THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

UFOS: A HISTORY

January - June 1960

By

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"UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse."

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

*Dacey 76*
“Dark Age.”

Waveney Girvan, writing in the English publication *Flying Saucer Review*, said:

“The years 1960, 1961 and 1962 were particularly dark. As far as general interest was concerned, the saucers might as well as have disappeared from our skies. While it was true that local reports kept coming in, the public got into their heads that the subject was nonsensical and that it was nothing more than an out-of-date newspaper stunt.” (xx.)


Richard Hall of NICAP recalls this period in this way:

“The period of 1958-1963 has to rank as the darkest of UFO ‘Dark Ages.’ Little or nothing about UFOs was reported by the news media, although scattered (but often significant) sightings were being made. NICAP struggled along trying to survive with little financial support and a staff of one (me). I had a few part time volunteers as helpers.” (xx.)


Air Force BLUE BOOK consultant Dr. J. Allen Hynek observed:

“…from 1958 through 1963, UFO reports began to diminish in quality as well as quantity, and I felt that perhaps ‘the flying saucer’ era was on the wane and would soon vanish. But since 1964 there has been a sharp rally in the numbers of puzzling sightings.” (xx.)


Jackie Gleason.

The “Great One” was one the most famous personalities in the entertainment business at this time. Although he earned huge amounts of money as an actor and a comedian, Jackie Gleason also had a serious side that had nothing to do with fame and fortune. He was fascinated by the para-normal and owned a huge library of 4,000 books devoted to unexplained phenomena.

Columnist Ben Gross noted in his “What’s On?” column in the *New York Daily News* that Gleason became sober, serious, and highly perceptive, when the para-normal subject came up, a subject notorious for fraud and misrepresentation. Gleason included the UFO mystery among his far-out interests. Gross learned about Gleason’s authoritativeness and his desire to impart his knowledge about the unknown quite by accident. Gross wrote:

“…about 2 A.M. Wednesday morning I happened to be listening to Long John’s all-night session on WOR when who should be dominating the conversation but that
robust, roistering and talented comedian, Jackie Gleason.

"He was talking about flying saucers (says they come from other planets), extrasensory perception (he believes in it), ghosts, poltergeists, teleportation (he’s sold on these) and religion (he’s a true believer). And what’s more, he discussed these topics in a highly articulate, intelligent and often a witty manner.

"Unexpectedly, Jackie walked into Long John’s studio while the tall one [LJ] was interviewing two advertising men, Edward Gottschel and Arthur Hawkins. Thereafter no one stood a chance. Gleason took over and until 5 A.M. gave listeners a truly fascinating glimpse of the character and mental makeup of one of the most unusual personalities before the public today.” (xx.)

1960 (no exact date) Adelaide, Australia. (Just before 6:00 a.m.)

Looked like a Zeppelin.

A Mrs. W.M. Pettifor states:

"During 1960 I was employed as a cook at a migrant hostel in Adelaide. On the day in question I was on my way to work just before six, it was still dark at the time. Suddenly my attention was drawn to a huge cigar-shaped object which seemed to rise gently over a ridge of hill just ahead. It was enveloped in an orange glow. There were no windows visible and, in some respects, it looked like one of the old Zeppelins which I had seen pictures of as a child. There was no sound of an engine. It cruised along level with the hills for a few moments, then suddenly shot vertically into the sky at a fantastic speed. It was out of sight in a matter of seconds.

"I was ridiculed at the hostel when I mentioned what I had seen, but the newspapers that evening mentioned that other people, including a milkman, had also seen the strange object." (xx.)


Late 1959 or early 1960. Near Connelly AFB, Waco, Texas. (about 10:00 p.m.)

"I remembered the technique of ramming which was taught as a last resort."

A retired Air Force Lt. Col. who asked that his name not be used related the following story to MUFON investigators:

"In the interest of getting this account on paper, the following is a description of events as I remember them. The actual date and time can be obtained from my flight records. In late 1960 I was an Instructor Pilot, 1st Lt., in F-89J's stationed at James Connelly AFB in Waco, Texas. The Instructor Radar Observer I was teamed with was 1st Lt. Joe E. Meyer.

"In late 1959 or early 1960 Gen. Curtis E. LeMay conducted an exercise to test his bomber's capability to penetrate our air defenses, and we, as a fighter squadron, were ordered to stand down from training RO's (Radar Observers) and to participate in the air defense exercise.

"At about 10 p.m. I was scrambled from hot alert and turned over to the controlling radar site at Ft. Hood. A 'bogey' had been detected in West Texas, and I was assigned to intercept it. I ran in the afterburner longer than anticipated, and made a successful intercept of a B-47 at 42,000 feet somewhere Midland, Texas. My exact location was not a concern as I was under radar control. After the intercept I swung around and headed back towards Waco.

"As I said, I was getting low on fuel, so I pulled the throttles back a little and went into a gradual powered descent. There was a thin undercast below us at about 10,000 feet. The night was crystal clear with visibility unlimited. The starlight and moonlight were bright enough to see the white undercast below us as I descended for an
approach into James Connelly.

"At this point we were still under radar control from Ft. Hood. I arrived just north and west of Waco at 22,000 feet and could see the base through some breaks in the clouds. The lights of Waco lit up the clouds to my right below, adding to my orientation. At this time I broke off radar control as I had the field in sight and intended to make a VFR approach as there was no other traffic on the radio.

"I swung to the right towards Waco, and out of force of habit looked over my shoulder to be certain I wasn't turning into another aircraft. In so doing I noticed a light way out to my right and level with us, over Waco. I pointed this out to Joe, and he also saw the light.

"I continued my turn while watching the pinpoint of light. It didn't move as I swung into it. I added power, leveled off, and put the object on my nose. At 12 miles Joe told me he had picked up the object and would lock-on if he could. In a moment he had a lock-on, and my pilot's scope lit up to show a collision course to fly for firing our 2.75 rockets.

"Although unarmed, the attack radar presented information as if we were armed. Joe gave me course and overtake information and, as we approached, I could see that the object had four extremely bright blue-white round dots of light on the side that I could observe. I checked my true airspeed against the overtake ring on my scope, as by now we were down to 10 seconds to fire.

"Our overtake and my true airspeed were identical, meaning that the object was standing still. I was reading 275 TAS. I tried to measure the width of the object against my wingspan and came up with something around 25-30 feet. Joe and I estimated the height at 8-9 feet. By now we were down to 5 seconds to fire and on a collision course with the object. I wondered what the hell I was going to do.

"We were both talking, and Joe could see it over my helmet. We concluded it was a UFO. I remember that the technique of ramming, which was taught as a last resort, came into my mind. Instantly the dot on my scope flew up and I heard the radar antenna hit the stops. I had been looking at the scope. I looked up to see the object climbing straight up at an incredible speed.

"Within a few seconds we were directly under where the object had been, and Joe and I looked straight up into its belly, which was round and, again, a brilliant blue-white.

"When I flew directly below the spot where the object had been, I anticipated hitting the 'wash' from the downward thrust of whatever engine was powering the craft. But to our surprise there was none. No bump as we expected. No downward thrust as from a propeller or rocket engine.

"As we watched, the vehicle rapidly became smaller and smaller until it was like a star in the sky, then it went out of sight. Joe and I estimated that we lost sight of it in excess of 90,000 feet. We were extremely shaken up by the event and swore each other to secrecy, as we knew if we mentioned what had just happened we would be branded as nuts and not believed and probably grounded. I completed the letdown and landing, and Joe and I never spoke of the incident again. I was transferred later that year and have not seen or spoken to Joe since that time.

"The foregoing is a true account, and the first time I have put it in writing. I have told a few people of the encounter in recent years because I feel it now should be known that these encounters are factual, can be documented and witnessed, and that
the object was solid and would reflect a radar pulse.” (xx.)

(xx.) (Name on file at MUFON Headquarters) “Pilot finally reveals UFO encounter.”

Ruppelt’s “volte-face.”

Ex-BLUE BOOK Chief Edward Ruppelt was now a civilian employed at the Tactical Weapons Systems Operations at Aeronutronic (A Division of the Ford Motor Company at Newport Beach, California). He had authored a major UFO book in 1956 titled: The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects. During the winter of 1959-60, a revised hardbound edition was put on sale by Doubleday. The second edition had no identification as such except on the dust jacket where it said: “a brand new enlarged edition.” It was true the book was bigger (three additional chapters), but the important thing was that the additional material amounted to a turn-about from Ruppelt’s earlier stand on the UFO mystery. The “volte-face” caused consternation in the UFO community, especially at NICAP headquarters. It undercut NICAP’s effort to get Congress interested in the UFO problem. Here is what NICAP had to say about Ruppelt’s reversal:

“The move came after Ruppelt had toured the country appearing on television along with some of the major UFO witnesses, implying endorsement of their sightings. NICAP can only assume that the switch was caused by severe pressure from the Air Force.

“In a recent statement to the press in California in connection with the release of his revised book, Ruppelt said that he was now convinced that UFOs were nothing but illusions. The new edition of his book is unchanged except for the addition of three new chapters on the end—one devoted to ridicule of ‘contactee’ claims.

“As many [NICAP] members have pointed out, the added chapters contradict the first part of the book, without any explanation. The earlier edition had cited many serious reports from pilots and other experienced observers which could not be explained and had been accepted by Ruppelt as genuine ‘unknowns.’ Yet with no additional information, Ruppelt has reversed himself completely and now says he considers all of the reports explainable as natural phenomena...

“It seems odd that while active as the Project Blue Book chief, Ruppelt could find no explanations...; but now that he no longer has access to all of the sources of information necessary to check a UFO sighting he has been able to find answers. Guesswork of this sort hardly provides the ‘realistic and knowledgeable explanations’ which the Air Force says its personnel must give the public. The strained reversal would not appear to be of Ruppelt’s own choosing.” (xx.)

(xx.) “Ruppelt Reverses Stand on UFOS.” The UFO Investigator. Vol. 1, No.9, p.6.

January. Between the towns of La Victoria and El Vigia, State of Merida, Venezuela. (daytime?)

The truck rose in the air.

The witness was Mr. Adolfo Paolini Pisani, a government topographer. The story reached
Coral Lorenzen via Horacio Gonzales, APRO's representative in Venezuela. Coral related the details in one of her books on UFOs:

“The exact date of the sighting is not known, but Pisani does recall that it took place in January 1960 while he was driving his jeep along the Andean Highway which leads from the town of La Victoria to El Vigia in the state of Merida. He said the sky was clear with very few clouds. Having just crossed over the mountain from La Victoria, Pisani could see the level part of the highway which stretched toward El Vigia as well as portions of the sky to his right and to his left.

“A truck approached Pisani’s jeep from behind and the driver sounded the horn to pass, so Pisani pulled his vehicle to the extreme right of the road, which was very narrow, and the truck passed and continued on ahead. Pisani took no special notice of the truck until a few minutes later, ‘like a bolt from the blue,’ he said, a brilliant, metallic, disk-shaped object which looked like polished blue steel swooped down out of the sky at incredible speed and crossed perilously close over the front of the truck.

“The results of this maneuver were astounding to Pisani, and the disk, after passing above the truck, rose again and was lost to sight in the sky in a matter of seconds. When it rose into the air above the hood of the truck, the vehicle also rose a few feet into the air and overturned in the direction taken by the object, falling into a sand bank at the side of the road with its four wheels upturned.

“Controlling his utter astonishment and upset, Pisani stopped his jeep when he arrived at the truck’s location and rushed to assist any occupants. Fortunately there was only one occupant, the driver, who escaped the mishap with only a few scratches, bumps, minor cuts, and shock. Then the two of them left the scene to find people to help them set the truck back on its wheels.

“Mr. Pisani reported the incident to the National Guard of Venezuela and the truck driver was questioned. However, the incident was not made public and was never published in the press.”


6 January. Fort Worth, Texas. (no time)

“A flying saucer just landed in Cobb Park and is chasing all the cars out.”

A story published in the *APRO bulletin* said:

“On the 6th of January several young couples panicked and left secluded regions of Cobb Park in Fort Worth, Texas, and officers were dispatched to the park after an excited caller reported a ‘flying saucer had just landed in Cobb Park and is chasing all the cars out.’

“The Fort Worth Star-Telegram which reported this incident, reported also that Detective V.U. King spotted a bright light from the southeast part of the city and
felt sure it was a blazing meteorite. The Weather Bureau described a current meteorite shower and a local amateur astronomer said his piece about meteors also. No one stopped to think, apparently, that the light which purportedly ‘landed’ surely would have been still visible in the sky much later, if it were a meteorite.” (xx.)


7 January. Arlington, Texas. (night)

UFO “took off after a car.”

The same story in the APRO Bulletin stated:

“On the following night [the 7th], a Fort Worth man reported seeing an unconventional aerial object just south of the General Motors plant at Arlington, Texas. The man, who reported the sighting to police, was described as near hysteria. He said the object had landed on a road and then ‘took off after a car.’ The police who took this information apparently failed to get the man’s name and have found no further witnesses to corroborate the story.” (xx.)


8 January. Moscow, Russia.

“No saucers.” (See clipping)

11 January. Hynek asks to meet with Isabel:

“Dear Isabel-

“I hope you don’t mind the familiarity -but Bud & I have always spoken of you on a first name basis. Bud, by the way, is out at my old place -Ohio State University.

“Well –I am going to be in New York on the evening of Jan. 27 and I would like to spend a short while with you and your associates. I had a nice letter from Michel recently which I’d like to show you, and I’d like to chat awhile about things.

“My visit will be entirely unofficial, and whether I mention it to the Air Force will be up to you. But in general, the less said the better.

“When you answer, would you please use19 Fairmont St. Belmont, Mass. as my address [not the observatory], as I’d just as soon keep our business discussions out of office channels here.

“I hope you folks will have a little time on Jan 27 –or late on the 28th.

Sincerely Yours,

Allen Hynek” (xx.)
11 January. Manomet, Massachusetts. (night)

Circle of orange and blue lights.

According to our source:

"Other reports of the strange aerial phenomena in 1960 were reported from Manomet on January 11, where a circle of orange and blue lights reportedly came down from the area of the Big Dipper, went through maneuvers with no sounds reported. Then the objects [sic] returned to their original locations in the sky." (xx.)

(xx.) Air Force BLUE BOOK Files. No Case (Information Only) 11 January 1960. Manomet, Massachusetts. (Apparently taken from a civilian UFO publication)

15 January. Port Elizabeth, South Africa. (5:40 p.m.)

Silver cigar-shaped object. (See clipping)

15 January. Sharon Springs, Kansas. (Between 3:00 - 4:00 a.m.)

"Carried a large rotating spotlight." (See clipping)

17 January. Near Cimarron, New Mexico. (6:17 p.m.)
V-formations over New Mexico.

Coral Lorenzen obtain the following report from a former Holloman AFB weather officer, unnamed, who viewed the objects. The officer was with a number of companions at the time. Coral writes about the case in one of her books on UFOs:

"The color was amber or ranging from yellow to orange. Three different groups were sighted or, as thought, the second and third group were actually the same group sighted twice. There were six lights in the first group and eight in the second and third. In comparison with airplanes, their estimated distance was about fifteen miles from the observers and the altitude about thirty thousand feet. Each of the groups was noted as in a V-formation, as flying wild geese, or a 'wedge formation.' The speed was normal or perhaps slow for airplanes. Lights in the second and third groups changed position in the formation now and then—first one light would be in the lead, and then another.

"the really amazing thing was the appearance of the second group. The observers were watching a bright star in the south which they thought was the planet Mars. Suddenly a bright light appeared just beneath this star, and from it, the formation of smaller lights appeared. Then the bright light went out. The formation flew away to the southwest and disappeared. The men started to drive on when, suddenly, they observed the formation returning. The group of objects flew back to approximately the same spot where they had appeared from the bright light, and then disappeared. Some of the lights would pulsate as they flew along and they grew momentarily brighter and then dim again." (xx.)


18 January. Near Lakota, North Dakota. (10:45 p.m.)

Lights on car dimmed.

Vehicle interference:

"Nine miles west of Lakota, the lights on a car dimmed considerably as a brilliant green flash lit up the sky. In the field to the north of the highway, the two witnesses saw a crescent-shaped object with an exhaust. They did not observe whether it landed or not, because it was slightly behind them and they 'kept right on traveling.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Grand Forks, North Dakota. Herald. 21 January 60.

18 January. Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon. (about 11:00 a.m.)

According to our source:

"On Monday, January 18, at approximately 11 a.m., Mrs. Lorna Nelson, wife of
of the Rev. Robert A. Nelson, Methodist Minister at Kollupitiya, Colombo, was at Devon Cottage, Nuwara Eliya, when she saw a cigar-shaped object flying high in the sky about half way between north and north-east. The object was moving toward the east and descending. There was an absolutely unclouded blue sky at the time. At arm’s length the object measured about four inches. Mrs. Nelson watched it for about four minutes and then rushed into the house for her binoculars. By the time she had returned from the house, the object was lower in the sky just above the hills directly east.

“Mrs. Nelson has two witnesses in support of her sighting. W.P. Samaranayake, the caretaker of Devon Cottage and K.M. Podiappuhamy, a local carpenter, were also present and support Mrs. Nelson’s testimony, a signed copy of which has been sent to us [FSR] by her husband. The Rev. Robert Nelson went independently and interviewed the two witnesses mentioned above and their story confirms his wife’s. Both the witnesses said that they had never seen an object like this before and had assumed that it was a rocket.

“Nuwara Eliya is a hill station 6,500 feet above sea level and the range of hills beyond which the object could be seen reach to about 8,000 feet at the highest point.”

(xx.)  


19 January. Coral Gables, Florida. (8:20 a.m.)

“Ladies see silver-rimmed ‘saucer.’” (See clipping on page 11)

24 January. Sydney, Australia. (about 11:30 a.m.)

Cigar-shaped object and three blasts. Right angle turn

A report from Australia stated:

“Two Sydney men, Ken Armstrong and George Montgomery, saw a cigar-shaped object ‘glistening in the sun’ from Centennial Park, Sydney, on Sunday, January 24, 1960 about 11:30 a.m. It was solid, had a metallic appearance, and was stationary in the air for about 5 minutes. Then it turned and ‘flashed away at terrific speed.’ This magazine has contacted the witnesses and they described the object as ‘bigger than a penny held at arm’s length,’ that it was completely noiseless, and made a ‘sharp right angle turn’, disappearing in the south. The wingless craft was travelling from east to west in the beginning. The sky was cloudless.

“Mystery explosions took place about 10 a.m. on the same day. Three blasts shook houses but army officers could not explain them.” (xx.)


27 January. Dr. J. Allen Hynek’s New York meeting with CSI officials?
IN THEIR CUPS? No, but pretty Mrs. Rheta Beacher and Mercedes Insignares (left) both insist there was not one — but two — flying saucers speeding over Coral Gables at 8:20 a.m. Tuesday. Both women are secretaries in the office of Richard Gerstein, Dade state attorney. Authorities at Homestead Air Force Base said the “saucers” may have been reflections from two high-altitude planes flying over the area at the time. The ladies say no, that they saw a silver-rimmed “saucer” which looked like the sketch at right. The Air Force is checking.

—Herald Staff Photo by Lewis McLean

Miami, Florida. Herald.
20 January 60
Some notes from CSI files seem to describe what occurred during Hynek's visit to New York on January 27th, a trip referred to on page 6. If these notes (Writer not identified but probably CSI's Alexander Mebane) are any indication, Hynek was on more than a fishing expedition to get more data to supplement his Air Force material. It wasn't a one way street. Isabel and others at CSI got an earful. Unfortunately the notes are just that--- notes. Detail is lacking.

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Some notes made at meeting with J.A.H., 1/27/60.

**ATIC is classified - secrecy attitude**

No interest except in hostility - no scientific interest per se in the problem.

Should go to:

ARDC or
AF Cambridge Research Center
Gen. Holtzman, head of AF Research Div.

(over ATIC, ARDC, etc.) has asked for suggestions from J.A.H. on disposition of 90% of ATIC's time to spend answering questions - this should not be. Washington officials asking for quick briefing.

Tooker is writing a book.

No other AF branch wants the hot potato.

Should "change" the motivation: phenomena should be studied as part of IGY upper-atmosphere physics.

No UFO has ever been reported by Moonwatch observers - though many possible.

No IGY Meter Patrol observer has ever reported an unequivocal UFO either.

[Radar angles: Electronics Research division is studying them]
29? January. Monroe, Louisiana. (no time)

Movements were vibratory.

According to a radio report:

"...[a] news broadcast advised that a minister and his family at Monroe, Louisiana, observed four unidentified flying objects maneuvering at tremendous rates of speed, glowing a brilliant white color. Their movements were vibratory, darting back and forth. A group of businessmen in a nearby town simultaneously saw what was apparently the same UFOs. The Air Force was unable to offer any explanation. The minister hesitated to report his sighting as he thought no one would believe him.” (xx.)

(xx.) According to Albert L. Andre, Rt.2, Greenbrier, Tennessee; this story was broadcast at 8:30 a.m. on January 29, 1960, over radio station WSM, Nashville, Tennessee.

1 February. Bahia Blanco, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. (11:30 p.m.)

Moved 1300 kilometers?

Our source states:

“A man driving from Buenos Aires to Bahia Blanco suffered a dizziness when a
strange aerial craft with a bright violet light appeared before him. He managed to pull over to the side of the highway, where he stopped the car and fell asleep. He came to a few minutes later, lying in a field, 1300 kilometers away, near Salta. The police found that his car was still right where he had stopped it.” (xx.)


3 February. Muscle Shoals City, Alabama. (about 12:58 p.m.)

“Maybe I’m going crazy.” (See clipping)

3 February. Intervale, New Hampshire. (8:53 p.m.)

In-line formation.

NICAP’s publication tells us:

“On two consecutive nights in February, formations of UFOs were sighted as they maneuvered over New Hampshire.

“The first sighting, on February 3rd, was reported to NICAP by William M. Kendrick, Intervale, N. H., a former P.T. boat commander in the Air Force. At 8:53 p.m., Kendrick, his wife and son saw three strange flying objects traveling north, in line formation. Two of the UFOs had a yellow-orange glow. The third, brighter than the others, pulsed from red to orange. After a moment, this pulsating object appeared to launch a fourth object which joined the formation. Then a fifth UFO, Kendrick reported, came down swiftly from a higher altitude and joined the four cruising objects. The five UFOs, moving faster than jet aircraft, quickly disappeared behind Mt. Washington and Mt. Adams. The unknown objects, said Kendrick, were larger and brighter than stars or planes.” (xx.)
5-6 February. Hollywood, California. (Between 11:00 p.m. and midnight—both nights)

Big show in Hollywood.

(At first glance I suspected a hoax. The Epperson investigation mentions a "Mr. Harold Sherman, author and lecturer," as a major witness. This fellow may have been "Mr. Harold Sherman, "metaphysical expert and lecturer" mentioned in George Adamski’s book *Flying Saucers Have Landed* on page 230, and who was also the author of the story "The Green Man" in the October 1946 issue of Sci-Fi magazine *Amazing Stories*. I thought it was a simple stunt of launching a balloon with a light attached during the busiest nights of the week over the heart of Los Angeles to generate public interest in UFOs. Details of the investigation casts doubts on that theory. I might add that the Eppersons were among the very best civilian UFO investigators at this time—L.E. Gross)

The investigative report on the Hollywood case written by Idabel Epperson and Marilyn Epperson has this important comment in the introduction:

"The most puzzling aspect of this sighting appears to fall into the psychic realm. A huge tubular structure, 20 ft. x 70 ft., was obviously attached to the red light—but was completely invisible to witnesses both Friday night and Saturday night. Only the red light was seen as it roamed for a full hour each night, mostly at low elevation over a brilliantly lighted area. Apparently the only time the tubular structure was seen was at the moment of the explosion when it was caught in the extremely bright flash of bluish-white light, which lit up an area of several blocks in all directions. Unfortunately only a very few of the witnesses were looking directly at the red light at the moment of the explosion. We interviewed thirty-one people who saw the red light at different times, both Friday and Saturday night, while it was on display. There is a strange enigma here; a huge tubular structure apparently remained invisible ...except for one brief moment. There must be a fascinating answer to this question... if we could find it." (xx.)
The body of the report:

was "a brilliant cherry red". Several viewers said that the light was "pulsating". Many witnesses described the forward movement of the red light, when in motion, as "deliberate" or "like that of a controlled device". All observers said that it was unlike anything they had ever seen.

FRIDAY NIGHT SIGHTING (Feb. 5, 1960) AS TOLD BY THE WITNESSES.

Jerry Darr was busily attending to his duties at the Standard Service Station, where he was employed, at the northeast corner of Sunset Boulevard and La Brea Avenue. The time was shortly after 11:00 PM. The weather was clear and the stars visible. Something bright caught his eye and he looked up. He recounted, "There was this brilliant red light coming over the Eldorado (restaurant) real low. I just stared, sort of transfixed for a moment, wondering what it was." Then he called his co-worker, Charles Walker, to see it, and by that time others were looking up and watching as the red light came on slowly and silently towards them. Jerry Darr and Charles Walker then related how the red light had stopped and remained motionless for at least five minutes over Tiny Naylor's Restaurant and Drive-In across the street at the northwest corner of Sunset and La Brea. They said, "Hundreds of people saw it--everybody was looking up." Then the light began moving again, slowly, and came directly over the service station, moving due east. Charles Walker commented, "It didn't float--its movement was deliberate--like a machine." Jerry Darr went on, "As it passed right over us, we stared and stared at it and we couldn't see what that light was attached to--it was frustrating." About a block east of them it turned southeast and Jerry Darr said, "I looked away for a second and when I looked back, it was gone--just as if it had turned off."

Less than a third of a mile north, others were watching this strange sight. Ken Meyer, manager of the Union Oil Service Station, at the northeast corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Sycamore, had also seen the bright red light. He said he could detect no movement for about ten minutes, then it slowly moved away in a southeasterly direction. Meyer said that he and others watching decided that it was either "manned or radio-controlled because of the abrupt and apparently purposeful manner of leaving."

Mr. Harold Sherman, author and lecturer, and Mrs. Sherman had just returned to the Garden Court Apartments, 7021 Hollywood Boulevard, where they reside, and as they got out of their car they too saw the brilliant red light. They both agreed that the size of the light, as near as they could estimate, was about one-fourth the size of the full moon. It was such a spectacle, they decided to walk on down Hollywood Boulevard a short distance to call their friends, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Brown, owners of Brown's Confectionery, 7007 Hollywood Boulevard. Mrs. Brown thought that it looked like a "ball of fire just hanging motionless in the sky". As the four watched, it began moving slowly--appeared to stop again--then moved eastward. Soon it disappeared from view behind the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, and the four interested observers walked hurriedly on down to the next corner (Hollywood Boulevard and Orange), hoping to see it again as it reappeared. In a few minutes it came into view again from behind the hotel, but was turning southeast away from them. Slowly the red light diminished in size, and then was gone. Mr. Brown commented that the elevation of the light seemed very low. Mrs. Sherman thought they had watched the light for approximately twenty minutes. Mr. Sherman said, "twenty or thirty other passersby saw it, and some taxi men at the Hollywood Roosevelt also witnessed the phenomenon, all asking each other, 'what is it?'"
Other witnesses, who requested anonymity, including a police officer at the Hollywood Police Station, witnessed this phenomenon Friday night.

SATURDAY NIGHT (Feb. 6, 1960) RED LIGHT REAPPEARS.

On Saturday nights, between 11:00 PM and midnight, activity on Hollywood Boulevard seems to reach a high point for the entire week. The same is true of other main thoroughfares in the heart of Hollywood. This Saturday night was no exception. The sky was clear and the stars visible. The moon was almost due west about thirty-five degrees off the horizon, two days past first quarter. It was an ideal night.

Miss Anne O'Neal, actress, was enjoying the sight from the porch of the Garden Court Apartments, 7021 Hollywood Boulevard, where she resides. A very bright red object in the sky attracted her attention, and after studying it for a minute or two, she went into the lobby and called Mr. Leonard Luban, night clerk at the Garden Court, and Mr. Lester Luther, drama teacher (also a resident of the Garden Court).

They hurried back to the porch and there they were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sherman, coming up the walk, who had seen the brilliant red light just as they got out of their car, exactly in the same way they had first seen it the previous night. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sherman agreed that it appeared to be in the same place as the night before. Leonard Luban rushed back into the lobby and put in a hurried call to one of the daily newspapers, and asked if they knew what the strange red light was. He was told they hadn't heard about it. He returned to the porch and watched for a few minutes more with the others, and decided to phone the newspaper again. This time they told him, "We've had a lot of calls--but we don't know what it is!" Luban joined the others again and the five continued to watch--and wonder.

Approximately ten minutes elapsed. The brilliant red light was still motionless. Others on the boulevard were looking up. Suddenly there was an explosion and flash of bright bluish white light. Mr. Luther told interviewers, "The flash of white light came out of the right side of the red light--and the explosion wasn't like a sonic boom, or like any explosion I've ever heard. It was different. The red light went out, and about five seconds later came back on. It was just the same size as before the explosion--about the size of a pie tin, or one-third the size of the full moon. Something fell out of it and spiraled downwards."

Anne O'Neal told interviewers, "We were all so amazed when the red light came back on several seconds later--we thought it had blown up!" "A mushroom shaped white cloud formed at the time of the explosion, and as it dissipated, I noticed colors of blue and purple in it", she said. She also noticed a "peculiar odor", something like sulphur, she thought. Miss O'Neal described the light as a "large red star that radiated light--about one-third the size of the full moon". She, too, saw some small object, which she could not describe, spiral downwards after the explosion.

Leonard Luban spoke of the strange odor, the mushroom shaped cloud, the pulsating of the red light, and the object that spiraled downwards after the explosion. He said, "When the red light reappeared several seconds after the explosion, it was considerably higher and a little farther to the west." Luban agreed with the others that the light was about one-third the size of the full moon.
Mr. Sherman described the explosion, the white flash coming out of one side of the red light, and directed westward, the mushroom shaped white cloud, and the pulsating of the light. But he did not see the object that fell downward. His eyes were focused on something else. In the moment of illumination from the white flash of light, he saw a "tubular shaped object shoot upwards". He said, "It appeared to be dull aluminum in color." (See diagram B page 14.) Mr. Sherman described the red light going out at the moment of the explosion and coming back on about five seconds later, somewhat higher in elevation and a little west of its original position. Before the explosion, the light had been due south of the Garden Court.

Mrs. Sherman confirmed the statements of the others on most points. She didn't notice the object falling downward, nor the object which shot upward, seen by Mr. Sherman. Caught in a moment of surprise, it is understandable that no one person could perceive all of the details of a bizarre happening such as this. Therefore, five witnesses viewing such an occurrence at the same time could give a more complete account of the various details which contributed to the entire picture.

All five observers related how they continued to watch the red light as it again remained motionless (after its reappearance following the explosion) for five minutes or so. Then it began to move, very slowly, due east. It continued this course for a block or two, then turned northeast. This brought it towards them, but slightly east of them. (See map, page 15.) It was ascending steadily and as it crossed Hollywood Boulevard the watchers realized that very soon buildings would obstruct their view. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and Mr. Luther rushed into the lobby and took the elevator to the roof where they had an excellent unobstructed view of the object as it continued to ascend in a northeasterly direction. Finally, it stopped again and remained stationary for approximately ten minutes. The three viewers described what happened next in these words, "Suddenly it shot straight up at fantastic speed and was out of sight in two or three seconds."

MORE OBSERVERS TELL OF SATURDAY NIGHT SIGHTING.

A little more than a fourth of a mile north of the Garden Court, Miss June Di Maggio, actress-singer, was returning home to her apartment at the Landmark Apartments, 7047 Franklin Avenue. Just as she was about to enter the building she was startled by an explosion and flash of light, which lit up the ground around her. She said, "I looked up and saw a pink cloud of smoke--sort of mushroom shaped--and a tubular shaped 'top' which was spinning. The left side looked shiny, but the right side seemed to be shadowed. I only saw the spinning object for a second. Then the smoke seemed to turn to lavender and different colors." Miss Di Maggio said that she felt slight concussion from the explosion. She went into the apartment building then and did not see anymore.

Ken Meyer, night manager of the Union Service Station at the corner of Sycamore and Hollywood, saw the red light for only a minute or so Saturday night. He said that it was in the northwest, apparently stationary. He was very busy at the time and did not see it again. He did not recall the time. (It is presumed to have been before 11:15 PM.)

Floyd Rickords, instructor of IBM key punch, of 1646 North Curson Avenue, was viewing the moon through his telescope (Polarex, 1200 mm focal length, eyepiece 25 mm, 48 power eyepiece). Mr. Rickords told of his experience, "It was near 11:30 PM and there was a loud explosion and flash of light that was so bright
that I could easily have read fine print by it. My first thought was that some aircraft had blown up. I had been looking at the moon in the west, but the flash of light came from the east. I looked in the direction of the explosion and flash and expected to see parts of a plane falling, but instead, there was a brilliant red light motionless in the sky. A few minutes later I saw it through the telescope, but could still not make out anything but the burning red light, that seemed to be turning or revolving. After the light ascended, it was directly between two stars. Although it was many times larger than any star, it twinkled like a star. Mr. Rickords said that he went in the house to get his wife, who had retired earlier, to come out and see the strange object, and by the time he got back outside, the red light was gone.

Across the street at 1647 Curson Avenue, Tom Burns and two friends were watching television. Burns said, "It must have been near 11:30 because the commercial had just come on. All of a sudden we heard an explosion and I raced out to see what happened. What I saw looked just like a big red Christmas ball hanging there in the sky. It seemed to pulsate from time to time. I went back into the apartment and the three of us watched it off and on through the window. Finally, we went back outside and it seemed smaller than when I first saw it. The first time I looked at it, it looked as big as the full moon, and I had the feeling that it was going to fall. It stayed in one place for a long while, then it went straight up into the sky at terrific speed and was gone in a couple of seconds." Mr. Burns' friends gave complete testimony of their sighting to interviewers, but requested anonymity. Their statements confirmed Mr. Burns' account of the sighting.

At 1554 North Sierra Bonita Avenue, Mr. E. W. Cass, builder and contractor, was winding his alarm clock and looking right at it. He had not switched the light on, he said, as there was sufficient light from the hallway. "It was exactly 11:30", he declared, "and suddenly a bright flash lit up the whole bedroom." Astonished, he went to investigate and find out who was responsible. Mr. Cass continued, "I went outside and there in the sky was a big red light--about twenty-five times larger than a red light on a plane. I stared at it for a couple of minutes, then I called my wife (who was still watching television in the living room). We both watched it for a while and it didn't seem to move at all. Finally, I decided to call the police and tell them about it." Mrs. Cass said, "The stars were very clear, and we noticed that this big red light was right between two stars. As we were watching, it went straight up into the sky very fast, and we didn't see it any more." Both Mr. and Mrs. Cass commented on what a beautiful shade of red that it was. They both agreed that it was the most beautiful shade of red that they had ever seen! (Strangely enough, several other witnesses made the same comment.) Mr. Cass asserted, "I've never been interested in things that are in the sky, but I've never seen anything like that in my whole life."

Sonei Rosi, parking lot attendant at the La Brea Inn, 1543 North La Brea Avenue, was enjoying a moment of respite. Then he heard an explosion--and the ground around him lit up like day. "It was a bluish white light", he said. At first he saw nothing unusual, but after a few minutes he saw what looked like a "big hot ember" about as big as the full moon. He thought it looked as though "pieces were falling from it". It finally moved east, slowly, and out of sight. A row of tall pine trees east of the La Brea Inn could have obstructed Mr. Rosi's view of the red object as it turned northeast.
The corner of Sunset Boulevard and La Brea Avenue is a typical modern intersection where two six lane thoroughfares intersect. Located on the four corners are two gasoline service stations, a popular restaurant and drive-in, and a market which remains open until midnight. All are brightly lighted. Adjacent to these are more equally popular restaurants, also brightening the area with highly illuminated decorative signs.

Saturday nights this area is fairly teeming with life and activity. The restaurants are "packed", late shoppers are buying their groceries for the week, and the usual steady stream of drivers are going in and out of the service stations, and lined up bumper to bumper waiting for signals to change. Such was the picture at Sunset and La Brea on Saturday night, February 6, when an explosion and flash of light caused throngs of Hollywood citizens to stop and look up into the sky. The story is told by two police officers, a waiter and a waitress, who witnessed this inexplicable event.

Tiny Naylors Restaurant and Drive-in occupies the northwest corner of the intersection. The Drive-in was filled to capacity. Outside, standing on the lot were Officer Ray Lopez, and Officer Daniel Jaffee of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Lopez said that when he heard the explosion and looked up, he saw a bright red light--something like a flare, but sharply outlined, and about one-fourth the size of the full moon. He said, "It was directly overhead--right straight up. I had the feeling that it was going to fall. After watching it hover in the same place for about five minutes, it began to move eastward very slowly. I believe that I watched it for about twenty minutes, but I didn't have the opportunity to watch it steadily, and the last time I looked, it was out of sight." Officer Lopez said that he had phoned the station and reported the object and he added, "They'd already heard about it."

Officer Jaffee recalled that when he first looked up, following the explosion, he thought he saw a puff of smoke. A few seconds later, he saw the red light. His description was very much the same as that of Officer Lopez. "It was straight overhead, silent, and just hanging there", he said. Officer Jaffee continued, "It seemed to be the color of a flare, but it didn't flicker like a flare. I had the feeling it was going to drop. When it began to move, it was so slow that the only way you could tell it had moved was to look away then look back again. I guess I watched it about twenty minutes altogether, but we were busy and I didn't actually see it disappear." Both Officer Lopez and Officer Jaffee stated they had felt the concussion from the explosion. Both officers also mentioned that the weather was clear. Neither had ever seen anything like the strange red light before.

Barbara Joiner is a waitress, or car hop as they are popularly called, at Tiny Naylors. She was very busy at the time of the excitement and didn't get to watch the light for more than twelve or fifteen minutes. Her testimony was much like the others. The light was "very red--like a red stop signal--only it had a very unfamiliar look. It was so vibrant", she said.
Larry Moquin, waiter at Tiny Naylors, had received special training at Pearl Harbor during World War II, for spotting unknown sky objects. He was Chief Plotter for Major Calibre Anti-Aircraft Artillery. His training proved useful on the night of February 6, when he saw a vivid red object in the sky that he did not recognize. He told interviewers, "The explosion was different from other explosions—it had sort of a hollow sound, and you felt it as well as hearing it. I thought I saw a little smoke, and a few moments later a light appeared directly above us. I'd say it was a bright cherry red, self-luminous and sharply outlined. It appeared to be completely motionless, and my first thought was to line it up with something stationary so I'd know for sure whether it moved or not." Moquin then showed the interviewers exactly where he had lined up the red object. The front part of the building has a cantilever roof which extends some distance out beyond the main part of the building. On the front is the sign, "Tiny Naylors". He stood under the edge of this and sighted straight up (90 degree angle) past the "T" in the sign. He said the red light remained stationary for approximately eight minutes, then began moving slowly, very slowly, eastward. He continued, "Everybody was standing outside their cars looking up--cars were backed up in the street--and everyone was asking each other, "What is it?" Moquin viewed the object off and on for about twenty minutes, and by this time his duties took his attention, and the next time he looked, it was out of sight.

One of the cashiers at the Safeway market, on the southeast corner of Sunset and La Brea, told interviewers that she had not seen the spectacle herself, but that she had heard a lot of customers talking about it.

The hostess at Carolina Pines Jr. Coffee Shop, 1518 North La Brea (near the intersection of Sunset and La Brea), said that patrons had told her all about the red light, the explosion and the mushroom cloud.

There can be little doubt that a red light of unknown origin, created considerable excitement in Hollywood two nights in succession—traveling over approximately the same course, stopping at the same locations for intervals of five to ten minutes. Hollywood citizens are still asking, "What was it?"
Wind Direction and Velocity (knots)
Feb. 6, 1960 2101 PST

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Flight Path for Flight of February 6, 1960
2101 PST for each 1000 feet/direction
from point of release.

Above sketch made at the office of the
U. S. Weather Bureau

Please note extreme difference of flight path of red light, as shown on opposite page, than that of the U. S. Weather Bureau meteorological balloon.

Unfortunately, space will not permit inclusion of other important information furnished by the U. S. Weather Bureau.

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Graphic Solution for Determination of Height of Tubular Object

At a distance of 25 inches from observer's eye, the object was estimated to be 1-1/4 inches in height.

A - Distance from observer's eye to ruler (held at arm's length)
B - Estimated height of object
C - The graphical slope distance from observer to object (1400 feet)
D - Height of tubular object (object in vertical position)

A ratio of A to B as C is to D gives a height of 70 feet.
Showing course and direction of movement of red light Saturday night Feb. 6, 1960.

\[ \text{\textbullet} \] - Location of witnesses

- A - Garden Court Apts.
- B - Tiny Naylors
- C - Witnesses (names withheld)
- D - Ken Meyer
- E - June Di Maggio
- F - Floyd Rickords
- G - Tom Burns & friends
- H - Police station (name withheld)
- J - Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Cass
- K - Police Officer (name withheld)
- L - Some' Resi

(1) Stationary 10 minutes
Location of explosion & flash

(2) Stationary 8 minutes
After explosion

(3) Stationary 10 minutes before
high speed take off straight up
Wind Direction and Velocity (Knots)

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Weather Bureau Airport Station
2501 Airport Avenue
Santa Monica, California

R. L. Murray
Supervising Met. Tech.
GRAPHIC SOLUTION FOR DETERMINATION OF ELEVATION OF OBJECT (RED LIGHT) OBSERVED IN SKY FEBRUARY 6, 1960, 11:15 PM TO 12:15 AM

Object Hovering Over Intersection of Sunset Blvd. and Sycamore St., Before Explosion

Pt. (1) - Intersection of Sunset & Sycamore, elevation 349 ft., mean sea level. Object directly over this point.
Pt. (2) - Garden Court Apts., elevation 395 ft. Observers viewed light at 21 degree angle of elevation. Distance to Pt. (1) 1335 feet.
Pt. (3) - Mean Sea Level
Pt. (4) - Object, elev. approx. 560 ft. above Pt. (1) or 910 ft. above Pt. (3).

Object Hovering Over Hollywood Freeway

Pt. (9) - Point on Hollywood Frey, over which object hovered. Elev. 525 feet.
Pt. (10) - Mr. Rickords & neighbors at Curson & Hollywood Blvd. Elev. 410 ft. Observers viewed light at 75 degree angle. Distance to Pt. (9) 7,410 ft.
Pt. (11) - Mean sea level.
Pt. (12) - Object, elevation approx. 28,000 ft. above Pt. (9) or 28,500 ft. above Pt. (11).

Object Hovering Over Intersection of Sunset Blvd. and La Brea Ave., After Explosion

Pt. (5) - Tiny Naylor’s Restaurant, NW corner Sunset & La Brea. Elev. 349 ft. Light hovered directly over this point.
Pt. (6) - Garden Court, see Elev. A, above. Observers, noon, view light at 34.5 degree angle of elev. Distance to Pt. (5) 1375 feet.
Pt. (7) - Mean Sea Level
Pt. (8) - Object, elev. approx. 1,000 ft. above Pt. (5) or 1,350 ft. above Pt. (7).

Scale 1 inch: 4000 feet

Horizontal Distance - Feet

Object Hovering Over Hollywood Freeway

Pt. (9) - Point on Hollywood Frey, over which object hovered. Elev. 525 feet.
Pt. (10) - Mr. Rickords & neighbors at Curson & Hollywood Blvd. Elev. 410 ft. Observers viewed light at 75 degree angle. Distance to Pt. (9) 7,410 ft.
Pt. (11) - Mean sea level.
Pt. (12) - Object, elevation approx. 28,000 ft. above Pt. (9) or 28,500 ft. above Pt. (11).

Scale 1 inch: 4000 feet

Horizontal Distance - Feet
ANALYSIS OF HOLLYWOOD SIGHTING.

Scientific evidence, together with the testimony of many independent witnesses, form the basis for the following conclusions:

Characteristics of the red light, as described by witnesses, rule out any known form of natural phenomena (such as ball lightning, St. Elmo's fire, temperature inversion, after-image, etc.).

Aircraft, including helicopters, are obviously not the answer. The red object moved silently. A helicopter can be heard at five thousand feet elevation, and in gliding flight without power the blades can still be heard. It has been shown that the red light was less than one thousand feet, for ten minutes at one location, and approximately one thousand feet for about eight minutes at another location. Every witness, without exception declared that the red light was completely silent, both when moving and when stationary. (Explosion excepted.)

The question of a balloon being involved in the sighting, February 6, over Hollywood, was settled with finality by the information furnished by the U. S. Weather Bureau (included with this report). No balloon travels against or into the wind. The red light not only moved against the wind, but remained stationary for a period of approximately ten minutes in a wind velocity of more than twenty knots, at its last stop, at an elevation of some twenty-eight thousand feet, just before shooting upwards at high speed and out of sight.

Calculations of the dull aluminum colored tubular shaped object, seen by Mr. Harold Sherman (also reported by Miss June Di Maggio) showed the object to be approximately seventy feet long. Mr. Sherman said that the length of the object appeared to be three or four times greater than the width. In round figures, this makes the tubular object twenty feet by seventy feet. It is a startling disclosure--but then, a "disembodied" red light roaming around at will, creating loud explosions and mushroom clouds, is no less startling. It is presumed the red light was attached to something of a solid nature.

By the process of elimination, and the careful study of testimony of many witnesses, the enigmatic red light appears to fall into the classification called "unknown".
THE REPORT.

(As described by many witnesses. Signed reports in files of NICAP.)

On two successive nights, February 5, 1960 and February 6, 1960, from 11:15 PM until after midnight, a brilliant red light traversed approximately the same course low over the heart of Hollywood.

It moved very slowly and silently, remaining completely stationary for periods of 8 to 10 minutes at a time.

Both nights the brilliant red light came from the west, traveling due east, parallel with Sunset Boulevard. And both nights it stopped and remained motionless over the northwest corner of Sunset Boulevard and La Brea Avenue 5 to 8 minutes. Friday night it continued its motion due east (after the 5 minute stop) for about two blocks, then veered to the southeast and disappeared.

Saturday night the red light made its appearance about the same time (11:15 PM) seemingly following the identical course, west to east, parallel with Sunset Boulevard. This time its first stop was about a block east of La Brea, where it remained stationary for approximately 10 minutes. Elevation of the light at this point was approximately 560 feet. (See Elevation A, Page 17.) Then, as witnesses watched, there was a loud explosion, and flash of bluish white light (flash of light was directed downward and westward), and the sudden formation of a "mushroom" shaped white cloud.

At the moment of the bright flash, a dull aluminum colored tubular shaped object was seen to shoot upwards, and a smaller object was seen "spiraling" downward. As the "whitish" cloud dissipated, it took on faint hues of pink, blue and purple. Some noticed a peculiar odor.

Simultaneous with the explosion, the brilliant red light seemed "to go out". It "came back on", or reappeared about five seconds later, slightly higher in elevation and a block west of the point of explosion--again, as on Friday night, it was directly over the northwest corner of Sunset Boulevard and La Brea Avenue. There it remained stationary for approximately eight minutes (while hundreds of Hollywood citizens watched in unbelieving amazement). Elevation of the light at this point was approximately 1,000 feet. (See Elevation B, page 17.) Then, very slowly it began to move due east. Witnesses said that for a few minutes the movement was so slow that it was almost imperceptible to the eye. After moving due east for about a block, it turned in a northeasterly direction, and appeared to be gaining altitude steadily. Finally, it stopped again, at an elevation of approximately 28,000 feet (see Elevation C, page 17), remaining motionless for about ten minutes--then suddenly shot straight up at "fantastic speed" and was out of sight in less than three seconds.

DESCRIPTION OF RED LIGHT.

Although the size of the light was variously estimated from the size of a baseball to a full moon, the majority of observers said that it appeared to be about one-fourth, or one-third the size of the full moon. (It has been suggested that the difference of opinion as to the size of the light may have been due to differences in location of witnesses, and angle of sighting.) There was almost unanimous agreement that the shape was round and clearly defined. Only a few thought the outline was fuzzy. To those who saw the light, there was no doubt as to its color. It was red--very red. The shade of red most often described
ADDENDUM.

This report would not be complete without some mention of the psychological impact of the sighting to the witnesses themselves. The observers spoke of the red light as "eerie" or "weird" and although they were convinced at the time of the sighting that the object was unnatural, there was no panic. There was awe, excitement and apprehension, but most of all, an intense curiosity to know what it was and where it came from.

Naturally, there was much speculation—one or two thought it was a new device of our own government (and were indignant at the idea of testing it over a densely populated city). Several thought it was from Russia—a device to spy on us. They reasoned that it had made an aerial surveillance Friday night and came back Saturday night over the same spot to take a photograph. But the majority thought that whatever it was, it was from outside this world—and they were frank to declare they'd rather it was from outer space than from Russia.

Many witnesses complained that they had felt completely frustrated in their efforts to report the sighting to the "proper authorities". One witness was told to "call back on Monday".

Some were concerned over the "mushroom" shaped cloud which followed the explosion, and wondered whether there had been radiation in the area. They said, "Why wasn't an investigation made?"

Uppermost in the minds of many was the total absence of jets or military aircraft during the entire period of sighting (approximately one hour, Saturday night). (This fact is indicated on all signed reports of this sighting in files at NICAP.)

These witnesses represent a cross-section of the many hundreds who witnessed this strange phenomenon over Hollywood, two nights in succession—and without doubt reflect the thinking of all concerned. They are asking questions—serious, thoughtful questions about what is going on in our skies—and they feel they have the right to know.
8 February. Near Llanelly, England. (no time)

"It was the most astonishing thing I have ever seen."

According to our source:

"Process workers at the Royal Ordnance Factory at Pembrey, near Llanelly saw a mysterious disc in the sky on February 8. The sky was clear when the object was seen. 'It was the most astonishing thing I have ever seen,' said Mr. Martin Walsh, 43, of Danybryn, Pembrey.

'I would say it was about 3,000 feet up and measured as much as 400 yards (? Feet?) across. The disc was spinning continuously. One moment it was gold, then it changed to white, and then back to gold again. Dozens of other employees also saw it.' A friend of Mr. Walsh's took a photograph of it. It shows a circle of white light silhouetted against the sky." (xx.)


9 February. Aliens A-bombed the Earth?

The Russians may not have been in on the UFO hunt (At least they claimed not to be), but a lot of really strange ideas were being floated in government-approved news stories. For example:

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**Red Thinks Sodom, Gomorrah Were A-Bombed by Spacemen**

MOSCOW, Feb. 9 1960—A Soviet scientist said today travelers from outer space may have landed on earth centuries ago. He cited the biblical account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah to support his theory.

M. Agrest, master of physio-mathematical science, said in an article in the newspaper Literary Gazette that the destruction of the two cities may have been caused by the explosion of excess nuclear fuel by the space visitors before they took off again.

Agrest suggested the space ship approached earth from remote areas of the universe and landed in the Lebanese mountains.

He said four "unexplained facts" support his theory. They are:

1. The glassy bodies called tektites found on earth, particularly in the Libyan Desert. He said they contain radioactive isotopes of aluminum and beryllium, showing they are at least one million years old and are the products of extremely high temperatures and powerful radiations.

2. The mystery of the Bahlbek Terrace, a huge platform of stone slabs in the Lebanese mountains. He said he believes the terrace either constitutes a launching platform built by the visitors, or "something they put up in commemoration of their visit to earth." He noted the terrace is comparatively near the desert where the tektites have been discovered.

3. The "Dead Sea Scrolls" discovered near present-day Lebanon. He said the scrolls describe the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah which "cannot help attracting the attention of modern men who are familiar with nuclear physics."

Agrest noted that the people were advised to leave the area, not to linger in the open, and not to watch the blast. "Those of the fugitives who looked back, lost their sight and perished," he said.

He linked the destruction of the two sinful cities with the nuclear explosion he believed the space travelers may have set off before their departure.

4. Certain information about celestial bodies was inexplicably known at a time when no instruments were available to obtain such information, he said. He said Jonathan Swift described the main characteristic features of Mars' satellites 350 years before the satellites were discovered.

Agrest suggested the space travelers tried to, convey some of their knowledge to the earth people before leaving.
11 February. Waterbury, Connecticut. (2:00 a.m.)

They told him he was “nuts.”

According to a press report:

“A Waterbury area resident returning home from work at 2 a.m. yesterday said he saw a strange object in the sky which answers the general description of flying saucers. “Driving on the Waterbury-Thomaston Road, he said he looked over some housetops and saw a huge circular object which was bright red in the center surrounded by a layer of gray. It was white on the outside. The gray layer was shooting out sparks, he said.

“The skywatcher said the object was traveling in a general southeast to northeast direction, low in the sky. He said it was traveling up and disappeared behind the hills.

“He said it did not look like any of the satellites or rockets he had seen in the sky previously. He said it was shaped like a disc.

“The observer declined to give his name. He said he told some friends about it, and they told him he ‘was nuts.’ He said he had seen a so-called flying saucer in 1948, and at that time no one believed him either.

“The object he saw here was very real, the skywatcher said.” (xx.)

(xx.) Waterbury, Connecticut. Republican. 12 February 60.

15 February. The “mystery meteor” and national security.

Pete Walsh, Nome Station manager for Wien, Alaska, wrote to Colonel James H. Isbell, Commander, USAF, Seattle, Washington; in regards to the February 15th meteor incident. (See newscullings about the “meteor.”) Mr. Walsh had a fair understanding of engineering and was well versed in the airline field. From what he knew about events, he contended the so-called meteor was a manned aircraft. He asserted that substantial witnesses viewed the passage of the object from a location on Sledge Island and that these witnesses observed the object traveling at eye level parallel to the coastline.

The object must have been an impressive sight, and quite low in altitude for a meteor. A teletype message sent the day after by the FAA provides details missing in press accounts:

“A MR. (…deleted), 26 YEARS OLD, OPERATIONS SPECIALIST FOR FAA GAVE THE FOLLOWING INFO: MR. (…deleted) WAS MAKING WEATHER OBSERVATIONS BETWEEN 15/0350Z and 15/0355Z AND HE OBSERVED A TRAIL APPROXIMATELY FOUR MILES LONG CONSISTING OF TWO OR THREE PUFFS CONNECTED BY A THIN LINE. MR. (…deleted) USING THE 6,000 BROKEN LAYER OF CLOUDS AS REFERENCE ESTIMATED THE OBJECT’S ALTITUDE AS 25,000 FEET to 30,000 FEET, AZIMUTH, 212 DEGREES FROM UNALAKEET.” (xx.)

Moreover, an extract from ATIC's Duty Officers Report, dated 16 February, clearly stated the disturbing claim that appeared in the press: "Others who saw the mysterious aerial intruder said it curved up and away as it approached Cape Nome, as if it was manned and controlled." (xx.)


Returning to Mr. Walsh, we find that he felt a more detailed study was needed because the whole coastline of Alaska was wide open, only protected by a small detachments of minute men (National Guard). He, therefore, was not content with a letter to the regional military commander. Walsh was acquainted with a Senator Bartlett who was on the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. The national security issue may have carried the day. Senator Bartlett contacted Maj. Gen. Thomas Musgrave Jr., Director of Legislative Liaison, on March 1st requesting answers. The buck was passed Major Friend at BLUE BOOK.

BLUE BOOK's conclusion was that the object was a meteor (which may be correct), adding that no radar detection was recorded. The Senator might have been satisfied since no further correspondence can be found in BLUE BOOK files, but the national security issue still needed to be addressed. We have to point out the fact that a high-speed intruder passed over Alaska and wasn't detected by ADC radar!

16 February. Everett, Washington. (afternoon)

Five UFOs. A press report states:
"Five UFOs...were sighted above Cavelero's Hill Tuesday afternoon by three witnesses from a vantage point at 16th and Pine Streets.

"Mrs. Chet Harvey, Rt. 2 Everett, called The Herald to report the sighting of five oscillating discs which were visible for several minutes before disappearing.

"Paine Field officials were inclined to believe the sightings was a reflection of some sort, however they said they would check for other sightings.

"Mrs. Harvey and two other women spotted the objects and noted they seemed to move quite fast before disappearing." (xx.)

(xx.) Everett, Washington. The Herald. 17 February 60.

16 February. Laguna Beach, California. (9:15 a.m.)

Wobbled or rather nodded.

According to our source:

"Mr. Earl T. Ross, retired chemical manufacturing company executive (An industrial chemist and engineer), reported the following case to NICAP.

"At 9:15 a.m., from my home...I saw, in a very clear and cloudless blue sky, an oval, light-colored object move steadily toward the east from a point a little south of overhead. Then, perhaps two seconds later, I saw another similar object approach and overtake the first from a position lower in the southern sky. The second object object wobbled or rather nodded (On an axis through its center and at right angles to its course, the axis being parallel to the earth's surface). As it slowed down to join the first, and it altered its course and speed so as to take up a steady position that appeared to be behind and to the right of the first.

"The first object maintained its flight path steadily, without nodding, and after joining up, the second object stopped its nodding. Both objects then moved rapidly, that is, in a period of perhaps eight or ten seconds, to the local horizon which is a range of hills along the coast back of this town. I saw no vapor trails and heard no sound. There was no wind.

"The objects each appeared to be about a third of the apparent diameter of the full moon. They were sharply defined and had some sort of surface structure that made it appear to me as though they were flattened spheres having a thickness of about one-third their diameter. The objects were an off-white color, not silvery.

"During this sighting the sun was in the southeast, above the path of the objects, and as they moved along past the sun's apparent position, I observed a most peculiar darkening—to almost black—of the side of the objects that faced the sun, so that each object took on the appearance of a crescent. This dark crescent developed and moved around over the surface of the objects as they passed under the sun.

"The original light color of the objects then appeared to become transparent as the dark crescents developed. The appearance of the dark crescents on the sunny side of the objects of course seems to be at variance with our normal experience."
"The above account is from the detailed notes I made a few minutes after the sighting." (xx.)

(xx.) The Reference for Outstanding UFO Sighting Reports. UFO Information Retrieval Center, Inc. P.O. Box 57, Riderwood, Maryland. 21139. p.3-68.

21 February. Port Huron/Sarnia, Michigan. (5:30/5:50 a.m.)

Crows scream, fly all about. (See clipping below and on page 34)

**REPORT 'OBJECTS' ALSO MAKE NOISE**

7 Tell Of Lights In Sky

Seven persons reported that early Sunday morning they heard and saw five unidentified flying objects hovering over the southern section of Port Huron and Sarnia.

At first all were reluctant to say anything about it, but they decided later to report it.

The objects appeared to be bright, white lights, were said to be in a definite formation and were round in structure.

**ALL WHO SAW and heard the objects said the sky was cloudless at the time.**

Mrs. Thelma Ballentyne, 1115 Eleventh avenue, employee of the Grand Trunk YMCA, said she awakened about 5 a.m., Sunday and heard a peculiar noise.

"At first I thought it might be a train or plane, but when I listened a little longer it sounded like a dynamo running or a large group of planes," Mrs. Ballentyne said.

"I checked the time and it was 5:10 a.m.," Mrs. Ballentyne added.

"The sound was a steady one and it sounded the loudest from the southern part of the house. It lasted for about five minutes and then began to fade out.

"The noise was like nothing I had ever heard before," Mrs. Ballentyne said.

Mrs. Ballentyne said she didn't look out the window, and only heard the noise.

**FOUR EMPLOYEES of the Canadian National railroad yards at Sarnia, P. C. Bart, Edward Baker, Edward Moffitt and a Mr. Abbott, who were all on duty Sunday morning, reported they saw and heard the objects.**

Mr. Baker, a tower man, was in one of the railroad switch towers when he said he saw the objects move in over Port Huron.

Mr. Baker said, "The objects came out of the sky from the Port Huron side."

"It was the weirdest sight I have ever seen."

"The objects glowed with a bright, white light and were in a definite formation."

"There were three on top and two on the bottom."

"The two lower ones had a flashlight-like beam that came from the center of the object down toward the ground, but did not quite reach the ground."

"All five objects were stationary in the sky for about five minutes and then moved off to the northeast at a high rate of speed and disappeared."

**MR. BAKER said another strange thing happened.**

"In a nearby woods there is a flock of crows that has become accustomed to the trains that move by every day and never makes a disturbance because of the noise. I have never seen a plane frighten them either, but Sunday morning when the objects appeared and the noise could be heard the crows began to scream and fly all about," Mr. Baker said.

The four men said, "The objects were solid appearing and seemed to be about 8,000 feet above the ground."

Several other employees of the railroad reported they heard and saw the objects also.

Col. William Marshall, in charge of Sarnia's Civil Defense, said he had no reports of the objects, but said his wife also heard the noise Sunday morning.

Officials from Selfridge Air Force Base said today they knew nothing of the incident and knew of no planes in the area at that time.
Lights looked something like this.

This drawing by Times-Herald staff artist Robert L. Leighton has been checked by Peter C. Bart, Sarnia, and has been described by Mr. Bart as a fairly accurate representation of the five lights he saw in the eastern sky over Sarnia early Sunday. Mr. Bart says the lights were quite bright and the lower two had short beams running downward a short way in opposite angles. Mr. Bart, who was working in the Sarnia railroad yards when he and two other workers saw the lights, said he has no idea what caused them. They remained motionless in the sky and then moved away.
22 February. The Father Gill case and Australia’s national security.

“Apparently, an unfriendly nation wishing to reconnoiter the secrets of Woomera has only to disguise its aircraft as ‘saucers’ to escape detection.”

The editor of the civilian publication *Australian Flying Saucer Review* expressed his displeasure with his government’s response to the spectacular Father Gill report. (See below)

The project brought immediate results. On November 24 last, Mr. E.D. Cash (Lib. W.A.) asked the Minister for Air, Mr. Osborne, whether his Department had investigated Father Gill’s claims. The Minister’s reply was a rambling discourse of generalities which completely (and carefully) omitted any reference to the New Guinea UFO’s.

Subsequent to the Minister’s prevarications, the writer submitted a series of questions to the Department of Air designed to obtain the information that Mr. Osborne was so patently reluctant to disclose.

In reply the Directorate of Air Force Intelligence intimated that the Department was awaiting “depth of evidence” on the New Guinea sightings, whatever that may be meant to infer.

At least, in mid-December, just six months after Father Gill and his companions sighted their UFO’s, the Air Force finally got around to visiting him at his residence in Melbourne’s nearby Dandenong Mountains. It is probably futile to speculate whether the reports would have been investigated at all had it not been for the sustained pressure applied upon the Air Department by Australian UFO groups.

The attitude of world governments to the UFO is an enigma within an enigma, and the seemingly indifferent demeanour of the Australian government towards the New Guinea UFO’s is particularly puzzling.

Further, the reluctance of Air Force Intelligence to investigate strange craft sighted over Australian territory has alarming connotations in the field of national defence. Apparently, an unfriendly nation wishing to reconnoitre the secrets of Woomera has only to disguise its aircraft as “saucers” to escape detection. The Air Force would probably do nothing at all until prodded into activity by some private society.

However, it is submitted that the key to the mystery lies in Mr. Osborne’s recent admission that the Australian authorities have been exchanging information on UFO’s with the British and American governments on all reports. The Air Department’s apparent prevarication therefore falls into line with the well-justified suspicions of U.S. investigators that their authorities know more about UFO’s than they are at present prepared to admit. The Australian government may well have at its disposal information which leads it to believe that further investigation of “saucer” sightings is unnecessary, except as a “cover up” when their seeming lack of diligence might well arouse suspicion. Thus thrown into relief, Air Force Intelligence’s attitude to the New Guinea UFO’s is at least comprehensible, even though official evasiveness and duplication concerning the UFO problem generally, nevertheless continue to be both undesirable and unjustifiable.

POSTSCRIPT

Suspicions of Mr. Peter Morris regarding the Air Force cover up are confirmed by a letter to him from the Directorate of Air Force Intelligence dated February 22, 1960.

"However, although it is not possible to reach any positive conclusions, we do not believe that the phenomena observed by the Reverend Gill and his party were manned space vehicles. An analysis of bearings and angles above the horizon does suggest that at least three of the lights were planets, e.g. Jupiter, Saturn and Mars."

Needless to say, no intelligent UFO investigator will accept this official explanation after reading Father Gill’s report or studying his sketch of the unknown craft.

SYDNEY EDITOR

(xx.)

24 February. Tucson, Arizona. (6:20 p.m.-6:28 p.m.)

A letter in BLUE BOOK files states:

"On Wednesday evening, February 24, my wife and I were returning from a drive which we had taken to the eastern section of Tucson. We were traveling west on East Broadway Avenue and were approximately 8 1/2 miles east of the center of town. The sun had just set behind the mountains. The sky was mostly clear, with a few banks of colored clouds.

"My wife called my attention to a white streak in the sky. It was traveling east and was framed by our windshield. I took it for a jet contrail, but it did not lengthen or spread. I pulled to the side of the road and we both left the car to study it more closely. It was 6:20 p.m.

"It seemed to be over the southern part of the city, over the mountains to the west, but continued to move east. It appeared to be a band of white light, non-radiating, the same color as a contrail. After a while it started to maneuver, changing direction quickly, and slanting at various angles. At one point I saw, very dimly, a globe shape behind the band of light.

"At about 6:25 two diagonal streaks of light left the upper and lower parts of the band, breaking off when they were of the same length as the original. They circled about, straying near the first band, then looped and came back toward it. Once again I thought that possibly it was three jet planes stunting and watched to see if the 'contrails' crossed. The two additional streaks, however, seemed to be absorbed back into the original band. Only that remained visible.

"The object continued to 'glide' over a limited portion of the sky, changing direction quickly and angling back and forth. Then it started to gently rise and head in a southerly direction, gradually growing fainter. It did not grow smaller so much as fade. The rear part of it went first, then the rest. This was 6:28."

(See drawings)
27 February. NICAP’s disclosure of the Air Force’s Acting Inspector General’s “UFOs are serious business” admonition.

The Inspector General’s brief for Operations and Training Commands issued back on December 24, 1959, asked for faster investigations of UFO reports, and warned that increased sightings and public apprehension could be expected. The IG, Maj. Gen. Richard E. O’Keefe, said:

“Unidentified flying objects—sometimes treated lightly by the press and referred to as ‘flying saucers’—must be rapidly and accurately identified as serious business ... AF concern with these sightings is threefold: First of all, is the object a threat to the defense of the U.S.? Secondly, does it contribute to the technical or scientific knowledge?” (xx.)


The third point by Gen. O’Keefe prompted a strong reaction from NICAP. The General asked that UFO explanations be “reasonable and knowledgeable.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Feeling the public was being deliberately misled by the military’s lack of adherence to point three, NICAP released photo-copies of the non-classified “UFOs are Serious Business” document to the news media. To make sure the information reached the right people, NICAP also sent copies to committees in the House and the Senate, especially to Senator Lyndon Johnson who was Chairman of the Senate Science and Astronautics Committee.

Accompanying all these photocopies were personal statements by NICAP’s Board of Governors. The press quoted just one board member, Vice Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, one-time director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Hillenkoetter’s complete remarks:

“Behind the scenes, high-ranking AF officers are soberly concerned about the UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense. Hundreds of authentic reports by veteran pilots and other technically trained observers have been ridiculed, or explained away as mistakes, delusions or hoaxes. The AF has assumed the right to decide what the American people should or should not know. It is time for the truth to be brought out in open Congressional hearings.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.3.

Congressional hearings was something NICAP dearly wanted. That was only way NICAP could properly present the UFO evidence, but would NICAP get hearings? Board member Col. Robert Emerson’s remarks accompanying the photo-copies echoed Hillenkoetter’s, stating that the: “…public should not be misled by insulting their intelligence.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.
With one exception; Hillenkoetter, Col. Emerson, and others on the board, failed to play NICAP’s best card with any effect: national security. It would have been better if the board members had just backed the one exception, board member Rev. Baller, who made a simple and direct statement:

“If the UFOs are believed a threat, it would seem incumbent on the armed forces to waste no time in alerting the people. Any sudden, hostile act against a nation left in relative ignorance could have serious consequences.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Pete Walsh in Alaska evidently made an impression on Senator Bartlett at this time with his plea that “Alaska was wide open,” illustrating the strength of the national security approach.

Governor Nelson Rockefeller.

NICAP’s efforts got a boost from Nelson Rockefeller, Governor of New York, and one of most powerful men in the Republican Party. NICAP was able to publish Rockefeller’s remarks that stated highly respectable UFO witnesses should be given “reasonable credence.” NICAP Commented:

“Insofar as keeping the American people properly informed on this or any matter of national concern, the Governor is of the opinion that except in those instances where the public disclosure of information would be detrimental to our national security, it is vital to our democratic processes that the general public be promptly and completely informed.” (xx.)


Late February. Near Melbourne, Australia. (late night)

Ball of fire swoops down. (See clipping)


Cigar-shaped aero-form over the Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment.

Portsmouth, England’s biggest naval base, was also home to weapons research, and had been for decades. Here is a story told by a Ernie Sears:

“Clearly outlined against the sky on top of Portsdown Hill, the Admiralty Research Establishment looks oddly out of place alongside the crumbling ruins of nearby Fort Southwick—its modern radar scanner providing a marked contrast to the fort’s ancient
“Harbouring a vast labyrinth of underground laboratories and workshops, its scientists and technicians are constantly engaged on top secret projects in the field of underwater weapons research, and electronic warfare. At the time of this dramatic and chilling incident in March 1960, it was known as A.S.W.E. (Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment).

“Walking over the bridge linking Stoke Road to Forton Road in Gosport, Ernie Sears sought to avoid the worst of a strong gale by turning slightly sideways to lessen the effect of the headwind. As he turned, a bright shard of light in the early morning sky over Portsdown Hill, caught his eye. Pausing to take a closer look, he saw a stationary object, very bright, hovering over the A.S.W.E.

“Puzzled by the cigar-shaped aero-form, but thinking it was probably a slow moving aeroplane battling against the strong winds, he turned to carry on across the bridge. From the other end, in an obvious hurry, a young man was approaching him.

“‘I stopped him as he drew level,’ Ernie told me [author Robert Price]. ‘I pointed out the object and asked him if he thought it was an aeroplane. He glanced quickly towards it, said “Yes” and dashed off.’

“In no less of a hurry himself, Ernie settled for this explanation, and carried on about his business.

“Approximately twenty to thirty minutes later, in another part of Gosport, he heard the fast approaching roar of low flying jet aircraft.

“‘The noise was deafening,’ he recalled, ‘I knew they must have been very low.’

“Dashing into the street, he was just in time to see two Meteor jet fighters sweep past—climbing rapidly towards Portsdown Hill!

“‘I looked beyond the two jets and saw the same object I’d spotted earlier, still hovering over the A.S.W.E. I knew then, that it was no ordinary that I’d seen,” he stated.

“The two fighters, at maximum thrust, were closing in on the mystery craft with lightning speed. Ernie, enthralled, could only stand and watch as the dramatic events unfolded above him.

“Suddenly, as though detecting the fighter’s presence, the object turned on end—and vanished!

“‘It was unbelievable,’ said Ernie. ‘It just disappeared, like a light bulb going out. One second it was there, turning slowly on end in a smooth, controlled manner, the next, It was gone!’

“The fighters circled above the Establishment for several minutes before finally breaking off and heading back in the direction of R.A.F. Thorney Island.

“Running to the nearest telephone box, Ernie quickly found the air base’s telephone number and rang in, asking to speak to the control tower duty officer.

“‘I knew, from my own service experience, that military aircraft were never ‘scrambled’ over built up areas unless there was an emergency,’ he said, ‘so it was obvious that something serious had sparked a major alert.’

“After a lengthy wait. He was eventually put through, and spoke to the duty officer.

“‘I asked if he could identify the object I’d seen over Portsdown Hill, and also if he could explain why the two Meteor jets were chasing it,’ said Ernie. ‘I’ll never forget his answer as long as I live. He said, quite coldly, “You didn’t see any object and you didn’t see any Meteor jets either!” I began to protest, but he just repeated what he’d said and ended the conversation.’
Mystified and alarmed, though he was, by this sinister turn of events, he realized there was little he could do about it. Any further attempts to glean information from the military would, inevitably, be met with a flat denial. To report the incident to the newspapers would, he felt, serve no useful purpose. Resigned to the fact that he would probably never know the origin of the Portsdown UFO, Ernie Sears was not to know that the following day would reveal one more tantalizing piece of unusable evidence to support his claim that something strange and frightening had indeed happened over the A.S.W.E.

"My brother-in-law, an electrical draughtsman working at the Establishment at the time, had just popped in for a cup of tea and a chat," said Ernie, recalling the events of the following day. "As he came through the door, I quite casually said, 'You had a bit of excitement at your place yesterday didn't you?' He stopped in mid-stride, and the color just drained out of his face—he went absolutely white. It was obvious I'd touched a very raw nerve, and I immediately dropped the subject, but it was all I needed to convince me that a major 'scare' had occurred the previously day," Ernie concluded." (xx.)


It should be noted:

"Eighteen years later (1978?) a similar blob was seen hovering over the same site, a huge mushroom with banks of lights, it too vanished." (xx.)


1 March. Harford native gets noticed. (See clipping)
Two pronged civilian attack.

NICAP:

The Air Force was in a bad spot, maybe even in a corner. NICAP was pressing hard for Congressional hearings, flooding legislators with detailed documents to support their claims, and the effort was paying off. Moreover, NICAP was also gaining converts in newsrooms across the nation. The Cleveland Plain Dealer printed: “If they [UFOs] are craft from outer space, let’s try to determine so. If they are illusions, let’s know that too. There is no need here for secrecy.” (xx.)


Likewise, the Huntsville, Alabama, Times, printed: “We might have never heard of this, if it hadn’t been for the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

7 March. Near Gordonville, Virginia. (about 8:00 p.m.)

Why haven’t they asked me about it?? (See clipping below)

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**Captain Reports UFO; Nobody’s Asked About It**

A Roissell airline captain has spent a month wondering what a great wingless object which passed over his plane was—and why on officials have come around to ask him more about it.

According to the report drawn out of the somewhat hesitant captain, the huge craft, spewing a quarter-of-a-mile tail of flame, passed high above his turbo-prop airliner at a speed he believes to be at least 6,000 miles per hour, remaining in clear view for about 50 seconds.

The uncanny flight was witnessed by his pilot and engineer and the captain of another airliner flying below while the two planes were just southwest of Gordonville, Va. Another crew reported seeing it a few minutes later in South Carolina, he said.

Capt. Erle W. Miles, 28 years an airline captain with Eastern Airlines, and a man who has a total of 28,000 flying hours and has traveled nearly four million miles by plane, said that all three crews made reports to proper authorities. He has heard nothing further on it and knows of no official release of the news, he said.

* * *

AS CAPT. MILES related his story:

"We were at 14,000 feet in a Lockheed Electra, heading 215 degrees (south-southwest, between New York and Atlanta) on March 7 at about 8 p.m. It was still fairly bright at our altitude and visibility was perfect. I’ve never seen it more perfect.

"This thing came overhead just off our right side. We all three saw it. It was unlike anything we had seen before.

* * *

"IT WAS tremendous in size—looked like a greatly enlarged fuselage of a modern day plane barrelrolling through the air.

"A great amount of white flame was streaming from the tail end. It looked from our distance like it was about a quarter of a mile long. The flame. It was clearly visible, including the outline of its shape and certain details.

"There were no wings or protrusions on the body that could have balanced or directed it. I couldn’t see any windows or markings, but it looked like there were running lights around it.

* * *

"IT WAS gone across the sky and had disappeared in about 50 to 55 seconds. From what we know of flight speed, it was moving at about 6,000 miles an hour. The Electra was going 300 miles per hour at the time, he said.

"We thought at the time it must have been only about 2,000 feet above us, but after talking to the other crews, the Electra, we must have been much higher.

"I was talking to our airways control at the time and told them what we saw. Capt. Bob Neal was flying a Constellation below us and reported the same thing.

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*APR 7 1960*

few minutes later we got a report from the Columbia, S.C., tower, saying they had sighted it.

*WHEN YOU see something as amazing as we saw that, there is no mirage or imagination about it. It’s just there.*

The 41-year-old captain said he talked to his other crews about it and they were all reluctant to report the incident. "For fear we’d be called crackpots," he said.

And he that would have said nothing about it if the observation had been less sensational.

He identified his crew members as E. B. Flood, pilot, and John A. Acree, engineer.

In addition to the two crews, Capt. Miles said another airliner had seen the object over Anderson, S.C.

*THE CAIIPAIN said he did not wish to speculate on what the object might be, other than that it definitely was not any of the numbers of things the Air Force has identified some sightings in the past as being.

"Because of the flame, I guess it would come closest to looking like a meteor, but I have seen many, many meteors and this could not possibly have been one," he said. **ED HUGHES**
The Air Force also had to contend with Coral Lorenzen's group, APRO, during this period. Students of UFO history tend to overlook this fact. Sensational 1957-58 UFO stories from Brazil were filling the pages of the 1960 issues of the APRO Bulletin. For example, there were amazing Brazilian military reports, the impressive Trindade photos, and the sensational claim by Coral that she had actual "physical evidence" of a flying saucer. The American news services were taking an interest without much prompting, and why not? It was stuff that sold papers. What really stung the Air Force was the claim of "physical evidence" which struck at the heart of the military's anti-UFO position. Even if APRO's "saucer metal" proved bogus later, just the claim itself could cause Congress to pay attention to NICAP's arguments. (See the headline of the March 1960 issue of the APRO Bulletin on page 43)

9 March. Pizza pie man and the FBI. (See clipping)

9 March. Beverly, Massachusetts. (about 7:15 p.m.)

Divided in two.

A NICAP member investigated this case:
Physical Evidence

NICAP SCORES

NICAP made national headlines on 27 Feb., with its disclosure of an Air Force Inspector General's Brief issued to all Commands on 24 Dec. 1959. The brief reads as follows:

"Unidentified flying objects—sometimes treated lightly by the press and retired to as flying saucers—must be rapidly and accurately identified as serious USAF business in the Z. As AFR 200-2 points out the Air Force concern with these sightings is threefold: First of all, is the object a threat to the defense of the U.S.? Secondly, does it contribute to technical and scientific knowledge? And then there's the inherent USAF responsibility to explain to the American people through public information media what is going on in their skies.

The phenomena or actual objects comprising the UFOs will tend to increase, with the public more aware of these going-on in space but still inclined to some apprehension. Technical and defense considerations will continue to exist in this area.

"Published about three months ago, AFR 200-2 outlines necessary orderly qualified reporting as well as public information procedures. This is where the base should stand today, with practices judged at least satisfactory by the commander and inspector.

"—Responsibility for handling UFO's should rest with either Intelligence, Operations, or the Provost Marshal or the Information officer—in that order of preference, dictated by the limits of the base organization.

"—A specific officer should be designated as responsible;

"—He should have experience in investigative techniques and also, if possible, scientific or technical background;

"—He should have the authority to obtain the assistance of specialists on the base;

"—He should be equipped with binoculars, camera, film counter, magnifying glass, and have a source for containers in which to store samples.

"What is required is that every sighting be investigated and reported to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson AFB and that explanation of findings be made to the Air Force or USAF.

On September 14, 1957, Mr. Ibrahim Sued, a social columnist for the Rio de Janeiro daily newspaper, "O Globo," included in his column the text of a letter he had received from a reader.

Quote:

"Dear Mr. Ibrahim Sued. As a faithful reader of your column, and an admirer of yours, I wish to give you something of the highest interest to a newspaper man, concerning the flying saucers. If you believe they are real, of course, I also didn't believe anything said or published about them. But just a few days ago I had to change my mind. I was fishing together with some friends at a place near the town of Ubatuba, Sao Paulo, when I saw a flying disk. It approached the beach at unbelievable speed, an accident seeming imminent—in other words, a crash into the sea. At the last moment, however, when it was about to strike the water, it made a sharp turn upwards and climbed up rapidly in a fantastic maneuver. We followed the spectacle with our eyes, startled, when we saw the disk explode in flames. It disintegrated into thousands of fiery fragments, which fell sparkling with magnificent brightness. They looked like fireworks, in spite of the time of the accident—at noon. Most of these fragments, almost all, fell into the sea. But a number of small pieces fell close to the beach and we picked up a large amount of this material—which was as light as paper. I enclosed herewith a small sample of it. I don't know any one that could be trusted to whom I might send it for analysis. I never read about a flying saucer having been found, or about fragments or parts of a saucer that had been picked up; unless it had been done by military authorities and the whole thing kept as a top-secret subject. I am certain that the matter will be of great interest to the brilliant columnist and I am sending two copies of this letter to the newspaper and to your home." 

The signature was not legible.

Mr. Sued had never written about the UFOs before. Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, APRO's Brazilian representative, sent the letter in the column and called Mr. Sued and attempted to view the photo. Four hours telephone conversation with the list, Dr. Fontes visited Mr. Sub

(See Physical Evidence, page)
“Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Ayers and their daughter saw a large circular UFO about 7:15
p.m. which maneuvered, divided in two and then sped away. The object, which first
hovered, had star-like rays around it and appeared to be larger than the apparent diameter
of the moon. Then it began to drift eastward from its position in the south sky, suddenly
change to a red color and accelerated upward at an angle to the south. Still visible in the
distance, the UFO then split into two red lights and moved away northeast across the
eastern sky, rejoining into one object.” (xx.)


10 March. APRO notifies the Air Force it has “indisputable” physical evidence.

Here is the letter mailed on March 10th to Major Lawrence J. Tacker, USAF, Public
Information Division, Office of Information, Pentagon, Washington D.C.:

“We [APRO] realize that it is unlikely that any positive action can be taken on the con-
tents of this letter at your level but are trusting that you will forward it to the proper
agency. We feel, however, that it should be routed through you since it concerns directly
a recent report issued by your office to the effect that the Air Force has no physical evi-
dence indicating that any UFOs are real and extraterrestrial.

“A release which you issued early this year, according to UPI, states: ‘no physical or
material evidence, not even a minute fragment of a so-called flying saucer, has ever been
found.’ This statement, as it stands, is not true; however it is not our intent or purpose to
belabor you concerning the accuracy of statements issued through your office. I have
been associated with Public Relations work long enough to understand that a Public Infor-
mation Office bears the same relationship to its military service that an advertising agency
bears to its sponsor. The function of a public relations organ is to build the sponsor’s
prestige and sell the product.

“APRO has in its possession the physical evidence which the United States Air Force
denies having been able to acquire. It is, in fact, a portion of an extraterrestrial vehicle
which met with disaster in the earth’s atmosphere. The catastrophe was witnessed by
numerous human beings. The gratifying aspect of this case, however, is that we do not
have to depend on the testimony of witnesses to establish the reality of the incident for
THE MOST ADVANCED LABORATORY TESTS INDICATE THAT THE RESIDUAL
MATERIAL COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED THROUGH THE APPLICA-
tION OF ANY KNOWN TERRESTRIAL TECHNIQUES [emphasis in the original].

“It has been claimed by some sources that the United States Air Force has proof positive
in its possession of the sort outlined above, and is deliberately withholding this evidence
for reasons of its own. It has been postulated by others that the United States Air Force,
through sheer bureaucratic incompetence, has failed to acquire or recognize such evidence
even thought such exists. We do not have access to sufficient information to warrant sup-
port of either position, nor do we wish to enter this controversy.

“Instead, we humbly submit this proposition: The evidence which we have is avail-
able to the United States Air Force—not to be buried—not to bickered about—but
rather to be examined by scientific authorities acceptable to all parties concerned.”

To put the heat on, Coral released copies of the letter to the press. Excerpts appeared in newspapers around the country on the 11 th, 12 th, and the 13 th.

13 March. Brooklyn, New York. (about 2:00 a.m.)

V-formation over the Big Apple.

A Salvatore Tomas was up very early in morning on March 13 th to view a lunar eclipse. After watching the eclipse:

"...his eye was attracted to a light over to the right. He looked there and saw sweeping across the sky, from the right of the position of the moon, and below it, towards the left, a formation of twelve to fifteen lights, moving in a straight trajectory at a very rapid speed. The lights were in a rough V-formation, with the point moving forwards. The limbs of the V were varied: the lights on the side nearest him were in a straight line; on the far side they were haphazardly arranged. All the lights remained in the same positions, relative to each other. They were white, fairly bright, like stars, but not quite as bright as the planets Venus and Mars look when they are closest to earth. Two things impressed him most: their speed, and their complete silence. He said that if they had been jets, their speed would have indicated that they were fairly low, and some noise would have been heard. But there was none—not a trace of sound. He said it was a remarkably still and silent winter night. He indicated the speed they traveled by pointing at the sky and sweeping his arm across it, approximating as best he could the relative speed of the objects. The duration was four to six seconds, from the moment he saw them until they passed out of view.

"The relative size of the thing was approximately four times the diameter of the moon, from the tip of one limb to the tip of the other. It was a fairly broad V. No pulsating, no change in direction or speed. Lights were star-like. That's about all he could say." (xx.)


14 March. “Proof Positive?”

Here is a sample of one of the wire stories that were sent across the country. (See clipping on page 46)

On the 14 th Major Tacker penned a reply which reached APRO on the 17 th. It read:

"Dear Mrs. Lorenzen:

"This is to acknowledge your letter of 9 March 1960 inclosing a photograph of fragments which are purported to be part of a ‘flying saucer’ which exploded within the earth's atmosphere. The proper office to which this evidence should be submitted is the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force
**Proof Positive Of Saucer Ships?**

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. (UPI) - A research group believes that it has uncovered evidence that indicates unidentified aerial objects from "somewhere other than earth" are operating within the earth's atmosphere.

The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization notified Air Force officials in Washington that the group has in its possession actual physical evidence that flying saucers are extra-terrestrial in origin.

"The most advanced laboratory tests, including spectoanalysis, indicate that the material could not have been produced by any known method on earth," Coral Lorenzo, director of APRO, said.

In his letter to Maj. Lawrence J. Thacker, PIO spokesman for the Air Force, Lorenzo said the physical evidence is a portion of "an extra-terrestrial vehicle that crashed in the earth's atmosphere."

APRO offered to submit the material to the Air Force for scientific study. APRO is made up of scientists, astronomers and space and missile experts, and is headquartered in Alamogordo.

Lorenzo said in his letter to Thacker:

"A release which you issued early this year states that no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment of so-called flying saucers, has ever been found. This statement, as it stands, is not true.

"APRO has in its possession the physical evidence which the United States Air Force denies having been able to ac-

14 March. Want to see a saucer?

(See clipping)

A few bucks gets you in the auditorium, and also a chance to hear Mr. Van Tassel, apparently an "expert on everything."
Base. Ohio. I am referring your letter to them immediately and would suggest that in the interest of time you submit these fragments to them at once with a covering letter. I would also suggest that you register these items and obtain a U.S. Post Office return receipt for them.” (xx.)


17 March. Coral Lorenzen’s same day reply.

For Coral, any submission of UFO evidence to ATIC via the regular process would mean that AFR 200-2 would come into play. According to AFR 200-2, information could not be officially released to the public until less a UFO incident could explained. It was assumed by the Air Force that all UFO reports had prosaic causes and premature release of data would generate unnecessary speculation. The way Coral figured it, the Ubatuba material would puzzle the military experts and therefore the results of any official analysis would be withheld from the APRO people, or anyone else without the proper security clearance.

Coral would only hand over the “saucer” fragments under special a condition, a sort of joint investigation with APRO appointed experts participating and all results of tests shared. A letter with Coral’s proposal was mailed to Major Tacker on the 17th of March. (xx.)


Coral’s phone is tapped?

Coral claimed:

“During the foregoing chain of events, the Lorenzen home telephone, which is a private line, was repeatedly under surveillance. Calls between Mr. Lorenzen at his place of employment at Holloman and Mrs. Lorenzen at the APRO office, were monitored. When the final physical evidence release went out to the press wires on the 18th of March, an editor at Kansas City ‘killed’ it, and it went out without the AP byline. UPI waited until the 22nd (probably checking with science editors [Coral’s comment]), then released it world-wide.” (xx.) (See one of the March 18th stories on page 48)

Mystery Metal ‘Is Not Meteorite,’ Group Says

By TERRY CLARKE

By Terry Clarke

ALAMOGORDO, March 18. — A scientific research group, with world headquarters at Alamogordo, today notified the U. S. Air Force they will not send physical evidence they believe indicates the existence of unidentified flying objects operating within the Earth’s atmosphere, to an Air Force laboratory at Dayton, Ohio.

An Aerial Phenomena Research Organization spokesman said an Air Force regulation would prevent release to the public of any test results obtained by the Air Force unless the “mystery metal” were proven to have originated on Earth.

‘Extra-Terrestrial’

Coral Lorenzen, international director of APRO, said the group will release the results of their exhaustive laboratory tests performed on the mysterious metallic object, so far identified only as “Metal X,” to the public along with the entire story behind its discovery.

Earlier, APRO had told the Air Force the object was part of an extra-terrestrial vehicle that crashed in the Earth’s atmosphere.

Asked if the object could have been part of a meteorite, APRO officials said, “the material is a manufactured metal in a form unknown on Earth, according to advance laboratory tests including spectro-analysis.”

Too Valuable

Today, APRO officials said they received a message from Maj. Lawrence J. Tacker, public information officer at the Department of Defense in Washington, D. C., advising them to send the mysterious object to the Air Force Space Technical Intelligence Center at Wright Air Development Center, Dayton, Ohio, “as soon as possible.”

APRO scientists said they declined the proposal, pointing out the material, only known specimen of its kind in the world, is extremely valuable. They said they did not feel it would be in the public interest to hazard sending it across the country.

“Also,” Director Lorenzen said, “some of the world’s most competent and recognized scientists operate laboratories right outside Alamogordo at the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base. We can’t see the point in changing mailing the material all the way to Ohio.”

In a telegram, sent to Major Tacker at the Defense Department in Washington today, APRO said:

“Your proposal that APRO send the UFO residuals to A. T. I. C. for study must be respectfully declined since AFR 200-2 did not prevent release to the public of any test results obtained there. Our moral obligation to our members and the general public prevents us from entering into such an arrangement.”

(Signed) Coral Lorenzen, APRO.

Air Force regulation 200-2, officials said, allows release to the public only those UFO reports that are known to be of known origin on Earth, such as weather balloons. The regulation forbids A. T. I. C. and the Air Force to release reports on unidentified flying objects which cannot be explained.

“We would prefer,” Lorenzen said, “that the Air Force join us in selecting a qualified and impartial civilian testing laboratory to check our findings and release them to the public so they can judge the truth for themselves.

APRO officials said they are documenting the entire background of the case leading up to the discovery and possession of the mysterious object, along with complete detailed reports on their laboratory findings, and will have them ready for release to the public within a few days.

They said the entire clinical data will be published in the APRO Bulletin, a technical publication for scientists, and other qualified observers and researchers throughout the Free World. APRO’s world-wide organization, made up of volunteer members interested in solving the UFO mystery, has been investigating so-called flying saucers and other phenomena for more than a decade.

Observers on all continents, officials said, investigate incidents related to unidentified aerial objects and funnel their reports to the Alamogordo headquarters in 1712 Van Court.

Here, reports are catalogued, analyzed and checked against similar reports. “APRO,” Lorenzen said, “has proven many reports, including some by so-called ‘contactees’ who have claimed actual contact with beings from other worlds, to be erroneous or outright frauds.”

“However,” APRO scientists said, “some of the documented reports in our files from qualified observers of the highest integrity indicate there is more to the UFO mystery than the public has been led to believe.”

“APRO,” Director Lorenzen said, “is a non-profit organization of all sorts of people — physicists, aeronautical and missile engineers, astronomers and people from all walks of life who volunteer their time and knowledge and work in their free time for no pay for just one reason — to attempt to solve a fascinating and challenging scientific mystery.”
19 March. Morehead City, North Carolina. (About 6:30 p.m.)

Rather flat, disc-shaped, perfect formation. (See clipping)
22 March. Mrs. Lorenzen’s 201 file pulled.

According to the APRO Bulletin:

“On the 22nd of March, Mrs. Lorenzen’s was informed by a friend that her ‘201’ file at Holloman had been opened. A ‘201’ is the personal, confidential file of civil service employees which contains the results of information gathered by intelligence and security officers pertaining to personality, morality, political convictions, police record, if and, etc., and it is upon the basis of this information that a security clearance is issued.

“Someone was vitally interested in personal information about the Director [Coral], and that person had to be in the military, because only a qualified officer or security agent has access to that file. Was someone trying to find something to use as a weapon against Mrs. Lorenzen and APRO?” (xx.)


23 March. Tacker calls Coral’s concerns unfounded.

In a letter to APRO’s Director, dated March 23rd, Maj. Tacker said:

“I refer to your Western Union telegram dated 17 March 1960 stating that APRO would not send the UFO residue it claims to have to the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, because Air Force Regulation 200-2 would prevent release of the findings to the general public.

“This is erroneous and I can assure you that Air Force findings would be released immediately to the general public and the purported UFO evidence would be returned to your organization upon completion of the analysis and/or evaluation.” (xx.)


Coral’s reaction:

“To her, the report from Major Tacker’s office in response to our press pertaining to physical evidence in March, is screamingly funny. She had mailed the letter, then released its contents to the press. Tacker (after a few days deliberation) did the same. He released the official AF answer, then mailed the letter, which was received several days later. His answer was precisely what had been expected. Coral didn’t expect the AF to enter into any cooperative phase with APRO. To recognize APRO as a serious, responsible group, would have been to give it the advantage of good press notices, etc. They could not afford to accept APRO’s proposition for a joint examination of the Ubatuba magnesium, they would have to admit that APRO has in its possession dependable, incontrovertible physical evidence.
“The offer to the AF was only an experiment so that they could predict future moves and actions on their part. They have given APRO no cooperation; they can’t expert to get any from it.” (xx.)


24 March. Lambert Field, St. Louis, Missouri. (0800Z)

“Size of a tire on a heavy earth moving vehicle.”

Two Berkeley, Missouri, policemen were parked in their patrol cars. One was on the north side of Lambert Field at Brown and County Day Road. This lawman was a former Navy pilot who had reported UFOs during his military service. The other officer was parked at Garfield Avenue between Airport Road and 1st Street on the south side of Lambert Field.

It had been a routine night shift and then, suddenly, a bright light lit up the whole area. Three objects in V-formation zoomed overhead, traveling from southwest to northeast in level flight. They must have passed directly over the Berkeley officers, because during the six seconds the objects were in view, the lawmen only got a good look the bottom of the objects. According to the cops, the objects were round, white, and about nine feet in diameter. In their words the: “Size of a tire on a heavy earth moving vehicle.”

The Air Force’s suggested explanation: “It is believed that it might be some form of unusual weather phenomena.” (xx.)

(Teletype message. Air Force BLUE BOOK Files. Date: 24 March 60.)

25 March. Biggs Air Force Base, El Paso, Texas. (3:50 a.m.)

Something happened at El Paso, Texas, early in morning of March 25th. APRO headquarters at Alamogordo, New Mexico, was immediately contacted by an informant in El Paso, who stated a UFO had maneuvered over the city. More importantly, another informant at Biggs AFB said a UFO had hovered over the alert facility and had stayed long enough to badly frighten several individuals, causing a “7-line” alert. (xx) These details intrigued Coral Lorenzen, but apparently nothing appeared in the news media since she never referenced any such source. Obtaining data from the military seemed an unlikely possibility, but Coral did ask on April 20th and the result was certainly interesting. (See April 20th)

(APRO Bulletin. May 1960. p.3.)

26 March. Richard Hall prevents a set back.
NICAP’s Richard Hall found out that West Coast crackpot George Adamski had suddenly turned up in Washington D.C. Any Adamski shenanigans in the Nation’s Capital could only hurt NICAP’s efforts to get Congress to take UFOs seriously. Here is how Mr. Hall tells the story:

“On March 26, 1960, Adamski gave a lecture at the Willard Hotel in Washington D.C., which I attended. He had invited a panel of distinguished citizens to participate in a discussion about space travel. Upon investigation, we [NICAP] had learned that the promoters invited the panelists to attend under totally false pretenses. They were told that ‘Professor Adamski’ was an astronomer from California interested in promoting space travel, and not told about his claims about frequent liaison with space beings. After being advised about the latter, all seven invited panelists cancelled out.

“Amusingly, the master of ceremonies announced that the CIA or Air Force apparently had put pressure on the panelists to prevent them from taking part. (No, being informed of the truth did it! [Hall]).” (xx.)


27 March. Perry the pizza man is worried.

APRO was not the only group that had doubts about the military returning UFO evidence. Joe Perry, who photographed an interesting object in the sky over Flint, Michigan, expressed concern about getting his picture back. When he told the local newspaper about the uncertain status of the film, he received a letter from NICAP, which said: “From past experience with photographic evidence, we consider it unlikely that you will ever see your picture again.” (xx.)

(xx.) Flint, Michigan. Journal. 27 March 60.

Perry panics.

Perry told the newspaper that all the FBI told him was that the film was in “proper hands.” The only thing Perry could think of was to go over everyone’s head and write the President, requesting assurances the his photos would be returned. (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

29 March. Another letter to President Eisenhower.

Mr. Perry was not only one to complain to the White House. The NICAP New York affiliate also used this “last resort” appeal. Having reached a stalemate with Maj. Tacker, the New York group sent a letter to Pennsylvania Avenue. It was asserted that there was a contradiction between an Air Force statement and Federal Aviation Agency documents. The affiliate stated the AF-FAA problem:

“...concerns the alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO) on September
24, 1959 near Redmond, Oregon. NICAP states that FAA proof of the facts of the sighting, proof which is officially logged FAA evidence, includes: details of a chase by four AF F-102 jets, a description of the UFO and an AF report of tracking the object by radar for over one hour. These FAA reports were signed by L.E. Daivs, Chief, Redmond Air Traffic Communication Station, and William F. Zauche, Jr., Chief, Air Route Traffic Control Center, Seattle. The reports, sent to NICAP, were accompanied by a confirming letter from Eugene S. Kropf, Assistant to the Regional Manager, FAA Region 4, Los Angeles. NICAP states that the FAA reports are at NICAP headquarters in Washington D.C.

“NICAP states that on January 19, 1960, it received the following statement, which was signed by Major Lawrence J. Tacker, Pentagon Public Information Officer handling UFO information: ‘The ATIC account of the sighting fails to reveal any evidence of radar tracking or any success of the attempted intercept. It is the ATIC opinion that this object was probably a balloon...’ (xx.)


The Air Force knew about this letter because it ended up in BLUE BOOK files. The Assistant to the President forwarded it to the Air Force for “appropriate handling.” The missive was not acknowledged by the Commander-in-Chief (An ink stamp says so in the lower left corner after the letter was processed.) The only way, it seems, to bypass the Air Force was to contact Congressmen directly, but there was no assurance a letter would not be forwarded for “appropriate handling.”

30 March. Near Goolwa, Australia. (11:30 p.m.)

Object with “portholes?”

According to a story in an Australian newspaper:

“Barry Neil, 18 year old film operator of Goolwa reported seeing a UFO just out of the Goolwa last night.

“He was returning from Pt. Elliot at 11:30 p.m. when he saw a bright reddish-orange colored object 250 yards off the road. ‘The object had little lights around it like portholes,’ he said. It was on the ground but when I drove over to get a closer look it rose gradually and flew away at a high speed.’ Two young people near Adelaide also saw what is thought to be the same object. They have drawn a picture of the object.” (See drawing) (xx.)

31 March. "Big Break" foreseen. (See clipping)

THE HARTFORD TIMES, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1960

Mystery of Flying Saucers Due Soon for Public Airing

By DAVE GIBSON
Times Aviation Editor

Flying saucers — those unidentified flying objects which could be space ships from other worlds, visual freaks of nature or man-made "secret weapons" — may soon be the subject of a good public airing in Washington.

At least that's what the persistent but little-known NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena) claims. A "big break in UFO secrecy" is foreseen by the committee, which has carried on a guerrilla-war with the Air Force over its reporting on and interpretation of saucer sightings for years...

THIS WRITER first got acquainted directly with the flying saucer squabble a year ago in a visit to NICAP headquarters in Washington, and an ensuing bull session with Richard Hull, the secretary, formerly of Winsted and West Hartford.

A personal conclusion: The NICAP boys are not screwball or fuzzy-headed, pseudo-scientific dreamers. On the contrary, they apparently combine practicality and imagination, and the membership is liberally sprinkled with men of scientific and religious backgrounds.

Some of them actually believe that many of the UFOs sighted probably are from "other worlds." However, they are willing to be called wrong. Their announced goal: Open hearings which would try to clean up all the emotional confusion surrounding UFOs — a move never taken up by the Air Force or Congress.

SEVERAL REASONS are given in the organization's publication, "UFO Investigator," for feeling Congressional hearings will be held in the near future. Among them:

Better saucer publicity in newspapers recently; a scheduled NICAP "Case for Congress" report to be released in April on findings by its board; a book by NICAP's director;

1 April. A. Francis Arcier. "Solving the UFO mystery."

One way of "solving" the UFO mystery was to pretend it didn't exist. The Air Force refused to recognize any pattern of significance, give credence to any photo, or take any observer at his word, etc. etc. That strategy was successful to great degree, but the current high public profile of the "UFO program" made it impossible to totally ignore the riddle. To achieve the "non-existence" of UFO problem wasn't something that could not be done overnight. First there was there was a lot of noise about a "transfer." (See letter by Air Force scientific advisor A. Francis Archier to General Dougher on page 55)

2 April. Long Beach, California. (about 9:00 p.m.)

V-formation.

According to our source:
AFCIN-4X1 1 April 1960

Subject: Transfer of UFO

MEMORANDUM TO MAJOR GENERAL DOUGHER

1. My comments on the transfer proposed in Colonel Evans’ memorandum of 31 March 1960 are as follows.

2. I have tried during the last ten years of close association with this program to get it out of ATIC, for most of the reasons given in Colonel Evans’ letter and its attachment. However, I have some additional comments:

   a. This program has a high psychological warfare potential (an example being the H. G. Wells “War of the World” put on as a radio show by Orson Wells some years ago). Defense against this is not a function of intelligence.

   b. I do not agree that, as stated in paragraph 4e, “loss of prestige to UFO program” is a disadvantage. In fact, I have been trying to bring this about totally.

3. Major Tacker of SAFOI is about to publish a book on UFO. This would surely destroy the claim of objectivity which the Air Force has made.

4. This transfer would certainly ease the 4X3 personnel problem.

5. If a transfer of personnel is involved in this matter, I recommend that Major R. J. Friend or Captain George T. Gregory go with the program; that is, if they are awaiting reassignment or if they can be spared. A better alternative might be to have either of these officers named ATIC representative in an advisory capacity only and upon call. A much better alternative, and the one I recommend, would be for Dr. J. Allen Hynek to be retained by SAFOI as the scientific advisor on this subject.

A. FRANCIS ARCIER
AFCIN-4X1
“Three young men sighted a V-formation of eight ‘round white-lighted objects’ which swept over the city from the south 9:00 p.m. The UFOs changed positions in formation and disappeared to the northeast after about a minute.” (xx.)


6 April. Opa Locka, Florida. (about 5:30 p.m.)

Maneuvering around a B-52.

An item in NICAP’s Investigator said:

“Norris Cook and several children watched a bright disc-shaped UFO apparently maneuvering around a B-52 bomber about 5:30 p.m. Mr. Cook was interviewed by NICAP member Al Koblank, who reported that the apparent diameter of the UFO was one-fourth to one third the wingspan of the B-52.

‘At first sighting, the UFO was astern of the aircraft...it moved to port of the aircraft then to dead ahead and then to starboard,’ as it circled the plane at a constant distance of about 400-500 feet. The B-52 and the UFO both disappeared in the distance.” (xx.)


6 April. Loogootee, Indiana. (about dusk)

Roughly elliptical in shape.

Another item in NICAP’s Investigator tells us:

“A large yellow-red UFO which crossed the highway from north to south ahead of his car was reported by John V. Hand, a civilian employee (GS-11) of the Navy. Mr. Hand, an engineering technician, said the UFO traveled slowly, leaving no exhaust and making no audible sound. The UFO was elongated horizontally and roughly elliptical in shape. It was seen in a clear sky between dusk and nightfall, and remained visible for 10-15 seconds. The Naval Station reported the sighting to the Air Force.”


7 April. ATIC UFO panel meets.

“Redirect the program.”

One of the upgrades to BLUE BOOK under Maj. Robert Friend, who replaced Capt. Gregory in 1959, was occasional informal meetings of ATIC personnel, a “UFO Panel.” The get-togethers were to: “...review ‘troublesome’ cases, discern trends, and make
MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

12 April 1960

SUBJECT: Meeting of Ufo Panel, 7 April 1960

I. Discussion:

A. The following topics were discussed: Redirection of program with emphasis toward possible scientific value, filing system, and case of falling ice which took place at Dalton, Massachusetts.

B. For the past 13 years ATIC has coped with the intelligence and public relations problems presented by reports of so-called UFO's. In the latter days of the 1940's there was some reason surely to fulfill the defense obligations or to determine whether the reported phenomena would in any way affect national defense. This was, and has continued to be the primary concern of ATIC in this respect. During the dozen or more years in which ATIC has been the recipient of a total of over 8,000 reports, there has been at no time any evidence that those residual reports that could not easily be ascribed to misidentification of common objects such as aircraft, balloons, etc., showed any hostile intent or were devices of a military character.

C. The conviction has grown on the part of the people directly concerned, and of the panel on UFO's, that it has become pointless to continue the type of "score-keeping" and monitoring of UFO sightings on the basis of hostile intent. This is not held to mean that our first look at UFO reports should not be to determine if they give evidence of possible threat to national security, for this is a primary concern; but rather that this should not be the final step in cases which give further indication of having some greater value because of their scientific potential. Further, the cases should not be considered individually only, but their collective value should be given equal consideration, i.e., frequency and numbers of fireballs. One might ask why any attention whatever should be paid to this small, but steady, flow of UFO sightings. To ease all attention would first be deliberately to close an important Air Force function of monitoring aerial phenomena. One can never tell when a newly launched enemy device might first come to our attention as an UFO report, secondly, the public fully expects the Air Force, as the defense service that has obvious cognizance of subspace, to monitor and be aware of evidence in the upper atmosphere. A great loss in public confidence in the Air Force might result from complete abrogation of the UFO program.

D. Furthermore, it is now clear to the panel that UFO activities are not confined to the United States, but considerable such activity has occurred in France, Italy, Brazil, and recently we understand through private sources, even Russia is not without similar activities. Indeed, the panel understands that there are some Russian scientists who are giving careful attention to aerial phenomena of a broader and general scope than UFO's, but nonetheless including what we normally hear called UFO phenomena. It would be most embarrassing if, in view of the many years already spent by the United States Air Force on this subject, some other
group should, in their relatively short attention to this subject, find it necessary to develop interest and scientific potential. It is the panel's firm belief, based on examined evidence, that the so-called unknown sightings are the result of insufficient and inadequate reporting of natural, but unusual, physical phenomena, often perhaps of a meteorological or astronomical character.

The panel further recognizes that in the next decade, sky surveyors, electronic and optical, will of necessity increase in number. New detection devices, such as the Baker-Ann Camer and large telescopes and radio telescopes, are already in operation and in particular new electronic devices, the image conversion devices are in the process of development. It follows, therefore, that in the next few years, surveillance groups will have to contend with many of the phenomena, which heretofore, have been reported to ATIC. The development of this equipment will of necessity be influenced by its ability to discriminate between natural, occurring phenomena and space vehicles objects. While these surveillance devices will be used for anticipated purposes, it must be realized that they are also, possibly with refinements, the equipment upon which we will depend for the first steps in defense detection, and it does not call for many imagination. In view of recent developments in the space age, to realize that as our decreasing time allowance for effective reaction in event of an attack will depend upon the reliability and speed of these detecting devices. It is equally dangerous to think of taking aggressive action due to misidentification of an object such as a meteor for an enemy missile or as it is not to take action if our detection devices detect an enemy missile as a meteor. In order to realize such delicate differences, the physical and chemical characteristics of various phenomena which have missile-like qualities must be exactly determined. Other important patterns such as frequency of occurrences must also be determined for this is an indication of how often our detecting device would be called upon to eliminate such phenomena. It is difficult to imagine a device which would be able to detect missiles or other such objects and not be disturbed by a bright meteor. The differentiating factors would be small; therefore, the number of characteristics within those which are at greater variance should be considered to help increase reliability of such a detector. This, of course, necessitates greater knowledge of the characteristics of both these phenomena and missiles, etc. There is a wealth of material already in the ATIC files, but it requires further processing for its scientific value.

II. Recommendations:
A. The panel hereby recommends a review of past material in light of accrued experience; and a thorough scientific analysis be made of those cases which are determined to be the most outstanding and having a high scientific potential.
B. It is recommended that in future, after consideration has been given to the threat possibilities, that those cases which give indication
suggestions for the future.” (xx.)


The group consisted of Maj. Friend; Dr. Hynek, astronomer; L.V. Robinson, public relations specialist; Theodore J. Hieatt, chaplain; Capt. R. Pritz, physicist; V.J. Handmacher; and Leroy D. Prigg, psychologist.

A meeting was called on April 7, 1960, during the period of increasing pressure on the Air Force by numerous Congressmen. At the April gathering, the informal panel agreed that UFOs had shown no hostile intent after a dozen years and that even the Russians were giving the problem some attention, thus UFOs apparently were not devices of a military character.

Nothing was said about the heat the Air Force was taking from its critics, but its not surprising The focus of the April 7th meeting was the future of the UFO “program” and its sensitive public relations difficulties. If the UFO puzzle could be “redirected” elsewhere and any residue folded into standard military operations, the profile of the problem would be lowered to a point where the Air Force could escape harassment. (See Memorandum for Record on pages 57-58)

(xx.) Air Force BLUE BOOK Files. 7 April 60.

11 April. Hazel Green, Wisconsin. (5:50 p.m.) (See clipping below and on page 60)

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**Sight More Flying Objects**

HAZEL GREEN, Wis.—Another flight of three “unidentified flying objects” were observed and photographed Monday afternoon in Dubuque area skies—this time by a 12-year-old rural Hazel Green girl.

Mary Jo Curwen said she shot three or four feet of colored 8-millimeter movie film as the slow moving objects passed over the family farm three miles southeast of Hazel Green.

The objects, described as brilliant elongated disks, were first seen by the girl’s 12-year-old brother, Randy as he glanced from the kitchen window about 5:50 p.m.

“I called the rest of the family and we watched them for four or five minutes,” the boy said. “They were flying very low away from the farm and toward the northeast. Sometimes they would hover motionless in the air and then begin to move forward slowly like nothing I have ever seen before.”

The objects were also seen by Randy’s mother, Mrs. C. W. Curwen, by her mother, Mrs. Fern Harley and by eight-year-old Ceanne Curwen. Mrs. Curwen said the objects made no sound nor did they leave a vapor trail.

The family agreed that the objects appeared as bright spots in the sky. When first seen they were flying three abreast, then slowly changed to a triangular formation.

Jet aircraft were observed by the Dubuque area “at about the same time the objects were sighted.”

A commercial pilot, Charles Morris, 31, Table Mound Trailer Court, and a score of other Dubuques reported sighting three mysterious flying objects which passed over Dubuque March 1.

Morris said he took 19 feet of movie film and sparked nationwide interest in a possibly authentic “flying saucer” sighting. But the film when developed showed nothing but bright sky. Morris said he used both a wide angle and a telephoto lens but he failed to use a lens filter which darkens the sky and provides contrast.

Mrs. Curwen also failed to use a lens filter and her camera was not equipped with a wide angle nor a telephoto lens. “I had the sun at my back though, and we all hope we’ll get a picture of something,” she said.

“We see lots of jets around here, but none of them were anything like these.”

Dubuque, Iowa
*Telegraph-Herald*

12 April 60
12 April. Near LaCamp, Louisiana. (9:20 p.m.)

"Bounced nine times and then took off again."

The following is a newspaper account supplemented with details from an Air Force investigation:

"Leesville sheriff's deputies today are continuing an investigation into reports of a mysterious flying object which reportedly touched the earth near LaCamp Tuesday night.

"A report filed by Deputy Sheriff Oscar Haymon said the strange unidentified object came whizzing [very fast speed, viewed for about three seconds] through the air at about 9:20 p.m. Tuesday and landed with an explosion that could be heard 'for miles.'

"The site of the landing was reported to be about three miles south of LaCamp and about 25 miles east of Leesville.

"Haymon said after a preliminary investigation:

"The object [Fiery red and about the size of a nickel held at arm's length] was described to me as being about eight to 12 by eight feet [round disc or sphere].

"It came from the dark [The object approached from about 10 degrees above the
horizon on a heading of approximately 165 degrees] and landed about 300 yards from the Monroe Arnold [The eyewitness, a farmer, was determined to be very reliable] home. When it hit the ground there was an explosion that could be heard for miles around [A loud rumbling noise followed by four or five explosions]

"After landing it bounced around on the ground in an easterly direction for about 1,000 feet ['like a stone skipping on water'—at nine different points], then rose and headed west just above the tree tops.

"You could see where it bounced around on the ground,’ Haymon continued, ‘and places where it hit the ground it made an impression about the size of a water bucket. It scorched but did not burn the grass.

"It cut the top out of a tree,” the deputy said, ‘and, strange as it seems, hit only the one tree. When it rose it turned west [Was it controlled? —L.E. Gross].

"Fire, about a foot long, was burning out the rear of the object,’ Haymon said.

"The object was not reported to the sheriff's office here until about 4 p.m. Wednesday.” (xx.)


13 April. Ozma, SETI, the beginning.

The radio search for intelligent life on worlds orbiting other suns would always be a joke to students of the UFO mystery. Exotic beings were probably not that far away! (See clipping)
15 April. BLUE BOOK’s UFO panel submits report.

Col. Philip Evans (who withheld critical data on the Biggs AFB case from Coral Lorenzen) responded to the “UFO panel’s” suggestions. (See letter on page 63) One can draw their own conclusions, but a careful read of Evan’s words seem to indicate there was some distance between the Colonel and the panel. The Colonel seems to qualify his enthusiasm about the “scientific potential,” as if he was a skeptic or wanted to discourage inquiry. Evans wanted to simply “get rid of” the program as fast as possible.

16 April. Olean, New York. (11:20 p.m.)

20-30 circular-shaped bodies. (See clipping)

Olean Man Quizzed By Air Force On UFO Sightings

"The Air Force is investigating a report of a formation of Unidentified Flying Objects sighted over the city of Olean by two local residents Saturday night, April 16 at 11:20 p.m.

Some 20 to 30 circular-shaped objects, dull gray in color, were sighted coming out of the southeast at a fantastic speed and flying in a northwesterly direction towards Lake Erie.

Robert D. Barry, Civil Defense Director of Olean and News Director of Radio Station WDNS, of 326 N. 6th Street, along with a neighbor, Merle A. Morris, of 326 No. 6th Street, sighted the phenomena shortly after 11:15 p.m.

When first seen, the phenomena appeared as a ‘solid mass of material’ silently streaking through the sky at terrific speed. The two had been viewing some of the star formations and different planets shortly before through 7x50 binoculars. Upon viewing the phenomena through the binoculars, the solid-grayish material showed as round gray objects of different sizes and all keeping the same speed and distance from one another.

In describing them, Barry and Morris said the sizes were compared to that of holding a silver-dollar at arm’s length, as well as a half-dollar, quarter and dime, since several sizes were noticed through the binoculars.

There was no sound or any type of trail left by the objects. The entire sighting lasted between 10 to 15 seconds. Both men viewed the phenomena through the binoculars and both agreed as to the size, different sizes, color, formation and speed. Morris estimated the height of the objects at between 10,000 and 15,000 feet.

The incident was reported by Barry to the Niagara Falls Air Force Base, New York a few minutes after the sighting. Air Force officials gathered the necessary information for the initial report and submitted it to the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, ten minutes after receiving the report from Barry.

Tuesday, April 19, the Director of Operations, Niagara Falls Air Force Base, Captain Rexford Moore contacted Mrs. Barry via long-distance telephone and asked several questions pertaining to the sighting. Captain Moore's secretary, Mrs. LorettaHandler, asked most of the questions from an Air Force Technical Information Sheet devoted solely to reports of Unidentified Flying Objects. Barry said between 20 and 35 questions were asked pertaining to the speed, sky condition, amount of objects seen, color, path followed by the objects and other routine UFO questions.

One question asked Mr. Barry was "Do you have any physical evidence of the sighting or did you take any pictures of the objects?" The answer, naturally, was "no." The telephone call lasted about 30 minutes.

Following the telephone conversation with Barry, Air Force officials at Niagara Falls Air Force Base, New York contacted Mrs. Walter Gros, official weather observer in Olean for the U.S. Weather Bureau of Buffalo, regarding weather conditions. The weather at 12 midnight, according to Mrs. Gross, was as follows: Temperature 42 degrees, visibility good, and wind out of the North at 1 mph."

18 April. Near? Big Pine, California. (about 3:40 a.m.)
AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

15 April 1960

SUBJECT: Meeting of UFO Panel, 7 April 1960

Re: AFCIN-455 (Colonel Shoop)

Major Friend,

I find your UFO Panel, 7 April 1960 report most interesting. I share your concern about "scientific potential" of sightings. I have the following guidance:

a. My policy is still to divest AE of responsibility as rapidly as possible.

b. Reference 1-5, investigations must be within the current limited TDF funds available to AE.

c. Reference 1-6, determine with AD if this is within current equipment and manpower resources available to them, if not see me before commitment.

PHILIP Q. FANS
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-455

Memo for record 4/12/60
Subj: Meeting of UFO Panel
"Holy God: What was that!"

According to our source:

"On the morning of April 18th, 1960, we, my bass player and my accordion player, were driving up to Reno, Nevada, where we were to start an engagement that evening at a club.

"About three a.m. we stopped for breakfast in Big Pine, Calif. About three-thirty we were back on the road, and at 20 minutes to four, I saw a BIG SAUCER[emphasis in this text is the letter writer’s] coming out of the high Sierras range (I was in the center, my bass man was driving, and the accordion man was at my right). The saucer was obscure while over the top of the car, but I followed it as I turned to the right. My accordion man said to me: ‘Holy God: What was that!’ I said to him: ‘Frank, my boy, you have just seen a flying saucer.’

"I can describe it, after much discussion among my accordion player and myself, that the saucer was at LEAST as big as a full city block. It had two rows of windows, which showed up black on an orange field. I liken it to a Christmas tree ornament. There was no sound other than our car. There was no visible exhaust. Just a silent flying something, to which my pal said: ‘If it wasn’t a plane, I sure hope it’s ours, whatever it may be.’

"I then retraced the flight of this saucer. It came out of the mountains at an altitude of about 12,000 feet, for Mt. Whitney is about 14,000 feet plus. The flight across our vision was three or four seconds. We were the only ones on the road. It was still dark, and the orange color of this craft stood out brightly. We did not see any motion other than the straight flight movement. It did not slow down or speed up. The course of flight was from our left to right...


18 April. AFR 200-2 clarified?

On April 18th Coral Lorenzen adopted a more conciliatory position:

"Dear Sir: Your letter of 5 April 1960 with AFR 200-2 inclosed serves to clarify a point of confusion on our part. We were not aware that the new regulation (of September 1959) differed so much from the old where public relations policies are concerned. The differences are reassuring indeed and we shall take immediate steps to establish liaison with ATIC with the aim of submitting our physical evidence for examination. It is noted that contact with any other persons or organizations that may have factual data on a UFO or can offer corroborating evidence is recommended under Paragraph 5d and that direct communication with us by ATIC can be authorized under Paragraph 6a.

"Carbon copies of communications to ATIC from office will be currently forwarded to you if you if you so request.” (xx.)
At the end of her April 18th letter, Coral added something that would have unforeseen consequences:

“Consider this letter also as a formal request for release of information in conformance with AFR 200-2, Paragraph 8—specifically the details of a UFO incident at Biggs AFB, El Paso, Texas, which prompted a 7-line alert on the morning of March 25, 1960 and the conclusions of ATIC concerning this incident.” (xx.)

19 April. Conrad, Montana. (about 5:45 p.m.)

“At times hovering at low altitude.”

According to NICAP files:

“A young farmer spotted an oblong UFO about 5:45 p.m. while driving his tractor in a field, when the sudden glare of reflected sunlight from the UFO caused him to look up. David Doheny, described by the local newspaper as ‘sober and industrious,’ said the strange silent UFO circled around slowly, at times hovering at low altitude. The editor of the local Independent-Observer, who said he too had seen some strange UFOs, talked to Doheny and then advised him to report the sighting to the local Air Force base.” (xx.)

19 April. Fending off Congress.

The 19th was a busy day for Maj. Tacker. He was required to draft letters to Senators Keating, Magnuson, and Henry M. Jackson, answering charges brought by NICAP concerning the Redmond, Oregon, case of September 24, 1959. (See example on page 66) Would he soon be receiving inquiries about Coral Lorenzen’s “physical evidence?” He was in a spot without any of the material to examine. APRO could make all kinds of claims and he could do nothing about it. The New Mexico group was already making a splash in the press by proclaiming it had “indisputable proof of UFOs.”

19 April. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Stringfield: Write your Congressman.

Leonard H. Stringfield, still active in UFOlogy after he wrote his book Saucer Post 3-0 Blue in 1957, convened a meeting of the Cincinnati UFO Society at the Hotel Alms. It was the first time
MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE LIAISON, SAPL
ATTENTION: Major Mima, Section D

SUBJECT: Reply to Senator Keating on UFO Sighting at Redmond, Oregon

The following is a draft of a reply to Senator Keating:

"I refer to your recent inquiry in behalf of Mr. [Redacted] of Washington, D.C. concerning the unidentified flying object sighting near Redmond, Oregon on 24 September 1959.

"Paragraph three of Mr. [Redacted]'s letter indicates that the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena has asked the Secretary of the Air Force for an explanation regarding this case. The Air Force explanation was sent to NICAP on 25 March 1960 and a copy of this letter to Major [Redacted], Director of NICAP, is inclosed. The letter is self-explanatory and indicates that the finding of "insufficient data" in this particular case was definitely a valid conclusion."

Inclosure

LAURENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Chair, Reporting and Record Branch
Office of Information

19 April 1960
in two years the group had met. Fifty people were present, including Jack Smith, Science Reporter for the Cincinnati Enquirer, who took notes. A story appeared in the Sunday edition of the Enquirer:

"UFO SOCIETY TO PROTEST 'CENSORSHIP' OF INFORMATION ON 'SIGHTINGS'"

"Officers of the Cincinnati UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) Society urged its members last week to write to Congressmen asking an investigation of the Air Force's seeming 'censorship' of information on UFOs.

"Leonard H. Stringfield, president, described a 'sighting' of an object over North Cincinnati about two weeks ago [April 5th?] that 'hovered' about 45 minutes. He added that sightings reported to him have dropped off, but that those which were reported have been 'very superior.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati Enquirer. 24 April 60.

20 April. Coral Lorenzen write to the military again.

On the 20th of April, Coral sent a letter to the military pertaining to the supposed UFO hardware, another missive of the ongoing exchange of views concerning the handling of physical evidence. (See letter on page 68)

22? April. Lambert Field, St. Louis, Missouri. (night)

Objects fly over police cars—only round bottoms observed. (See military documents on pages 69-70)

25 April. Plymouth, New Hampshire. (about 9:00 p.m.)

Cigar-shaped UFO.

A NICAP report states:

"Former Selectman Arnold W. Spencer reported seeing a bright cigar-shaped UFO with blunted ends, hovering in the eastern sky about 9:00 p.m. Then it suddenly moved off to the south at high speed, lighting up tree branches as it passed, disappearing in about 30 seconds.

"The UFO was dark scarlet in color and had bands or streamers of pulsating light running vertically through the body. It was sharply defined." (xx.)

(xx.) NICAP Special Bulletin. May 1960. p.4. These reports in NICAP's publication's "Recent Sightings" sections were being cut out and inserted into BLUE BOOK Files under the designation: "Information Only."
Air Technical Intelligence Center  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Ohio  

Gentlemen:

I am writing you in reference to some residual material which was recovered from a UFO which exploded and burned at Ubatuba Beach, Brazil during September 1957. I believe Major Tack has forwarded our initial correspondence concerning the matter.

A misunderstanding concerning AFR 200-2 which we entertained temporarily has now been dispelled and we are ready to work out a basis for cooperation. We are enclosing the current issue of our Bulletin which gives an account of the Ubatuba incident in general terms. A technical report of a very thorough nature is being prepared by Dr. . We will forward a copy to your office when it is finished if you wish. This should furnish you with enough background to enable you to decide what more can be done in the way of analysis. May we have your comments and/or suggestions?

In addition to the Ubatuba mg, we have some residual material which was left imbedded in a signboard in New Haven, Connecticut in 1953 when a UFO penetrated it. Was this incident investigated by ATIC? Was ATIC able to obtain some of the material for examination? If not, would you like some of ours?

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Director

cc: Major Tacker  
Washington, D. C.
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
12TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: 12D 24-0-330

SUBJECT: Report of Observation of UFO by Police Sergeant Bryon Chrisner

TO: Dir, Spec Invests, Eq USAF, Wash 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to letter, subject as above, dated 25 March 1960, by our St Louis Detachment to Eq, Military Air Transport Service, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, a copy of which was furnished your Directorate.

2. Military Air Transport Service forwarded the following information by TWX in accordance with APR 200-2, Paragraph 15:

"UFO: a. (1) ROUND (2) SIZE OF TIRE ON HEAVY EARTH MOVING VEHICLE, APPROXIMATELY NINE FEET IN DIAMETER (3) WHITE (4) THREE OBJECTS (5) "THE THREE SHIP ELEMENT (6) OBJECTS FLEW OVER CITY POLICE CAR AND ONLY BOTTOMS WERE OBSERVED, ROUND AND APPEARED FLAT AS SAUCERS. (7) NONE (8) NONE (9) NONE. b. (1) BRIGHT LIGHT APPEARED OVER WHOLE AREA OF LAMBERT FIELD, MISSOURI, LASTING ABOUT TWO SECONDS BEFORE THE THREE OBJECTS WERE SIGHTED. (2) DIRECTLY OVERHEAD AT ABOUT 5 - 10,000 FEET (3) 5-10,000 FEET SW TRAVELLING TO NE VISIBLE FOR ABOUT 6 SECONDS. (4) DIRECT HE LEVEL FLIGHT (5) INSTANTANEOUSLY BELOW OVERCAST (6) SIX SECONDS c. (1) GROUND VISUAL (2) A CHECK WITH OPERATIONS OFFICER, CAPT ROBERT S. BROMAN, AO 929931, DET 6, RADAR BASE SQ AT 4300 GOODFELLOW, ST. LOUIS, MO, REPORTED NEGATIVE SIGHTING. A CHECK OF LOG BY MR. CLARK TUCKER, RADAR WATCH SUPERVISOR FAA, LAMBERT FIELD, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, REVEALED NEGATIVE REPORT. (3) NOT APPLICABLE d. (1) 0800/24 ZULU (2) NIGHT. e. (1) ONE OBSERVER WAS PARKED IN CAR, GARFIELD AVENUE BETWEEN AIR FORCE ROAD AND 1ST STREET (BERKELEY) ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI (SOUTH SIDE OF LAMBERT FIELD) (2) SECOND OBSERVER WAS PARKED IN CAR ON NORTH SIDE OF LAMBERT FIELD AT BROWN AND COUNTY DAY ROAD (BERKELEY) ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. f. (1) S/Sgt Bryon Chrisner, 34 YEARS OLD, 6628 THURSTON, BERKELEY, MISSOURI, A MEMBER OF THE BERKELEY POLICE FORCE, FORMER NAVY AIR FORCE PILOT AND HAD EXPERIENCE IN REPORTING UFO'S DURING MILITARY SERVICE. (2) OFFICER BOBBY RICHARDS, ALSO MEMBER OF BERKELEY POLICE DEPT. BOTH OFFICERS WERE ON DUTY AT TIME OF SIGHTING. CHRISNER CONTACTED RICHARDS ON CAR RADIO AND ASKED HIM IF HE HAD NOTICED ANYTHING UNUSUAL. RICHARDS ANSWERED "YOU MEAN THE SKY LIGHTING UP AND..."
THE THREE OBJECTS GOING NORTHEAST: g. (1) RELATIVELY CLEAR.
(2) WINDS - SURFACE, 311 DEGREES, 6 KNOTS, 6000 FEET, 330 DEGREES, 24 KNOTS, 9000 FEET, 310 DEGREES, 49 KNOTS. (3) CEILING AT 0155, 10,000 SCATTERED AND HIGH BROKEN. (4) VISIBILITY 10 MILES, nine tenths cloud cover. (5) SAME AS FOUR (4). (6) NONE. (7) THIRTY ONE DEGREES. h. NONE. i. CONTROL TOWER AT LAMBERT FIELD, REPORTED NO AIRCRAFT IN AREA AT TIME. MC DONNELL AIRCRAFT, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, REPORTED NO AIRCRAFT IN AREA AT TIME. j. NONE.
k. LT COL JOHN H. RODER, CHIEF INTELLIGENCE, DCS/PLANS, HQ MAC, Scott AFB, ILLINOIS. THE IDENTITY OF THE OBJECTS CAN NOT BE IDENTIFIED BY THIS HQ, BUT IT IS BELIEVED THAT IT MIGHT BE SOME FORM OF UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA.

3. The above is furnished for your information.

WILLIAM COOK
Lt Colonel, USAF
Commander

A big help to NICAP and APRO is that UFO experiences were so wide spread. People in every part of society were “seeing things.” For example, it did not take much to get reporter Bob Price of the Roanoke World News to listen to UFO stories. In late April, Price picked up the phone and heard an excited voice. Price wrote about it the next day:

“‘I don’t want to sound silly,’ the woman said, ‘but I saw an object in the sky.’
“She was calling the newspaper to report sighting the thing and made it clear that she didn’t want to be put out on a ridiculous-type limb.” (xx.)

(xx.) Roanoke, Virginia. World-News. 25 April 60.

The woman’s plea triggered a memory in Price’s mind:

“Lady, I know what you mean. I saw the same thing in 1948 and dutifully reported it to the police, fire department, National Guard, the Air Force recruiter, several scoutmasters and anyone else who would stand still long enough to listen.
“Months later, the people who weren’t still laughing were muttering ‘pore feller’ when even I passed by.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Price told his story again the next day in the World-News:

“The one I saw in ’48 was circular and hovered about 150 feet above the ground. I was close enough to hit it with a BB gun.
“A fellow with me saw it too, but you can’t get him to say he did. As soon as we spotted it he closed his eyes and whispered over and over: ‘Huh-uh. I don’t see anything. There’s nothing there.’ He was the skittish type.
“There was a field of greenish-blue and orange light—or fire—around it. After a few moments of remaining stationary, it took off across the countryside. I swear it.”

(xx.) Ibid.

27? April. Portales, New Mexico. (no time)

Suddenly shot off.

A item in the Roswell paper said:

“A mysterious object has been sighted in the sky at Portales. Gordon Greaves, editor of The Portales News-Tribune writes: “C.C. Langford called our attention to a mysterious object high in the northern sky...It appeared to the unaided eye
to be a balloon, but while he was watching it, it suddenly shot off to the north and disappeared. We got a glimpse of it before this. It appeared to tumbling, or turning in the same place while we watched. We asked the Cannon Air Force Base if they could supply any information about it, but haven’t received any word so far. Flying Saucers? We haven’t heard too much about saucers lately.’

(xx.) Roswell, New Mexico. Record. 27 April 60.

27 April. Near Slagelse, Denmark. (3:00 a.m.)

Four dwarfs emerged?

This case could be very interesting if can be proved it was published before the famous Barney and Betty Hill incident occurred.

“Whilst passing the Byldenholme Estate, 11 Km south of Slagelse on the road to Neestvad, travelling at 60 mph, Mr. N [name deleted] felt a strange sensation of being watched. After leaving the wood surrounding the main building, he saw an intensely shining white circle approaching at high speed from 20 degrees in the southwest. After 3-4 seconds the circle stopped close to the car, the motor of which lost power and the lights went out. Mr. N stopped on the right hand side of the road six meters from the object, which resembled two bowls face-to-face, with a board shining band approximately [a?]round the centre, with a smaller stripe on top. It was nine meters wide and six meters high. On the top was a small superstructure, underneath it were three luminous spots. As the craft hovered at three meters, three legs and a cylindrical tube descended from the underpart. From a square opening in this tube emerged four dwarfs, 90 centimeters tall, which moved towards the car with slow, graceful movements, like frogmen walking on the bottom of the sea. Their faces were human-looking but flattened, their mouths moved soundlessly. They were dressed in green, shining costumes, on the front of which were three dark vertical stripes. As the beings approached the car, a thick cable slid out of the bottom of the machine towards it, stopping two meters from the right window. The cable ended in a square screen, in which a round, luminous lens was visible. The four beings surrounded the car, two at the left door. In their hands they each had an instrument like a slender lantern which they placed on the car several times. During this time there was a humming sound like a high-voltage equipment. The beings, cable and landing legs all returned to the craft which took off very fast to the southwest.”

(xx.) Magonia # 2 (Incorporating MUFOB 51) Winter 1979/80. Case 935. p.11. Magonia references the following: Saucers Space & Science 58, p.3. –SUFOI Reporter 4; Report from Denmark 1, 5 –UFO Nyt 1967 No.1. (I have none of the non-Magonia sources therefore cannot suggest a date when this story first appeared in print—L.E. Gross)
28 April. West Thorton, New Hampshire. (about 9:30 p.m.)

“Like a huge candle standing on end.”

NICAP printed the following:

“On April 28th a ...cigar-shaped UFO was sighted by a West Thronton, New Hampshire, woman about 9:30 p.m. The bright red object looked ‘like a huge candle or log standing on end, pointed or tapered toward the top.’ It rose quickly, casting a bright light on the ground, and moved off to the west.” (xx.)


May. “One Step Beyond” and “Science Fiction Theatre.”

The May issue of the UFO Newsletter, edited by Lee Munsick, had a rather good commentary on the UFO subject as it was treated on TV and on the comic page.

Television:

“Two widely-distributed half-hour television shows are gaining considerable popularity in the United States. One is relatively new, and the other has been running under the name ‘Alcoa Presents,’ sponsored by the Aluminum Company of America. Actually, it is called ‘One Step Beyond’ summing up its attitude and contents. To date the series, the brain-child of actor-host John Newland, producer Collier Young, and writer Larry Marcus, has concentrated on extra-sensory perception of various types, including precognition, possession, clairvoyance, etc. Through its excellent dramatization of actual historical cases, the program is gaining popularity as a dramatic show, and a source of excellent subject matter as well. One of the first programs was a new telling of the Titanic disaster (and psychic explosion) built around a bride’s premonition and others plus the now familiar tale ‘Futility’ written years before, about the ocean liner Titan, which was an accurate foretelling.

“Producer Collier Young tells us that the company is ‘seriously considering a program in the general field of flying objects.’ It appears in the east on Tuesday nights at 10 p.m. EDT on ABC Television.

“The second program has been running with immense success for several years, following the pattern of its sister programs produced by ZIV Television Programs of Hollywood (i.e. ‘I Led Three Lives,’ ‘Highway Patrol,’ ‘Sea Hunt’). This show, no longer in production, is ‘Science Fiction Theatre.’

“A discussion with producer Ivan Tors of ZIV disclosed at least six episodes dealing with flying saucers:

“1. BEYOND (saucer sighting by jet pilot)
   “2. YORD (communication from a space-ship)
“3. AN HOUR OF NIGHTMARE (saucers and little men in Mexico)*
“4. POSTCARD FROM BARCELONA (space-station)
“5. ARE WE INVADED? (saucer investigation)
“6. BREAKTHROUGH (first moon-rocket followed by saucer)

“While actually science fiction presented as such, much of the material incorporated into these stories comes from actual UFO cases, easily recognizable by well versed UFOlogists.” (xx.)


Cartoon strips:

“Most UFO followers have been aware of the tremendous amount of published humor dealing with saucers, little men, etc. A major east coast newspaper recently ran three different and unconnected cartoons dealing with saucers on the same day, plus a fourth item, a column.

“But interestingly enough, two strips which were dealing with saucers on a fictionalized-fact basis suddenly ran into trouble. The United Feature Syndicate cartoon strip ‘Twin Earths,’ drawn by Alden McWilliams, for instance, ran a typical jet interceptor ‘run’ on a saucer in several panels last May [1959]. In a personal interview with UFO Newsletter, artist McWilliams revealed a deep personal interest in UFOs as fact, although ‘Twin Earths’ is run as science fiction. He even suggested a plan whereby the strip would contain a regular feature incorporating an end-panel dramatizing a true UFO case each week. But United Feature, part of United Press, vetoed the idea. Oddly enough, after the initial interest expressed by McWilliams in 1958, both his personal replies and that strip ceased, although a different story is running in some other newspapers.

“A similar fate befell another daily strip, this one ‘Sam Hill,’ distributed by Consolidated News Features. Jack Sparling, the strip’s creator, had a ‘meteor’ sighted near Louisiana. Suddenly the meteor did a tight 90-degree turn, shot downward toward the ground, and came to rest amid a great flash in the swamps. Detective-scientist-investigator Sam Hill was called in by jittery Air Force officers along with several other scientists from as many countries to look into the case, which ran in the papers for three weeks, at the end of which, amid radiation, fire, mystery, and other hazards in the swamps, the entire party was apparently wiped out, including the hero. ‘Sam Hill,’ person and cartoon, ground to a sudden, ignominious, untimely halt, another casualty to the saucers. Sparling had, according to newspaper sources, decided to end the strip for ‘personal reasons,’ but the reasons, and why he utilized the UFO device, went unexplained. Sparling himself refuses to reply to inquiries.” (xx.)

(xx.) p.3.

* I haven’t seen that episode. I’m a bit curious about it—L.E. Gross.
Replies to Coral Lorenzen from the Air Force.

The letters Coral wrote that were dated April 18th and April 20th were sent to ATIC in Ohio. Replies to her letters were made through Maj. Tacker at the Pentagon since it was official policy to have only the Pentagon PIO communicate with the public. Col. Philip G. Evans, Deputy for Science and Components, ATIC, provided the answers to the APRO director’s questions which were transmitted to Maj. Tacker, who then forwarded Evans’ findings to Coral. An undated document dealing with Coral’s April 18th letter titled: “Activity of Aerial Phenomena Research Organization,” is shown on page 76. It is very important to note that Col. Evans provided an “unclassified” version of the Biggs case.

Coral’s April 20th letter to ATIC resulted in another reply from Col. Evans via Tacker. Evans’ letter read:


“ATIC is interested in any physical evidence or data which will assist in determining the cause for a UFO sighting. It is suggested that APRO be requested to forward a sample of the material and the technical report concerning the Ubatuba Beach case to ATIC. The names and specific qualifications of the persons involved in the analysis should accompany the report.

“A search of reference material in the AMC technical library failed to reveal the name of Mr. Ibrahim Sued, Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, or any the persons mentioned in the article on the incident carried in the APRO Bulletin. For your information, the details of the Ubatuba Beach sighting closely parallel the circumstances of a case which took place near Maury Island, Washington 21 June 1947. This case is discussed on page #31 of the book The Coming of the Saucers, by Kenneth Arnold and Ray Palmer. The Air Force conclusion is that the Maury Island case was probably a hoax.

“ATIC files reveal no record of the New Haven, Connecticut case referenced in the APRO letter. This case is approximately seven years old and any information which could be derived at this late date would be relatively unreliable and probably quite useless.” (xx.)


Col. Evans knew something about the UFO subject since he picked up on the similarity with the Maury Island case, but his ignorance about Dr. Fontes and the New Haven case is unforgivable considering the responsibilities of his position (This assumes, of course, that he had no other motives for displaying an apparent lack of knowledge, and as we will see, there may be reasons for some “funny” business when it comes to relating data).
Activity of Aerial Phenomena Research Organization

SAPU-3d (Maj Tacker)


2. The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization has not forwarded any material or data to ATC, nor has there been any attempt to establish liaison.

3. It should be noted that APRO is contorting the meaning of APR 200-2, dated 16 September 1959, particularly Paragraphs 5d and 6a. Paragraphs 5d and 6a contain information to be used as guidance by the investigators. To our knowledge the information claimed by APRO has never been under formal Air Force investigation.

4. On 25 March 1960, at 1650Z (6350 Local), three airmen standing guard duty on the ramp at Biggs Air Force Base sighted an unidentified flying object. The witnesses described the object as glowing blue-white, approximately the size of a half-dollar held at arm's length, round, and moving at very high speed. The witnesses all agree that the object left no tail or trail, but did make a sound like a child's top with holes. The object was reported as moving generally from WSW to ENE and was in sight approximately four seconds. The authorities at Biggs conducted an investigation in accordance with APR 200-2, but were unable to determine the cause. Analysis of all the available information points toward this object being a balloon. The early hour which the sighting took place is probably why there were no other witnesses to the incident.

5. For your information this sighting was classified confidential by the reporting organization. However, none of the information contained in this correspondence is considered classified.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Operations and Commanders

Since Coral's letters of April 18th and April 20th were so close in time, Maj. Tacker sent just one letter back to the APRO director with "all the answers." Tacker's letter was probably sent in early May. Coral gives no date in the account she published in the APRO Bulletin and it is assumed she quoted the missive completely and accurately.

Here is Tacker's reply as printed in the May 1960 issue of the APRO Bulletin:

"Dear Mrs. Lorenzen:

"This is to acknowledge your letters of 18 and 20 April 1960 addressed to this office and Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center respectively.

"On 25 March 1960, at 1050Z (0350 local), three airmen standing guard duty on the ramp at Biggs Air Force Base sight an unidentified flying object. The witnesses described the object as glowing blue-white, approximately the size of a half-dollar held at arm's length, round, and moving at very high speed. The witnesses all agree that the object left no trail, but did make a sound like a child's top with holes. The object was reported as moving generally from WSW to ENE and was in sight approximately four seconds. The authorities at Biggs conducted an investigation in accordance with AFR 200-2, but were unable to determine the cause. Analysis of all available information points toward this object being a bolide. The early hour which the sighting took place is probably why there were no other witnesses to the incident.

"The Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center is interested in any physical evidence or data which will assist in determining the cause of a UFO sighting. Therefore, will you please forward a sample of the material and technical report concerning the Ubatuba Beach case to ATIC for analysis and/or evaluation. Names and specific qualifications of persons involved should accompany the report.

"A search of reference material in the AMC technical library failed to reveal the name of Mr. Ibrahim Sued, Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, or any of the persons mentioned in the article on the incident carried in the APRO Bulletin.

"ATIC files reveal no record of the New Haven, Connecticut case referenced in your letter. This case is approximately seven years old and any information which could be derived at this late date would not be reliable. However, I would suggest that you forward the residual material for this case to ATIC and ask them to analyze it.

"Sincerely, Lawrence J. Tacker." (xx.)


Coral was not happy with Tacker's letter. The item of contention was the interpretation of the description of the Biggs object. From what her sources stated, a meteor had to be ruled out. Coral informed her readers she dared not entrust her Unbatuba fragments to the U.S. Air Force:
“It is obvious at this time that the Air Force wants those fragments. There is no doubt, also, that they would find some way of burying their findings or finding some way to clutter up the evidence with extraneous comments and evaluations which would tend to discredit or cast doubt upon the conclusions of Dr. Fontes and the APRO staff.” (xx.)


Coral’s concerns may not have been unfounded. We have documents (two already quoted) that were unavailable to her at the time and they tend to confirm her suspicions.

First of all, you may note that Col. Evans wrote that the New Haven material was: “...probably quite useless.” Tacker omitted that remark and urged Coral to send any New Haven samples to ATIC, so Coral was right, Tacker really wanted physical evidence. In regards to the Ubatuba fragments, Tacker wrote: “… will you please forward a sample.”

But the most serious sin was not Tacker’s. The blame rests on Col. Evans, or his superiors, as the case may be. It has been stated that Col. Evans supplied Tacker with an “unclassified” account of the Biggs incident. As luck has it, the “classified” (original uncensored) text about what occurred the morning of March 25th at the Texas air base is in BLUE BOOK files. It has been typed up for better reading. (See below)

“THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED. (1) UFO, ROUND. (2) TWO OBSERVERS WHO SAW UFO PASS WITHIN EIGHT FEET (Emphasis in this text is by own—L.E. Gross) OF PARKED B-52 ESTIMATED SIZE COMPARED TO HALF DOLLAR HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. ONE (1) OBSERVER WHO SAW UFO AT ALMOST SAME TIME BUT AT A POINT OVER HIS HEAD WITH NO PHYSICAL REFERENCE POINT ESTIMATED SIZE AS THAT OF BASKETBALL HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. (3) ALL OBSERVERS DESCRIBED COLOR AS GLOWING BLUISH WHITE. (4) ONE (1) UFO. (5) NOT APPLICABLE. (6) NO DISCERNIBLE FEATURES OR DETAILS JUST GLOWING LIGHT. (7) NO TRAIL, TRAIL OR EXHAUST. (8) OBSERVER STATED UFO SOUNDED LIKE WHIRLING CHILDS TOP WITH HOLES IN THE SIDE OF AN OBJECT MOVING VERY FAST THROUGH THE AIR. (9) NO UNUSUAL FEATURES. REFERENCE PARA 15b OF CITED REGULA-
TION: (1) OBSERVEDS FIRST HEARD SOUND. (2) ELEVATION WHEN FIRST OBSERVED: OBSERVER #1; TWENTY (20) DEGREES. OBSERVER #2: FORTY (40) DEGREES. OBSERVER #3; SEVENTY-FIVE (75) DEGREES.

AZIMUTH: OBSERVER #1 FORTY-FIVE (45) DEGREES. OBSERVER #2 FIFTY (50) DEGREES. OBSERVER #3; NINETY (90) DEGREES. (4) OBSERVER #1; UFO DESCENDING AT TEN (10) DEGREE ANGLE, PASSED OVER FUNSELAGE OF PARKED B-52 (WITHIN EIGHT (8) FEET) AND STARTED CLIMBING AT APPROXIMATELY THIRTY-FIVE (35) ANGLE. OBSERVER #2; LEVEL FLIGHT PASSING OVER WITHIN EIGHT (8) FEET OF PARKED B-52. OBSERVER #3 LEVEL FLIGHT WHEN FIRST OBSERVED, THEN STARTED CLIMBING AT APPROXIMATELY TWENTY (20) DEGREES. ALL OBSERVERS STATED UFO DISAPPEARED ALMOST INSTANTANEOUSLY. OBSERVER #3 STATED UFO SEEMED TO DISAPPEAR TO FADING IN DISTANCE. (6) UFO VISIBLE TO OBSERVER #1; FOUR (4) SECONDS. OBSERVER #2 TWO (2) OR THREE (3) SECONDS. OBSERVER #3; SIX (6) TO EIGHT (8) SECONDS.

REFERENCE PARA 15c OF CITED REGULATION. (1) GROUND-VISUAL. (2) NO OPTICAL AIDS UNTILIZED. (3) N/A. REFERENCE PARA 15d OF CITED REGULATION. (1) ZULU TIME-DATE GROUP (251050). (2) NIGHT. REFERENCE PARA 15e OF CITED REGULATION. OBSERVERS AND UFO LOCATED AT: AKERT AIRCRAFT AREA BIGGS AFB TEX: 31 51N, 106 24W. REFERENCE PARA 15f OF CITED REGULATION. (1) N/A. (2) OBSERVER #1: STOUT, JOHN G., AIRMAN THIRD CLASS, AF 18575648. OBSERVER #2: ELAM, JAMES, AIRMAN THIRD CLASS, AF 18575648. OBSERVER #3; EICHERT, KENNETH L., AIRMAN THIRD,
AF 15611474, ALL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED 95TH COMBAT DEFENSE SQUADRON, BIGGS AFB TEX. DUTY: SENTRY. OBSERVERS CONSIDERED RELIABLE BY SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL. REFERENCE 15g OF CITED REGULATION. (1) ALL OBSERVERS DESCRIBED WEATHER AS HIGH OVERCAST WITH EXCELLENT VISIBILITY. (2) WINDS: SURFACE: 340/6, 6000-020/10 10,000-310/05 16000-360/15 20000 -220/LES THAN 05 KNOTS. 30000 – 030/15 50000 – 270/50 60000 –280/45. (3) CEILING: HIGH CIRUS (HEIGHT UNDETERMINED) (4) VISIBILITY: TWENTY (20) MILES. (5) AMOUNT OF CLOUD COVER: 10/10 NO THUNDERSTORMS IN THE AREA. (7) TEMPERATURE: FIFTY-ONE (51) DEGREES FAHRENHEIT. REFERENCE PARA 15h, 15i, 15j; NONE. REFERENCE PARA 15k OF CITED REGULATION. CAPTAIN LAWRENCE A. SMITH, COMMANDER 95TH COMBAT DEFENSE SQUADRON. THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM WITNESSES APPEARS TO BE RESONABLY RELIABLE AND THE UNEXPLAINED INCIDENTS APPARENTLY OCCURRED SUBSTANTIALLY AS REPORTED, ALTHOUGH POSITIVE EVIDENCE IS LACKING AT THIS TIME. WEATHER CONDITIONS COUPLED WITH THE APPARENT LACK OF AIRCRAFT, MISSILE OR BALLOON ACTIVITY, TENDS TO SUBSTANTIATE THE STATEMENTS OF THE OBSERVERS. THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER WAS PRESENT AT THE SCENE OF THE SIGHTING WITHIN A MATTER OF A FEW MINUTES OF THE INCIDENT AND PERSONALLY OBSERVED THE CONDITIONS. NONE OF THE UFOS [There were other sightings. Read further—L.E. Gross] WERE OBSERVED BY THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER. REFERENCE PARA 15l OF CITED
REGULATION. NONE. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: LT COLONEL BYROM KING, PROVOST MARSHAL AT WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE WAS CONTACTED AND REPORTED THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN OBSERVED IN THE AREA AND FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
ANY INTELLIGENCE IN THE AREA HAD NO REPORT OF ANY UNUSUAL INCIDENTS. HOLLOMA, "AFB NEW MEXICO REPORTED THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY AIRCRAFT IN THE AIR AT THE TIME. THE ARMY REPORTED THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY AIRCRAFT OR MISSILES IN THE AIR AT THE TIME. RADAR DIVISION OF THE SIGNAL MISSILE SUPPORT AGENCY AT WHITE SANDS DID NOT HAVE THEIR RADAR WORKING PRIOR TO 0530 HOURS. CAPTAIN W.J. CESSNER, 1900TH AACS SQUADRON, BIGGS AFB TEXAS WAS CONTACTED AND REPORTED THAT THEIR TOWER PERSONNEL HAD NOT OBSERVED ANYTHING UNUSUAL. MR. J.V. VINYARD, SENIOR CONTROLLER FOR (...not clear) DURING THIS SHIFT, WAS CONTACTED AND REPORTED THAT NO UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS HAD BEEN OBSERVED. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS: TWO (2) ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS WERE REPORTED BY TWO (2) INDIVIDUALS IN THE SAME IMMEDIATE AREA WITHIN ONE (1) HOUR SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORIGINAL SIGHTINGS. HOWEVER, INTENSIVE INTERROGATION OF THE INDIVIDUALS INDICATED THAT THE INFORMATION WAS VAGUE AND PROBABLY THE RESULT OF NERVOUS TENSION. AT 1225Z 25 MARCH 1960 SEVEN (7) INDIVIDUALS, TWO (2) OF WHICH WERE THE ORIGINAL OBSERVERS STATED THEY HEARD A SOUND VERY SIMILAR TO THAT HEARD AT THE
TIME OF THE ORIGINAL SIGHTINGS BUT NO UFO WAS OBSERVED. HOWEVER NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION COULD BE DEVELOPED TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCE OF THIS SOUND.” (xx.)


As one can see, critical parts of the text went unreported by Col. Evans: “size of a basketball at arm’s length “ (pretty big for a meteor miles away), “passed over fuselage within eight feet” (could two people be that far off in making an estimate!), and that two of the witnesses said the object “started climbing.” None of these words helped the meteor explanation. One might add that the names of the witnesses were omitted also, therefore Coral’s “spy” on base could not question them. It’s ironic that right in the middle of a debate between Coral and Tacker over the Air Force releasing findings to the public, the military “played her for a sucker.”

The FBI and APRO.

One might wonder why the Lorenzens suddenly announced they were giving up their jobs at Holloman Air Base, New Mexico, and moving to Tucson, Arizona. Coral never gave a reason in any of her writings but it may be assumed her husband received a job offer he couldn’t refuse. Or, it may have something to do with security officials showing an interest in her 201 personal file. Coral did say:

“An agent [Ray Kissiah] in Alamogordo who had known her since she began to get considerable newspaper publicity in 1956, called her less than a week prior to her move to Tucson, questioned her about APRO, its membership, etc., saying he was ‘personally interested. Why this personal interest ‘now.’” (xx.)


4 May. Sarasota, Florida. (about 9:15 p.m.)

“Square lighted windows.”
According to our source:

"Architect S. B. Parker, Jr., sighted a yellow elliptical (or blunt cigar-shaped) UFO about 9:15 p.m. Four apertures, like square lighted windows, were visible along the side. Faint vertical bands of light were also noted. The UFO moved out of sight in a southerly direction at tree-top level within seconds." (xx.)


4 May. Bedford, Massachusetts. (about 9:15 p.m. EDT)

Dark red sphere.

A NICAP report states:

“A dark red spherical UFO was observed in the eastern sky about 9:15 p.m. (EDT) by Charles S. Oates, chief technician at Charles Hayden Planetarium in Boston, and his wife. The sphere was sighted shortly after Oates saw two bright white lights appear and disappear quickly, one after the other, in the same area of the sky. The UFO appeared at an elevation of about 50 degrees in the east, near the constellation Bootes. It pulsed from red to white to red. While Oates tried to call other members of the Planetarium staff, his wife watched the object, which vanished suddenly after about five minutes.” (xx.)


The Brazilian flap of 1960.

Dr. Willy Smith observed:

“The flap was centered largely in the State of Ceara, one of the most backward regions of Brazil. The information about these cases comes from press reports, which do not contain too many details. Perhaps none of them were investigated in depth, and indeed none of them were outstanding enough to earn a niche in the literature. For instance, none of them are mentioned in The UFO Evidence and only one is listed in Vallee’s Magonia Catalog, a clear indication of the local character of the flap. Nevertheless, the fact remains that a flap existed and, interestingly enough, it was certainly not triggered by the press coverage of an exceptional case occurring during that period.” (xx.)

6 May. Vila Ezio, Sao Paulo, Brazil. (9:00 p.m.)

Rocket-shaped UFO.

According to our source: "...a giant luminous rocket-shaped UFO streaked through the skies over Vila Ezio, Sao Paulo. It was spotted at 9:00 p.m. remaining in sight for three minutes." (xx.)


6 May. Apiai, Sao Paulo, Brazil. (no time)

"Like giant rocket."

According to our source: "...the same [see above] (or a similar) craft crossed over Apiai, Sao Paulo, moving at high speed. It was sighted for three minutes [not a meteor?] and looked like a giant rocket." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

7 May. Ovando, Montana. (no time)

Sphere hovering over road.

NICAP reported:

"Gerald Kincel, a former naval air gunner, and his uncle sighted a large orange spherical UFO hovering just above the highway while driving on Route 20. After about 30 seconds, the object suddenly took off and sped out of sight in about two seconds." (xx.)


9 May. ?Ottawa, Canada. (about 2:15 a.m.)

“I am employed by the National Defense Department.”

A letter to BLUE BOOK states:

"On Monday May 9, at approximately 2:15 A.M. while driving along the Ottawa River (East bound) I observed the following:

"A light in the sky (Which I first thought to be an aircraft landing light) was approaching from the east towards Rockcliffe airport. My attention was first drawn to the light when it suddenly made a short spurt sideways, then continued on, then re-
reatening this movement. I stopped the car and myself along with a member of the [Canadian?] air force who was a passenger in my car got out and stood on the street to watch it. When this object came closer it passed behind a cloud and when it did the light made a halo around the object. There was no sound at all and we stood there watching it until it disappeared out of sight. The light from the object was brighter than a star and the most remarkable thing about the object was the way it would dart sideways as it continued its course. The following morning I asked the control tower if any aircraft had been in the air at that time and I was told that there was not. I further checked with our local airlines and they also said that no flights had been in the vicinity. I spoke to one of our officers and he advised me to contact your office. I am employed by the National Defense Department, R.C.A.F. Rockcliffe (Department of Construction and Engineering) and I am quite familiar with aircraft and their movements and I am sure that the object in question was not an aircraft.

"Having read considerable news reports about strange objects in the sky I have always been rather sceptical about such reports. If any explanation can be given for this sighting I would appreciate hearing from you at your convenience.

"I am including a rough drawing [See page 86] of just what course the object took and the appearance which may be of interest to you.

"May I thank you in advance for any information you can give me in regards to this object." (xx.)


9 May. U-2 ruins things.

Keyhoe had planned the release of his latest book, together with a press conference, early in the month, but it was postponed for various reasons. Keyhoe felt it best to shift things to May 16th. However, there was a mix-up and copies began to appear in bookstores, so Keyhoe rushed to move the official release and press conference to the 9th. Unfortunately, the Gary Powers U-2 "spy plane" story broke on the 8th, the day before. The spy plane uproar jammed the newswires. Keyhoe had little choice but to re-schedule everything for the 16th. At least the secret U-2 aircraft, a minor UFO mystery itself, was now solved and made known to the public.

11 May. Near Paracuru (coastal city), State of Ceara, Brazil. (night)

Two discs.

According to our source: "...on the night of May 11, two discs-shaped objects were spotted over a deserted beach near Paracuru, State of Ceara." (xx.)


12 May. Gargalheira-Acari, State of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. (night)
Glowing sphere with halo.

According to our source: "...a glowing spherical object, encircled by a luminous halo several times its size, was seen over Gargalheira-Acari, State of Rio Grande do Norte. It was perfectly motionless when first seen, but it moved away two minutes later at high speed, toward the east." (xx.)


13 May. The huge Brazilian UFO flap of the 13th.

Dr. Fontes tells the story:

"In the north-east of Brazil the evening of May 13 it was crisp and hot, the sky was clear and cloudless and the visibility perfect. That night strange aerial objects were observed from at least 33 towns scattered over an area which covered the surface of at least six Brazilian States. Sighting reports came from the following places:

"State of Ceara—Acarau, Campos, Sales, Caninde, Cedro, Choro, Crateus Farias Brito, Fortaleza (capital), Ico, Iguatu, Juc, Morada Nova, Mombaca, Paracuru, Quixada, Quixeramobim, Redencao, Russas and Solonopolis.


"State of Pernambuco—Cabrobo, Petrolins and Salgueiro.


"State of Bahia—Juazeiro and Bonfim.

"State of Piaui—Ceiras.

"State of Maranhao—Sao Joao dos Patos.

"The events which took place in the north-east on the evening of may 13—between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.—were centered on the most backward part of my country. In this region of small farmers, of cotton and sugar-cane cultures, famous for its hard, dry climatic conditions, with people faithful to customs and manners which in part go back more two centuries to the times of the Portuguese colonization—here we would not expect to find people suddenly obsessed by flying saucers. Yet, a wave of UFOs spread over the whole region that night. The State of Ceara was the chief target, with more than 20 sightings scattered all over its territory, involving thousands of witnesses. The more outstanding reports are presented below in essential detail.

"Quixada, 6:30 p.m.

"Raquel de Quero, a well-known Brazilian writer, novelist and columnist, was at her farm near the town of Quixada. The time was 6:30 p.m., just after sunset. There was a cloudless sky and the moon had not yet appeared. Mrs. Queiroz was talking with her Aunt Arcelina, in the dining room when her husband called her from the outside. She heard several shouts and ran toward the porch. He was there with several workers and
everybody was looking at the sky. Here is Mrs. Queiroz report about the event, transcribed verbatim:

“'To the north, almost northwest, about 45 degrees above the horizon line, a light was glowing like a big star perhaps less bright than Vesper. That light was orange, and was encircled by a kind of halo, a luminous and misty halo, which looked like a transparent, illuminated cloud, circular in shape and several times the size of the full moon.

'And that light with its gaseous-appearing halo was moving toward the east along a horizontal trajectory, sometimes at incredible speed, sometimes very slowly; at times it was strong and elongated, like those stars of Christmas pictures; or it was seen to fade, almost disappearing—reduced to a great, cloudy luminous ball. And those changes in size and luminous intensity came in sequence, according to the movements of the object in its capricious approach. But it never left its horizontal path. And so it moved through the sky for ten minutes or more. After moving around a good quarter of the total horizon circle, always to the east, the object was in the northeast when it abruptly changed course—toward the north—and suddenly disappeared like a lamp turned out.

'We waited for a few moments, to see if it was coming back. It did not appear again. Then we ran to the clock. The time was 6:45 p.m.

'There were more than twenty people with us, gathered on the grounds around the house, and everyone saw what we had seen. Workers arriving next morning, living at places just a few miles away from my farm, told us the same story. Some of them said it was not the first time they had watched that same luminous body moving across the skies. They told us about four other sightings. They said the light had come closer in those other observations, and was bigger in size....' (O Cruzeiro Magazine, June 4).

'Meanwhile, at almost the same time, the Mayor of Redencao, Dr. Jose Alberto Mendonca, spotted a similar object over his farm, about 50 miles to the north of Quixada. This UFO was going toward the east.

'Sedencao, 6:55 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

'This sighting was witnessed by hundreds of persons and reported to the press by the county judge, Dr. Antonio Carlos Costa:

'When we left the church that night, we spotted a nebula of great size and oval in shape, hovering over the town and emitting a strong glow. Measuring about six feet from one extremity to the other (angular size), that strange cloud-like thing had a kind of bright circumference at the center and was absolutely motionless. It had come from the south-west, as I was told later by those who first saw it. In a few moments all the residents in the town were watching the phenomenon. Then it started to move again. When it reached the zenith, the glowing nebula began to climb up along a vertical trajectory. Its brightness diminished gradually but the luminous nucleus changed its shape and increased in size—to disappear about four minutes later.

'This UFO was approaching from the north...According to Dr. Costa’s report, the phenomenon had been observed also from Acarape (impressing Father Antonio Cripsostomo, the local priest), Guaiuba, Barreira and Choro.

'At 7:00 p.m. another (or the same) luminous object was sighted in the sky over the area around Redencao, and also over that town. It was first seen about 45 degrees
above the northern horizon line, travelling from west to the east. It looked like a first magnitude star, surrounded by a gaseous-applying luminosity like small circular cloud.

"Crateus, 6:00 and 7:00 p.m.

"At 6:00 p.m., a strange luminous body appeared over the town, causing panic and hysteria among the population. The object was round-shaped, emitting a greenish glow and moving at high speed. There was no information about its trajectory...

"At 7:00 p.m., a luminous red object looking like a huge star was spotted in the western sky. It was travelling along a south-north trajectory at high speed, emitting an incandescent glow. It disappeared into the northern horizon. The sighting was witnessed by a number of observers from the town...

"Quixeramobim and Iguatu, 7:00 p.m.

"At Quixeramobim, a strange circular cloud crossed the skies over the town moving at high speed. It was seen by a number of observers. They described it as having a kind of luminous focus at the center. After travelling a large distance in just a few seconds, the object disappeared suddenly.

"At that same moment, in Iguatu, a strange luminous smear was seen in the sky, moving from the west to the east, at very low speed. As it approached to town, it became evident that an object was inside the smear, glowing with a very intense blue light. Dozens of persons witnessed the sighting, including businessman Horacio Fernandez, the first observer to spot the strange object in the sky....

"Another luminous object was seen over Iguatu, that same night, moving at high speed. This second UFO was sighted by a number of citizens as it crossed the skies over the town, travelling from north to south. Travelers arriving at the town during the next few days reported the sighting of a similar object (or objects) over the towns of Ico, Solonopolis and Cedro.

"The towns of Jucas and Carius, in the same general area of Iguatu, were also visited by round-shaped UFOs, flying at high speed and emitting an intense greenish light. The southern zone of Ceará State was included in this visitation. Similar objects were sighted from the town of Farias Brito. According to the press, hundreds of persons witnessed the sightings [sic], which caused reactions of fear and panic among the observers. No information was released concerning time of sighting and trajectory of the UFOs involved.

"Campos Sales, 6:30 p.m.: The Great Cloud Cigar. Cajazeiras, 7:00 p.m.

"At this town, located to the west of Farias Brito, the whole population watched a strange UFO coming from the west at high speed. It was sighted for 12 minutes and disappeared toward the east. It looked like a huge cigar-shaped object, about three feet long and one foot wide (angular size). The tips were opaque and smoky, but there was a bright light at the center.

"A half hour later, at 7:00 p.m., a luminous object was spotted in the northern sky by a number of observers at Cajazeiras, State of Paraíba. The strange phenomenon was shaped like a globe of some sort, huge in size, which was traveling from the west to the east along a horizontal course. It crossed over the town and then stopped in mid-air. It hovered at that position for a few minutes, and suddenly was gone into the darkness. A sergeant-telegraphist from the Military Police, State of Paraíba, was one
of the witnesses...

"...at Parelhas, State of Rio Grande do Norte, where another UFO was sighted the same night. The Campos Sales sighting was important because the UFO was obviously one of the great cloud cigars. The details involved suggest that the ovoid or round-shaped cloudy objects sighted from other places might be similar craft, flying in a tilted position, seen from a different perspective." (xx.)


13 May. More sightings:

“According to the investigation made by Mayor Fernandez,...[a] UFO was sighted that night [the 13th] over Juazeiro; also over Oeiras, far to the north-west, in the State of Piaui; also over Bonfim, State of Bahia—far to the south. According to travelers arriving at Petrolina during the following few days...[these sightings were] made at 6:35 p.m. ...

"Let us see ... [Luis Augusto Fernandez’s] report about the events on the night of May 13:

"‘At 7:00 p.m. a strange luminous object was sighted in the skies of Petrolina by dozens of witnesses. Gliding silently through the sky, the UFO came from the north (or north-west) and was first about 10 degrees above the horizon. It was moving toward the north-east, at slow speed. It looked like a bright star encircled by a whitish mist (or cloud), which was almost circular in shape—having several other luminous points around it, not so bright. As that luminous mist approached the town it increased gradually in size, to become larger than the full moon. Then, when it was about 45 degrees to the north-east, it suddenly stopped in mid-air. The nebulous envelope vanished—leaving only the luminous points, which also began to lose their luminosity and finally disappeared into the darkness. The star-like nucleus remained in sight for a few minutes more, then it was gone, just like a light that has been turned out. The phenomenon lasted for 12 minutes. The sky was clear and cloudless, and the visibility was perfect. The glow around the UFO didn’t make any reflection—and this, together with the lack of noise, caused a vivid impression on all the observers. Incidentally, this was the fourth time that the passage of mysterious objects over Petrolina had been observed this year....’

“The Petrolina observation was reported in the press, which also carried reports about the sighting of similar objects, that same night, over Salgueiro and Cabrobo, State of Pernambuco.

“At 7:45 p.m. (May 13), while a flying disc was exploring the area of Paracuru, another one was hovering quietly over the other limits of Fortaleza. It was spotted by a military jet plane from Fortaleza Air Force Base. The pilot, Captain Frota, tried to intercept the UFO, but the ‘unknown’ moved away in an evasive maneuver, at supersonic speed, and was gone in just a few seconds. The incident was secret by the authorities. It was not reported by the press. I obtained the information from a confidential source.
“At 8:00 p.m., a disc-shaped luminous object crossed the skies over Mombaca, Ceara. It appeared in the northern sky and was traveling from west to east. It seemed to be relatively small in size and was encircled by an eerie greenish glow. The phenomenon was watched by a large number of persons, including responsible citizens—Dr. Antonio Sisnando, Militao de Souza, Eduardo Evangelista, and many others....”

“...[a] greenish-luminous ‘sphere’...approached Acarau along a west-east trajectory, at 7:30 p.m....[a] second ...UFO...came from the north, at 7:00 p.m., hovered above the sea in front of that same town for half a minute, then changed course and went away toward the south-east...” (xx.)


“At 6:40 p.m., the people of Nova Cruz, RGN, were startled by the sighting of a small white. Luminous globe of light hovering over the town. After remaining motionless for several minutes, the white torch of light moved suddenly on a zigzag course and went away at high speed toward the East.

“At 8:00 p.m., a disc-shaped object was spotted in the sky around Sao Joao dos Patos, Maranhao. It was dark-gray in color in color, with a kind of cupola on top—encircled by a red glow. It was traveling silently toward the East, remaining in sight for several minutes before finally disappearing into the horizon.” (xx.)


Still more Brazilian May 13th sightings:

“The town of Acarau is located at the extreme north of Ceara State. At 7:00 p.m., a strange green luminous sphere was observed in the northern sky. It approached at slow speed, hovered above the sea in front of the town for about 30 seconds, then moved away to the Southeast (Rio deJaneiro O Globo), May 17) Half an hour later, at exactly 7:30 p.m., a strange red glowing object approached the town from the west. As it came closer, it looked like a bright point of light (starlike), at the center, enveloped in a kind of opaque halo. It passed over the sea, in front of the town, then stopped abruptly in mid-air. After remaining perfectly motionless for about 60 seconds, the object moved away to the east and disappeared (Fortaleza O Povo, May 14). The sighting was witnessed by hundreds of observers from the town and surrounding areas....

“At 6:30 p.m., a farmer named Pedro Alves dos Santos was driving a herd of donkeys toward Paracuru along a dark road, with another member of his family. There was a starlit sky with no clouds. They were close to a small village called Taboleiro de Nazare, about 18 kilometers to the west of Paracuru (not shown on maps), when their attention was attracted to a strange phenomenon. There was a huge round-shaped craft silently following their caravan. It was a gray object with a bright blue light on top, flying very low. No sound came from it. It was a fright-
spectacle, that 'thing' following the caravan along the deserted road. The strange hunter tracked the group for about 20 minutes. Pedro reported the incident to the press: 'I was traveling along the road, spotted that strange-looking “airplane” with no wings, round in shape and appearing to be motionless in mid-air—watching us. At the end, it suddenly climbed up at tremendous speed and was gone,' he said Fortaleza Gazeta de Noticias, May 24: Salvador A Trade, May 25).

“Meanwhile, at that same moment, a fishing boat with three people aboard was moving through the quiet sea, far from the coast. The sky was clear and cloudless, anything moving across the sky should be spotted easily from a large distance. Suddenly the attention of the fishermen was called to strange-looking dark object that was coming down on the boat, out of nowhere. It stopped at 300 feet above the boat and became motionless, emitting a strong blue glow which illuminated the boat. There was no sound. It hovered over the frightened fishermen for about 3 minutes, then moved away toward Paracuru.” (xx.)


Something that may be related to the activity in Brazil was this item in the American publication Notice to Mariners:

Caribbean Sea. “Celestial Phenomena.” (9:30 a.m. GMT)

“A cooperating observer reported the following:

“At 0930 G.M.T. May 13, 1960 in latitude 17 degrees 50 minutes North, 76 degrees 15 minutes West, two large bright unidentified objects were observed. They appeared bearing 70 degrees, altitude 40 degrees. Both were bright white in color with long smoky luminous trails. One was 2 degrees higher than the other and appeared to rise sharply to the right and disappeared. The other continued on a course of West by South, gradually fading until 0945 G.M.T. when it disappeared completely at an altitude of 30 degrees bearing 75 degrees. The latter object was observed to have a quick flashing red light 1 degree directly below it throughout this period.

“Weather partly cloudy with good visibility, wind East force 2, barometer 30.01 inches, air temperature 81 degrees Fahrenheit, Sea temperature 81 degrees Fahrenheit.” (xx.)

(xx.) Notice to Mariners. 25 June 60.

Further Fontes data for the 13th:

“At exactly 7:00 p.m., more than one hundred excited citizens at Paracuru watched the appearance of a strange disc-shaped craft over the town. Flying about 600 feet above the ground, at low speed, the noiseless object maneuvered over the town’s main part in several directions. Once it even stopped in midair close to the town’s church—
in a strange tilted position. It was oval-shaped, almost circular, about 60 feet in diameter, and showed a smooth, polished dark-gray surface. There was a strong bluish light on top of it. After maneuvering over the town for a long time, the disc-shaped object finally moved away at high speed and disappeared. (Fortaleza Gazeta de Noticias, May 24; Rio de Janeiro A Noticia, O Jornal, Ultima Hora, O Globo etc., May 25; Sao Paulo Folha de Sao Paulo, Ultima Hora, etc., May 25). This sighting caused fear, panic and hysteria among the residents of Paracuru and the surrounding area..." (xx.)


13 May. Apparently the U.S. Air Force kept good records about its missile launches, but can we be sure about its UFO files? (See letters on pages 94-95) (xx.)

(xx.) Air Force BLUE BOOK Files.

14 May. Paracuru, Brazil. (4:00 a.m.)

“Two beings of human appearance.”

According to Brazilian newspapers:

“...a fisherman, Raimundo Ursulino dos Santos, was leaving his residence to go to town about eight kilometers away. He spotted two disc-shaped objects on a sandy hill of a nearby beach. The strange machines were aluminum in color, and as he approached the beach, Raimundo sighted two beings of human appearance outside the airships, talking with each other. They were small and very pallid. One of them was dressed in a blue suit and there was a kind of translucent glass-like helmet on their heads. Then one of them saw Raimundo who had stopped, not believing what he was seeing. The fisherman was too frightened to obey. He turned back and ran away as rapidly as possible, yelling for help. When he came back with other men, they found only the marks on the sand at the places the two discs had landed. (Fortaleza Gazeta de Noticias, May 24; Salvador A Tarde, May 25) (xx.)


14 May. Mount Gambier, Australia. (about 6:50 p.m.)

Red light 10 feet across.

Our source states:

“...Mount Gambier police investigated a report that a ‘brilliant red light 10 feet in
April 16, 1962

Major Carl R. Hart
Public Information Division
Office of the Secretary
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your office has been very helpful in the past and so I wonder if you could answer this question for me: were any missiles or rockets launched down the Atlantic Missile Range past Brazil on May 13, 1960, between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Brazil time?

I am trying to account for a flurry of UFO sightings that occurred in NE Brazil at that time.

Many thanks.

Very truly yours,
Dear [Name],

A check of the files for 13 May 1960, reveals one TITAN missile was fired downrange at 2140Z. Normal course would possibly bring it within sight of Brazil if it attained sufficient altitude. Unfortunately, we have no information on course altitudes.

There was another shot on the same day that presents a possibility: A missile was fired at 2015Z and contact was lost after about 400 miles. The expected range was 2,000 miles, but we have no knowledge of where it ended its flight.

Although we receive a number of Brazilian sighting reports, our files contain none for 13 May 1960.

Sincerely,

C. R. Hart
Major, USAF
Pictorial Branch
Public Information Division
Office of Information

Museum of Science
Science Park
Boston 14, Mass.

SAFOL-3B — Comeback
SAFOL-1 — Reading
diameter' had kept pace with a car traveling towards the Victorian border. Mr. E. Lewis, who made the report, said he was traveling with his wife and three children when, at about 6:50 p.m., the object appeared and stayed in front of his vehicle for fifteen miles. Constables B. Wright and A. Hartshorn later made a search of the area, but without success." (xx.)


14 May. Military Newspaper.

"Seemingly reliable?"

An article in the *Army-Navy-Air Force Register & Defense Times* said:

"Flying saucers are in again. Reports from Alaska and from Dubuque, Iowa, have once more set Air Force authorities to investigate.

"Between Nome and St. Michael 'silvery objects' were reported flashing by at a 'tremendous clip' at an altitude of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet. Other reports were conflicting, 'low and slow.'

"The Dubuque report noted that three 'silver saucer-shaped objects' had flown above the Mississippi River, at a 20,000 foot altitude. It was alleged that photographs had been taken of the objects.

"Frederick M. Philips, associate editor of *Air Force*, sums up these latest saucer sightings without comment other than that the sources were 'seemingly reliable.'" (xx.)


14 May. Vincennes, Indiana. (9:05 p.m.)

A bright copper green.

A newspaper report states:

"An unidentified flying object that appeared to be half the size of the moon was sighted by Louis Blevins, 1710 Washington avenue, at about 9:05 p.m. Saturday night. The object glowed a bright copper green, made almost a full circle arc at relatively slow speed and then descended straight toward the ground at a highly accelerated rate, Mr. Blevins, a scientist at Universal Scientific said.

"Mr. Blevins discarded the idea that the object might have been a meteor, because of the odd trajectory it traced across the sky.

"The object seemed to be straight out Eighth Street in relation to where Eighth joins Washington avenue at the Union Depot. The Sun-Commercial would be
pleased to receive calls Monday from other persons who might have observed the
phenomenon.” (xx.)

(xx.) Vincennes, Indiana. Sun-Commercial. 15 May 60.

16 May. Dave Garroway show.

Things finally went Donald Keyhoe’s way. Before, when he was a guest on “panel debate talk
shows,” it was a tough battle to getting heard or even to be treated with some respect. On May
16th Keyhoe appeared on Dave Garroway’s popular network program and this time it was differ­
cent. An article in a NICAP Special Bulletin told the story:

“Dr. Donald Menzel, harshest skeptic of UFO reports, has admitted that he
failed to get all the factual evidence before debunking important sightings.
“In a discussion with NICAP’s director, on the Garroway program of May
16, the head of Harvard Observatory conceded that he did not have the detailed
AF reports when he labeled many UFOs as mirages and illusions. He said he
found the AF would have muzzled him if they gave him the cases. Before this
interview, Menzel had publicly scoffed at charges of AF censorship.

“During the TV interview, it was also revealed that the chief AF consultant
on UFOs, noted astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek, had labeled Menzel’s UFO
explanations as ‘not a serious treatise.’ Anyone looking for a serious study,
stated Dr. Hynek, would be disappointed.

“In 1958, a high AF official wrote Rep. Carl Vinson that Dave Garroway
had agreed to help put the UFO story in ‘proper perspective,’ obviously implying
aid in debunking the subject. But during a moment off camera, Garroway
told Menzel that he was one of the ‘believers.’ In addition, one of Garroway’s
staff said they had no knowledge of any promise to help debunk UFOs.” (xx.)


Menzel, used to getting most of the airtime along with Air Force representatives with the ap­
proval of the show producers, found himself in the unfamiliar role of underdog. The Harvard
professor was a poor sport about it. He felt compelled to mention his setback in private corre­
respondence:

“My appearance on ‘Today’ [name of TV program] did not go too well. Mr. Key­
hoe hogged the show and I had difficulty getting a word in edgewise. I felt rather dis­
gusted about the whole thing; especially since Dave Garroway himself turned out to
be a ‘believer’ and joined with Mr. Keyhoe in attacking me.” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: (…deleted) Boulder, Colorado. From: Dr. Donald Menzel. Date: 14
June 60. Air Force BLUE BOOK Files.
no other details.” (xx.)

(xx.) *Air Intelligence Information Report*, by Captain Thomas M. Conrow.
Hq 10th Air Division (Def) Date of Report: 21 June 1960. Air Force
BLUE BOOK Files.

Additional information:

"At the time of the sightings, the weather was described as clear. (...deleted) and (...deleted) stated a breeze of about 15 miles per hour was blowing and that the object was headed pretty much into the wind. The object came from approximately 50 degrees true and ascended on a heading of approximately 215 degrees true. It was last seen almost due south of Dillingham over the village of Ekuk.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Curious, Sorensen sought out the witnesses he had seen on the ground and found out they were local natives. Using the services of an interpreter, he learned that the natives had viewed the UFO for about an hour, in fact it had even hovered for a time over the villages of Clarks Point and Ekuk before ascending rapidly and moving out of sight. One account was so interesting Sorensen formerly reported the incident to authorities. Here is the account:

"Mr. (...deleted) saw the object at close range. He is a deaf-mute native and communicated his sighting to his brother, Ed. The following account was given by Ed, speaking for his brother. ‘Jim was in the yard of the (...deleted) house when he saw the object flying along the ridge. He noticed that it created considerable suction, in fact, enough to pick up two empty five-gallon cans and swirl them in the air below the object. He was alarmed because some very small children were playing in the area and he was afraid that they would be sucked up. The object passed about fifty to one hundred feet from him and just cleared electrical wires, estimated to be about twelve feet from the ground. Apparently, the cans were carried from one side of the ridge on which the houses stand to the other, a distance of possibly one hundred yards. The object passed between the houses, dipped slightly into the ravine and ascended at an extremely high rate of speed. As it ascended, it whirled dead grass from the meadow high into the air after it.’ (...deleted) drew a picture of the object and described it as follows: it was quite round with a projection on the ends at the center line. Whether this was 'fore and aft' or a flange all the way around could not be determined. There was a red band around the object between the projections. On the boom were two appendages which moved in an undulating motion (the motion was described with arm movements). Also, in the center bottom was a half-
Flying Saucers and the U. S. Air Force

By L. Col. Lawrence J. Tacker. If you prefer authority to hysteria, this "saucer" book is for you! It's a frank, fully documented report from those allegedly "top secret" Air Force files by a USAF officer (active) who knows whereof he writes, about all those mysterious saucer sightings, their silly-season exploitation, and their sober-season explanations. $3.50

D. VAN NOSTRAND COMPANY, INC.
Princeton, New Jersey.

Treetop height.

An English paper published:

"Mrs. Vera Bowden was out picnicking with her younger son Nigel and his friend Paul Foster, when they saw an elliptical gray shape hovering at treetop height over Broadwater Lake three kilometers away. The object was watched for about 20 minutes before it receded into the west." (xx.)


25 May. Pizza pie man is sabotaged?

Joe Perry was warned he wouldn't get his UFO photo back. Well he did—after writing the President, but he was an angry man because he felt he was sabotaged. (See clipping)

Flying Saucer Photo Ain't

By Charles Manos

Staff Writer

GRAND BLANC, May 25—Joe Perry, the talented pizza man, feels the Pentagon people have sabotaged him or something.

"No, the Washington experts haven't fooled with Joe's saucy pies, but they have certainly done something to his flying saucer," Joe claims.

"IT AIN'T what it used to be since they got their hands on it," said Joe, who takes pot shots at the moon with a homemade telescope camera.

Joe, 44, took another look at his color-slide photo, snapped last February on the second night of the full moon.

"It's not the same," he said dejectedly. "The flying saucer has faded... something has happened to it."

The Washington experts returned the color slide a few days ago.

THE FEDERAL agents picked it up last March when
Grant Rock Spectacle Perplexes

**Was It Flying Saucer?**

By JAMES CRENSHAW

I saw a flying saucer. Or did I?

Some 1000 or more persons who attended the Flying Saucer Convention at Giant Rock (in the desert some 40 miles west of Palm Springs) also saw it, but they turned out to be rather a skeptical bunch.

Most of them said they doubted it was a flying saucer at all. And they ought to know, being authors on the subject. Therefore, all we can do is to relate what happened.

The convention was held at the rock, a famous landmark in the Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, 29 Palms area, over the weekend.

The program included speakers on the doings of the “space people” — sometimes called “extraterrestrials” — who occasionally make themselves visible, so it is said, in their saucer-like space ships.

At a night meeting of the convention, held in the open air beside the rock, a documentary film of verified reports of saucer sightings was shown.

The sound track carried the voices of such persons as airline pilots, a control tower executive at the Los Angeles International airport and others who stated they had made observations indicating the presence in our atmosphere of intelligent operators of unidentified flying objects.

**RED LIGHT CENTERED**

Then just as the film got to the critical point of showing what was represented to be actual photographs of such saucer-like objects, there were sudden gasps and exclamations from the crowd.

Eyes turned upward, and there, sure enough, high in the sky above the rock and far back from it was a glowing red light.

At first some said it appeared white, but I saw it as a rather bright red. While the film rolled on and the sound commentary continued, most eyes were watching the red light. For minutes it hung motionless in the clear, breezeless (at ground level) night air.

Then it began to signal — a kind of irregular pulsing activity, as the red light dimmed and brightened and dimmed and brightened repeatedly.

Then it moved to the right, then up and down and to the left. The pulsing resumed with obvious purposeful intent.

**PERFECT TIMING**

Finally, just as the flying saucer film reached its conclusion and faded out, so did the bright red light! Such perfect timing was certainly more than a coincidence.

Oh, yes, it was a manifestation of intelligent beings all right, said Chairman George W. Van Tassel of the convention.

He said if the folks out front wanted to believe they’d seen a flying saucer, they could do so, but there had been similar past conventions, and he said neither the space people nor the convention programmers had anything to do with it.

In his opinion, it was a trick balloon, operated by some nearby terrestrial bent on having some fun.

**EXPERTS DUBIOUS**

Besides Van Tassel, a former aircraft company flight inspector, now manager of the Giant Rock emergency airport, there were several others present who had written about coming face to face with real flying saucers — like Dr. Daniel W. Fry, electronics engineer; Orfeo Angelucci, Truman Bethurum and Dana Howard.

All are big names in the saucer field, and their books are widely read — but they weren’t buying this UFO.

Dr. Fry admitted somebody must have gone to a lot of trouble and even an engineer found some difficulty in explaining all the gyrations of the phenomenon on the balloon theory.

Previous hoaxes had used crude railroad flares, and nobody could possibly be fooled, but this was more refined.

**MENTAL CONTACT**

A beautiful blonde dancer, model named Daryl Nieman, who says she has a way of getting in touch with the real space people via a kind of mental radio, revealed that she did get in touch and that the space people were glad to help, the intelligent reaction of the conventioners.

Margaret Lee, another pert and attractive young lady, who is billed as the “Jupiter Minder” for a pet from Jupiter, who speaks in a book of outer space facts.

pointed to one passage as the definite answer:

“The day we land you shall see so many of the ships you call saucers, your skies will be darkened. It will not be frightening if you expect us and know we are coming to help you.”

Chairman Van Tassel, who says the Pentagon just isn’t telling all the truth about what the armed forces know concerning UFO’s, didn’t blame anybody special for the hoax — or even directly call it that — but there were theories that some science-minded college boys or service men or space lab men might have thought up the cosmic gag.

Anyway, it was my first flying saucer, and I’m not going to let Van Tassel talk me out of it. If he’s going to convince me it wasn’t a flying saucer, he’s going to have to prove it.

Such skeptical people!

Besides, how do I know what to believe? One minute he says he’s seen a true blue flying saucer in person and the next minute he tells everybody he thinks many a so-called “contactee” of the space people has just been contacting a “spook.”

He’ll spoof the spooks a long while before he explains away my winking red saucer as a ghost.
ed at AF HQ, and the AF had flown the two men to Dayton. The official an-
swers to their questions were given by Deputy Chief of Intelligence Theodore
Hieatt, Lt. Spencer Whedon, and Maj. Robert Friend, of Project Blue Book,
which coordinates the UFO investigation.” (xx.)


31 May. Lake Erie. (night)

“Like a Christmas tree.”

A press report states:

“Two unidentified flying objects with lights similar to those on a Christmas tree
were seen buzzing over Lake Erie last night by a Painesville pilot and two sheriff’s
deputies.

“Paul Palmer, 1680 W. Jackson St., told deputies Frank Mathis and James Litz
he spotted the round, red and green lighted objects over the lake while coming in
for a landing at Concord Airport.

“The deputies checked them with binoculars and agreed with Palmer that some­
thing was moving slowly eastward with rotating lights that changed slowly from
red to green and back again.”  (xx.)

(xx.) Willoughy, Ohio. *News-Herald.* 1 June 60.

31 May. Colonel Evans suggests the UFO program be turn over to public relations.

After being turned down as having “limited scientific value” by Air Research and Develop­
ment Command, Col. Evans suggested the UFO program be transferred to SAFOI, the public
relations people. Which makes sense in a way, since ATIC spent most of its efforts doing
public relations instead of investigating UFO reports. (See letter on page 109)

June 1960. Canada’s “mysterious” chunks of metal.

This story refers to two large pieces of metal, one weighing 800 pounds and the other 3,000
pounds. They were found in Quebec’s St. Lawrence River, near the town of Les Ecureils. No
one actual saw these particular chunks fall out of the sky, but a brilliant meteor and resulting
sonic boom in the region on June 12th led to speculation the metal was from space, perhaps
parts of a flying saucer. The 800 pound chunk was sold for scrap by the beachcomber who
made the discovery, but the larger one ended up in the front yard of the headquarters of the
Ottawa, Canada, New Science Club. Since rumors persisted the metal was extra-terrestrial,
Dr. P.M. Millman, of the Upper Atmosphere Research Group of the NRC, authorized an ex­
ination by Canada’s Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. Here is a summary of the
results:

“The main piece was found on the tidal flats of the St. Lawrence River at Les
Ecureuils, Quebec, in June of 1960. It is now in the possession of members of
to: AFCIN-4E (w/Gen Dougher)

1. In keeping with a policy of producing the maximum of aerospace intelligence with a minimum expenditure of funds and utilization of manpower, AFCIN-4E in December 1959, recommended the transfer of the Aerial Phenomena Program to Air Research and Development Command. It was pointed out at that time that after 12 years of experience ATIC has yet to uncover any positive evidence that UFOs constitute a threat to national security. It was further pointed out that the UFO program's only potential value to the United States Air Force was due to its scientific and/or technical aspects. ARDC, after reviewing the program, declined the transfer indicating that the data available was not qualitative and therefore of limited scientific value. It is my opinion that the data available is limited qualitatively only because of the volume of UFO traffic required to be handled by this organization. In an effort to continue meeting the USAF obligations to this program and also to disassociate it with intelligence, it is suggested that the Aerial Phenomena Program be transferred to SAFOI. The attached draft of a letter to General Walsh clearly indicates the benefits which might be derived from such a transfer.

2. If you concur with these suggestions, it is recommended that the draft of the attached letter be authenticated and forwarded to AFCIN.

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF

1 Atch:
Draft of ltr to Gen Walsh
w/Atch
the Ottawa, New Sciences Club. It is metallic, roughly saucer-shaped, about 4 feet across, with a flat top and very rough edges and bottom. The whole is very rusty and has many small particles adhering to it. It is reported to weigh about 3,000 pounds. No precise measurements of size or weight were made. The following points were noted:

"1) There is what appears to be a piece of pipe about 10 inches in diameter embedded in the center of the piece and projecting from the top surface. There is a smaller object like another piece of pipe next to it.

"2) The structure of the piece is layered. There are two principal interpenetrant layers, one magnetic, the other non-magnetic. There are numerous thinner layers, mainly of non-magnetic metal.

"3) The non-magnetic material hardened considerably when sawn with a hack-saw, but it was possible to saw it by avoiding dragging the saw blade across the metal on the return stroke. This behavior corresponds to that of an austenitic steel and is in keeping with some of the previous analyses. The magnetic metal could be sawn without difficulty in the normal way.

"4) Pieces of both layers were knocked off the main piece with a sledge hammer. The fracture surfaces of the two layers were different, the magnetic metal showing much larger faces than the non-magnetic.

"5) The main piece is very similar in appearance to the residues produced in foundries when, after a mould has been filled, the excess metal remaining in the ladle is dumped into a hollow in a bed of sand, so that it will not solidify inside the ladle. This treatment is commonly known as ‘pigging.’ The rough bottom, and edges of the piece are similar to surfaces produced by molten metal penetrating sand. In addition, it is common to put a piece of pipe or rod in the hole before the metal is poured in, so that the solidified mass can be lifted more easily by a crane. The disposal of residues from several ladles would produce a layered structure.”


Early June. Indianapolis, Indiana. (about 10:00 p.m.)

A few zigs and a couple of zags.

An Indianapolis paper printed:

"The flying saucer season now is officially open. Frederick Morrow, 929 Franklin
Road, was walking his dog about 10 the other night when he saw an orange-colored saucer-like object in the sky. After a few zigs and a couple of zags, it took off to the northwest with amazing swiftness.

"Morrow says he tried to keep it to himself, lest he be ridiculed. But in an unguarded moment during coffee break at [American?] Legion headquarters, where he works, he let the story out. And he's been taking a ribbing ever since." (xx.)

(xx.) Indianapolis, Indiana. Star. 8 June 60.

1 June. Life and significance to Hillenkoetter’s convictions.

NICAP was relying heavily on Hillenkoetter’s support to obtain Congressional hearings and to convince the Air Force to release all its UFO information. None of the other NICAP board members had the stature of being a former director of the CIA. If the head of the CIA doesn’t know what’s going on, who does? Hillenkoetter went public with views that backed NICAP’s position on May 21st. On June 1st, Bulkley Griffin, Chief of the Worcester, Massachusetts, Evening Gazette’s Washington Bureau, drew the proper conclusions (as far as NICAP was concerned) and even added something of his own which drew on the tumult over the U-2 revelations:

“Adm. R. H. Hillenkoetter, who headed the Central Intelligence Agency from May 1947 to October 1950, recently declared, speaking about the so-called flying saucers: ‘The unknown objects are operating under intelligent control. It is imperative that we learn where the UFO’s (unidentified flying objects) come from and what their purpose is.’

“Then, referring to the years of World War II and the years immediately following, he said: ‘I know that neither Russia nor this country had anything even approaching such high speeds and maneuvers.’ Here Admiral Hillenkoetter presumably was speaking of at least part of the period during which he was the director of the CIA.

“Admiral Hillenkoetter wants a Congressional investigation of the UFOs. This is a proposal that others have made in recent years, and it has been consistently opposed by the Air Force which possesses exclusive official authority to investigate and report to the public upon the unidentified flying objects. So far Congressional committees have shied away from such a probe.

“The U-2 incident, with its attending circumstances, furnishes particular life and significance to the Hillenkoetter convictions.

“’To begin with, the admiral for about three and a half years held the same job that Allen W. Dulles now holds. Hillenkoetter undoubtedly received reports on the UFOs, including the findings of investigations concerning them. Dulles without question has received reports and findings on the UFOs. By the way, in the early 1950s the CIA rather openly helped arrange a Pentagon meeting of top scientists on the strange objects. That conference issued conclusions which, among other things, said the UFOs pose no apparent threat to national security and recommended that the public be told more about them. This recommendation immediately died. No need to stress that when Admiral Hillenkoetter states the UFOs are intelligently controlled and were neither our own inventions nor Russian inventions he..."
speaks with a knowledge possessed by few other citizens. Whether a former di­
rector of CIA keeps in some contact with the CIA and its information after he has
left the Agency, no one will probably answer.

"But to come to the U-2 matter. Here was a case where we lied by pre-arrange­
ment, lied by plan. In light of the Air Force handling of the UFO matter, insisting
against plain evidence to the contrary in certain cases that the UFOs can all be ex­
plained as familiar objects mistakenly identified, the question inevitably arises: Is
the Air Force following a prearranged plan of public statements on the strange ob­
jects? Is the Air Force deliberately misleading the public?

"Regarding our early lying about the captured U-2 plane and its pilot, our state­
ment that the plane was an innocent weather plane, George V. Allen, director of
the U.S. Information Agency, said that this statement was a ‘pushbutton’ reply,
which he stated, had been prepared in advance. Secretary of State Christian A,
Herter said our statement was ‘a cover story’ that ‘was prepared for that contin­
gency.’ And Undersecretary of State Dillon repeated we used a ‘cover story’ which
‘had been previously prepared for such an instance.’

"An all-important revelation for our citizens, from the U-2 case, is that it is high
official policy to lie to our citizens and to the world, in some cases.

"Do the UFO sightings constitute such a case? Let it be said parenthetically that
the majority of sightings obviously involve mistaken identity. But a small minority
do not; these present evidence that the Air Force explanations are not true. Admiral
Hillenkoetter, with all his special knowledge, says this—says this indirectly, if you
will.

"Does CIA Director Allen Dulles believe that something like a national panic
might be produced if the Air Force flatly said that it just can’t explain UFO sightings?
Or has he advised, for some other reason, the Air Force line of conduct?

"Former CIA Director R. H. Hillenkoetter does not believe the Air Force is telling
our citizens the truth about the unidentified flying objects. He would have a Congres­
sional investigation. His judgement is entitled to extraordinary attention.” (xx.)

(xx.) Worcester, Massachusetts. The Evening Gazette. 1 June 60. p.22.

7 June. A possible Congressional hearing: a skirmish reveals a strategy. (See letter from
Air Force BLUE BOOK Files on page 113)

The case in question evidently is the Poquoson, Virginia, incident of October 19, 1959. The
"chronic reporter" a Mr. Larry W. Bryant. (xx.)

(xx.) The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse. UFOs: A History 1959 October-

An investigation of Poquoson by the Air Force was made only after a complaint was filed with
Congressman Porter Hardy Jr., a member of the House Armed Services Committee. The failure
Possible Congressional Hearing

Major Tacker, SAFQI-3d, Hq, USAF, Washington, D.C. called Major Friend 7 Jager and advised him that there is a very strong possibility that a Congressional hearing will be called on UFO. The particular area of concern is with the lack of adequate investigation. Major Tacker indicated that during Major Friend's next trip to Washington it might be profitable to sit down with L&L and discuss the situation. The specific incident which was probably the cause for this concern was a case which was brought to the attention of a Virginia Congressman, and had not been reported to ATIC by Langley AFB. Langley AFB was contacted by phone and they gave their reason for not reporting the incident as the fact that the witness was a chronic reporter of UFOs and they did not feel that the case was worthy of investigation.
of the Air Force to investigate the UFO event was a frequently used feeble excuse: "sighting not officially reported." This ATIC letter of June 7th shows there were two approaches to Congress UFO advocates could take.

One: Something extraordinary was occurring in the nation's skies.
Two: The Air Force's lack of adequate investigation.

The latter was wasn't that hard to prove. If done right, obtaining Congressional hearings was not impossible. One can see ATIC was put on the spot by the "Poguon problem." One way to escape was by attacking the messenger—not the message.

9 June. Near Walden, New York. (9:05 p.m.)

"When the object came toward us, the dog's ears went up and he watched it closely."

A newspaper story tells us:

"Stewart Air Force Base authorities are investigating today the sighting of an unidentified flying object by a Walden couple last night.

"Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Casey, Lake Osiris Road, spotted the huge conical-shaped UFO at 9:05 p.m. yesterday and watched it maneuver in the southern sky for about five minutes. They notified Stewart Field of the sighting and the investigation followed.

"Mr. and Mrs. Casey first saw the UFO as they drove out of their driveway into Lake Osiris Road. Their home is about two miles northeast of Walden.

"They described the object as resembling a child's top and said it was spinning. It was gray or black in color and a flashing blue-green light glowed from the pointed bottom.

"About one-quarter of the way down the side of the object, a band of red light encircled it. Mr. Casey said today this band appeared incandescent and did not seem to be spinning with the rest of the conical-shaped object.

"When first sighted, the UFO was crossing the sky at high altitude. It passed across the face of the moon at 'tremendous' speed., Mr. Casey said, then shot straight down to a point near the ground. He said it circled for several seconds, as if observing something. Then it headed in the general direction of the Casey home.

"The observers estimated the size of the object, as it drew nearer, as comparable to a house. Mr. Casey said his wife became frightened at this point. However the UFO changed course, went straight up at a rapid rate, and flew out of sight.

"Mr. Casey was also shaken by the incident. 'If somebody else told me about this, I wouldn't believe them,' he said, 'but both of us saw it. I've read about flying saucers and unidentified flying objects, but I never believed it. I do now.'

"The Lake Osiris Road resident said when he first saw the object, he thought it might be an optical illusion or a reflection on his car window. He stepped out of the car and observed the UFO for at least five minutes. 'Even our dog, who was also in the car, noticed it,' he said. 'When the object came toward us, the dog's ears went
up and he watched it closely.' He said the UFO made no noise.

"Mrs. Casey was very upset over the incident and was unable to sleep last night or go to work today, her husband said.

"Stewart Air Force Base spokesmen said today they had no comment except that an investigation is underway. Mr. Casey said he was told when he called the base last night that nothing had shown up on the radar screen. He said SAFB personnel were coming to his house to get further information later today.

"Two other unexplained sightings have occurred recently as reported in Richard W. Milburn's Bittersweet column, which appeared in yesterday Times-Herald. Mrs. John Ericksen of Montgomery Road was startled by a strange bright light, which flashed across her yard as she was closing a bedroom window, and a Warwick man also spotted a mysterious object." (xx.)

(xx.) Middletown, New York. Times-Herald. 10 June 60.

9 June. Hillenkoetter's call for action is "food for thought." (See clipping below)
10 June. Algoz (Algarve), Portugal. (3:30 a.m.)

Half-dozen men around the machine?

According to our source:

"Mr. Carlos Sabino, 25, and his friend ‘Filipe’ were walking near a place named Peiras when they saw something they thought was a car. However, when they saw it was disk-shaped and gave off an unusually bright light, they hid themselves and were able to see half-dozen men around the machine. Later it left straight up and very fast. As Sabino ran to his house the object appeared again, illuminated the ground with an intense beam of light, and then left. Mr. Sabino is regarded as trustworthy by those who know him and testify to his genuine terror after the incident." (xx)


11 June 60. Yonkers, New York. (about 9:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.)

Men from Mars or a super market opening? (See clipping on page 117)

12 June. Bad Godesberg, Germany. (2215Z)

V-formation. (See BLUE BOOK file card below)
16 June. Eugene, Oregon. (4:20 p.m.)

“It was a monstrosity.” (See clipping)
20 June. Mantesano, Washington. (10:30+ p.m.)

“ Took off at terrific speed.” (See clippings)

**Watchman Wonders At Light In Sky**

MONTESANO (Special) — G. T. Hall, watchman at the Graystone gravel pit on the Wynoochee river, isn’t sure what he saw in the sky Monday night. It didn’t behave like any known object, he indicated in his report to the sheriff’s office yesterday. Hall said that prior to retiring for the night, he stepped outside to get some air and was attracted by a light that appeared to be approximately 300-400 feet in the sky.

“The light was slightly to the east from directly overhead and stood perfectly motionless for two or three seconds,” he said.

“It then took off at a terrific speed at the same altitude and toward the Wynoochee bridge. At the time the light or object accelerated, sparks appeared from the rear of the light for a second,” he added.

Hall made it plain that at no time did he hear any noise of a motor.

At the instant the light began to move, Hall thought he could discern a tail similar in appearance to the tail of a helicopter, he said.

He asked if the sheriff’s office had received any other reports of the sighting. He hadn’t.

**What’s-It Viewed By 11 Others**

MONTESANO (Special) — G. T. Hall was seeing things here Monday night. He wasn’t alone.

Hall reported seeing a light or object that appeared to be approximately 300 to 400 feet in the sky.

Further description of that made no noise, moved at a high rate of speed and in the general vicinity of West Montesano were also corroborated yesterday by other witnesses, two in Hoquiam, one in Aberdeen, and another in Junction City. Each seemed in general agreement on the time, also, about 10:30 p.m.

Mrs. Gordon Jones, who lives at the Wynoochee valley entrance, told the sheriff’s office yesterday that the object looked like it was over her house at the time she observed it, while looking west from Marcy avenue in Montesano.

**Balls Of Fire! In Sky That Is**

If you happened to be gazing at the heavens last night, did you notice anything out of order?

Two local men claim they did.

Ron Clarkson, 12014 E. 8th Ave., Kelso, told Longview police at 11:45 p.m. that about an hour before he witnessed “two balls of fire” over the Weyerhaeuser Mill site. They were in the midst of a thick fog and traveling at a high rate of speed, Clarkson said.

Jim Coleman, 1622 15th Ave., Longview, told the same police at 11:46 p.m. as he sat in Your Drive-In Theater. He saw the object moving at a high pitch and past the town hall.

Clarkson said, but there was no fog elsewhere that night. He estimated their speed at 90 to 90 miles an hour.

Coleman said the objects were moving from northwest to southeast, with sparks trailing off as the lights dimmed but got brighter before disappearing. In the meantime, Robert Dief of Longview reported he saw a large, fast-moving object in the sky about 10:46 p.m. as she sat in Your Drive-In Theater. She said the object had a peculiar glow and moved from west to east in the southern sky.

TRAVELING LOW

“It was traveling very low, from north to south,” she said, describing the object as a “beautiful heat white,” she had never seen before.

“Every so often a stream of red would flame from the tail. It looked like it was going to crash, but apparently didn’t,” she continued.

Mrs. Jones added that she went to inform her husband about the sighting, but found it gone on her return. Out of embarrassment, she had balked at informing the sheriff’s office sooner, she said.

SEEN BY OTHERS

Jack Beeson, a Western Lumber company employee at Junction City, reported much the same observation, “an object with two bright lights moving in a south-easterly direction across the Chehalis river at about 30 minutes to 11 that night,” he said.

Others who have since disclosed seeing the same wierd object include Eddy Covall, 12, of Aberdeen; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hampton of the Wynooche valley, and Robert Weaver and Don Mudy, employees of Rayonier Incorporated in Hoquiam. The latter two reported the sighting, which was "off to the east," to the Hoquiam police.

**SEEN IN ABERDEEN**

Reports that an unidentified flying object visited the Grays Harbor sky earlier this week received backing today from a young Aberdeen naval reservist, Gilbert Piottner.

Piottner, an employe of Scott’s Grand Central market, said he had attended a reserve movie at the Naval training station Monday night when he observed a “big round ball with a slender tail” rushing through the sky.

Piottner said the sighting was his first on the west coast, but that he had spotted UFOs previously in the east.

Further confirmation came from Mrs. John B. Allman of Central Park, who said that a bridge-playing foursome at her home also had simultaneously spotted the object. The group included Mr. Allman and Mr. and Mrs. Mil Royce, also of Central Park. They described it as a low-flying blue "blob.

**Aberdeen Daily World**

6-93-60

**Daily World**

Aberdeen, WA

6-93-60
20 June. Report on the panel meeting of June 16th. (See below and on page 120)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: UFO Panel Meeting, 16 June 1960

1. On 16 June 1960, a UFO Panel Meeting was held at ATIC. The following members of the panel were present:

- Mr. Theodore Keast, ATIC
- Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Consultant
- Mr. V. Handmacher, WADD
- Chaplain William Thoronson, MPAP
- Major Robert J. Friend, ATIC

2. The following subjects were on the agenda for this meeting:

- b. Redmond, Oregon UFO sighting, 24 September 1959.
- c. LaCamp, Louisiana UFO sighting, 12 April 1960.
- d. Proposed study by the Aerial Phenomena Group.

3. a. The Dalton, Massachusetts case (ice fall), 25 March 1960. A 30-pound chunk of ice dug a deep hole in the yard of Mr. Larry Koch of Dalton, Massachusetts. When the case was reported, Mr. Koch was requested to put a large piece of the ice in his freezer, to save it for analysis. The recovered ice was shaved off its outer cover in order to insure that only its original composition was analyzed and it was forwarded to ATIC in a sealed container for this purpose. The sample was analyzed at the physics laboratory of WADD to determine its composition. A copy of the report of this analysis is attachment #1 to this document. The analysis has not contributed any information or clues as to the origin of the ice. A report of this case and the laboratory report is to be forwarded to government agencies who may have interest in this area. NASA and Army Engineers, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

b. On 21 September 1959, a UFO was sighted at Redmond, Oregon by a policeman and an employee of the FAA facility. The FAA installation at Seattle, upon receiving a report from FAA, Redmond, contacted the Air Force GCI site at Keno AFN near Klamath Falls, Oregon to determine if a target was observed near Redmond. The observer on duty at Keno replied in the affirmative to FAA, Seattle. "USAF interceptors and civilian aircraft were scrambled, but were unsuccessful in their attempts at interception. Subsequent to 21 September 1959, the GCI site has had similar returns from the Redmond area. The GCI site did not consider there was a relationship between the visual and radar sighting, but the FAA logs carried them as one report. No report of this case was made.
to ATIC. However, Major Keyhoe, NICAP, obtained a copy of the FAA logs and has since used this case against the Air Force. A telephone investigation by ATIC revealed that the radar sighting was probably caused by a gap filler antenna and that the visual sighting was probably due to a refraction of the planet Venus which was in a position that coincided with that reported by the witnesses. SAFRL briefed the Space and Aeronautics Committee on this case and used the finding determined by ATIC. The panel concurs on the probable cause of this sighting.

c. On 12 April 1960, an object struck the ground at LaCamp, Louisiana causing a loud explosion, a flash of bright light and leaving several deep holes in the ground. The light was observed by one witness but the explosion was heard by many. The Air Force investigators took samples from the ruptured ground and forwarded them to ATIC along with the report. Analysis of the samples is complete and the report is being forwarded to ATIC by a contractor. A telephoned brief of the report indicates that the residue in the holes was metallic and increases the mystery in this case. Stereoscopic photographs of the ruptured ground are presently being processed. It is hoped that these photographs coupled with the analysis report will shed some light on the cause for this case. No conclusion was reached or suggested by the panel.

d. The panel was unanimous in the opinion that a comprehensive study of the year 1957 would be more beneficial than a cursory examination of the period January, 1953 to the present. The information to be charted on the IDH cards used for the study was discussed. Dr Hynek is reviewing the information for discussion at the next panel meeting.

h. The panel unanimously reaffirmed a previous recommendation by Dr Hynek that adequate investigators be made available to the Aerial Phenomena Group. It continues to be apparent that the investigation problem requires individuals who are familiar with the special nature of the UFO problem. Investigators should have background in atmospheric optics, astronomical techniques, and general information concerning astronomy and physics as well as in good investigative techniques. These investigators would be used on those cases which give indication of having greatest promise of intelligence or scientific value; i.e., LaCamp, Louisiana sighting.
23 June. “Ain’t no such animal.” (See clipping)

FLYING SAUCERS? 'THERE AIN'T NO SUCH ANIMAL'

PENTICTON, B.C. (CP) — Flying saucers are figments of the imagination of uninformed minds, say many of North America’s leading astronomers and space experts.

"Every sighting of a flying saucer can be explained rationally," said Dr. J. V. Oake of California’s Mount Palomar observatory.

"We hardly ever hear of saucers any more," said Dr. J. F. Heard of Toronto, director of the David Dunlap Observatory. "I guess the fad has worn off for a while."

"I have never heard of any person whose profession it is to look at the sky — an astronomer or meteorologist — who has reported seeing a flying saucer," said Dr. Marten Schmidt of the California Institute of Technology.

"Flying saucers are absolute nonsense," said Graham Odger of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria.

The scientists said there are usually at least half a dozen rational explanations for every moving light in the sky.

These range from bright stars and auroral displays to reflections of ground light on the clouds and can be identified as such by persons with proper training, they said.

The entry of any foreign body into the earth’s atmosphere today can be readily detected by scientific instruments. It would be sighted first by radio-telescopes and by ordinary radar as it came closer to the earth, the scientists say.

24 June. Salt Lake City, Utah. (daytime)

Mystery thingamabobs. (See clipping)

25 June. Near Turtlepoint, Pennsylvania. (10:00 a.m.)

"I married her anyway."

The husband of Rita Fowler tried clearing up an "old" mystery in 1964, and again in 1968, by writing to various people and UFO organizations in an attempt to verify or explain the objects her wife and two woman friends claimed to have seen back on June 25, 1960. The husband, Jay Tanzer, had no interest in UFOs when he met his wife in 1962, and when she mentioned the sighting, he tried to "knock holes in her story." Jay said in jest: "I married her anyway." Here is Mr. Tanzer’s account of the incident, which he forwarded to different groups and individuals:
“The sighting was made by three girls from Emporium, Pennsylvania [Kay Montgomery, Gloria Harford, and Rita], one of whom is now my wife, shortly before 10 a.m., June 25, 1960, while driving north on Route 155 near Turtle-point, Pennsylvania. They thought they saw a formation of planes coming over the hills to the east of Route 155; quickly realizing the objects were not planes, they parked and got out for a closer look. The objects were of definite shape, round on the bottom, curved on top with no wings, and orange or bronze in color. There were nine such objects, flying level and evenly spaced in a box formation. [See below] They moved very slowly to the southwest and were in view 10-15 minutes before climbing, one rank at a time, up and over a range of hills about two miles to the west of the highway. There was no sound. Just after the objects had crossed the highway, the girls had run north toward the objects to keep them in better view; the objects then hovered between the road and railroad track; which frightened the girls. The girls, therefore, stopped. After hovering probably well under one minute, the objects resumed motion.

“The girls immediately drove to Eldred, Pennsylvania, where they reported the incident to David D. Feheley, a local insurance and real estate man.” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: UFO Research Institute, Suite 311, 508 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15219. From: Jay Tanzer, RD #1, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, 19317. Date: 13 September 68.

Box formation: * * *

Mr. Feheley passed the information along to a friend in Olean, New York, Harold Lunberg, who apparently expressed an interest in UFOs. The friend, in turn, forwarded the information to a local disc jockey, who, we assume, also expressed an interest.

We have Feheley’s letter to Lunberg, which includes additional detail and his own opinions. The objects, according to the girls, appeared to be “floating” rather than flying, traveling approximately southwest. Mr. Feheley wrote: “Normally I do not pay too much attention to this type of thing, but, in this case I was impressed both with the description of the ‘thing’ or ‘things’ as well as by the interest and sincerity of the ladies. Had they not seen something they surely would not have bothered to go to the trouble of talking to anyone on the matter.” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Harold E. Lundberg, 757 Bishop Street, Olean, New York. From: Don Feheley (Address not available) Date: 25 June 60.

Mr. Tanzer, a research supervisor for the Du Pont Company, made an effort to be objective and thorough. He checked newspaper microfilms and contacted radio stations. The radio people kept no files and nothing turned up in the press. He then contacted Kay and Gloria.
25 June. "Sunlands area." 24 miles from Uitenhage, Natal, Africa. (11:30 a.m.)

From a vertical position to a horizontal one.

A newspaper printed:

"'Farmers yesterday were still searching for a mysterious object which hovered in the sky for about a minute and then appeared to 'land' in the Sunlands area, 24 miles from Uitenhage on Saturday (June 25). Mr. Carl Coetzee, a citrus farmer, and his son, Christofel, 18, saw the object when they were out hunting on their farm at 11:30 a.m. Watching the object, which appeared about 30 feet long, Mr. Coetzee and his son saw it 'hovering' in one place before moving in an easterly direction before it got into a range of hills, a mile away. Other farmers also saw the object and a search was made.'

"One of the witnesses wrote Mr. Bayman [correspondent for England's *Flying Saucer Review*] as follows: 'When I saw the object for the first time, it was stationary. It did not at first approach me...there was a slight up and down movement. At this stage the object was in a vertical position. From this movement it turned on its back and when in a horizontal position it moved off in an easterly direction. I would say that a darker object at its nose was a second appendage [?]. As it appeared to me, height was more or less 200 and about 250-300 yards from me.'" (xx.)


29 June. Concord, Massachusetts. (8:45 p.m.)

A small puff of smoke.

A news story said:

"A bright orange light suddenly appeared in the twilight of the soft summer evening. Moving slowly and silently across the northwest sky, it came to a stop, and emitted a small puff of smoke. The elliptical, eye-shaped thing hovered for a moment, then slowly disappeared into the quickly darkening sky.

"A nightmare, a scene from a science fiction thriller? No. According to Mrs. Alvan Fox, this phenomenal incident took place last June 29 at 8:45 p.m., and was seen from her back yard on Martin Road by her, her children, and one of their friends. It was not, as some skeptics have suggested, a Hanscom field aircraft. She sees dozens of jets daily and knows almost by heart their designs and light patterns. And this vehicle was soundless." (xx.)

(xx.) Lowell, Massachusetts. *Sun.* 20 November 60.
Abbott, Mr.? p.33.
A-Bomb. p.29.
Acarape, Brazil. p.88.
Acarau, Brazil. pp.87,91.
Acre, John. p.41.
Adamski, George. pp.15,52.
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APRO Bulletin. p.43.
ARDC. pp.12,109.
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ATIC UFO Panel. pp.56-57.
Australian Flying Saucer Review. p.35.
Ayers, Mr. & Mrs. Elwyn. p.44.
Bad Godesberg, Germany. p.116.
Ballentyne, Mrs. Thelma. p.33.
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Barlett, Senator. Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. pp.31,38
Barreira, Brazil. p.88.
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Bob Pratt's book, *UFO Danger Zone*, is a must read for students of the UFO mystery. Pratt's details the intense UFO activity in Brazil during the 1970s thru the 1990s. Most of the activity, as in the year 1960, occurred in the thinly populated, underdeveloped, northeast section of the country. Just why that is, is another big mystery of the many mysteries involved in the UFO problem. Of more concern, however, is that Pratt's data demonstrates that UFOs are not harmless, which undercuts the U.S. Air Force's main assertion "that UFOs are not a threat."

"We are the Visiting Committee of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Humans. Are you ill-treating that man in the bucket?"

"Doggone it, no! We're only shooting him to the moon. Whether he blows up or just becomes another satellite, he's comfortable and happy. Five! Four! Three! Two! One! ZERO !!!"