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SKYLOOK

NUMBER 24

NOVEMBER 1969

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"We tell it as it is."

SKYLOOK

The official publication of the Midwest UFO Network

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Special Contributors:

These are given credit as their reports appear.

Policy

To separate fact from fantasy. To the best of our knowledge, material used is from reliable sources. To the best of our ability, we tell it as it is.

Permission to use our reports is granted provided full credit is given by using SKYLOOK, Box 129, Stover, Mo. as source.

We welcome UFO reports, newspaper clippings and letters. Material will be returned if request is made. All copy should reach us by the 20th of the month. Material received later may be held over.

Write for advertising rates. The editor reserves the right to reject material failing to meet SKYLOOK standards of integrity.

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With the Editor

In our opinion, the biggest road block to investigation of unidentified flying objects is The Enemy Within--not the Dr. Condon type whose official policy appears to be hebunking and is easily recognized--but, along with the contactee and cultist mentioned in the September issue of SKYLOOK, the so-called ufologist who writes for our own magazines and the slick paper publications under the guise of serious investigation, coming up with a new gimmick every few months to catch the public interest and sell another article. Science fiction is fine--but it should be labeled as such.

Mr. Average Man, now becoming interested in UFO's, may pick up a magazine and run across an article stating all UFO's come from secret underground bases in the Whozit Mountains. A few months later he sees another article, perhaps by the same writer, stating the unidentified flying objects are not "objects" at all, but are little winged ghost-like critters from Never-Never Land who are teasing us by assuming all the various shapes and sizes that have been seen in the skies, and always with the sinister threat of dire disaster if we fail to "understand" and heed their "message" whatever that may be.

Mr. Man may have read the Condon Report--or at least reports of the Report--and decided on his own that all has not been told and maybe there is something to this UFO business after all; but after reading a series of these articles, all purporting to be the very latest revelation after long study and investigation (even tho the same instant expert spent an equally long (?) period on another theory of a few months earlier is apt to laugh the whole thing off. Later, if Mr. Man sees a UFO himself, he'll probably decide to say nothing, not wanting to be classed with those he considers kooks.

This is one disservice to the ufology cause. Another is the effect of the gimmick writer on the minds of the gullable who stand in awe of the printed word. How often have you heard someone declare, "It must be true--I read it in paper!"

These writers would have had a ball back in the days of witch hunting. UFO's have now been linked with everything unusual or unexplained since the beginning of time. One fertile field that has been overlooked (or perhaps we have just missed it) are all the tales from the "Arabian Nights." We predict these will soon be rewritten as "fact" and that good old Magic Carpet will become a UFO, and Aladdin's genie a Space Brother.

Currently, the UFO once depicted as a solid object, a spacecraft manned by beings of superior technological knowledge, is suddenly old hat. It is scorned by the very writers who used to exploit it. Flying saucers are out--"things" are in. These writers are pretty secure in their field. They can't prove their theories, but neither can anyone disprove them. They are limited only by the extent of their imagination.

SKYLOOK is not trying to "prove" anything. We do not know what a UFO is, but we are extremely interested in finding out. Every member on the staff has his own ideas, but they are just ideas, perhaps even educated guesses in some cases, but they are never offered as scientific truths. And we investigate and report what is SEEN--not what is imagined.

(Continued on next page.)

With the Editor---(Continued)

We have been accused of having a closed mind in our failure to go along with some of the current fantasies. We deny that. We simply do not believe being open minded means being simple minded.

Because the various cults, contactees and gimmick writers do not hesitate to peddle their wares on the open market, we feel it is high time for the honest investigator to stand up to be counted--to speak out for telling it as it is.

Editors are speaking out.

Donald A. Johnson, editor of the "Flying Saucer Observer" wrote in his last issue: "In what seems to me to have been just recent years, a new development has occurred within the UFO field. That is, a gradual infiltration of mystic art material into various UFO publications. I am including with this, perhaps, unfairly, far-out material on very unrelated subjects.

"As a case in point, the following is a list of titles to articles that have appeared in the past few issues of a certain American UFO magazine: HELLO SATAN; THE GHOST OF CHRIST CHURCH; a book review of THE PSYCHIC WORLD AROUND US; MEN IN BLACK * * *

"Another UFO publication which up until a year ago had no occult-psychic classified advertising in it, now has two pages an issue. The magazine is a professional enterprise, published for profit, and I am mainly using this example to illustrate the recent influx of occult matter, but might there be some form of control as to what type of advertising is considered related to the UFO phenomena?" Mr. Johnson goes on to suggest the editor of a magazine should make this decision--and we agree.

Bonita Roman, editor of "Flying Saucer Bulletin," devotes an editorial to Contactees in her recent issue. We read this several times and trust we are stating her views correctly in summing up her classifying contactees as "professional" (fraud), "deluded" (a convert of the professional), and "real"--someone who has actually had contact in some way with a UFO, as an observer suffering burns either by actual contact or from beams of light emitted. Of the "professional" contactee, she writes: "If he is merely seeking self-importance for the purpose of making money, then sooner or later fraud will become obvious to the educated segment of the public."

We would like to repeat her words as being applicable to any of the Enemy Within:

"If he is merely seeking self-importance for the purpose of making money, then sooner or later fraud will become obvious to the educated segment of the public."

It couldn't be better said, and it is worth remembering.

As mentioned in October SKYLOOK, we have just recently become acquainted with Mike Jaffe's "Data-Net Control" and since he has kindly supplied us with some back issues as well as the current copy of his fine bulletin, we have been reading with delight. Mike is a man with convictions--and the courage to back them. He never hesitates to call

(continued on next page)

With the Editor--(Continued):

a spade a spade even when it's tied up with white ribbons and bears a famous-name label on the gilt handle. He gets right down to the nitty-gritty. We quote: " * * we have learned many lessons. Such as: the majority of reports from South America are worthlessly generated trash manufactured for the gullibles. We have the same situation here with magazine articles generated monthly as "true" but when I wrote questioning one, the author answered that any intelligent reader should know the article was a work of fiction * * * some of our investigators wrote to a few 'witnesses' mentioned in _____ (here he gives the name of a well known popular magazine) and other magazines and books. The letters were returned "unknown." Some of the garbage uncovered disclosed towns and police officers that did not exist."

Mike Jaffe swears allegiance to no group or groups. He says: "We do not advertise, publicize, write articles, books etc. Our research is strictly for our benefit. We are not interested in impressing the public with anything." And " * * * as a rule of thumb, you can dismiss most all information from so-called UFO EXPERTS. . . there are none."

We could go on and on, quoting Mike, but we suggest you read his bulletin yourself. We recommend it highly.

We really didn't intend to write at this great length, but we got carried away--this "telling it as it is" is a subject we feel strongly about. We may lose some readers because we fail to provide the entertainment offered by the gimmicks, but we are getting letters from readers who applaud our stand. We make no claim to being one of the "instant experts;" we do make an honest effort to separate fact from fantasy. No doubt we make mistakes (no doubt at all!) but we keep trying.

The best weapon for the Enemy Within? In one word--think.

Addresses of magazines named in editorial: FLYING SAUCER OBSERVER, write Donald A. Johnson, Sand Hill Road, Portland, Conn. 06430. FLYING SAUCER BULLETIN, write SinDec Co., R. 3, Yankee Road, Middletown, Ohio, 45042. DATA-NET CONTROL, write Michel M. Jaffee, 624 Farley St., Mountain View, Calif. 94040.

Views May Differ--Each Writer Expresses His Own

As a sort of P.S. to the above, we feel we should add the opinions expressed are the personal convictions of Ye Ed. While the SKYLOOK staff sees as one in our goal of telling it as it is, there is plenty of room for honest differences of opinion, and we see nothing wrong with this. It is a healthy condition that indicates growth.

With so many unknowns in the ufology field, there is plenty of room for every investigator to follow his particular interests. Each staff member is free to express his own views--we wouldn't have it any other way. They understand this, and we want our readers to.

We have no quarrel with a difference of opinion--only with the deliberate perfidy.

All clear? Good.

Fiery Meteor Flashes Across Midwest October 9th

Hundreds of people in the midwest saw an apparent meteor flash across the pre-dawn skies Thursday, October 9th. According to newspaper clippings sent in to SKYLOOK, it was seen in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, where it seemed to be "overhead" but the light in the sky was seen over an area extending from Grand Island, Nebraska, to Ft. Worth, Texas.

The "Southwest Times Record," Ft. Smith, Ark., said their first reports came from two Ft. Smith residents, who sighted the object about 2:16 a.m. They were leaving work when "the entire area was illuminated."

"I looked around," one witness said, "and saw a ball of fire falling rapidly in the northern sky. It looked about the size of a basketball and disappeared behind the buildings."

The other witness said the brightness of the object was like "an arc welding torch." She said she had seen several meteors and meteorites and "this was many times larger than any of the others." Both said they thought it hit in the Ft. Smith area because it "appeared so large and was moving so rapidly." One said she did not believe in spaceships, "but this was almost enough to make me change my mind."

They described the coloring as "fluorescent green around the leading edge, with the rest of the sphere a hot white." They said it was followed by a long trail of fire.

A report was received from a woman at Alma (Ark.) who saw the flash of light and heard an accompanying explosion, and she thought it hit near her house.

A commercial airline pilot, airborne between Fayetteville and Harrison (Ark.) reported to the FAA tower at the Ft. Smith Municipal Airport and said the meteor was "the largest I've ever seen. It lit up my cockpit." Another report came from a pilot on the ground at Pine Bluff, Ark. All placed the time of sighting between 2:15 and 2:20 a.m.

Cushing, Okla., Police Capt. Jim Kirk said he and an auxiliary policeman sighted the object at 2:17 a.m. and the light lasted for 30-40 seconds. Kirk, who theorized the object was probably a meteor, said it "was a thousand times bigger" than anything he had seen.

The Missouri Highway Patrol said calls had been received from Dos Moines, Iowa, to Arkansas. "People reported a tremendous flash and a loud explosion," the dispatcher said. "And at all points," he added, "each said the flash was directly over their heads."

A police dispatcher at Nevada, Mo., near the Kansas border, said she had received telephone calls from western Missouri, including several from Willow Springs, about 150 miles southeast near the Arkansas border. Many of the callers said a bright body broke up in the sky and fell earthward.

(Continued on next page)

Red Ball Hovers 20 Minutes in Oklahoma Sky

Mrs. Jean Lamb watched a red ball of light over her home two miles from Muldrow, Oklahoma, and she can't explain what she saw and neither can we. Her report was well written, and we are using it just as she wrote us:--

On the nights of September 12th and 13th at 8:55 p.m. my daughter (age 14) and I were sitting on our front porch (the first night) just enjoying the evening when suddenly in the sky was a huge, red ball of light, slightly larger than a full moon. (The moon didn't rise until much later.) It didn't move or make any sound, nor did it gradually appear--one second there was nothing but the evening sky (clear) and the next, there it was!

As we watched, and the hairs on my arms stood on end--it gradually faded in color from red to pink to white and took on the shape of a white, fluffy cloud. It still didn't move and we watched until there simply wasn't anything else to see. It didn't move away. Total viewing time was 20 minutes.

The following night my six children and I waited and at 8:55 there it was again. It followed the same routine, the only difference being the sky, which was cloudy.

My first thought was of a searchlight (I was born in England and saw many searchlights during World War II). But there was no light source leading up to the red ball and searchlights don't fade away; they either swing away or go out.

The following night, Sept. 14, was my husband's night off, and we went outside to see if it would happen again. It didn't, and nothing has occurred since. (End of direct quote)

Mrs. Lamb added the red ball was in the western sky at about eleven o'clock position and it did not appear flat against the sky but "as a penny looks standing on its rim."

The Lambs made many inquiries but, so far, have found no one else who saw the red ball or who can explain it.

As our reader circulation in Oklahoma is growing, it is possible someone else may have seen the UFO that night. If so, we'd like to hear their report.

Lou Farish Writes Chapter for Book

We mentioned in a recent issue that John Schuessler, one of our staff, is writing a chapter for a UFO manual to be published by Anthony Pace of the Newchapel Observatory in England. Lou Farish, another staff member, has also been requested to do a chapter for the manual. He is writing on "Historical UFO Research."

And we'll say it again--we are proud of our staff.

Bright Object Seen in Illinois

On Saturday, Sept. 27, about 6:30 PM. Toby Sterne, 15, and his grandmother, Mrs. M. G. Sterne, Sr., saw a bright object in the sky which they could not identify.

They were driving north along the Mississippi river just out of Hamilton, Ill., when Mrs. Sterne noticed a bright object across the river and just north of Keokuk, Ia. She thought it looked like a bright ice cream cone, but Toby, who had more time to observe the object, described its shape as being like two saucers lip to lip, but in a vertical position.

They immediately slowed to about 30 miles per hour or less, and had the object in view for three or four minutes. It dropped straight down for at least ten degrees and then moved further into the west. As they passed some trees, the object was lost to view behind the trees and when they could again see that area of sky, the object had disappeared.

They made their report to Robert Smulling, of Hamilton, Ill., who sent it to SKYLOOK with the comment that one might think the object was a balloon reflecting the sunset except that it seemed to move too quickly, and there was not that much wind.

Mr. Smulling, who operates the Smulling Studio at 771 Broadway, is Chairman of the UFO Tri-State Study Group, and we are happy to receive a report from him.

Strange Object Seen in Stover, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Smith, who operate a drive in restaurant in Stover, Mo., and a customer, a farmer living west of the small Ozarks town, all observed a strange object about ten o'clock Saturday night, October 18th.

The drive in is located on Highways 52-135, and the farmer, sitting where he faced the front windows was first to see the object and called Mr. and Mrs. Smith's attention to it. Described as round and balloon-like in shape, with a diameter of three or four feet and greenish, red and blue lights, it was about seven feet above the ground, and moved in a straight line from in front of the Reed Blackman house across the highway to the alley edging their lot, moving rapidly from east to west in a straight line, then suddenly disappearing.

Mrs. Smith said she thought it was going to hit a tree in its path, but as it neared that point, it "just went out like a light." In trying to recall details, she said the colors were outstanding. There were no flashing lights, or even bright lights, but a glow which made the colors stand out.

The weather was cloudy and there was a light rain which turned into a heavy downpour shortly after the object was seen and no one ventured across the highway to see if anything could be found where the object had disappeared. There was no thunder and lightning at the time of the sighting, but a thunder shower followed.

Fiery Meteor. . . (Continued)

A truck driver traveling Interstate 70 reported what he called a meteor and said it exploded about 75 feet above the ground near Solomon, Kansas. Dwight Evans, 44, the driver, said, "The whole sky just seemed to light up like an arc welder's torch. There was this huge ball of fire in the sky that appeared to be about the size of a compact car. It was blue, red and orange and there was a terrific amount of sparks coming off of it. It exploded just before it hit the ground."

At Manhattan, Kansas, Dr. John C. Evans, director of the observatory at Kansas State University, identified the object as a large meteor, referred to as a "fireball" when it enters the earth's atmosphere. He said that although so-called shooting stars are frequently sighted, fireballs are sighted only once or twice a year world-wide. He said fireballs range from two to 10 feet in diameter while a shooting star is about the size of a baseball.

A University of Kansas geology professor, Dr. William Van Schmus, is appealing for more information from the public about the brilliant object. In a story out of Lawrence, Kansas, in the "Kansas City Times" on Oct. 10, he is quoted as saying more information is needed, particularly personal sightings, to identify the object.

Dr. Van Schmus is working with the Smithsonian Institution's Astrophysical observatory, whose 16-camera Prairie network continually photographs the Mid-Western night sky. He said films at the time of the flash were being processed but may have been washed out by the brightness of the flash. He hopes to determine whether it was a meteorite and to find some particles. He said a crude guess would be the object was about one ton when it entered the atmosphere, and if it did not break up, there could be as much as 200 pounds of matter buried somewhere in a small crater. Dr. Van Schmus said the object could be the biggest meteor recovery in Missouri since 1916. If the article did not remain whole, he said, it could have scattered into pieces 6 to 12 inches in diameter, or even into a small shower of sand-like particles that would sound like hail falling on a rooftop.

A paragraph appeared in "The Salem Post" (Salem, Mo.) stating City Officers Bill McElfresh and Bob Delcour reported seeing a bright meteorite early Thursday morning about 3 a.m.

Ted Phillips, of Sedalia, sent a clipping from the "Kansas City Star" and added that the Richard's Gebaur Air Force Base reported an object in a north-south track, then later denied the report. And at the Whiteman Air Force Base, near Sedalia, airmen on duty reported a white light hovering east of the landing strip and white lights around several missile sights. The description given of these lights does not seem to relate to the flashing meteor, and Mr. Phillips is attempting to obtain more information on them as well as other recent reports from the Whiteman Base area.

SKYLOOK would like to have other newspaper clippings from towns where the apparent meteor was observed.

Source and Credits: The newspapers mentioned, Ted Phillips, and especially Jean Lamb of Muldrow, Okla., for the fine Arkansas report.

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Balloons . . By Ted Phillips---(Continued)

generally maintain an altitude of 35,000 feet. One launched from New Zealand disappeared only to be relocated 30 days later, still aloft.

Balloons of the Skyhook class may appear to the unaided eye as round, silver objects moving slowly across the sky. This type, when seen just after sunset, present a striking sight, glowing with a reddish-orange sheen. When seen through binoculars or a telescope, they generally present an elongated shape.

Radiosonde balloons are launched by various weather stations over the entire United States. These balloons are about 15 feet in length and 5 feet in diameter. They carry a small payload of instruments. The total flight time rarely exceeds two hours. In that time these balloons can cover a considerable distance as the upper winds push them along at speeds of 50 knots. The writer checked at considerable length on the radiosonde launches in Missouri and surrounding states in an effort to determine if the object seen in the Osage Beach and Stover (Mo.) area was a balloon. (This sighting occurred on Aug. 12, 1969, and was reported in the September issue of SKYLOOK.) Although the description would seem to indicate a balloon, none can be placed in that area and the sighting still remains an unknown.

Reader Service Items

Joseph L. Ferriere is host and moderator of "Probing the Unknown" on Radio Station WNRI every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 PM and he would like reports on UFO's and will give on-the-air credit for any material used. Write him in care of Station WNRI, 786 Diamond Hill Road, Woonsocket, R. I. 02895.

Joseph M. Erhardt, 43 Richland Drive, Newport News, Va., 23602, is editor of a new UFOzine, UFO CHRONOLOG, to be published bi-monthly, and sold by a single issue only for the present, price 35¢. In order to follow the chronology, you'll need the first issue (July-August) in order to understand the Erhardt Data Index System which is explained in detail and will be used in all subsequent issues.

UFO POTPOURRI is non-scheduled and is available only through exchange for other UFO publications, reports and clippings. This informative newsletter is written by John Schuessler, P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo. 63366.

Ted Phillips, 1113 Ware Ave., Sedalia, Mo., 65301, wants your reports on Missouri UFO's--old or new, as he is compiling a complete file of Missouri reports.

Don't overlook the Special Announcement on the back page.

Interest in UFO's Holds Up Despite Ridicule

A St. Louis "Globe-Democrat" reporter phoned the Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airport to ask if there had been any reports of unidentified flying objects lately, and the flight director in the control tower quipped, "We gave them a landing clearance and all UFOs have landed."

The same inquiry at police headquarters elicited this reply. "Hey, that's a good one, I needed a laugh to break up the day."

A spokesman at Scott Air Force Base said they receive two or three calls a week, and Ronald R. Sutherland, director of McDonnell Planetarium in Forest Park, St. Louis, said his office gets calls from time to time. He had this to say: "If a person takes a prejudicial view one way or another, he is only kidding himself. I think the scientific community in general is willing to be open-minded about the subject because to be close-minded about UFOs would be extremely unscientific."

Arthur Epstein, APRO investigator and charter member of the The UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, was interviewed and said: "Our biggest concern in the United States is getting people who have stories to tell to turn them in. There has been so much ridicule that the general public is reluctant to make reports of sightings."

Referring to the government-financed Condon report, he said, "And the Air Force be damned, we're going to study this thing." He added, "Our organization is independently finding out more than the Air Force is and why they want to keep the reports covered up we don't know."

Concluding his article, the reporter wrote, "There are perhaps still some unanswered questions about the matter of UFOs." And that is an understatement if we ever heard one.

Credit: John Schuessler.

Astronomers Suggest Scientists Handle UFO Probe

A panel sponsored by the National Amateur Astronomers convention held in Denver in August suggested that the probe of unidentified flying objects be taken from the Air Force and placed with a body of scientists.

The six panel members, all scientists, expressed strong disagreement with a report debunking UFOs compiled over a period of two years for the Air Force at a cost of \$539,740. This, of course, was the Condon report.

One of the panelists, Dr. Allen Hynek, director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., said UFO research should continue despite the negative impact of the Condon report.

Source: "Arkansas Gazette," Aug. 24, 1969. Credit: Lou Farish.

Be sure to read the ANNOUNCEMENT on the back page of SKYLOOK.

SKYLOOK Staff Member Included in Favorable Press Notice

"The Clayton County Register" (Iowa) of September 24, 1969 carried the following report under three-columns wide headlines:

Northwestern University Team Investigates UFO Sightings in Central Clayton County

Three recognized authorities were in the Elkader area Sunday and Monday carrying out a scientific study of unidentified flying objects.

Heading up the team was Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director, Department of Astronomy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. Assisting Dr. Hynek in the Elkader field trip were Fred H. Beckman, chief scientist, Argonne Cancer Research Hospital, University of Chicago and Ted Phillips, Missouri State Highway Commission, Sedalia, Mo., who as an individual, investigates sightings in the state of Missouri for the Northwestern University group.

The group was in Elkader to follow up a sighting which occurred at the Arno and Don Wilke farm field two miles east of Elkader on the evening of Aug. 6.

The Northwestern University investigation party learned of the Wilke sighting from an account that appeared in the Aug. 27 issue of The Clayton County Register. A subscriber of the Register in Missouri sent the article to Phillips after reading about his work in a feature story in a Missouri daily.

The Northwestern University group arrived in Elkader late Sunday afternoon and were accompanied in their field trip by Robert Griffith and Ed Olson of The Register staff.

The first stop on the field trip was the Wilke farms where the investigators visited with members of the Don and Arno Wilke families. The group later visited the field where the Wilkes had sighted their object and data of the incident was recorded on film and tape.

Following the investigation at the Wilke farm and the area adjoining, Professor Hynek stated that the Wilke sighting was genuine and fits a pattern familiar to his group. He added that at this time he does not have an explanation for the incident.

As consultant on UFOs to the U.S. Air Force for more than 20 years, Dr. Hynek has examined thousands of reports of "flying saucers" and investigated many of them personally.

At present Dr. Hynek and his committee are engaged in a scientific study of UFOs that have been seen at a close distance. Particularly where animals were affected or frightened, where cars were stopped, or where people have been frightened, paralyzed or physically affected.

Editor's Note: The Wilkie sighting was reported in the October issue of SKYLOOK. Mr. Phillips reports he greatly enjoyed his trip to Elkader and the opportunity to work with Dr. Hynek and Mr. Beckman and feels he has learned a great deal from the association.

Former Air Force Member Reports UFO

James A. Piatt, 508 South Vermont, Sedalia, Mo., recently made a report on an unidentified flying object he and his wife observed one morning in the last week of August in 1967. His story is written from his taped interview with SKYLOOK's staff member, Ted Phillips.

Mr. Piatt, with the United States Air Force and stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base, some 20 miles west of Sedalia until October, 1967, was returning to Sedalia from a visit with relatives in Ohio. It was a clear night with the moon and stars out and was just a few minutes past one o'clock when the light appeared.

"I was driving along, not particularly paying attention to the sky, when for some reason, some light caught my eye and I looked up at it. I was in the Lake Erie area, at the crossway that crosses what is called West Harbor, highway 357," Mr. Piatt explained.

"I looked up and saw the light. It was a yellow type light, rather than the blue light given off by a star and as I watched it, the one light became two."

At this point the observer awakened his wife, who had been asleep in the seat beside him, and she too watched the light.

Mr. Piatt continued, "It changed from two lights to four and at this point, I pulled off the road and the car ahead also pulled off the highway. We both shut off our motors and got out. As I watched, the four lights became six, and the six lights became eight. They were in a row of two rows parallel, four lights in each row, and I could see they were opposite each other."

"They were about a 45 degree angle to the horizon and to the left. They were all the same color, the same yellow type light," Mr. Piatt said. "We heard no sound. As we watched, it was as if these lights were navigational lights on a--say, if you took a saucer or a disc and placed it on a 45 degree angle so that you could see the edge of it, and say these were navigational lights around the edge, in rows. As we watched it, it seemed to rotate away from us so the lights diminished two at a time, until there was, at last nothing."

"My wife was very upset," Mr. Piatt said, "and suggested that we contact the area constable, which we did. The gentleman who pulled off ahead of me, I later learned, was a retired highway patrolman. He also had called the constable and he contacted the Coast Guard station at Marblehead at which time he learned that they too had sighted the lights and had dispatched a cutter."

"There were reports from other people," Mr. Piatt concluded and added there was a small item in the "Portland Herald" the following day. The sighting remained unexplained.

The object had been in view about three minutes the observer said and had hovered motionless until the lights turned away. The lights did not brighten or dim.

Credit: Ted Phillips, Jr.

UFO Reported in Night Sky over Denver

An unidentifiable luminous formation was sighted Thursday night, Oct. 9, as it made two passes over the Denver, Colorado, area.

The third such sighting in as many nights, the formation, traveling soundlessly on a north-to-south course, consisted of a loose V-shape with 10 to 12 lights on each arm of the shape. Wednesday's incident was witnessed by a dozen persons including a Rocky Mountain News reporter-photographer team.

The mysterious object was first spotted at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday by Randall J. Pocius, 17, of 5853 S. Fox Way, and Stephen Field, 15, of 5706 Pearl St. as they were walking in the vicinity of S. Elati Street and W. Shepperd Avenue.

At that time the formation traversed an east-to-west course for approximately 10 seconds before turning sharply to the north. It traveled in that direction a few seconds, then disappeared.

After giving their statements to the Littleton Police Department, the boys, armed with binoculars and a camera, returned Wednesday night to the scene of the first sighting where they again spotted the formation at 8:10 p.m.

Pocius and Field brought the film to the News for processing and found much to their chagrin that nothing was recorded.

Hoping that better camera equipment might do the trick, the News team accompanied the youths Thursday to East Elementary School, S. Bannock Street and W. Shepperd Avenue to await the arrival of the object, which made its first pass at 8 p.m. and the second at 8:15 p.m. On the last pass, the formation was followed at a distance by what appeared to be two jet aircraft.

A check with officials at Stapleton International Airport disclosed no unusual activity reported in the area of the sighting at the times stated.

Again, due to the speed and low intensity of the object's lights, the camera was unable to record the event.

A plausible explanation of the phenomena was offered by an authority on UFOs who said the formation's shape, and behavior was similar to what has become known as the Lubbock Lights, a UFO first sighted in Lubbock, Texas, on Aug. 25, 1951, and observed many times since.

Source: "The Rocky Mountain News," Denver, Colo. Oct. 10, 1969
Credit: Art Richter, Webster Groves, Mo.

We have been asked to announce that PROBE is no longer an affiliate of the Allied Saucers Association. However, A.S.A. will publish an unscheduled newsletter edited by Earl F. Fickelsher, P. O. Box 35, Eden, N. Y. 14057. Sample copy, 25¢

The third special issue from the publishers of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, "UFO Percipients," is now available. This 44-page magazine contains articles by Aime Michel, Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz, Gordon Creighton, H. S. W. Chibbet and Nigel Rimes, as well as an introduction by FSR editor, Charles Bowen. It is devoted solely to an examination of various occupant/contact reports. Aime Michel's contribution, "The Strange Case of Dr. 'X'," is one of the most interesting cases which has come to light recently. Dr. Schwarz reports on his research into the Gary Wilcox contact story of 1964, adding some new and interesting details. Although the type of material presented in this publication may seem "far out" to some UFO researchers, it is essential that all aspects of the subject be given due consideration. For that reason, "UFO Percipients" is recommended.

"Advanced civilizations in outer space may soon contact Earth with communication satellites." That is the opening sentence in Kenneth Dorn's article in the October 26th issue of the NATIONAL ENQUIRER. The article deals with the theories of Dr. Ronald N. Bracewell, physicist and director of the Radio Astronomy Institute, at Stanford University, Stanford, California. It is Dr. Bracewell's belief that such "communication satellites" probably originate in another solar system, "being launched in all directions from the parent planets. Occasionally they make contacts, and report back to the parent planet by radio. Ultimately the parent planet establishes direct communication with the contacted planet." Although UFOs, per se, are not mentioned in the article, it is an interesting look at one scientist's ideas of extraterrestrial life and the possibilities of such life visiting us.

Otto O. Binder and Joan Whritenour return to the pages of the November issue of SAGA with an article on possible underground UFO bases on our own planet. There does seem to be considerable evidence of some type of subterranean activity throughout history on the part of persons unknown, although some of the material presented in this article is rather speculative in nature. This writer is quoted inaccurately at one point and other material originates with very questionable sources. In short, the basic premise is an interesting one and has something to be said in its favor, even if this presentation does not offer an abundance of "hard evidence."

According to the Sept-Oct. 1969 issue of NICAP's UFO INVESTIGATOR, a new publication, STRANGE EFFECTS FROM UFO's, should be off the presses around November 1st. The book deals with E-M effects, strange reactions of animals when UFOs are present etc. A special section on UFO occupant reports is also scheduled for inclusion. The price for this volume is \$3.00 (U.S.); orders to be placed with NICAP, 1536 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. 20036.

The August issue of SKYLOOK had the report of a 27 ft. diameter ring left on the farm of Leo Paul Chaput, Ontario, Canada, and the October issue carried the report of a 40-ft. diameter ring in the soybean field of the Warren Barr farm in Iowa.

Brian C. Cannon, APRO investigator and contributing editor to the fine CANADIAN UFO REPORT, and frequent contributor to SKYLOOK, informs us these circles of scorched or flattened vegetation have been found not only in Canada and the United States, but also in Europe, Australia and South America. Nearly always a UFO has been seen at the time, and it would seem this indicates something more than just coincidence.

The Chaput circle was observed on May 11, the morning after the family had been awakened by their dog barking and had seen a UFO. Mr. Cannon reports another circle, 32 feet in diameter, and part of a third one were also found. In each of the two large circles, impressions had been made in the earth which, if joined by straight lines, would have formed a perfect equilateral triangle.

On June 2nd, this year, another circle was seen on the John McLaren 300-acre farm near Meath, Ontario. The McLaren children discovered the circle measuring 35 feet in diameter. A realtor, who had been over the area two days before, said he was certain the circle was not there at that time. A 2½ ft. ring of burned grass outlined the circle. In this case, no UFO had been reported in the vicinity but "something" had been there.

Many UFO sightings in Canada this summer centered around Allumette Lake and the Ottawa River near the Canadian Forces Base at Petawawa, Ontario.

Constable W. W. McQuirter, while patrolling Highway 41 south of Pembroke on a clear night the first week in May saw a bright revolving light hovering in the northeast. It hung silently in the air for three or four minutes and then slowly dropped to about three hundred feet above the ground, 500 feet from the officer. He stepped from his car to observe the round, clearly defined object whose light brightened and dimmed at regular intervals. There was no sound, and within moments the object lifted and disappeared from view in the pre-dawn sky.

On May 26, Raynard Ackert, of Holyrood, Ontario, had a strange experience. While driving a tractor through the field, the air became heavy and still and Mr. Ackert experienced difficulty in breathing and the tractor began to stall. Then suddenly a violent wind threw dirt and debris around Mr. Ackert, blowing his cap off and bending a metal sign on the rear of the tractor. The wind ceased as suddenly as it had begun. The farmer did not see anything unusual during this incident, but later it was learned that at least two witnesses, one a high school teacher, had watched a white cone-shaped object hovering in the sky that same evening.

On June 3, also in Ontario, Mrs. Jack Gardiner was awakened from sleep by a loud noise which sounded like a jet cracking the sound barrier.

UFO Reports in Canada, Summer 1969 (Continued)

Fearing the gas stove downstairs might have exploded, as the room was filled with light, Mrs. Gardiner hurried to the first floor to find nothing wrong. Returning to her bedroom, she looked out the window to see a saucer-shaped object hovering in the sky. It was "slightly smaller than the size of the moon" but bright enough to illuminate the sky around it. She watched it for a half hour until it slowly began to ascend and finally disappeared into the northeast.

An exciting event took place July 13 when Edgar Paquette, a National Defence employee and a companion, both of Petawawa, Ontario, saw what they first believed to be a falling star. But as the object drew to within a few hundred feet of the moving car and then flew parallel with the car, it was another matter. Paquette stopped the car and switched off the headlights. The object paused, then swooped to within 60 feet of the vehicle as the interior roof light went on as Paquette opened the door to step out. He could see the shape of the object and two "leg-like" protrusions. Terrified, he reentered his car and sped to the nearest house on the Black Bay Road, then informed the police.

Two constables arrived at the scene at 3:20 a.m. in time to see the UFO before it disappeared from view and a total of eleven persons reported seeing the oval object. Constable J. J. MacKay, of Pembroke, reported watching the object for 46 minutes. When he first observed it, it seemed to be hovering and was oval in shape. As it began rapid motion, it appeared to be more round than oval. The officer lost sight of it as he drove down the highway and trees obstructed his line of vision. The Canadian Forces radar station, 32 miles south, reported no unusual activity on their scopes.

The sightings continued through the summer and on August 21 an interesting report came from Bruce McAvella, of Hamilton, Ontario. At 11 o'clock that night, Mr. McAvella saw a huge, dark object flying low over his home. He said it looked like "a giant, upsidedown bowl with a peak on top." There was no sound or lights. The object came to within 300 feet of the house, then suddenly increased speed and took off toward the lake nearby. Mrs. McAvella also viewed the object before it disappeared from sight.

Mr. Cannon's ability as an investigator is well known to our readers who have read his reports in SKYLOOK and in other UFO publications. We hope to have Canadian reports from him frequently.

Those interested in subscribing to a UFO Newspaper Clipping Service should write UFORC, 3521 S. W. 104th St., Seattle, Washington, 98146. Photocopies of monthly North American clippings of recent UFO sightings are sent to subscribers at a very reasonable price. This clipping service is handled by Rod Dyke and is recommended highly by SKYLOOK.

Mr. Dyke was editor of the UFORC JOURNAL whose readers SKYLOOK inherited when the JOURNAL ceased publication. With more time now to devote to investigating, Rod does a fine job. He publishes a non scheduled newsletter on an exchange basis.

Silvery Object Floats over Palmyra, Mo.

A bright object was seen over Palmyra this afternoon about one o'clock by Mr. Wayne Beever and Mrs. John Schanz, both of whom telephoned Corbyn Jacobs, APRO investigator, at the postoffice. Mr. Beever and Mr. Jacobs drove to the south edge of the city where the object had been seen, but it had disappeared.

Mr. Beever described it as silver in color, reflecting sunlight and wobbling slightly. It appeared to be transparent and was moving slowly. The object was very close to the ground and indications are that it was a weather balloon about to drop to earth. Closer investigation of the incident is planned today.

Credit: Corbyn Jacobs, Palmyra, Mo., Oct. 17th

Bright Rocket-Like Light Seen in Maine

A Gardiner man on the way to Auburn for an Army Reserve meeting reported seeing what appeared to be a rocket in the western sky shortly before 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15. He told the "Lewiston Daily Sun" there was a bright light from whatever it was he saw rising, followed by a smoke trail which remained visible for ten to fifteen minutes. Other men at the meeting also told of seeing the bright object in the sky.

The "Daily Kennebec Journal" also reported several callers describing in almost identical terms the aerial spectacular that resembled a rocket taking off.

"The vertical shaft of light" was seen in the southwestern sky just before 7 p.m. It was "definitely moving upward" said one caller, and it trailed a column of smoke that glittered as it caught the rays of the sun, then already over the horizon.

No explanation could be learned.

Credit: William Grant, 40 Greenville St., Hallowell, Maine 04347

Read SPACELINK for world UFO news and flying saucer scene. Photos, contact, historical and reference sections also. 50¢ per copy or \$2.00 subscription. Write Miss Christine Henning, SK Subscription Dept., 99 Mayday Gardens, London, S. E. 3, England. --Adv.

Those Men In Black!

We have never believed in those Men In Black--but now we have seen them and fearsome creatures they are too. Their word is law, and any protest can bring quick reprisal. Where did we seem them? Why, at Shea Stadium during the televised games between the Mets and the Orioles.

We didn't seem the Black Cadillacs associated with the M.I.B. No doubt they were parked outside the ball park.

MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Tri-State UFO Study Group

The monthly meeting of the Tri-State UFO Study Group was held Wednesday, Oct. 15, at the First United Presbyterian Church in Quincy, Illinois.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved by Mrs. Grace Oberling. President Robert Smulling, of Hamilton, welcomed new members and guests. A. J. Petzold, program chairman, presented the speaker of the evening, Mr. Walt Andrus, Manager of Quality Control at Motorola, and Director of the Illinois section of APRO.

He spoke on "The People Behind UFO Investigation" and had slides of many who are prominent in the UFO field---scientists, educators, investigators and photographers whom he has personally met. He spoke of their philosophies, hypotheses and theories of the UFO enigma and also related his own impressions of their work.

His talk proved very interesting, and some of the people discussed were: Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Consultant to the U.S. Air Force for 20 years and Director of the Department of Astronomy, Northwestern University; Dr. Leo Sprinkle, Department head of Testing and Consulting, University of Wyoming at Laramie, and Consultant to APRO in Psychiatry; Dr. Allen R. Utke, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Wisconsin State University at Oshkosh, APRO Chemistry Consultant, and Director of the Midwest UFO Network; Alvin C. Brown, B.S.E.E. Lockheed in Mountain View, Calif., APRO Consultant in Medical-Electronics and former Research Director of APRO; William Powers, Northwestern University Lindheimer Observatory and assistant to Dr. Hynek; L. J. (Jim) Lorenzen, Director of APRO and co-author of several noted UFO books with his wife, Coral, Tucson, Ariz.; Coral Lorenzen, Secretary of APRO and Editor of the APRO BULLETIN, one of the founders of APRO, and co-author of four UFO books; Richard Greenwell, Assistant Director of APRO, Tucson; Lonnie Zamora, policeman who made one of the most publicized UFO observations in the United States in 1964 in Socorra, N. Mexico; John F. Schuessler, B.S.M.E. Consultant to APRO in Astronautics, Director of the Missouri Section of APRO, Director of Greater St. Louis UFO Study Group, Editor of UFO POTPOURRI, and staff member of SKYLOOK; Ted Phillips, Sedalia, Mo., UFO investigator of note and staff writer for SKYLOOK; and others who are active in the Illinois Section of APRO.

Refreshments were served following the meeting. The next meeting will be held at the same church November 19.

Credit: Reporter, Corbyn Jacobs.

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MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Aerial Phenomena Club Meets in Peoria

On Monday, October 13, the Aerial Phenomena Club of Central Illinois held its regular monthly meeting. The topic for discussion was "Airplanes and Their Relationship with UFOs." Many interesting situations were reviewed, one being the pilot who had "a football field sized UFO" remain directly over his plane no matter what evasive action he attempted.

Briefly discussed were the plans for the Ufologists convention to be held in Peoria early next summer with our group as sponsors. The plans are now taking definite form and should be pretty well outlined by the first of the year.

A new member was Mrs. Rita Newton, who upon hearing about SKYLOOK and our clubs' good opinion of the magazine, immediately subscribed.

The topic of November 10th's meeting will be "Missing Persons" and concerns people who have had some form of contact with UFOs and have disappeared. The meeting will be conducted by Dale Dufelmeier.

This group meets on the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Northminster Presbyterian Church at 7030 N. Rt. 88, Peoria, Ill. The meetings usually last about two hours. Visitors are welcome.

Editor's Comment: We are glad to know SKYLOOK is recommended by this organization, and we have a special interest in this group, many of whom are high school students. We suggest that all of our readers who have friends in the Peoria area tell them about this club so they can attend one of the meetings as a visitor and then become a member if they wish. There are adults in the group too and interest in the UFO phenomena is their common denominator, not age. Why don't YOU go to a meeting?

Sticky, White Fallout Believed to be Spider Web

St. Louis, Mo., has been having trouble with air pollution and now has another problem--a sticky, white fallout that began at 10:30 a.m. in St. Louis County, Oct. 9, and ranged from Franklin and St. Charles counties in Missouri to St. Clair County in Illinois according to reports made to the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat."

Scott Air Force Base denied an early rumor that the particles were dropped from an Air Force plane to test radar.

Donald A. Pecsok, director of the Air Pollution Control Division, said one laboratory had identified the mysterious white, threadlike particles as spider webs. A chemist from McDonnell Douglas Corp., said the substance was analysed in McDonnell laboratories and found to be "very close to fibrous silk."

Credit: John Schuessler, who penciled a big ? by the spider web theory.
Editor's Note: Maybe no connection whatever, but this is the same date of the meteor sighting over the midwest.

A N N O U N C E M E N T

Don't Miss!

On January 1, 1970, the subscription to SKYLOOK will be \$4.00 per year--twelve issues, and a sample copy will be 35¢. This is necessary in order to meet production costs.

We are making this announcement now in order to give our readers the opportunity to renew their subscriptions at the present rate---\$3.00 per year. For your convenience, we show the expiration date of your subscription at the right of your address, for example.

John Q. Public 12/69

The first figure indicates the month and the second, the year--Mr. Public's subscription expires December 1969 and that issue will be the last mailed to him unless he renews his subscription. A check received now means the renewal subscription will begin January 1970 and run through 12 months (with December 1970 issue the last).

Send check or money order to Norma E. Short (or SKYLOOK), Box 129, Stover, Mo. 65078.

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