussion."

Originally, 138 persons had been secretly invited to the meeting, which is now termed "closed" but not secret. The list of those involved has since expanded. The meeting is by invitation only.

Clovis, NM, sightings

Date of sighting: Jan. 21, 22, 23, 1976.
Location of sightings: Clovis, NM, area.
Source: UPI wire services.
Submitted by: Joe Brill.

Editor's note: Following is a preliminary news report on the Clovis, NM, sightings. Additional details are expected in time for the next issue of Skylook from Ray Standord, who has taken some of the Project Starlight International detection equipment from Austin to the Clovis area.

According to police dispatcher Diana Kenemore, "nearly everyone" in Clovis called in UFO reports on Friday, Jan. 23. "That many people can't be wrong," said Miss Kenemore. "They all saw them at the same time. Plus our officers saw them. Every citizen that called was real willing to give his name, address, and phone number."

Police said that more than 30 silent, mysterious objects with pulsating lights were reported between nightfall and midnight. According to Miss Kenemore, several callers reported a group of 20 objects hovering over the Sandia Elementary School in the north part of the city.

Miss Kenemore said three frightened young boys reported seeing several flying objects land in a pasture near their home in the south part of Clovis.

In Texico, a community of 1,000 persons on the Texas border; Town Marshall Willie Ronquillo said he followed up on a report and spotted a silent lighted object hovering about 900 feet above the town. He said it had green, yellow, and blue lights and made no sound. He said he notified state police and gave chase when the object began moving northward.

Several state police officers later reported seeing what was believed to be the same object. They said it was last seen moving at a high rate of speed toward Tucumcari, NM.

A spokesman at Reese AFB, 90



This photo was shot by Scott Price, a reporter for the Clovis NEWS-JOURNAL, on Friday, Jan. 23. Taken through a telescope with a 35mm camera on a tripod, the photo reportedly does not show all that was visible through the telescope. Says Price, "Two black circular areas that appear vivid through the telescope don't show up in the photo due to the focusing problem." Whether this photo is of a UFO or a celestial body was not known as SKYLOOK went to press. (Submitted by Joe Brill)



This photo, somewhat similar to the one taken in Clovis, NM, was shot near Elsthorpe, New Zealand, on Jan. 14, 1969, by Michael Bennett. Both Bennett and his wife watched the object, described as "a point of light but brighter than a star," make "random patterns—shifting its position, stopping for five or ten seconds, then moving into another spot." Mrs. Bennett, who watched the object while her husband looked for film, said two smaller objects followed the larger object. This photo, one of several, was taken with a 120 camera with a 180mm telephoto lens set at f/4.5 and a shutter speed of 1/4 second. The film had a speed of 100 ASA, and the camera was on a tripod. The above photo is, of course, greatly enlarged. (Submitted by Joe Brill)

miles east of Clovis, said that nothing unusual had been picked up on base radar. Maj. Bert Rhoton, command post controller for the day at Cannon AFB, a

TAC base, said the base had received numerous inquiries, but that "as far as the military is concerned, it is strictly no comment."

Schuessler says UFO info unavailable

MUFON deputy director resigns

John Schuessler, deputy director of MUFON, has submitted his resignation. The full text of his letter to MUFON Director Walt Andrus follows:

Dear Walt,

Thank you for the invitation to meet with you and Jim McCampbell on 8 Feb. at your home. I am sure that it will be a vital and interesting meeting; however I have chosen to decline your invitation. In considering the total situation I have decided to withdraw from the UFO scene in general and this seems to be as natural a breaking point as I will find.

Please accept my resignation from all present positions held within MUFON, effective as soon as you find suitable replacements, hopefully within sixty days. Until that time please accept this letter as my proxy in all matters requiring my vote. If you see fit, I request to be added to the list of MUFON field investigators for the Houston area, so I may provide local data to the organization should the occasion arise.

I have chosen to make this an open letter so that critics of the UFO organizations cannot generate rumors or fables about my resignation. In the following paragraphs I will list (briefly) some of the things that helped to formulate my decision. The order of the items listed is unimportant and irrelevant.

At this point I want the world of Ufology to know, Walt and Jeanne, that there is no breakdown in our friendship. I feel a warm glow of kinship since we have worked the UFO field together since the mid-1960s. I am proud of the fine organization you have generated in MUFON and even more proud to have been permitted to serve as deputy director. These past

times I will cherish through the rest of my career, where ever it leads.

As anyone can plainly see, MUFON is loaded with all types of good talent, both professional and non-professional. Critics may take pot shots at various individuals from time to time; but these are just good people trying to do the best job they can. I know MUFON is here to stay, since it has taken the lead from the old leaders. The mixture of fresh talent and seasoned Ufologist makes an unbeatable team. I hope the result will be real progress.

Now for some of the items that grouped together cause me to withdraw from the active UFO scene.

1. First of all I am under no pressure to get out. It is no government plot, MUFON pressure, employment pressure, nor family pressure. The first three groups could care less whether I am in or out and my family would just as soon see me stay in.

2. No individual has caused me to bail out. I have met some of the finest people I could ever hope to know, all within the various UFO organizations. These people are generally nice, friendly, generous, open minded, and talented.

3. The accumulation of things leading to my decision was culminated by the forthcoming CUFOS symposium in April. When I received the invitation to attend I was quite thrilled. I thought it would be an opportunity once and for all to really get an interchange of technical information flowing. As you know I have longed for such an interchange for years. I have been disheartened by the total lack of anything worthwhile coming out of CUFOS (and many share that view), so I thought maybe something was finally going to come out. And Walt I thought you had influ-

enced the addition of my name to the invitation list; since you have been very close to Dr. Hynek for the past couple of years. When you called, obviously dismayed because you weren't aware many MUFON people had been invited, I felt as if I had shirked a duty by not making sure you were informed.

4. When I received the December SKYLOOK a few days ago I was surprised to find out that Dr. Hynek is the featured speaker for the June MUFON symposium. Needless to say I found that to be a curious turn knowing of your dismay with the "secret" CUFOS meeting and the CUFOS opinion that UFO symposiums are "unprofessional."

5. I have been frustrated by the lack of useful, factual, technical information available to the individual investigator and researcher. I do know that such information exists, beyond the shadow of a doubt. However, it is carefully protected by everyone so that it doesn't get diluted or used. This is not a MUFON criticism, but a general criticism. The "it is for me to know and for you to find out" attitude prevails all over the world. It is like UFOs are supposed to be someone's property. The only way the UFO problem will be solved is through teamwork, not through division.

6. I am tired of hearing how many IFO's have been found. It seems to be a form of apology for Ufologists (in every organization) to dwell on the IFOs they have come across. It is like saying "I am really OK because I told someone they saw a star in an unusual condition," not "I am OK because I worked 700 hours on a case and it IS a UFO and remains unidentifiable." The organization names are CUFOS not CIFOS, MUFON not MIFON, etc. People should quit apologizing for their involvement. It IS an honorable ef-

fort.

7. I have seen numerous cases put down through poor field analysis and/or arm-chair analysis. Again it seems to stem from the desire on the part of the "expert" to give an answer, and a well meaning desire at that. The T. Blann news release of the Clovis, N.M., sightings last week is a prime example. Sure the twinkles in the sky had a natural explanation, but what about the bank president's sighting of the brown cigar shaped object? Was it the result of a temperature inversion? Hardly!!!!

8. The other extreme is just as bad. When landmark cases are reported they should be opened up and investigated and discussed without excuse or prejudice. Protect the witness--yes. But cover up the data--no! I have been looking back over my notes of the years and have found more than a hundred cases, any one of which could have provided useful information had it been released. These involve airplane crashes, daylight disc sightings, military installation sightings, etc. After a while it makes one feel foolish trying to expose future technology using only the lights in the sky cases, while hard data exists, but is "not available."

9. The recent Arkansas event exhibited a certain infatuation for P. Klass by many of the hierarchy present. I found that hard to believe. Of course a devil's advocate is good for TV debates and game shows. It might even be good for science if it is responsible. P. Klass's effort cannot be construed as responsible, when it ignores facts, selects only data that fits a personal theory, and results in shouting down the opponent or at best dropping to the level of character assassination. He says that when he gets two different stories on a case he throws out everything related. Well, he wrote two books that conflict in explanations--so by his own criteria all his effort should be ignored. He is a distaste-

California pilot encounters UFO

Editor's note: Additional details of the Aug. 14, 1975, UFO sighting near the Stockton, CA, Metropolitan Airport (see September, 1975, Skylook) have been reported in the NATIONAL ENQUIRER. This sighting was one of several in the Northern California area of Gilroy, San Jose, and Stockton. More recent sightings are currently under investigation.

Maj. Claude Riddle, 40, was approaching the Stockton airport in his helicopter at 900 feet at 2135 hours when air traffic controller Joe Savage advised him to take evasive action.

Says Savage: "I saw these flashing lights closing in on the chopper on a collision course. I radioed the copter pilot and issued evasive orders. As I did, the object turned orange and shot up to 5,000 feet, where it hovered."

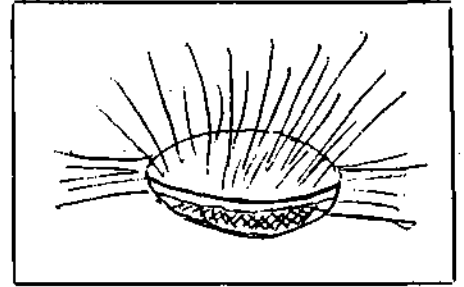
Maj. Riddle, an 11-year National Guard copter pilot with more than 5,000 hours of flight time, had meanwhile looked to the rear.

Says Maj. Riddle: "It ap-

ful character that should be placed in the category of gossip columnist.

10. The hours I have spent have not been wasted. They have been interesting and rewarding. However, I do not want to go on being teased by the drabs of information that flows from around the core of hard data that does exist. The total volume of information in Blue Book, the various intelligence organizations, and the private groups is staggering. If one could use it now we could expect a quantum jump in the state of technology. Unfortunately, it is unavailable.

In conclusion, my interest will remain. I do have a deep interest in technology and the future. I hope some significant advances will be made soon.



peared as if a strange light was tailing my chopper a mile or so away. As I swung my copter around, I saw it shimmering like a diamond. It was as big as a jetliner. A tremendous orange glow radiated from the top, but the bottom was dark. From the sides came two blue beams, probing out from the fat oval shape."

Dan Long, another air traffic controller, had been the first to spot the object. Says Long: "Through field glasses I could make out a definite form. The object appeared disc-shaped, like a flying saucer, and its body was radiating an intense orange glow."

As Maj. Riddle maneuvered his aircraft to keep the object in sight, it drifted over the airport for perhaps five minutes. "I wasn't really interested in getting too close," said Riddle. "It scared me."

He said the object suddenly turned bright red "and blasted off. I can't estimate its speed. It was faster than anything I've ever seen. I've observed enough rocket launchings to know we have nothing that can compare to the speed of this thing."

Maj. Riddle said that "seconds before it shot out of sight, a gray mist formed around it. This was followed by a blast of green exhaust which penetrated the cloud like you'd put your finger through a smoke ring."

Another air controller, John-Paul Ammirata, said he watched through binoculars as the object departed. "In five or six seconds the UFO went up to 60,000 feet and completely faded from view."

Six Australian groups hold diversified UFO conference

By Richard Hall
International Coordinator

A wide-ranging UFO Conference, with 22 participants and representation by six UFO groups, was held Oct. 4-5, 1975, at Terrigal, N.S.W. A copy of the Proceedings has been received from Keith Basterfield, Adelaide, S. Australia.

In many respects, the conference paralleled the October UFO Conference in Ft. Smith, AR, demonstrating a new mood in UFOlogy in recognizing the need for closer cooperation among UFO groups and a concerted effort to study UFOs scientifically.

Conference Chairman Keith Basterfield noted that, in the past, personality clashes and sheer distance have prevented closer cooperation among Australian groups. He invited a representative of the Department of Defense to participate in the conference, but the invitation was declined.

Participants reviewed the activities of their groups (whose memberships range from about 14 to about 300) and focused on specific areas of needed research. Talks were given by representatives of the

UFO Investigation Centre (New South Wales); the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre; the Victorian UFO Research Society; the Queensland UFO Research Bureau; UFO Research (South Australia); and UFO Research (Central Coast).

The Australian Co-Ordination Section (ACOS) for the U.S. Center for UFO Studies was represented by Harry Griesberg, who stressed that it was not ACOS' intention to try to form a "super group" for all Australia. ACOS was formed in November, 1974, at the request of Dr. J.A. Hynek, and serves as liaison between the Australian groups and Dr. Hynek's Center.

Dr. Geoff Stevens discussed analysis of physical samples associated with UFO sightings, and Dr. Herbison Evans talked about the use of diffraction gratings and polaroid materials to obtain spectra of light from UFOs.

Techniques of research, data gathering, UFO detectors, and the attitudes of scientists were other topics of discussion. The uses of computers and problems of information exchanges also were explored.

The possibilities of establishing one high quality UFO magazine for Australia and a common report form for all groups were discussed, and will be the subject of continuing examination. It was unanimously decided that a UFOCON (UFO Conference) 2 would be held in 1976 at Mt. Gambier, South Australia.

The Conference Proceedings note, in summary: "It was thought that we should continue to present the subject as a serious one which demands the attention of science. We should not make bold statements as to such things as the nature, origin or purpose of UFOs, merely to state that a phenomenon exists which cannot at this stage be explained."

BUFORA conducts UFO conference

By Richard Hall
International Coordinator

A scientific UFO conference preceding those held in Ft. Smith, AR, and New South Wales, Australia, during October, 1975, is reported by the BUFORA Journal, July-August 1975 (British UFO Research Association). On May 10 and 11, 1975, BUFORA held a National Research and Investigations Conference at Hanley. As in the other conferences, discussion focused on methodology and investigation techniques.

Speakers were Professor John Taylor of King's College, University of London, noted for his researches into Uri Geller's claims; Leonard Cramp, aeronautical engineer and a BUFORA vice-president; Dr. Joachim P. Kuettner, chairman of the AIAA UFO Subcommittee, now associated with the World Meteorology Organization in Geneva; C.A.E. O'Brian, geologist and Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society; and Trevor Whitaker, ophthalmologist and founder member of BUFORA's Yorkshire Branch.

New book by Vallee

The INVISIBLE COLLEGE... WHAT A GROUP OF SCIENTISTS HAS DISCOVERED ABOUT UFO INFLUENCES ON THE HUMAN RACE, by Jacques Vallee, in hardback was released by E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York, on Jan. 15.

It is being published simultaneously in Canada by Clarks, Irwin and Company Limited, Toronto and Vancouver.

The following statement by Dr. Vallee suggests the purpose of his fourth book on unidentified flying objects:

"I believe that a powerful force has influenced the human race in the past and is again influencing it now. Does this force represent alien intervention, or does it originate entirely within human consciousness?" The 216-page book is listed at \$8.95.

Corrections listed for Investigator's Manual

Following are corrections that should be made to the MUFON Field Investigator's Manual, according to Raymond E. Fowler, MUFON director of investigations.

Page 45, the Form 2: Captions under Latitude and Longitude should read: Degrees - minutes - Seconds, NOT Hours, Minutes - Tenths;

Page 85, Chart/August, The Azimuth for Spica = W (NOT E).

Page 128, last paragraph should read - The equation on page 128 can be solved...(etc.)



Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

New personnel announced

The MUFON Board of Directors of fifteen has now been fully staffed with the selection of Mr. Sam Gross as corporate secretary. Sam is a partner in the law firm of Benhow and Gross with offices in San Antonio, Texas. Sam, Jackie and their three children reside in Seguin, Texas.

John Donegan, president of the First National Bank of Seguin, assumed the position of MUFON treasurer on Jan. 2, 1976, as previously announced in SKYLOOK.

To further strengthen our research activities, P. Joe Pantermuehl, 606 Vaughan, Seguin, Texas 78155, has joined as a research specialist to the MUFON staff. He has a B.S. and M.A. in Physics and is a senior research scientist at Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio, Texas.

Richard H. Hall, international coordinator, is extremely proud to announce the appointment of Joachim Fernandez, as our foreign representative for France. Joachim's mailing address is 3 rue Rosette, Toulouse, 31500, France. His major UFO interest concerns Type I (landings), and he has specialized in his Type I French Catalog.

Pennsylvania coverage has increased with the appointment of the two following state section directors: CDR. Robert M. Hipp, 7241 Paxton St., Harrisburg, PA 17111. Bob is a commander in the U.S.N.R., and has a B.S. in Organic Chemistry. He is now directly involved in recent UFO sightings in his area of Lebanon, Dauphin, York, Cumberland and Perry counties. James Dow, 220 S. Main St., Muncy, PA 17756, a pharmacist with his B.S. from Purdue University, is covering Lycoming

and Montour counties.

Allen S. Mariner, M.D., who has been serving as a consultant in psychiatry, has taken on the added responsibilities of state section director for the New York counties of Wayne, Ontario, Seneca and Yates. Dr. Mariner may be contacted at 3503 W. Lake Road, Canadaigua, N.Y. 14424. Ted Bloecher, state director for New York, has also appointed Fred D. Stein, Lake Hill Road, Burnt Hills, N.Y. 12027, the state section director for Saratoga, Fulton and Montgomery counties. Fred has his Master's in Social Work and was formerly a field investigator.

Paul Cerny, western regional director, has selected Louis P. Peresenyi, 38 Ave Maria Rd., Monterey, CA 93940; telephone (408) 372-2536, as state section director for Monterey and San Benito counties.

J. S. Fouch and Thomas H. Nicholl have recommended the appointment of Alan L. Heinlein, 811 Tremont, Ottawa, KS 66067, as state section director for the Kansas counties of Douglas and Franklin.

Marc E. Hunker, 355½ W. Fremont, Fostoria, Ohio 44830; telephone (419) 435-7502, has volunteered for the additional responsibility as state section director for Hancock and Seneca counties.

Lt. Col. (Retired) Jasper W. Harper, 1300 Bertha Rd., S.E., Rio Rancho, NM 87124; telephone (505) 898-3080, was approved as state section director for Sandoval County by John L. Warren, state director, upon the recommendation of Joseph S. Accetta.

Open areas

Recent UFO sighting reports telephoned to the Center for UFO Studies on the toll-free

number by police agencies has disclosed that the investigative network of MUFON has some definite open counties in specific states. Since MUFON has volunteered the services of our organization to CUFOS, we would not only seek to accept and investigate more reports from this source, but to achieve our goal of having every county in each of our fifty states under the guidance of a state section director.

Since membership in MUFON is by invitation, and our directors must be recommended and approved for their positions, we are inviting present members who want to become more active as leaders to volunteer their time, talent, and experience by contacting their state director, or your international director, Walt Andrus. We are particularly interested in members living in the following states: Vermont, Rhode Island, Maine, Idaho, Montana, North and South Dakota, Oregon, Nevada, and Utah.

1976 Symposium

The 1976 MUFON UFO Symposium will be held at Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor, MI, on June 12 and 13, hosted by Bob Stinson and the Michigan Section. Featured speakers already committed are J. Allen Hynek, Ray Stanford, Dave Webb, Jacques Vallee, and William Spaulding.

Mutilation info wanted

SKYLOOK plans to explore the topic of animal mutilations in a future issue. If you have cases, photos, clips, or other information, we would certainly appreciate receiving them. We would, of course, be happy to pay any reasonable costs involving Xeroxing, photo duplication, etc.

Aspect, conjunction, magnitude . . .

Astronomical terms explained

Editor's note: The following explanation of astronomical terms has been prepared to help readers better understand ASTRONOMY NOTES and similar material which appears in Skylook.

By Mark R. Herbstritt

Aspect--position of a planet relative to another planet. As seen from the Earth.

Celestial body--a body external to the Earth which can be detected without visual aids, in the sky. Example: The sun, moon, and planets, stars, etc.

Celestial sphere--the sphere which is above the horizon and on which the visible sky appears.

Conjunction--the alignment of two bodies at their least distance of separation in the sky. Example: Mercury one degree from the Sun.

Constellation--large groups of stars that have an imaginary resemblance to objects and animals on Earth.

Magnitude--the visual brightness of a celestial body or star. Example: Venus magnitude at greatest brilliancy is -4.4. The star Sirius has a magnitude of -1.4; therefore, Venus is 3 magnitudes or about 16 times more brilliant than Sirius, the brightest star.

Meridian--a great circle passing through the north and south poles. When a planet is on the Meridian at midnight it is in opposition to the sun or 180 degrees from the sun.

Transit--when a celestial body crosses the meridian.

Opposition--particular position of two celestial bodies when they are diametrically opposed to each other. A planet is in opposition when it is 180 degrees from the sun. It then rises at sunset and sets at sunrise and is on the meridian at midnight.

Elongation--the inferior planets Mercury and Venus are

never more than a certain angular distance from the sun. The value is about 30 degrees for Mercury and 45 degrees for Venus. When an inferior planet such as Venus is in eastern elongation it is east of the Sun and sets after sunset. At western elongation it is west of the Sun and rises before sunrise.

Some meteorological and astronomical phenomena may be mistaken for UFOs:

Meteor Shower--the result of a shower of shooting stars (meteors) produced by those meteors of the swarm that enter the atmosphere. These showers occur at certain times of the year when the Earth encounters large numbers of meteors all moving together along the same orbit. Example: Perseid meteor shower--maximum August 12. An observer might see about 50 meteors per hour on this date after midnight. **Radiant**--the constellation Perseus.

Fireball--a meteor brighter than the brightest planets: Venus, Jupiter etc.

Meteor--bodies composed mostly of iron and nickel which are brought to incandescence by disintegrating when entering the Earth's atmosphere. Meteors are usually visible for only 2 or 3 seconds.

Meteorite--a meteor that reaches the surface of the Earth.

Ball lightning--is a ball-shaped luminous electrical discharge which occurs during or near the end of a thunderstorm. Lightning balls vary in size from tiny beads to globes several feet in diameter. The commonest color is red or reddish orange sometimes surrounded by a blue haze. A hissing or humming sound generally accompanies lightning balls. The smell is often described as "sulphurous" and is presumably due to ozone. They are usually visible from 3 to 5 seconds but have been seen up to 15 minutes

Astronomy Notes

By Mark R. Herbstritt

March sky

Mercury--is too close to the Sun for observation this month.

Venus--It rises about an hour before the Sun and is only 9 degrees above the south-eastern horizon at sunrise.

Mars--moving from Taurus into Gemini it is near the meridian at sunset and sets about 3 a.m.

Jupiter--moving from Pisces into Aries, it is in the west at sunset and sets within 3 hours.

Saturn--near the boundary between Cancer and Gemini, it is high in the eastern sky at sunset.

duration.

I recommend the following books and magazines for more information on astronomy:

(1) **THE TAMING OF THE THUNDERBOLTS**--by C. Maxwell Cade. This book gives details of ball lightning reports and describes the differences between UFO's and ball lightning.

(2) **SPACE NOMADS**--By Lincoln La Paz. This book tells of meteorite falls, craters caused by meteor impact, the nature of meteors, meteor showers, etc.

(3) **ASTRONOMY MAGAZINE**--Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This magazine is one of the best in the field of astronomy. Gives details every month of positions of the planets, star maps, beautiful color photographs of nebula, galaxies, clusters, etc.

News clips appreciated

While we do not always acknowledge newspaper clips sent in, we do appreciate them and find them very helpful. Thanks for past efforts--and please keep them coming.

Recapping and commenting

By Richard Hall

This month's column is directed toward articles appearing in the December, 1975, issue of SKYLOOK).

Investigations of the November, 1975, Arizona abduction case appear to be shaping up as a prime example of how NOT to go about UFO investigation, and of how a lack of coordination confuses the issue, pitting one UFO group against another. In the process, potentially important cases such as this are beclouded instead of clarified.

It would seem that character information about Travis Walton and his co-workers, developed by trained investigators and/or behavioral scientists, is the only way to unravel this story.

1975 MUFON SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

(111 pages)

"An Expanded Vision of UFO Research" by Dr. David M. Jacobs, author of *The UFO Controversy in America*.

"Center for UFO Studies and the UFO Central Situation" by Sherman J. Larsen, president of the Center for UFO Studies.

"UFO Research: Problem or Predicament?" by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, member National Enquirer UFO Blue Ribbon Panel.

"A Catalog of Humanoid Reports for 1974" by Ted Bloecher, co-chairman of the MUFON Humanoid Study Committee.

"Interpreting Reports of UFO Sightings" by James M. McCampbell, author of *Ufology — New Insights from Science and Common Sense*.

"UFO Research Proposals: What, Who, and How Much?" by Dr. Jacques Vallee, author of *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, etc.

"Unidentified Flying Objects: The Emerging Evidence" by Ted Phillips, MUFON specialization coordinator.

The 1975 Proceedings is available from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Sequin, Texas 78155 for \$4.00 post-paid.

It is probably wishful thinking, but wouldn't it be nice if in major landing, physical effect, and occupant cases the major UFO groups would compare notes by telephone and decide on one of two courses of action to coordinate the investigation:

(1) If only one of the groups had an appropriately trained investigator or team within 50 miles of the site, the others would bow out, and the investigating group would share all of its findings with the cooperating groups;

(2) If more than one group had appropriately trained investigators close to the scene, each group would appoint one or two representatives to a joint team of investigators who would then pool all resources and information.

Cooperation on sky object

The problem seems to lie in field investigations, primarily. The intergroup cooperation in analyzing the January, 1975, metal artifact is laudable. In that case, personnel associated with NICAP, MUFON, and CUFOS participated in various aspects of the investigation and analysis work.

Similar cooperation is greatly to be desired in such additional areas as photo-analysis and physical trace cases. An intergroup liaison committee of physical scientists and other analysts, those who have the necessary skills and the access to laboratory equipment, might be a workable solution.

A UFO Physical Evidence Analysis Group, to which all major UFO groups would agree to entrust such cases, could be a strong unifying force. It also could command the respect of the news media and other opinion makers.

Canadian family reports object

Ken Sheppard and his family of North Battleford in western Saskatchewan, Canada, reportedly observed, through binoculars, a strange object about 5:30 a.m. on Nov. 18, 1975. He said the object was about 40 feet wide and had a large beam of light shining from the center and three or four beams coming from the sides. He said the object appeared flat and circular, and moved in a southerly direction. (SOURCE: Saskatoon STAR-PHOENIX, Nov. 19, 1975; submitted by Monika Swanson.)

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