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SKYLOOK

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Let's Separate Fact From Fantasy

November 1967

AS DESIGNERS SEE UFO'S

EDITOR'S NOTE: We asked for and received permission to use material from Don Berliner's article "The U.F.O. From the Designer's Viewpoint" in the October AIR PROGRESS.

Would you believe there are aircraft capable of hypersonic speed at low altitude without sonic boom, silent flight, high-G acceleration following prolonged hovering, right-angle turns at high speed, and radar invisibility?

We haven't achieved these amazing technological breakthroughs, but somebody has. For lack of a better term, these remarkable aircraft are known as "unidentified flying objects", or more familiarly, "UFO's". We don't know where they are from, or why they are here, or who is flying them, or how long they have been around, or what they are going to do next. We don't know how they are powered or how they are controlled.

We do know something about what they look like. Mr. Berliner lists the three basic shapes: discs, spheres and cigars with their variation in size, and usually described as looking metallic, sometimes having ports, domes and projections. As to performance, they have been clocked on radar at better than 12,000 mph. They out maneuver experienced jet pilots. Instantaneous reversals of direction have been reported by in-air and ground based observers. These speeds and velocity shifts never seem to be accompanied by the sort of loud noises, usually associated with extreme performance, though high pitched humming or whirring sounds are often heard. They are capable of electrical interference---in more than 100 instances, there has been complete but temporary failure of auto electrical systems. (continued on fourth page)

THREE AT ST. CLAIR SEE OBJECT

"Mom saw it first. I was inside shaving. She yelled at me to come outside."

It was just past six o'clock the morning of March 6. There were broken cirrus clouds at 3,000 feet and Webb Briddell, his 16-year old sister, Gretchen and "Mom" (Mrs. Bernard Briddell) watched an unidentified flying object for three minutes. Briddell, who has six years experience as an aircraft pilot and who is employed at McDonnell Aircraft in St. Louis, says the object seemed to hover approximately 30 seconds after he saw it at 2,000 ft. Then it proceeded to do a slow 360 degree turn down to an altitude of 1,000 feet. It was pitched up at an angle of 5 degrees. "If it had been an aircraft, you'd say it was nose high," Mr. Briddell said. He estimated the object to be 8 to 10 feet thick and 50 feet in diameter. During the time of turn and descent it was green and white in color, then turned on the heading of 90 degrees and accelerated, turning a bright red and pulsating. It went up through the overcast "faster than anything I'd ever seen" and disappeared. Mr. Briddell noticed no protrusions; there was no sound or air glow.

St. Clair is 60 miles southwest of St. Louis, on Highway 66. It is a flat area with an altitude of 680 feet.

We are indebted to John Schuessler, of St. Charles, for this fine report.

WE'LL HAVE REPORT ON LECTURE!

As announced last month, Dr. Allen Hynek will speak on "The UFO as a Scientific Problem" in St. Louis, Nov. 24. John Schuessler, one of our readers, has tickets to the lecture and has promised a report for the December issue of SKYLOOK.

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*****With the Editor*****

We have found, during our three months as editor, many do not want their names used for fear of ridicule from friends and neighbors--others do not recall the day and hour of a sighting, weather conditions, wind direction or even the line of flight which, along with other pertinent data, would help establish whether the object could easily be identified, or classified as a true UFO, as the term is commonly understood.

Yet, while some brief reports may seem almost meaningless, we will use them as they may fit into the blueprint which is being added to day by day in covering the over-all picture, and heads wiser than ours may readily separate fact from fantasy."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek has said, "There may be lurking in the best UFO reports hidden scientific 'paydirt', as a mite of radium was hidden in tons of pitchblende. "We respectfully suggest there could also be 'paydirt' in a not-so-good report. For one thing, it could add strength to the sighting of another witness who had a better look at the object in question and who could give more information.

So we urge you--send in your report, brief tho it may be. YOU may be the witness needed to substantiate another's report.

LONDON "EXPLAINS" SIGHTINGS

KANSAS CITY TIMES, Oct. 28, 1967. A story out of London where numerous UFO sightings were reported the preceeding few days. The descriptions varied from "a fiery cross" to "a cigar shape surrounded by a green glow" and "a saucer shape surrounded by star shaped beams of light." The England defense ministry said air borne exercises by U.S. Air Force planes were responsible.

SEES FIRST UFO

Mrs. Ted Phillips, Jr., of Sedalia, was in Springfield the night of Sept. 2nd when she saw an unidentified flying object for her first time. She described it as a bright yellow object moving slowly across the sky from the northeast at a very slow rate of speed. There were no other lights emanating from the object and no sound.

UFO'S WAY BACK WHEN

ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT, August 2, 1967. Fiery flying dragons were seen in the sky over Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1130 and in 1142. according to the historians of the day. Also, they tell us, in the 18th and 19th centuries, flying objects were so frequently seen in Bohemia, children learned about them in school.

THE HEAT'S ON!

Now that American and Russian spacecraft have established the atmosphere of Venus to be almost 100% carbon dioxide, a gas deadly to man, and the temperature of that planet between 500 and 800 degrees Fahrenheit, contactees who claim to have made to trip there and back will have a little trouble explaining how they stood the heat!

We look for Dr. Stranges to announce that his man from Venus isn't from Venus after all, but from a strange, undiscovered, unnamed and unknown (certainly!) planet far out of reach of Earth's meddling spacecraft.

FLYING SAUCER INSURED

TULSA WORLD. Yes, Virginia, there IS a real flying saucer, and neither the Army nor the Air Force will debunk this one! Insurance agent Joe Falvey was the one who last month wrote out a policy on a flying saucer. Dr. Paul Moller, a professor of aeronautical engineering at the University of California has developed a flying saucer type craft about 10 feet in diameter, blue and silver, complete with bubbletop and bucket seats. He sees it as the future commuter craft, and it has flown about four feet off the ground in flights witnessed by public and press. He decided to insure it and it is identified on the policy as a flying saucer model.

RED OBJECT SEEN AT STOVER

Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Boeschen don't recall the exact date, but they were walking home about 10:30 pm one night in July when Mr. Boeschen happened to glance upward and saw a bright red object "about the size of a volley ball" moving in a straight line from the northwest to the southeast. He shouted to his wife and ran out into the middle of the street for a better look at the fast moving object before it disappeared from sight. The sky was overcast with a slight cloud covering and the moon could be seen now and then. The red ball seemed to be below the overcast when first seen, Mr. Boeschen said, then rapidly went above the clouds and disappeared from sight.

Mr. Boeschen is a trucker and drivers quite a bit at night. He is familiar with shooting stars, meteors and aircraft lights and says this couldn't have been any of them. There was no sound.

WHAT WAS IT?

A Sedalia resident, who doesn't want his name used, reports a sighting on Oct. 2nd. He was outside his residence when he heard a jet going over and glanced up and was surprised to see a silver, half-circle shaped object traveling west, while the sound of the jet was fading into the south. A former McDonnell Aircraft worker in St. Louis, he is familiar with aircraft and doesn't believe the object he saw was a plane.

AT THE NEWS STAND

By Ted Phillips, Jr.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER, Oct. 29. Article on Moline, Ill., sighting and movie by officer in Galesburg, Ill.

SCIENCE, Sept. 15. "The Physics and Metaphysics of Unidentified Flying Objects", a university professor of physics says UFO's cannot be under extraterrestrial control if the laws of physics are valid. An interesting article to say the least.

FATE, Nov. 1967. "UFO's, Animal or Mineral?" by John P. Bessor. Also "How to Take UFO Photos" by Grace Hirman.

LET'S FACE THE FACTS ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS, paperback book by Gabriel Green. Price 60¢.

CORRECTION!

It was incorrectly stated in the Sept. SKYLOOK that the Lorenzen's book FLYING SAUCER OCCUPANTS is a reprint of a 1954 edition. The first printing was July 1967.

UFO OVER GOLDEN GATE

REYNOLDS COUNTY TIMES, Nov. 2nd of Eminence, Mo. "Motorist zipping along the Golden Gate freeway slammed on their brakes at the sight of a long, chrome-colored object hovering over the freeway.

Police flew within a few feet of the object, photographed it, and described it as a balloon 'within aluminium sheets hanging down', at about 4000 feet.

Co-pilot Joe Claridge said it was about five feet wide and seven feet long and looked like a coat hanging on a clothes hanger. He said it looked 'professionally made.'

But the 'professional balloon makers'--the Navy--quickly denied that it was a weather balloon and the Federal Aviation Administration denied any knowledge of it."

This was quoted verbatim from the news paper, which does not give their source. We'd like some more on this one.

AS DESIGNERS SEE UFO'S-continued

radios, televisions and aircraft instruments when a UFO was seen to hover or fly slowly near by. When the UFO departed, these standard electrical devices returned to normal, with no permanent damage.

Mr. Berliner says we have been working along similar lines for many years, but only limited progress has been made. He goes into detail citing designers using the disc shape with some areas of success and many of failure. Aircraft designers are intrigued with the disc shape for it offers great possibilities for high strength-to-weight, low drag and extreme maneuverability. General Dynamics engineer J.C. Fisher favors a disc-shaped re-entry vehicle and says, "To eliminate re-entry heat, if a disc-shaped vehicle were used for space projects, the outer periphery or the whole vehicle could be set to spinning about its central axis, thus picking up heat at the front and radiating it to the aft lower heat sink. Also gyro-stabilization and artificial gravity is achieved by the spin." Numerous reports of UFO's have mentioned spinning of the rim of the craft or even the entire object.

--- The total lack of sonic boom is one more of the puzzles of UFO flight. All our experience to date indicates any craft flying faster than the speed of sound, within our atmosphere, creates a shock wave which is heard as a sonic boom by anyone in its path. Boeing, in its efforts to cut down the unpleasant effects of sonic booms from its supersonic transport, has invested a great deal of money in shock wave research, with some interesting results. That firm's aerodynamists have come up with a vehicle shape which will not leave a sonic boom, at least in the wind tunnel. This vehicle with a perfectly flared bottom, leaves a shock wave that is parallel to the line of flight. If the line of flight remains parallel to the ground, the shock wave will never reach the ground, thus enabling the craft to fly at supersonic speeds without creating a sonic boom. The classic flying saucer, being round on top and flat on the bottom, could very well be achieving boom-less flight in just this way.

(CONCLUSION IN DECEMBER ISSUE)

DON'T MISTAKE THESE FOR UFO'S

The Taurid meteor shower reaches maximum on Nov 5th but will be active for the entire month. The Taurids are reddish and move slowly.

The Leonid meteor shower peaks on Nov. 17th however the full moon will dim their display.

The planets Mercury and Venus are visible in the early morning hours while Jupiter is rising about midnight. Mars, glowing reddish-orange, is seen in the low southwestern sky after sunset.

UFO SEEN IN GREENE COUNTY

LEADER AND PRESS, Oct. 22nd of Springfield carried a story of a large object seen from different areas in Greene County the day before between 6 and 6:15 am. Five Sheriff's deputies observed the object traveling west at a high rate of speed. Jerry Immon, Don Kordalis and Don Deckard were on Highway M near South Campbell when they saw the UFO. Immon said it had two oblong-shaped windows with a white glow coming from the interior and a long red flame coming out of the rear.

It was also reported that four squirrel hunters saw the object.

OBJECTS SEEN AT THAYER

Several people at Thayer reported seeing two large glowing objects early Friday morning, Oct. 20th. Further details were not learned.

PLAQUE TO MARK SNIPPY'S DEMISE

TULSA TRIBUNE, Oct. 16, 1967. A plaque will mark the spot where Snippy, the horse, met death early in september on the Harry King ranch 20 miles from Alamosa, Colorado.

The story of Snippy's death, believed to be caused by a UFO by the owner, Mrs. Berle Lewis, and others in the San Luis Valley, was given in last month's SKYLOOK. Since that time we have a few more bits of information to add.

(continued on page six)

ON THE PERSONAL SIDE

This month meet the Assistant Editor of SKYLOOK, without whom this bulletin could not function.

Ted Phillips, Jr.

was born in Sedalia, Jan. 20, 1942, and has spent most of his life there. He became interested in UFO's after seeing an unusual sky object in 1952. He is a member of both NICAP and APRO and corresponds with members of each group. With a file of some 3,000 reports of UFO sightings, obtained from personal and printed sources, Ted is continually adding to this number and is tireless in his pursuit of corroborative evidence when a good sighting is reported. He says; "I have not drawn any absolute conclusions on the UFO question, but I do feel that the extraterrestrial theory is the most likely."

Ted has other interest too--he started studying astronomy at the age of eight and still pursues that hobby. He was Junior Representative for the Mid-States Region of the Astronomical League in 1958 and was President of the Sedalia Astronomy Group for three years. He has a 6-inch reflecting telescope and another hobby--photography--enables him to process astronomical and other photographs in his own darkroom.

As a member of the National Speleological Society, he has visited more than 300 caves in Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia.

Other hobbies include collecting Indian artifacts and playing drums.

Ted has been employed by the Missouri State Highway Department the past five years and his current position is that of Office Secretary. He is enrolled in a highway engineering course.

Ted and his wife, Ginger, have been married five years.

GIRLS SEE OBJECT

Two 16-year old girls observed a round object with a "foggy red glow" about a mile from their home in Sarcoxie, July 9th. They said it disappeared once then reappeared.

FT. RILEY UNIT WATCHES UFO'S

KANSAS CITY STAR, Nov. 4, 1967. Four UFO's were sighted Saturday morning, Nov. 4th, by members of a Ft. Riley, Kansas, Army unit.

The unit reported the sighting of four bright objects in the sky over the intersection of U.S. 77 and K-82. The objects had been seen earlier by four boys at Clay Center and police there had asked police in Junction City to contact Ft. Riley for identification of the objects by military authorities.

Ft. Riley officials told the police they believed the object was a satellite, but dispatched the Army unit to check. The unit reported spotting the objects and said at one time they appeared to be quite low. They hovered, then moved to the east and back to the west before disappearing. The unit reported training a spotlight on the objects, but could not distinguish what they were.

THEY SAY---

Paul Hellyer, Canada's defense minister, in the WINNIPEG FREE PRESS, "We neither declare that we believe such reports exist nor dismiss any report of UFO's as being without foundation."

Roscoe Drummond, nationally-syndicated newspaper columnist, "The Condon team is not doing this job reluctantly; they are doing it with a sense of excitement; they know that just possibly they may be within reach of the biggest discovery of the ages."

Dr. J.E. McDonald, University of Arizona, "There is, in my opinion, no sensible alternative to the utterly shocking hypothesis that the UFO's are extraterrestrial probes from somewhere else."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek: "It is unequivocally false to say that UFO's are never reported by scientifically trained people. Some of the best most coherent reports come from such witnesses,"

SNIPPY--continued from page four

MORE LITTLE MEN

Ted Phillips, Jr. talked by telephone to Mrs. Herb Roth, of Denver, Oct. 13th, and learned that Roth and three other NICAP members had gone to the scene and were taking photographs and collecting material for study and analysis. We hope to get a further report on this.

The TULSA TRIBUNE reports a member of the Condon team was among the investigators at the scene, although an earlier report had quoted Dr. Condon as saying there were no plans to send an investigating team.

KANSAS CITY TIMES, Oct. 14, 1967. Dr. R.O. Adams of Colorado State University's college of veterinary medicine and bio-medical sciences as saying his investigation reveled nothing that could not be explained in natural terms. He said there was some evidence of "sever infection."

We would agree that it would indeed be a "severe" infection that would leave a smooth cut around the neck of the horse and leave the horses' abdominal, brain, and spinal cavities empty, as reveled by an autopsy (reported by the DENVER POST). The pathologist is quoted as saying, "There definitely should have been a good bit of fluid in the brain cavity."

In addition to the findings reviewed here, you will recall that a search of the area of Snippy's death reveled circular exhaust marks covering an area about 100 by 50 yards, flattened brush within a 10-foot radius of a three foot high bush squashed to the ground, six indentations forming a circle three feet in diameter, and some black material showing high radioactive readings. Frequent UFO sightings had been made in the area as well as in Denver where Judge Charles E. Bennett of the Denver Supior Court was among those reporting "three ring shaped objects, reddish-orange in color, flying at an altitude of 2,000 to 3,000 feet" and making a humming sound.

So the death of Snippy remains a mystery. If the whole set-up was a hoax planned for publicity value, it was extremely well planned and carefully executed. If NOT, we don't believe "a severe infection" covers Snippy's condition or accounts for the surrounding circumstances.

HERLD-WHIG, Nov. 7th of Quincy, Ill. told of two Navajo Indians from New Mexico were working on a potato farm near Ririe, Idaho, and reported to State Police that a small space vehicle forced their car off a back county road and two "little green men" got out and jabbered angrily in a strange young, then returned to their vehicle and took off at high speed. Police said there was some damage to the car where it had plunged into a ditch. (Editor's note: we wonder if those litthe green men weren't really riding pink elephants instead of a flying saucer!)

SEND US CLIPPINGS

To repear--please send any newspaper clippings on UFO's to SKYLOOK, being sure to give name and date of the newspaper. Thank you.