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SKYLOOK

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N U M B E R 33

A U G U S T 1970

A Midsummer Special !

Due to the fact that a wealth of material has come in this month from our fine staff, regular contributors and others, along with letters of good will and support for the Midwest UFO Network and SKYLOOK, we decided to offer our readers a bonus as a token of our personal appreciation. We hope you enjoy this giant-size edition of SKYLOOK, and we extend a special welcome to all the new subscribers who have joined us.

Sincerely, Ye Ed

Beginning a New Feature by Dr. Allen R. Utke, Ph.D., on UFO's -
- A New Series, "The 1897 Mysterious Airship," Research by Walt Andrus
New UFO Sightings from Illinois and Missouri - New UFO Report from Arizona
- 1970 Report from North Carolina by Angelo Capparella III -
Mysterious Mass on the Ocean Floor - New Theories to Explain UFO's -
A Reader Comments on John Keel's New Book - 1966 Report on Craft -
- Press Clippings on the Midwest UFO Conference - All the Regular
Features - And More - NEXT MONTH, A Report on the Carlyle UFO Meet -

"We tell it as it is."

The Official Publication of the Midwest UFO Network

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Policy: To separate fact from fantasy. To the best of our ability, we tell it as it is. Each staff member expresses his own views.

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Printed inserts: Write for price and send sample. We reserve right to reject ads we consider unsuitable.

Other Editors Speak

J. Cleary-Baker, Ph.D., editor of "The BUFORA Journal and Bulletin," 3, Devenish Road, Weeke, nr. Winchester, Hants, England: "We have no flying saucer 'hardware' except a few metallic fragments of disputed origins. Such evidence as can be presented in favour of the existence of Unconventional Flying Objects is circumstantial in nature. It is for each of us individually to weigh this evidence and arrive at a verdict for or against the reality of the elusive UFO."

"After nearly twenty years of UFO investigation, I have no hesitation in stating that I regard the evidence in favour of the real existence of Unconventional Flying Objects as overwhelming. I do not base my findings on any single report or group of reports, but on the accumulated testimony of thousands of reports to which unbiased evaluation is obliged to attach the legend, 'Unknown.'"

"It is unfortunate that UFO-research has become the playground of emotionally unstable persons, cultists and space-struck juveniles. I have always opposed attempts to transform UFO-research into a 'Movement' and condemned the sort of proselytism which assumes that a useful purpose is served by seeking to bludgeon the man-in-the-street into a conviction that UFOs exist. There is a real danger, unfortunately, that intelligent persons, such as our colleagues in SIUFOP would seem to be, may be deterred by all the folly and humbug from the realization that, as Dr. J. Allen Hynek has suggested, there is a signal in the noise."

"To vary the metaphor, let us beware of throwing out the baby with the bath water!"

Colored Lights in Geometric Pattern Cross Illinois Sky

Ralph Kramer and five of his children, ages 9 to 15, watched a group of colored lights move across the sky about 10:05 the night of July 1, 1970, and admitted later in giving the report to Mr. Leonard Sturm, of Decatur, Ill., that he was frightened and that "he felt an attraction to them--possibly a mental communication of some kind."

Mr. Kramer, owner of Kramer's Lettering and Sporting Goods Co., 305 South Oakland Ave., Decatur and also a City fireman, was driving east on Highway 24 when he and the children observed the lights near Rea's Bridge, northeast of Decatur.

A group of from 15 to 30 red and green lights in a geometric pattern were moving just over the tree tops to the right of the car. Suddenly the lights stopped, and three brilliant white search lights came on for a minute or two, and the observers could see a country home under the lights. As the "search lights" went off, the object moved east, then south, being under observation for four or five minutes.

The object when first seen seemed to be flying almost parallel to the road in an easterly direction at about 30 MPH. It stopped directly above the home of Grady E. Davis, on the south side of Rea's Bridge Road, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of the bridge. Then the object flew east for a block, then southeasterly toward the lake, and finally southwesterly over the lake channel, toward the city, at a high rate of speed.

Kramer said the red and green lights spanned a distance of about 20 feet, and the white lights a distance of 12 feet. He described the red and green lights as acorn shaped and in a double layer, alternating red and green with a red light between two green lights, and opposite a green light, thus forming a definite pattern. They seemed to be mounted on a frame rather than a solid body, as the observers felt they could always see all of the lights, none ever seeming to be blocked out by any solid structure. The colored lights were suspended, like an acorn with the tip down, and were glowing and translucent, with no bright spot as a filament makes inside an incandescent lampbulb. The lights did not blink or flash or change position relative to each other. The three brilliant white floodlights were mounted at the level of the lower row of colored lights. Mr. Kramer said they seemed to be 15 times brighter than any carbon arc lamps he had ever seen, and they were cone shaped.

There are no poles, electric lines, television or radio towers in the Davis home area that would have served as mounting for the lights. The light on the Davis home and yard seemed to be brighter than daylight, and Anne Kramer, 15, said she thought you could have seen a needle in the grass.

Altho the Kramers came within 100 feet of the lights, they said there was no sound from the object. The Davis family, questioned later, said they were retiring for the night, with the drapes drawn, and had not noticed the light outside or anything unusual as a possible side effect of the lights.

Karen, age 10, said the lights reminded her of a Christmas tree.
Credit: Leonard Sturm, Decatur, Ill.

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Missouri Man Reports 1967 Sighting
Investigation and Report by Ted Phillips, Jr., SKYLOOK staff.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brown (not their real names) had an experience the night of Feb. 16, 1967, which they will not forget. The Browns live on Route 2, near Weston, Missouri (a small community 15 miles northwest of Kansas City) near the Missouri River and were driving home from Weston about 7:00 p.m., going east on Route P when they suddenly saw "two rows of lights, which looked like lights on a ball field."

There were eight lights visible directly ahead of them, or due east. Brown stated that he thought that the lights were on an airplane when first seen. They were like neon lights and did not dim or brighten. The sky was clear, but dark. Brown does not remember seeing any stars or the moon.

They continued 0.4 mile when Route P turned sharply to the left, and Brown decided to continue on in an easterly direction on a gravel road that left Route P at that point, as he was curious about the lights and wanted to approach them. He had been driving about 50 mph, but slowed to about 30 miles on the gravel road. When they were within an estimated 0.2 mile from the point where the lights were hovering, they could see that there were two separate objects--one hovering to the left of the road, the other to the right. Each object consisted of four lights, the same color and size. As the Browns came within 0.1 mile of the objects, they could see the object on the right was about 25 feet from the road, while the one on the left was about 10 feet from the road. They were hovering above the ground at about the same height and Brown estimated they were some 150 to 175 feet above the ground.

When slightly less than 0.1 mile from the objects, the one on the right moved away towards the south, describing a slight arc. It moved at a high rate of speed and no sound was heard. The lights did not change in intensity or color, and the object disappeared in a few seconds.

The object to the left did not move. Brown stopped his car in the middle of the road at a point some 10 feet from the near edge of the object. He rolled down the side window for a better look, but could see no definite shape, just the four lights. Again there was no sound, and Brown estimated the object, which seemed to wobble slightly in its hovering, to be some 50 feet in diameter (the diameter of the row of lights). The object was larger than a grapefruit at arm's length and was at an angle of about 70 to 80 degrees just ahead of and to the left of the car. Brown had turned off the engine, which had not been affected by the object, and the car radio was not on.

As the object seemed to be slowly descending to the ground and toward the Brown car, Mrs. Brown became frightened and asked her husband to leave the scene. As Brown started his car which rolled forward a foot or two, the lights on the object suddenly went out, and at the same time a red light appeared at the top front section of the object and a loud roar was heard and what appeared to be smoke came from the rear section. The roaring sound and smoke continued for about 4 to 5 seconds, and the object started to move in a northerly direction. Out of the smoke, the object was visible as a dark egg-shape against the sky, and the red light was still on. The object moved to the north for a very short distance, picked up speed and turned northeast and disappeared in the distance in a matter of seconds. In visiting the area with Brown and retracing the events, it is estimated the total observation time was about 3 to 3½ minutes.

Marine Corporal Reports UFO in Illinois

We are indebted to Mrs. Rosetta Holmes, of Carlyle, Ill., for a report of an unidentified flying object seen in Illinois in August of 1969. Reconstructing the chain of events from a form filled out by Marine Corporal Charles J. Brandmeyer and additional details given at the request of Mrs. Holmes, the story is as follows:

Brandmeyer isn't certain as to the date, but believes it was the fifth of August. He was driving east on Route 161 between Albers and New Braden, Illinois, about 3:30 in the morning, when he noticed a bright object in the sky ahead. It was a calm night, with stars shining, and visibility was good.

"When I first noticed it," he wrote, "it was moving over some timberland to the north of Albers." It was about the size of a pea, he continued, and because of its speed in moving to the north, he thought it was a jet, and gave it little attention.

A minute later, he happened to glance out the window on his side of the car and noticed the object again. It appeared to be moving toward him at a slow pace, then moved in the same direction he was going, keeping pace with the car. Presently it picked up speed and moved ahead of the car and he watched it through the windshield as he proceeded.

Again it moved toward him until it reached a point just over the car and Brandmeyer had to lean over the steering wheel to peer up through the windshield. It was now about the size of a softball, he said, and it paced his car to near Albers when it moved to the north again and up (or away) until it again seemed about the size of a pea.

Brandmeyer turned off on Route 161 to go toward Damiansville and the object stayed on the driver's side of the car until he reached the lane to his parents' farm on Route 1, about 1½ miles south of Albers.

Arriving home, Brandmeyer awakened "Mom and Dad and all the kids" to see the bright object hanging high in the sky over the lane road and decided to use his father's car (faster than his own) to chase the object. His brother, Mark, accompanied him and they drove as far as Oden, with the object apparently remaining the same distance from them. It was getting light and Brandmeyer had difficulty in keeping his eye on the object, as he drove, getting it confused with the stars as it appeared to move higher into the sky until it finally disappeared from sight. At Oden, he gave up the chase and returned home.

He described the object as being "round and shiny" and with a blurred outline most of the time, but at intervals, it seemed to tilt so he could see an "edge." This, of course, was when it was closer to him and of "soft ball size." It was under observation 30 minutes.

Conrad Hunter, 1434 W. Fairfield Ave., Charleston, S. C., 29407, edits and publishes RESEARCH NOTES and is having the usual struggles of a new publisher in launching a ufozine. Your SKYLOOK editor feels his writing has merit and, once he gets his material organized, the magazine format set up, he will make a real contribution to the field of ufology. Indications are he shares our own distrust of the "instant experts" and "gimmick writers" whose interest in UFO's is based upon their ability to turn out thriller\$ with the fa\$ buck in mind. We'd like to see Mr. Hunter "make it" and suggest you send him 25¢ for a sample copy of RESEARCH NOTES, or a dollar bill for the next four issues.

Residents of Dunn, N. C., Report Bright, Moving Light

By Angelo Capparella III

On the night of June 18, 1970, the telephone began to ring at radio station WCKB, the local newspaper office, and the Dunn Police station as about half a dozen residents reported a large, round light moving east. Upon learning of this sighting the North Carolina UFO Reporting Network reacted by conducting telephone interviews with three of the principal witnesses which could be located June 22 and 23.

Mrs. Henry Baldwin was sitting in her yard along with friends and relatives when they noticed an object which had appeared in the east. It was a round ball, reddish-orange in color, and moving northeast. The edges of the object were even and round. It was the size of a saucer or one-fourth the size of the full moon. She said that the object was moving slower than an airplane and was much larger than an airplane light. All of the witnesses noticed that the object seemed to be trailing smoke behind it. Though the sighting only lasted a few seconds, Mrs. Baldwin was frightened and ran onto the car port, but by this time the others informed her that the object had suddenly disappeared. The sighting took place between 10 and 11 p.m.

It was between 10 and 11 p.m. when Mrs. Jerry Smith along with Mrs. Dody Warren saw the object. They were about a mile somewhat south of Dunn on U. S. 421 heading towards Dunn. Suddenly, Mrs. Smith noticed an object in front of them about the height of an airplane. The object was coming towards them and at an angle as if falling in their direction. It was twice as big as a car headlight and much brighter. When they reached a curve in the road, the object then was to their right. Just as they were pulling off the road, Mrs. Smith said that the object went out, whereupon smoke went upward from it. For a second Mrs. Smith saw a couple of little red lights, as on an airplane, which appeared at the point the object seemed to disappear.

Mrs. Warren, who was driving the automobile, confirmed most of Mrs. Smith's account. However, she stated that the object was yellowish-red and the edges appeared blurry. Before it disappeared, she saw many small lights around it and did not see the two red lights after it disappeared. She also added that, because she was driving, she could not see it as well as her companion. The entire incident lasted about one minute.

Investigator's Remarks: Making the assumption that both sets of witnesses saw the same object (notice the similarity in description), we are faced with two discrepancies: that of time and direction. In speaking with the radio station and police station, as well as calculating it from additional information supplied by Mrs. Warren, it seems the time of the incident can be shortened to between 10 and 10:30 p.m. As to direction, this investigator considers it more reliable to consider Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Warren's report that it moved from west (probably NW or NNW) to east (probably SE) based on the object's orientation to the road whose direction is known. Mrs. Baldwin is probably in error when she states that it moved from E to NE. All three witnesses admitted that their sense of direction is poor and considering it was at night, this is understandable. Neither Polk AFB nor Seymour Johnson AFB knew of any airplanes or balloons in the area at that time. The night was clear with a full moon. The nearest weather station at Raleigh-Durham airport reported that the conditions were not appropriate for refraction and dispersion to take place due to lack of temperature inversions.

Credit: North Carolina UFO Reporting Network, with Mr. Capparella as investigator-reporter.

Strange Hovering Craft Seen in Arizona

The early morning skies of Apache Junction are not as peaceful as many of us would like to imagine. There are things, it would seem, in the neighborhood which glow and go bump in the dark.

Staffer Lulu Luebben said she was awakened about 2 a.m. Tuesday morning, June 2, by the horses in the corral, who were moving about restlessly and snorting. Thinking a coyote was in the corral, she got up.

As she did so, Lulu said she smelled a faint odor of something burning and thought her husband Roy had left a cigarette butt smoking in an ashtray. As she got out of bed and looked out the window, however, the sight of a strange, hovering craft drove all thought of the cigarette from her mind.

The craft, according to Mrs. Luebben's eyewitness account, appeared to be constructed of two circular structures, the larger one on top lit with an intense glowing blue light. The bottom one, which appeared to be connected by some sort of rod, was a neon, glowing yellow. Mrs. Luebben said it looked like three iron-bar type appendages were on the bottom of the craft, although it did not sit down, but hovered over the area.

The object hovered in the area between the Luebben's house, which is located on Lu-Roy Lane about six blocks east of highway 60-70-89, and the highway. Lulu said the light was so bright that she could identify types of vehicles moving on the highway behind the craft, such as a semi-truck, lumber truck etc. After about 15 minutes, the object moved to the other side of the highway, and Mrs. Luebben reported that she was sure of this because cars passing on the highway were between the Luebben house and the craft.

Altogether, Mrs. Luebben estimated the UFO hovered in the area about 30 minutes, then moved off to the southwest.

Although the sighting may sound like science fiction, several other people in the area have seen objects in the sky at night with apparently the same intense blue light.

Hud Hutchison, employed as a security guard at Falcon Field, said he and two other men watched an object with the same type of blue light slowly cross the sky towards Williams AFB. He said at the time all three men had to reassure each other that they hadn't been dreaming.

Two persons in the Bush Highway area last October sighted an object again identifiable by the same blue light, crossing the sky to the west. Mrs. Doris Mathews and Richard Sayers, both of Boston St., just west of Bush, watched that they thought was a brilliant blue falling star suddenly appear to the southwest and cross the sky toward the north.

Then, instead of falling as they expected, the blue light suddenly went out as though it had been extinguished. Once again, both persons had to reassure each other they had actually seen such an object in the sky.

Checks with the Pinal County Sheriff's Office and the Arizona Highway Patrol's Claypool and Phoenix Offices revealed no reports by motorists of sighting unusual lights along the highways around Apache Junction.

A check with Williams Air Force Base produced the information that Williams had no aircraft operational at the time of Lulu's sightings and that there have been no reported sightings of UFOs within the last six months.

Although the Air Force has closed its research project which was entitled Project Blue-Book, it is still a part of Air Force Policy to

(Continued on Next Page)

Strange Hovering Craft. . (Continued)

advise whether or not the air base nearest the sighting had any operational aircraft at the time of the sighting.

The Sentinel then called the Administrative offices of the Weather Bureau in Phoenix. The Bureau informed the Sentinel that weather balloons are not launched from the Phoenix facilities of the bureau. As the prevalent wind patterns from the state were North-North-west, the nearest station which could have originated a balloon is Wilcox.

The weather bureau spokesman also stated that the balloon does not have internal lighting and moonlight would not cause enough reflection to match the reported lights.

A check with the tower at Sky Harbor Airport revealed that there have been no sightings reported to that facility for the last six months. Both the Williams AFB and Sky Harbor replies cover the entire state.

The Sentinel contacted two members of the Astronomy Department of the University of Arizona, Professors William Hartman and James E. MacDonald.

Professor Hartman who is an assistant professor at the Lunar and Space Laboratory, is a co-author of the controversial "Colorado Report" which was sponsored by the Department of Defense. The report found no evidence to support the existence of Unidentified Flying Objects.

"After two years of research I do not discredit the possibility of extra-terrestrial visitors, but I do feel that most unexplained reports are caused by atmospheric phenomena. There are so many of these phenomena that I could not identify them all."

Professor MacDonald, who is an atmospheric physicist and one of the leading critics of the Colorado report told the Sentinel after speaking to Lulu and hearing the result of the Sentinel investigation, that the object Lulu sighted could not have been a meteorite or any known atmospheric phenomena. The professor also stated that while the design of the "ship" was unusual, it was not unprecedented.

However, Prof. MacDonald stated he could offer no explanation of the sighting other than the fact that due to the agitated state of the horses, it was no hallucination.

Source: "Apache Sentinel," June 10, 1970. Credit; William J. Finch.
Editor's Note: The above is an exact copy of the newspaper article. Mr. Finch, a free lance writer, of Phoenix, has promised us an article about a personal experience of an exciting nature and we're anxious to read it. Many thanks for this news clip, Bill.

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WANTED: Back issues of SKYLOOK--No. 1 to 10, and No. 13 and 14. Please give price before mailing. Mark R. Herbstritt, 967 Theresia Street, St. Mary's, Pa., 15857.

Editor's Note: Due to an increasing demand for back issues of SKYLOOK, we are completely out of the issues mentioned above, although we do have others, available at 25¢ and 35¢--but write us first. One of our staff members recently advertised for some back issues and had a prompt response, and we hope Mark will be as fortunate. We are printing more extra copies per month now.

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Beginning a New Series

"THE 1897 MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP"

Transcribed from microfilm copies secured from the Quincy Public Library, Quincy, Illinois, of the following newspapers of that era--"Quincy Morning Whig" and "Quincy Daily Herald." Research by Walter H. Andrus, Jr.

Editor's Note: Beginning in this issue of SKYLOOK with the first mention of the airship on April 4, 1897, a page, more or less, will be devoted to this series every month until the entire collection is used. This is a fine contribution to the history of the much-written-about airship. Every article that follows is an exact quote, with nothing added and nothing deleted.

Quincy Morning Whig, April 4, 1897

THEY SEE THE AIRSHIP

Mysterious Object in the Heavens
Viewed Last Thursday Night

Niles, Mich. April 3--In many towns in southwestern Michigan citizens aver that last Thursday night they saw an airship hovering in the heavens. At Galesburg, about 10 o'clock that night the citizens were startled by a sharp crackling sound, accompanied by a brilliant white light, evidently coming from above. The phenomenon lasted nearly a minute, and amid the confusion several of the spectators are positive they saw a huge black object, tipped with flame, at a great distance above the earth and moving northward. Some declare they heard human voices coming from the object. They are sure it was an airship.

Quincy Morning Whig, April 7, 1897

AIRSHIP SEEN IN ILLINOIS

Nashville, Ill. April 6.--What appeared to be a balloon but what most people who saw it think was the mysterious air ship of Kansas and Nebraska, passed over this city at 8 o'clock Monday evening. It appeared in the northwest as a large red light, and as it approached the city a dark outline was faintly discerned. The fact that the object traveled from the northwest while the wind was from the southeast goes to prove it was not a balloon.

(Continued Next Month)

33-pound Meteorite Falls in Soviet City

Moscow--A 33-pound meteorite crashed into a street in the Ukrainian city of Yagotin, digging a deep pit, the Russian news agency Tass reported Saturday. Tass said the Meteorite was a chunk of ice, which shattered into greenish crystals on impact.

Meteorology experts from Kiev University helped determine the missile was a comet and not a huge hailstone. (Source, "Arkansas Gazette," July 5, 1970. Credit--Lou Ferish)

The magazine, SPUTNIK, is a sort of "Russian READER'S DIGEST," presenting articles from a variety of Soviet publications, translated into English. In the past, they have carried UFO articles by such writers as Felix Siegel (or Zigel) and Alexander Kazantsev. The June 1970 issue of SPUTNIK contains a very interesting article by Victor Demidov, concerning a possible UFO "crash" site. A mysterious crater found in Karelia in 1961 is the focal point of the article, as no "natural" explanation has yet been found to explain it. This is one more indication that the Russians are wellawareof the UFO possibility, despite the official pronouncements to the contrary. Demidov's article is well worth reading.

The August issue of SAGA contains two articles dealing with UFOs. The first, by Otto O. Binder, deals with contactee Ted Owens, who claims to have a direct "pipeline" to the beings he designates as SIs (Saucer Intelligences or Space Intelligences). Owens has allegedly predicted a number of occurrences, catastrophic and otherwise, since his contacts began. The present article is Part I, so you'll have to shell out another 50¢ for Part II in the September issue if you want the full story.

The other SAGA article, by Harry L. Helms, Jr., relates (or rehashes) some of the pucliar goings-on involving our space satellites. Since Sputnik II, a variety of enigmas have baffled our space scientists-- satellites which mysteriously disappear from orbit etc. UFO sightings by astronauts are also recounted, although no new reports are included. This is another of those interesting-if-true articles.

It is understood that the OFFICIAL GUIDE TO UFOs, published by SCIENCE & MECHANICS magazine some time ago, is now available in a paperback edition from Ace Books. I do not know if this edition has been revised or updated, but any later information will appear in a future column.

John Keel's article, "Fables of the UFO Age," appears in the August issue of FATE. Mr. Keel cites a number of "buff fables" and then attempts to demolish each of them. Unfortunately, his own reasoning leaves a great deal to be desired and one wonders why he brought up the subject in the first place.

Two Gray Objects, With Lights, Fly Over Oregon

From the "Columbia Press," Astoria, Oregon, April 30, 1970:--Two unidentified flying objects were reported sighted over the Jeffers Gardens area Sunday night about midnight.

Weiklo Telen said they came from the north, about the direction of Chinook, at great speed which he thinks was over 500 miles an hour. The objects were gray and round with flashing lights, flying past about 2000 feet high in the air. Fred Sheeder saw them first and called Mr. Telen to watch. The UFO's were traveling about half a block from each other and disappeared to the south.

Credit: The U.F.O.R.C. Clipping Service, 3521 S. W. 104th, Seattle, Washington. Editor's Note: Rod Dyke operates the clipping service. The June clips numbered 15-legal size pages of UFO reports from the United States and elsewhere. Your UFO organization would be interested in this monthly service, and we suggest you write Mr. Dyke for further details.

The tiny planet, Mercury, reaches its greatest angular distance, east of the sun on August 16, and will be setting an hour after sunset. The very brilliant planet, Venus, will be seen in the west-northwest after sunset, settling between 10:30 and 11 p.m. Venus will be quite near the distant planet, Uranus (visible in binoculars at 6th magnitude) on the evening of August 14. On August 30 it will be near the star, Spica, magnitude 1.2. The planet Mars will not be visible during the month.

Jupiter is visible in the southwestern sky for about two hours after sunset. The ringed planet, Saturn, may be seen in the southwestern sky, rising shortly after sunset. New moon: August 2, first quarter; August 10, full moon; August 16; last quarter, August 23. New moon again, August 31.

August 12 will be the peak for the Perseid meteor shower; 50 an hour may be seen.

Old Missouri Report Carried in Air Force Files

At approximately 4:30 a.m. on Feb. 9, 1968, the observer was awakened by several of his cows bawling. The observer rushed to his living room and sighted a craft that was estimated to be about 100 feet in diameter and had concave sides. A bright yellow-green light came from the concave sides of the craft and the craft itself produced a pulsating sound similar to a piece of wire whirled at high speed above a person's head. During this time the cows were reportedly staring at the object which the observer estimated to be about 100 to 200 feet away and about 25 feet above the ground. Finally the cows whirled and ran into the barn. Shortly afterward the craft moved away rapidly toward the southwest. At this time the noise was reportedly two or three times louder and the sound pulsations were more rapid. The duration of the sighting was 1 to 5 minutes. Note: The observer is somewhat near sighted but was not wearing his glasses during the observation.

Comments: Several police departments and several airports in the area stated that they had not seen anything unusual and no one had reported any similar object to them. None of the airports that responded to the request for information had any helicopter activity in the area but several thought the description somewhat similar to that of a turbine helicopter, especially with respect to the sound. However, because no definite helicopter activity could be placed in the area at the time of the sighting, the report is carried as unidentified in Air Force files.

Credit: Ted Phillips, Jr.

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ENCOUNTERS WITH ALIENS: UFOs and Alien Beings in Science Fiction. Science Fiction??? Yes, but with a difference! ENCOUNTERS has been compiled by George W. Earley, a ufo researcher for nearly 20 years (member NICAP, APRO, SITU etc) Introduction by Ivan T. Sanderson, written specifically for ENCOUNTERS. Also contains Orton's "The Four-Faced Visitors of Ezekiel," a detailed NON-FICTION study of the Biblical account of Ezekiel's encounter with aliens. . this is the only illustrated hard-cover book to contain this copyrighted study! To obtain your copy, personally autographed by Mr. Earley, send \$4.95 to: Donald M. Grant: Bookseller, West Kingston, Rhode Island, 02892. ---Advertisement.

Bright Object May Have Been Venus

Mrs. Brown (not her real name) and her daughter saw a very bright, white "star-like" object while driving on Route H between Hughsville and Sedalia, Mo., between 10 and 10:30 p.m., CDST, July 3, 1970. The light appeared to be moving very slowly or hovering as they were almost directly beneath the object. At this closest point, only the bright, white light could be seen. The object moved away towards the northwest and turned pink-red in color and "three or four red lights" were seen on the bottom section. It was under observation for 20 minutes and moved out of view beyond the tree line.

Ted Phillips, of Sedalia, who investigated this sighting, makes this comment: "When first seen, it appeared bright and white in color; the witnesses were driving so there was the motion of their car to be considered. As they drove, the object seemed to get closer, or higher above the horizon; this may have been due to the changing position of the automobile in relation to the horizon. . . it had little or no motion and finally 'either landed or moved behind trees in the distance.' It disappeared in the northwest, as does Venus; it was last seen at about 10:30 p.m. Venus sets at about 10:30 in the northwest. The time, the apparent motion and the color change, along with the directions involved, would strongly suggest Venus."

Burned Circle in Illinois

Mrs. Rosetta Holmes, of Carlyle, adds another to the list of mysterious burned circles which have been reported from time to time in all parts of the globe.

The observers, who do not wish their names used, were a mile south of Huey, Ill., the night of August 15, 1967, when they observed a bright, red, blinking light directly above them. They compared it to a star in brightness and compared its size as that of a dime held at arm's length. It was a clear night, and the bright object was under observation for about 45 minutes.

It moved slowly away from the observers and then apparently lowered to land on a hill top. The next morning the observers and several others went to the hill top to see if there was any trace of the object having landed, and they found a circle about nine feet in diameter in a soybean field. The informant wrote: "Some of the soybeans were dried, not burned. . . another odd detail was that the soybeans on the outer edge were only dried half-way down; the bottoms were still green."

Editor's Note: It would seem there is enough here to merit further investigation, even tho this is an older case, as a lot of unanswered questions come to mind, and we hope to have more on this.

ARE YOU MOVING? Do send in your change of address for SKYLOOK, as third class mail is not forwarded by the post office department, but is returned to the sender. We have to pay six cents to get a ufozine returned, and then we have no choice but to wait until we hear from you with the change of address. Sending another copy with the correct address costs us another six cents--and if this sounds like we are pinching pennies, it is only because we are pinching pennies. We have to. So, DO send in that change of address as soon as you have it.

Does Mysterious Mass on Ocean Floor Deflect Pull of Gravity?

"Worcester Telegram," July 5, 1970. San Juan, P. R. (AP)--A 300-man team of U. S. space agency scientists completed explorations of the Atlantic Ocean's deepest trench yesterday in an experiment designed to take guesswork out of oceanography.

The 10-day mission involved the use of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration tracking ship, ordinarily used for space flights, to plumb the contour of the ocean bottom in a five-mile-deep trench north of Puerto Rico.

The information gained, scientists said, may enable oceanographers to map with precise accuracy the ocean floor.

They began the experiment on the premise that a mysterious mass exists on the ocean floor so dense that it deflects the pull of gravity, makes a depression in the surface and causes navigators to miscalculate their course.

Scientists said the mass acts much as the moon does when it pulls water toward the surface and causes tides, and they sought to find out why the ocean dips in the Puerto Rico trench instead of seeking its own level.

With information on the effect of the underwater mass on gravity, scientists said, they will be able to perfect other tracking instruments and improve mapping of the oceans.

George Mourad, of Columbus, Ohio, one of the scientists, said the studies will enable oceanographers to "explore the depths of the ocean at any distance from shore because we will always be able to get back to our starting position.

"Now, for the most part," he said, "Oceanography uses guess work."

The experiment marked the first time NASA's \$65 million tracking ship has turned its sights below the sea. It has been the only sea-going instrument for two-way communication between the Houston Space Center and moon rockets.

Editor's Note: This was sent in by Paul Braczyk, of Webster, Mass., and he poses a most interesting question: Could this "mysterious mass" be in some way responsible for the well-known disappearances which occur in areas such as the Bermuda Triangle, Devil's Sea, and other such "vortice" traps? We invite your comment.

Mysterious Lights Seen Near Niagara Falls in 1968

Three Niagara Falls patrolmen reported seeing mysterious lights over an area near the Sir Adam Beck plant of the Ontario Hydro Electric Power Commission, April 3rd, 1968. Patrolman Thomas Shumway, William Wells and Richard Atkin sighted the lights at 2:15 a.m. at the same time David J. Gras and a friend were looking at Jupiter through a telescope and saw mysterious objects moving north toward the Falls area. The objects were described as being white lights which pulsated red and blue colors. A spokesman for the Ontario Hydro Commission said there were no unusual operating conditions at the power plant to cause the lights. A check revealed no aircraft were in the vicinity at the time of the sighting. The officers said the lights at first stood still, then moved off in an easterly direction.

Mr. Gras phoned a local airport (Buffalo, N. Y.) to see if the objects had been picked up on radar, but was refused any information and, instead was given a telephone number to call which turned out to be somewhere in Wyoming. The "Courier Express" gave a brief account of the sighting, and nothing further could be learned. (Credit: David J. Gras.)

Illinois Resident Reports White Object

A possible sighting of an unidentified flying object was reported to Schaumburg police by a local resident Saturday.

Thomas Sims, who lives at 1823 Crandon Lane, told police he saw a white object pass over his home about 9:50 p.m. Saturday at a high rate of speed, traveling from south to north, which then disappeared. Source: "The Herald," Elk Grove, Ill., June 10, 1970. Credit: Loren E. Coleman, Decatur, Ill.

Scientist Has Explanation for Some UFO's

Washington--UFOs (unidentified flying objects) may be caused by CAT--clear-air turbulence, an atmospheric "ghost" that suddenly shakes jet aircraft as they fly through cloudless skies. It is now believed that UFOs may be caused by small-scale CAT that concentrates light waves as a lens and reflects radar as though from a solid object.

At a recent meeting of the National Academy of Science here, Dr. David Atlas described how a new technique for probing the atmosphere with radar revealed unexpected small-scale activities in the atmosphere that may have large-scale significance. They are very thin layers of turbulence in the lower atmosphere which may show the beginning of clear-air turbulence.

Atlas says that these vortices and thin areas of strong refractivity could explain many UFO sightings both optically and on radar screens.

Source and Credit: Wm. F. Christian, of St. Louis, Mo., sent this article from the July 19th "Twin Circle" and adds that a long article on Clear Air Turbulence, with pictures of disk and mushroom-shaped UFO's appears in the June 27th edition of "Science News."

More About Ball Lightning

Mrs. W. P. Armstrong, of St. Louis, calls our attention to an article in the May-June issue of "American Scientist" on ball lightning. Written by James Powell, a nuclear engineer at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and David Finkelstein, a physicist at Yeshiva University (both in New York), the article consists of 27 pages of highly scientific analysis of ball lightning, complete with graphs, charts and photographs.

To quote one paragraph: "sample observations of ball lightning... show how fantastic the behavior reported may often be. It has led many who have not seen the phenomenon to doubt its existence. The resemblance to flying saucers is more often cited to discredit reports of ball lightning than to provide a natural explanation for some stories of flying saucers."

And: "Interrogating by questionnaire the staff of an Atomic Energy Commission and of a NASA center, (the investigators) found enough positive responses (5 to 10 per cent of persons questioned) to make a very strong case for the existence of ball lightning and to determine some of its characteristics."

Many of our readers will want to read the entire article.

DO SEND US your ufo reports and news clippings. Material will be returned on request. Mail to SKYLOOK, Box 129, Stover, Mo., 65073

PRESS CLIPPINGS ON THE MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE, Peoria, Ill., June 13th

From the "Peoria Journal Star," June 14, 1970 : One of the world's foremost authorities on unidentified flying objects predicted last night that he and other investigators will have to continue their study of UFO's in the coming years "through our own sweat and using our own funds."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, speaking at the day-long Midwest UFO Conference at Bradley University, said the U. S. Air Force's discontinuance of Project Blue Book, and a University of Colorado report critical of "flying saucer" studies have undercut serious attempts to explain UFO's.

The Air Force's Project Blue Book, responsible for investigating UFO sightings, was discontinued last year on recommendation of the Colorado report which concluded that most sightings were such ordinary things as airplanes, satellites, weather balloons, clouds, planets and birds.

"We have a phenomena that is worthy of investigation," Hynek asserted. "We have Blue Book closed and the heavy hand of the Colorado report, but we still have UFO sighting reports. The fact is, they (UFO's) do exist."

Hynek, director of the astronomy department and Lindheimer Research Center at Northwestern University, said, "More and more persons are becoming intellectually bothered by the UFO problem when they take the time to look into it."

One of the difficulties of UFO research, which the former Air Force consultant characterized as "a strange, complex interdisciplinary problem," is "simply data gathering and data processing.

"After 20 years of investigating, I'm still at the elementary stage of trying to get the facts," Hynek stated. "My own burning desire in each report is, did it really happen the way the report said it happened?"

He said that most UFO data are "undifferentiated anecdotal accounts of sightings," and added that future reports must be more "qualitative than quantitative.

"To say that a UFO moved up very fast is not enough," Hynek declared. "We must know how fast and what the acceleration was and at what angle it moved away. The answer can only come through data."

"Gearing his talk, entitled "UFO's and the 70's--A Positive Program," toward members of the audience as potential investigators, Hynek stressed the importance of accuracy in reports of sightings.

"Our problem is not a scarcity of data. We are submerged, but most of it is poor," he said. "I'm really concerned about what can be done in the next decade. You can't have respectable UFO cases unless you have respectable data."

He advised members of the audience to specialize in a particular area of UFO study such as "nocturnal lights, daylight sightings and physical effects on persons and animals.

"Progress in UFO's will be made by dedicated individuals in the next few years using their own funds and specializing in one area," he advised. "I'm not worried about funds. If a person's really dedicated, he'll get the job done. Frustration in the field comes when you try to accomplish too much."

Hynek warned against mixing good observations with theory. "Data painstakingly put together will stand the test of time. Theories come and go down the drain."

He said his own area of specialization is credibility of witnesses. "The better you know a person the better you can judge his credibility."

(continued on next page)

I want to know as much about a witness as about what he saw," he said.

"The aspects of sincerity in an individual are what I want to study," Hynek added. "My desire is to see what made a UFO sighting an event for a witness."

In the final analysis, he said, bringing scientific recognition to the UFO problem boils down to upgrading the data about UFO's."

"The 70's will be grim, not jolly," Hynek warned. "We must depend entirely on ourselves and other individuals around the country whose bond is dedication to the study of UFO's."

The "saucer" expert declared that in the "special field of UFO study our instruments are people," and said that during the present period of relatively little official action in studying UFO's, dedicated investigators must prepare for the day which will mark "the biggest break through in human thinking ever to hit this planet."

* * * * * Another speaker at the afternoon session was John F. Schuessler, a senior design engineer for McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics in St. Louis, Mo., who discussed possible techniques of interplanetary space flight including here-to-fore unknown means of propulsion.

Schuessler, a life-support engineer for the Gemini space programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and obviously a firm believer in the existence of "flying saucers," said that as a primary means of power the "smoke and fire-breathing jet engine is ancient although it could be used as an auxiliary power source

Referring to the U. S. space program, he added, "As we look around us we see something outperforming us in every way--the UFO. It's high time we spend the time, money and energy to . . . find new means of powering spacecraft." * * * * *

"The Tulsa Daily World," June 14, 1970; Peoria, Ill. (UPI)--Instead of welcoming the unknown, scientists have become "defenders of the status quo," a university chemistry professor and believer in unidentified flying objects said Saturday.

"Some of us in the scientific community have fallen into a security trap. Theories and ideas take us prisoners, and we begin to look on them as creeds instead of tools," Professor Allen P. Utke said.

Utke, a teacher at Wisconsin State University on Oshkosh, was talking about the problem of serious and unbiased scientific investigations of UFOs, or flying saucers.

Utke was one of the main speakers before about 160 persons at Bradley University Saturday for a week-end midwest UFO conference.

He and others at the conference are dissatisfied with the results of the widely publicized UFO investigation conducted under government auspices by Dr. Edward U. Condon.

Utke said the Condon group, "to start with was not very interested in the subject," and ended using its information to support what members believed in the first place--that UFOs are a popular myth.

Utke suggested that pressure should be put on Congress through public opinion and petitions demanding a thorough investigation, thus "outflanking" the scientific community.

"We (UFO believers) will be better prepared when the next bunch of sightings come," he said, "and, there will be a next time."

Another speaker, Ted Phillips, Jr., an employe of the Missouri Highway Department and amateur astronomer, described "burn circles and saucer nests" found at scenes of UFO landings.

(Continued on Next Page)

Phillips said there have been 128 reported cases of circular areas, from two to 72 feet in diameter, where vegetation has been destroyed and matted down during a saucer landing.

"The significance is that you have not something that flies away into the distance and disappears, but something that can be examined. It leaves us with tangible evidence, although we can't explain it," Phillips said.

"The Commercial Appeal," Memphis, June 14, 1970. Editor's Note: The article just quoted from the Tulsa newspaper appeared in Memphis paper.

"St. Louis Globe-Democrat," June 18, 1970: Evanston, Ill. (AP)--Research into reported sightings of UFOs--unidentified flying objects--should be handled by a loose organization of interested individuals.

That's the opinion of J. Allen Hynek, head of the astronomy department at Northwestern University, who made such a proposal last week at a meeting of the Midwest UFO Study group at Bradley University in Peoria.

In an interview Wednesday, Hynek pointed out that the Air Force scrapped its UFO investigation--Operation Blue Book--"There is no place for people to report. And the air of mystery is kept around the subject.

It will be difficult for those interested in exploring the phenomenon, Hynek said, because the chance of government money is nil.

COMMENT by Art Epstein, SKYLOOK staff member: It was interesting to me that this press release was made from Evanston five days after the June 13 Peoria Conference. Dr. Hynek urged individual researchers to specialize, such as burned circles, or E.M. effects etc. It was interesting to note that his personal choice is "the sincerity of the individual" or in other words, credibility. From the panel discussion after his speech, I was impressed with the remark that we couldn't trust another government sponsored project. Dr. Hynek also promised never again to use the term "swamp gas." His own book will be published soon.

In my humble opinion, the UFO phenomenon has at last reached the respectable scientific stage that it was supposed to have reached several years ago at the University of Colorado. Dr. Hynek is researching the UFO problem and has the understanding with Northwestern University that this is part of his work. Therefore, the quote in the article that states "There is no place for people to report" is rather confusing because Dr. Hynek has asked for people to send him reports. It is also interesting to note that the Midwest UFO Network is exactly one that was so described by Dr. Hynek--"a loose organization of interested individuals." Things are looking up!

Editor's Note: Thanks to staff members and readers who sent in news clippings. We deleted some portions in the interest of avoiding repetition and in selecting the most interesting sections for our readers. A complete report of the Conference, with all speakers, appeared in the July issue of SKYLOOK. Back issues are available.

Mr. Epstein heard Dr. Hynek speak in Peoria, and could read "between the lines" in commenting on the Evanston interview with Hynek. It is entirely probable the entire article was cut down by the St. Louis paper (to fill a given space or because of lack of interest by the editorial department handling it) and this would account for the apparent misleading statement that "there is no place for people to report." Quotes selected at random seldom impart the full meaning (Page Mr. Agnew) and the message is lost because of poor reporting and/or careless editing. Considering the "Globe's" usual indifference where UFO's are the subject, we're in luck to get a couple paragraphs.

Report on Craft and Occupant Seen Near LaHarpe, Illinois, 1966

Editor's Note: In 1966 Walt Andrus, of Quincy, Ill., received a letter from a lady revealing her close-range observation of an unconventional aerial object and occupant. In April of this year Mr. Andrus and Robert Smulling, of Hamilton, Illinois, taped an interview with Mrs. X (her name in our files). Her story remained essentially the same as her initial letter and additional information was acquired. The result of their investigation, as written by Mr. Smulling, follows:

At 8:15 a.m. on the cold morning of the 5th day of January, 1966, Mrs. X was driving north on state highway 94, two miles north of La Harpe. In the distance she saw a flash of light. She initially believed it to be a silver plane coming toward her very rapidly from the northwest. She thought it was probably a small plane owned by a local resident. But as she progressed down the road, she grew concerned as the "plane", which now appeared more dirigible-shaped, was coming very quickly toward her on a collision course. But almost before she knew it, the object was hovering just above the telephone lines across the road opposite her.

The silver, egg-shaped craft was possibly as long as a piper cub, not over ten feet thick and had one huge, very bright light (yellowish white) on the end facing her. There were no doors or ports or landing gear seen. Only a line which appeared to be a seam was seen approximately through the longitudinal center of it.

The craft began to drift clockwise very slowly on its longitudinal axis. As the other end of the craft came into view, she saw a platform about two feet wide. On this platform was a "man" wearing a bulky, white, one-piece, asbestos-looking suit. His hands were covered with mittens or gauntlets and only his face was visible beneath the hooded garment.

He appeared to be about 5½ feet tall and very stocky looking in the suit. His left hand was placed on the craft and the right was on his hip. He was looking right down at Mrs. X with "black, staring eyes" which she "will never forget." His face had a ruddy complexion otherwise she could not see any special facial features.

The craft drifted again and the man was lost to view. As the end having the platform and man came around again, they were no longer visible. The craft climbed higher and then suddenly it left very, very rapidly, faster than a jet, in a flash so to speak.

Mrs. X reports that she was practically petrified and not sure if she had stopped her auto or not, nor is she certain how long she watched the object. She doesn't think her '65 Mustang stopped running. She had tried to get the attention of a man and woman just twenty feet ahead by waving, pounding on the window and pointing, but to no avail. The woman was in a car parked in the lane which lead to a farm. The man was standing outside with his head in the window. They appeared to be arguing. Although their names are not known, it is believed they were tenants of the farm at that time. Apparently Mrs. X had to be stopped and perhaps for a total duration of five minutes.

She had three nine-month old miniature Schnauzer pups in the back seat which were quiet as mice. This is quite unusual for these frisky pups. She heard no sound and the dogs were not visibly disturbed.

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Dr. Allen R. Utke, Ph.D, Associate Professor of Chemistry at the Wisconsin State University at Oshkosh, was one of the speakers at the Midwest UFO Conference held in Peoria, Ill., last month and his subject was "UFO's and the Problem of Scientific Evidence."

He states it is not difficult to understand why we've basically ignored UFO's for so long when you consider man's reluctance to face a problem squarely "unless it has him backed up against a wall." Without non-conflictive facts and overwhelming "scientific" evidence, he is inclined to ignore the problem--and if the facts are confusing and the evidence is only circumstantial, he may even deny that the problem exists at all.

Dr. Utke points out the facts relative to UFO's are very confusing. While the Air Force states that only approximately 3% of the reports they have received in the last 22 years have involved hoaxes, hallucinations and psychological problems, these "crackpot" cases are often highly publicized and overlook the fact that about 97% of the cases have involved objects seen in the sky rather than in the mind. And when the Air Force emphasizes that they can explain about 93% of the reports they've received, people tend to overlook the converse fact that approximately 7% have gone unexplained.

Also, the fact that many UFO's have been described as being solid objects or "machines" moving in a manner suggestive of possible extra-terrestrial origin has been negated by the many scientists who deny the possibility of our being visited by such extra-terrestrials.

Another reason we have almost completely ignored UFO's, Dr. Utke says, is because there is no overwhelming "scientific" evidence available that forces us to admit they they exist and constitute a problem. "The evidence that is available is only circumstantial," he says. "It has not stood the test of a scientific court of law, where the emphasis is on reproducible physical data that can be studied in a laboratory."

The technique of using lie detectors, hypnosis and "truth drugs" to verify verbal reports is open to debate and question, thus doubt. Photographs, movies, radar sightings, burnt vegetation, "goassamer" marks on the ground, radioactivity, and electromagnetic effects do not conclusively support verbal accounts either, Dr. Utke believes. All of these things, he says, except movies, radar sightings, and electromagnetic effects, can be fairly easily faked. Movies are more difficult to fake, but they are also very rare. "No definitive, convincing movie of a UFO taken at close range exists at the present time," he states.

Civilian and military radar sightings are seldom made public and cannot be conclusive evidence as the sightings occur "indirectly on a rather sensitive machine which must be operated and interpreted by a human being." And, although there have been many "qualitative" reports of electromagnetic effects accompanying sightings of UFO's, again these have been verbal accounts. No "quantitative" measurements have been recorded on scientific instruments.

With the evidence just listed being circumstantial rather than conclusive "scientific proof," that UFO's exist and constitute a valid problem worthy of investigation, where do we go from here?

Dr. Utke has some answers. More in the next issue of SKYLOOK.

A Reader Comments on John Keel's New Book

Editor's Note: John Keel's latest book "UFOs--Operation Trojan Horse" was reviewed briefly by Lou Farish in his column IN OTHERS' WORDS in the June issue of SKYLOOK. Frank A. Hudson, Jr., of Elkins, Ark. (author of "A Down to Earth Look at the Space Men" in the May SKYLOOK) has sent us his views on Keel's book, and we think you'll find them interesting.

The first few pages of this book brings to the attention of the reader that we do have some unusual vehicles flying about in the air and landing on the ground. We learn that people in all walks of life are still seeing them. These UFOs are tracked by radar and chased by jet fighter planes. These objects have lights at night, and look metallic in daylight.

Then John Keel reaches out and grabs a few "clinkers" and scatters them around for a foundation on which he builds his hypothesis. The author mentions that he screened out all reports that had a ready explanation, but in his eagerness to investigate all the evidence, he accepted any and all scraps of information that came his way and glued the UFO label to them. From this odd information we learn that the solid objects are not real at all, and the vaporous ghostly apparitions are the real thing.

If projections are really involved, would it not be logical to pursue the idea that the solid objects might be responsible for the misty on again, off again configurations instead? The reader is led to believe that all unusual lights seen in the distance are automatically designated to the "soft sighting" category. This idea is in error and without foundation. Since this UT theory is built so strongly on observers' stories that UFOs just "disappeared," the investigator should pause before he thinks he has found the answer. The word "disappear" in UFO reports is used so loosely that it could have several meanings, and possibly none of them would actually describe what happened to the object. A low flying vehicle could "disappear" simply by turning out lights during night flights, or by simply going behind hills, trees, buildings or clouds that the observer knows nothing about. Building a theory on the assumption that an object "vanished" into the fourth dimension merely because the observer did not see where it went is treading on shaky ground.

Keel also puts UFOs into Never Never Land because 23 years of "investigation" has not solved the mystery. UFOs are a complex problem, and only a handful of scientists have taken a small peek under the rug on two or three occasions. This could hardly produce results on any subject. UFO sightings have been reported for many years, but we are just now beginning to hear of the first few faltering steps toward a real look at the situation by people who are capable of solving the mystery. There is such a wealth of unusual and interesting information set down in this book, it is unfortunate that such a theory was tacked on just to be different.

Editor's Note: Hank J. Hinfelaar, editor of SPACEVIEW, P. O. Box 21-007, Henderson, Auckland, 8, N. Z., writes: "If, as John Keel suggests, UFOs may be nothing more than transmuted energy patterns which are shown to us in a shape that makes sense, there is obviously no reason why these "shapes" should conform to laws that can be satisfactorily understood. After all, if we are being deluded by "hallucinations" (and the purpose in regard to ufonauts still eludes me!), why not make the "hallucinations" so senseless that we could never hope to find a solution."

Hello, Down There! (Was Jules Verne Right Again?)

Wm. F. Christian, of St. Louis, has sent us an article written by Gina Manion in "Twin Circle", published weekly at Huntington, Ind., and dealing with the "hollow earth theory." Mr. Christian comments: "I guess until the mystery of the saucers is solved, it is best to keep an open mind." We find the article interesting and believe you will too. It follows, and we quote:

Now we know definitely and finally that the moon is not made of green cheese, but are we yet sure that the earth is not shaped like a doughnut--hollow inside, with entrances at the poles? (See drawing.)

"How is this possible?" you ask. "If the earth is hollow, why don't we know about it?" Perhaps some day we will. How well-known is our earth? Remember that less than 500 years ago the great intellects of the day considered the earth to be flat and Columbus to be a fool. Is it not possible that there still exists vast areas of the earth of which we are ignorant, just as were the men of Columbus' day?

Let's look at the drawing / Ed: Note: sorry, can't reproduce / and imagine that the earth gently slopes inward at both poles from all parts of the circle on which the magnetic poles fluctuate. (The magnetic and geographic poles are widely separated from each other, both at the north and south poles. All navigational bearings are taken from the magnetic poles.)

Imagine for a minute that you are in a small boat or plane. As you slip gradually over this polar "lip," you would have no sensation of a change of direction, because the center of gravity remains beneath you, just as Chinamen don't walk upside down, because they are on the other side of the earth.

Further, imagine that the earth's crust is 800 miles thick, so that as you progress in the direction of the inner surface, you do not notice the curve of the horizon. Gravity under-side as well as top-side, keeps you in place. As you advance farther and farther into a delightfully warmer climate and observe trees, mountains, rivers, birds and animals, plus a glowing "inner sun" high in the heavens, would you not believe you had wandered into a fantastic land?

Jules Verne (novelist, 1828-1905), a man ahead of his time, to put it mildly, envisioned the submarine ("Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," 1870) and a landing on the moon ("From the Earth to the Moon," 1865). He also dreamed of a hollow planet when he wrote "Journey to the Center of the Earth" (1864)--two down now, and one to go, to make all his fantasies a reality.

The belief in "under people" has been held, in some form or another, by every ancient culture on earth. Some imagined these "other creations" to be cruel and evil; others felt they were benign and vastly more intelligent than we, depending on the legends. These creatures were said to appear on the surface of the earth on occasion, to harass or to inspire, as the case might be.

The Holy Bible has some obscure references that bear repeating. "And no man was able neither in heaven, nor on earth, nor under the earth, to open the book. . ." (Apoc. 5:3; 5:13).

The current theory held by some of the flying saucer buffs is that there exists within our earth a very advanced culture and that flying saucers originate there and emanate from the poles. (Not all of them, of course!)

(Continued on Next Page)

Hello, Down There. . .(Continued)

The hollow earth theory is nothing new. Captain John Cleve Symmes, who was decorated for bravery in the war of 1812, spent his retirement pursuing this "myth," even to the point of asking Congress in 1823 for funds to conduct an expedition into the poles. His scheme commanded only 25 votes.

Two books, now out of print, were written around that time, about Symmes' hollow earth theory: "Symmes' Theory of Concentric Spheres" by James McBride, published in 1826 and "The Symmes' Theory of Concentric Spheres," written by Symmes' son Americus, in 1878.

Edmund Halley of Halley's Comet fame (1656-1742) wrote an essay in 1692 suggesting that the earth contained several "spheres" or inner worlds, all of which contained plant and animal life in abundance. ("The Under People," Eric Norman, Award Books, 75 cents.)

Interest in the theory has dwindled in the Twentieth century. We've been to the moon. The earth has been photographed from outer space. The film shows no "holes in the poles." But wait! What else does the film show? The poles shrouded in endless clouds. Flights "over the north pole" daily--above the clouds and 40,000 feet or so. They take their bearings from the magnetic pole. Do they fly over the geographic pole at all? Is there a pole? Or is there a hole?

Admiral Byrd apparently thought there was a hole. More about that next time!

Part II follows/ It would undoubtedly be a lot easier to discuss the mysteries concerning the North and South Poles, had Admiral Richard E. Byrd been somewhat less reticent concerning his unusual flights over the North Pole in 1947 and the South Pole in 1956.

To add to the conundrum, serious researchers who attempt to pursue unpublished data concerning Admiral Byrd's life, work and travel, run into a frustrating dead-end. Admiral Byrd's personal papers are presently and apparently for a long time to come, tightly closed against public scrutiny. His family isn't talking.

Admiral Byrd was a meticulous story-teller. His many books are filled with detailed day-by-day accounts of what he has done and seen on his various expeditions by land, sea and air into the Arctic and the Antarctic, over a period of more than 20 years. But in his published works he says very little about his findings in 1947 on his flight over the North Pole, nor does he dwell upon any conclusions regarding his bizarre flight over the South Pole in 1956.

Of necessity, therefore, we must rely on the contemporary newspaper and radio accounts, so we turn to the New York Times for "all the news that's fit to print" about these incredible polar expeditions.

For instance, in February of 1947, prior to his North-Polar flight, Byrd is quoted as saying: "I'd like to see that land beyond the Pole. . . that area beyond the Pole is the center of the great unknown."

Ray Palmer, a hollow-earth enthusiast, describes Admiral Byrd's trip 'beyond the Pole' at length. Here is part of what he says:

"Millions of people read his statement in the daily paper. And millions thrilled to the Admiral's subsequent flight to the Pole and to a point 1,700 miles beyond it. Millions heard the broadcast descriptions of that flight, which were also published in the newspapers. Briefly, we will recount that flight as it progressed. When the plane took off from its Arctic base, it proceeded straight North to the Pole (Magnetic Pole.) From that point, it flew on 1,700 miles beyond the Pole and then retraced its course to its Arctic base. As progress was made beyond the Pole point, iceless lands and lakes, mountains covered

(Continued on next page)

Hello, Down There. . . (continued)

with trees, and even a monstrous animal moving through the underbrush, were observed and reported via radio by the plane's occupants. What land was it? . . . Was that 1947 flight fiction? Did all the newspapers lie? Did the radio from Byrd's plane lie?" (The Under People, Eric Norman, Award Books, 75 cents).

And what of the South Pole? In December of 1955 Admiral Byrd, having gathered together a sizable expedition, set out for Antarctica. The expedition . . . consisted of five ships, fourteen airplanes, special tractors, and a complement of 1,393 men. . . In San Francisco, on the eve of his departure, Admiral Byrd delivered a radio address in which he stated: "This is the most important expedition in the history of the world."

On January 13, members of the United States expedition accomplished a flight of 2,700 miles from the base at McMurdo Sound, which is 400 miles west of the South Pole, and penetrated a land extent of 2,300 miles beyond the pole"(Ibid.).

In checking the daily releases in the New York Times, I found two especially interesting: "Feb. 11, Aboard the ship Mt. Olympus. . . discovery of inland oasis, muddy pea-green lakes extending over forty miles. Feb. 15. . . Sea planes landed in lake region. Feb. 16. . . flew over the South Pole and beyond it along the 180th meridian across the Pole and 86 miles into the vast hitherto unseen region beyond the Pole," an area Byrd later described as 'the most inaccessible area on the face of the earth."

Does all this prove anything? No. But why did Admiral Byrd suddenly become silent? Why are we not hearing more about the warmer water and lands near the Poles? Why did the low-orbit Polar satellites, launched from California in perfect orbit a few years ago, suddenly cease to return radio signals and fail to complete their orbits? Why is the Van Allen belt of deadly radiation, shaped like a doughnut with 'holes at the poles?' What is the source of light for the mysterious Aurora Borealis? There are interesting questions. Why aren't they discussed?

Ray Palmer has a pat answer. In the December, 1959, issue of Flying Saucers, Palmer published an article entitled "Saucers from Earth! A Challenge to Secrecy." Flying Saucer magazine, according to Palmer, "has amassed a large file of evidence, which its editors consider unassailable, to prove that flying saucers are native to the planet earth; that the governments of more than one nation. . . know this to be a fact; that a concerted effort is being made to learn all about them, and to explore their native land. . . the facts already known are considered top secret. . . the danger is so great that to offer public proof is to risk widespread panic. . . that public knowledge would bring public demand for action that would topple governments. . . that the inherent nature of flying saucers and their origination area is completely disruptive to political and economic status quo"(Ibid.)

Would you be disrupted to hear all the known facts about flying saucers? Are they merely fiery reflections? Mirages? Congressman Louis Wymen of New Hampshire thinks the whole subject should be explored with an official Congressional investigation. Wouldn't that be fun?

Editor's Comment: Well, this may explain one thing. For a long time we've thought some of the characters we see in the news on TV look like they crawled out from under a rock. Maybe they did. Speaking seriously, we do find this article fascinating. Where ARE the lands Admiral Byrd saw? Do any of our readers have any "educated guesses" to offer? We will welcome reader comment on this article.

MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

The Tri-State UFO Study Group met Wednesday evening, July 8, at 7:30 in the home of Walt Andrus, Quincy, Ill. Highlights of the Midwest UFO Conference in Peoria, Ill., were reviewed and discussed. In line with the theme of the meeting, "UFO's in the 70's, or Where Do We Go From Here?" Walt Andrus went over the structure of the Midwest UFO Network, and discussion centered around the future plans of the organization. At present its membership includes UFO enthusiasts in the six states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Plans were made to attend the combination Skywatch and picnic to be held Saturday night and Sunday, July 18th and 19th, at Carlyle Lake, Carlyle, Ill., and it is anticipated that together with the social side, there will be much serious talk and planning for the 70's.

The next meeting will be a Skywatch to be held August 8th at the home of Grace Oberling, Coatsburg, Ill. (Report by Grace C. Oberling)

Antarctic "Saucer" Sighting Reported

Editor's Note: After reading the article "Hello, Down There!" elsewhere in this issue of SKYLOOK, we think you'll find this report, sent by Mark Herbstritt, of St. Marys, Pa., especially interesting. Mark has a fine collection of older sightings which he generously shares with Ye Ed and we hope someday to find room for more and more of them.

Santiago, Chile--From the Antarctic Thursday came official reports that a mysterious lens-shaped flying object, maneuvering and moving at great speed, was sighted last Saturday.

A Chilean base commander in the Antarctic reported the object was "yellowish red, changing to green, yellow and orange."

In Buenos Aires, the Navy issued a communique saying personnel at Argentina's Antarctic base saw the flying object and photographed it.

Mario Jahn Barrera, commander of the Chilean base, told the Defense Ministry to radio that it would be too much to say that "all of us saw a flying saucer, one of these science fiction things."

"However," he continued, "it was something real, an object that moved at amazing speed, maneuvered quickly and gave off a blue-green sheen. It also caused interference in the electromagnetic apparatus of an Argentine base which is facing ours on a nearby small island."

The interference was confirmed by the Navy communique issued in Buenos Aires.

"The object was yellowish red," Jahn said, "changing to green, yellow and orange. It would zigzag quickly. Then it stopped and we promptly reached for field glasses, telescopes, anything at hand to sight it. We watched as it remained quietly there for about 20 minutes."

Jahn said a corporal took color pictures but there are no facilities for developing the film. The men must wait for eight months . . .

"I can say it was not a star, because its movement was rapid and continuous," Jahn said. "As to being an aircraft, I do not think so. I am an Air Force man and from what I know about aircraft there is nothing like it, because of its shape, the speed and maneuverability."

" . . . the object was seen under weather conditions that could be considered exceptional at this time of the year: a clear sky, some isolated strato-cumulus, the moon visible in the waning quarter."

(Source: "The Boston Globe, Friday, July 9, 1965)

REPORTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

Many Watch UFO Land in Argentina. During the first week of November, 1969, a report reached the offices of a South American UFO organization and was later published in their journal "Espacio." A translation was made for SIGAP, and we use the report as published in the March-April issue of "Pegasus" (23 Coatham Place, Cranleigh, Surrey, England). Sighting at Hume, Argentina.

"It was about 4 a.m. on Saturday. We were inside the school premises celebrating the end of term, when suddenly I heard cries and shouts in the street. I thought it would be an assault or accident. When I went out, I saw a strange spectacle, a group of people formed by a school-teacher and some pupils of the school were as if petrified, observing the developments of a flattened, elongated disc-shaped object that was at an altitude of about 200metres. Once the first impression of observing such a strange scene had gone, I could see for myself that the object was like an inverted foenton surrounded by a very red light. The UFO appeared about to land and at this moment we could observe with perfect clarity, its contours. In amasement we could see that the top part was transparent and in its interior could be clearly seen four shadows of medium stature; personally I cannot say that they were beings, we only saw something that moved and had human form. . . After some moments, the object executed a sharp turn and at incredible speed, without sound, disappeared upwards amongst the stars, leaving a white trail behind. . . The witnesses of this strange and rare event, which had not been reported in the press to, as they said, avoid the ridicule, were interviewed separately, all giving the same explanation. One of the witnesses said that trying to observe the UFO from the roof of a neighbouring house, was blinded by the intense glow that the object was irradiating. After an exhaustive investigation the A. O. A. gives authenticity to this case." The lady supplying the translation was unable to translate the word "foenton."

Flower-Shaped UFO in England On Feb. 9, 1970, at Stechford, England, a man and his wife claimed to have seen a strange object in the sky. It was first observed in the west and last seen in the east. The estimated speed was 30-40 m.p/h. The object was described as dark-grey and shaped somewhat like a three pointed flower petal that had curled up. It had no lights. It maintained a steady, straight movement and started revolving on its own axis.

The weather was dry and cold with scattered cloud and no wind. It was seen in a heavily built up area. Credit: UFOLOG, Colwell Road, Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight.

Sighting in Belgium Nov. 25, 1969, Koekelberg, Belgium. An oval shaped object was seen on November 25th at Koekelberg, NW suburb of Brussels. The sky was cloudy and the UFO appeared motionless as a black metallic object. Source, "Visiteurs Spatiaux," Belgium. Credit: UFO CHRONICLE, 26 Churchside, Vigo Village, nr Meopham, Kent, England.

Learn about UFOs in Argentina. Read the A. O. A. INTERNATIONAL UFO NEWSLETTER, the first Argentine UFO publication available in English. Write for full details or send \$2 (money order) to: Guillermo Aldunati, Casilla Postal 467, Rosario, Argentina. --Adv.

Editor's Note: We are putting you on our exchange list, Mr. Aldunati and look forward to a pleasant relationship. Best wishes with your news letter. We predict you'll receive many inquiries from our country.

Reader Reports Argentina Sighting

Robert M. Cluff, of Provo, Utah, reports to SKYLOOK: "The sighting took place in a city called Bahia Blanca which is located in the southern part of the Province of Buenos Aires. The sighting took place in January of 1968. We were looking up in the sky for satellites and after seeing a few, we began to just look at the stars for no special reason. While we were looking at a triangle of stars, one of the men next to me was surprised to see one of the stars beginning to move. It continued to gain speed and then it stopped over by the other star that formed the other point marking the base of the triangle. After staying motionless at the side of this star for a few moments, it again moved, then gained speed, changed course and disappeared.

"While motionless, it looked like a star; but we realized it wasn't a star when it moved. It was not a meteor because we were seeing falling stars burning up at the same time and they didn't appear to be as high as the object we saw . . . it could not have been anything from our planet because our satellites are not built to move like that.

Bahia Blanca is one place where you can spot flying saucers quite frequently, according to the people that live there. I believe them after what I saw."

Scientists in India Baffled by Sky Lighting

The Smithsonian Institution Center for Short Lived Phenomena, at Cambridge, Mass., received a report from Naimi Tal, India, of interest. Dr. S. D. Sinval, of the Uttar Praedesh State Observervatory, wrote: "Two scientists of our staff, Dr. P. P. Saxena and Mr. G.S.D. Babu, while making night observations at one of the telescopes of the Observervatory (Long. $79^{\circ} 27' .6$ E, Lat. $29^{\circ} 21' .6$ N), noticed a sudden brightening of the whole sky lasting a second or so, at 20h27m GMT on 9 June 1970. The atmospheric conditions at the time were: Sky: cloudless and moonless. Relative Humidity: 46. Atmospheric temperature 16° C. Barometric pressure: 80 mb. Wind velocity: almost zero.

"Here are their descriptions of the event: Dr. P. P. Saxena: For about a second, the total local sky suddenly brightened up to an intensity comparable to that of the milky way during these summer months. The event took place in two stages. All of a sudden the sky became bright followed immediately by a distinct further brightening up.

"Dr. G.S.D. Babu: All of a sudden almost the whole sky got illuminated, as though by lightning of a very high intensity, whose luminiscence could spread all over the sky. Even the Milky Way was merged within this light. It brightened the sky twice, the first part being of slightly less intensity than the second one, the total duration being about one second or so. It appeared to originate from the western or south western side. Both of us immediately looked at the clock and the time was 20:27 hrs. GMT on 9 June 1970. I could not find anything to which the event could be directly related."

Credit: Lou Farish.

U FO Does Acrobatics Over Hobart, Tasmania

"We were both looking out of the window on a dull, cloudy afternoon. A large saucer-shaped object was doing aerial acrobatics about half a mile away and some 400 feet above the ground and slap bang over the city of Hobart. Its antics convinced both of us that what we were observing demanded a heck of a lot of explaining." (Source: Sean Ainscough in January 1970 BUFORA Research Bulletin edited by Stephen Smith)

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With Our Readers.

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Mrs. Lawrence Larson, 9320, Minnetonka Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn., wants to know if there is a UFO study group in her city. Can any of our readers give her some information? Mrs. Larson attended the Midwest UFO Conference in Peoria, Ill., last month and is one of our new subscribers. . . . Frank Hudson, of Elkins, Ark., writes "Paul Harvey, a Chicago radio news commentator said the other day on his noon program, that over a period of time the satellite trackers have noted 141 US and Russian satellites going up, and also noted that 142 came down! Well, that is one to puzzle over." . . . Art Epstein, of St. Louis, was in California on business a few weeks ago and says, "Yes, I had a most enjoyable two hour gab fest with Stanton Friedman while I was in Los Angeles. I think it was May 27. Stan, as he prefers to be called, is not a Ph.d as printed in the table of contents of the 1968 Congressional Hearings. He received his MS from U. of Chicago in 1956. He is definitely pro extra-terrestrial theory. If it is possible to reprint anything out of the Congressional Hearings, I suggest that at some time in the future you print his prepared statement (page 213). He has an article that will be printed in the August issue of the Griffith Observer published by the Griffith Park Planetarium of Los Angeles. He is looking for "bookings" and I told him that we would try to get him into St. Louis." . . . Jean Lamb, of Muldrow, Okla., drops us a friendly note from time to time and wrote of seeing a weather balloon. "On June 3rd about 10 a.m. one of my children came in and asked me to come outside and look at the balloon. It was a huge weather balloon and we watched it through binoculars and could see the instrument package hanging down. It was also somewhat deflated at the bottom and sides with huge wrinkles in it. Apparently there was little or no wind because we watched it for four hours and at dusk it was still visible shining like a brilliant star. It couldn't have been the same one as reported in SKYLOOK however because we saw this one at 10 a.m. and the Palestine, Texas balloon was launched late Saturday." . . . Michael Hervey, J. P., Fellow, Inst. of Arts & Letters, writes a syndicated Column "Smoke Rings" for an Australian newspaper, and he has been commissioned by his publishers to write a book dealing with UFO sighting in all parts of the world "and I should very much appreciate hearing from any of your readers who may have experienced anything of this nature, giving full details of same. If they have any old UFO mags and cuttings, they would be doubly welcome." Here's your chance to correspond with some one Down Under. Write him at 5 Dick St., Henley, N.S.W., 2111, Australia. . . . Rosetta Holmes, of Carlyle, Ill., tells us the May issue of SKYLOOK was 23 days reaching her! They must have figured out a short cut. . . . SKYLOOK was 15 days reaching Michael Ginter, Buffalo, New York, guess someone thought it was to go "by" and not "to" Buffalo. . . . Gene Duplantier (SS&S) of Willowdale, Ontario, says the May issue postmarked April 24th reached him on May 25th (and we knock ourselves out to get SKYLOOK in the mail in time to reach everyone by the first of the month!). . . . Carol Halford-Watkins (TOPSIDE), also in Canada, gets her copy in five weeks (sometimes!). . . . Patrick Huyghe (UFO COMMENTARY) really shook us up-- he usually gets SKYLOOK in four days after the postmark date!!!! That's at Newport News, Va. Someone is apt to get fired for efficiency. . . . Lou Farish, just "south of the border" in Plumerville, Ark., gets his copy anywhere from three days to two weeks from date of postmark. . . . How about YOU? Dr. Walter Gordon, of Santa Cruz, Calif., sent some copy on "how to get along without money." We know all about that--and, by the way, is your subscription due?

BEFORE

By Lucius Farish

Tacoma, Washington. DAILY NEWS, February 4, 1908--STRANGE LIGHTS SEEN AT HIGH ALTITUDE. --Dark red, pale green, yellow and a brilliant white are the colors of a strange light that appeared in the western horizon Saturday and Sunday nights, seen by residents of Kent and Tacoma, who firmly believe it to be a passing airship belonging to the Japanese.

A large object was seen sailing through the air at a high elevation, moving from north to south. It was first sighted by an engineer of a Northern Pacific train on the tide flats waiting for the Fifteenth Street bridge to close. He pointed out the object to the conductor and passengers alighted from the train. Some examined it with field glasses. So interested did the passengers and trainmen become that the train was delayed several minutes.

Those who saw it told of a large cigar-shaped object, flying a foreign flag, which some maintained was French, while others declared it to be Japanese. During the same week, on clear nights, colored lights were seen displayed at high altitudes and on one occasion a rocket was discharged high in the air, it is asserted.

Since that time, the light has appeared at various points along the coast, usually between the hours of 7 and 9 o'clock as at Kent, Sunday night. In many of the smaller towns along the Grays Harbor, Tacoma Eastern and Northern Pacific, near Tacoma, residents have watched the light. It is the firm belief of many that the light is attached to an airship employed by Japanese spies, who are studying the topography of the coast. (Credit: Charles Flood)

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