

SKYLOOK

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Midwest UFO Network Organized

Saucer-Shaped UFO Seen in Northwest Illinois

Flaming Objects Seen in Missouri and Illinois June 5th

"Cigar-Shaped" UFO's Reported All Over the Globe

UFO at Arkansas Missile Complex

Five in Memphis Area Scared by "Glowing Orange Ball"

AF Colonel Describes "Giant Black Metallic Cylinder"

The Astronomy Corner

North, South, East and West of the U.S.A.

Midwest Organization Reports

SPECIAL! Next Month--An Interview with John Keel by Walt Andrus

A SKYLOOK Exclusive

"We tell it as it is."

SKYLOOK

The official publication of The Midwest UFO Network

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

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We welcome UFO reports, newspaper clippings and letters. Material will be returned if you request. When possible, get your reports to SKYLOOK by the 20th of the month. Copy received the 25th will be held over.

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

The SKYLOOK Staff

Mrs. Norma E. Short, Editor and Publisher, Box 129, Stover, Mo. 65078

Ted Phillips, Jr., Reporter and Feature Writer, 1113 Ware Ave.,
Sedalia, Mo. 65301

John F. Schuessler, APRO Consultant and Director of UFO Study Group
of Greater St. Louis, P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo., 63366

Walter Andrus, Jr., Co-Chairman Illinois Section APRO and Illinois
State Director of The Midwest UFO Network., 40 Christopher Court,
Quincy, Ill., 62301

Lucius Farish, Writer in Ufology Field, Route 1, Plumerville, Ark.
72127

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS: Given credit with their organization reports and articles.

As organization plans are completed and the Midwest UFO Network functions, we will list State Directors etal.

Director of the Midwest UFO Network--Dr. Allen Utke, APRO Consultant and Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the Wisconsin State University, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

PLANNING MEETING FOR MIDWEST UFO NETWORK HELD MAY 31st

SKYLOOK Named As Official Publication for New Organization

Reported by Walt Andrus
40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill.

In the interest of improving and correlating UFO observation reports, Allen R. Utke, Ph.D., Consultant to APRO in Chemistry and Associate Professor of Chemistry at Wisconsin State University in Oshkosh, Wis., proposed the organization of a MIDWEST UFO NETWORK to include the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri. A planning meeting was held May 31, 1969, in Quincy, Ill., to determine the interest and work out organizational details.

Regrettably, neither of the APRO consultants, Allen Utke or John Schuessler, was able to attend due to conflicts beyond their control. Delegates attending the meeting and representing their states or investigative groups were: Ronald M. Anderson, 1609 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, Wis.; Raymond M. Watts, 129 Meadows Ave., East Peoria, Ill.; Rick Reynolds, 1029 W. Burnside Dr., Peoria, Ill.; Joe Bicking, Box 8, Silver Lake, Kansas; Mrs. Kietha M. Fish, 924 Mac Vicar, Topeka, Kans.; Walter H. Andrus, Jr., 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill.; and A. S. Petzoldt, 2500 Vermont, Quincy, Ill.

The suggested organizational structure in block diagrams and the duties and responsibilities of the Directors at each level were reviewed as submitted by Dr. Utke. This was developed from an observer network in community areas through geographical state section Directors to the State Directors. The State Directors make up the Board of Directors who report to the Midwest Network Director. Each level has a Ham Radio Network as its communication arm to transmit UFO sighting reports ultimately to the Midwest Director for the master file of reports. A News distribution to the public occurs on a state basis and on a national level. The Midwest Network would be affiliated with APRO, but not controlled by APRO through a "dotted line" relationship.

Several data reduction systems were evaluated, namely one suggested by APRO and the second by Mr. John Keel. A DRS must be utilized, but no decision was made because whichever system is adopted, it should be nationwide in its use and application so that reports can not only be placed on "needle cards," but can be adopted for computerizing in the near future.

It was the concensus of the representatives that the publication SKYLOOK, edited and published by Mrs. Norma E. Short, would be the official organ of the Midwest UFO Network. With a newsletter of this caliber existing, and the strong desire of Mrs. Short to represent the organization, this decision was immediately reached.

Officers selected at the meeting with many more to be named as the representatives return to the state groups are: Allen R. Utke, Midwest UFO Director and Eastern Wisconsin Section Director; Ronald Anderson, Ham Radio Director and Western Wisconsin Section Director; and Walt Andrus, Illinois State Director.

SKYLOOK will be supplied with information by the directors, and will be able to draw upon the centralized files of articles and clippings.

With the Editor

SKYLOOK is honored to be selected as the official publication of the Midwest UFO Network and promises full cooperation.

Until now, we have considered our magazine to be the "unofficial" voice of the midwest as we have made a special effort to obtain UFO sightings from this area, along with other sightings, and to serve the various ufology organizations in the area. Now, with "official" status, we feel our efforts have been recognized--and not only by the new organization whom we now represent, but by other UFO publications which, in giving us plugs, have themselves pointed out our "hard to get midwest sightings."

As announced last month, Rod B. Dyke, editor of the UFORC JOURNAL, which has ceased publication, named SKYLOOK as recipient of all unexpired JOURNAL subscriptions, a tribute to our sincere attempt at honest reporting, as the JOURNAL was a no-nonsense magazine.

As these good things have come our way in less than a year as editor and publisher of SKYLOOK, we feel a little overwhelmed and deeply grateful. Lest this appear as personal ego on the part of your editor--hear this! Anyone can sit at a desk and be an editor, but the real work is done by the staff.

We firmly believe our fine staff is second to none, and to them goes all the credit for any "success" SKYLOOK has or will achieve. Without a working staff, any publication is dead. Our staff has stuck with us through thick and thin, as the saying goes, and we don't have to be reminded that some of our early struggles were pretty thin.

Ted - John - Walt - Lou--take a bow!

The Lorenzens' New Book Out

Coral and Jim Lorenzens' new book "UFO The Whole Story", Signet T3897, is beginning to appear on the news stands in paperback for 75¢.

Walt Andrus picked up a copy while he was in New York City early in June and was interested in finding a report he made to APRO on pages 26-27. It concerns an Illinois experience by Paul Cummings, Jr., of Quincy, and Douglas Gowdy, of near Canton, Ill., on March 14, 1946. This precedes the Kenneth Arnold sighting by more than a year.

Does Anyone Read German?

We have received a copy of "UFO Nachrichten", newspaper size and format, and illustrated--and all in German. How we wish we could read it!

If any of our readers can read German, we'll mail it to the first request received.

Saucer-Shaped UFO Seen in Northeast Illinois

An unidentified flying object that beamed a dazzling ray of light to the ground and skimmed over a roof top, causing two frightened teenage boys to duck in fear of being hit, was reported in the Palatine-Lake Zurich area in northeast Illinois the night of May 12, 1969. Both the "Chicago Tribune" and the "Chicago Today American" carried a report of the sighting and it being under investigation by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, of Northwestern university.

The first to report the UFO was Greg Lucht, 18, of 210 N. Schubert St., Palatine, Ill. He and Alan Prouty, also 18, 949 Kenilworth Terrace Lake Zurich, first sighted the object from their car while driving north on Highway 53 about 10:25 p.m. a little past the Reseda subdivision.

Lucht said he first thought the object was a light on top of a radio tower and that a flash that was emitted came from a bird being electrocuted on the wires. But on driving past a clump of trees, the UFO came into full view. It was saucer-shaped, like a World War I English helmet. It had a concave indentation in the center of the underside with a large light in it, Lucht said.

The light went on and off a number of times, emitting a brilliant beam. At one point the UFO nosed down and from the front it appeared oval with three large "headlights" at what appeared to be the forward section. Smaller red and white lights, which were located three quarters of the way around the rim of the UFO, kept blinking on and off.

Apparently it disappeared from view when the boys were on Fairview Road about two blocks from Prouty's home, at 10:40, and they went on to the home where Lucht phoned the Nike base to report what they had seen. He was switched to the airforce where his report was listened to. "But I don't think they believed me," Lucht said.

The object came into view again at 10:50 and Lucht and Prouty climbed on to the roof for a better view, then ducked to lie flat as the object went directly overhead. "I think if I had stood up, I could have hit it with a rock," Lucht said later. By this time, Alan's parents and another couple, Ray Holmes, and his girl friend were also viewing the object.

It made an unusual humming noise that would rise and fall in pitch in a regular pattern. A neighbor's dog began barking when the UFO appeared over the Prouty home, Lucht reported.

The unusual bright light on the object also attracted the attention of Morton Konlon, owner of the Rolling Green Stables in Lake Zurich. Konlon said he first saw the object between 9 and 10 p.m. with two other men. When he got back to his stables, he watched it as it flew around emitting flashes of brilliant light about 8-second intervals.

The light came straight down and flashed brightly like a giant flash bulb going on and off. Konlon said it lit up a large area on

(Continued on next page)

Saucer-Shaped Object Seen--(Continued)

the ground. Konlon, who flies small airplanes himself, said the lights were not landing lights from an airplane. Furthermore, the object had two red lights on it instead of the normal red and green lights on an airplane. He couldn't tell the shape of the object, he said, because when the lights went off, he couldn't see anything. He described the noise as sounding at first like a prop airplane when it was far away and then like a jet when it was overhead. He awakened several of his employees, but by the time they came outside, the object had disappeared.

Dr. Hynek is quoted as saying the reports of the object appeared genuine. "You have to conclude from talking to these people that they are either badly mistaken or that they really did see an unusual object in the sky," he said.

He interviewed the two boys separately and said both made nearly identical drawings of the object. From their descriptions, it may have been about 50 feet in diameter. Dr. Hynek was continuing his investigation into the matter to determine if the UFO can be explained and in the May 25th issue of "The Chicago Tribune" asked that anyone else who had seen the object between 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. telephone him.

Source and Credits: News clippings sent in by Lyle Krause, of Union, Ill. and Walt Andrus, of Quincy, Ill.

Kansas Man Goes UFO Hunting--Finds One!

Some of our most tireless and enthusiastic investigators admit they have never had the good fortune to see a UFO. They should have the luck of Edwin H. Bohl, Jr., of Logan, Kansas, who "said he went looking and found one." Just like that!

Bohl, age 20, says he sighted the object on Highway 24, five miles east of Hill City at 11:30 p.m. Monday, April 14th. The object with different colored lights came down over the highway and stopped in mid-air at a 45 degree angle from the car. There was no sound, Bohl said. It killed the motor of Bohl's car as it hovered about three minutes, then started moving slowly eastward following the highway toward Stockton.

Source and Credit--Kietha Fish, UFO Research Associates Inc., P. O. Box 8, Silver Lake, Kansas.

Editor's Note: As stated in the June issue of SKYLOOK, Kietha is our Kansas representative, but we erred in referring to her as "Miss". It is "Mrs." Fish.

STOP! LOOK! HEED!

If you are moving, be SURE to notify us of your change of address. Just send a card, giving old and new address. Do it today.

Flaming Objects Seen in Missouri and Illinois Sky June 5th

Flaming objects flashed across the sky the evening of June 5th and there was a flurry of telephone calls to police and press in many cities through out Missouri and Illinois. Many observers thought they had seen a UFO, but checks with scientists and other informed sources seem to indicate the flying objects were the break-up of a meteor.

The "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" described the objects as being white with a green or blue tinge, flying at a speed faster than 2000 miles an hour. Witnesses in the St. Louis area included the pilots of two small planes, one of whom gave chase briefly.

The Quincy, Ill. "Herald-Whig" reported: "The fiery day-light break-up of a meteor late Thursday afternoon gave Quincyans a rare view of an aerial phenomenon. The meteor plunging to its death as it raced into the atmosphere at about 30 miles a second, left a trail of greenish-blue streaks in the sky. It gave the appearance of being more than one object as it was breaking up."

The meteor was visible for only a few seconds as it moved from the east into the bright sunlight in the western sky about 5:52, but many Quincy area residents saw the colorful event. The breakup was visible over most of central Illinois and Missouri. There were reports from Peoria, Rantoul, Hannibal, Liberty, Keokuk and as far south as Rolla, Mo.

The "Herald-Whig" said speculation that the object was an unidentified flying object was killed by several sources--one being Walt Andrus, "Quincy UFO expert" who said it undoubtedly was a meteor and it had to be a large one to be visible in daylight. "At night," he said, "the show would have been brilliant."

Dr. Joseph H. Senne, Jr., satellite-tracking chairman of the department of civil engineering at the University of Missouri at Rolla, Mo., ruled out the object being the burning of Echo II, expected any day. Herbert E. Roth, of Denver, director of Volunteer Flight Officers Network (VFON) said charts kept by the group to track satellites show none was expected to return at the time of the sighting. Three were expected to re-enter Thursday or Friday but would not cross the sky from east to west as the strange lights did, he said.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, said that the objects could have been parts of a man-made satellite that burned as it re-entered the earth's atmosphere. However, an official at the Space Defense Center in Colorado Springs, told the "Post-Dispatch" that the center, which tracks man-made satellites, had no record of a satellite scheduled to re-enter the atmosphere.

In Moberly, Mo., where Larry Yoder's recent investigation of UFO's has been given publicity by the local press, several saw and reported the flying objects. One described it as being green, red and blue and "three times faster than a jet." Another said it appeared to be green and was "pulsating." Matthew Hasson, II, son of Dr. Robert Hasson, said he and others at the Sun-N-Fun swimming club saw the object and one of them thought it divided into three parts. Matthew described it

(Continued on next page)

Flaming Objects Seen--(Continued)

as being "oblong" and reflecting light "something like a mirror."
(The newspaper clipping was sent in by Mr. Yoder.)

The "Alton Evening Telegraph" reported that more than 50 persons throughout the west-central part of Illinois turned in reports. Everett Auston, of 13 Rosa Ave., Godfrey, reported he spotted the object about 5:55 p.m. in the north, headed in an east to west direction. He described it as having "the prettiest colors I've ever seen" and said it had orange flames coming out its rear.

A TWA pilot was among those reporting the object in Alton. The U. S. Weather Bureau said there were no balloons aloft at the time of the sighting. Further checking with scientific sources led the "Telegraph" also to conclude the several different objects seen were meteors.

Several newspapers, including the "Kansas City Times" carried a photo of the meteor, showing it as it broke in two in the sky above Peoria, Ill.

Mark Bouge, of Bellevue, Nebraska, and editor of SAUCER MAGAZINE, sent us an item from the Omaha "World-Herald" which told of "a cluster of three fireballs moving west over Midwestern states." Four men at the Glenwood, Ia., golf course said they saw the objects about 5:30 p. m. About the same time, a Ralston resident said he saw a "ball of fire" traveling from east to west. A pilot near Denver, Colorado, also reported seeing the object, the most distant report of the sighting to reach us. (Thank you, Mark.)

The objects created quite a stir in Palmyra, Mo., where we have a report from Corbyn Jacobs. The John Schanz family of four gave an excellent description of the objects as they viewed them from their lawn at 5:55 p.m. A large round object of bright orange was in the lead of the formation with four smaller objects trailing. They came out of the east, going west at a high rate of speed. Mr. Schanz compared the first object, "a very bright aqua with a bright orange outside circle" to the size of a soccer ball, and those trailing to ping pong balls.

Dr. Kenneth Leinweber, also of Palmyra, told Mr. Jacobs he saw the objects for about six seconds. He described the lead object as about the size of a saucer (dinnerware) and said the four objects following were smaller. All had "bluish and pinkish tails of fire as if from a butane torch," he said.

It is interesting to note that practically every account agrees in essential detail, a good example of honest reporting, and it all adds up to a pretty clear picture of what was seen in the sky the night of June 5th.

In addition to credits given, we also thank Ted Phillips and Walt Andrus, staff members, who contributed some of the material from which this report was written. Again, thank you--to all.

FOR ANOTHER VIEW, read Robert J. Hertell's report in this issue
of SKYLOOK.--Editor

Another View of the "Meteors"

Robert J. Hertell, APRO Field Investigator, of Bridgeton, Mo., well aware that the consensus of opinion is that the flying objects seen over Missouri and Illinois, June 5th, were meteors, has a different view--and the courage of his convictions.

Mr. Hertell has sent us an extremely well written detailed report of his interview with Major John R. Richmond. USAF, and has also sent the report to APRO headquarters in Tucson.

Major Richmond, age 34, resides at 23 Meta Drive, Belleville, Ill., and flies his own Cessna in free time. He has about 5,300 flying hours to his credit and he talked freely with Mr. Hertell, after seeing the flying objects the evening of June 5th, and we draw upon the 5-page typed interview for the officer's report of what he observed.

Major Richmond was flying a T-33 (jet trainer) with Captain George Stevenson riding as an observer. They were cruising at 33,000 feet at 462 miles per hour inbound to Scott Air Force Base and were 138 miles west of the field when he first saw the object. We now quote his exact words, as written down by Mr. Hertell and including the latter's parenthetical notes: "The time was 22527 (5:52 PM CDT). I was on Channel 5.9 calling BLV (Scott) when I first saw the object. It was at my 1145 position (in front of him) on a heading of 280 degrees (heading west). It was chrome-green, very brilliant, like an arc light or like burning phosphorus. I called to Stevenson and pointed to it. He saw it too. It continued on across the sky off my left wing and exited about 4,000 feet above me (37,000 ft. Altitude). It was as large as our largest airliner and it had a tail 200 feet long of what looked like white phosphorus, a burning tail. That's about all I can tell you. We both saw it go across the sky--it was still daylight. I've never seen anything like that in all the time I've been flying. What really got me was its flat trajectory. It kept right on going straight west. It sure wasn't a meteor--I've seen plenty of them. They only last a couple of seconds and always curve down toward the earth."

Further questions from Mr. Hertell gives us more information--the Major estimated the object was traveling between 200 and 700 miles per hour and he estimated it to be within a mile and a half of the plane. He repeated that the object was going "level all the way along its path" from east to west with no depreciation in the trajectory at all.

Asked how he would compare it in size with an object held at arms length, the Major studied a moment, then replied, "Well, I'd say it was 3/4" in height and about 6" long total, with tail, at arms length. I think it was about 30 feet long by about 10 feet wide and it had a 200 foot fragmented tail." It was in sight between 35 and 45 seconds (a watch was used to accurately estimate this time factor).

Major Richmond reported the object to Scott Airforce Base, but they did not see the object on their screen. The Major explained this was "not at all surprising since they are not equipped with a transponder."

(Continued on next page)

Another View of the "Meteors"--(Continued)

During the sighting, there was little or no radio or instrumentation interference with the plane, and no unusual phenomenon such as heat or electromagnetic effects experienced.

Mr. Hertell concludes this to be "a valid sighting of an actual unidentified flying object" for the following reasons: " (1) the expertise of the witness rules out the usual natural phenomena such as weather balloons, cloud formations, meteors, birds, windshield reflections etc; (2) the flat trajectory, comparatively slow speed, long duration of observance, rules out meteor fragments; (3) Again, the flat trajectory, comparatively slow speed, long duration of observance, also tends to rule out the "Russian" spacecraft theory. Further, the path being from east to west virtually rules out any spacecraft or satellite theory; (4) the size of the object is comparatively enormous when compared to most weather balloons, meteor fragments, satellite fragments, etc. (Herein lies the single point upon which Major Richmond is probably in error: that is, the actual size of the object, for, if one uses his figures of $3/4$ " x 6 " at arms length, then such an object would have to be 1,567 feet long and 198 feet in height at $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.); and (5) according to the news media, there were many witnesses to this incident, from deep in the state of Illinois to an airline pilot near Denver, Colorado. This would indicate a high altitude flat trajectory. In fact, if the object continued on the same course as described by Major Richmond, it would have passed over Longmont, Colorado--30 miles north of Denver."

Since receiving this report from Mr. Hertell, we have had a letter from David Schroth, member of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis. He reported a UFO discussion held at the home of August Hearst, APRO/NICAP member, the evening of June 14th, with Mr. Hertell among those present. Others were John F. Schuessler, Art Epstein, Cliff Palmberg, Willard P. Armstrong and wife, William F. Christian and son and Dave.

The talk centered about the "meteor" of June 5th and Mr. Hertell's investigation and conclusions drawn. While Dave did not quote others present as to their opinions, it is evident from his letter that he considers Mr. Hertell a very able investigator and that he was heard with great interest and respect.

All present including Mr. Hertell are SKYLOOK subscribers and members of UFO investigative groups affiliated with APRO, NICAP or both.

It should be understood that we present these divergent views of the "flaming objects" with no wish to stir up controversy, but in the interest of giving "equal time" to serious investigators who happen not to agree in this instance. A point made by one may have been overlooked by another--a clear look at all of the conclusions reached and the reasons therefor may aid in enabling all to arrive at a summation accepted by everyone.

We welcome further comment on this.

It's Getting Crowded Up There!

According to FLYING SAUCER BULLETIN, R. 3, Yankee Road, Middletown, Ohio, on March 22nd, flying saucers, balls of fire and flocks of wild geese were reported seen in the sky over Baltimore, Md.

"Cigar-Shaped" UFO's Reported All Over the Globe

Unidentified flying objects appear in assorted shapes and sizes, and "cigar-shaped" UFO's have been reported from all over the globe in recent months.

On the night of February 20th at 7:30 o'clock, John Rose, of Kalgoorlie, Perth, Australia, reported he had driven 80 m.p.h. in an attempt to get away from a cigar-shaped object which hovered over him for two miles. On approaching a rise, he saw what appeared to be the headlights of a car, and he dimmed his own lights. When he topped the rise, there was no car in sight--then he saw the glowing white-blue light hovering at tree level and the object kept along side his car for two miles. Rose then stopped his car and got out. As he did so, the car was filled with leaves and dust kicked up by the UFO as it veered away and disappeared.

As reported in the "West Australian," the Department of Civilian Aviation said there was no aircraft in the area at the time.

A cigar-shaped object was spotted on March 30th over Springdale Township in Pennsylvania according to a report in the "Valley Daily News," Tarentum, Pa. This one was "a real puzzler" according to Robert Goerman and James Speck, director and co-director of the Civil Aerial Investigation and Research Organization. They observed the object for about 30 seconds at 2:15 p.m. from the 600 block of Catalpa St., New Kensington, through a 60-power telescope.

They said it was a black, cigar-shaped object about 30 feet long, trailing thick black smoke and a bit of flame. Looking across the river, they saw the object moving toward New Kensington. It stopped, hovered for a moment, then fell straight down, breaking into pieces, Goerman said.

Later with Adam Lewandowski, of Arnold, director of Aerial Research and Investigation Committee, they inspected the area where it appeared to fall--a slag dump off Riddle Run Road, but found nothing they could link definitely to the object.

This sighting was similar to one they spotted over the same general area the night before about 9 o'clock and to sightings which have been reported from more than 20 communities in the area over the past several months, Goerman said.

A sighting made by two Phoenix, Arizona, pilots March 17th seems to fall into the same category. While the term "cigar-shaped" wasn't used by the pilots in describing the objects seen about 3:32 p.m. on a clear, sunny day, a sketch made by one of the men showed the object to be cigar-shaped, with the addition of a slight bulge in the center of the long tube.

Herman Slater, who was piloting the Cessna 150 on a return flight to Phoenix from Lake Havasu, was accompanied by Ben Ripley, also a pilot. They had been airborne 12 minutes when they spotted from 15 to 20 UFO's. "I'll never know why I had the urge to unfasten my seat

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Cigar-Shaped Objects--(continued)

belt and lean over to look down to the left," said Ripley, 42, a roofing businessman.

Slater, 41, looked in the direction of Ripley's hand pointing downward. He described the objects as "white, opaque and with a black stripe leading back on the outer edge from a slight protrusion at the forward section of their oval shape."

The pilot, a former Navy man, said they were flying at 100 miles an hour at 5,000 feet, heading for 5,500 and that the objects were going west at what seemed to be from 250 to 1,500 feet above the mountainous terrain, not flying in a geometric pattern but undulating and dipping as they followed the contour of the ground in precise unison, as though remote controlled.

Both men told of being able to see the dark ground between the objects, which appeared to them about three times the size of an automobile.

"There were about a dozen in a kind of center cluster and the others were grouped around them haphazardly," Slater said. "They weren't jets, sun spots or not even shadows since there wasn't a cloud in the sky."

Ripley estimated the UFO's, if they maintained their course, would have passed directly over Havasu City airport.

"My hands broke out in a cold sweat after what we saw in the 15 or 20 seconds," Slater said. "And we hadn't had a drink; you don't drink and fly." (Credit--Phoenix, Arizona "Gazette," 3/21/69. The sketch mentioned appeared with the report.)

On May 21st a cigar-shaped UFO was observed by many persons at Sarasota, Fla., as reported in SAUCER SCOOP and the same evening an "oblong" object was seen in the New Port Richey area, north of Sarasota. This object hovered in a stationary position for at least two minutes, ruling out the possibility it could have been a satellite launched that night. As Joan Whritenour (editor) commented, "No satellite can sit in any one position for even one minute."

UFO Seen At Missile Complex

An unofficial source here tells of a UFO being observed by two civilian workers over a missile complex in the Central Arkansas area two weeks ago and that the pair notified the commander of the missile silo who came topside and also saw it.

The incident is said to be a classified matter at the base here.

Source: "Jacksonville Daily News" (Arkansas) 3/27/69. Credit: Lou F.

LOU FARISH is putting in a couple weeks on National Guard duty in Ft. Hood, Texas, but will be back with his "In Others' Words" next month. Perhaps he'll spot a UFO out in those wide open spaces.

Five in Memphis Area Scared by "Glowing Orange Ball"

A brilliantly glowing orange ball the size of a house rolled, darted and bounced its way along Forest Hill Road early yesterday, "scaring the living daylights" out of five persons, they said as they reported the incident to sheriff's deputies J. L. Hamby and R. D. Paudert.

"They were all pretty upset over whatever they saw," the deputies said.

Jimmy Baird, 18, of 438 Center in Collierville and Miss Martha Lenox, 16, of 9735 Holmes Road (Memphis) said they were returning from a movie about 1:30 a.m. The object "jumped from nowhere" and shot toward their car as they drove on Forest Hill Road between Shelby Drive and Holmes Road.

"It was shaped like a huge pill," said Miss Lenox, "and gave off a blistering bright light. It kept moving toward us so Jimmy drove away as fast as we could go."

Young Baird continued, "It disappeared after we drove a little way and when I got down on Holmes Road, I turned the car around and headed back to see if we had really seen what we thought we saw."

The couple told the deputies when they arrived at the same spot, the light "turned on" again. Baird said it looked "as if it was chasing us away. There was a bright yellowish gold ring blazing around it and some dark sections just inside that ring. The center was a very bright orange."

The couple said they went to the home of his aunt, Mrs. Milton Ballard, at 398 Center Road and told her what they had seen.

Mrs. Ballard said the two young people were "trembling and almost in shock" when they tried to tell her about the object.

Mrs. Ballard and her daughter, Linday, 16, and Jimmy's mother, Mrs. Sam Baird, went with the couple to the spot.

"We waited about 20 minutes and the object showed up," they told the deputies. "It looked like it was about 100 to 150 yards away when it suddenly blinded us."

Mrs. Ballard said the object rolled and bounced toward them and disappeared when they sped away. It was "completely silent" and gave off no heat.

"The officers told us not to say anything," Martha said when reached later.

"I'd be happy to talk about it if the police say it's OK," said Mrs. Ballard. "I know what I saw," she emphasized.

Source: "The Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tenn., June 1, 1969

Colonel Describes "Giant Black Metallic Cylinder" as AF Crew Tracks UFO

Jacksonville (Ark.) Daily News, Thursday, March 27, 1969

Lt. Col. Robert M. Tirman, well-known Jacksonville Resident who is now serving in Thailand with the Air Force, watched what he described as "a giant black metallic cylinder suspended in the sky" as he and other crew members flew a refueling mission in the skies over South-east Asia recently.

Mrs. Tirman released the contents of a letter from her husband in which he described the big UFO, including comments from various members of the crew who were also watching it.

Col. Tirman said the object was "huge" and appeared to be at an altitude of about 15,000 feet and about two miles away.

He recalled that the first he heard of the object being sighted was over the interphone, from the pilot, who exclaimed, "What the hell is that?"

"Damned if I know. . . it looks like a giant bird," replied the co-pilot.

"They kept up a lively conversation while I left the boom (the apparatus that transfers fuel from the craft to the other planes seeking fuel) in the rear and went forward to see for myself," Col. Tirman wrote his wife.

"What a surprise to see what I saw," he continued, adding: "I yelled out 'for pete's sake, it's got to be a big bird!'"

Then he said the pilot maneuvered and was able to circle closer and "I saw a giant black metallic cylinder suspended in the sky."

He said the crew speculated on it being a weather balloon but soon discarded that theory as "fallacy."

He wrote that as they flew on, it disappeared "and that was that."

Col. Tirman said fighters in the area converged on the spot but no one else (other than those aboard his craft) saw it. "We went back and searched to no avail."

Col. Tirman wrote that this was the first time he has flown without his binoculars and camera. . . and lamented not having the items along.

"So now I've seen a UFO--an unidentified object--I can't prove it with a photo. . . ."

"I've drawn a sketch of it and your guess is as good as mine," Col. Tirman said of the object.

"All of us guessed a different size but it must have been huge since we were probably at least two miles away * * * A probe from somewhere? Outer Space? Don't really think so--but really don't know what it was or where it came from, or more strangely still, where it went off to so quickly."

Credit: Lou Farish

A. Look at the Sky

The planet Mercury will not be visible as it is located quite near the sun in July.

Venus will be a very brilliant object in the eastern sky for over three hours before sunrise. Mars, still a very bright, reddish colored object will be visible during the entire evening, fairly near the star Antares which is in the constellation Scorpius, the Scorpion. The giant planet, Jupiter, is in Virgo and may be seen during most of the evening, high in the south and southwestern sky. Saturn, the ringed planet, is rising some three hours before sunrise.

The Planet Mars, Part III. The Canals and Possibility of Life

When the planet Mars is observed visually from Earth-based telescopes, a great deal of detail may be seen, but not quite enough. When Mars is at its minimum distance from us, it may be only about 35,000,000 miles away; however, even the largest telescopes are limited by the turbulence of the Earth's atmosphere. The very fine detail, such as the canals, may be seen for a matter of only a few seconds during several hours of observation. As a telescope magnifies the planet, it also magnifies the atmospheric turbulence. The atmosphere of Mars is so thin that it presents hardly any problem as far as concealing details on the surface.

Mars' canals were first seen during the opposition of 1877 by Schiaparelli. He observed the planet for a period of several years. During this time he noted curious lines connecting various dark areas later called oases. Some years later Percival Lowell, an American astronomer, founded an observatory near Flagstaff, Arizona to observe the red planet. Observers at the observatory, which was built in 1894, began to record many new canals, some of which displayed the phenomenon of doubling, two lines running parallel to each other. Using powerful instruments now available, the canals appear as small dark patches on the surface, arranged roughly in lines. When seen through lesser telescopes, those of inadequate quality or aperture, these small spots would seem to run together, thus appearing as continuous lines on the planet's surface.

In years past the canals were a most important element in the consideration of life on the planet. As we have seen, the canals most probably are not artificial in origin and the temperature is not at all favorable for earth-like creatures. Looking further, we find that the Martian atmosphere consists of 96% nitrogen, 4% argon and 0.3% carbon dioxide. There is a small amount of oxygen in the atmosphere and some water. We can be fairly sure that plant life exists in some form as the dark areas seem to undergo seasonal changes. If this plant life produces oxygen, the question of oxygen-breathing creatures arises. The creatures might hibernate during the nights and through the winter. Of course, if we consider a completely alien life form, then numerous possibilities arise.

(Continued on next page)

The Astronomy Corner (Continued)

As we can see on our own planet, life has adapted itself to the many different climatic conditions. Thus, the question of life on the red planet must go unanswered for now; but it is a question that may be answered very soon as the two Mariner probes pass close over the planet's ice cap and equator.

Next month: The Planet Mercury.

The Mars Probe

At last word, the Mars probes were both operating well and are expected to arrive in the vicinity of the red planet on July 31 and August 5.

Asteroid To Pass Near Earth

The tiny asteroid, Geographos, is expected to pass within 5,600,000 miles of Earth on August 27, 1969. The asteroid is an estimated $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mile in diameter and was discovered in 1951 by Dr. A. G. Wilson of Palomar observatory.

Dr. Samuel Herrick, professor of astronomy at the University of California reports that Geographos will make an even closer approach to Earth in 1994 when it will pass by at a distance of only 3,100,000 miles.

Another asteroid, Icarus, missed the earth by 3,950,000 miles on June 14, 1968. The closest pass made by one of these tiny planets was made by Hermes when it passed within 485,000 miles in 1937. The asteroid Geographos will not be visible from the Northern Hemisphere during this pass.

Outer Space Traffic Up

The U. S. Air Force aerospace defense command said June 9th it catalogued 60 new objects--including Apollo 10--in space in May. This was made up of 10 U.S. payloads, 4 Russian payloads and the rest were rocket boosters and debris.

The A. D. C's global satellite tracking network, which finds, tracks, and follows re-entry of space orbiting material now has catalogued a total of 3,982 objects. The U. S. still has 1,282 objects in space and the Soviet Union 388. Fifty-two other objects launched by and for other countries, are orbiting.

Source: "Kansas City Times," June 10, 1969.

Editor's Note: The Astronomy Corner and space news, written by Ted Phillips, has received more favorable comment from SKYLOOK readers than any other SKYLOOK feature. Good work, Ted.

NORTH, SOUTH, EAST and WEST of the U. S. A.

Canadian Couple Watch UFO

Neepawa--A resident of Arden and his wife saw a strange flying object southeast of their home one morning recently. The object seemed to glow, change colors, and at times shine a light "like a beacon" that illuminated a stand of trees nearby.

Frank Harder, 47, a worker for the rural municipality of Landsdowne, first spotted the bright red object to the southeast at 3:15 a.m. when he went to the kitchen for a glass of water. At first he thought it was the moon, but he had never before seen the moon rise from this direction. As he watched, the object rose and began changing colors, from bright red to bluish red.

At this point, he woke up his wife and as they both watched, the object moved very quickly in a southerly direction and stopped abruptly. Mr. Harder estimated that it moved a half-mile to the south.

It was then that they saw the object shine a bright light that illuminated the trees nearby. The light, which was bluish in color, was "as bright as a searchlight," said Mr. Harder, and the object moved back and forth "as it was searching for something."

Questioned at his work site southeast of Arden, Mr. Harder said that he and his wife watched the object for 10 to 12 minutes until it disappeared behind the bushes. They observed it through their kitchen door window, which faces south.

Mrs. Harder, questioned at their home, substantiated her husband's claims. "I would never have believed it if he had told it to me," she said, "But I saw it myself."

When asked whether the object made any noise, she replied that she did not hear anything and that neither of them wanted to venture outside to investigate.

Mr. Harder had not discussed the sighting with anyone except a fellow worker and his employer at the time that the "Neepawa Press" questioned him. Arden is a village 15 miles northeast of Neepawa.

Credit: Lou Farish. No date given on the clipping, other than May 1969

Police Car Radio Affected by UFO

Lavern Janzen, police chief of Westhope, N. D., was driving near his home base the night of March 10th when, about 10:10 o'clock, he saw a UFO that interfered with the car radio as it passed overhead.

Janzen described the object as a "World War I helmet type disc" with a dome emitting a greenish-blue light. There was a red light band around its middle and appeared to be rotating. A light beam "as bright as looking into the sun" came from the object's bottom.

(continued on next page)

North, South, East and West of the U. S. A. (continued)

As Janzen realized a UFO had passed right over his patrol car lighting up the area all around, he "became pretty damn scared" and pulled off the road to sit and watch the object hovering about 700 feet up. He thought about using his service revolver, but decided against it because "it wouldn't have been much help anyway" he said in reporting to Donald E. Flickinger, Chairman of NICAP's North Dakota Subcommittee.

The object hovered for another 10 to 15 minutes, then "took off to the south with a high burst of speed and disappeared." He added that he experienced "a feeling of lightness when the UFO took off," as if he were "going to float away."

Source: The UFO INVESTIGATOR, published by NICAP

Flying Saucer Blamed for Car Accident in New Zealand

The Auckland, New Zealand "Sunday News" of Sept. 15, devoted some columns to the following: Two youths, 18 and 19 years old, after having observed for several nights unusual lights including one accompanied by an explosion, on Sept. 10th sighted a luminous body projecting a white beacon downward. They got into their car and drove toward the light. Suddenly it approached the car and one of the boys shrieked "Jump! It's got us." He scrambled from the auto, entangling his legs with the driver's and throwing the car out of control. Both boys landed at the side of the road and the car crashed into a fruit store. The light remained over the car for about three seconds, increasing its brilliance. The townspeople found the boys bruised and cursing a flying saucer that had attacked them. The driver was charged with careless driving by the police, but in the trial he was acquitted. And the police even admitted to have seen strange lights on the nights following the accident. The insurance company paid with resistance all car damages, apparently believing the boy's word.

Source and Credit: APRO MEXICO, Apartado Postal 1978 Mexico 1, D.F., Mexico as reported by Claude E. Elmes. Editor's Note: A long and detailed account of the above is given in the March-April issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, 49a Kings Grove, London, S. E. 15.

Our Apologies! We goofed again--and apologize to North Dakota for seeming to exclude it from the United States. This section is for UFO reports from out of the States, and the Westhope, N. D. story should have appeared elsewhere. How many of our sharp-eyed readers spotted this before we did?

Pilots Observe UFO Over Spain

A UFO emitting a powerful red light was observed by Captain Jaime Ordovas, co-pilot Augustin Carvajal and Flight Engineer Jose Cuenca, of Iberia Airlines, during a flight from Palma, Majorca, to the Spanish mainland, at 9:15 p.m. Feb. 25. The object followed the plane from Majorca to Spain, then descended close to the ground, ascended and disappeared. (Credit: UFO INVESTIGATOR, NICAP publication)

MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Saucer Announces New Arrival

One of the most clever birth announcements we have seen is the little "flying saucer" announcing the arrival of Barbra Kay at the home of John and Kathy Schuessler at 11:41 a.m. June 6th.

We just can't refrain from pointing out that the arrival of this little charmer from outer space was heralded by the spectacular display of flaming objects across Missouri and Illinois skies the evening of June 5th!

For the benefit of our new readers from the UFO RC JOURNAL, Mr. Schuessler is an official consultant to APRO, Co-Chairman of the Missouri Section APRO, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and a member of the SKYLOOK staff. He is a senior design engineer with McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics Co. in St. Louis and, with his family, resides at O'Fallon, Mo.

Walt Andrus to Speak in Tulsa

This is to remind our Oklahoma readers that Walt Andrus, Co-Chairman of the Illinois Section of APRO, will address the Oklahoma Section of APRO in Tulsa, Friday evening, July 25th at the invitation of Mr. Dwight L. Dauben, Director.

Walt will give an illustrated lecture "UFO's--Fact or Fantasy" which is certain to be well received.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Gilcrease Museum, which seats 300 people. Mr. Dauben is promoting publicity and a good attendance is expected.

UFO Picnic at Carlyle, Ill.

Mrs. Rosetta Holmes, our Carlyle, Ill., friend and reporter, decided to sponsor a picnic for ufologists on Sunday, June 29, and her suggestion met with such enthusiastic response, the little-picnic idea has grown into a big meeting with guest speakers, press, radio and possibly TV coverage. Missouri and Illinois UFO organizations will be represented at the meeting to be held at the Carlyle Reservoir Lake, six miles east of Carlyle.

We'll expect a full report of the meeting for our next issue of SKYLOOK, as it occurs too late in the month to be included herein.

Midwest UFO Network Meeting Had Good Press

The "Herald-Whig," of Quincy, Ill., carried a good report of the Midwest UFO Network meeting, giving it considerable space, headlines and a photo. Their consistently favorable coverage is appreciated.

MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Tri-State Group Discusses "The Captain Ruppelt Story" - Meteors

The Tri-State UFO Study Group met at the Presbyterian Church in Quincy, Ill., Wednesday evening, June 18th.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Smulling, of Hamilton, Ill., and the minutes were read by Mrs. Grace Oberling. The meeting was then turned over to Walt Andrus, Co-Chairman of the Illinois Section APRO, and he introduced Mr. Stuart Albright, a long time friend of the late Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of Project Blue Book and author of the book "The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects." Project Blue Book is the organization within Air Technical Intelligence at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio, with the responsibility for receiving and investigating visual UFO observations submitted by individuals throughout the United States.

Mr. Albright, Chief Pilot for the Gardner Denver Co. of Quincy, related some of the experiences shared with Captain Ruppelt while flying and displayed plans the latter had drawn for a racer airplane that was to have been built in their mechanics' school in Des Moines. Unfortunately the school burned and with it the partially completed airplane.

The daylight sighting of meteors on June 5th was also discussed by the group and Corbyn Jacobs, of Palmyra, told of the reports made to him by Dr. Kenneth Leinweber and the John Schanz family (Editor's Note--see full report elsewhere in SKYLOOK). A controversial note was brought out, as some observers in Peoria, Ill., first noticed the objects coming straight down out of the sky, then leveling off to travel horizontally across the sky.

As a summer activity, the next meeting of the group will be a carry-in dinner, or picnic, Wednesday evening, July 16th, at 6:30 p.m. This will be held at the city park in Hamilton, Ill., and during an informal discussion period, members will be asked to relate their most interesting UFO experience or interview.

Credit: Corbyn Jacobs, Reporter. Editor's Note: Someone, please take notes! The UFO experiences sound like good material for SKYLOOK.

Former Congressman Joins NICAP Board

Ex-Congressman J. Edward Roush, who chaired the House Space Committee Congressional hearings on UFO's last July, has become a member of NICAP's Board of Governors. The Indiana lawyer was elected to the 86th Congress in 1958 and remained a member until last November. He served as an Army Counter Intelligence Corps agent during World War II.

As a member of the House Science and Astronautics Committee, he persuaded the House Committee Chairman to hold the UFO symposium July 29, 1968 and he has said the event was "one of the most unusual and interesting days I have spent in the Congress."

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The Chapel Hill Aerial Phenomena Investigations Committee is attempting to organize a fast and efficient UFO sighting network in the state of North Carolina. With this network we hope to learn of UFO sightings the moment they happen so that valuable information will not be lost. All N. C. residents who are interested in joining should write: CHAPIC, 307B Pine St., Carrboro, N. C. 27510. Also, anyone who has reports of UFOs in N. C. please send them to the above address. We are trying to compile a complete history of N. C. UFO reports. Requested by Angelo Capparella III, CHAPIC Director.

SKYWATCH is a bi-monthly magazine edited by Jennifer Stevens and covers UFO sightings and related subjects in sparkling style. 35¢ for a sample copy is well spent. Subscription, \$3.00 per year. Write E.P.I.C. (or SKYWATCH), Box 124, Schoharie, New York, 12157.

WANTED: Report of Missouri UFO's--old and new. I am attempting to compile a complete file of Missouri reports and will greatly appreciate receiving any. Ted Phillips, 1113 Ware Ave., Sedalia, Mo. 65301.

"More information for the price than any other UFO publication," claims Donald A. Johnson, editor of the FLYING SAUCER OBSERVER. This non-scheduled magazine contains at least 6 pages of mimeo-text plus an off-set printed cover, and its function is (a) to act as an advertising medium for UFO research, posting small ads and personals at no charge; (b) to report on UFO sightings for the region of southern New England and southeastern N. Y. and: (3) to provide useful evaluations of the recent UFO situation. Price--sample copy 20¢; 5-issue subscription, 75¢; 10-issue subscription, \$1.50. Write Donald A. Johnson, Sand Hill Rd., Portland, Conn. 06480. --Adv.

For exchange only--UFO POTPOURRI, a non-scheduled bulletin edited by John F. Schuessler in exchange for publications, clippings, photos etc. Write John F. Schuessler, P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo. 63366.

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HAVE YOU SEEN A UFO? Send in your report to SKYLOOK. We especially want NEW and NOW sightings from the midwest--but we want others too. Send in newspaper clippings, being sure to include the name of the newspaper and date of publication so we may give credit--we will return your clippings if you make the request. We don't want the story of a man who claims to have taken a saucer ride to another planet, or the contactee who says he receives telepathic messages--we want honest UFO sightings from responsible citizens. Send to SKYLOOK, Box 129, Stover, Mo., 65078