

SKYLOOK

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"We tell it as it is."

S K Y L O O K

The official publication of the Midwest UFO Network

Director

Dr. Allen Utke, APRO Consultant and Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the Wisconsin State University, Oshkosh.

Staff

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

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

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

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

Lucius Parish, Writer in Ufology Field, Route 1, Plummerville, Ark. 72127

Special Contributors:

These are given credit as their reports appear.

Policy

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

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

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

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

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More on the Meteor of Oct. 9, 1969

SKYLOOK carried a two-page report of the fiery meteor that flashed across midwestern skies October 9th (see November issue) and reports continue to come in.

The "Tulsa Daily World" reported that Mrs. Berta Crabbe of 1335 E. 50th St. said she saw an object about 7 p.m. as she was walking at 49th St. and Peoria Ave. It was flat and pure white, she said. It moved slowly up and down--"like a kite." She watched it and, by the time she got home and alerted her neighbors, it was gone. The object appeared at a first glance to come from a jet plane passing over. We must point out the meteor reported was seen in the early morning hours, and this object could not have been the same one.

The "Tulsa Tribune" reported a flood of calls reporting a UFO began reaching the Tulsa police station at 2:15 a.m. Highway Patrol dispatcher Joe Davidson said several dozen obviously worried citizens called the patrol office about the bright light. The callers all said the object was northeast of them "just a mile or so," although the call came from all sections of the city.

The Springdale, Arkansas "News" said the bright light was sighted about 2:25 a.m. in Springdale, Fayetteville, El Dorado, Hope, Texarkana and Little Rock, Ark. and one person reported hearing an explosion at the time the light appeared.

An airport worker in Springfield, Mo. said the light was bright enough to read a newspaper by.

Reports of a bright flash in the sky at 2:17 a.m. was received on the teletype at the Wellington, Kansas, police station from the Topeka AFB. Iola, Kansas reported the flash at 2:20 a.m. It was reported at Coffeyville, Kansas, about 2 a.m. and police said the flash was so bright it illuminated the northern portion of the city and gave the appearance of being almost like day.

At Parsons, Kansas, the "Sun" quoted a Katy Railroad engineer who described the "fireball" as "a beautiful but eerie sight." R. B. Teague, 1708 Corning, reported the sight at 2:17 a.m., his watch being in precise time with the report received at the Parsons police station--2:17 a.m. Teague said the brilliance of a few seconds "made the Katy yards' flood lights look pale by comparison." He said the light was greenish blue before turning to a dull red, and its direction appeared to be toward the golf course just east of the railroad yards.

A different report comes from Bentonville, Ark where Benton County Deputy Marion Foster said he observed the light about 7 p.m. It was approximately the size of a coffee cup saucer and was moving slowly in a southeasterly direction. It was a brilliant white, turned to a tint of blue and then a bright red as it seemed to be traveling away and climbing to a higher altitude. Foster said, "Finally it just looked like a small star and I stopped watching it." He speculated that the light was a weather balloon. "It was moving too slow to be anything else," he

(Continued on next page)

When Do You Get SKYLOOK?

One of our pet peeves is the fact that SKYLOOK, in some cases, is so long on the road for reasons we utterly fail to understand. Since we have been publisher, as well as editor of this magazine, we have taken pride in the fact that we have never missed an issue and that we have never failed to get it in the mail in time to reach the reader on or before the first day of the month of issue.

Yet we find that SKYLOOK took 15 days to reach New York, 20 days to reach Massachusetts, nine days to go to Oklahoma, and sometimes two weeks to Arkansas, neighboring state. Nearly every month we receive a letter from a reader who has waited patiently two or three weeks for the current SKYLOOK before writing to tell us it never arrived. We mail a second copy at once and in many cases we hear from them again a week or two later saying they have just received the first copy!

Now we are not blaming those Men in Black for this long delay. Somehow, we have a feeling the Men in Blue are responsible. Stover is a small town and there isn't so much mail that our local postal force can't get it out on time. SKYLOOK does get out of Stover the same day it is mailed--or no later than the next day--but what happens to it between here and the end of the line? Where is it held up? And why?

We'd like to hear from other editors--are you having the same difficulty in getting your magazine to your reader?

We'd like to hear from more SKYLOOK readers--when do you get your magazine?

We have even had a magazine returned, stamped "Address Unknown" when the plainly typed address is the same one we've been using all along--and which reaches the subscriber, mailed in a wrapper with the same address. (The magazine, not the subscriber, mailed in a wrapper--we do get off the course when we get riled)

Seems we have little trouble in getting men to the moon, but we surely do have difficulty in getting a little, ole piece of mail to its destination.

And, if you ask me, this is another "silent majority" that should raise its voice in protest and hope somebody is listening.

And now, dear reader, we wish you a Merry Christmas or a Happy Easter, just according to when this reaches you. It is leaving Stover in November.

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Fireball Near Columbia, Mo.

Television and radio reports were made of a fireball and explosion about ten o'clock, the night of Oct. 21st, near Columbia, Mo. It was seen at one point from an observer on Highway 63 south of the city, who said he saw a jet in the area just after the "explosion." This is all we have been able to learn. The Columbia press ignored the incident. Can anyone tell us more about this one?

commented. Also in Bentonville, Mrs. Joe Harmon watched a light between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. and said it appeared to be egg-shaped, as seen through binoculars. Again, we point out this object could not have been the apparent meteor altho it was "thrown in" the Rogers "Sun" report of "the light seen over Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas."

This object reported by the "Daily Phoenix" at Muskogee, Okla., could not have been the meteor either. Leota Edwards, police radio dispatcher said she received at least six calls concerning a "silver-looking" disk near the Smith's Ferry Landing on the Arkansas River at dusk, Oct. 9. The Tulsa Highway Patrol Headquarters advised the local police that a check into similar reports from Tahlequah showed the U. S. Weather Bureau at Tulsa had released a weather balloon there that morning and it had "probably" drifted toward Muskogee.

Could this object, seen at Muskogee, Okla. about dusk, the object seen in Bentonville, Ark., between 6:30 and 7:30 and the one seen by Mrs. Crabbe in Tulsa at 7 o'clock all be the same? Were one, two or three objects seen--in addition to the big flash in the early morning hours?

We have held this open until the deadline to see if other reports would come in, and we thank everyone who sent in clippings from which this article was written. This, along with the report in the November issue of SKYLOOK, which you may wish to review, gives a pretty good picture of the meteor's flight. We again point out that while the newspaper reports, regardless of the time and description of object observed, classed all as "the" meteor, the evidence is to the contrary.

Study Group Meets --Dr. Hynek Will Speak in St. Louis

Sunday, Nov. 16, the Greater St. Louis UFO Study Group held a meeting at the home of Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Armstrong.

Mr. and Mrs. John Priesak have become members of our group and also of APRO. Mr. Priesak is Assistant Manager of the McDonnell Planetarium. I have been working with him towards getting a qualified speaker on UFO 's to appear at the Planetarium.

Mr. E. J. Hanses, Educational Director of the Planetarium, has received a commitment from Dr. J. Allen Hynek to speak there on January 22, 1970, shortly after he has presented a paper at a two-day symposium at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Boston. Ticket information will be forthcoming.

Reported by Arthur J. Epstein.

Life on Mars?

Dr. Harold C. Urey, a NASA consultant, warned at Atlantic City that hostile life on Mars might prevent the first men traveling there from returning. This intriguing little item appeared in "The Arkansas Gazette" on Nov. 13th. Lou Farish wonders what lies behind this--and so does SKYLOOK. Hope we can get more on this.

Old UFO sightings continue to come to light as observers are encouraged to report unidentified flying objects, and Ted Phillips obtained this one from a SKYLOOK reader.

The observer was walking east near Lambert Field in the Kirkwood, Mo., area about 4:45 o'clock on the evening of May 26, 1960. He was watching the sky for aircraft when he saw an object moving through the sky at the rate of about 20 mph at a height of about 100 feet. He judged it to be about the size of a half-dollar held at arms length. It seemed to have a smooth surface and was about 600 feet away. After watching it for at least 30 seconds, the observer went back to his home to get binoculars and, as he did so, saw the object pass behind trees in the distance. The object was not in sight when he came out of the house.

"Green Flash" may be Seen at Sunset

By Ted Phillips, Jr.

A strange phenomenon known as the "green flash" has been reported on many occasions by individuals watching a beautiful sunset. The phenomenon is seen at the moment when the upper edge of the sun goes below the horizon. It is described as an emerald green flash lasting only a short time.

On the night of November 19, 1968, an airplane with some very special scientific equipment was flying about six miles above the Pacific and obtained some fine photographs of the flash. In a series of five 35mm exposures, one can see the green light move in from the edges of the sun toward the middle until it occupies just about all of the visible sun that remains above the horizon. The people aboard the aircraft saw the flash visually. No one is quite sure what causes the green flash. It may be that the flash is purely an atmospheric light refraction phenomenon caused by bending of light rays in the atmosphere. But possibly other mechanisms will be required to explain the emerald green hue, according to the report in the "Dallas Morning News," October 22, 1969.

We thank Mr. Thomas R. Adams, of Commerce, Texas, for sending the article along with a report of his personal observation of a similar event. He writes: "I have observed a phenomenon which may or may not be connected with the 'green flash.' At sunset one day I noticed that a bright green color could be observed on the underside of some of the cirrocumulus clouds that were prevalent that day. This phenomenon occurred virtually at the moment of sunset and lasted for from 5 - 8 minutes. I have not encountered an explanation for this nor have I seen any similar phenomenon before or since."

This Means YOU!

Please do send in newspaper clippings of UFO sightings. Don't assume we "heard about it" for chances are we didn't! Your local paper may report an unidentified flying object that stirred up some interest and telephone calls to the police and press, but chances are slim that other papers will use the story--so please send us that clipping. Thank you.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith (not their real name), a couple of good standing in their Missouri community, recently related a rather unnerving experience they had while on vacation in Texas in 1968.

They were driving on a lonely stretch of road about sunset when they observed a large, brilliant, white cylinder-shaped object off to their right about a half mile away. The object set its course and speed parallel to theirs and continued to pace them.

The Smiths decided to turn off the road at the next side road to get a closer look and to take some pictures of the object. As they did so, the object began to move away from them, making a turn to keep over the road they were now on as if encouraging them to follow. Mr. and Mrs. Smith then had a sudden feeling of apprehension and felt something might happen to them if they continued to follow the object.

Turning around, they sped back to the nearest town, some miles away. Looking back, the object remained visible for a time, then "after a few minutes, it took off."

They learned later that other people in the area had also seen the object. To their disappointment, the pictures they had taken turned out entirely white, showing nothing.

Credit: Larry Yoder, Moberly, Mo.

UFO Crosses Road in Front of Automobile

The following is from the "Elkader (Iowa) Register", Oct. 1, 1969.

The names of the persons involved in the following story have been withheld at their request. A teenage girl and her mother are the latest in the area to encounter a close-by sighting of an unidentified flying object.

The mother and her daughter were returning to Elkader Sunday night, Sept. 28, following a trip out of town. They were traveling north on Highway 13 near the village of Osborne about 9:10 when they witnessed a startling aerial phenomenon along the road.

The daughter, seated in the front seat of the car next to her mother, the driver, noticed a strange light while they were descending the hill leading into Osbourne.

Suddenly they observed a large rounded light crossing the road about 500 feet ahead of them. The object giving off a light resembling that of a mercury vapor lamp, crossed the road and soon disappeared behind some trees west of the road.

Continuing on the daughter observed a light in the south resembling a bolt of lightning, but which remained on for some time and which did not flash like ordinary lightning.

(continued on next page)

The persons observing the object said there were several other cars behind them when they started down the hill, but when they left the area the cars were no longer trailing them. They are wondering if the occupants of the other cars had stopped to observe the object too. They would like to get in contact with them if they did. Persons may contact the Clayton County Register to get in touch with the mother and daughter.

Credit: Lou Farish.

Editor's Note: Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Ted Phillips and other investigators were in Elkader Sept. 21-22nd, investigating the Wilke sighting. Walt Andrus and Bob Smulling investigated the sighting at the Barr farm in Iowa, on September 7th. To review these Iowa sightings, read the reports in October and November issues of SKYLOOK.

Light Frightens Kansas Residents

Smith Center--An unidentified object--this time a light on the ground--has been frightening area residents for several weeks.

Mrs. Gary Lare of Smith Center was the first to report seeing the light. She said she was driving east on K-2 about 11 p.m. one night several weeks ago. When she pulled up to the stop sign at US-281, she noticed a bright light coming down the highway from the north.

The light stopped just before it reached the intersection and hovered slightly above the road, she said. "It was sitting in the middle of the highway and I just sat and waited. After awhile it just moved off into the countryside."

Mrs. Lare said the light "was about the size of a big stop sign on the highway." She said it was a bright light--much brighter than a car headlight.

Source: "Topeka Daily Capital," Topeka, Kans. Credit: Lou Farish.

Radar Tracks Mystery Plane

Lou Farish ran across this very short item in the Oct. 28th issue of "Capper's Weekly": A mystery airplane from Mexico was traced by radar to Kansas, but was never seen by airport officials or sheriffs' deputies.

As Lou commented, it may not fall into a UFO category, but it certainly is an intriguing bit of information. Do any of our readers have any news clippings related to this?

Moving? Be sure to send in your change of address so you won't miss the next copy of SKYLOOK--and right now is a good time to renew your subscription while you can still get 12 issues for \$3.00. SKYLOOK will be \$4.00 per year after this month.

A Look at the Sky

Mercury will reach superior conjunction with the sun Nov. 16th, passing from morning to the evening sky. It will be in the solar glare into the first half of December.

Venus, a brilliant -3.4 magnitude, is visible just before sunrise.

Mars is fading in brilliance and will be seen in the low southwest.

Jupiter is rising some four hours before the sun and is visible in Virgo.

Saturn is visible throughout the evening in the southern sky.

Space Notes

Giant Balloon Launched. The largest balloon ever built was launched from Holloman Air Force Base on Nov. 3, 1969. The balloon was launched from the southern New Mexico base to measure cosmic radiation in the upper atmosphere. It is the first in a series to be sent aloft by NASA.

The balloon holds 34,000,000 cubic feet of gas, and carries a payload of 13,800 pounds to an altitude of 108,000 feet. The balloon will be pushed eastward by prevailing winds for about 24 hours. Recovery could be made anywhere from Texas to Georgia, depending on the speed of the upper winds. The balloon and payload stands 887 feet high. (Credit: "Kansas City Star.")

New Star Clusters Studied.

A new kind of star cluster may be a missing link in the evolution of the universe, California Institute of Technology astronomers reported Nov. 9. The new galaxies have tiny, brilliant cores, or nuclei, much like the recently discovered and still mysterious quasars, said Dr. J. B. Oke, staff astronomer of Mt. Wilson and Palomar observatories.

Quasars are the brightest, fastest and most distant objects yet found in the universe. Like them, Oke said, the new galaxies emit very powerful radio signals and appear to be at the visual edge of the universe, billions of light years away. Unlike them, Oke said, the newly found objects seem to have spiral arms, as does our own Milky Way galaxy, and thus "may be a missing link in the evolution of the universe."

Credit: "St. Louis Globe-Democrat"

How About a Grand Tour?

Dr. Wm. H. Pickering, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena says "Grand Tours" of the outer solar system should take place in the next decade--or scientists will have to wait 175 years for similar conditions.

Credit: "Kansas City Times."

Did Meteor Cause Fire?

SKYLOOK

A five room frame house, located about 12 miles northwest of Clarksville, Ark., near Horsehead Lake, was destroyed by a fire which could have been caused by a flaming meteorite according to the "Southwest Times Record", Fort Smith, Ark.

Mrs. Doris Richardson, who lives about one-half mile from the burned structure, said she looked out a window of her home at about 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2nd and saw a flash of light or fire and "it looked like it went down in a small field" near the Cliff Wiggins home. About ten minutes later, Mrs. Richardson said, her husband, Jim, noticed a fire near the area where the "flash" went down.

Then she called the Clarksville Volunteer Fire Department and asked them to notify Forestry officials because she and her husband thought it was a woods fire. They went to the burning area and then saw it was the house. Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins were not at home.

James Hughes, of the U. S. Forest Service, at Clarksville, on receiving the fire call, notified Sidney Garrett, a forest worker and Garrett told him that he had also seen a "flaming object" fall near the lake.

The "flash" was noticed by several other persons in the area, including Pandy Henderson, a high school senior, who said she was returning about 8:30 p.m. to her home five miles from the fire scene, when she saw "what appeared to be a small meteorite falling to the ground near Horsehead Lake."

A picture of the debris shows the house was demolished by the fire.

Credit: Mrs. Jean Lamb, Muldrow, Okla.

Editor's Note: As far as is known, no investigation was made in an attempt to learn what fell in flames from the sky and burned the home. As in so many like instances, the police or press offers "a probable meteor" or "a weather balloon" as an explanation and any investigation ends before it even begins.

WANTED: to buy a copy of "The Reference for Outstanding UFO Sighting Reports" published by the UFO Information Retrieval Center, Inc.; also back issues of the "Flying Saucer Review." Please give price. Write to Ted Phillips, Jr., 1113 Ware Ave., Sedalia, Mo. 65301.

C.A.P.E.R. NEWS will be delayed for the next two issues. We will continue as soon as finances permit. Your cooperation and understanding will be greatly appreciated! Please continue to send us your reports, articles and correspondence. "Our work has only begun." Ramona A. Clark, Editor. Note new address is P. O. Box 50605, Jacksonville Beach, Florida, 32250. ---Adv.

This is your L A S T C H A N C E to subscribe to SKYLOOK for \$3.00 per year. Beginning January 1, 1970, it is \$4.00 per year; 35¢ per copy.

"Pittsburgh Press" (Nov. 2, 1969) Reports
UFOs Pop Up Here Despite Official No-Nos

An unidentified flying object about the size of a tennis ball appeared over the City as a light, hovering, then dimming.

The light suddenly went out "like a light bulb" and the birds began to chirp. But they shortly stopped to wait for daybreak.

A truck driver on his way to Murrysville from New Kensington at 4 a.m. spotted a cigar-shaped object in the sky. It moved slowly for a few hours. The man called his wife and she watched the object as it disappeared when daylight came.

Fact? Fancy? A figment of the imagination of people who partied too much? Illusions?

"We will keep plodding until we find an answer," said Maj. Joseph J. Jenkins, a retired Army officer, and director of field investigations at the UFO Research Institute, downtown.

He conceded the number of UFO sightings reported to the institute has declined since publication in January of the controversial Condon Report which called UFOs "just ordinary objects."

Maj. Jenkins explained one reason could be that people who sight UFOs are reluctant to report them.

"One woman, having written for information concerning UFOs," he said, "asked that her application for information be returned when she read that the Condon Report decided UFOs did not exist."

But he emphasized many of those who report UFOs insist "I know what I saw, and I don't care who says they don't exist. I saw it. That's all there is to it." Since January Maj. Jenkins said more than 100 reports have been filed at the UFO Institute.

Many of the sightings were reported from counties surrounding the City. But he pointed out "surprisingly enough" many came from within the City limits.

The reports are screened by the UFO staff. One was explained as a "sundog"--bright spots of light passing through the sun.

Others were dismissed as "hoaxes." Some turned out to be aircraft advertising products with streamers and lights.

Mars and Venus were found to be at the root of many UFO reports, especially when the planets were at their brightest.

But the calls Maj. Jenkins says "make the file an interesting one" are those which defy explanations. . . the round red discs blinking over wooded areas. . . cigar shaped objects glowing in the night sky. . . pulsating light beams.

Some UFO researchers believe UFOs may be life from other planets. But Maj. Jenkins said he is interested in UFOs to find out what they are.

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Harry P. Kalapaca, vice president of the UFO Research Institute, says photos of UFOs--which are relatively rare--are put through rigid examinations.

Other work includes scientific analyses of metal fragments believed to be left behind by the UFOs, development of instruments to monitor UFOs, and educating scientists to take a hard look at UFOs to come up with a scientific explanation.

"We aren't stopping our efforts because of the Condon report," said Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist and former institute president who left the City this summer to work with TRW Systems in California.

Nevertheless, Mr. Kalapaca, a nuclear engineer, sees some hope in arousing the curiosity of more scientists in UFO research.

A two-day symposium will focus on UFOs at the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in Boston Dec. 26-31. It will be under the direction of Thornton Page of the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston.

Credit: Mark R. Herbstritt, 967 Theresia St., St. Mary's Pa.

Oregon Woman and Son See UFO

Mrs. Irene Meade, who lives on Myrtle Creek, about 20 miles from Rosebud, Oregon, wrote to the SKYLOOK editor recently, and says there has been a lot of UFO's reported in Oregon this summer.

About 7:30 the evening of Sept. 21st, Mrs. Meade and her oldest son went to the store and on their way home about eight o'clock, they saw a red, pulsating object in the sky. She said it wasn't an airplane or a helicopter, and they drove up the mountain a distance of about five blocks and "there it was !" They pulled off to the side of the road to observe the object hovering over an open spot in a field, about 1,500 or 2,000 feet above the ground, and less than a mile from the Meades.

"It was a real eerie sight," she wrote. "We watched it about 10 minutes of so, then we left."

She added that she was scared and wasn't about to get out of the car to approach the object. She said it was deep red in color and "there was a grayish dark structure near the top."

A year's subscription to SKYLOOK would be a NICE CHRISTMAS GIFT to a friend who is interested in UFO's. Send your check in time and we will mail a pretty Christmas card to your friend, naming you as the donor. Be sure to include your own name and address as well as the name and address of the person to receive SKYLOOK. The subscription will begin with the January issue unless you request that the December issue (this one) be mailed to arrive about Dec. 25th. Remember--SKYLOOK will be \$4.00 per year after this month.

As I stepped into the cold night air a strange, shivery feeling, closely akin to fear, came over me. The moon cast a ghostly half-light through the fog, changing familiar objects into eerie, grotesque shadows. My eyes turned as if drawn by a magnet to the willow-fringed pond. Then--I saw it!

Rubbing my eyes, I took a second look. This time there was no doubt--ing it, for there was not only one, but three of them. As I stood staring that cold, shivery feeling crept slowly along my spine, and I could feel my hair standing on end.

It was a cold, drizzly October night in 1925. I was teaching at Cedar Grove School eight miles southwest of Harrison. I had graded examination papers until past midnight. Feeling the need of a breath of fresh air to clear my mind, I stepped out on the porch.

Peering through the fog, I saw what appeared to be a lighted lantern moving among the willows. At first I thought it was someone gigging frogs; then it occurred to me that frogs were in hibernation. My second look revealed three globular, bluish-white lights about the size of basketballs bobbing about over the surface of the water.

These eerie objects maneuvered the pond for several minutes and disappeared among the willows.

Standing there--alone--in the midnight silence, watching these mysterious lights drifting about like fireflies in the darkness, I had the sensation of treading on unholy ground.

Searching for a clue to the mystery, I remembered another night 20 years before when I was a small child. My grandparents and I, delayed by a late afternoon shower, were returning home from Harrison.

Cool night air, the soft swish of buggy wheels and the muffled clip-clop of hooves on the dusty road, dampened by the shower, had almost lulled me to sleep. At Grandmother's excited, "Look! Look!" my eyes flew open. Following the direction of her pointing finger, I saw a bluish-white ball of light zigzagging across the field to disappear behind the hill. Another popped up out of nowhere, floated across the road and settled in the top of a big white oak.

Seeing that I was frightened, Grandpa stopped the team and taking me on his knee, said, "Now, those little, old lights are not going to hurt us one little bit. During the war while I was down South in the swamp country, we saw them nearly every night. The folks down there call them swamp fire or mineral lights and think if you follow one it will lead you to a gold mine or a lost treasure. But, of course, that is superstitious nonsense."

Before we reached home, less than a mile distant, we saw several more of the strange lights--often as many as five or six at a time. When we

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pulled up at the gate, there was one perched on the roof of the fruit cellar.

The spectacle that I had witnessed on both occasions was nature's strangest phenomenon--ignis fatuus or foolish fire. The ancient Romans applied this name to the phenomenon long before the birth of Christ.

Foolish fire is not confined to any specific country or area, but makes its appearance in every corner of the globe. Each country, in fact, each locale, has its own name for the phenomenon. In England it is known as the corpse candle or corpse light. In Germany it is called lich-gate or corpse gate. In our country each area may have as many as a dozen names for it. The most common of these are jack-o-lantern, will-o'-the-wisp, swamp fire, spook light or merely floating lights.

Since the lights often appear in the neighborhood of cemeteries and lonely swamps, many superstitions have grown up around them. In our Southern states mineral lights are reputed to lead the way to rich mineral deposits or buried treasure. In opposition to this idea the appearance of corpse candles in England marks the route of the corpse bearers.

In certain areas throughout the world ignis fatuus makes almost scheduled appearances. Each of these areas has its own legendary origin based on a tale of the supernatural. Several such spots are found in Arkansas--each backed up by a local legend.

In Camden no Halloween treasure hunt is complete without the inscription, usually scrawled in a shaky hand, from a certain tombstone in the old Confederate Cemetery. Almost every night, especially in damp weather a great white light hovers over this stone.

Local residents have two explanations of the phenomenon: automobile lights reflected from the stone or the refraction of light by the fog creating a half effect. Both theories are logical, except for the position of the stone which makes it impossible for it to reflect the automobile lights. Besides, older citizens say the light was seen long before the advent of the automobile in Camden.

Encyclopedias describe ignis fatuus as a faint bluish or greenish light that appears shortly after dark in marshes or other damp areas--quite often in the vicinity of cemeteries. It may appear as a flame like that of a candle, often a foot or more in height, or as a globular light.

Its movements are extremely erratic. It may move rapidly, zigzag, bob up and down like a fishing cork or move slowly. It may even perch on a roof or in a treetop. Its origin is attributed to decaying organic matter causing a spontaneous combustion of methane or phosphine gas in the air.

Credit: Lou Farish.

Comment: This ties in with the "Spooklight" story in October SKYLOOK.

For over two years, the NATIONAL ENQUIRER has carried well-written and well-researched articles on the UFO subject. A "slack" period has been evident in recent months, but the ENQUIRER is once again featuring UFO material.

The November 2nd issue told of cars being chased by UFOs, as well as other UFO incidents, in and near the town of Pembroke, Ontario, Canada. Sightings in this area date back to the 1930s.

The ENQUIRER for November 16th reported that two prominent Santa Barbara, California, businessmen had seen formations of mysterious yellow-orange lights off the California coast in mid-1968. The Coast Guard was informed of the sightings, but now denies any knowledge of the report.

More "mystery circles" have turned up, this time in New Zealand, according to an article in the November 23rd ENQUIRER. New Zealand UFO researchers have investigated the supposed UFO landing sites near the town of Ngatea and in other areas.

Finally, the story of a "ghostly ball of fire" is detailed in the ENQUIRER for November 30th. This phenomenon certainly belongs in the "mysterious lights" category, whether or not one wishes to consider it a definite UFO. The light has been seen for several years in fields near the town of Badwell Ash, England. It seems to be similar to the various American "spook lights."

The November issue of MAN'S WORLD contains excerpts from H. V. Chambers' book, UFO'S FOR THE MILLIONS. If you want to read about Lonnie Zamora's "flying egg" for the "umpteenth" time, this is your dish! In other words, re-hash--pure and simple!

Although not strictly a UFO article, Ivan Sanderson's article in the November issue of ARGOSY is certainly an intriguing one. It deals with a tiny golden artifact found in South America and dating back to pre-Columbian times. The resemblance to a modern vertical take-off plane is quite amazing. Something of this nature forcibly reminds us of the many legends pertaining to flight in ages past. The golden model is merely a different kind of UFO--an Unorthodox Flying Object!

Otto Binder and Joan Whritenour return to the pages of the November issue of SAGA with an article on the various electro-magnetic effects which are often associated with UFOs. Not much here that we have not already read elsewhere, but an interesting summary of E-M cases.

"Why, that's no UFO. . . that's just an airplane." Well, maybe so, but

(continued on next page)

before you make a final decision, read John Keel's article in the December issue of MALE. In UFO circles, we often come across events and ideas that sound unacceptable at first hearing and this may well be one of those times. Keel's thesis is that a variety of airplane-like objects (which also sound like airplanes) are often seen in UFO flap areas. However, these craft do not conform to aircraft licensing/numbering regulations and they often perform maneuvers which no ordinary aircraft could manage. This writer has reason to believe there is much truth in what Keel says, even if we cannot agree with him on other aspects of the UFO mystery. So, the next time you see an "airplane" performing unusual maneuvers or flying low over a flap area, take a second look!

The Russian writer, Felix Zigel, has an article in the #4 issue of MEN ANNUAL, discussing the Soviet UFO scene. This appears to be largely a restatement of his views which originally appeared in an issue of SOVIET LIFE last year. For any who may not be familiar with Zigel's ideas, this will be a good introduction.

It is reported that Eric von Daniken's book on the archaeological/religious aspects of ufology, CHARIOTS OF THE GODS?, has been published in England. We understand that this will soon be published by G. P. Putnam's Sons of New York. Any later information will appear in a future column.

Watch for This One!

While Lou didn't mention this in his column, we are telling you he sold an article on historical UFO's to FATE magazine, and it will appear in the January issue. Congratulations, Lou.

In addition to his fine commentary on UFO news and views as they appear currently at the news stand, Lou Parish, never fails to come through with newspaper clippings and articles which appear in every issue of this publication. We're certainly happy to have him on the SKYLOOK staff, and we think he should extend his writing to the book field. He has what it takes.

SKYLOOK Is Quoted

Our October editorial on the subject of various cults getting into the ufology field was reprinted in full in the November issue of SENTINEL, published monthly by Aerial Research Systems, P. O. Box 715, Banning Calif., 92220 (Subscription - \$4.00 per year).

We do not stand alone.

The SKYLOOK editor and staff wishes every one of you Happy Holidays!

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

AUSTRALIA: UFO Over High Tension Wires.

The evening of Monday, 21st April, 1969, proved exciting for Mrs. D. Mostyn, of Cronulla, when she stepped out onto her front verandah at 8:20 p.m. to see if her son was coming home from work. There, 200 feet up in a clear, starry sky and 75 yards distant, was a solid whitish disc about the size of a weather balloon, with transparent top and four appendages like antennae protruding from the under section.

Mrs. Mostyn ran inside to tell her husband and they both watched the object, now with a bright light emanating from it, hover silently over high tension wires near the railway line. After five minutes, during which time it pulsated and alternated between solid and clear transparency, it moved away rapidly in a straight line, north east, towards the Pacific Ocean.

Source: U.F.O.I.C. Newsletter, P. O. Box E170, St. James, Sydney, 2000

SOUTH AMERICA: Man Sees Saucer and Dies

Doctors in Columbia, South America, are baffled by the case of a man who died from a mystery sickness after he reported seeing a flying saucer. Arcesi Bermudez, aged 50, fell ill after he said he saw a blue and orange flying saucer with flashing lights in his back garden. Mr. Bermudez claimed he approached to within three yards of the saucer and then went back to fetch a torch. As he was returning the saucer flew away. A week after the sighting, a doctor found Mr. Bermudez near death suffering from an attack of vomiting. The doctor diagnosed gastro-enteritis but was puzzled by the patient's extremely low temperature. Mr. Bermudez remained lucid to the end and kept repeating he had seen a spaceship.

Source: The London Sun, July 19, 1969. Credit: U.F.O.I.C. Newsletter

FLYING SAUCER BULLETIN is a bi-monthly publication of SinDec, edited by Bonita Roman. The subscription is \$4.00 per year and the address is SinDec Co., Route 3, Yankee Road, Middletown, Ohio, 45042. It has many UFO reports, with some emphasis on the Ohio area, and a special section of Canadian reports. We like it! (SKYLOOK Review)

DATA-NET REPORT is the official newsletter of DATA-NET, a group of radio HAM operators scattered over the United States, Puerto Rico, England, Canada, Norway and others. The power station in Mountain View, Calif. is operated by Michel Jaffee, the organization's founder--WB6RPL, 624 Farley Street. Josephine J. Clark, 340 Harvard Drive, Route 2, Ben Lomond, Calif., 95005, is now publisher and editor. The monthly newsletter is \$4.00 per year; single issue 35¢. SKYLOOK has received permission to use material from this excellent copyright-magazine, and we are pleased to cooperate with this group in our common goal of learning more about the UFO mystery. We both "tell it as it is." (SKYLOOK Review)

PAUL BRACZYK, Webster, Mass.: I would like to take this opportunity to voice my disagreement with your personal editorial policies of the November SKYLOOK. To me, it seems that the evidence to date shows more of a correlation between UFO's and Fortean and/ or psychic phenomena than against it. For the last twenty years the extraterrestrial hypothesis was considered THE and only THE answer to the whole problem, and you know how far UFOlogy has progressed since 1947: This does not mean that I believe by exploring all "fringe" areas inter-connected loosely with the UFO, an answer will be found. My only conviction is, what have we got to lose? I seriously doubt that by continuing to collect sighting report after sighting report, and by publishing these month after month, we will add much more to the solution of the UFO enigma. I do think, however, that there possibly just might be something to these "kook" theories published for the gullible. Can we really afford to ignore them completely? I also think that the era of the "light in the sky" reports is over, and every possible angle of seemingly far-out reports should be considered. In the special FLYING SAUCER REVIEW issue UFO PERCIPIENTS, Dr. Leo Sprinkle said it best when he stated ". . . that all psychological and parapsychological phenomena associated with UFO reports should be studied for the purpose of gaining more understanding of these complex events." Ed Comment: Thank you for writing. There is plenty of room in the ufology field for honest differences of opinion. Our quarrel is with the deliberate misrepresentation of the gimmick writer.

JERRY JOHNSON, DATA-NET WA5RON, 224 Roberts Hall, Austin, Texas: I am impressed with the quality of SKYLOOK * * * The DATA-NET is organizing weekly on-the-air reporting and discussing activities. Perhaps some of your readers or friends are radio amateurs and would like to participate. Ed Comment: Welcome aboard, Jerry. We've giving DATA-NET CONTROL a plug elsewhere in this issue of SKYLOOK.

H. H. WATSON, Phil Campbell, Ala.: I like the candid way you have of reporting matters. Wish there were more editors of an honest inclination to tell it as it is.

E. R. PATTERSON, Oklahoma City: Your publication is excellent, the very best I have seen and I have subscribed to several others.

JEAN LAMB, Muldrow, Okla.: We all enjoy SKYLOOK with its factual accounts and intend to keep on subscribing.

Mrs. W. P. ARMSTRONG, St. Louis, Mo.: My husband and I think you are doing a splendid job as editor--in fact, SKYLOOK is the best publication in the field that we have seen. We especially liked your November editorial on "The Enemy Within"--an excellent commentary on the current state of UFO writing.

ROD B. Dyke, UFO Research Committee, Seattle: I just had to write and say that your editorial was the best piece of literary work to appear in any UFO publication this year! My personal feelings are the very same, at least you have the guts to say it.

Ed Comment: We do appreciate the compliments, and we speak for the staff as well AND we are glad to hear from any reader, regardless of the opinion expressed. We are interested in knowing your views.

Reader Service

Ted Phillips, SKYLOOK staff member, is working on a complete file of Missouri UFO reports. Send yours, old or new, to him at 1113 Ware Ave., Sedalia, Mo. 65301

Do you read Italian? We have another foreign language UFO magazine-- "Notiziario," all in Italian, and we can't read it. We'll mail it to the first reader who requests it.

SKYLOOK recommends Rod Dyke's UFO Newspaper Clipping Service, mailed to subscribers every month for a very reasonable fee. Write UFORC, 3521 S.W. 104th St., Seattle, Washington, 98146.

A new magazine is UFO REPORT edited and published by Kurt Glemser, 489 Krug St., Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Subscription is \$3.00 (six issues) and 50¢ for a single copy. Kurt is a young Canadian writer whose articles have appeared in numerous UFOzines. His interests cover a variety of subjects--the occult, the MIB, Shaver tales etc.

COMMITTEE on AERIAL PHENOMENON RESEARCH INVESTIGATIONS is looking for new members to join the CAPRI International UFO network. We will accept membership only from those of whom believe that TRUTH IS KNOWLEDGE. We are not interested in anything but the truth. CAPRI NEWS, published bi-monthly, is crammed full of UFO reports, photographs and solid scientific based studies. Join NOW: Sample Copy: 50¢. Yearly membership: \$2.00 (\$3.00 overseas) You receive: Membership Card; access to library; special non-scheduled reports; 6 issues of CAPRI NEWS; and MANY SPECIAL EXTRAS. Send check to: CAPRI International H.Q.; 61 Ames St., Dorchester, Mass.

-----Advertisement.

CAPRI NEWS (above paragraph) has officially taken over the membership and subscribers of SAUCER SCOOP, Joan Whritenour's publication. While giving up the magazine, Joan is staying in the writing field, and we wish her the best of luck. We have just finished reading "Electro-Magnetic Tests" by Joan and Otto O. Binder in the December issue of SAGA.

John Schuessler, SKYLOOK staff member, writes an informative non-scheduled newsletter--UFO POTPOURRI which is available only through exchange for other UFO publications, reports and clippings. The address is P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo. 63366.

A reminder--if there is a big, red X by your name on the address label, your subscription to SKYLOOK expires with this issue--and this is your last chance to renew for \$3.00. Read announcement on back page. Write that check now before you forget it.

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

Don't Miss!

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

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

John Q. Public 12/69

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

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