

the APRO BULLETIN

July 15, 1956

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CAN THE U. S. AIR FORCE CONTROL ENTERTAINMENT AND NEWS MEDIA?

The above is a question which the Director has often asked herself, and a definite yes or no answer has not until recently been readily applicable. We will elucidate:

In February the Director was approached for the purpose of appearing on a TV quiz program which, if the contestant was lucky, might enable him or her to "retire for life". She answered the letter and a request for information about her hobbies and APRO specifically was forthcoming, with which she complied.

Appearance on the program was contingent upon a personal interview with the writers and production personnel, so in April when Mrs. and Mrs. Lorenzen went to Los Angeles to consult a Doctor on rheumatoid arthritis, they were interviewed. At the time, they were told that a minimum of two weeks would be required to write a script for the show. Upon returning home, an air mail letter was awaiting them telling them that they were scheduled to appear on the program on May 8. Mrs. Lorenzen went back to work at Holloman Air Force Base and a few days later was ordered to quit work by her Doctor in Alamogordo.

One week later a wire stating that their appearance was 'rescheduled' arrived, and two days after that, a letter, the first line of which read: "We're sorry to have inconvenienced you, but our trouble seems to be the same as yours----The Air Force." Later in the letter, a subsidiary company of the corporation which sponsored the program was mentioned. This company is under contract to the United States Air Force in the manufacture of jet engines.

Prior to leaving for Los Angeles, Mrs. Lorenzen had told her AF superiors that she had been invited to appear on the show, and was cautioned not to mention her AF job, so when she talked to one of the interviewers, she very honestly told him that there should be no mention of her job, and her reason for the reticence. It was agreed that the Holloman job would not be mentioned, although Mr. Lorenzen's position with the data reduction branch at Holloman would be exploited.

All material for the script had been submitted, and when the letter arrived, informing the Lorenzens of their scheduled appearance, they were asked to be in Los Angeles the day before the show for rehearsal of the script (not the question and answer part). Also---previous correspondence had noted that it took several

CAN AF CENSOR ENTERTAINMENT AND NEWS MEDIA? (Cont'd)

days to prepare a script, so it is established that the script which the Lorenzens were to follow for their proposed appearance had been formulated prior to the notification that they were scheduled. Consequently, after having been cancelled, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen watched the show they were to have appeared on, and a science-fiction writer was substituted for them, and the script was only subtly changed for that purpose.

All correspondence pertaining to the whole fiasco is kept under lock and key and may prove quite useful someday, as an answer to those parrots of the AF line (including Ruppelt) who claim the AF knows, sees and hears very little, with regard to UFO. Oh, yes, the name of the program? We've deliberately withheld it for the time being for we feel that at the present time it would be more judicious to be silent. However, if one reads thoroughly the foregoing, there are adequate hints as to the identity of the program and the corporation involved.

One of the interviewers for the program, a personable and delightful personality, was somewhat familiar with the UFO picture, and we believe, genuinely interested in the mystery. He has continued to correspond with the Director, and in his last communication he apologized profusely, venturing that out of the material they had for script purposes, the writers hadn't been able to mold anything of sufficient interest. We realize that this was his attempt to gloss over the whole matter without hurting anyone's feelings, and also realize that he needs his job as well as anyone else. This is partly the reason for not printing the name of the TV program and the sponsor at this time.

RADIO SIGNALS FROM VENUS --- DUE TO HEAT OR ARTIFICIALLY TRANSMITTED?

June 5, 1956, Navy scientists at Ohio State University announced that they had been picking up radio signals from Venus since the latter part of May. The first article dealing with the momentous news even mentioned the possibility that the signals might have been artificial in nature. Later articles in the Chicago Daily Tribune and Sun-Times quoted scientists as saying they believed the signals to be as a result of the intense heat in the vicinity of the planet's atmosphere.

Some members felt at the time that all the facts were not coming out and that the situation may have been another link in the evidence of life on other planets. However ---it must be remembered that many unusual and disturbing things are likely to happen during a period of extreme sunspot (or solar storm) activity. Communications on the Earth, have suffered to a great extent and it should not be forgotten that Venus is roughly 30,000,000 miles closer to the sun than the earth and therefore more susceptible to extreme radio emissions than other planets. Jupiter has been a point of interest to scientists in the past few years due to the fact that radio signals have been regularly detected coming from that planet. However, the density and extreme turbulence and chemical makeup of the Jovian atmosphere is more than likely responsible for the phenomena.

This explanation on our part is merely another attempt to put fact where it belongs and to avoid dwelling too long in the realm of fancy where UFO are concerned. We feel there is enough mystery in this business without adding to it.

UFO BOOKSHELF

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There seems to be an abundance of UFO books or books devoting at least some space to the UFO problem among the books currently selling well to technically inclined individuals. The response APRO has received as a result of the mention in Donald Keyhoe's latest, (and greatest) "THE FLYING SAUCER CONSPIRACY" has been nothing short of phenomenal and we'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them, scientist and layman, one and all.

"FORGOTTEN MYSTERIES" by R. DeWitt Miller is an absorbing book dealing with oddities (including saucers) which have been neglected by science and forgotten by the masses. It's enchanting reading and no doubt would be of interest to anyone interested in the unorthodox and seemingly unsolvable mysteries.

Another book by Miller, recently published and just recently reviewed by the Director is "YOU DO TAKE IT WITH YOU". Although not particularly interested in the paranormal, the Director enjoyed the book thoroughly and noted added oddities related to UFO. A good addition to any UFO researcher's collection.

After again thoroughly perusing Edward Ruppelt's new book, "A REPORT ON THE UFO", it seems conclusive that he has done what so many saucer writers are inclined to do, and that is to assume himself into the position of the foremost expert on the SUBJECT OF FLYING SAUCERS. In our opinion, the prerequisites for such a position is that the nominee be driven by curiosity, respect for truth and tenacity. Ruppelt was literally tossed into the job, didn't particularly want it, and as an Air Force officer was beholden to conceal that which higher authority deemed judicious to conceal. The fact that he was a member of the U. S. Air Force is the prime reason that the book, although informative and interesting, did not particularly exhilarate old-time researchers in the saucer field. We particularly did not relish the underhanded snide remarks inserted here and there throughout the text which seemed deliberately discrediting to Donald Keyhoe.

Among the 'classic' cases supposedly knocked down by Ruppelt, the evidence was either not too clear or lacking in substance. Also---some of the most outstanding saucer reports were completely ignored. All in all, the book was good reading, informative in parts, but certainly not on a par with any of Keyhoe's works.

Just one more thing---we happen to know that more real evidence is in the hands of the Air Force, and Ruppelt must make a choice---either he doesn't know as much about the UFO question as he claims, or he is not telling all he does know. We personally think that the central receiving point for correlated UFO information is not at Wright Patterson AFB, but rather at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C. Therefore, it would be impossible for Mr. Ruppelt or any other Captain in the Air Force to know the whole story.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FLYING SAUCERS" comes a long way from living up to its title but is nonetheless a very good and technical book dealing with the UFO. No new sightings worth mentioning, but a sensible, logical and feasible means of propulsion is thoroughly exploited. Regarding the latter, however, we are not so sure that the Lt. Plantier mentioned in the book is the real father of that particular theory, inasmuch as it was discussed to some extent in Keyhoe's "FLYING SAUCERS FROM OUTER SPACE" which was published in 1954. The theory in question, the "anti-gravity" theory, was discussed with colleagues as far back as 1952 by Wilbur Smith, former head of the Canadian Saucer Research group.

Propulsion

*See also
Domzales'
statement -
page 6*

IN SUPPORT OF THE PLANTIER THEORY

by Charles A. Maney

(Editor's Note: Mr. Maney is chief of the Department of Physics, Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio. A member of this organization for 2 years, Mr. Maney has been most outspoken regarding his opinions on the UFO situation.)

The Plantier* explanation of the phenomena of flying saucers sets up certain patterns of appearance and performance. Actual observations of the phenomena when tested and compared with these predicted patterns, if found to agree in essential characteristics, can serve step by step to establish the validity of the Plantier theory. This constitutes a scientific approach to the understanding of the phenomena.

The so-called "ball of light" and "flying egg" shapes of UFOs have been noted by various observers. An excellent illustration of the "flying egg" shape occurring since Plantier's characterization of this type is represented by a series of photographs secured by Mr. Warren Siegmund** of a UFO appearing over downtown New York City on May 15, 1955. The luminous egg-shaped object photographed was estimated by Mr. Siegmund to be about one hundred fifty feet in diameter. The Plantier theory regards this egg-shaped form as a geometrical pattern of light and mist corresponding to the confines of the local gravitational field surrounding the solid UFO. In this case, were some of the photographs taken with special light filters and with film sensitive to the penetrating longer wave lengths of light, the solid UFO inside of the cloud-like form might have been shown.

It is a well-known physical fact that the longer wave lengths of light such as red and orange can penetrate mist and clouds more readily than the shorter waves of blue and violet. This can be easily demonstrated in taking photographs of distant mountain scenery with a camera equipped for the photography of the longer red and infra-red light waves. Pictures taken in this way reveal the snowy caps and other details not shown in photographs taken without the special equipment.

An excellent illustration of photography of UFOs with a special red filter is given by the pictures secured by Mr. and Mrs. Orville H. Mitchell*** on March 12, 1955 at Giant Rock, California. Out of curiosity pictures were taken of some peculiar small clouds appearing and disappearing in an otherwise crystal clear sky. When the films were developed, a formation of four disks on two separate pictures was plainly shown. These disks were not shown on the pictures taken without the special filter. The disks were not visible to the eye; only patches of clouds or vapor could be seen. This experience suggests that filter photography of UFOs might serve to reveal valuable information not otherwise obtainable.

The camera film records some light impressions invisible to the eye. Proper filtration of this light has the effect of sifting out other light which, without the aid of a filter tends to blot out the invisible light impressions. The invisible light impressions are feebly recorded on the film however, even if no filtration has been employed. It is possible at times by expert development to bring out in a print the recorded weak impressions of invisible light.

In Support of the Plantier Theory (Cont'd)

The writer has in his possession two sets of five prints each of a UFO photographed by Mr. Larry Towner over Moscow, Idaho at about 10 p. m. on the night of August 13, 1953. The set developed by ordinary procedure showed distinct forms enveloped in halos of light in two of the five photographs. A close examination of the films under strong light showed traces of geometrical forms on all five films. With the aid of the services of an expert commercial photographer it was possible to bring out the details in another set of prints showing a solid center in all five pictures. The latter series of five prints reveals the progress of the path of a circular "ball of light" when the positions of the five solid forms are plotted on a single picture chart.

The foregoing illustrations serve to add a little more evidence in support of the theory of Plantier. Much more data is of course necessary for a fairly complete experimental establishing of the theory.

A parallel line of inquiry in the search for experimental evidences compatible with the theory of Lieutenant Plantier is the detailed study of "angel hair" phenomena. The writer is presently occupied with this problem. Chemical and physical analyses of "angel hair" are much needed in this study. In fact, samples of any materials known to have been discharged from UFOs are invaluable for investigation purposes.

* "The Truth About Flying Saucers" by Ame Michel, Part Three, Chapter 3.

** "Flying Saucer Review" of London, England. Vol. I No. 3 July-August 1955

*** "Saucers" Vol. III No. 3 September 1955

The foregoing is one of the first features to be presented in this Bulletin. We hope and plan to be able to present our members with similar analyses of various phases of the UFO situation in the future, executed by qualified men such as Mr. Maney.

We would like to add that if and when members obtain any samples of material left by UFO, they please send it on to Headquarters and it will be forwarded to Mr. Maney to further his and our studies. Any findings will be made available to members through the Bulletin. Also, any and all material forwarded will be returned as soon as analyses can be completed.

The "FLYING SAUCER REVIEW" of London, England has asked us to pass along the word that they have selected June 30th and September 8th as International Flying Saucer Sighting Days for 1956 and ask the cooperation of all organizations and members of same. If you can take a little time on the 8th of September (we realize we're a little late for the 30th of June) to scan the skies, please send the details of any sightings to Headquarters and they will be forwarded to Flying Saucer Review Headquarters for overall evaluation and correlation. Thank You.

APRO'S VENEZUELAN REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKS HIS MIND ON THE UFO SITUATION

Mr. Horacio Gonzales, our Venezuelan representative, presents below his opinions and conjectures regarding the UFO. A competent and qualified man, Mr. Gonzales was partly responsible for covering the Venezuelan 'little men' observations for APRO in the fall of 1955. A technical translator, Horacio Gonzales is also an avid and capable amateur astronomer and has managed to promote interest in the UFO problem in Caracas to such an extent that well-known scientific men are greatly interested in the mystery.

* After one has studied the vast quantity of cases reported and has subjected each one to rigid analysis in the light of present scientific knowledge, it cannot be denied that there is a formidable array of accumulated evidence from which one can derive no other logical ~~conclusion~~ but that Earth has been and is being subjected to constant observation by some extra-terrestrial intelligence.

The evidence also indicates that not only a geodesic survey and analysis of the Earth's surface has been made, but also, and which is MORE IMPORTANT AND SIGNIFICANT, a prolonged study has already been effected of our AIR ROUTES, METHODS OF WARFARE, DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS, industrial activities, mode of life AND physiological structure, capacities and degree of intelligence.

The fact that these vehicles are constantly being seen in our atmosphere indicates A PURPOSE -- AN IMPERATIVE REASON -- AN OBJECTIVE behind it all AND an inscrutable intelligence which so far has elected only to manifest its interest but not the true MOTIVE for its presence in terrestrial skies. Serious, conscientious and competent investigators the world over are no longer in doubt as to the extra-terrestrial origin of the "flying saucer" but are now occupied with the reasons for their presence here, and I am almost certain that somewhere in the mass of reported sightings there is some CLUE -- SOME INKLING -- which may supply us with the answer.

"They" may regard us as a potential danger if and when we achieve space flight. If so, they may attempt to discourage our efforts in this direction and the methods utilized may be so subtle as to be almost imperceptible. There may be also some "Thing" on earth which they could use to their advantage but so far have not devised a means of obtaining it whether by friendly contact or not. If they are bent on friendly contact the questions arise -- where will they make such contact -- in what country and in which language or method of communication. My personal belief is that they may have tried to make contact with us already but due perhaps to bungling, ignorance and the negative attitude of those who should have known better, these attempts have not been recognized as such and therefore no comprehensive system could have been devised in order to establish contact. It could be also that a study of our behavior has induced them to be extremely cautious; life, to them, may be a quality prized way beyond our puny powers to conceive, meanwhile they have seen that to man it means so little inasmuch this substance is so wantonly wasted in frequent and recurring mass racial suicides. The way they differ in physiological structure may also be influencing a definite decision. They probably understand that we may be entirely unprepared and therefore extremely reluctant to accept an alien physical form EVEN THOUGH ENDOWED WITH SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE.

Sooner or later however, a definite move is going to be made on their part to make the purpose of their presence here known to us. When this moment arrives, we should ALL strive for a friendly contact. I do not think they will try to impose themselves or state demands on a basis of force BUT they may prove to be DETERMINED, DANGEROUS AND RUTHLESS IF PROVOKED.

A serious study of this matter shows that we confront a problem of tremendous portent to humanity which will shake the social and political structure of our civilization to its very foundations. It is clear, therefore, that as rational beings we must apply not only our powers of reasoning and logic to analyze the problem, but more so, draw upon the reserve capacity we possess to react to strange situations, so that, when the time comes we may be in a position, prepared to meet this delicate situation with the attention, seriousness, and the particular mental attitude indicated by the transcendental nature of the case and the worldwide repercussions and effects it will produce.

APRO NOW IN 5TH YEAR OF EXISTENCE --- BIG JOB STILL AHEAD

In January 1956, APRO began it's fifth year in saucer research and as each UFO season rolls around (the even numbered years, corresponding with the proximity of the planet Mars) we realize that although we have taken on a gargantuan task, the really big job is still ahead. Sightings are on the up-trend as of the 15th of July and there will be more to come. However, unless some method of informing the general public about what is happening is found, the years behind have been to no avail. Various books on the subject of UFO have been of some help, with the ensuing publicity for saucer research groups. Many people are interested in such organizations but do not know that they exist. The press silence on UFO is the biggest stumbling block in the attempt to arouse public indignation at the secrecy surrounding the UFO problem.

During periods of apparent UFO inactivity members tend to become a little bored and fall into a sort of lethargy during which they all but forget their interest and consequent obligations. When an influx does begin, these same members are a little slow to shift into normal gear again and the Bulletin suffers from lack of current information. Fortunately we do have a number of members who are very conscientious about sending in their reports and clippings.

There are many UFO organizations---some are formed and operate for profit and others, like APRO, struggle not so much for a pretty facade and numerous subscribers but rather for quality and quantity of real information. Some groups fill the pages of their publications with various and sundry vituperous letters from saucer notables vying for acclaim with their somewhat dubious claims of contact, etc. Many saucer controversies which have no bearing on the over-all subject are kept alive through many pages of pro and con while the actual reports are shoved to the background. Reports should be the life blood and comprise the bulk of UFO periodicals, but for some reason opinions (often submitted by unqualified individuals) have become a new fad in UFO publications. Opinions by astronomers, psychologists, physicists, engineers, etc., yes---but not just any opinion by anyone as to whether Joe Doakes saw and photographed a little purple man or not. Within the next two months hundreds of sightings will be made throughout the world and it is doubtful that the press wires will give adequate coverage. So that we may all be informed, it will be wise to forward all reports to headquarters AND DATE AND LABEL WITH NAME, PLEASE!

odds 'n' ends

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APRO Representative Horacio Gonzales writes that more UFOs were seen in that area than were reported in the press. High ranking military personnel in Venezuela are very interested in Dr. Bossa's experience (APRO Bulletin August 1955) and one official has taken a full report of his case to certain parties in Washington, D. C. Further details, when available, will be printed here.

OTTAWA, CANADA, 18 May, 1956. Seems there is some confusion as to the cause of the crash of the jet ~~plane~~ which crashed into a Catholic convent rest home on 15 May. An AP wire dispatch quoted Royal Canadian AF officers as saying that the pilot and navigator of that plane were dead or unconscious before the impact. Officers at near-by Uplands where the twin-jet interceptor was based, believe "something terrible and sudden" happened at about 33,000 feet before the plane began its fatal dive. The most popular theory as to the cause of the crash is that there may have been an oxygen failure or an internal explosion of the aircraft. Only three minutes elapsed between the time something went wrong in the stratosphere and when the plane plunged to the earth. Some are speculating that the cause may have been external---and a far more spectacular and frightening cause involved.

Another newsman who has become aware of the UFO situation is a Mr. Lee of the Ord Quiz, Ord, Nebraska. The man seems interested and a few of his recent columns have been dedicated to his own gleanings on the mystery. Stan Delaplane of the Chicago American is also interested, although it seems the wrong people have gotten to him---and his column recently received here was mostly concerned with the nut-hatch element of Southern California, and derogatorily so. We're not insinuating that all Southern California UFO enthusiasts are boob-hatch veterans, for a large part of the APRO contingent is from that state.

Mr. Murray Sale, our representative in New Zealand, sends us the January 12 issue of the Australian Post magazine, in which is featured an article by Lord Dowding, Britain's World War II war hero. Titled "Enemies from Space", the sub-head says: "Foes infest the skies above our earth. To these invincible, god-like invaders our massed planetary power is puny, our countries peopled by barbarians. Don't anger them. They could destroy all our works, enslave mankind."

Members have been deluging Headquarters with letters asking about the Air Force sponsored movie, "UFO". Members who have seen it report that it is a very good movie, and reviews in various papers have been extremely favorable. The Director has not had a chance to view the movie, but guided by the comments of Paul Coates, Los Angeles Mirror, and the many members who have seen the movie, we feel that we are not being incautious in recommending it. Any comments by new viewers will be very welcome.

Recent saucer publications claims that the movie "UFO" was unheralded is not altogether correct. Haven't had time to check the exact issue number, but APRO announced the start of the movie a few years ago.

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In a recent conversation with an AP Representative, the Director voiced her opinion that UFO reports would be comparatively few if not non-existent until after July 15, after which the reports would equal or greatly surpass the number recorded for 1954. It seems that the last two weeks have confirmed her calculations and the following reports will bear it out.

ORCHARDS, OREGON, July 12, 1956: UFO that looked somewhat similar to dirigibles, were observed and reported to police in three separate telephone calls. The first report was from a woman who said that she saw the objects at about 3:45 p. m. while out driving near Ontario. The object appeared to be a gray dirigible with a long neon light on the bottom. When first seen, she said, she and her husband thought it might be a cloud. It was hanging over the Ontario airport about 1000 feet in the air. They drove on five or six miles, then spotted two more of them. The object farthest from them suddenly disappeared straight up into the sky. The other disappeared about 6 minutes later. Shortly after this couple (anonymous at their request) reported to officers by telephone, two other women called in and reported seeing five or six "round shiny objects with a shiny streak underneath". Officers said Air Force officials from Boise, Idaho, were expected in Ontario to get a first-hand report on the sighting. (Cr: Member Ed Bruno Waetzig, Orchards.)

ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS, July 19, 1956: City Editor Brian Coyne of the Arkansas City Daily Traveler, accompanied by Trooper (State) Dick Hadsall and Arkansas City Policemen, observed a tear-drop-shaped bluish-green object with two shafts of light spraying earthward, from various locations near Arkansas City. The men moved about to get a good look at several of the objects which showed up about 1 a. m. The "prongs" or streams of light were first observed directed toward earth, and then extending from the sides of the objects.

A McConnell Air Force Base officer, questioned by reporters about the object, "could offer no help." It was later learned that the State Highway Patrol, which had been alerted by observers, had been asked a lot of questions about the objects including: (1) "What size is it in comparison to a key or dime?" (2) "Would it compare in size to a light bulb?" (3) "Is there any noise coming from the object?"

These brightly illuminated objects were seen in the skies over Arkansas City, Wellington and El Dorado, Kansas. A ball of fire travelling east at a high rate of speed was picked up on radar at the Hutchinson, Kansas, Naval Air Station. A B-29 bomber was sent by McConnell AFB at Wichita to investigate the objects over the Arkansas City area.

Coyne answered the AP questions about the objects he had observed thusly: "The objects appear to be about the size of a 200-watt light bulb. There is no noise that can be attributed to the objects and skies over Arkansas City are very clear except for a few light clouds. There are a lot of stars." He also added: "I have tended to discount stories about flying objects, but brother, I am now a believer."

(Editor's note: The statement about being a believer now is typical of those who formerly scoffed at UFO and then were confronted with the evidence presented by their own eyes. Our files are fully of just such statements following the first sighting of a UFO by a skeptic.)

RECENT SIGHTINGS (Cont'd)

On January 18, 1956 a 15-hour search for a UFO that was seen diving into the sea was conducted by three motor launches dispatched by the National Guard at Maiquetia, Venezuela. The object was huge, glowing, and estimated to be about 160 feet in diameter. The search yielded nothing, but the object was seen by many.

EASTERN CARACAS, VENEZUELA, 9 February, 1956. Dr. Pablo May reported seeing a huge luminous disc crossing the skies over the city at vertiginous speed and on March 13, the whole city of BARQUISIMETO was illuminated by a strange lighted object which flew over the city at enormous speed. This phenomena was observed by numerous persons and was published the very day.

CARACAS, VENEZUELA, 12 March. Alfredo Dalke, an amateur astronomer reported seeing two discoid objects which crossed and recrossed the skies over his home in the Los Rosales section of Caracas. Mr. Dalke was observing the planet Jupiter with a 3" objective and a 40 power eyepiece and had lifted his head to scan the skies when he saw the object shooting out from the east in a horizontal trajectory. He immediately focused the telescope on the object and saw that it was a disc emitting a bluish-green light. It made a 90° turn and disappeared behind some clouds. He continued to search for the object when to his surprise another one appeared moving in the same direction; this one stopped suddenly, seemed to hover for a few moments, and shot upwards in almost the same way as the first. The conditions for observation were excellent.

CARACAS, LA GUAIRA, VENEZUELA, 4 March. Mr. Jesus Gonzales Perez and his family saw a cigar shaped object moving in a horizontal trajectory over the hills on the horizon. The Perez family were on their way to La Guaira from Caracas. Mr. Perez said the object had the form of a dirigible with three to six windows along the side. It was moving slowly in the distance about 10 miles away (estimate) and had the apparent size of three meters. He could see the rectangular shaped windows clearly and its color was something like dull aluminum. It was in sight for approximately two minutes, had no protuberances and made no noise.

MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA, 25 April. An object which appeared at first sighting to be about 3 meters in length, and as it came nearer, about 30 meters, was observed by 12 people of the Urbanization Urdaneta and San Jose ward. Mr. Jesus Gonzales was the first to sight the object, had just come home and closed the door and was startled by the bright illumination which penetrated through the windows. He went out of doors, saw the brilliant yellow light which turned bluish occasionally and appeared to let off sparks. Gonzales stated that while watching he felt as though transfixed, couldn't move. The object finally disappeared and left behind a wisp of smoke which dissipated slowly.

By way of Venezuela we have the statement of Captain Desavoys Michel, pilot of the Air France DC-3 Cargo freighter which was taking off from Orly Air Field, Paris, on the night of 17 February when the now famous Orly UFO was sighted. Very little detail is added to the original report except that Michel states that the object or light he observed was not of terrestrial nature.

FRANK EDWARDS, all-time saucer enthusiast and now broadcasting from Indianapolis, Indiana has reported several sightings in Indiana during the first part of July.

RECENT SIGHTINGS (Con't)

Although we do not at this writing have the details, Mr. Edwards took his TV equipment to the scene of one sighting and conducted an on-the-spot broadcast. It's too bad Frank isn't carried nationwide for we are sure that he would be invaluable at this time, in getting current saucer info across to the general public. APRO Member Bob Greenway, vacationing in the middlewest at the present, informs us that the sightings in that area appear to be taking place in the hours between midnight and dawn. A quick look at the sightings listed under this column will bear this surmise out.

ST LOUIS, MISSOURI, July 13, 1956. August C. Vogele, upon arising at 4:15 a.m. to close the windows in his home, observed a circular glowing light above the overcast, which traveled from East to West, making a jog in its trajectory during its flight. Vogele discounts the possibility that it might have been a searchlight for there was no light beam, and 4:15 a. m. is not exactly the time of day for searchlights to be playing upon the clouds. Vogele said the object was either above or inside the clouds and he could not discern an outline. The object was traveling at a high rate of speed.

NEAR ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY, June 1, 1956. An anonymous couple (by request) report seeing an unusual object (also unusual in saucer affairs). The couple had just gone to bed, and the husband was lying awake and gazing out the window when he saw the object coming across the open field. They said the thing was three times as large as an airplane and looked like a 'lighted hotel at a distance'. There were many lighted portholes (like windows on separate floors). The color of all lights was definitely amber light traffic lights. The lights seemed to flash or revolve or turn. They watched it come rather slowly until it was within about 200 feet of their home - directly over a house across the intersection. Then suddenly the object changed course and headed toward what would be Atlantic City or the Atlantic Coast and at such a speed it was out of sight in seconds. At no time was any sound heard. About two minutes later a jet went over in the direction the UFO had just vanished. The whole episode took place within the space of between 30 seconds and one minute.

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK, 25 June 1956. Numerous reports of a mysterious explosion in the Carmen or Colonie area about 1 a. m. resulted in Rotterdam police inspection of all highways and side roads without finding an explanation.

DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, 6 June 1956. Mrs. B. O. Hunt of Curlew Road described a bright object she and her husband saw in the skies over Dunedin at 9 p. m. on 3 June. "It was considerably smaller than the moon and to the naked eye looked like a bright ball that wasn't moving. It was bigger than a star and looked like an orange," Mrs. Hunt said. "We watched it for about half an hour with binoculars and it soon became apparent it was moving slowly. It stayed in the sky for about half an hour, then went down behind a grove and we lost sight of it." The strange object somewhat resembled a funnel without a spout, Mrs. Hunt stated. It was flat on one side, big at one end and somewhat pointed on the other. It was blood red in the center as we saw it through the glass, but a bright white along the edge, with a little green toward the big end. Mrs. Hunt was unable to estimate its height, but said it was lower than most planes fly over that area. As a matter of interest, a plane passed between the object and its viewers as they watched. She said the strange object was lost to their view to the Northeast, at which time it appeared

RECENT SIGHTINGS (Cont'd)

to be over the bay or gulf. (Ed. Note: This is an interesting sighting, for it is typical of those labeled as planets by astronomers. However, the direction in which the object disappeared from sight precludes the possibility of it being a planet---planets travel East to West, you know!) (Cr: Harriet Boyd). This sighting was carried in the Schenectady paper, was not mentioned again.

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, June 5, 1956. National police headquarters announced that an aluminum, cigar-shaped object was spotted flying at great speed over North Argentina April 13. More than 50 persons in the province of Salta were said to have seen the object, leading to speculation it was an experimental intercontinental ballistics missile. (Cr: Frank Reid)

TOKYO, JAPAN, 12 May 1956; Flying saucers have been reported over Japan, according to the English language Yomiuri Japan News. (No further details---Ed.) (Cr: M. Kott)

LOS ANGELES, 30 May and June 1, 1956. More jet booms caused a stir in this huge metropolis, and led to much speculation privately and in the press. Frightened citizens, broken store windows and violent concussion earmarked the explosions and as usual the old jet plane explanation was drug out of the skeleton closet for duty as whipping boy. What is most astonishing is that despite repeated complaints and demands for action, the AF will not admit that jet planes are causing the concussions, and don't seem to be able to do anything about stopping them.

EMPORIA, KANSAS, July 19, 1956. A. D. Morgan, A SantaFe railroad tower operator reported seeing what appeared to be an artificial light in the sky about 3 a.m. There are no further details, but this sighting took place within hours of the Arkansas City sighting.

.. ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS, 19 July 1956. A B-47 sent by the Air Force to investigate reports of a UFO (see first page of sightings for details) returned to the base at Topeka to report that all they had seen was gas torches in an oil field. "Authorities" then began to assume that it was the reflection of these torches that caused the reports of a bluish-green tear-drop-shaped object with prongs of light projecting from it. At about the time that Editor Brian Coyne of the Arkansas Daily Traveler sighted these mysterious objects, the radar at the Hutchinson Kansas naval air station had picked up a "ball of fire" traveling east at a high rate of speed. Although it was not stated, it must be assumed that visual contact was also made, for the return on a radar screen does not give description or configuration.

PARKER, ARIZONA, 20 May, 1956. Dale Nance Brown, APRO member, sighted two silvery disc-shaped objects traveling in a NNW to SSE direction at an altitude of approximately 5,000 to 10,000 feet. When first sighted, from a distance of approximately 10 miles, they appeared as though they would pass directly overhead. However, at an estimated 60 seconds, their course changed to a SSW direction and they were lost from sight over the California desert. The entire sighting lasted approximately 3 minutes, during the first half of which their maneuvers were clearly visible from the ground. Both objects seemed to "bob" or "bounce" along at a leisurely rate of speed, flying a side-by-side formation at all times. At no time was

RECENT SIGHTINGS (Cont'd)

there any sound evident and at that hour of the morning, ground noises were at a minimum.

CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN, June 7, 1956. State police were unable to account for a brilliant flash of light seen last night between the mainland and Bois Blanc Island in the Straits of Mackinac. Troopers said a search of the shore 20 miles on either side of Cheboygan failed to turn up a clue. There were no reports of ships in trouble or of unaccounted-for planes. Reports of a fireball described as a block wide came about 9:30 in the evening. Cheboygan Police Sgt. George Faught said he saw it half a mile off shore. He said it was 150 feet high. R. E. Hunt, general manager of radio station WCBY, said a brilliant flash was visible for 20 seconds and then a dull glow continued for about five minutes. Reports of the flash also came from the Great Lakes freighters Mohawk and the Samuel Mitchell. (P. Robert Frank of Detroit, who submitted this report, stated that later editions of the Detroit News carried no further information, and said he thought that looked a little "fishy"---we agree).

MARCH, 1956, No Exact Date. Member Richard M. Johnson of Newark, Delaware, observed an interesting phenomenon while operating his 4 inch Newtonian reflector telescope. Using a 60 power eyepiece, he was observing the well-known Pleiades, a star cluster in Taurus. He then noticed a faint "star" of about 9th magnitude moving slowly in front of the other stars. He knew at once it was not a meteor nor a comet. He could not make out any shape (the telescope has 2 seconds of an arc separation) and the object was not visible to the naked eye. In conclusion, Richard states that it is his opinion that the object may have been a nearby asteroid.

The STROLLING ASTRONOMER, an amateur astronomer's magazine, carried notations by Brian Warner in it's Nov-Dec 1955 issue concerning "flashing lunar mountains" which he observed in January, 1955. (Cr: Josephine Myers)

U. OF RHODE ISLAND, 20 May, 1956. Donald R. Todd, while viewing the aurora borealis, spotted two disc-shaped objects moving at a leisurely speed in the area of the sky near the moon. He took out his GOC range finder, peered in on the lead saucer and found it to be about 10,000. The circle into which the saucer fell was about 1/4 inch in diameter and this was held at arm's length. The saucer completely filled the circle which, according to the range-finder, is about the size of a R-29. Both saucers were brilliant white, sending out a glow from their surfaces. The lead saucer had some type of beam projecting from the bow and as it skimmed along, the beam was moved from about a 70 degree angle forward to about a 45 degree angle downward. The beam seemed to be bluish in color and even at that distance it was visible.

NEWARK, DELAWARE, 8 June 1956. Richard M. Johnson, while practicing observation for the coming earth satellite program, spotted two pinpoints of dull white light. At the time he was observing a DC-3 which was cruising at about 6-10,000 feet and about 1/2 mile north of him. Johnson noted two objects, one a little in front of the other, pass the plane at the same altitude and very close to it. For a moment Johnson thought the objects would collide with the plane. The objects were pursuing a course from east to west, and he saw them 'dim out' as they passed the plane, thus assuming they were on the far side of the plane. He put down his

RECENT SIGHTINGS (Cont'd)

binoculars, with which he had been observing the plane and the objects and consequently lost sight of them. They were not visible to the naked eye. Johnson, a member, is an amateur astronomer and has expressed his opinion that if one took the time to watch the sky every night for a week, one would sight at least one UFO in that period of time. We are inclined to agree, only wish the time was available to us.

A radio report on 22 July said that an Air Force plane had crash-landed due to being struck in the air by 'another aircraft'. Although the place and exact date were not noted at the time, a friend in Alamogordo informs us that he heard Paul Harvey discussing it on his news program and that according to Harvey the plane was struck by an object which came from above, 'sliced' through an elevator surface on one side. No evidence of burning or scorching, so we can assume that a meteor did not do the damage. We would like to ask members to submit any and all information on this particular accident for it has all the earmarks of the "Dum-Dum Airport Incident of a couple of years ago.

As of 28 July the Director, Mr. Lorenzen and the family will be vacationing in Wisconsin. They hope to be able to stop and visit a few members on the way, but can't promise any real visiting for Mr. Lorenzen's absence from Holloman has been allotted for only 16 days. After this much-needed vacation the Lorenzens will be back in Alamogordo (about 13 August) ready to take an iron grip on the coming bulletins during the late summer and fall influx of UFO.

DEADLINE

The June 23 edition of the Omaha World Herald stated that Dr. John D. Kraus of the Ohio State University's radio observatory announced that new signals from Venus of a distinctly different type than the common ones resembling terrestrial thunderstorm static have been received. He stated that they resemble radio telegraphy in many ways. Dr. Kraus was careful to state that the new signals "presumably come from Venus."

IS NEW GOC DRIVE IN PREPARATION FOR COMING UFO SEASON?

As is the usual thing during UFO influxes, the Air Defense Ground Observer Corps has put out another urgent plea for new members. This has happened for two seasons so far (1952 and 1954) and we're beginning to wonder if the renewed effort on their part is not just another phase of preparation for UFO reports and sightings. Letters from GOC supervisors and members in the past have indicated that the Air Force puts a good deal of stress on the reporting of UFOs by observers on duty.

In 1952 the Director of APRO urged all members to participate in the GOC effort in order to serve a twofold purpose: serving the United States in Civilian Defense and having the opportunity to use good equipment in the watch for reports. GOC posts usually are equipped with range-finders and at least one pair of good binoculars.