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Light beams from alleged UFOs are nothing new, but they continue to generate interest and speculation. In this month's SKYLOOK are stories concerning reported light beams in Tasmania, Australia, and in the Soviet Union.

The sketch at left represents an unconfirmed, but interesting, sighting at Ellezelles, Belgium, on July 4, 1972. At 10:45 p.m. a young farmer was reportedly in a field adjoining his farm when his attention was captured by intermittent projections of bluish light coming from a luminous "cloud" which was motionless in the sky.

These beams, in the form of an arc, descended to the ground and touched it at three points, arranged around the witness in a triangle, and then went back up into the "cloud."

The beams reportedly widened until about three feet above the field, then narrowed down to touch the soil as a very reduced point—and reversed the process when returning upward. These extraordinary "flashers" were reportedly reproduced every 30 seconds.

The incident was reportedly confirmed by a neighbor a few yards away. (Sketch and information provided by Joe Brill from Inforespace No. 6, 1972.)

"We tell it as it is"

SKYLOOK

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Car radio affected

UFO light beam in Tasmania

LOCATION OF SIGHTING: Lake Sorell, Tasmania, Australia.

DATE OF SIGHTING: Feb. 26, 1975.

REPORTED BY: Paul B. Jackson, Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre (TUFOIC).

SUBMITTED BY: Joe Brill, former MUFON International Co-ordinator.

THE MAIN WITNESS

The principal witness has requested that his name not be used. He was a rear gunner in the RAAF, is currently a 'well-off' professional man, and is apparently a respected member of his community. He is also a competent artist.

The principal witness had gone to Lake Sorell with a companion (a commercial artist) on a week's fishing trip. The companion also observed the incident and also made sketches.

TRANSCRIPT OF SIGHTING

Following is a transcript of an interview with the principal witness by the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre. The initial portion of the transcript is the witness' statement preceding questions from the interviewer.

WITNESS: At about 3:45 p.m. approximately, with some degree of daylight, I observed 3 objects in the sky in the NE: two larger, one smaller. I watched them for some time, thinking they were rather unusual small clouds or even aircraft; after observing them for a while I noticed that they were moving in a different direction to the clouds. They were too slow in movement to be aircraft, or anything, and I was extremely interested in the object at this time being more than unusual.

They remained in this area for a few minutes and I lost sight of them for about 3 or 4

minutes. Later I observed two of the objects much closer that had travelled in a direction towards the SW, towards Lake Sorell. They came to a stationary position towards the Dogshead, which is on the eastern shore of Lake Sorell, and remained in that area for approximately 8 to 10 minutes.

There was slight movement then, and I lost them in cloud. There was broken cloud for a while, but they receded towards the mountainous shore towards Lake Penny (note: probably means Mt. Penny), which is known as the Hatchery shore of Lake Sorell.

CENTRAL RED LIGHT

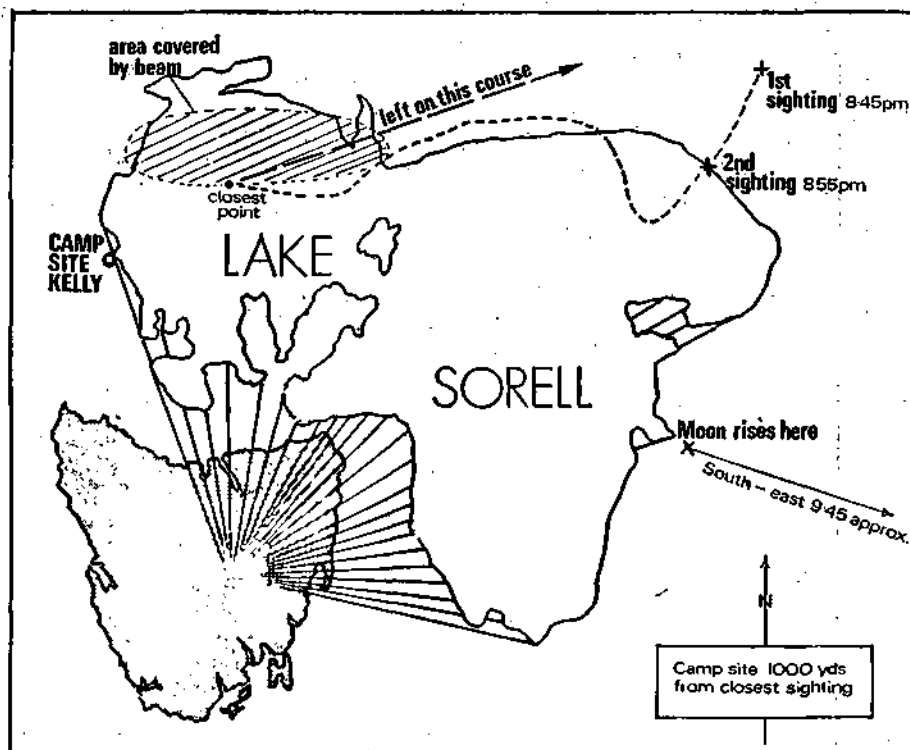
The two were clearly visible there for a while, and then I first noticed that underneath each was showing a central red light which was pulsating, and on the one that appeared to be larger or closer there were

intermittent red lights around the corona or rim.

That is the last time that I saw the two; cloud intervened and there was no sighting for some minutes, and then the cloud brightened up and I saw one object emerge from the clouds travelling in an easterly direction and come to rest above Meredith or sometimes called Murdoch Point on the north shore of Lake Sorell.

The secondary object was at that stage of the piece noticed stationary towards Mt. Penny much further to the north--approximately 2½ miles to the north.

The main object was now very clear in definition. It was an elongated shape. It was a long disc type of sighting, with the red light very very strong, still pulsating, but the red lights around the corona also seemed to be twinkling from red to white. At times they seemed to be travelling around the



disc; at other times seemed to be quite stationary. It remained in this area for 8 to 10 minutes.

The sighting at all times wasn't clear because there was intermittent cloud that at times would partially obscure the main object. It was totally obscured for 2 or 3 minutes with a heavy bank of cloud that went through with a passing storm; it appeared again and appeared to be fractionally closer.

Then all of a sudden it came directly towards us at phenomenal speed. It appeared as though it was going directly over the top of us--but in actual fact it came to rest approximately 1000 yards away and asessed at approximately 500 feet up.

It remained in this area in clear vision for quite some minutes, maybe 3, maybe 4 minutes. It was very, very bright, intensely bright during the period of movement towards us, almost to the extent it was like the flash of an acetylene torch. When it came to rest, the main lights dulled. You could see the definition and outline, which appeared to be a round forming ring around the bottom of a dome, with a dome effect on the top.

AREA COVERED BY BEAM

The red light very, very clear in the bottom; it moved very, very well in a small degree in a little arc back and forth, then extended with colossal light a beam, a cone-shaped beam down towards the lake.

This beam appeared to travel towards the northern section of the lake, which was the edge of Robinson's Swamp, and it very definitely was directed along the extremity of the swamp in extending a distance of approximately 2 miles. It was strong enough that it lit up the side of the mountain along from the Point of Meredith to Robinson's Swamp, approximately 3/4 of a

Second object too
obsured for clear vision

At closest proximity

mile.

LAKE SURFACE GLOWS

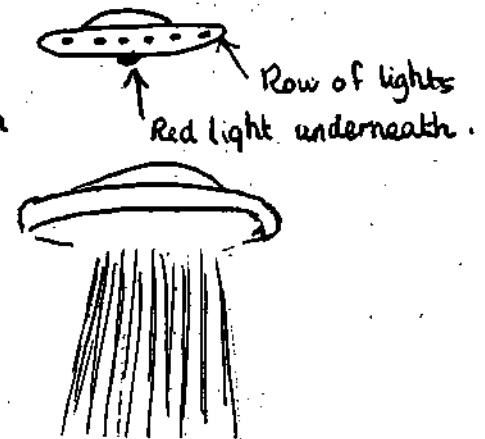
The beam traversed back towards the centre of the area from where the object was in the sky. It faded and fairly quickly, and the surface of the lake appeared as though it had a bluey white flourescent glow over the water for approximately 20 or 30 feet above. Sufficiently that you could still see the outline of the swamp strongly. The red lights had reappeared; the definition of the outline was quite clear.

Then, almost like a flash, it disappeared away very quickly towards the NE. It travelled at a colossal speed--as much as I would liken it would be something in the way the trajectory of a tracer bullet.

At this time the second vehicle that had moved towards Mt. Penny and had remained in that area for the whole time disappeared at the simultaneous time with the other one, in the same direction. I cannot be sure whether it disappeared in the beyond, or went beyond the rim of the mountain, but it was that quick that it was hard to be definite.

CAR RADIO AFFECTED

During the period of the vehicle being in the area of Meredith Point, my car radio, which was in operation with the door open--I had been waiting for the nine o'clock news--had



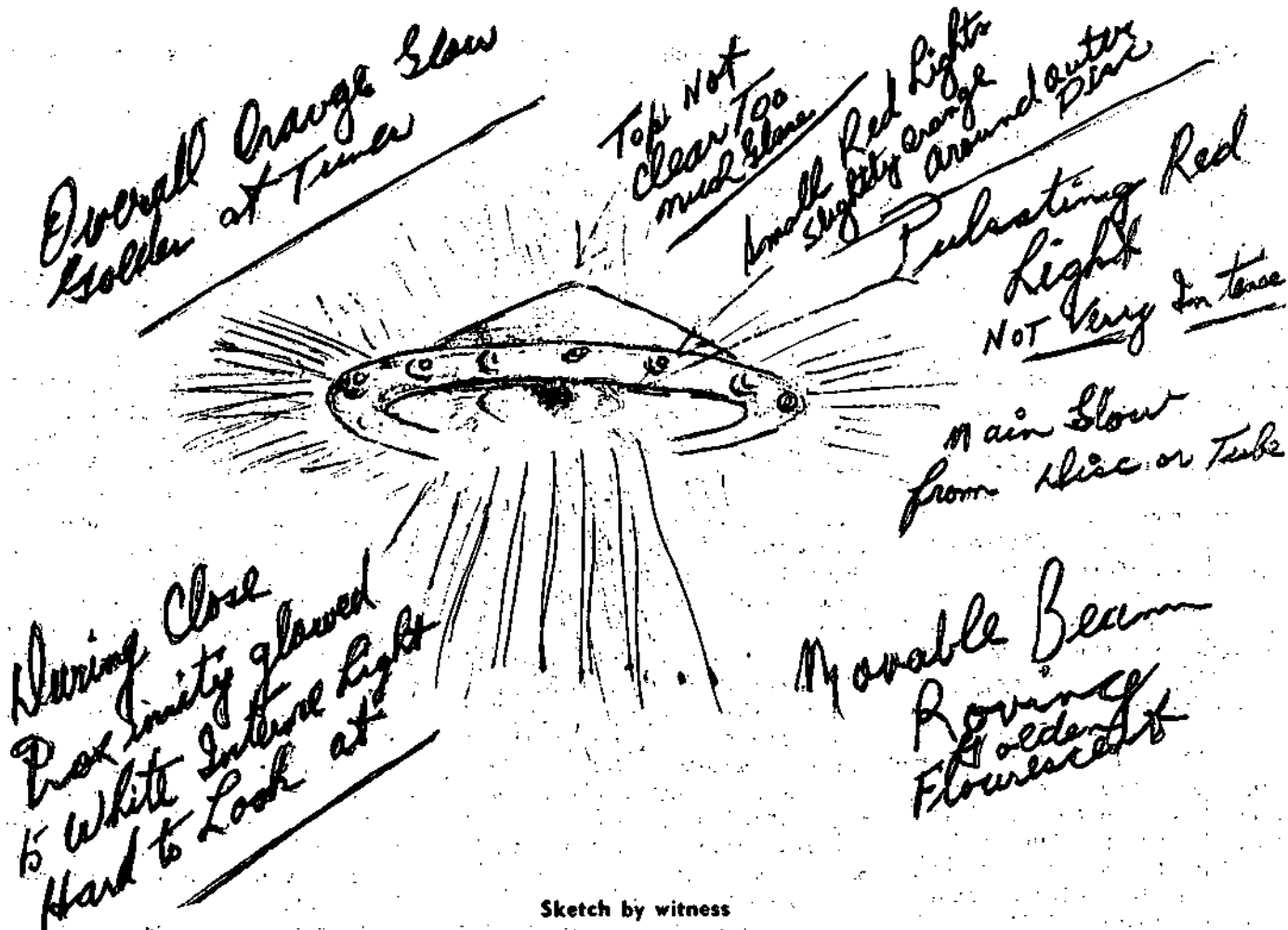
cut out and was replaced by a very, very loud intense static noise. At one stage during a lull in the sighting I attempted to find stations on the wireless; it did not respond. When the vehicles had gone out of sight within a minute or two the wireless came on and functioned quite normally, and remained quite normal thereafter.

These are the main points of the actual sighting, but there were quite a few little incidents here and there that occurred during the trajectory of the vehicles.

QUESTIONS BY INVESTIGATOR

TUFOIC: The moon did rise in the SE--about 9:45 p.m. This would be after the sighting.

WITNESS: Well, when it just started to show approximately 1/2 of an hour after the actual sighting, but it was from the camp site in the SE down towards the lower part of the lake. Towards the Guest House area, which is more than a quarter of the compass spectrum. The following night I was still at the lake and observed the moon rise which was a little later, but was the same position, so there is no mistake on where it rises. The only thing I was concerned on checking up on the moon was the fact that when I first saw the 3 objects at a great distance, although it was quite daylight at the time, it appeared like light on cloud--and through



Sketch by witness

that...

TUFOIC: Like the reflection of light of the moon on cloud.

W: Yes, that was my first impression, then I thought they were aircraft. But when they moved in closer into the area of the sighting, actually the main sightings themselves were almost in an opposite direction altogether as to what you would look for the moon. Another thing with it too that was quite important, the cloud banks and the cloud cover that was across the lake on quite a few occasions, anything up to half a dozen times the light from the craft itself was showing up our side of the cloud in bright relief, and this side of the mountain, so the light had to be reflected from this side.

T: This was opposite the swamp area and off the Meredith Pt. area.

W: So the object had to be centered on this side to be able to reflect the light on this side, while on the other side this was in darkness and the movement...

T: You were only getting a reflection of the light from the object on the cloudside of the clouds that were closest to it.

W: That's right, and there was no shadow of any doubt of any fault there--the only time the moon could have been of any



● The drawing of the UFO Smith saw.

consequence was when I said--when I first saw these 3 objects in the distance. I thought it was cloud, and by being bright it could have been that because it was quite daylight, and the only thing that put the moon into the idea was the fact that after this had disappeared and it was all gone I saw the moon rise and of course I associated it. I thought it was important this be noted and checked out.

EFFECT ON WITNESS

T: At any time you had no feeling of being affected by the closeness of the object.

W: No, no physical phenomena in any way, shape, or form, but I did have a rather apprehensive feeling, more or less like a sense of fear.

T: Fear of the unknown.

W: Well, this was as close as you could describe it--expecting something sort of cataclysmic to happen, but it didn't. After the actual sighting itself I was left with a rather strange state of void. I felt rather uneasy and a little bit unreal, but nothing physical in any way, shape, or form.

T: It didn't make you feel ill, headache, or anything.

W: No, the only physical effect I saw was the effect it had on the radio.

T: What about the intense brightness of it on your eyes.

W: To a degree, I noticed that each time the vehicle moved it glowed very brightly, but was nothing at all like the intensity of the beam when it moved close in above, and when it directed the beam down, it was a light like an acetylene flash to a certain degree; it did have a slight effect on the eyes.

T: You couldn't look at it direct.

W: You could look at it and look away, but the only effect it had was the intensity of the light during that period of the extension of the beam.

T: Now when the beam of light was over the swamp. 100 yards area of beam on the swamp.

W: I would say that the main centre of the beam would have covered an area of 200 yds or in excess of that--but it also from the the edge of that main point of beam it extended a brightness that lighted up the area for almost 2 miles either side.

T: Did you notice any wildlife in the swamp; were there any effects.

W: Usually there are swans back in behind the swamp and sometimes duck, that would be the only thing--and I certainly didn't notice anything in any way.

T: Did you notice anything the next day.

W: As a matter of fact I know one thing: there were no ducks sighted because it was the verge of the duck season--the following day when I was on the lake there wasn't a duck to be seen. Whether I saw any swan or not I can't recall.

T: You didn't have an animal with you.

W: No.

T: You knew of other people at Silver Plains.

W: Yes, well there was a party camped at the top of Silver Plains, which would have put them a mile or so below me. I was talking to one of the fishermen from that group the following day. He told me that he was in the tent after dark, but he didn't know the time, and it lit up the tent like daylight and they came out and they could see this very bright object in the top end of the lake.

T: He actually witnessed this at a later time after your first sighting of it.

W: He saw what I did when the thing came in at its close proximity and then to when it left.

T: And that was at 100 yds. to your campsite at its closest.

W: No, 1000yds--he was a mile below me.

T: You don't know these people's names.

W: No I don't.

OTHER WITNESSES

T: Also led to believe there was somebody close at another camp further down at the end of Silver Plains swamp area.

W: Yes, where the road first meets the lake they also, too--the other man told him that they saw it--but I didn't see them at all--during the time that I was there. And again I don't know who they are or where they came from.

T: There was another witness involved; I believe they also have notes and drawings of what they saw.

W: Yes, well actually you have a set of drawings and notes there--but I told her you will be seeing her and she could tell you herself her own story in her own way.

T: You mentioned also when this object finally went away it went over Mt. Penny.

W: Slightly south of Mt. Penny in a NE direction.

T: At a very terrific speed that we would associate with a tracer.

W: A phenomenal speed.

T: Up until this time you have never seen or experienced anything in the way of UFOs, or any other phenomena at all.

W: All except heard of them, but I've had no experience of it before, and I was not very convinced. I'm afraid, I certainly was not. Well, I didn't have a closed mind on it, but it was not important to me before this affair.

T: You've no doubt this was an UFO.....

W: There isn't any doubt of this. I've had sufficient experience to know that what I saw was an object; a vehicle in the sky. There's no doubt in the world and I saw it in close enough definition to know what it looked like.

Pilot reports possible UFO transmission

DATE OF SIGHTING: March 6, 1975.
REPORTED BY: Paul B. Jackson,
T.U.F.O.I.C.

The following report was received from a commercial airline pilot, and describes an observation made on March 6, at 33,000 feet altitude during a flight between Melbourne and Adelaide, Australia.

"We had departed Melbourne airport at 2134 EST/1134 GMT en route to Perth, W. A. During the climb, we encountered cloud which generated St. Elmo's fire across windscreen segments L1 and R1 of the Boeing 727-100 I was flying in as co-pilot.

"At 61 nautical miles east of Mt. Gambier, the flight engineer sighted a falling green object ahead and slightly to the right of the aircraft nose, falling rapidly, no tail. The appearance of the object was that of a falling flare. I took no notice in the initial instance, being concerned at that time with verifying our estimated time of arrival over Gambier and being about to ask the flight engineer to note the exact fuel over Gambier for later point of no return assessment.

"Ahead of us by some 5 minutes was the other domestic carrier's B727-100; that aircraft reported the sighting of the light to Adelaide control on transfer to Adelaide AIC over Gambier. We passed over Gambier at about 2200 EST/1200 GMT and took up a track of 278 degrees magnetic en route direct to Esperance, W. A. ATC asked us to comment on the sighting made by the other Boeing, a sighting which was also made by a domestic airline's Fokker F27 as it passed over Ardrossan, S.A., on a southerly to easterly heading. I made generally confirmatory remarks

over the radio; I gather the general impression that there was more than one light concerned over some small period of time.

"At about 76 nautical miles west of Gambier, I noticed to the right of the aircraft and about 5 miles or so to the north of us, a greenish glow on the surface, visible with some diffusion through the layer of stratiform cloud below us. This I passed to Adelaide AIC, who confirmed the approximate area on a cross-check being made on the chart accessible to AIC.

"Immediately I tuned 500 khz on the aircraft's number two Automatic Direction Finder, just on a punt. There was some feverish morse code activity for some short time, then silence. The ADF needle pointed to the greenish glow, then returned to the 090/270 degrees "Unusable Signal" direction, on cessation of the morse coding. The coding was too fast to make out any letters clearly, and in any event, need not necessarily have been in plain language English, despite the fact that this was the maritime distress frequency. There was nothing to be heard on 121.5 Mhz, the VHF distress frequency, at any time. This I advised to Adelaide ATC, who acknowledged my message.

"On return from Perth some six hours or so later, there was no visible evidence of any activity in this area, and the radios were silent on the aforementioned frequencies.

"The other carrier's aircraft was at 31,000 feet AMSL on 1013 mbs at the time.

"Latitude of the glow: 37 16 S; Longitude 139 10 E; approximate."

"I'd say the total time someone had had it in sight would have been in the order of perhaps ten to twenty seconds,

again a guesstimate only... The glow I referred to did not appear to be fluctuating, as in burning, nor did it appear to move in the short time I had it in sight--about 30 seconds...

"Being open-minded enough to admit that there are stranger things in fact than in fiction, I'm completely open to any info, and without wishing to be dramatic, the idea of a flare at 33 grand is a bit way-out; but, if that's what it was, then fair enough."

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UFO's Behind the Iron Curtain

By Joe Brill

Light beams in USSR

NOVIKOV'S STATEMENT

"In the fall of 1960, I was in Turegakhskiy rayon, Gorno-altayskaya autonomous oblast, in the settlement of Berkh-Biysk, which is situated on the very bank of the Biya River.

"Here I investigated a section of the river for the construction of a damless hydroelectric power plant. The settlement is small and consisted of small boarding houses that extended along the river in one street. The side of the settlement away from the river is closely adjacent to the taiga.

"Evidently, therefore, in the evening as soon as the sun sets it is already dark on the ground but in return, the sky is easily observed and the stars appear early.

"In October, at approximately 2300 hours, I left the office together with a group of about fifty working people after a conference. The office was located at one of the ends of the settlement and I set out for home, which was in the center.

"After about twenty to twenty-five meters from the office I glanced up at a completely clear sky and something strange appeared; with complete cloudlessness, one lone dark cloud was lit up by a weak reddish light (a hazy glow), and only then did I notice that it was oscillating. A pencil of light began to emerge from the cloud very slowly. The impression I received was such that some sort of body which emits light seemed to be separating

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of articles which Iron Curtain specialist Joe Brill has prepared from an unpublished series of reports compiled by Soviet UFO expert Felix Y. Zigel, assistant professor at the Moscow Aviation Institute.

from the light it was emitting.

"The body withdrew farther and farther away parallel to the ground and, in proportion to this, the light beam grew longer, throwing its light on the cloud which had now become similar to a parachute but with the only difference was that it was not stretched from the air but it somehow wriggled its surface like a flag in a weak wind.

"What was most instructive of all was the fact that the longer the beam of the body moving away from the 'parachute' became, the lighter the 'parachute' itself became, acquiring a blue shade permeated with red streaks at one moment or, conversely, a red shade permeated with blue streaks at another moment.

"It did not descend and did not rise. The beam of light fell on it exactly on the center, not blinking and not bending at all. The beam was like the beam of a motion picture projector; narrow at the exit from the body and expanding toward the 'parachute' which it illuminated.

"The pencil of light was extremely dense and the light was very strong, but not blinding, somewhat like a white luminescent glow but considerably whiter.

"The body which was emitting the light was not visible, but from some unclear shadow at the exit it was felt that it exist-

ed. The outline of the 'parachute' dissipated somehow, having no clear boundaries and at the moment of its deflections some parts of it were sometimes lighter, sometimes darker, however preserving the color prevailing in a given position.

"From one to one and a half minutes after the body moved away from the 'parachute' about twenty meters (that's how it appeared and during this one to one and a half minutes the 'emitter' moved away from the 'parachute') it somehow moved in the opposite direction along the same axis without jerks.

"The beam was shortened accordingly and the luminescence of the 'parachute' was decreased. Once, having reached the 'parachute'; the beam seemed to enter it.

"The luminescence of both stopped. Something like a cloud again appeared, and in the same instant it moved slowly in the direction of the taiga and there, blending itself into the darkness, it ceased being visible.

"Everything that occurred lasted no more than five minutes. It is interesting to note that after the cessation of the luminescence the sensation of onsetting darkness was absent as happens when you emerge from a brightly illuminated room into an evening street. All objects were distinguished just as before this appearance.

"Turochak is a God-forsaken place, especially in the time period described. Berkh-Biysk is even more so.

"Here every person is in the public eye. There were no research groups of the Academy of

Sciences here then, which, properly speaking, also caused surprise among all those who left the conference which had just previously taken place.

"Whether someone spoke at this time or all remained silent I did not notice as I was completely absorbed by the entire appearance.

"However, when the 'parachute' disappeared a large group of people approached me and asked excitedly: 'what was that?' I shrugged my shoulders."

(Signed) Yu M. Novikov, City of Biysk - N. Trofimov Street, Building 43b - Apt. 42

ALMAZOV's STATEMENT

"The phenomenon under discussion was observed in February or March of 1966. The observation site is approximately 120 kilometers northeast of Saranpul' (Berezovskiy rayon, Tyumenskaya oblast') near the divide of the Urals range (elevation on the order of 1300 to 1400 meters). The time was about 0800 hours local time.

"Two luminous objects were observed practically overhead against the background of a cloudless sky. One of them was round, rather bright and yellow-white in color.

"The second object changed its appearance. At first it recalled the moon for shape and illuminance and seemed to be approximately half its size. Then this disc became cloudy and smoke was clearly seen in its place. After a while, this object disappeared and then a bright illuminated disc appeared similar to the first object in dimensions and appearance. Bright, divergent beams of light, as from the headlights of an automobile, were emitted from the second object twice for approximately half a minute each time.

"Both objects moved to the northeast. At times they converged and at times they moved

away from each other. At first, the large object moved slower than the second one, and after both objects again appeared, they moved on the same course and with the same speed until they disappeared behind a mountain peak.

"This strange phenomenon was observed by several people besides myself--co-workers of the scouting party."

(Signed) I. N. Almazov, Geologist, Moscow B-150, Glebovski, Building 20, Apt. 78

MASHEK'S STATEMENT

"I personally observed the following phenomenon in Sochi near the monument to Lenin which is in the square opposite the building of the City Committee of the CPSU.

"It was a May evening in 1967 at about 2200 hours. A band of bright green and bluish light appeared in the sky from the direction of the sea and moved toward the mountains.

"It had the appearance of a searchlight beam turned toward the ground and moving very rapidly, in which regard no noise could be heard and it could not be seen what was moving and emitting such a light beam. The light passed over the ground in a band approximately 300 meters wide and this band of light, illuminating the ground, flew by and was visible for about a minute, moving away in the direction of the mountains.

"It appears to me that this was some sort of invisible object which flew by very high and emitted a band of bright light on the ground in the form of a search-light beam from which it became light as day for about a minute."

(Signed) N. I. Mashek, Sochi Pervomayskaya Street, 13, Apt. 1

POPOV'S STATEMENT

"From 1950 through 1965 I

worked in the Yakut SSR at the Ust' Maya airport as an aviation technician.

"In March of 1964, emerging from the club in the city of Petropavlovsk at approximately 2300 hours with my comrades Perekhov, Negayeb and Yevmenenko, I observed two very strange discs which moved one behind the other and then reformed and moved as a pair along the front.

"Passing almost over us, they emitted light to the ground, true, of weak intensity. In comparison the light of the discs was extremely bright. I cannot describe the color; one had only to see it. It seems to me that it was a dark bluish-violet color like the discharge of an electrical spark. The edge was an exact circle, stationary, as if dull milky smoke attempted to go beyond the limits of the circle and glass walls would not permit it to go out into the surrounding area.

"When the discs passed over our heads and grasped us in the zone of illumination, I personally felt (that's how it appeared to me then) something oppressive as if some natural calamity had occurred. A very unpleasant feeling.

"At the time I thought that we had again launched some novelty into space. But nothing was reported on the radio nor in the newspapers.

(Signed) S. N. Popov, Air Force Reserve Officer Luganskaya oblast' Kommunarski rayon, Fashevka Station, Mira Alley, Building 2, Apt. 48

WANTED

UFO newscippings. Please Keep them coming. They provide valuable leads for us. We also forward them to Rod Dyke's newscipping service. Though we cannot acknowledge each one individually, they are greatly appreciated. Thanks for your past help.

Are they fallible?

Matching wits with extraterrestrials

By Ron Westrum
MUFON Sociology Consultant

Richard Hall's comments in the January 1975 SKYLOOK on the question of matching wits with the "spacemen" are very interesting. However, I cannot agree with him that we ought to be "throwing in the towel" just because of the possibility of being deceived by the ETIs, or whatever one wishes to call them.

First of all, I must concede that he is correct--in referring to the situation we are actually in--to indicate that the capabilities of the ETIs are not comparable to the Russians. But we do not know HOW far in advance of the Russians. The situation may be closer to the plight of the Aztecs when they first faced Cortez. When the Aztecs first confronted the Spaniards, they thought they were gods; they thought horse and rider were one creature; they were terrified by cannon.

Again, we may be confronting a culture immeasurably advanced beyond our own. But we ought to KNOW this; it should not be an assumption.

ARE THEY GODS?

To the ETIs are often attributed many characteristics formerly reserved for God: in particular, omniscience and omnipotence. If one assumes these attributes are indeed possessed by the ETIs, then if we ARE being deceived by them, throwing in the towel would be justified.

I would like to make the reasonable assumption, however, that they are both intellectually fallible and physically vulnerable--possibly even to weapons that we possess or might soon develop.

I recognize that such a sug-

gestion runs counter to what is probably the belief of most Ufologists; I know it, contradicts the eloquently expressed position of Aime Michel.

Let me quickly assert that I am NOT in favor of a hot war with the ETIs, under conditions that now exist. But we must recognize that we are constantly engaged in a BATTLE FOR INFORMATION with them. I think the statement that we are being kept in the dark and confused by the ETIs in various ways as to their identities, capabilities, and numbers is readily justifiable in terms of sightings of which we are all aware.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

UFO investigation is NOT like ordinary scientific investigation; it is much closer to criminal investigation, in which the object of study tries to deprive the searcher of clues which are needed to figure out what happened.¹

In this sense, we ARE constantly trying to match wits with the ETIs. One can decide for one's self whether the "advances" we have made are due largely to our own efforts, or to increased accessibility of the phenomenon (through closer approaches, etc.).

But this "battle for information," critical as it is, is only part of the story. Our present style of investigation is predicated on one critical assumption: a relatively LOW RATE of various kinds of UFO activity.

This variable is vital to consider, since a change (an increase) in the rate of any one kind of activity could cause immediate changes in social patterns. A dramatic increase might cause the direct and open involvement of the government, and the many persons who like to talk about

"mass hysteria" in relation to UFOs would have a chance to view the real thing at first hand.

So far, the kinds of activity have been closely confined in numbers, time, and geography. Would anyone like to consider what would happen if the events which two summers ago took place in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, were to be generalized to the whole United States?²

Another question. Last December, many of us in MUFON believed that the Air Force was going to come out in that month and admit that UFOs exist. Exactly where this rumor first started, and why, would make an interesting study. I would like to ask, however, what we would have done if this really happened? What if the Air Force claimed UFOs were real, and we were all required, by executive order, to report all sightings not to MUFON but to the Air Force?

I think we ought to begin to consider what we will do if the rates of UFO activity of certain kinds increase. I think we ought to consider what we will do if the ETIs do not rest content with harassing motorists and farmers, but land openly or communicate with us in some unequivocal way.

I think we ought to begin now, in terms of using scenarios and "contingency" plans, to think about what we will do if we are forced to confront the ETIs. A good place to start is science fiction. One probable scenario is Arthur C. Clarke's CHILDHOOD'S END, in which terrestrial culture is crushed, not through military might, but through the sheer weight of cultural superiority.

Our own culture is heavily dependent, for its own sense of self-esteem, on technological superiority. Scientists and

their work have accordingly high status. Clearly, contact with a technologically superior culture might force a change in our emphasis on these values.

One strategy we could adopt, to cope with what might become a very serious problem of our self-image, would be a greater emphasis on those aspects of our culture which are uniquely human. In other words, we might emphasize civilization instead of technology.

It is very likely that humans will have to fight an overwhelming sense of futility, a sense that their own efforts are worthless. Note: this problem can arise even with a "beneficent" culture pledged to a minimal degree of interference.

THEIR SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

I would like to raise another point, which may not be so obvious. This regards the social organization of the ETIs. We often tend to think that they, being technologically more advanced, have a highly organized and disciplined social organization.

Therefore, we interpret flybys, landings, contacts, and so forth as part of a systematic policy: the question is to determine what the policy is.

However, at least two other possibilities ought to be considered: 1) that there is no policy and 2) that much of the behavior that we see is not part of a policy, but the expression of individual impulses, possibly in violation of whatever the policy is.

In the former case, the sole guiding principle for contact with terrestrials might be personal survival. In other words, there would be no restraints on contact except those imposed by the dangers to welfare of the individual ETIs.

The second possibility seems to me the more likely. If there were a policy, it might be obeyed with the same regularity that terrestrials obey the speed

limits. Landing might not be envisaged by overall policy, but might be done anyway for the "kicks" of the individual ETIs.

Therefore, also, those persons who are hurt, killed, or kidnaped by UFOs would essentially represent accidents. This would explain much of the bizarre behavior that led Ivan Sanderson to suggest that the ETIs are insane.³

THE BASIC PROBLEM

But let us return to our basic problem. The need to keep track of various kinds of UFO activity is vital. I would suggest that most of the ways we measure UFO activity are unsatisfactory and ad hoc.

At the lowest level, the person who has no special interest in UFOs gauges activity by how often he reads about UFOs in the newspapers.

At the next level of sophistication, the "buff" thinks in terms of "flaps" of activity, which are defined by UFOlogists in the periodicals like SKY-LOOK. UFOlogists themselves tend to measure activity in terms of the volume of investigations they and other investigators are called upon to make.

Numerical compilations are hardly any better, since they tend to reflect disproportionately those areas which have been highly searched: in other words, they are an artifact of the researcher as much as of the phenomenon. Thus, the excellent research by Ted Bloecher on the 1947 Wave reflects not only UFO activity but also Bloecher's searching.⁴

Those areas of time and place less intensely searched are less represented in the data.

What are needed are "Unobtrusive Measures," measures which register activity independently of the researcher's efforts.⁵

Probably the closest thing to such measures so far have been the Gallup polls of 1966 and 1974, which though they may

have created interest in UFOs, have sampled the population in a way unrelated to UFO activity.

I would suggest a similar source would be small-town newspapers, randomly distributed around the country, checked once a month by people who were not known to the editors as UFO investigators.⁶

What are needed are silent "listening posts" to monitor UFO activities without themselves being conspicuous.⁷

Richard Hall has asked what can be done about deception. Against an omniscient opponent, the answer is, of course, nothing. Until we establish that the ETIs are omniscient, however, there are several rules we can use in studying UFO sightings.

RULE ONE

1) The first rule is: what does the sighting show about CAPABILITIES, as opposed to INTENTIONS? It is much harder to fake capabilities than it is intentions. Instead of trying to interpret what the craft or entities SEEMED to be doing (their motivations or goals), what did the sighting in fact show them to be capable of accomplishing?

RULE TWO

2) The second rule is: be cautious about sightings or patterns of sightings that MAKE SENSE in human terms. Not only may the "sense" involved be erroneous, but it may actually be contrived. In other words, the "obvious" conclusions we draw may be those we are supposed to draw. It is highly likely that the ETIs have evolved models of human society, and are using these models to influence us.⁸

It is probable, however, that these models have a certain crudity, and that therefore they may go a bit too far, and occasionally show the nature of the operation.

(Continued)

RULE THREE

The third and final rule follows directly from number 2: any sighting involving close contact is likely to be an attempt to transmit a particular message. The question that must be asked, then, is: what net impression is the encounter likely to leave, not on the observer, but in the minds of those to whom the encounter is related?

For instance, let us take the typical close-encounter sighting involving at least visual contact with humanoids.⁹

In how many cases do humans "stumble upon" humanoids in the process of "exploring," picking up rocks, or just looking around? Unless one accepts the thrill-seeking hypothesis mentioned earlier, it is hard to believe that these contacts are not contrived.

Simply thinking in terms of the sensors available to the American military now, it is unthinkable that ETIs would not be able to identify the approach of humans to their craft at a distance of several miles, let alone hundreds of feet. Hence it seems likely that the approaches have been, if not planned, at least not undesired.¹⁰

A discordant note is struck, however, by the landing in remote places: the mass of humanity is being avoided by UFO landings. Could it be that the ability to "stage" such events is limited, or involves risks which we do not know? It may be that the management of close contacts cannot be performed for a larger group.

CALCULATED RESULTS?

In any case, I think it highly likely that the net information achieved in each contact has been calculated beforehand. Certainly one of the tasks which the MUFON humanoid panel might set itself is the analysis of the "net impression" of

humanoid contacts, first on a case-by-case basis, then on the basis of the whole sample. What has been the social reaction to these contacts? In what direction has the "push" been?

To those who believe that the ETIs cannot be hostile (after all, they have shown little hostility so far, compared to what they might have done), there is an obvious explanation: ETIs are getting us ready, on a very slow basis, for wider inter-species contacts. Thus the pace of activity increases little by little.

It seems extremely likely that our societies (American, Russian, French, Spanish, etc.) are being monitored for our reaction to contacts, and that the pattern of contacts to come is contingent upon our reaction to the previous contacts.

WHAT'S BEING WATCHED?

Unfortunately, we have no way of knowing what variables in human life are being watched. However, we do have some indication of what is being monitored from close-encounter reports, and it is my belief that a close analysis of the pattern of contact--particularly breaking off of contact--might disclose some interesting patterns of interaction.

Charles Bowen, for instance, noted that the time between breaking off of contact and take-off of the UFO seems to be too short for the "humanoids" to have actually re-entered the craft before take-off in many contact cases.¹¹

Two critical variables that ought to be examined are 1) the number of witnesses 2) closeness of contact--as they show up in the pattern of interaction. Again, this is a task which the humanoid panel might set for itself.

The men-in-black business, I suspect, is partly the result of a desire to give form to our opponents on the other side of this battle for information.

Although some men-in-black reports seem to have some substance behind them,¹² the interest in such reports is much stronger than the phenomenon itself would warrant. After asking for MIB reports from Skylook readers, the result was a few meager reports.¹³

On the other hand, I got more letters asking for information about the MIB reports which all apparently supposed I was receiving. Doubtless some MIB-type harassment does exist; but the lore has by far outrun the phenomenon itself.

It is hard to deal with an opponent that many others do not even believe exists. It is hard to deal with a phenomenon that seems to shed a multiplicity of contradictory cues as to its nature.

It is not surprising that many try to examine such cues in the same way a scientist would try to examine a fossil. Such objectivity is insufficient, however, when the availability and nature of cues is subject to manipulation, particularly by intelligences who have good reason to deceive us. It is as if dinosaurs could choose which skeletons would become fossilized.

The clear implication of contact with non-human advanced intelligence is, however, that the UFO problem is not just a scientific, but also a political problem.

The sooner we start thinking about the political implications of an increased rate of various UFO activities, the better off we will be when these rates dramatically increase.

FOOTNOTES

1. On this point, see M.A.P. Willmer, CRIME AND INFORMATION THEORY. Edinburgh University Press, 1970.

2. See the article by Stan Gordon in the 1974 MUFON Conference Proceedings.

3. Ivan Sanderson, INVISI-

BLE RESIDENTS, New York: Ace Books, 1973.

4. Ted Bloecher, REPORT ON THE WAVE OF 1947. Washington: NICAP, 1967.

5. Eugene J. Webb, et al, UNOBTUSIVE MEASURES: NONREACTIVE RESEARCH IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES. Chicago: Rand McNally, 1966.

6. The reason for the anonymity is obvious: once editors learn one is interested in UFO reports, their propensity to print a report will change.

7. The opportunities available to the intelligence services in this regard are of course much more varied: use of uncorrelated targets on radar screens, photographic satellites, and etc.

8. For a similar example from the espionage field, see J. C. Masterman, THE DOUBLE-CROSS SYSTEM IN THE WAR OF 1939 to 1945. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1972. This book demonstrates the "fine tuning" possible in a really good deception operation.

9. For example, see Charles Bowen, Editor, THE HUMANOIDS. London: Neville Spearman, 1969.

10. There is also the hypothesis that ETIs don't care if humans get near them, either out of a feeling of invulnerability or indifference to their fate. I find this hypothesis hard to swallow.

11. THE HUMANOIDS, pp. 24-25.

12. See the Stan Gordon article in the 1974 MUFON Proceedings, at p. 147 and 148.

13. If any Skylook readers have been the subject of harassment by unknown persons, I would appreciate knowing about it: Ron Westrum, 404 W. Summit, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103.

INFO convention set

The 1975 International Fortean Organization (INFO) convention (Fortfest 75) will be Aug. 8, 9, and 10 at the Sheraton-Oakbrook in Chicago. Paul Willis has announced.

UFO and creature observed in same area in Pennsylvania

By Stan Gordon

At approximately 10 p.m. on the night of May 18, 1975, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Arlotta had just stepped into their car, preparing to leave a relative's home in the Gayville section of Greensburg, PA.

Mrs. Arlotta had just started the car when she noticed a strange object ahead of them in the sky. She called it to the attention of her husband who told her to shut off the car motor so that they could hear if there was any sound.

The object was moving from east to west, and was described as being the apparent size of a cantaloupe. It was bright yellow at the point where the apparent bottom section of the oval-shaped object was formed. Above this area was a darker section, giving the impression that it was actually a part of the object but unlit.

Above the dark section was a row of approximately 6 square windows from which a red light could be seen. After the couple watched the object for about a minute, and since they heard no sound, they called their relatives to come out. A total of 5 witnesses observed the object as it appeared to move straight toward them at an altitude less than a thousand feet.

As it continued on a straight course, it suddenly made an abrupt turn to the left of the witnesses, creating a right angle course. As it made the turn, the object turned from yellow to orange and began to gain altitude at a rapid pace.

The witnesses jumped into their car and proceeded to follow the object. As they continued down a back road they noticed the object as being very small and orange in color. As they turned onto Route 130 they lost sight of it. All together the object was observed

for about 4 minutes.

The next evening at about dusk a lone driver was heading home to Jeanette and was taking a short cut just off of Route 130 when something which was moving to his left caught his attention. He stopped his car and pulled back slightly.

At a distance of a few hundred yards he saw what at first appeared to be a large German Shepherd dog running on fours. However, the movement was more like that of an ape. After several seconds, the creature stood up on two legs and continued to run like a man into a wooded area.

The creature was described as being 7 to 8 feet tall, black, and covered with thick hair. The witness said he was a Bigfoot skeptic before, but now he is a believer. He said that he always felt that if such a creature did exist it might be seen in the wooded areas of Canada, but not in this area.

What is most interesting is that the creature sighting and the UFO sighting the night before took place within a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of each other. There have not been any creature sightings in this area for over a year.

Is it a coincidence, or are the UFO and creature phenomena somehow tied together?

Highly recommended
by SKYLOOK

1973 — Year of the Humanoids
by Dave Webb

\$3.00 from
MUFON
40 Christopher Ct.
Quincy, Ill. 62301



Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL

By the time that you receive this copy of SKYLOOK, the Second Edition of MUFON's Field Investigator's Manual will be ready for distribution. Even though it was prepared specifically for MUFON, it will be used by independent investigators associated with the Center for UFO Studies and may be utilized by all field investigators throughout the world who are conversant with the English language.

The manual is divided into fifteen sections with a total of 132 pages of vital information to UFO researchers. Designed as a standard investigative procedure for all agencies and organizations, it is without a doubt the finest and most thorough publication of its kind published to date.

Raymond E. Fowler (Editor) and his colleagues are to be commended for their exemplary efforts. In order to not only meet our immediate needs and those of the future, we have produced two thousand copies so as to obtain the most favorable cost per copy. As previously announced, the manual is 8½" X 11" loose-leaf with standard

three-punched sheets printed on both sides for insertion in a binder of the investigator's choice.

Since it is basically a MUFON Field Investigator's Manual, those members who have current paid-up memberships will receive the manual at cost plus postage and handling. Independent Investigators for the Center for UFO Studies who are not MUFON members will pay slightly more, with a third price to all others. This is a fantastic value for everyone at the following postage-paid prices:

Current MUFON Members--	\$2.00
Center for UFO Studies--	3.00
All others	--4.00

All orders prior to August 1, 1975, should be mailed with a check payable to MUFON, 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, IL 62301 U.S.A.; thereafter they should be addressed to MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX. 78155 U.S.A.

The change of address of the MUFON Administrative Office will not present a problem since arrangements have been made to have all mail forwarded to Seguin, Texas, after August 1, 1975. First Class mail is automatically forwarded without

additional postage; however, MUFON will have to pay added postage costs for third and fourth class mail to receive the forwarding. During this transition period, important correspondence and material should be mailed first class.

STATE-SECTION DIRECTORS

During the past month, MUFON has increased its penetration with the selection of three new state-section directors representing the three additional states of Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming, bringing the total in the United States to forty-three.

Bryan Charles Burchard, chief machinist mate in the U. S. Navy, has volunteered to organize the Idaho counties of Booneville, Bingham, Bannock, Caribou, Teton, Madison and Jefferson. Chuck, with his wife, resides at 134 8th St., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401; telephone: AC 208 524-2621. He has been directly involved in nuclear propulsion of submarines for the past fourteen years.

Readers familiar with Frank Salisbury's book THE UTAH UFO DISPLAY: A BIOLOGIST'S REPORT

and the Uintah Basin UFO sightings will immediately recognize the name of Joseph Junior Hicks, our new state-section director for Uintah, Duchesne, and Daggett counties in Utah. Junior, a school teacher, may be contacted by writing to Box 591, Roosevelt, Utah 84066; telephone: AC 801 722-3317. Junior is to be commended for his outstanding investigations and reporting conducted in the Uintah Basin area.

Robert Nantkes, P.O. Box 428, Riverton, Wyoming 82501; telephone: AC 307 856-5073, who was very involved with R. Leo Sprinkle in the recently reported Carl Higdon occupant case, has been appointed state-section director for Fremont County. Bob has a masters degree and is a rehabilitation counselor.

Ed Planz, state director for Alabama, is pleased to announce that J. Richard Clark, 509 Conway Lane, Birmingham, AL 35210; Telephone: AC 205 591-3710, has volunteered to serve as state-section director for Jefferson and Shelby counties. Richard has his B.A. from East Carolina University in geography. His former intelligence service experience will be an asset in his UFO investigations.

Due to the added responsibilities incurred as president of the Center for UFO Studies, Sherman J. Larsen, MUFON state-section director for Cook County in Illinois, is relinquishing his direct MUFON assignment after nearly six years. George E. Ostrowski, 15520 Champlain, South Holland, Illinois 60473; telephone: AC 312 331-4057; has assumed this position effective May 24, 1975. George is a physicist at the Argonne National Laboratory and has a B.S. in both Mechanical Engineering and Physics. He is an amateur radio operator K9PAW and "reports in" regularly each Saturday morning at 8 a.m. CDST to the MUFON Amateur Radio Net operating on 3.975 MHz. George has also been serv-

ing as MUFON's liaison representative to the Center for UFO Studies.

Robert Smulling, state director for Illinois, has appointed Melvin Pool, 850 North 36th Street, Quincy, IL 62301; telephone: AC 217 223-8355 as state-section director for Adams County to replace A. S. Petzoldt. Mel is also vice chairman of the Tri-State UFO Study Group.

NEW CONSULTANT

Wallace H. Tucker, Ph.D., P. O. Box 266, Bonsall, CA. 92003; telephone: AC 714 728-4431 has volunteered to serve as a consultant in astrophysics and field investigator. He comes to MUFON highly recommended by David Webb and Peter Sturrock.

LEGAL ADVISOR

The MUFON Board of Legal Advisors has been expanded to include Richard D. Ballou, an attorney-at-law, R. D. #1, Honesdale, PA 18431; telephone: AC 717 253-2088, who is also interested in interplanetary communication.

He is working very closely with Edwin E. Bailey, state-section director for Wayne and Pike counties, who has recently organized an effective field investigative team with many diversified technical disciplines involved.

CORPORATE MEETING

The Annual Corporate Meeting of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON) will be held Sunday, July 6, 1975, from 9 a.m. to noon in conjunction with the 1975 MUFON UFO SYMPOSIUM at the Holiday Inn Downtown-Towers in Des Moines, Iowa. All MUFON members are invited to attend so as to express their opinions and exercise their voting privileges.

The MUFON Board of Directors is made up of fifteen (15) people who serve in very vital

roles in the direction of the organization. As a "grass roots" organization, the most important people are the field investigators and their immediate state-section directors.

The four major officers on the board--director, deputy director, corporate secretary and treasurer--are elected annually by the Board of Directors. Other specialized directors are selected and appointed, with the Board's approval, for an extended term of office.

In order to obtain geographical representation on the Board, four new Board positions have been established which are of an elective nature, titled "regional directors." North America has been divided geographically into four regions: Eastern U. S., Central U.S., Western U.S., and Canada. Mexico will have a regional director when that nation becomes fully organized.

Basically the Eastern Region consists of the states on the Atlantic seaboard as far west as Ohio (18 States). The Western Region covers the Pacific coast, mountain States, Alaska and Hawaii (13 States). The remaining nineteen states compose the Central United States Region, including Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee. The Canadian regional director will represent the ten provinces and two territories in Canada.

The regional director will be elected from the current state or provincial directors for the region encompassed as indicated above at the MUFON Annual Corporate Meeting. Nominations will be submitted by the retiring Regional Director after polling the MUFON members in the region.

Each regional director's term will be two years, except for the year 1975-76 when two will be elected for one year in order to start the rotation. A nominating committee from each region will be appointed prior to the Annual Meeting on July 6, 1975.



In Others' Words

By Lucius Forish

The NATIONAL ENQUIRER's most recent articles pertaining to UFOs have included: Prince Philip's interest in the UFO subject (April 29 issue), a radar/visual sighting in New York (May 6 issue), more on the Siberian "meteorite" of 1908 and actor Warren Oates' sighting report (both in the May 13 issue).

The May 4 issue of NATIONAL TATTLER contained an interview with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, in which he speculated that UFO occupants are very probably "computerized, programmed robots."

NATIONAL STAR for April 26 contained a small item on recent N.C. reports and the May 3 issue of STAR described the attempts of various psychics to contact UFO beings.

A Canadian contact story with intriguing similarities to the Pascagoula, Miss., case is presented by B. Ann Slate in the June issue of SAGA. The transcripts from hypnotic regression sessions are well worth reading.

The June issue of FATE contains Part 1 of a two-part interview of UFO skeptic Philip J. Klass by George W. Earley. Even though Klass' theories are sadly lacking, it is still of interest to learn how he thinks. In addition to Part 2 of the interview in the July FATE, Dr. Hynek will have a review/article of Klass' latest book, UFOs EXPLAINED.

Peter Kolosimo's TIMELESS EARTH is now available in a Bantam paperback. Other recent paperbacks (all of which will be reviewed in future columns) include: THE DEVIL'S SEA by Elizabeth Nichols (Award Books) - THE MOON: OUTPOST OF THE GODS by Jean Sendy (Berkley Books) - UFOs AND THEIR MISSION IMPOSSIBLE by Dr. Clifford Wilson (Signet Books) - THE MYSTERIOUS PAST by Robert Charroux (Berkley

Books) - COLONY: EARTH by Richard E. Mooney (Fawcett Books).

UFO researcher/publisher R. Michael Rasmussen has recently brought out a revised and updated edition of his UFO BIBLIOGRAPHY. This is a 24-page effort, selling for \$2.00. Obviously, no listing of this size can be all-inclusive, considering the number of UFO books, booklets and pamphlets which have been published during the past 28 years, but this is a nicely-done survey of the better-known UFO tomes. Rasmussen welcomes comments, criticisms and additional listings of titles from the readers. The BIBLIOGRAPHY may be ordered from: Rasmussen Publications - P. O. Box 2656 - La Mesa, CA 92041.

A recent Bantam paperback by Carl Sagan, OTHER WORLDS, might be described as a watered-down version of Sagan's previous book, THE COSMIC CONNECTION. If you're familiar with the author's writings and utterances on space travel, extraterrestrial life, UFOs, von Daniken, etc., you'll find very little new material in this book. It does contain a wide variety of photos, illustrations, cartoons and other items of interest. Of course, when Sagan says such things as "I don't know why UFOs are never sighted over large cities by hordes of people" and "The reliable (UFO) cases are uninteresting and the interesting cases are unreliable," one has to wonder about the accuracy of anything else he might say! But, what the heck, it'll probably be good for a few more appearances on the "Tonight" show. If you want the book, it can be ordered from Bantam Books, Inc. 666 Fifth Avenue - N.Y., N.Y. 10019 for \$1.95.

Anyone who has read my reviews of previous books by John A.

Keel will realize that, to say the least, I do not always agree with Keel's ideas on UFOs. Having read his latest book, THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES, I still see no good reason to change my former opinions. I will say, however, that the "personal narrative" style of writing employed by Keel in this latest book makes for interesting and entertaining reading. Keel says what he has always said--there are no physical spaceships from the stars; merely "transmogrifications of energy under the control of some unknown extradimensional intelligence." While I would be the last to deny such a possibility, it is very difficult for me to reconcile such a view with the TOTAL UFO evidence. But, theories and dissensions aside, I do recommend a wide reading for Keel's latest opus. Primarily, it is the story of his investigations of Mothman, UFOs, contactees and "Men in Black" in West Virginia during 1966 and '67. It will give you much food for thought. The book is published by Saturday Review Press, 201 Park Avenue South - N.Y., N.Y. 10003; the price is \$7.95.

Beautiful afghan to be raffled

Beautiful heirloom quality, large afghan will be raffled at the annual UFO picnic at Lake Carlyle, IL. on Aug. 17, 1975. Winner need not be present.

To receive a chance send \$1.00 and your name, address, and zip code to UFO Study Group, P. O. Box 6631, St. Louis, MO. 63125.

International Coordinator Richard Hall announces plans, requests assistance



Richard Hall

I am pleased to accept the position of MUFON International Coordinator, and will attempt to build on the solid foundation established by Joe Brill. I am presently studying the resumes of the overseas representatives and members, whose continued support and help is invited. Contributions of UFO reports, news clippings, and commentaries on governmental policies and private activities will be welcome. I will endeavor to correspond regularly, but please remember that I am a "weekend warrior"; there are many of you, but only one of me.

My plan is to work through foreign embassies in Washington and through the Department of State to enlarge the network of overseas representatives and correspondents. Any MUFON members who are willing and able to do translation work, please send me a post card indicating the languages you can translate.

I particularly invite from members in other countries a list or chronology of significant cases that have occurred in your country, regardless of date. Please include date, location (latitude and longitude if possible), and brief description. Please indicate how much investigation has been accomplished and what kind of documentation exists in each case. It

is my conviction that an international perspective on UFOs is essential, and I will work toward compiling a world-wide overview of case reports.

Richard Hall, 4418 39th Street, Brentwood, MD 20722

Astronomy conference program includes extraterrestrial life

A session on extraterrestrial life and intelligence will be a feature of a major joint conference on amateur astronomy scheduled Aug. 7-10, at the Golden Gateway Hotel in San Francisco.

Aug. 10 has been designated Extraterrestrial Intelligence Day for the WAA/ALPO/AANC joint conference, according to Terence Terman, chairman of the ETI session and papers editor for the conference.

Dr. Jacques Vallee of the Institute for the Future will serve on the ETI discussion panel along with Dr. John Billingham of NASA/AMES and Dr. Barney Oliver of Hewlett-Packard. Dr. Harold Weaver of the University of California Berkeley Astronomy Department will serve as moderator.

Anyone attending the conference may submit a paper for consideration. Only abstracts (approximately 110 words) need to be sent in advance, and those on UFOs must reach Paul Cerny, MUFON, P.O. Box 1072, Mt. View, CA 94042, by Aug. 2. Cerny will evaluate all papers on UFOs, and papers given at the conference will be retyped and printed in the conference proceedings.

Registration fees for the conference are \$7 for individuals and \$8 for a family. Field trips are extra. Additional information is available from Frank A. Miller, 779 Montecito Center, Santa Rosa, CA 95405.

Denmark photo

Through the Danish magazine UFO CONTACT (IGAP JOURNAL), we have learned additional details concerning alleged UFO photos taken by Mr. Jorma Viita in the vicinity of Odense, Denmark. (see SKYLOOK issues of November, 1974; December, 1974; February, 1975; and March, 1975.

The additional information indicates that Mr. Viita has continued to see and photograph UFOs--at least 16 times, according to reports which may not be entirely up to date.

These photos have indicated many different types of UFOs, including one similar to the famous June 1, 1967, photo from Spain (what appears to be the letter "H" with a cross marking on the bottom).

The photographer is 24 years old, from Finland, works in Odense as a carpenter, became interested in UFOs in 1966 after reading Adamski's INSIDE THE SPACE SHIPS, is a subscriber to a Finnish UFO magazine, and reportedly is not interested in publicity.

He reports that he goes out looking for UFOs at least once a week, and sometimes two or three times a week. On only one occasion were there other witnesses (June 22, 1974).

The multiple sightings reported will automatically cause some persons in the UFO field to write off these experiences.

These reports, like other unusual reports, should be studied and analysed. If one photo can be shown to be a fake, then all should be suspect. With at least 16 sightings and even more individual photos to work with, a hoax should prove more difficult.

As part of the effort to learn more about these sightings, we are continuing efforts to contact the German and Japanese witnesses to the June 22, 1974, sighting. Additional detailed information will be printed in a future issue of SKYLOOK.

Can weather radar photos verify sightings?

by David Branch
Santa Ana Register

(Copyright 1975 by David Branch)

A leading meteorologist and aerospace scientist thinks weather radar photographs taken in the U.S. should be scanned for unidentified flying objects.

Dr. Joachim P. Kuettner, a former senior scientist at the Air Force Cambridge Research Center, Mass., outlined his startling suggestions on Jan. 20 at a meeting in Pasadena sponsored by the prestigious American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA).

Kuettner is currently working on scientific projects for the World Meteorological Organization, Bracknell, Berkshire, England.

Referring to the problem of improving UFO case studies, Kuettner said: "Many people have discussed various schemes and we have done the same in our committee (the UFO Committee of the AIAA).

"Most of these schemes... are too costly and require major support. We have, however, come up with one relatively inexpensive idea...

"If we remember...that about 20 per cent of all unidentified flying object cases are 'close encounters' including landings, the possibility arises to confirm these reports by actual radar records."

Kuettner says that 80 per cent of the U.S. is covered by weather radars that may detect UFOs.

"The National Weather Service operates approximately 100 weather radars 24 hours a day in the United States to provide information to the various forecasting, warning and climatological centers," he said. "Photographs of the...scopes are taken once every hour during fair weather and once every

40 seconds during severe weather. They are stored at the facility of the Environmental Data Service in Asheville, N.C.

"The radars have range modes of 125 and 250 mile radius... The 250-mile range provides about 65 per cent coverage of the air space volume up to 40,000 feet over the entire United States.

"The corresponding figures for the 125-mile range is about 28 per cent. Overlapping coverage would increase the figures to a maximum of 80 per cent."

Kuettner believes that a complete search of the radar photographs for anomalous speeds and flight paths indicating UFOs would be too expensive. But he does think that the relatively small cost for certain selected studies, in terms of money and effort, would be worthwhile in cases involving close UFO approaches.

"For example," he said, "In the well-publicized case of Captain (Larry) Coyne and his helicopter crew a double target may be found." (Coyne's helicopter was reportedly buzzed by a mysterious cigar-shaped object with a dome at 11 p.m., Oct. 18, 1973. The grey, metallic looking object, about 60 feet long, stopped directly over the helicopter, which was returning to Cleveland Hopkins Airport from Columbus, Ohio. The helicopter for unknown reasons suddenly gained nearly 2,000 feet in altitude.) A double target on radar-scope photos would offer tangible confirmation of the helicopter crew's report, and might add additional details about the UFO itself.

"A possible drawback of this approach," Kuettner said, "is the lack of good radar coverage at low levels (where most 'close-encounters' occur) due to the curved earth geometry. Furthermore, best radar cover-

age is available during bad weather while the unidentified cases are favored by clear weather, according to available statistics.

"Nevertheless," Kuettner concluded, "the effort is small and inexpensive, and no major support is required. If it is unsuccessful, nothing is lost, but if it is successful it may add a powerful data piece to specific case studies. This information may already exist but has not been recovered."

Dr. Kuettner's serious approach to the UFO problem, and his suggestions for improving case data, carry special weight because of his background. From 1958 to 1960 he was director of the Mercury-Redstone rocket project for the U. S. Army Ballistic Missile Agency; he worked at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in 1960 and 1961, and was a deputy director of Saturn-Apollo rocket systems, 1962-1965; he was chief space scientist of the National Environmental Satellite Center, Wash., D.C., 1965-1967; and in 1967 he became director of Advanced Research Projects for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Michigan picnic scheduled for June 22

The first Michigan MUFON Picnic has been scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 22, at the home of Bob Stinson, 2903 Sheffield Court, Ann Arbor.

This will be a family affair, and guests are requested to bring meat to barbeque, plus "a dish to pass." Bob requests that those planning to attend contact him (phone 313-994-0927) so that the food dishes can be coordinated. A donation of \$1.50 per adult or \$2.50 for a family will be collected for drinks and other expenses.

1975 MUFON Symposium program described

The 1975 Mutual UFO Network Symposium on Saturday, July 5, at Des Moines, Iowa, will get underway at 8 a.m. with registration and the opening of exhibits. The theme of this year's program is "UFO's--Search for a Scientific Breakthrough."

The morning session will open at 9:00 with a welcome by Symposium Co-chairman Forrest Lundberg on behalf of the Mid-Iowa UFOlogists, hosts of this year's symposium (Dr. Desmond Bragg is the other co-chairman). Mufon Director Walt Andrus is scheduled to extend greetings from 9:10 to 9:20.

The first featured speaker, Dr. David M. Jacobs, APRO consultant and author of *THE UFO CONTROVERSY IN AMERICA*, will present "An Expanded Vision of UFO Research" from 9:20 to 10:30.

Following coffee break, the second featured speaker, Sherman Larsen, president of the Center for UFO Studies, will speak on "The Center for UFO Studies and the UFO Central Situation."

Lunch will be from noon until 1:30 p.m., with special luncheons scheduled for Amateur Radio (Dr. Willard P. Armstrong, moderator) and for MUFON Consultants (James McCampbell, moderator).

The afternoon session will get underway at 1:30 with a talk by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, member of the National Enquirer UFO Blue Ribbon Panel and APRO Consultant, on "UFO Research; Problem or Predicament?"

At 2:30 p.m., Ted Bloecher, MUFON state-section director and Skylook staff member, will speak on "A Catalog of Humanoid Reports for 1974."

Following coffee break, Specialization Workshops will be offered on "Landing Case Traces," conducted by Ted Phillips, MUFON specialization co-

ordinator, associate to the Center for UFO Studies, and Skylook staff member; "Humanoids," conducted by Ted Bloecher; "Propulsion Methods," conducted by John F. Schuessler, deputy director of MUFON, aerospace engineer, and Skylook staff member; and "Instrumentation" (to be announced).

Dinner is scheduled from 5:45 to 7:15 by advance registration.

The evening session will feature a talk by James M. McCampbell, MUFON director of research and author of *UFOLOGY--NEW INSIGHTS FROM SCIENCE AND COMMON SENSE*, on "Interpreting Reports of UFO Sightings."

A panel critique featuring symposium speakers and a question and answer period is scheduled for 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. to wind up the symposium.

The annual MUFON corporation meeting for MUFON members only will be held Sunday morning from 9:00 to noon.

Sunday afternoon will feature a workshop session entitled "Techniques Employed in Field Investigations and the New Field Investigator's Manual." Moderators will include Ted Phillips, Ted Bloecher, Ron Westrum, John Schuessler, and Walt Andrus. The session will last from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Each speaker's presentation, plus additional papers, will be published in the Proceedings of the Sixth Annual (1975) Symposium. The 1975 Proceedings will be available at the Symposium for \$4.00, or by mail after July 5 for \$4.50 in the U.S. and Canada, and \$5.00 in other countries.

Advance Symposium reservations may be secured by writing to Mid-Iowa UFOlogists, Forrest R. Lundberg, treasurer, Apt. 2, 3215 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312. The cost for all sessions and the banquet is \$15.00.

Motel reservations should be made by contacting the Holiday Inn of Des Moines Downtown-Towers, 1-235 and 6th Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309 (telephone 515-283-0151). Reservations may also be made through your nearest Holiday Inn. Be sure to tell the Holiday Inn that you want one of the 175 rooms blocked off for the Symposium.

1974 MUFON UFO SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

"UFO's—An Issue Whose Time Has Almost Come" By Ralph Blum

"Religion and UFO's: The Extra-sensory Problem" by Barry H. Downing, Ph.D.

"UFO Trace-landing Cases" by Ted Phillips

"Journey Into the Hill Star Map" by Marjorie E. Fish

"Saucers, PSI and Psychiatry" by Berthold E. Schwarz, M.D.

"Flying Saucers and Physics" by Stanton T. Friedman

"UFO's, in Relation to Creature Sightings in Pennsylvania" by Stan Gordon

1973 MIDWEST UFO SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

"UFO Flight Characteristics" presented by John F. Schuessler

"Landing Traces, Physical Evidence for the UFO" presented by Ted Phillips

"Vision, Photography & UFO's" presented by Adrian Vance

"Ufology and the Search for Extraterrestrial Life" presented by Stanton T. Friedman

"The Embarrassment of Riches" presented by Dr. J. Allen Hynek

"Some Questions Concerning Dr. Menzel's Biblical Exegesis" submitted paper by Dr. Barry H. Downing

For the 1974 or 1973 MUTUAL UFO SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS, send \$3.25 (\$4.00 outside the United States or Canada) by check or money order, to MUFON UFO NETWORK, INC., 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill. 62301, U.S.A.

Recapping and commenting

By Richard Hall

(This column is directed towards articles appearing in the April, 1974, edition of SKYLOOK).

Many of the UFO reports in this issue include recurring features worthy of some special research. Are there MUFON members who would be willing to compile chronologies of them as an aid to research? The features include electromagnetic effects on aircraft, UFOs emitting light beams, UFOs with colored body lights (not patterned), UFOs with secondary objects ("satellite objects," usually smaller than the main object).

Of special interest is the April 6, 1974, Los Altos, California cylindrical object causing turbulence in surrounding fog, emitting "lightning-like reflections," and moving with erratic bursts of speed before departing upwards at a sharp angle. This report has much in common with Vallee's Type II ("Cloud Cigar") as described in CHALLENGE TO SCIENCE (p. 34, 54-55). There a 1964 case is reported in which the UFO was "almost boiling out" wisps of smoke, emitting a flash of light, and abruptly darting forward at one point.

In THE TRUTH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS (p. 146-151), Aime Michel reports the October 17 & 27, 1952, "cloud cigars" with satellite objects observed over Oloron and Gaillac, France, including falls of "angel's hair." The secondary objects displayed what appeared to be electric arc flashes between pairs and moved with bursts of speed in zig-zags. In both cases the larger UFOs were cylindrical (as opposed to elliptical or spindle-shaped). A sketch of the phenomenon appears opposite page 194 (Figure 27) and makes an

interesting comparison to the sketch in SKYLOOK.

Michel's FLYING SAUCERS AND THE STRAIGHT-LINE MYSTERY contains a number of references to "cloud cigars"--a loosely applied designation since the UFOs are sometimes spherical or disc-like. However, the elongated UFOs (cylindrical or spindle-shaped) with associated turbulence, clouds or wisps of smoke, sometimes a rumbling sound, and often accompanied by smaller objects, constitute a body of reports with a strong family resemblance.

Not to be overlooked is the similarity to tornado phenomena (turbulent clouds, rumbling, luminous phenomena). In STRANGE PHENOMENA, William Corliss reprints an account from SCIENCE Sept. 9, 1966, of a tornado with "electric blue light" (of, violet-blue light in French UFO cases), balls of light emanating from the cone of the tornado, etc. "The lights darting around in the clouds were sort of luminous and appeared to be more round in shape than anything else...they were above a dense layer of clouds, and bluish white in color...they were shooting around." (Corliss GLD-015).

Weather Bureau data for April 6, 1974, around Los Altos, California, would be particularly valuable for analyzing that UFO case.

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Astronomy Notes

By Mark Herbstritt

JULY SKY

Mercury--it is greatest western elongation on the 4th, so for a few days at this time it may be seen very low in the east just before sunrise.

Venus--now closing towards the sun, it is noticeably lower in the sky at sunset, but brighter than before; greatest brilliancy is on the 21st.

Mars--is in Aries. It rises about midnight and dominates this part of the sky during the early morning hours.

Jupiter--is in Pisces. It rises about an hour before midnight.

Saturn--it is too close to the sun for easy observation, conjunction being on the 15th.

The Delta Aquarid meteor shower reaches maximum on July 29.

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Merrill B. Taylor

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