



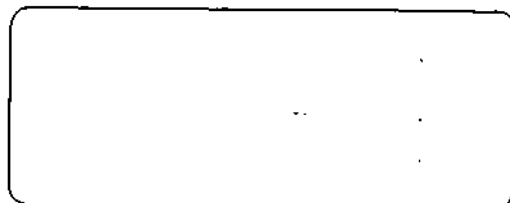
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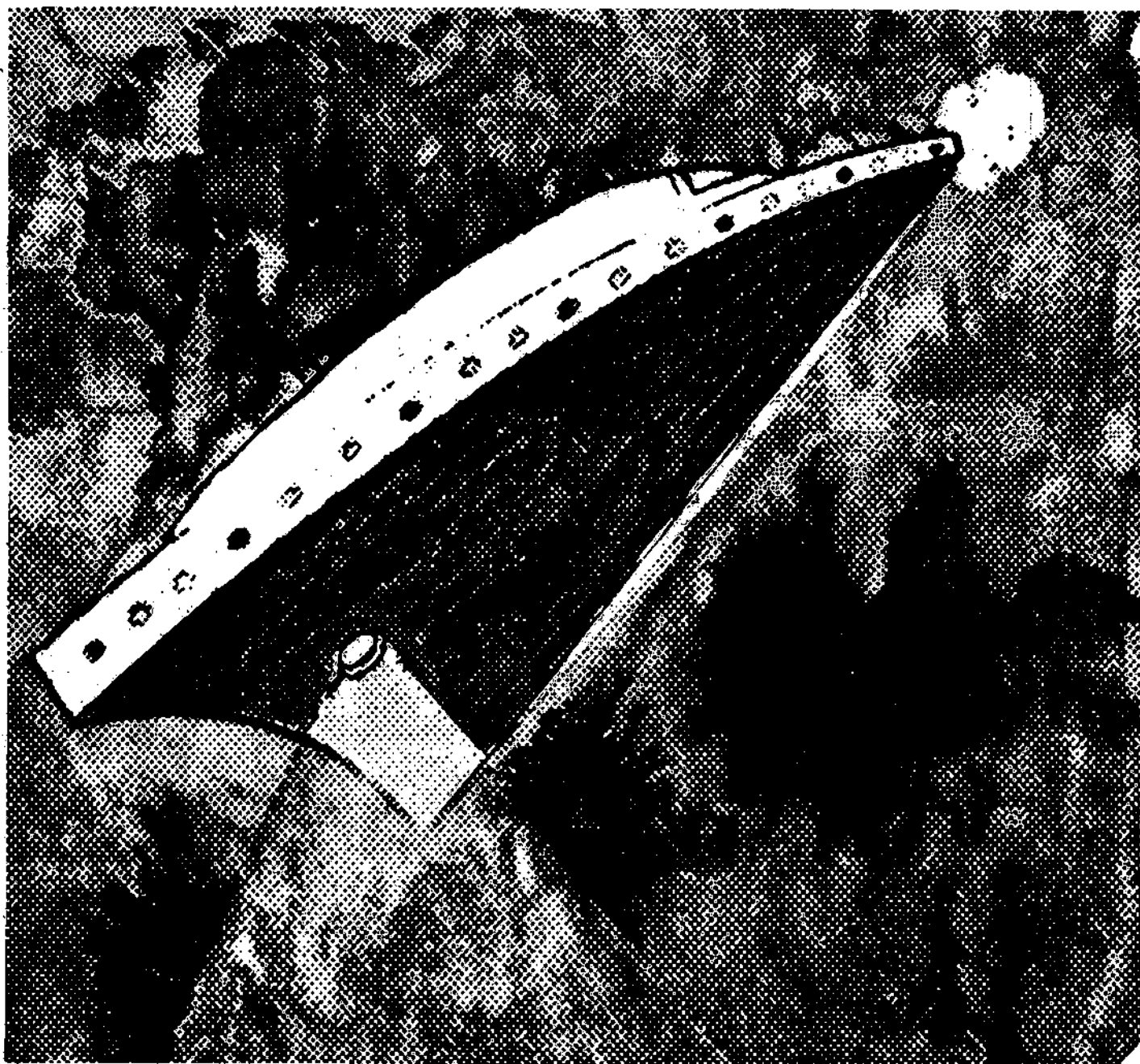
Number 90

May, 1975

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This sketch represents an artist's conception of one of the UFOs reported recently in North Carolina. Highlighting the rash of sightings was a reported landing near Pembroke, N.C.,

on April 6. The complete story begins on page 3. (Art by John Prince)

"We tell it as it is"

SKYLOOK

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Editor's Column

As announced in Director Walt Andrus' column, Joe Brill has resigned as MUFON's international coordinator, effective May 31.

We would be remiss if we did not publicly express our appreciation for the fine work which Joe has done. It has been a difficult task to develop reliable contacts throughout the world. The frustrations of such a task are probably not appreciated by those who have not been in direct contact with Joe's daily efforts.

Joe will continue as a member of the Skylook staff, devoting most of his time to writing his well-known column, "UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain."

Taking Joe's place as MUFON's

international coordinator will be another member of Skylook's staff, Richard Hall. As a former assistant director of NICAP and editor of the excellent book, THE UFO EVIDENCE, Dick brings an extensive UFO background to his new position.

He will continue to write his perceptive column for Skylook, "Recapping and Commenting." Since Dick wrote the column as a "freelancer" for a while, there has been no official announcement of his joining the Skylook staff. This appointment was made official shortly before he was asked by MUFON to assume the duties as international coordinator. So, Dick, this is an official welcome to both positions.

In This Issue

UFO landing reported near Pembroke, North Carolina	3
CIA declassifies Robertson Panel Report	6
Details on Air Force 'unknowns' still incomplete	8
Object falls from sky and hits tractor	8
Youths report UFO over school grounds	9
MUFON Director's Message	10
UFO, tracks, animal reactions, electric shock in Illinois	12
UFO's escort pilot near Mexico City	14
In Others' Words	15
UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain	16
Bradenton, Florida, area reports several sightings	17
West Virginia family says UFO hovered over their home	18
1975 MUFON Symposium program described	19
Recapping and Commenting	20
Astronomy Notes	20

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Landing reported in N. Carolina

DATES OF SIGHTINGS: April 3, 4, 5, 6, 1975. etc.

LOCATIONS OF SIGHTINGS: Lumberton and Pembroke, N.C., and surrounding areas.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: THE ROBESONIAN and THE LUMBERTON POST of Lumberton, N.C. (MUFON investigators Lee Spiegel and Ted Phillips were at the scene, but no formal written reports have been submitted by them thus far.) The news stories, sketches and photo were obtained by SKYLOOK staff member Joe Brill; the article was written by Dwight Connelly.

An alleged UFO landing near Pembroke, N.C., on April 6 has been the high point thus far in a rash of sightings in the five counties of Robeson, Cumberland, Hoke, Sampson, and Bladen in the southeastern section of the state.

The first reported sighting was on Wednesday, April 3, at 1:45 a.m. when Lumberton police officers Phil Stanton, Neil McCormick, and P. H. Atkinson saw a V-shaped "thing" moving 200-300 feet above the ground.

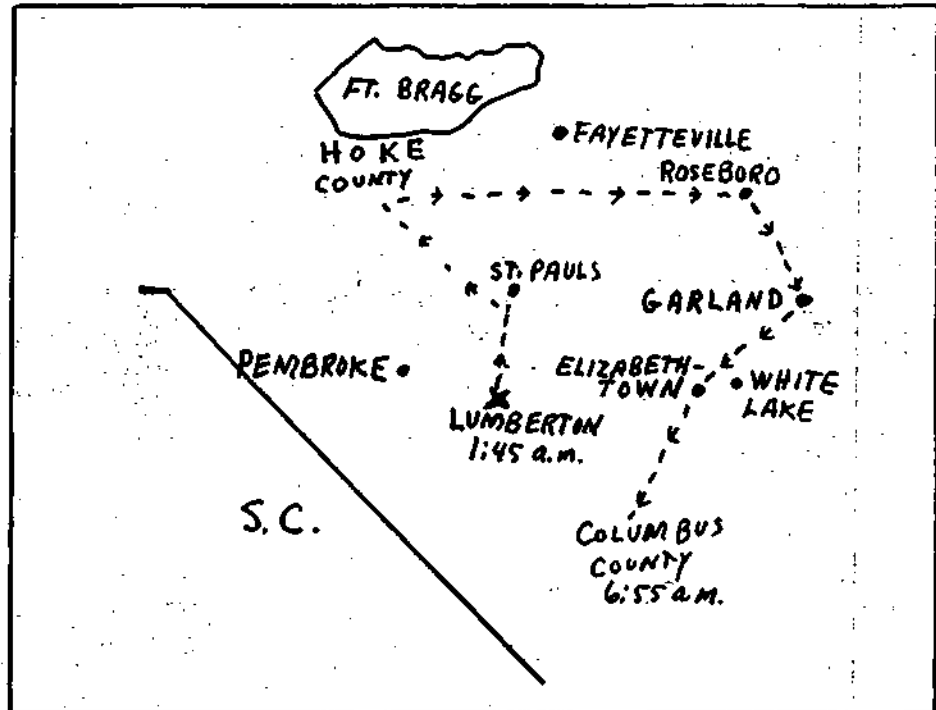
RED LIGHTS

The "craft" was described as having a row of red lights on one side and a row of green lights on the other. The object also had two spotlights, according to the officers.

Police at St. Pauls, 15 miles north of Lumberton, were contacted and told to be on the alert for the object, which was moving in their direction. Officers R. T. Higgins and John McPasson sighted the object two miles south of St. Pauls.

The two said they saw a blinding flash of light which, according to McPherson, "just lit up the woods like a giant flash bulb." He said it was something like an explosion.

McPherson said he could see



the outline of trees silhouetted against the light, leading him to believe the object was hovering near the ground or was on the ground.

The two witnesses spotted the object two additional times, about 20 feet off the ground and later as it zoomed to about 300 feet. The speed was estimated at 200 m.p.h.

The fields and woods around the sighting area were inspected later, but nothing was found. McPherson said it had been stormy, but it was not raining at the time he saw the craft. He said the object was about the size of a twin-engine Cessna and made no sound.

IN HOKE COUNTY

Following the sighting near St. Pauls, the object was reported in Hoke County, northwest of St. Pauls and home of the Ft. Bragg Military Reservation. Hoke County officers also described the object as V-shaped and lighted.

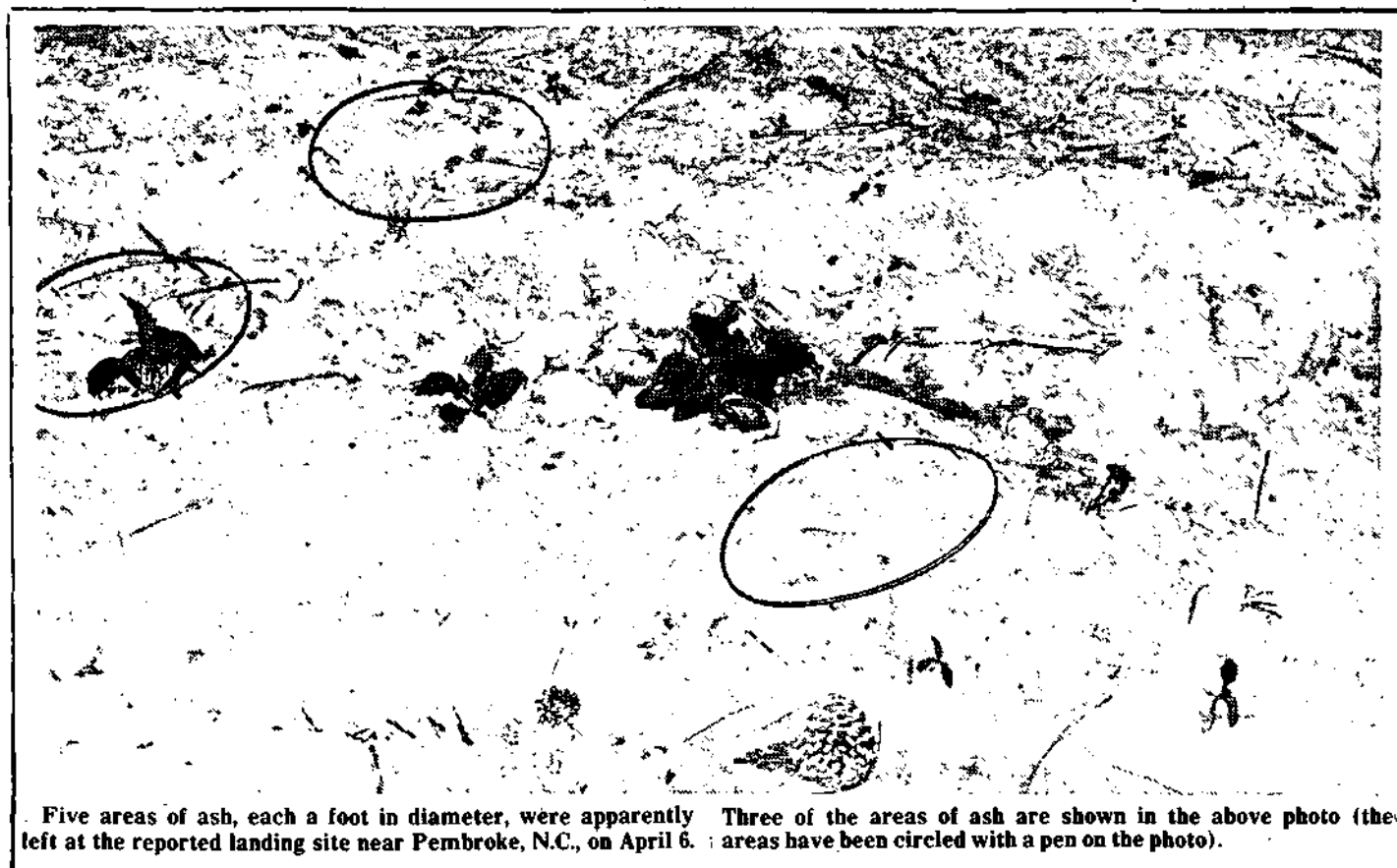
From Hoke, the object--fol-

lowed by officers--traveled into Cumberland County, east of Hoke County. From Cumberland County the object continued east to Roseboro in Sampson County.

A Roseboro police officer, Jim Driver, said the object slowly passed over him about 100 feet above the ground, making no noise. When he got out of his car, he said a spotlight came on, intensified, and the craft took off at high speed. He said he followed the craft to Garland, 14 miles southeast, where he discontinued the chase.

The craft was reported at Elizabethtown in Bladen County, 24 miles due east of Lumberton, about 45 minutes later. Police Officer Bullock confirmed the sighting in Elizabethtown, and citizens claimed the object's searchlights bathed the town in light.

From Elizabethtown the object moved to the south, where it was sighted in Columbus County at about 6:55 a.m., five minutes before sunrise. This was



Five areas of ash, each a foot in diameter, were apparently Three of the areas of ash are shown in the above photo (the left at the reported landing site near Pembroke, N.C., on April 6. areas have been circled with a pen on the photo).

the last report.

Weather conditions for the Lumberton area on the night of the sightings featured a violent thunderstorm and "particularly vivid" lightning flashes. High winds, driving rain, and intense lightning lasted several hours, including part of the time of the UFO observations.

The Fayetteville airport in Cumberland County reportedly had no radar contact with any UFO during the period of the sightings.

Ronald Thompson, a dispatcher with the Robeson County Sheriff Department and a UFO enthusiast, said he did not give any description of the UFO when notifying other police units, and that he was "amazed" at the similarity of descriptions radioed back to him.

Thompson said he contacted air bases and airfields as far away as Myrtle Beach, but none reported having planes in the area. A spokesman for the Fed-

eral Aviation Administration initially said the UFO sightings were of a Piedmont Airlines Boeing Delta jet making test runs. Later the FAA reversed this statement, saying there were no airplanes in the area at the time of the sightings.

REPORTS CONTINUE

On the evening of Thursday, April 3, the sighting reports continued, with eight law officers and numerous citizens allegedly making observations. Some of the citizen reports were admitted hoaxes, however.

A possible landing was reported in Robeson County on NC 74 at 1:45 a.m. (April 4) near the residence of Evander Parnell. Parnell said a craft appeared to have been on the ground in a wooded area, and it reportedly rose to a height of 300 feet, then disappeared.

The sighting reports continued on Friday evening, April

4, as dispatcher Thompson allegedly saw a flying object at 9:15 p.m. in the Midway community. He said the object approached from the southeast and then stopped and hovered about 300 feet away.

Thompson says he shut off his engine and flashed his headlights at the craft, and that the object flashed a searchlight back before taking off in a westerly direction behind some trees.

TWO SEARCHLIGHTS

Thompson described the craft as being 30 feet in diameter and having two searchlights, one on the bottom and one on the front. He said the V-shaped object was also illuminated from the inside. It made no noise.

Also on Friday, at White Lake, eight miles east of Elizabethtown, Police Chief Gary Moore reported that he was driving a lakeside road about

50 m.p.h. when a UFO came down and "the whole side of the road lit up like it was daylight."

Moore says he continued about 300 yards before stopping his car and getting out. "I looked in the air and the light was so bright I had to look back." He then got his binoculars out and looked at the object. "Then I got an airplane landing light that I carry in my patrol car," he related, "and I shined it up there. I blinked the light and it blinked back."

ANOTHER GOOD LOOK

Moore says he "took another good look at it with the binoculars" before the object moved west toward Lumberton. He said he followed it about two miles, going as fast as 85 m.p.h. in his patrol car, but "it left me."

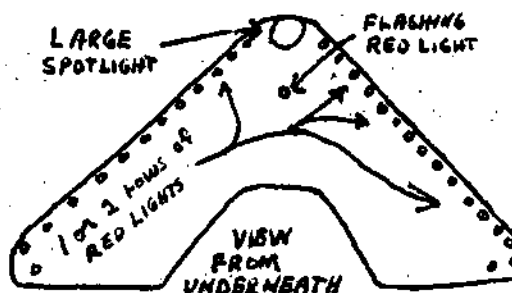
He said that after the object blinked its light it "went straight up and out" at an estimated 200 m.p.h.

Describing the object from his vantage point of about 200 feet at one time, Moore said the craft was V-shaped with lights around one big light "that looked double the size of the steering wheel of a car."

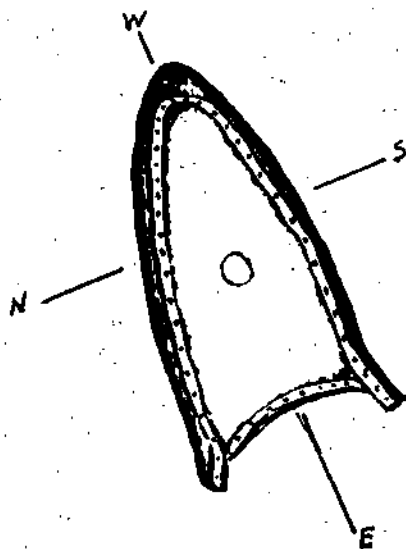
The object reportedly lit up an area of about 500 feet on either side of the road, and several other drivers reportedly stopped to view the object through Moore's binoculars during the five minutes the craft was hovering.

A state patrolman reported a slow-moving flying craft about 2 a.m. Saturday (April 5) near Saddletree. He said the object was about 300 yards away at his closest observation, and that it had brilliant orange and reddish lights.

The first daylight sighting and verified landing came at 5:15 p.m. Sunday, April 6. Ray Strickland, a Pembroke State University campus policeman; his wife; and children observed five UFOs (or one UFO, depending upon later interpretation) on the Philadelphia Road one mile north of Pembroke.



Driver's sighting



Moore's sketch.

Unlike the V-shaped UFO reported previously, the sighting by the Stricklands involved what appeared to be five circular objects in a circular formation about 100 feet off the ground, traveling about 50 m.p.h.

Strickland said his wife was afraid the objects were going to crash into a house located in a nearby field. The objects were a formation of pinkish-red lights, and behind each object was a bluish trail or "streak." He said the objects were several feet apart.

The objects appeared to land in a potato patch, so Strickland went to his home two miles away to call someone to the scene quickly.

Dispatcher Thompson arrived from the sheriff's office with a photographer, but all that was left were five circular ash patches which had not been

there previously. Each patch was about a foot in diameter, and comparable in overall pattern to the formation observed by the Stricklands. The ash is described as "a strange blue" in color.

Additional witnesses to the landing or near landing observed by the Stricklands have been located by Ted Phillips, who investigated the landing for the Center for UFO Studies.

A small boy playing in the area said the objects (or object) kicked up a cloud of dust as high as a house.

ONE OBJECT OR FIVE?

While Strickland thought he saw five objects in formation, other witnesses viewing the phenomenon from other angles say they saw a chrome-like attachment between each light, making one connected object.

Phillips was reportedly interested in a circular impression found at the site, saying he had not seen anything like it before. He also reportedly said that he had not previously heard of lights being seen on a UFO in daytime.

A hole which some observers thought might be a landing gear indentation reportedly did not impress Phillips, since there were no other similar holes to form a landing gear pattern.

Phillips was reportedly puzzled at the lack of damage to plants located very near the six patches of ash. He also appeared surprised that no one saw the UFO leave the site.

Phillips is quoted as saying that "it's very difficult to imagine what the ash could have resulted from." The ash and soil samples are to be analysed by the Center for UFO Studies or a participating lab.

"Right now I see no conventional answer to what happened out there," Phillips is quoted as saying. "But as far as a landing site providing information, it's not particularly interesting unless analysis shows something extraordinary."

CIA declassifies Robertson Panel Report

By Ann Druffel

On Jan. 21, 1975, the Robertson Panel Report, long an enigma to UFO researchers, was declassified at the request of a MUFON investigator who was seeking additional material for a project TV documentary.

This action by the CIA might be a small stepping stone toward government disclosure on UFOs.

A brief history of the Robertson Panel might be applicable here. In 1953 the U.S. Air Force had an immense problem on its hands. The 1,900 UFO reports which had flooded in during 1952 had choked military communication channels.

Officials surmised that a potential enemy might possibly create a fake UFO flap to give them advantage while launching an unexpected missile attack against our nation.

CIA HELP REQUESTED

The Air Force sought help from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), perhaps assuming, with topsy-turvy reasoning, that an agency more secret than themselves would be better to advise on the problem.

Evidently the alternate approach of open, scientific inquiry, adequately financed by government funds, was never considered.

Now positive proof is available that the CIA was the agency directly responsible for the inane and inhumane "debunking policy" used by government agencies for seventeen full years. This policy of ridicule and de-emphasization was employed to embarrass UFO witnesses, deny reports, and to confuse the American public about the importance of this intriguing phenomenon.

Certain officials were of the opinion, even in 1953, that the UFOs were a matter of

scientific interest. Therefore, a group of prestigious American scientists was selected, and the panel--later called the Robertson Panel--was convened.

The declassified report states plainly that the panel was convened at the request of the director of Scientific Intelligence (CIA), and authority over it was delegated to the assistant director of Scientific Intelligence (AD/SI, CIA).

SCIENTIFIC PANEL

The Robertson Panel was officially a scientific advisory panel of the CIA. But the results of the panel, as written in the Robertson Report, were anything but scientific. They set back meaningful research on UFOs at least twenty years.

The panel was composed of Dr. H.P. Robertson, a mathematical physicist, experienced in relativity, cosmology, and wartime intelligence missions; Dr. Luis Alvarez, a nuclear physicist who, among other achievements, co-invented the GCA system for tracking aircraft in fog and rain; Dr. Thornton Page, astronomer and underseas weapons genius; Dr. Samuel A. Goudsmit, discoverer of the theory of electron-spin; Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner, expert on ionospheric research and terrestrial magnetism.

These scientists, together with selected CIA personnel, associate scientists, and Blue Book personnel who had studied the UFO problem first hand, met on Jan. 14, 1953. A speedy four days and eight meetings later, they filed two "results" to the CIA.

The first "results," appended to the Robertson Report as "Tab A," concluded the following:

1. That the UFOs were not hostile and did not indicate a need for revision of current scientific concepts;

2. That the emphasis on UFO reports would be a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic;

3. That national security agencies should strip the UFOs of their aura of mystery; and

4. That national security agencies should institute policies of intelligence training and public education.

The second "results," also called the "final report," appended to the Robertson Report as "Tab C," is still under review, and the CIA has refused declassification of it to this date.

In 1966 the late Dr. James E. McDonald came upon a copy of the Robertson Report in Blue Book Headquarters where he was studying the UFO problem first hand. The Report had been "routinely declassified under the 12-year rule" by Project Officer Hector Quintanilla.

CIA RESPONSIBLE

McDonald made extensive notes and was the first to discover that the CIA was responsible for the "debunking policy" of the Air Force from 1953 through 1969. He requested a Xerox copy of the Report, but before it was given him, the CIA interfered and re-classified the report.

Dr. McDonald treated the information in his notes as open information in no way affecting the security of the United States and shared the facts of CIA involvement freely with other researchers and interested members of the media.

An unsatisfactory "sanitized" version of the Report was released later by the Air Force at the request of aircraft manufacturer John Lear. But in this partial version everything concerning the CIA's involvement was deleted. It was not

until January, 1975, that the CIA admitted openly, through declassification, their part in the absurd debunking policy.

We can only wonder why the CIA has chosen this time to declassify. The action came about almost by accident.

While writing a segment of a projected TV documentary--a segment concerning the part the Robertson Panel played in the history of UFO research in the U.S.--on a whim I wrote the CIA in November, 1974, requesting a declassified copy of the Report. I was aware of the sanitized version, but felt it was unsatisfactory and therefore "played dumb" in writing for the declassified copy.

A GRAND SURPRISE

It was a grand surprise to receive a letter from a Mr. Robert Young, "Records Management Officer," stating that the Agency could provide a declassified copy, consisting of 28 pages, for .10 per page.

The necessary \$2.80 was speedily transmitted to the CIA, and late in January the declassified report arrived. However, though plainly showing CIA involvement, including specific names of CIA personnel and departments involved in the debunking policy, the Report was missing Tab B and Tab C.

I inquired about this, and Mr. Young wrote back on Feb. 19. He now signed himself, "Freedom of Information Coordinator." It is wondered whether the trouble the CIA was facing concerning illegal interference in domestic affairs had anything to do with his change of title!

The Feb. 19 letter confirmed that Tab B, which was described in the Report's Index as "a list of personnel concerned with meetings," could not be declassified. However, he sent the sanitized version, which is already available in the Condon Report. But Tab B of the sanitized version turned out to be a brief list of the evidence

presented to the Robertson Panel during the eight meetings!

Mr. Young also stated that Tab "C" was still under review; that is, still classified "Secret Security Information." He stated he would notify promptly of the results of that review, but I've not heard from him since. According to the Index of the declassified Report, Tab C was supposed to be a "list of documentary evidence presented." This, however, is covered in the sanitized Tab B!

CLASSIFIED REPORT

Tab C, in reality, is the classified "final report" of the Panel, which has never been made public. Perhaps not even Dr. McDonald saw this Tab C. We cannot be certain. According to the text of the declassified Robertson Report, Tab C was the "final report." It evidently differs, in what ways we do not know, with the declassified "results" known as Tab A.

The field of ufology has been enriched by the CIA's declassification of the Robertson Report. But Tab B and particularly Tab C still remain "secret." Why?

Demands should be made upon the CIA, or perhaps the Rockefeller Committee which is investigating the CIA, for release of these documents.

Other persons who may want copies of the declassified Robertson Report can send \$2.80 to Mr. Robert Young, Freedom of Information Coordinator, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., 20505.

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No details on 28%

Air Force 'unknowns' still a mystery

By Richard Hall

"From 1947 through 1967 a total of 697 UFO reports were listed as 'unknowns' by the Air Force. No complete listing or summary of these cases has ever been released by the Air Force or compiled by others."

Thus begins an unpublished report I began preparing while still at NICAP, as part of a rebuttal of the Condon Report, and only completed several years later after leaving NICAP.

From available sources, I reconstructed as complete a list of the "unknowns" as possible--by date, location, and brief description. To my surprise, I found that less than a third of these cases were described in the literature. The following chart indicates the basic statistics of the study:

YEAR	"UNKNOWN"	SOME INFORMATION AVAILABLE(*)	REVIEWED BY COLORADO PROJECT
1947	12	9	0
1948	7	2	0
1949	22	2	0
1950	27	1	None of these, but 3 other 1950 cases.
1951	22	6	0
1952	303	55	4 of these plus 6 other 1952 cases.
1953	42	11	2 of these plus 3 other 1953 cases.
1954	46	3	None of these, but 2 other 1954 cases.
1955	24	5	None of these, but 1 other 1955 case.
1956	14	3	2
1957	14	0	7**
1958	10	6	0
1959	12	8	None of these, but 1 other 1959 case.
1960	14	10	0
1961	13	9	0
1962	15	15	0
1963	14	15***	None of these, but 1 other 1963 case.
1964	19	9	0
1965	16	15	None of these, but 6 other 1965 cases.
1966	32	5	Only 1 of these, but 10 other 1966 cases.
1967	19	6	None of these, but about 44 other 1967 cases.
	697	195 (28%)	9 (1%)

(*)—At least brief description of sighting publicly available.

(**)—When this was written there was no available list of 1957 "unknowns," so that it cannot be established whether any of the 7 cases reviewed by the Colorado Project coincided with the 14 "unknowns." It is noteworthy that there were 1,006 official USAF cases in 1957.

(***)—Official USAF figures indicate 14 "unknowns," yet descriptions of 15 unexplained cases are available. An unresolved discrepancy.

It is true that Dr. David Saunders' UFOCAT now contains date and location references for the majority of Air Force "unknown" cases, but whether descriptions of the sightings exist is not clear, and in any event there are no publicly available descriptions of these sightings.

The two salient findings of this study are (a) that we have never been able to read descriptions of 72% of the cases that puzzled the Air Force; and (b) that for all its pretensions, the Colorado Project examined only 1% of these cases.

Don Berliner, an aviation writer and former member of the NICAP staff, has done additional research on the Air Force "unknowns" in connection with a book on the history of the Air Force UFO project. His book would make a valuable addition to the literature.

Object from sky strikes tractor

The NICAP UFO INVESTIGATOR reports that a piece of ceramic-like material "golf-ball sized" and weighing about one pound apparently fell from the sky and struck a tractor on Jan. 12, 1975, near Carlisle, N.Y.

After striking the tractor, the object landed on a patch of ice and quickly melted through it.

The object is apparently not from any conventional aircraft or satellite, nor does it appear to be a meteorite.

Through the efforts of Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the object was examined at Northwestern University. According to a preliminary analysis, the object contains iron, has a rust coloration, is magnetic, and has experienced extreme thermal shock.

Youths report UFO moving over school

DATE OF SIGHTING: Nov. 22, 1974.

LOCATION OF SIGHTING: Cincinnati, Ohio

INVESTIGATED BY: Len Stringfield

REPORT PROVIDED BY CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES.

This report involving two young boys as witnesses is anecdotal, lacking personal on-the-spot follow up for technical details. This is a result of the parents of one boy being reluctant to allow his son to relate additional information and a drawing of the UFO, which I had requested.

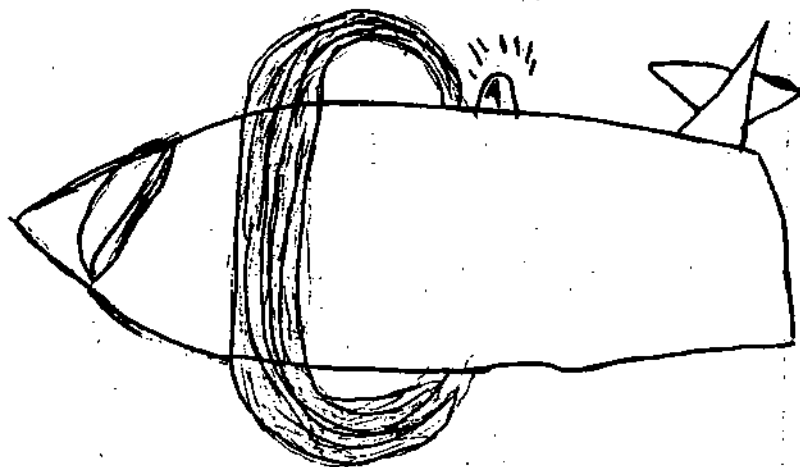
Fortunately, in this case, I got the preliminary details by phone from the two young witnesses, which follow:

Peter (last name on file), age 10, and Chris (last name on file), age 8, were playing together after school at Chris' home. Chris saw the UFO first about 5:30 p.m. in gray skies; watched it for about two minutes before Peter could get to the window.

Chris said the gray metallic object was quite low, about "twice as high as the tree tops."

He said it was "oval and large like a blimp with lines or indents," which he described as running horizontally from the front to the rear. "It had no wings or windows," he said, "but around the body was a large gray ring like Saturn that was not attached to the body." He added, "The ring seemed to move slowly around the body, and it had little lights on it."

On the top of the oboid object, Chris described a "dome that lighted up brightly; a sort of yellowish light." Chris then described his observation



This is the drawing made by Peter of the object which he and Chris say they saw over a school in Cincinnati, Ohio.

of "something like a steering wheel" at the top and bottom of the rear end of the craft.

The UFO's appearance was over a heavy residential area known as Hyde Park in the heart of Cincinnati. I thought it was significant that the UFO's location was above, or near the Hyde Park School, as schools seem to be "common ground" for UFO surveillance, known in UFO research.

Chris said the UFO came from the east, then moved slowly to the northwest in a "slight curving and tipping" motion, or as I could best determine, in a swerve to the northwest. He said it did not change speed or hover, left no vapor or smoke, made no sound, and disappeared into the clouds. Chris said, "It was sort of weird, and I was frightened."

Peter was called to the window, and most of his description of the UFO is similar to Chris'. He said he saw it for about a minute. "It was cigar shaped," he said, "of dull gray color, and it was made of metal." He said it was still light outdoors and the UFO was very clear in the sky above Hyde Park School. He also described the lighted dome on top, which he said was "green" (Chris said "yellow") and that "it blinked."

Peter said the object was a-

bove the tree tops and in clear view; that it was "without any wings, but it had rings around it." I asked for details on the rings and he said it appeared to be "three rings close together or just one wide ring." He said the body was "oval rather than round, and at the end of it was a tail stuck up at the top...all of it was dull gray."

Peter also described the craft as moving in a curve, adding, "You could see it, barely, barely, barely turn to the right in the direction of the school." He said he didn't hear any sound and he couldn't see how the UFO disappeared "because trees were in the way."

I asked Peter if he was interested in UFOs, or read books about them. He said that he "didn't get into the subject," but he did watch a TV show about UFOs.

Peter's mother was concerned about his delay in returning from Chris' and called, requesting that he get home. When she learned of the incident, the police were called.

To compile my report, I requested from Chris and Peter their individual drawings of the object they witnessed. Peter was prompt in sending me his drawing.

Chris' drawing never arrived,

so I followed up by phone eight times, and on each try, I was told by some member of the family that he was not at home. With both drawings, my next hopeful move was to have a meeting with the boys on location.

Finally, I reached Chris by phone Feb. 8, 1975. I asked about his drawing he promised and he said, "My dad was listening on the other phone to our talking about the UFO I saw and got mad at me." He said the father "would not allow me to send the drawing I made." I asked to speak to his father, but he was out of town.

Chris said his drawing was different from Peter's. I asked how did it differ? He indicated that it was the "ring," and added, "but I saw it longer than Peter's."

Unquestionably, the two boys witnessed an unidentifiable aerial object maneuvering at low level over a residential district of Cincinnati. I know of no other UFO reports for Nov. 22, 1974, in the Southwestern Ohio area to coincide with this inner city report.

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FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL

Another significant step has been taken by MUFON in UFO research with the completion of the writing and editing of the all new second edition of our "Field Investigator's Manual."

Raymond E. Fowler, MUFON director of investigations and author of the book "UFOs: Interplanetary Visitors," has done a superb job in composing and editing this outstanding contribution to UFOlogy, dedicated to providing the methods and techniques for interviewing and gathering the raw data on reported UFO sightings.

Recognition must also be bestowed upon the following individuals who either wrote sections on their field of expertise or contributed in a major way: Ted Phillips, Adrian Vance, David Webb, Ted Bloecher, Ron Westrum, Robert Stinson, Fred Youngren, John Oswald, Joe Santangelo, J. Allen Hynek, John Acuff, Rubin Silver, Walter Webb, and Walt Andrus.

The nine distinct questionnaire forms have been printed, and the manual was sent to the printer on April 28. Distribution of the manual to "paid-up" MUFON members will be announced in the June issue of SKYLOOK, and copies will be available at the UFO Symposium in Des Moines, Iowa, on July 5.

However, we expect to mail copies to state directors and others prior to this date. This manual will also be used by the independent investigators for the Center for UFO Studies. Both Dr. Hynek and your Director have Xeroxed copies in finished form.

As previously announced, the 8½X11" pages will be printed on both sides with standard 3

punch holes for 3 ring or clasp binders.

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Joe Brill as international coordinator. Joe has systematically developed a world-wide group of foreign representatives in over thirty countries to provide liaison between MUFON and the UFO organizations in their respective nations.

His specialization of "UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain" will continue unabated, since he will be sharing his vast reservoir of information by continuing as a staff writer for SKYLOOK. Joe's resignation will be effective May 31, 1975.

In order to retain the continuity of correspondence with our network of foreign representatives, we are taking this opportunity for announcing Joe's successor in this important position on the board of directors of MUFON. Richard H. Hall, presently state director for Maryland and Washington, D. C., has accepted the position of international coordinator.

Richard was formerly the assistant director of NICAP when Major Donald E. Keyhoe was its director. He is best known for his publication THE UFO EVIDENCE and co-authoring a book with Professor Meany. Richard brings to this position maturity and experience based upon his outstanding "track record" of the past.

Our foreign representatives, who receive a complimentary subscription to SKYLOOK from MUFON, should record Richard's mailing address. He resides at 4418 39th Street, Brentwood, Maryland, 20722, U. S. A. All future correspondence from our



Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

foreign representatives should be addressed to Richard. A new state director for Maryland will be announced in the near future to succeed Mr. Hall.

SLIDE-TAPE UFO LECTURE

The Nebraska section of MUFON, as part of a public awareness program, has produced their first rendition of a slide-illustrated lecture with tape-recorded commentary and music titled "The Mystery of UFOs." It was produced by MUFON member Jack A. Dunn, coordinator for the Ralph Mueller Planetarium, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, with selection of slides by Elmer A. Kral, MUFON state director for Nebraska.

It is composed of 160 slides, many from the collection of Walt Andrus, with a playing time of thirty-five minutes. It is professionally produced and written by Jack Dunn, narrated by Don Jacks, photography by Terrence Winslow, and graphics by Mohler and Grubbs.

When we say this is the first rendition, we mean that it is already being updated, revised, and improved as of this writing to make it even more effective as a program that may be given as an introduction to the UFO phenomena to any assembled group as part of MUFON's public awareness program.

Everyone in MUFON should be immensely proud that we have dedicated people like Elmer Kral and Jack Dunn "doing their thing" for UFO research. This film will be shown during the afternoon workshop session on July 6 in Des Moines at the UFO Symposium.

STATE-SECTION DIRECTORS

The recent Lumberton, N.C., UFO sightings have motivated our North Carolina people and given them an opportunity to be "where the action is." New state-section directors for the Tar Heel State are Lee C. Starns, P.O. Box 67, Cullowhee, N.C., 28723; telephone: AC 704 293-9588, covering Graham, Cherokee, Clay, Swain, Jackson, and Macon counties. Lee is assistant director of admissions at Western Carolina University. William D. Redfearn, 1012 Decatur, Jacksonville, N.C., 28540; telephone: AC 919 347-5220; has been assigned Onslow, Pender, Carteret, Jones, Craven, and Pamlico counties. Bill is a high school principal with an M.A. in school administration.

From Jacksonville, N.C., to Jacksonville, FL.—Richard M. Mahan, 800 Broward Road, Apt. D-206, Jacksonville, FL., 32218; telephone: AC 904 764-6357; has accepted the responsibility for Nassau, Duval, Baker, Clay, St. Johns, Union, and Bradford counties. Richard has an M.S. in microbiology and is a college professor for biology and chemistry at North Florida Jr. College.

Elmer A. Kral has approved the appointment of Gordon Gruber, R.R. 2, Box 74, Hartington, NE. 68739; telephone AC 402 254-6435; as state-section director for Cedar and Dixon counties. Gordon was recommended by Lawrence A. Lacey.

Ted Bloecher, state director for New York, has selected Harold E. Haglund, 32 Woodlane Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850; telephone: AC 607 539-7137 as state section director for Tompkins, Schuyler, Chemung, and Tioga counties. Hal is a retired ac-

counting manager and has been following UFO publications for 20 years. Lois A. Sayen, 2210 Patty Lane, Green Bay, WI. 54303; telephone AC 414 499-7791 has accepted greater responsibilities with MUFON as state-section director for Brown and Kewaunee counties.

DIRECTOR TO RELOCATE

After living in Quincy, IL., for twenty-eight years, one becomes very attached to the community and the friendly people. In order to continue my employment with a nationally-known electronics firm and to have additional opportunities for further promotion and growth, your director will be moving the MUFON administrative offices from Quincy to Sequin, Texas, approximately Aug. 1, 1975.

The new mailing address will be communicated via a future issue of SKYLOOK. In the meantime, all correspondence should be sent to 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, IL. 62301. The Quincy postmaster will continue to forward mail after August 1, 1975, for as long a period as may be negotiated.

We ask the patience and indulgence of our members so that this transition may be made with a minimum of interruption to our member services.

UFO MATERIAL FOR TRADE -
I have many photos, slides, clippings, and books on UFOs that I will trade for similar UFO material. Send trade lists to: Ron Smotek, 5625 Thomas St., Maple Hts. Ohio 44137

Illinois youths report strange UFO effects

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Dec. 21, 1974

LOCATION OF OBSERVATION: New Athens and Darmstadt, Illinois

INVESTIGATED BY: W. J. (Dub) Mills

On Dec. 21, 1974, at approximately 11:30 p.m. Kim Lloyd, Rodney Walta, and Jeff Walta left Darmstadt, returning to New Athens. They were traveling west; it was a clear night with full moon and bright stars. Kim was driving, Rodney was riding in the front seat with her, and Jeff was in the back seat.

At a point approximately four miles west of Darmstadt, they were suddenly aware of a bright light illuminating the area around them.

Rodney was the first to see the object. He looked out his window to the north, at about a forty-five degree angle and saw this brightly lit disk-shaped object descending. Excitingly calling it to the attention of Kim and Jeff, they too saw it as it descended into their field of vision.

The object was descending at an angle, with the leading edge lower than the trailing edge and the descent was such so they were seeing the top of the object; it was probably twenty or thirty feet in diameter.

It had rotating lights around the lower edge of the rim that were red and yellow, red and yellow in that sequence all the way around. There appeared to be portholes around the object. It had something resembling antennas that were coming out each side of the dome and coming up as if they were going to meet at a point up above the dome of the object itself. The color of the "antennas" appeared to be blue.

The object continued its descent and appeared to be in the process of landing in a

wooded area that was approximately one thousand feet from the road the youths were traveling. At a point where the object was fifty feet above the trees they lost sight of it momentarily due to the elevation of the field on that side of the road.

OBJECT GONE

At that particular point you could not see the woods, and their vision was obscured here for probably five or ten seconds. When they were again able to see the same area where the object was descending, it was gone. The entire time involved here from the time they first saw the object up until this particular moment was no more than two or three minutes and a driving distance of no more than perhaps a mile, perhaps less.

They were so certain that it had landed they began driving down roads and lanes in and around the area in an effort to relocate it. Feeling certain it was on or near the ground and would be obscured by the trees and other terrain, they felt that in patrolling in these areas they would have a chance of spotting it. However, after probably thirty or forty minutes they gave up the search and drove into New Athens.

In New Athens they ran into some of their friends and persuaded them to accompany them back to the area for another search. Again they went through this patrolling for perhaps an hour. By this time, the friends had lost interest and returned to New Athens. However, Kim, Rodney and Jeff were not yet ready to give up the search, so they drove around a little while longer and finally parked the car to set up a watch for any further sign of their elusive U.F.O. or anything else

that might come along.

INVESTIGATION OF AREA

I checked out this area quite thoroughly on Jan. 12. It was a beautiful sunny day and quite cold. The ground was frozen, but I am told by the witnesses that the night of the sighting was comfortably warm and that the ground was muddy. I discovered no trace of a landing.

The day I was there I did discover a huge clearing in the wooded area. I was accompanied by Rodney, and he felt this would have been approximately where the object was descending when they lost sight of it. This area was approximately fifty yards wide by one hundred yards deep. It could have been used for a landing site, with no one from the surrounding area being able to see it.

UNIDENTIFIED TRACKS

I did discover tracks I cannot identify. The tracks began in a section of the clearing and they also abruptly ended as if they were made by something or someone stepping onto the ground, and at approximately a point thirty-five feet away they stepped back on to whatever. In other words, the tracks abruptly began and abruptly ended.

I made some photographs of these tracks. As I type this I have not received the film back so I can't really tell you if the photos turned out well or if they did not. If they did, they will be attached to this report.

So that you have something as a matter of information, these tracks were similar to paw or hoof marks, yet they were not any kind of paw or hoof marks I am familiar with. Since I have done considerable

hunting over the years, I am familiar with many wild game tracks and am quite familiar with domestic animal tracks.

I am certain neither would fit the case and I feel these tracks were made by a two-legged being with a stride of perhaps forty inches. For me to stride along side of these tracks I had to stride in very exaggerated long strides. I would say my normal stride is between thirty and thirty-six inches. In carefully examining these marks I would estimate that the prints were four to five inches wide, seven to eight inches long. I am sorry I did not have a ruler along with me.

The imprints were one inch to one-half inch into the ground, which at that time would have been soft and muddy. The prints were reasonably clear and seemed to have been made by a multi-toe foot. I really can't be more specific than this.

I checked with several neighbors in this area regarding anything they may have heard or seen at the time of the sighting. Being a farm area, and considering the time, no one could shed any additional light on the subject.

ACTIVITY CONTINUES

While phase one was apparently over, the activities of the night were only beginning for Kim, Rodney and Jeff.

They had parked their car at an intersection facing north, with the Darmstadt road going east and west in front of their car. At about four thirty, which would now be the morning of Dec. 22, in the northeast at about sixty degrees and very high, they noticed a light that first looked like a star. As they watched it, the light began to gyrate and hop around. It shot beams down as it began to come down lower.

During this initial observation the object was contin-

ually changing color, green and red according to the witnesses. As it came lower it seemed to level off at about fifty feet above the tree tops, but it was still quite far away, perhaps a mile or even more.

However, now it is only ten or fifteen degrees above the horizon as they look at it, and it is still more or less in a northeasterly direction. After perhaps one or two minutes it moves back up to about forty-five degrees. Then it begins moving toward the witnesses, becoming larger. It appears to be emitting a light point like a beam toward the ground except the beam continually breaks up and never seems to touch the ground. As Rodney stated, "It was like pouring out mercury; it beaded up and seemed to break up the beam and somehow join back together."

At this point, Kim, who was the driver of the car, started the car and turned west on Darmstadt Road headed toward New Athens and Route #13. The object changed course and followed them, moving parallel to their car and remaining about 1/2 mile distance from them. Now this object is definitely not like the initial object they saw. This object is very much of a pie-shaped object with a row of yellow lights around the bottom of the pie plate and a row of red lights around the edge of the pie plate, with the pie itself making up the entire top of the object as they described it.

ANOTHER OBJECT

As they neared the route #13 and the Darmstadt intersection the object appeared to stop and hover over a long cylinder object on the ground. They estimated this to be at least fifty feet long and perhaps five to seven feet in diameter. This cylinder had a pulsating orange light in the front half of it and a green light in the rear half. When they arrived at the

Route #13 and Darmstadt Road intersection they turned on to Route #13, going northwest to Rodney's house. They lost sight of the object.

When they arrived at Rodney's house they were all in a very excitable state. There are several children in the family, and in their excitement some of the children awakened and the story was related to them, although Mrs. Walta evidently slept through this part of the excitement.

During this period of time Rodney continued to insist in a very excitable state that he knew the object was coming over to the house.

Very shortly they observed that some type of a light was illuminating the area around the house. They are not quite sure if this was an artificial light or if it was actually the light of day. As the time was approximately five thirty a.m., it was not getting light--of that I am certain. My guess is that it was an artificial light that was illuminating the area around the house.

DOGS ACT STRANGELY

In looking out the window, Rodney excitedly called Kim and Jeff to look at the dogs and their strange behavior. The dogs were lying on the ground as if mesmerized, with their tongues literally hanging out, making no movement or sound whatsoever. I might inject at this point that when I was there on Sunday, Jan. 12, these dogs were continually barking, and I am told they are very vocal at any time anyone or anything comes around. However, at this particular time in the early morning hours in question the dogs were doing nothing.

At this time Rodney thought he heard noises on the roof of his house and possible noises down in the basement of his home that he somehow attributed to the presence of this U. F. O. Neither of the other wit-

nesses could be certain that they heard these noises, but Rodney insisted he heard them. He was now in a state of excitement to the point of being hysterical.

AN ELECTRIC SHOCK

Suddenly, without any warning, there was a tremendous electrical shock within the house that was of such force that little five-year-old Susie, who was in an occasional chair, was knocked into the floor. All of the children were up at this time. I'm speaking of Kim, Rodney, Jeff, little Susie, and one other little fellow whose name escapes me. All of them felt this shock.

At this time Rodney went to the window, pulled back the shade, and saw the bottom side of this U.F.O. slowly leaving the area from above the top of his house. It is moving in a northerly direction as if it was following the railroad tracks that move along here running north and south.

At this point Mrs. Walta was awakened and Rodney was in a hysterical state. She was trying to calm him down and find out what was going on. How the lady slept through the excitement as described by the witness is inconceivable, but evidently she had.

However, her concern for Rodney and the mental state he was in prompted her to call the doctor and make arrangements to take Rodney to see him and get something to calm him down. She did take Rodney to the doctor about seven thirty or eight a.m. that morning. Rodney, in telling the doctor of his experience, was asked by the doctor "what he had been smoking."

AN ANALYSIS

My own analysis of this particular case based on two very lengthy interviews with these witnesses is that they defin-

itely had two experiences as I have related. I cannot determine in my own mind whether or not the incident as related happened after they returned to Rodney's home are actual facts or the working of an imagination by some very excited teenagers. There are some areas that do substantiate Rodney's claim of the incident at his house:

1. The condition of the dogs and the fact that they were not responding as they normally would.

2. The light that illuminated the area outside of the house at five thirty a.m. It could not have been the light of day that time of morning.

3. The electrical shock that was felt by five witnesses at this point, although Mrs. Walta

did not feel it, or at least it did not waken her.

These instances would certainly indicate that there was more going on than just imagination. However, it does perplex me that Rodney is the only one that seems to have heard the noises. Rodney is also the only one who says he saw the U.F.O. as it was leaving, and the fact that the other witnesses are not absolutely sure of all of these happenings at the home leave me with a very questionable attitude about that phase of it.

I think it is very important that we do not discount the highly excitable state of the three witnesses at the time leaves me with a very question—they arrived home and related their experience of the night to even younger children.

UFOs escort Mexican pilot

DATE OF SIGHTING: May 3, 1975

LOCATION OF SIGHTING: over Tequesquitengo Lake, Mexico

SOURCE OF REPORT: United Press International

SUBMITTED BY: Joe Brill, international coordinator

Carlos Antonio de los Santos Montiel has reported that three UFOs joined him as he was flying his Piper Cub at 15,000 feet over Tequesquitengo Lake, about 50 miles south of Mexico City, on May 3.

The 23-year-old flier said he was traveling at about 140 m.p.h. when he was joined by the objects. "Two of them flew a few inches from each wing, and another below the plane," he said. "I tried to lower the landing wheels to hit the one below, but the mechanism failed."

He said he then "tried to hit the other two with the wings, but the controls did not respond." The pilot said that at that moment his nerves broke and he burst into tears.

He said his plane was "piloted by some strange force" between Tequesquitengo and Tlalpan, a southern suburb of Mexico City, but that he was able to radio the control tower at the Mexico City airport.

The objects left the Piper Cub at Tlalpan and moved towards two snow-capped volcanoes about 50 miles to the south.

Two air traffic controllers, Julio Interian and Emilio Estanol, said they observed the incident on two separate radar screens at Benito Juarez International Airport. They said radar indicated "an unidentified object" speeding along at the side of the Piper Cub.

Interian said he "observed the plane from the moment it was over Tequesquitengo until it landed. When it was above the Ajusco (a mountain on the edge of the Valley of Mexico) I noticed another mark on the screen move rapidly away from the plane."

The two controllers said that it was at that moment when the pilot radioed that the UFOs had left him.



In Others' Words

By Lucius Farish

A report of a UFO formation over Japan on Jan. 15 may be found in the April 8 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER.

The March 16 NATIONAL TATTLER reports on a NICAP investigation of a supposed UFO crash in California.

The Wyoming contact story of Carl Higdon is presented in the March 22 issue of NATIONAL STAR. This account quotes Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle as saying that Higdon "is reporting sincerely the events which he experienced." The March 29 STAR has an article on recent Minnesota UFO sightings, though at least one of these reports actually happened in Wisconsin. In the April 12 STAR, new UFO photos from Ontario are spotlighted, along with a short and rather sensational item about an imminent UFO invasion. Recent North Carolina UFO reports are featured in the April 19 issue of the STAR.

The May issue of MALE and June issue of STAG contain UFO articles. The former is strictly rehash; the latter is a combination of rehash and probable fiction. Save your time and money.

Brinsley LePoer Trench's first book, THE SKY PEOPLE, has recently been republished in paperback by Award Books and is now available on newsstands.

THE HUMANOIDS was originally published as a special issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW several years ago and has now gone through four hardcover and paperback editions in England and the U.S. The latest edition is a "large" paperback from Henry Regnery Co. - 180 North Michigan Ave. - Chicago, IL 60601. The price is \$3.95. Though some of the material is now a bit dated, THE HUMANOIDS is still one of the best sources

of information on UFO occupant accounts.

The May issue of SAGA has an article by John Keel on the "Men in Black" reports. An interesting summary, whether or not one agrees with all of Keel's ideas.

For those who collect all available material on the "ancient astronauts" subject, you might like to pick up a "Marvel Preview" comic book, MAN-GODS FROM BEYOND THE STARS. In addition to comic strip versions of the AA theory, this magazine also contains biographical information on Erich von Daniken, plus material on the other writers who have preceded and followed von Daniken. There is also a section devoted to book reviews of the leading titles on the AA subject. If this is not available on your local stands, you may order it from: MARVEL PREVIEW - Magazine Management Co., Inc. - 575 Madison Ave. - N.Y., N.Y. 10022. The price is \$1.00.

The most thorough treatment of the 1946 "ghost rockets" sightings that I have yet seen is Loren E. Gross' booklet, THE MYSTERY OF THE GHOST ROCKETS. Mr. Gross examines the political climate of the period, as well as the technological capabilities of the Soviet Union (a prime suspect for the rockets' source when they first appeared). He concludes that whatever the objects were, they do not appear to have been of terrestrial origin. His booklet contains an 8-page chronological listing of the reported sightings from 1943 through early 1947. Both this booklet and Gross' previous work, THE UFO WAVE OF 1896, are available from him for a combined price of only \$1.00. As excellent summaries of two his-

torical flaps, they are worth far more than that. They may be ordered from the author at: 38675 Paseo Padre #305 - Fremont, CA 94536.

What can one possibly say about THE COMPLETE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT? They are the pioneer works of ufology, but they are far more than that. If you like to read accounts of all manner of strange phenomena, these are for you. If you like wry humor and some "digs" at scientists, you'll enjoy them thoroughly. But Fort's writings are not designed to be mere sources of data. Those who have read them already will know what I mean; those who have not read them are in for a rare treat. The four books by Fort--THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED, NEW LANDS, LO! and WILD TALENTS--have not been available in a hardcover edition for several years, but Dover Books (180 Varick St. - N.Y., N.Y. 10014) has now reprinted them in a handsome volume with a new introduction by Fort's biographer, Damon Knight. The price for this new edition is \$15.00, but that isn't really so bad, considering that this volume contains over 1000 pages. If you have never read the words of "the master," you owe it to yourself to do so.

WANTED

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



UFO's Behind the Iron Curtain

By Joe Brill

KOLENOV's STATEMENT

"On Oct. 13, 1967, between 1700 and 1800 hours, Moscow time, I observed an unidentified flying object with a triangular shape through eight power binoculars from the balcony of my apartment. It somewhat resembled an airplane in shape, on whose wings dark lines were clearly observed.

"The object was visible in the southwestern portion of the sky, and it flew very slowly. Its speed was approximately that of the American "Echo" satellite. Movement was to the northeast. In my own personal opinion, the object shone with the reflected light of the setting sun. It appeared to be silvery in color. No changes in the brightness were noticed during the observation, and no sounds were heard at any time.

"A large number of the residents of building 43 and other houses took part in the observation of this object. In the University, they observed it visually and in the BC scope used in tracking artificial earth satellites. The rector and pro-rector of the University were present during the observation.

"Many of my co-workers and students of the University presented questions to me concerning this object on the following day. I could only say that the observed object did not belong to any of the natural astronomical bodies.

(Signed): A.I. Kolenov, astronomy professor and chief of the Station for Observing Artificial Earth Satellites of the Kabardino-Belkar State University, Lenin Prospect 43, Apartment 4.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of copyrighted articles which International Coordinator Joe Brill has prepared from the unpublished manuscript of Soviet UFO expert Felix Y. Zigel, assistant professor at the Moscow Aviation Institute.

SAVKUYEV's STATEMENT

"On Oct. 13, 1967, I remember the date exactly because I immediately wrote the date in my notebook, I was in the village of Second Lesken, which is about thirty-five kilometers east of Nal'chik.

"The day was cloudless and exceptionally clear. At 1630 hours I went out of the house into Sovetskaya Street and noticed many people standing and looking up at the sky. Some of the old religious people bewailed: 'Good heavens, what can it be?' 'What kind of omen is it?'

"I looked up into the sky and saw almost in the zenith some kind of object, sparkling with a white light which was smaller than the moon in size and which did not change its position in the sky. The sun had not yet set. I stood and looked at this body until it grew completely dark.

"Standing in place, the object revolved slowly. It was clearly seen at times that the object had a triangular shape, since occasionally an equilateral triangle was clearly projected on the background of the sky, with some kind of internal luminous filling, and some sort of body slightly darker than the sides of the triangle could easily be distinguished in the center of the triangle.

"At times, the object assumed a position with respect to the ground wherein from the

side it resembled the shape of a hat and some sort of tail protruded, straight, like a pencil emanating from the center of the hat. This tail was projected straight downward and had a thickening on the end of it. This tail changed its position together with the hat; that is, it did not change its position relative to the hat. The length of this tail was scarcely less than the height of the hat.

"The object gave off no sound that could be heard. My vision is very good despite my old age. The object could be observed clearly without glasses even in a darkened place. Therefore, I am transmitting exactly what I observed with my own eyes.

"The entire population of the village of Second Lesken observed this object for a long time. There are about 6,000 people and more than 550 households in this village.

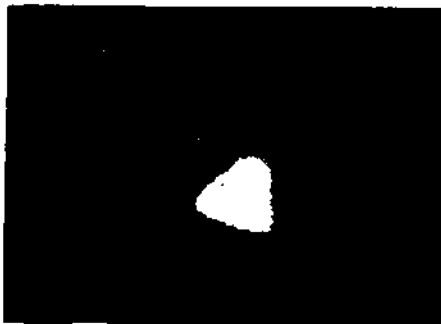
"Before the sun set, the color of the object was white, but as darkness set in the white gradually became reddish and then red.

"I quit watching the object when it began to move in a southeastern direction. I affirm that this object was emitting its own light."

(Signed): A. G. Savkuyev, Kabardino-Belkar ASSR, Urzanskiy rayon Village of Second Lesken.

MOLOPANOV's REPORT

"It was Oct. 13, 1967, and the time was 1810 hours when I observed a UFO. At first I looked at it only with the naked eye. My first impression was that the object was stationary. After several minutes



A UFO photographed over Ruse, Bulgaria, on April 20, 1967, at 1945 hours. The entire population of Ruse watched this object for more than three hours, and it changed direction of movement twice. Its color was described as "a silverish glow becoming purple toward the edges." This UFO was also observed over Panagyurishte, Bulgaria, the same day, according to the Peoples Observatory in Stara Zagora.

I noticed that the UFO moved slowly.

"I remember that there was a telescope and camera in the school. The UFO hung in the west-southwest at an altitude of fifteen degrees. It moved approximately toward us. It could be seen with the naked eye that the UFO had a bright white color and a triangular shape--it was clearly visible in outline against the background of the sky. The triangle seemed to be scalene with rounded corners.

"It appeared that the light of the UFO shone with a blue light. The impression was formed that the body was transparent or semi-transparent. Some kinds of lines could be seen inside the body.

"The UFO seemed to have a three-dimensional shape in the telescope. It was noted with the naked eye that the UFO rotated around an axis. In the telescope it was observed that the UFO rotated in all directions in a rather complex manner. When the sun was setting, the light of the UFO became reddish, and when the sun had set the object became red. The impression remained, however, that it shone from within and the body was transparent.

"Some kind of vertical 'cable' protruding from the UFO was also seen in the telescope.



This UFO was first sighted over Pristina, Yugoslavia, at 1530 hrs. on Nov. 21, 1967. It was observed by hundreds of people in Leskovac, Vlasotinci, and Pristina, Yugoslavia, between 1530 and 1630 hrs. The above photograph was taken at 1710 hrs. over Sofia, Bulgaria, where it was observed until 1735 hrs. It was observed by the entire population of Sofia. Its color was described as "silverish-blue gradually changing to orange and finally to red when it disappeared from view." (Photo has been retouched for better printing.)

It was just a little shorter than the UFO. The first impression was that it was an antenna with a thickening on the end. The vertical position of this 'cable' did not change. The body changed its direction of movement once during the observation. At first it moved from southwest to east-northeast and then from west-southwest to southwest. When the body changed its direction of movement, the luminescence changed from blue to red. At approximately 1830 hours the UFO began to disappear as a regular non-luminous body would disappear.

"The outlines of the object were still clearly visible at the end of the observation, but they also gradually went out. The object was illuminated approximately uniformly until it began to disappear. The lines within the 'triangle' were not parallel sides and they rotated together with the body."

(Signed): O. A. Moloponov, laboratory worker of the Physics Department of school No. 6, City of Nal'chik.

Note: The UFO over Nal'chik was observed by thousands of residents of the City. The

chief designer of the KTB (Design and Technological Office) of the Ministry of Instrument-Making, B.M. Yegorov, collected another twenty-four witnesses' affidavits on this sighting. A photograph of the UFO was obtained in two aspects. These two photographs are not available nor were they included with the Zigel manuscript.

Several sightings reported in Florida

(SOURCE: Bradenton, Florida, Herald, April 23, 1975)

The Holmes County, Florida, Sheriff's Office says that at least 10 persons in Bonifay, Ponce de Leon, and other tiny hamlets have seen a flying object in the skies on April 20, 21, and 22.

The sheriff says that Eglin Air Force Base at Ft. Walton Beach has assured him that there have been no air tests run in the area at the time of the sightings, but that the base, located 300 miles northwest, has been unable to track any of the objects on radar.

One of the sightings was made at 2 a.m. April 21 by members of the James Townsend family of Ponce de Leon, who went out to milk when they saw a bright object. Sheriff's deputies were called, and they said the object was "flying in some sort of zigzag pattern" and "changing colors from red to green to amber to white." It appeared to be the size of a basketball, but the witnesses said they could not tell how high it was.

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.

Family says UFO hovered over home

By Theodore Spickler
MUFON State Director for
West Virginia

On the evening of Jan. 7, 1975, Dorothy Sommerville and her two children Deborah (9th grade student) and Tammy (7th grade) were driving toward their home in West Liberty, W. Va., along twisting route 88. With them in the car was a friend of the two girls.

At the top of the hill overlooking West Liberty State College they all saw at once a black oval shape coming toward the college to their right in the distant sky. The time was immediately checked; it was 8:05 p.m., EST.

A dull blue gray color washed an overcast sky, permitting the dark shape to be seen. It was larger than the apparent size of a typical airplane as seen from that distance. They thought a fist at arm's length would be about right (to be consistent with later aspects of the sighting they should have suggested thumb nail size).

There were lights on the shape, described by one of the girls as window-like, although the others specified the impression of rim lights. Although not exactly seen as such, they had an image of a circular disc with low dome on top. The lights would have been around the interface of the dome and disc rim. The lights either turned on and off in sequence or the object was rotating.

The carload of bewildered witnesses drove on past the college and into the village of West Liberty where they let off the girls' friend, who wanted nothing more to do with black oval lights. Rather than stopping at their own home, a spirit of adventure took hold and they drove on past West

Liberty in search of the object.

At the top of the next hill it could be seen in the far distance occasionally moving to the right and then back to the left. The girls tried sending "telepathic" messages asking it to return and land. When the object did turn and begin coming back the girls' mother decided that it was time, indeed past time, to go quickly and safely home.

After the quarter-mile ride home, the three came out of the garage and one of the girls said, "Look mom, its directly above us!"

OVER THEIR HOUSE

"Mom" did not really want to look up and see anything; she was frightened by now. But there was no escaping the fact that a huge, black, oval shape could be seen hovering over the house.

When asked to think of something in the house that when held at arm's length could duplicate the apparent size and shape of the object, they thought first of a dish pan and then, even better, a tub. The thought that a fist at arm's length could have covered it up was greeted with laughter.

By now the girls had run over to the bright street lamp in front of the house to wave up at the craft and to demonstrate their eagerness to have a landing occur.

There was no indication of structure, only a black shape with lights around the rim--alternating white and red lights. Confusion exists over whether the lights blinked in sequence or the entire shape turned. After the longest five seconds in history, the shape smoothly accelerated and moved again out past the distant hilltop where it seemed to be

joined by two other lighted objects (possibly airplanes at a greater distance).

While overhead, a distinct humming sound could be heard coming from the shape. The sound was similar to that of a phonograph motor left running.

ANALYSIS

Only some preliminary thoughts at this time: Many airplanes fly over this area due to the presence of the Wheeling airport in the vicinity. During the course of the interview on the evening of Jan. 17, I had them identify every mysterious light in the sky that went by. All were properly and confidently identified as airplanes.

There are also regular helicopter flights between Wheeling and Pittsburgh airports. This reported black shape was thought to be much lower than the typical helicopter flight, and hummed instead of making the usual heavy drone one expects from helicopters.

After this sighting, Dr. Hynek's book, "THE UFO EXPERIENCE", was checked out of the library by the witness for the purpose of finding out what to do if the shape were to return. Some terminology from the book seeped into the interview--words like "mother ship" and "contactee."

I believe these ideas have grown upon them after the sighting and knowledge about other sightings became known to them. I judge the witnesses to be sincere, uninterested in publicity, and with no axes to grind.

The sighting could perhaps be considered explained if it were to turn out that a blimp had been maneuvering at low altitude over West Liberty that night, an unlikely circumstance.

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 & UFOs" 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 March, 1975, edition of SKYLOOK).

Any critic, if he is trying to be constructive, must point out the positive as well as the negative, despite the well-established principle in the news media that good news is no news.

MUFON is growing by leaps and bounds and our beleaguered editor has his hands full in sorting through materials of all kinds and degree of quality. He brings to bear a background in journalism that is a definite asset to MUFON. SKYLOOK is changing and evolving into what I confidently predict will be the premier publication on UFOs.

In this time of growth and change, we should be quick to support and slow to criticize--except for constructive criticism. The editorial qualifications placed on the "Strange Journey" story are welcome, and necessary if we wish to avoid being labelled gullible and uncritical. The comparison cases are a good feature.

Another comparison case to the Rhodesian "strange journey" occurred Oct. 22, 1973, in Blackford County, IN. (Hartford City News-Times, 10/23/73).

Two 4-foot silvery creatures were seen cavorting on and alongside a highway. "One thing that bothers Flatter (one of the witnesses) is the condition of the field they were standing in. When he spotted the two strange beings, he could swear they were standing in either a freshly plowed or \ disc(ed) field."

As with the tropical foliage

seen by the witnesses in Rhodesian dry country, it is tempting to speculate that someone is tampering with our space-time perceptions (or giving the illusion thereof), but first, we must attend to the facts. Some of the skeptics also need to learn that facts come before theory, and poorly checked facts can lead to nonsense theories.

One might question whether a spectacular and controversial case of this type should be reported so fully before more thorough investigation is accomplished. In talks with colleagues, I detect two schools of thought: (1) such cases should be reported in outline, followed-up and investigated as thoroughly as possible, THEN reported in detail with investigator's findings; (2) all available details should be published, then criticized, reviewed, and put through a process of refinement. Either view is defensible.

Two other welcome features in this issue are the follow-up details on the Spanish roadside occupant case and the correction notes.

No matter what approach is taken to reporting partially investigated cases, follow-up reports with new findings or details are important to UFO research. So are what may appear to be picky criticisms of specific cases. One must chip away, doubting and questioning, to get at the underlying truth.

Some garbling and error inevitably gets introduced while processing large amounts of information, and it may be by the reporter, editor, or typist. (This was also true of THE UFO EVIDENCE, which I edited).

Astronomy Notes

By Mark Herbstritt

June Sky

Mercury--is too close to the sun for easy observation, inferior conjunction being on the 10th.

Venus--is a brilliant object in the west at sunset. It sets about 3 hours later. Greatest eastern elongation is on the 18th.

Mars--is in Pisces, rising about 3 hours before the sun. On the 16th it is in close conjunction with Jupiter.

Jupiter--is in Pisces. It rises about 3 hours before sunrise.

Saturn--is in Gemini. It is quite low in the west at sunset, and sets soon after.

UFO course slated

Howard Smukler will be teaching a course entitled "Flying Saucers and Ancient Astronauts" this summer at the New School for Social Research in New York City. The course begins June 18, and meets each Wednesday night for a six-week period.

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