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N U M B E R 32

J U L Y 1970

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"We tell it as it is."

A SKY Watch Saturday Night, July 18, A Picnic Sunday, July 19

All at the Boulder Access Area of Carlyle Lake, Carlyle, Illinois

All who attended the UFO picnic at the Carlyle Lake last summer will remember the informative talks, the good food and the good time and will not need to mark the date on the calendar for the second picnic coming up. They will remember! But if you weren't there, perhaps you should write down the dates so you won't forget them--a sky watch Saturday night, July 18, and a picnic at noon followed by a program, Sunday, July 19. You'll learn more about unidentified flying objects and if you are lucky, you might even spot one during the skywatch.

This second picnic is again sponsored by Rosetta and Dick Holmes, of Carlyle. They went all out last year in preparing a feast (picnic seems too modest) for all present. Mrs. Holmes is again talking about fried chicken, potato salad, slaw, green beans, home made noodles, baked ham and other goodies--but as we feel sure this hospitable couple cannot possibly supply enough food for the crowd sure to be in attendance this year (with possibly many lingering for an evening snack of "left-overs" Sunday evening) this is slated as a pot-luck picnic--so don't forget to take along a dish or two to add to the picnic table.

The general public is invited. Motel reservations may be obtained at the Hi-De-Ho Motel, the Motel Carlyle (both AAA) and the Sunset Motel. Telephone numbers are 618-594-2474, 618-594-2444 and 618-594-2455 respectively.

The site is the Boulder Access to Carlyle Lake, located east of Carlyle, Ill. Going east on Highway 50, out of Carlyle, turn left on Boulder Ferrin Road, go past the Coles Greek Access, continue on to a dead end and a sign reading "Boulder Access." Turn left and enter the camping area.

Some may want to make a vacation trip out of this and come early. There is a camping area with camper spaces, cooking facilities, rest areas and picnic tables. There is a grocery store and sundry supply at the entrance to the area, and there is swimming, boating and fishing. A lovely wooded area, overlooking the lake, with a shelter house will provide an ideal spot for the Sunday program.

A high tension line crosses the lake and there is a large dam to the west--as there have been a number of UFO sightings from this area, it seems to be the ideal spot for a sky watch as well as for the picnic on the following day.

Now that you have your picnic basket ready and we've told you how to find the Lake, we'll get on with the schedule of events.

The sky watch will get under way soon after 6 p.m. Saturday. Members will gather at the Boulder Area for a briefing, then move to various vantage points for sky observations. The plan is to provide a short-wave communications link between observation areas and Dr. Willard Armstrong, of St. Louis, and Mr. Clifford Palmer, of St. Charles, Mo., will endeavor to set this up, with Mr. John Preisack of the McDonnell Planetarium, of St. Louis, as technical consultant.

Mr. Preisack will provide on-the-spot identification of known sky objects and brief the investigators on what to look for, how to estimate size, speed and other pertinent information re aerial objects. Outside help is solicited and with a little good weather and a lot of good luck, some good reports could result.

(Continued on next page)

SKYwatch and Picnic (continued)

The potluck picnic will be held at noon, Sunday, July 19, and is open to all those interested in the UFO phenomena. "Bring the family, the goodies, and the appetite and join in the fun," writes one of the planners, and "Leave your diet at home and bring your UFO dectectors, binoculars and walkie-talkies," says another.

The afternoon speaking program will begin at one o'clock. Mr. John F. Schuessler, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, will speak, but we do not have his subject as we write this report. Always in demand as a speaker in the St. Louis and surrounding area, you can depend on hearing an interesting lecture, whatever his topic. He was one of the speakers at the Midwest UFO Conference held in Peoria, Ill. last month.

Mr. John Preisack will present a summary of the skywatch results along with helpful hints for aspiring investigators, and you will benefit from learning the astronomer's viewpoint. Mr. Preisack is the Assistant Director at the McDonnell Planetarium of St. Louis and a member of the St. Louis study group as are all named in this article.

Mrs. Rosetta Holmes will tell of local UFO sightings, including some she has investigated herself, and we understand she is getting nervous about this (but not one bit upset at the prospect of preparing all that food!) but don't worry, she'll do a fine job. We just happen to know that she got her first By-Line as a newspaper reporter 20 years ago when she interviewed Richard Nixon's mother--and when you rate a By-Line, you are good. She has had plenty of By-Lines since that first one, and knows how to put a report together.

Art Epstein, of St. Louis, one of the founders of the St. Louis group and a field investigator for one of the national organizations, will speak on the plan for the 70's in UFO investigations, featuring specialization and the grass-roots approach to the UFO phenomena.

At three o'clock, or thereabouts, a panel will be set up to answer questions from the public.

This has been written from bits and pieces of information sent in during the planning stage, and it is quite possible there may be some additions to the program by the 18th-19th, as this is an enthusiastic and cooperative group of UFO investigators who put no limits on their time and work in a get-together of this nature. We hope we haven't left anything out in gathering together our information. One thing we are SURE of, you can be sure of a fun and good fellowship meeting where you'll have time to greet old friends and get acquainted with new ones, exchange views on UFO's, enjoy a good program and good food, and then go home happier and wiser. Don't miss it!

We have stressed the fun-aspect of this get-together, as seems proper with all the "socializing" that goes along with a picnic--but the St. Louis Study Group of Greater St. Louis is an organization of serious UFO investigators, who hold monthly meetings, sponsor lectures with nationally known ufologists speaking, appear themselves at various civic and social groups in the St. Louis area desiring speakers, and in other ways pursue and promote the study of ufology.

SKYLOOK is proud to have John Schuessler and Art Epstein on our staff and other members of this group as frequent contributors to our pages.

+++++

Do us a favor--tell your friends and our advertisers that you read it in SKYLOOK. We'll appreciate it.

UFO Seen Near Salem, Mo.

The following is from "The Ozark New Era," of Salem, Mo., June 4, 1970.

No one wants to be known as an individual who sees things in the sky which are not there--which does explain why a Salem business man and a secretary desire to remain anonymous. Last week, according to an account told this writer, the pair happened to be admiring the weather when they sighted what seemed to be a black dot.

This thing grew larger and seemed to be approaching; then it apparently hovered and emitted what seemed to be a white mist which concealed the object. As the artificial gas cover gradually dissipated the object again became visible. About this time the thing seemed to tilt, and was recognizable as being slightly oval. The observers described it as resembling a discus. When it tilted, it moved off toward St. James, having approached from the direction of Licking.

The pair stated that they had plenty of time to observe the thing through binoculars; they do not know what it was and they want no personal publicity.

Remember some time back when people were sighting so many? We interviewed lots of people on this, and made no decision. Maybe yes, maybe no--but evidence is insufficient for us to take sides!

=====

Santa Fe, Mo., Find May be Meteor

Rocks that closely resemble meteorites have been found in a ditch by M. O. Rodgers, on his 13-acre place northwest of Santa Fe, Mo.

Rodgers was felling timber on the place, getting ready for earthmoving equipment to come in when he stumbled over the rocks in a small ditch or gully.

It looked, he said, as if a large rock had been dropped and had been broken and the pieces scattered by the impact.

The location of Mr. Rodgers' find is in the Santa-Fe - Molino area which was strongly suspected of being the site of a meteorite fall in December of 1967. Experts from the Smithsonian Institution as well as private hobbyists came here that month and talked with residents who had seen the meteor fire in the sky, looking at many rock samples and tramping through the woods looking for the meteorite. They finally gave up, saying that if it was ever found, it would be by chance by some farmer or woodsman.

Rodgers' sample is the most likely prospect brought to the Ledger (Mexico, Mo.) in the last three years. Its weight is the most significant thing--a pyramid shaped piece about $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ by 2 inches weighed one pound, 10 ounces, about double the weight of a similar piece of limestone. The surface is smoothed off, as if by heat, but pocked and pitted. The broken parts show a liver-red, closely packed substance resembling jasper. It leaves a mark the color of burnt umber on unglazed pottery surfaces. The material resembles rich iron ore, but it doesn't react at all to a magnet. There appears to be a small amount of silica or mica in part of the rocks.

Credit: Rod Dyke's Clipping Service, 3521 S. W. 104, Seattle, Washington

THE ASTRONOMY CORNER BY Ted Phillips, Jr.

Mercury is at superior conjunction-beyond the sun from the earth- July 6, at a distance of 123,000,000 miles. It is in the constellation Leo.

Venus (I have had several phone calls reporting UFOs this month, Venus has been the culprit each and every time) sets some 2-3 hours after the sun during the month; it may be seen as the brightest object in the heavens (other than the moon and sun) in the northwestern sky.

Mars is not visible this month. Jupiter, located in Virgo, is seen in the high southern sky during the early evening hours throughout the month and is easily found, being the brightest object in that portion of the sky.

Saturn is in Aries, rising at about midnight and is seen in the low southern sky during the early morning hours.

New moon - July 3, first quarter - July 11, full moon - July 18 and last quarter - July 25.

The Delta Aquariid meteor shower reaches a maximum July 29 with an average of 20 meteors per hour.

UFO Reportedly Sighted by Heyerdahl's Crewmen

A radio message Friday from explorer Thor Heyerdahl's papyrus boat Ra 2 said crewmen sighted an unidentified flying object on their voyage across the Atlantic Ocean toward Mexico.

The message, by shortwave radio from navigator Norman Baker, said the UFO moved across the horizon for several minutes and disappeared in "a bright orange flash."

A member of the crew, Ait Madani, spotted the UFO as he was at the Helm of the vessel. He watched it for several minutes as it moved from right to left about 20 to 30 degrees above the horizon to a point in the sky, then watched it descend, the report said. Madani said it was orange, much brighter than the moon, which they could observe at the same time.

The North American Air Defense Command, headquartered at Colorado Springs, Col., said it doubted the UFO could have been connected with any space shot. An officer at NORAD suggested, "It might have been a meteor."

Source: ARKANSAS GAZETTE, June 13, 1970. Credit, Lou Farish

NOTICE: While we feel this can be of little, or no interest to the reader, just for the record we state there is no connection between this publication and the APRO organization. We do not speak for our staff members as individuals, as several have other UFO affiliations as is their right and privilege.

"Prediction" Missed!

Orestes Wilson, of Reading, Pa., writes that Laura Mundo, "a pioneer interplanetary research writer, lecturer, whose high vibrations she recognizes as a spaceman's" predicted that June 13, 1970, would be "Devastation Day" and "all would change in the twinkling of an eye." Came June 13th and Mr. Wilson commented: "Well, it's 2 p.m. on the 13th and the only thing we got so far is heat!"

We've noticed that most of these predictions miss the mark and the ones that "hit" were usually "confided secretly" to a friend who obligingly informs the Press AFTER the event.

Report on Unidentified Fallen Object

Date: Tuesday, May 26, 1970. Time: 9:00 a.m. Place: Back yard of home of Mrs. Elida Kent, about two miles southwest of Festus, Missouri. House is one-story ranch type, long axis running N-NE. Latitude 38° 20' west. Weather: Partly cloudy, very little wind. Witnesses: Mrs. Elida Kent, housewife, Route 3, Box 92, Festus, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Walsch, neighbors of Mrs. Kent (heard noise).

Mrs. Kent was working in her garden, near the back door, when she heard a sudden loud noise like a gun shot. Looking around the yard, she saw smoke rising from the grass about 15 feet from the back door. She found a small red-hot cylindrical object lying on the grass and was frightened, thinking it was a bomb. Mr. Walsch, a near neighbor, came out of his house to investigate the noise, which he and his wife had heard. Mrs. Kent showed him the object, still glowing red, and they picked it up with a shovel. It left a burned spot on the lawn about 2½ by 3½ in.

The object remained hot for 10 to 15 minutes, turning dark gray as it cooled. Mrs. Kent called the sheriff's office at Hillsboro, Mo., and Deputy Arch McKee responded. Mrs. Kent turned the object over to him to be given to Sheriff Walter Buerger for investigation. Later in the day Mrs. Kent's brother, James A. Johnston, came and looked at the burned spot on the lawn.

Reports of the incident were carried in local newspapers and Mrs. Kent received many calls of inquiry.

On June 2 an APRO representative interviewed Mrs. Kent and inspected the spot where the object had fallen, which was blackened and quite bare of grass. Mrs. Kent appears sensible and well-balanced, and was quite eager to get some explanation for her puzzling and frightening experience.

On June 8 the investigator obtained the object from Sheriff Buerger and forwarded it to APRO headquarters in Tucson for analysis.

Physical notes: Length of object: 2" (cylindrical). Diameter: 1 5/16" at one end, 1 11/32 at the other. Color: Very dark gray. End edges slightly beveled; both ends squared off and finished; one end rougher than the other. Small hole in one end, axial but off center. Irregular hairline cracks on surface of sides. Weight 102.1 grams; calculated density 2.27 - 2.29 (graphite * 2.26). Inspection with Geiger counter on June 2 showed no radioactivity.

Credit: Mrs. W. P. Armstrong, St. Louis, Mo. Editor's Note: The "St. Louis Globe-Democrat," which carried an account of the incident, May 27, added that Mrs. Kent had neither seen nor heard an airplane in the area at the time she heard the sound and saw the object in the grass.

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Recommended by SKYLOOK editor.

What, you may well ask, is "space grass?" Well, for those not familiar with the term, it is the name given to the fine strips of aluminum foil which are often found in UFO flap areas. Although it has turned up in various places for a number of years, it was not given its present designation until West Virginia farmers began finding it in sizeable quantities in 1966-67. They promptly dubbed the stuff "outer space grass."

In May 1967 Researcher John A. Keel sent me a sample of the West Virginia "grass." This particular batch was found "covering several acres of farmland after a series of low-level UFO sightings" in Mason County, W. Va., in November, 1966. According to Keel, the W. Va. State Police analyzed the material in their labs and found it to be composed of aluminum and traces of magnesium. It was neither radioactive or magnetic. Upon examining samples of the "chaff" (foil strips) used by the Air Force as radar "decoys," Keel stated that "space grass" was something completely different. Having seen both "space grass" and "chaff" myself, I agree.

My next encounter with the foil came in September, 1967, when a farmer living near Piggot, Arkansas, sent me a sample of the material he had found on his farm during the preceding month. During March, 1967, his farm had been a focal point for UFO manifestations, although the objects were seen throughout Northeastern Arkansas, both in the air and on the ground. His sample of "grass" seemed identical to the W. Va. variety.

On May 23, 1970, Mildred Higgins, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, found a "heap" of "space grass" lying on a country road east of Fayetteville. The material was found near a power line (and transformer), in an area where the country road runs between a cemetery and a church. Upon sending me a sample of it, Mildred remarked that "when I picked up the handful of 'space grass' it was lying in a sort of 'short-column' shape indicating that it had been 'cleanly clipped' as through fed through a tube and chopped off at a certain point." These strands of foil are virtually identical to the other two samples in my possession, being slightly larger than a hair in width and approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.

Another Fayetteville resident has reported finding similar foil strips in his yard recently. Again, power lines are involved, as they run directly above the area where the material was found. In this case, the "grass" was scattered about over the yard, rather than being found in a mass. As the yard has been mowed twice since the discovery, no retrieval of the material is possible.

No recent UFO sightings have been reported in the Fayetteville area, although some older reports (including a car chase incident) have been unearthed during investigations of the "space grass." Any later developments will be reported in next month's SKYLOOK.

Editor's Comment: We are grateful to Lou for sending us a sample of "space grass" as we had never seen any before.

To Answer a Question: We are frequently asked why we don't number the pages of SKYLOOK. We cut stencils as copy comes in during the month and we never know how many pages of midwest sightings, UFO reports from overseas etc we'll have, along with feature articles, and sometimes a page is held up "until next month" because more important copy comes in at the last minute and replaces it. See?

On Trial for Murder, Man Claims He is from Another Planet

Daniel Collins, 23, of Reesport, Oregon, is on trial for murder and Dr. Joseph Kiel, psychiatrist, quotes Collins as saying he is from "Madail, a galaxy of Andromeda" and has heard and talked with voices from Space. Dr. Allan Saunders, also a psychiatrist, says Collins has admitted his story about being from another planet is a hoax.

We hope Collins' followers, if any, get the message!
Source: Kennebeck Journal, April 21, 1970. Credit: Lou Farish

Tanker Hits Unidentified Object

The British oil tanker Ennerdale was described by port officials today as "a total loss" after hitting an unidentified object off the port of Victoria in the Seychelles Islands in the western Indian Ocean.

Editor's Note: The above appeared in the June 1st edition of the "Northwest Arkansas Times" and was sent in by Lou Farish. Neither Lou nor Ye Ed are attempting to tie this in with UFO's--but that phrase "an unidentified object" caught the eye!

Mysterious Lights are Recalled

Ed Murphy, of Fonda, Iowa, wrote a letter which appeared in CAPPER WEEKLY (Topeka, Kans.) April 21, 1970. It follows: "Fred Garrod was telling me the other day about the jack-o-lantern. Often in Illinois, when he was a lad, he saw this mysterious light. Usually on foggy nights the lanterns were out! Most just drifted over low ground, from 5 to 30 feet high, but not all behaved so. One in particular acted oddly.

"Garrod and a companion saw one move against the wind, rise over a hedge or line of trees about 10 feet high, then come down lower and move on the low ground.

"He saw many others that seemed to hang in the air and never move. Nobody seemed to know what these mysterious lights of 1900-10 were.

"I myself have seen St. Elmo's fire dancing along the fence rows of a farm; these are known as electric discharges.

"Were the jack-o'-lanterns just swamp gas, St. Elmo's fire, or were they of supernatural origin? Indeed, many odd things are here in 1970 too."

Editor's note (Capper's Weekly) Random House Dictionary says the jack-o'-lantern or will-o'-the-wisp is a flitting phosphorescent light seen at night, mostly over marshy ground. It's believed to be from spontaneous combustion of gas from decomposed organic matter.

Credit: Lou Farish

UFO POTPOURRI is a non-scheduled, informative newsletter written and published by John F. Schuessler, P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo., 63366. It is available only through exchange for other UFO publications, reports and news clippings. Issue No. 12, published early in June, contains reports and UFO sightings from the U. S. A. and England. Mr. Schuessler is a Senior Engineer with McDonnell-Douglas, St. Louis, and heads the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and belongs to other UFO organizations. We are proud to add he has been on the SKYLOOK staff from the beginning and we are frank to admit we would never have survived our early struggles without his aid and moral support.

The first Midwest UFO Conference was attended by very good crowds during the entire day, and the weather was ideal.

On Friday evening the SKYLOOK staff and others gathered in the lobby of the Holiday Inn for an informal talk. The entire staff was there with the exception of Lucius Parish, who was sincerely missed by all.

The conference began right on time Saturday morning with Dr. Allen R. Utke, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Wisconsin State University, speaking on "UFO's and the Problem of Scientific Evidence." Dr. Utke started the day off on the right foot with a hard hitting, extremely interesting presentation that was well received by the near capacity crowd.

Following Dr. Utke, the writer presented several of the more interesting cases involving alleged landing marks.

Television interviews were conducted during the lunch break and Dr. Utke and I were interviewed by the U.P.I. in Chicago, by telephone. The writer talked for some 25 minutes with the gentleman, who then interviewed Dr. Utke. The press coverage was very good, with television news on all the Peoria channels.

John F. Schuessler, Senior Engineer, McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics, kicked off the afternoon session with his talk entitled "The UFO, Just Beyond the State-of-the-Art." As usual, John did a terrific job.

John was followed by Bob Smulling, who presented numerous UFO photographs in slides. Bob is a professional photographer with his own studio in Hamilton, Ill., and as could be expected, pleased with his most interesting photographic information.

Coral Lorenzen, Secretary, Aerial Phenomena Research Organization and Editor of the APRO Bulletin, Tucson, Arizona, presented "UFO's - 1970 an Up To Date Report!" Mrs. Lorenzen concentrated her talk on reports involving sightings of occupants and on substantial evidence found at sites of UFO landings.

The evening session featured Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who concentrated on the future of UFO investigation. Dr. Hynek advised the "progress in UFO's will be made by dedicated individuals in the next few years, using their own funds and specializing in one area." He said, "I'm not worried about funds. If a person's really dedicated, he'll get the job done. Frustration in the field comes when you try to accomplish too much." In the final analysis, he said, bringing scientific recognition to the UFO problem boils down to upgrading the data about UFO's."

I think that we must declare the conference a complete success, as the speakers were well received; the news coverage was great; and as a bonus, we obtained several additional sightings from various parts of the Midwest. The conference gave us an opportunity to meet and talk with many serious investigators from over a very wide area.

Editor's Note: The Conference was held in Peoria, Ill., Saturday, June 13th. Your editor regrets that she was unable to be present, and is glad to have the personal report of a staff member. We have received excellent newspaper clips from Illinois, Memphis and Tulsa to date and expect others to come in. The "Peoria Journal Star" went all out in covering the event and Walt Andrus, Publicity Chairman, is to be congratulated for his fine work in arranging advance publicity with all the news media--newspapers, radio and television. We have asked for copies of speeches made and hope to use them in future issues of SKYLOOK. We'll also quote from the newspaper clippings--so if YOU have one, please send it to SKYLOOK. We'll return it to you if you request.

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Policy: To separate fact from fantasy. We tell it as it is.

SKYLOOK Has New Staff Member

Your editor is happy to announce that Art Epstein, of St. Louis, has consented to serve on the SKYLOOK staff. Art graduated from high school in Hollywood, Calif., and has a B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Missouri. He is a chemist in the enzyme production plant of the Sigma Chemical Co. in St. Louis where he has been employed the past 8 years. He has been collecting UFO literature since 1957 and is one of the founders of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and has frequently contributed reports to SKYLOOK.

Welcome aboard, Art.

Police Mystified by Blast in Lake

David J. Gras, of Buffalo, N. Y., sends us one of his collection of mystery explosions, and the following is adapted from a report in "The Buffalo Evening News" of Sept. 21, 1968. Something on Lake Erie about three-quarters of a mile offshore from Hamburg Town Park apparently exploded like a thunderclap about 7:30 PM, sending a plume of thick white smoke 200 feet in the air and bringing several boats to the area. All they found were two pieces of wood about six to eight inches long floating in the water.

The Coast Guard searched through the night with a 40-foot craft, but had found nothing by dawn. No boats or boaters have been reported missing.

Hamburg Patrolman Patrick Cooper, who was fishing with a companion about a quarter mile off shore, said he had seen another boat in the explosion area about 10 minutes before the blast. "We heard what sounded like thunder and we turned out toward the lake and saw thick white smoke on top of a bit of brown smoke," he said.

"It took us about five minutes to get out there, and some of the smoke remained. All we found were two small pieces of wood. We didn't pick them up, because we were searching for bodies or survivors."

Mr. Gras tells us there was no follow-up on this in the newspapers, so evidently nothing was found to explain the explosion which remains a mystery to this day.

Coming next month! Interesting Report by a Marine Corporal; a reader's comments on John Keel's latest book; comments of the editor of a New Zealand ufozine--and more. Send in YOUR report.

The June 23rd issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER presents an article by George Simor, dealing with a UFO photo taken at Alberton, South Australia, in 1968. The photo (actually frames from an 8mm movie film) has been examined by various UFO researchers and has been declared genuine following extreme magnifications of the frames and subsequent analyses. The word "expert" is used rather loosely with regard to some of the persons mentioned, but we're used to seeing mistakes of that nature!

Speaking of mistakes, I should point out a possible error of my own. In last month's column, I mentioned a new UFO book by Jay David, which I referred to as FLYING SAUCERS ARE HERE! On checking through some lists of forthcoming books, I find that the original title designated for the book was FLYING SAUCERS HAVE ARRIVED! Not having examined an actual copy of the book, I cannot say which title is on the "finished product." Publishers often make last-minute name changes, so as soon as I get something definite on this, I'll mention it in a future column.

Peter Guttilla is a well-known California UFO researcher who has contributed some articles to SAGA magazine. His most recent effort appears in the July issue. It is somewhat of a "summing up" of the current UFO situation, plus hints of Peter's own experiences in the field. Regrettably, he reprints two stories which are suspect. The first, a tale of a murder by UFO in Australia, is pure fabrication, concocted by the "anything-for-a-buck" writers of MIDNIGHT, a weekly tabloid newspaper. The second report, involving a UFO which allegedly burned a young girl in Oklahoma, is also short on corroboration. This should not be considered as an indictment of Peter Guttilla, as I know he merely used the stories in good faith, not knowing their backgrounds. Unfortunately, one cannot always afford to accept UFO reports at face value.

Ivan Sanderson's new UFO book, previously mentioned in this column, will be entitled INVISIBLE RESIDENTS. I still have no publication date or other information concerning it. Two interesting letters appear in the July issue of ARGOSY, commenting on Sanderson's "undersea UFOs" article in the March issue of that magazine.

Although the August issue of MAN'S ACTION has not appeared on my local stands, it may now be available in other areas. The second article in a series by Jim and Coral Lorenzen, of APRO, should appear in this issue.

TAPES OF MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE SPEECHES AVAILABLE: Professional quality tapes of all the talks at the Midwest UFO Conference held in Peoria, Ill. June 13 - BASF high quality German tapes with their own handsome, decorator-styled "Perma-Store" library box. 7 inch reel - speed: 3, 3/4 inches per sec. - 2 track: \$20.00; 5 inch reel - speed: 3, 3/4 inches per sec. - 2 track: \$25.00; 3, 1/4 inch recordings and cassettes will be available by special order only. If you have any questions, feel free to write first--or order today. Address: Midwest UFO Conference Tapes, 634 Park Ave., Peoria, Ill., 61603. ---Adv.

Editor's Note: To refresh your memory as to list of speakers and their subjects, see report of Conference elsewhere in this issue, or refer to your May and June copies of SKYLOOK.

To Staff Members and Contributors: IMPORTANT! The deadline for copy for next month's SKYLOOK is always the 20th of "this month." That is NOT your mailing date--but the date your copy must reach Ye Ed.

The June issue of SENTINEL, one of the ufozines that shows up on schedule every month, published a letter from "our" Lucius Farish, complimenting the magazine, inquiring about the Mariner photos of the Martian moons.

Editor F. M. Castator replied: "Many readers have asked us about the possibility of either Mariner VI or VII succeeding in photographing one of the tiny moonlets (or whatever they are) of Mars. TV experiment controllers from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory speculated before the flights that they might accomplish that ambitious goal. If so, it would be a stupendous event, because as of now we know very little about those satellites. Some Soviet astronomers have suggested that they behave much more like artificial satellites than anything else.

"We've been in touch with JPL and the word is that they had no luck with photographing Phobos or Deimos. But something could still turn up with further refinement and enhancement of some of the approach photos. From our examination of the far encounter shots, it does not appear as if any shots of either of the moonlets would be very helpful. While the Mariner '69 photo results were fabulous, they were still limited in resolution and contrast. It was still a gross examination of the mysterious red planet. But we have been told that future missions will start concentrating more and more on the Martian satellites. . whatever they are."

Address for SENTINEL is: Aerial Research Systems, P. O. Box 715, Banning, Calif. 92220.

Mars' Moon is Darkest Ever Found

Editor's Note: As our readers probably know, we cut stencils as copy comes in, reserving space for any additional information before the deadline, the 20th of the month (all correspondents, please note!) and we now have this news clip from the ARKANSAS GAZETTE of May 15, 1970:

Mariner spacecraft photographs of Mars indicate that Phobos, one of two moons orbiting the planet, may be the darkest-colored body of any size yet observed in the solar system.

One photograph, taken by Mariner 7 last summer when the spacecraft was about 82,000 miles away from Phobos, also showed the Martian moon to be potato-shaped and slightly larger than previously had been believed.

The findings were reported in Science magazine Thursday by Bradford A. Smith, a Mariner project scientist and an astronomer at New Mexico State University.

Smith calculated that Phobos had a brightness factor of only 0.065, "lower than that known for any planet, satellite or asteroid in the solar system." * * * Smith said the black quality of Phobos may be due to a relatively dust-free surface that has been under more or less constant bombardment by meteorites.

Prior to the flights past Mars by Mariner 6 and 7 last summer, Phobos had been considered to be about 10 miles in diameter and its sister satellite, Deimos, five or six miles in diameter. Deimos has not yet been identified in any of the more than 200 pictures taken by the two space-craft.

Smith said the photographs show Phobos to be lopsided so that it had a diameter at the equator of 14 miles, but was only about 11 miles from pole to pole.

Credit: Lou Farish.

THE READER WRITES

Editor's Note: "A Down to Earth Look at the Space Men, by Frank A. Hudson, Jr., appeared in the May issue of SKYLOOK, and now we have a letter from Mr. Hudson which we believe you will find just as interesting as we do. We quote: Your magazine is very good, and deals with sightings closer to this part of the country than others, and also you have not fallen into the trap of sensationalism that others have. I have been a member of APPO for several years. Am an ex-NICTP member. I used to receive subscription copies of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, but there arose a complete communications breakdown between them and me, and a year's subscription has gone down the drain.

My ideas about ETs and the reason they are here are not new, as you know, but I have failed to find any information where these ideas were carried out as far as I presented them in my article. M. K. Jessup mentions possible mining operations in his discussion on moon anomalies. Ivan Sanderson mentioned in the publication PURSUIT, of seeing pictures that showed fan-like "tailing dumps" which to him looked like rock quarry operations. My theories are not without foundation. Only time will tell if I guessed wrong.

At the present moment, am studying Keel's latest book, OTH. He presents a strong case that there are foreign objects flying about in our skies, but his theory about what they are seems more fantastic than the ET idea. His argument that the "soft" sightings are in the majority has no foundation. He relies on the distance factor. A plane, or a UFO seen at close range at night will show the lights and the structure of the machine itself. As they fade into the distance, only the light or lights are seen. These lights, to Keel, are the "soft" sightings. I know the plane does not turn into a "soft" object, and I have no reason to believe that UFOs do either.

A few notes on myself: I'm a 47 year old bachelor, raised in the Texas oil fields. Served in Army Air Corps as mechanic and flight engineer. Worked on mineral exploration and oil exploration crews, and am now raising cattle in the boondocks about 30 miles SE of Fayetteville, Ark. I remember reading about the "foo-fighters" and speculating, at that time, with crew members that they were German made. I remember reading about the 1947 sightings, and believed that they were Russian machines of some sort. Major Keyhoe's articles and books brought me around to thinking that we have ET visitors, and ever since, flying saucers has been a hobby of mine. I haven't read every last word on UFOs, but have missed very little that is of importance concerning them and their possible motives.

I am glad you liked my moon-miner article. If I can work up another presentable article on UFOs at a future date, I'll be happy to submit it to you for your approval. If you hear or read of any comments, pro or con, about any of my theories, I would appreciate hearing about them.

Sincerely, Frank A. Hudson, Jr., Star Route # 2, Box 93, Elkins, Arkansas. 72727.

DATA-NET REPORT is published monthly by DATA-NET, the UFO Amateur Radio Network. WB6RPL, Michel Jaffe, Control, 624 Farley St., Mountain View, Calif., 94940. Editor, Mrs. Jo Clark, 340 Harvard Dr., Rt. 2, Ben Lomond, Calif., 95005. A check for \$4.00 will bring you one of the best ufozines in the field for one year. You can't go wrong here.

Dr. John P. Bagby, of Hughes Aircraft Company, thinks the earth may have at least 10 tiny natural satellites, according to an article in the April 26th issue of SCIENCE NEWS. For decades, Dr. Bagby writes, astronomers have speculated that the earth in its travels through space might pick up small bodies and constrain them to orbit around it. From time to time sightings have been made of objects that might be such satellites, and orbits have even been computed for them. Dr. Bagby has been studying the orbital data published for artificial satellites, and he finds these have repeatedly undergone sudden drastic changes in their flight patterns. He points out that these changes can easily be explained by near collisions with the miniature natural satellites, and he finds that the changes occur near locations where the orbits of artificial satellites cross those calculated for the natural ones. He therefore suggests that a group of sightings over recent years represents at least 10 small natural satellites. When he traced their history he found them all at the same spot on Dec. 18, 1955, and he surmised from this that they all originated in one object that broke up on that day.

* * * * *

Dr. C. S. Shen, of Purdue University is searching ancient astronomy records for accounts of giant star explosions. Some explosions, recorded long ago, are just now fading away. Scientists think that pulsars are likely to be found at these explosion end points. Giant star explosions have been well catalogued by the ancients. One of the most spectacular took place in A. D. 1054 in the Crab nebula. It was in this nebula that astronomers recently photographed the first flashing pulsar. The ancient records describe the explosion as "big as a half-moon with pointed rays and visible for 23 days. The color was reddish-white."

* * * * *

Some 50,000 miniature planets called asteroids orbit between Mars and Jupiter. The largest, Ceres, is only about a fifth the diameter of earth's moon. One with an orbit that brings it close to the earth is named Geographos, after the National Geographic Society.

* * * * *

The first hazy picture of the moon's far side was taken by the Russian moon probe Luna 3 in 1959. Since then, CURRENT SCIENCE, reports, enough photos have been taken to map the entire moon surface. The results of the space probes have shed new "light" on the moon's hidden side. It's rough country with craters and sharp mountain peaks, and no large "seas" or Mares. Mares (flat plains) are ideal landing areas for astronauts. There are three bull's-eye formations on the moon's hidden side. The largest one has been named the Orientale Basin. Its central basin is 186 miles in diameter with seven rings of mountains surrounding this depression. The outermost ring is 20,000 feet high. Dr. Wernher von Braun believes the thalassoid (bull's eye formation) forms when a huge meteorite crashes into the moon. One 30 to 60 miles in diameter may have formed Orientale Basin. Shock waves formed by the impact create the rings. Other scientists think the outstanding features of the moon were formed by the shifting of the surface, with the pull of the Earth's gravity, causing the shifting.

(Personal letter from Mr. James P. Sharp, of Salt Lake City, Utah)---
"Yes, I saw a Flying Saucer or some object moving rapidly through the sky in either 1942 or '43, but I was alone, took no pictures, but know what I saw. . . I have a ranch some 55 miles southeast from Salt Lake City and as it was in October, I was in a hurry to get the ranch turned over to the manager and get home before dark, but everything went wrong so I did not leave until near sundown. I traveled on a gravelled road for 15 miles and came to Highway 40 and traveled generally north. It got dark and I turned on my lights and was then traveling due north and coming to the junction of 30 Highway where there was a stop sign, so I stopped and when I did, locked to the northwest and saw over the top of a mountain the brightest star I had ever seen. I pulled onto 30-40 and went a short distance west and then turned northwest and could see that object which was very bright. I drove possibly half a mile and then put on dark glasses so I could see what it was. It was by now about ten miles away and I could see something which I supposed to be an air ship with the engine on fire, so I pulled off the road as I was sure it was attempting to land on the highway. I could see a very bright light almost like welders use when they cover their eyes with a dark mask. I judged it to be about five feet across and surrounding this was a real bright red light like a hot iron and then I saw it was throwing sparks up in the sky, reminding me of the sparks or balls from Roman candles. Whatever it was, it was rotating. It was now within about three miles of me. There was a hamburger stand about a quarter of a mile from me. . . where I sometimes stopped. It reached this house and I could see the suction pulling hay, straw and small bushes and whirling them around behind whatever it was. I could hear no sound. Then with a sound like a jet of today, it came up about 30 feet above the road and covered the car with trash of all kinds. I felt the car rocking and thought it would tip over but it did not. I got out. All I could see was something lighting up a low mountain about ten miles to the southeast. When I had driven about five miles, a man with a red lantern stopped me and asked where I was when that object passed. I told him. Then he said, 'Keep still about what you saw for the time being. We have located it.' My car was a mess of sticks, hay, straw and bushes and the running boards were covered with gravel sucked up from the side of the road. . . With dark glasses on, it was a very beautiful sight, one I shall always remember."

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SAUCERS, SPACE & SCIENCE, now in its 13th year, covers the Canadian scene, along with interesting UFO reports from elsewhere. Published quarterly, it is \$2.50 per year, by subscription, and all correspondence and checks should be addressed to Gene Duplantier, 17 Shetland St., Willowdale 443, Ontario, Canada. OUTERMOST, a SS&S special is available at the same address, price \$1.50. Personal cheques must have 25¢ additional for bank charges. Editor's Comment: While some of the material in OUTERMOST is so far out as to be entirely out, in our opinion; we found plenty worthwhile reading and consider the worldwide directory of UFO clubs and publications worth the price of this neatly printed ufozine. If you're a collector of Uforia, you'll want this in your library. We wish Gene success with this "special" as the proceeds will be used to keep SAUCERS, SPACE & SCIENCE going, and we look forward to every issue of that fine ufozine.

Red Lights Seen in Arkansas --Report by Lucius Farish, of Plumerville

Editor's Note: We held this up, on Lou's request, until he could do some checking. He was unable to find other witnesses, and no reports were made to the news media in the area. Following is his report of May 10, 1970.

I had a possible sighting last night. At approximately 9:08 p.m. (CDT), a brilliant red light appeared hanging slightly above some hills about 3-4 miles NNW of my house. It remained in the same spot (apparently) for about a minute, then blinked out. Some 2-3 minutes later, another less brilliant red object appeared at about the same altitude, but to the west of the original light. This second object was about the size and intensity of a parachute flare and acted much like one, fizzing and sputtering as it dropped slowly toward the ground. I watched for about an hour after this, but nothing else appeared.

The first object could have been a flare, but if so, it was the largest and brightest flare I've seen and I've seen plenty of them. The apparent lack of movement of the first object could have been due to the fact that the wind was blowing from the south and would have blown any object almost directly away from me. With lights of high intensity, a movement directly away from the observer is almost undetectable for several minutes. It did not act like a flare and I can think of absolutely no reason why anyone would set off flares in that area. If it was not a flare, it was almost certainly a UFO.

However, please don't use this report unless and until I can do some checking. I'll try to find out if there is a conventional explanation and if there is, I'll let you know as quickly as possible.

UFO Becomes IFI

The oval shaped object seen in the Missouri sky near the Lake of the Ozarks, as reported in the June issue of SKYLOOK has been identified by Ted Phillips, one of our staff members. Mr. Phillips says the object was undoubtably Bennet's Comet. Thanks, Ted. We always like to change an "unknown" into a "known."

Our Poet Reconsiders

The sky above, the stars, the shrieking wind,
this night bear witness as my anti-poem pledge I rescind!
Persuaded by your kind attention to my humble lines,
I'll therefore draft, with wit and craft, a
few more lousy verses.

--Clint Williams

Editor's Note: We think Mr. Williams might like to know his verses appearing in recent issues of SKYLOOK have now been quoted in "Data-Net" (May issue) and Editor Jo Clark refers to him as "flying saucer poet Clint Williams." Now, Clint, you have a title to live up to, and you just can't let us down.

Has your subscription expired? If there is a red X by your name on the address label, this is your final issue. Send \$4.00 today for one year subscription (12 issues) of SKYLOOK to Mrs. Norma E. Short, Box 129, Stover, Mo., 65078.

REPORTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

Object With White "Halo" Over England

About 3 a.m. the morning of March 12, 1970, Miss A. Macdonald, of Hurst Rise, Coleman Road, Leicester (England) was lying in bed when she heard a high pitched whining noise which she first assumed to be a factory Siren. As the "weird and variable" sound continued for over five minutes, Miss Macdonald went to the bedroom window to look out. She saw a round, white object at "about aeroplane height" and slowly descending at an angle. It was surrounded by a kind of white halo on which were many small lights of the same colour. The halo appeared to rotate, causing the entire object to flash, and the sound was obviously coming from the strange object.

As she watched, the object stopped and remained stationary in the sky. At this point the young woman called her parents and was immediately joined by her mother who opened the bedroom window to get a better view. The object rose slowly into the sky and finally appeared as a white flashing star in the distance. The sound decreased in volume until it was scarcely audible as the object moved away. It was still visible when the witnesses went back to bed. Miss Macdonald went back to the window at 3:35 a.m. and the object had disappeared. She had watched it for fifteen minutes.

After an account of the sighting appeared in the "Leicester Mercury," another witness reported she had been awakened by the noise which was "unlike anything I have ever previously heard. It was like a factory siren or an aeroplane that had gone berserk." On going to work that morning, the witness said others had heard the noise and were curious. Credit: Adapted from two reports in UFOLOG, "Ringlemere," Colwell Road, Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight.

Star Watcher Sees Moving Red Lights

Date: Approx. 1st October 1969. Time: 2100 hrs. Location: Totland Bay, Isle of Wight.

Witness, an electronics engineer, ex R.A.F. (radar) interested in astronomy, was searching for the Crab Nebula with X8 binoculars, when at a position north of the Crab's position, 3 small red lights in the form of a triangle were seen. The 3 lights were in a horizontal configuration and in a fixed position relative to each other. The group was travelling in a northerly direction at high speed. In the binocular's field of view, the size of the group was approx. $\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter. They were not visible to the naked eye. The lights were steady, there being no flashing or pulsating. Weather conditions, slight easterly wind, near freezing temperature, very clear starlit night, no moon or clouds. The witness said that he was quite sure that the object was not an aircraft. Credit: UFOLOG, address given above.

Silent Object with Lights Around Edge, Seen in Australia

Six people reported seeing a saucerlike object carrying lights around its edges fly low over Mildura (Victoria, Australia) about 10:20 p.m. April 17, 1970. It was moving quickly in a southwesterly direction toward the Mildura Airport, and one witness said it was "flying very low, making no sound" and did not have flashing navigation lights or landing lights as would a conventional aircraft. Lights around the edge looked like normal cabin lights, she told "The Sunraysia Daily." Ansett Airline office at Mildura said none of its aircraft had been in the area at that time at a low altitude. Credit: Rod Dyke's Clipping Service.

Policeman Sees UFO Over Wood Green, England

A mysterious "Unidentified Flying Object" was sighted in the skies over Wood Green on Tuesday--by a policeman.

PC M. Cargill, of Wood Green police station, was with PC D. Tilley at the Ringway on the Bounds Green Industrial Estate on Tuesday, when he noticed an unusual object in the sky, apparently hovering over Alexandra Palace.

It was a clear, dry day. PC Cargill described the phenomenon as a very dark, very long, cigar-shaped structure.

It appeared to have an orange and yellow glow coming from its rear end. It was not an aeroplane.

The object had no wings or tailplane and seemed to be hovering with its nose pointed down towards the ground. Eventually it moved off in a north-westerly direction. Credit--John F. Schuessler, Source--Wood Green Weekly Herald, March 6, 1970. (June issue of UFO POTPOURRI)

Interesting 1953 Report from London

London, Nov. 19 (1953)--Something huge, metallic, glowing and mighty mysterious has been observed twice this month in the sky over London, the War Office has revealed. The object was recorded on radar screens on both occasions.

Two army radar crews estimated the height of the object as 60,000 feet. One unit kept the object in the radar screen for 40 minutes. It was described as "dead white and completely circular."

It must have been much larger than the largest airliner, they said. The object was stationary for about 15 minutes of that time, then moved off.

Nothing known to scientific men could have hovered over the city like that at that height, nor could it have registered on radar the way it did, it was stated.

Source: "The Hamilton News," (Canada) Nov. 20, 1953. Credit: J.F.S.
Former Polish Soldier Tells of Foo-Fighters

Antonio W. Szachnowski, former member of the Polish army, is quoted in the KENTISH TIMES (England): "The object which I saw shelled by our artillery was shelled also by the Germans, which suggests it was something which mystified both sides. It was not hit and tilted about 50 degrees and suddenly moved very speedily upwards, disappearing in the blue Italian skies.

"My colleagues told of other strange escorts they had met as airmen in bombing sorties over Germany. The objects were nick-named 'foo-fighters' by Allied airmen and were thought to be a German secret weapon. It was food for thought when we found the Germans had seen the objects and thought they belonged to us."

After the war, Mr. Szachnowski became a "clearing house" for letters. There grew up an International Correspondence Club eventually turning into the Anglo-Polish U.F.O. Research Club in 1955.
Credit-- Paul Braczyk, 20 Cody St., Webster, Mass.

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Rod Dyke's U.F.O.R.C. CLIPPING SERVICE is growing steadily and has now added Australian clips as a part of the regular service. This monthly collection of news clips on 15-20 sheets of legal-size paper has the newest UFO reports from all over the United States and Canada and now expanding to include other countries. In addition to new sightings there is a section of the very best of the older sightings many of which are "new" to many readers. The address is 3521 S.W. 10th St., Seattle, Washington. A "must" for all UFO groups.

MIDWEST ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Tri-State UFO Study Group will meet Wednesday evening, July 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Walter Andrus, Quincy, Ill. and "UFO's in the 70's or 'Where Do We Go From Here?'" will be the subject of discussion, bearing on the Midwest UFO Network as well as unidentified flying objects. Dr. Hynek's lecture at the Peoria Conference "UFO's in the 70's--A Positive Program" is the keynote, and several members of this group plan to attend the UFO picnic at Carlyle, July 18th to carry on this dialogue with the St. Louis group. (Report by Walt Andrus)

UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis met Sunday, May 17th and enjoyed a "slide" lecture on "Stonehenge" in England, given by Mr. L. Krumbeck, a high school history teacher, who took the pictures on a trip to Europe. The Conference at Peoria, Ill., and skywatch and picnic at Carlyle Lake, July 18 and 19th, were discussed and plans made to attend. About twenty-five people were present for the afternoon meeting. (Report, Art Epstein)

The Aerial Phenomena Club of Central Illinois met June 15th, in Peoria, Ill., and "UFOs and the Astronauts" was the topic, along with the program of the Midwest UFO Conference held on the 13th. Because of interest aroused at the Conference, there was a larger attendance than usual on the 15th. The July meeting will be held Monday, July 13, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 7030 N. Rt. 88, Peoria. A tape made of Dr. J. Allan Hynek's talk at the Conference will be heard, and the group will discuss the value of specializing in some field of ufology, rather than just reading a lot of "meaningless" reports. (Report by Michael Morey)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS are invited to send in reports of their ufo groups. We believe reports of ufology meetings are interesting to our readers and are important in promoting interest and in attracting new members. We remind our reporters the deadline for copy is the 20th of the month (not your mailing date, but the reaching-SKYLOOK-date!) Please observe. We suggest your report always include: date of meeting; place (city and meeting place); time of day; topic for discussion--leader, guest speaker if any, names of new members and/or guests, along with any other interesting notes. Give date, time and meeting place for the NEXT meeting and the subject for discussion, for the benefit of readers who may wish to attend. If you wish to attract new members (and you probably do) it would be well to include a statement that visitors are always welcome and to give a name and telephone number where one could call for further information AND TO REPORT UFO SIGHTINGS. Appoint a SKYLOOK reporter. Again--we welcome other organization reports from the midwest.

John F. Schuessler To Be on Radio, July 17th

John F. Schuessler, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, will appear on KCLC-FM radio from Linderwood College, St. Charles Mo., Friday night July 17 at 7p.m. KCLC is at 89.9 on the FM dial. He will speak on the Community Profile program hosted by Mark Poindexter. His topic, of course, will relate to unidentified flying objects, and he plans to call attention to the skywatch and picnic at Carlyle, July 18-19th. Mark this date on your calendar and listen in. He recently spoke on the "Morning Coffee Break" in O'Fallon, Ill. on WMBD, with host Tom Cheatures and has a standing invitation to return.

Some Quotes Worth Quoting Selected by Michael M. P. Ginter

Space researcher Dr. Richard Goldman of M.I.T.: "There's hardly a responsible scientist in the world who isn't convinced that UFOs exist, whatever they are, but to convince governments to do something another matter altogether. The fact is, they don't know what to do, and rather than allot funds to study this phenomenon they prefer to bury their heads. But I know for a fact that top air force and government officials themselves are completely convinced that the earth is being watched daily by beings from another planet or planets."

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, professor of psychology, at the University of Wyoming, Laramie: "It's my opinion, and this is shared by many responsible scientists; that the earth is presently being surveyed by spacecraft from outer space."

Dr. David Saunders, professor of psychology at the University of Colorado, worked with the Condon investigating team, but repudiated its findings when the report was released. Dr. Saunders has been recording data of sightings around the world and feeding the data into a computer. "As a result," he says, "we know that certain lines and places are used and re-used consistently by the UFOs."

Editor's Note: Michael is a student at Bryant & Stratton Business Institute in Buffalo, N. Y. and majoring in Data-Processing. He is deeply interested in ufology and finds time to send material to SKYLOOK

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