

Staff Member Spots Green Lights in Sky--Has No Explanation

John F. Schuessler, of the SKYLOOK staff and State Director of MUFON for Missouri as well as Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, spotted three green lights in the sky the night of December 20, 1970, and has been unable to identify them. His report follows, exactly as written:

Date and time: Dec. 20, 1970. 6:20 PM

Weather: High total overcast, clouds at approx. 10,000 ft. Temp: 33^oF
Wind: NNE. Rained 30 minutes following the incident.

Driving south on Highway 66, I was about to enter the curvy section of the highway just before the Mt. Olive, Ill. cross road, approximately 1 to 1½ miles north of it. I was driving 65 MPH and saw the object about 4-5 seconds. The object was in the form of three huge green lights. They formed a triangle, tilted so I could see all three. They were falling slowly and dropped behind the trees from an angle of 30^o above the horizon.

With my movement, the darkness, having to watch the road, I couldn't observe them as I would have liked. The three lights seemed to be connected. They each had a bright core surrounded by a crystal green radiating light. The color of green was unusual and extremely clear. These lights were at least ten times as bright as any other lights along the highway.

On Saturday 26 December I returned to the scene of the UFO sighting of 20 December. This time I was accompanied by wife Kathy and children. Weather--clear, crisp, chilly.

We observed the whole area at 11:30 AM for a daylight opinion of what the object could have been. There were a few houses, but none in line with the object, only a small pond. Other items noted were trees and some distance away, coal mines (the whole area is laced with abandoned coal mines).

We returned at 7 PM for a night observation, hoping to be able to find some form of lights, Christmas decorations, business lights or the like. Nothing of the sort was found.

We found no evidence and no explanation. I might add that I am extremely familiar with that section of US 66 and have driven it since before its last relocation and dual paving for over 20 years. There is no chance that I am mistaken about the exact location of the incident.

A Message from Your Director

As we enter 1971, MUFON continues to display steady and solid growth. The ILLINOIS Section welcomes the following new State-Section Directors: David V. Lansden, 909-911 Washington, Cairo. H: AC 618 734-1231, B: AC 618 734-4171. David is an attorney representing extreme Southern Illinois. Mrs. Beatrice Mills, Ph.D, Principia College, Elsau, Ill., 62028, AC 618 466-2131; James D. Hester, Box 141, Alma, Ill., 62807, AC 618 547-7192.

MUFON and the OHIO Section are proud to greet one of the pioneers in UFO organizations in the U.S.A., Leonard H. Stringfield, 4412 Groves
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Message (continued)

Mariemont, Ohio, 45227, H: AC 513 271-4248, - B: AC 513 762-6965. Leonard is the Public Relations Director for DuBois Chemicals in Cincinnati. He will serve as State-Section Director for Southwest Ohio.

Lucius Farish, State Director for ARKANSAS, announces the appointment of Lawrence Willett, Box 197, Flippin, Ark. 72634 AC 501 453-2266 or 453-2445 as State-Section Director. Lawrence is the Flippin Airport Manager.

Our new State-Section Director for Central IOWA is Emerson W. Shideler, Ph.D., 418 Stanton, Ames, Ia. 50010. Dr. Shideler is Chairman, Dept. of Philosophy at Iowa State University. Telephone: H: AC 515 232-1228.

Plans for the Midwest UFO Conference Saturday, June 12, 1971, at the Holiday Inn-North, in St. Louis, Mo., are developing rapidly. The featured speaker will be Mr. Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist of Redondo Beach, Calif., and formerly very active in the Pittsburg UFO Investigative Committee. Mr. Friedman has lectured extensively at colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. Other speakers already committed are Ted Phillips, Sedalia, Mo., who will speak on his specialization "Burned Circles and Flying Saucer Nests" and Sherman J. Larsen, Glenview, Ill., who has selected the topic of "Documentation." Sherman has been teaching Adult Education classes in Chicago suburb high schools on the subject of UFO's for the past three years with William G. "Bill" Lamb, MUFON Field Investigator.

Rosetta Holmes, our State-Section Director for Carlyle, Ill., is to be congratulated for the outstanding public meeting that she arranged at Mater Dei High School in Breese, Ill., on Sunday, Jan. 10, 1971. Your Director was privileged to give an illustrated lecture followed by a question and answer period handled by a distinguished panel composed of John Schuessler, Willard Armstrong, Arthur Epstein, John Preisack and Robert Smulling, with Rosetta Holmes as moderator. A Midwest UFO Conference planning meeting was conducted at the WIL-CHAR Restaurant following the public meeting.

Walt Andrus, Director

Tickets Ready for Second Annual Midwest UFO Network Conference

Those wishing to make advance reservations for the MUFON Conference to be held in St. Louis, Saturday, June 12, 1971, may send application and remittance to: William F. Christian, 758 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, Mo. 63125. All checks should be payable to the U.F.O. Study Group of Greater St. Louis. Tickets for the morning, afternoon and evening sessions, including a banquet, will be \$8.50. Those unable to attend all sessions may obtain tickets for morning, afternoon or evening sessions at \$1.50 each. Tickets for the banquet and evening session are \$6.50. We expect to have the complete speaking program next month and will repeat the ticket prices.

We hope our exchange magazines will find space to give this event publicity and feel sure many of the editors and their staff will plan to attend.

It will be remembered that Dr. J. Allen Hynek was the principal speaker at last year's Conference and set the tone for the entire program--serious discussion and scientific investigation--no reports on trips to Venus and back or messages from Space Brothers.

It isn't too early to start thinking about that summer vacation trip--why not plan NOW to include the June 12th Conference. Mark the date on your calendar.

Editor's Note: This begins the address presented by Mr. Schuessler at the Midwest UFO Conference held at Bradley University, Peoria, Ill., June 13, 1970. We would like to give you the entire article in a single issue of SKYLOOK, but must present it as a series due to space limitations. We consider this the most important article on ufology SKYLOOK has had the privilege to use, and we offer it with pride.

We are constantly bombarded by the question, "Are UFOs fact or fiction?" Then much energy is expended trying to prove one or the other. Well, too much has been said about the reality of the UFOs, because sufficient data has been presented to establish the fact that UFOs are seen and reported. A classic example is Case 46 of the famed "Condon Report" and I quote: "This is one of the few UFO reports in which all factors investigated, geometric, psychological, and physical appear to be consistent with the assertion that an extraordinary flying object, silvery, metallic, disk-shaped, tens of meters in diameter, and evidently artificial, flew within sight of two witnesses." Consider the significance of such a statement. A large, artificial, metallic, disk-shaped object flew right past two sober, god-fearing earthlings. Almost sounds like a flying saucer, doesn't it?

How many times have you heard of such commonplace incidents in the past few years? It's almost like the weather, until recently everyone talked about it but no one did anything about it. It almost seems like the scientific community has forgotten that science is simply a body of systematized knowledge, gained through observations and the classification of facts, which result in the establishment of laws by induction and hypotheses. Well, somebody has been missing the boat, for a lot of good UFO observations and facts have been going to waste.

I believe that the scientific community has been too busy covering for its brainchild--Technology. Just read the newspapers and you will find that technology is blamed for all the bad things in the world today. It is like the cowboy in the black hat--a real bad guy.

However, when one examines the historical records, he finds that man's existence was most dire during periods of low technological advancement. For instance, advances in building methods removed man from the cave and placed him in the artificial dwellings which he has been trying to improve ever since. Man has advanced from crawling to walking, from oxcart to automobile, from balloon to airplane, and he has even dared to step out into the depths of space. The records show that each of these advances was looked upon by the negative thinkers of the day as technology ruining the environment. Maybe one cannot argue with the fact that man tends to upset the balance of nature and to ruin the natural beauty around him; but at the same time it must be noted that he does create new beauty and symmetry. The point is that "man," not technology, is the bad guy.

The bad name given to technology in recent years has caused scientists and engineers to seek ways to apply and utilize the technological advances stimulated by space exploration to the down-to-earth every day problems of the world today. This is known as "technology transfer." the latest rage is the attack on pollution and, I might add, it's about time. The environmental destruction on earth is seen and felt.

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The UFO. . . (continued)

by nearly every man, woman and child. The very technology that caused the problem could be renamed, given a new white hat, and turned loose to create a new image. But, as in every other scientific endeavor, the one substantial roadblock to progress is cost. Whether we use technology to clean the rivers and atmosphere, or to venture into the unknowns of outer space, it costs billions.

Our space program, for instance, has received a lot of abuse about money. The question continuously asked is: "Why do we spend money on the moon?" I always have to chuckle at that because every cent is banked right here on earth. Maybe someday Howard Hughes will open a hotel on the moon and Pan Am will fly there. Until then we don't have to worry about a lunar gold drain and balance of payments there. Putting the cost in more realistic terms, our space program has cost less over ten years than does one year in Vietnam. In fact, the space budget costs each man less per year than the average liquor budget, or cigarette budget. The exploration of space will go on in spite of the negative thinkers, budget restrictions and even catastrophic setbacks. And since it will cost a bundle, it is incumbent upon every scientist, engineer and technician to strive for as much technological expertise per dollar as humanly possible. This means that advancing the "state-of-the-art," as it is called, may require quantum jumps, not just a steady, even advance.

This is where "technology transfer" can really come into its own. While our space program has struggled to pull itself up by its bootstraps, through a myriad of unmanned and manned spaceprobes, the UFO has outperformed us in every category. Whenever this comparison is made, the negative thinkers try to prove that UFOs do not exist, that they are figments of the viewer's imagination, misidentified natural phenomena, or some other equally obscure thing. I have long since tired of that argument, and I believe thousands of others have also. Therefore, I propose that we dedicate ourselves to the task of utilizing the reports, the data, the claims of the reporters, and the UFO itself as a source of technology transfer; not from, but to our space program.

By putting objects into space we have gained a wealth of scientific, medical, and engineering data. Those objects are IFOs to most of us. They may be known as Tiros, Pegasas, Echo, Gemini, Apollo, --one could go on and on. The fact is that they are very real space objects; of many sizes, shapes, and purposes. Power sources run the gamut from batteries to fuel cells, from solar panels to nuclear generators. Few people really understand the complexities, the varieties and the capabilities of objects designed to fly in space.

So far, our one big hang-up has been the Earth's gravity field. The only means we have for lifting our IFOs through the gravity field is the multi-stage rocket. Each pound of mass requires more than 21 million foot-pounds of mechanical energy to escape the Earth's gravitational field. Because our rockets have very low mechanical and thermodynamic efficiencies it costs several thousand dollars for every pound we launch; whereas the same pound would cost a few cents to ship to London.

The vehicles get larger and larger. The Saturn V moon rocket is a good example of growing a concept to the nth degree to accomplish a task. But even with its enormous size the Saturn V is limited in payload and to make matters worse it is "thrown away" after one flight.

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The UFO. . (continued) SKYLOOK
For future missions consideration was given to strapping several of these monsters together to build a Super-Saturn. If this doesn't stagger your imagination, nothing will. Recently, however, a new concept, a Space-Shuttle, has been proposed. This is definitely a step in the right direction. The Shuttle would eliminate the "throw-away" concept of rockets by allowing re-use of the basic vehicle and in turn reduce the cost-per-pound for gravitatal escape.

But why not take a big step, maybe not as a production program, but as an experiment. Consider the UFOs photographed at Santa Ana, California, at McMinnville, Oregon, at Yungay, Peru etal. They all represent a big-step in advanced thinking and advanced flying. Each object, regardless of size or shape, maneuvered easily within our atmosphere, without causing any air pollution or significant atmospheric disturbance. It is obvious that we have a lot to learn, so why not start today.

(To be Continued Next Month)

IN OTHERS' WORDS By Lucius Farish

First off, a couple of late items: The January issue of SAGA contained an article by Otto Binder on various alleged messages--written, verbal, electronic, etc--from UFO occupants. Some rather speculative material is included, along with other data from seemingly reliable sources.

The second item which was not seen in time to be included in last month's column is John Keel's article in the February issue of MALE. Dealing primarily with incidents of apparent UFO hostility, Keel speculates as to whether or not we are engaged in a "hushed-up war" against UFOs.

Returning again to SAGA--the February issue this time--we find an article by B. Ann Slate and Fritz Kron, outlining the UFO views of Stanton Friedman, a nuclear physicist who has become one of the more outspoken scientists favoring extensive UFO investigations.

SKYLOOK staff member, John F. Schuessler, has a very good article in the February issue of FATE. Entitled "New Theory of UFO Flight," the article compares UFO flight characteristics with our own rocket-powered spacecraft. John suggests that knowledge gained from UFO observations could help us build spacecraft which would use "unconventional" methods of propulsion, yet would be considerably better than present models.

A bit more space has been devoted to UFOs by the NATIONAL ENQUIRER in recent weeks. The January 10th issue told of a Danish sighting involving an electromagnetic effect. The issue of January 24th profiled Oklahoma UFO researcher, Hayden Hewes.

The first issue of FSR CASE HISTORIES has now been received by American subscribers. This is the new supplement to be issued bi-monthly as a companion magazine to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. Well worth the subscription price of \$3.40 per year.

Books dealing with possible methods of UFO propulsion are relatively rare. Therefore, when one is published, it deserves a wide reading by the more technically-inclined UFO researchers. As I most definitely do not belong in the afore-mentioned category, I can only report to you that Eugene H. Burt, a science instructor at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia, has written a book entitled UFO'S AND DIAMAGNETISM.
(Continued on inside-back cover)

Compared to the Ubatuba fragments, other samples have received much less publicity, attention, and serious consideration. Usually they have been less extensively analyzed than the Ubatuba fragments, but the analysis that has been conducted has revealed an extremely curious fact. Many different compositions have been found! Compositions have been found that vary all the way from high quality steel to almost pure silver. Compounds such as oxides, silicates, and sulfides have also been found as components. Looking collectively at all of the fragments that have been analyzed to date, it would almost seem that only two hypotheses are now possible. The samples are either all fakes or were "planted" by extra-terrestrials to confuse us! Most scientists would obviously rather accept the former theory.

Perhaps the time has come to summarize what has been said up to this point. Dr. Utke points out that he has been trying to show that it is unrealistic to claim that there is conclusive proof available that UFO's exist. The evidence available may convince the layman, but it must be rated as only circumstantial on a scientific scale of evaluation.

But Dr. Utke also makes the point that the types of conclusive "scientific" evidence that most scientists apparently require before they'll believe UFO's exist, may also be unrealistic. In fact, these types of evidence may even be unattainable. For reproducing a UFO in a laboratory or recovering one intact would seem to be highly unlikely if UFO's exist and have the characteristics frequently described. Of course, if a UFO crashed, exploded, or discharged some matter directly in front of a group of scientists, the scientific community would probably consider the fragments or material recovered as being "proof" that UFO's exist. But we have just seen that a fragment or sample simply found on the ground (especially if by a layman) will probably not constitute "scientific proof" of the existence of UFO's even after extensive analysis. At least those fragments found and analyzed to date haven't been viewed as conclusive evidence.

And so, Dr. Utke writes, it should be obvious that we've been on a merry-go-round for about 22 years now. The evidence available is too circumstantial to interest most scientists in the UFO phenomenon. And yet these same scientists demand types of evidence as "scientific proof" that probably can't be produced, at least without their help. Why are we on this merry-go-round? How can we get off? These questions demand further comment and I intend to make that comment as frank as possible--even at the risk of alienating some of the scientists who may read this.

Most historians point to the early 17th century when they talk about the birth of modern science, with its emphasis on the scientific method. Certainly no one would deny that since that time man has been rapidly picking up speed as he has traveled down the road of scientific progress. In about 350 years, science has come from a humble beginning to being the major, controlling influence in men's lives. Of course, the reason for this is simple. The past 350 years has been one long string of success stories.

(Continued next month)

MOVING? Send your change of address TODAY! Third class mail is not forwarded by the postoffice department as is first class mail.

Much Ado about Venus

The January 6, 1971 edition of "The Joplin Globe" and the January 5, 1971 "Springfield Leader" (both in Missouri) carried stories of an "unidentified flying object" seen by the James Henderson family, of Purcell, Mo. on January 5. The sighting was given mention in the Rolla Mo. "Rolla Daily News" on January 5.

Lovern Ellis, one of our Webb City subscribers, sent us the Joplin newsclipping--he also talked to the Hendersons, the Jasper County deputy who confirmed the sighting, and consulted a friend with considerable knowledge of astronomy and came to the conclusion the object sighted was Venus.

Ted Phillips, of the SKYLOOK staff, supplied the Springfield news clipping, and has no doubt that the object seen was Venus (read his comments in "the Astronomy Corner" elsewhere in this issue).

Here's the report, as it appeared in the Joplin newspaper: [quote] Purcell, Mo.--An unidentified flying object, described as "brighter than a harvest moon," was sighted early Tuesday morning in the Purcell area by the James Henderson family. It was the third sighting of a UFO by the family since Thanksgiving week.

The sighting was later confirmed by a deputy of the Jasper County Sheriff's Department who was dispatched to the scene after being called by the Hendersons.

Henderson said when his wife awoke early Tuesday she saw a bright object in the sky to the southeast, apparently about a mile away. She then awakened her husband and they called the sheriff's department.

Deputy Sheriff Max Swager arrived at the scene about 5:45 a.m. and reported seeing the UFO. He described it in a report to the sheriff's department as being 20 times brighter than a star and estimated that it was about three-quarters of a mile high in the sky.

Swager said the object started gaining altitude and headed in a southwesterly direction about 5:47 a.m.

Henderson said Tuesday that there could be no comparison between the brightness of the object and a star. "It does disappear in a star pattern, but at 6 a.m. no star is where it disappears."

Henderson said the object, when he saw it, appeared like a sky-hook with a ball hanging. I don't think it was a star but I'm not going to say it was a UFO."

Mrs. Henderson reported the object had a bright glow and appeared to be three-cornered.

"It was six or seven times bigger than any star around in the sky," she said. "A star twinkles, and it glowed. It really gives you a weird feeling. It's just like it senses that you know that you are aware of it."

"Mrs. Billie Henderson, Henderson's mother, described the object as "bright, bright like someone shined a headlight in your eyes."

Members of the family first saw a UFO during Thanksgiving week and then again on Christmas morning.

Mrs. Billie Henderson said she had just arrived in Purcell from Owosso, Mich., Christmas morning and was asleep in the back of the family car when other members of the family awakened her talking about a strange object in the sky.

"It would follow us whichever way we would go," she said. "If we would stop, it stopped. If we moved, it moved away. Once when we started toward it, it went toward Alba."

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Venus, continued

The object, according to the Hendersons, was seen no closer than a mile and makes no noise. They have seen it only between midnight and early morning. [End quote]

Mr. Phillips points out: "It was seen from automobile by two people, seen during the morning hours, watched until dawn, then 'faded out in a star formation.' This would seem to be a typical observation of the bright planet fading in the dawn light. It was reported the object 'kept alongside their car, when they stopped, it stopped. They made a left turn and went toward it and it ran. It would seem that the motion of the object might be better described as the motion of the car. When the car stopped the visible motion also stopped. As the object was seen as stationary or at least nearly stationary for some two hours, this would indicate that it was indeed the planet Venus."

We feel the reason for devoting this much space to a UFO which quickly becomes an IFO is too obvious to need explanation.

Dogs Refuse to Hunt After Bright Light in Sky

Lowell Reed, of Stover, Mo., and a friend, Del Hartsburg, were hunting with their coon dogs near Beverly Beach, on the Lake of the Ozarks, on a cold December night in 1965.

A bright light, "so bright it hurt my eyes," Reed said, appeared suddenly out of the southwest, moved rapidly overhead with a hissing sound, and disappeared in a matter of seconds. There was no "object" to be seen, just the intense bright light which caused the dogs to cower and whimper as it "whooshed overhead" and which left a U-shape trail hanging in the sky in the southwest. The dogs refused to hunt after the incident, and the two men gave up and returned to Stover.

Reed said he has never seen anything else like that light, before or since, and he has no idea what it was.

Unusual Radar Tracking Reported

Ralph Bock, of St. Louis, an electronics engineer, reports the following which occurred between 10 o'clock and midnight, one night in March, 1955: "I was the duty officer in the radar van of an M-33 Radar / 90 MM Antiaircraft Artillery battery site in Baldwin Hills reservoir area just southwest of Los Angeles and north of Inglewood. During an alert for an unidentified aircraft in the SE area, a strong return was spotted at maximum range due west over the ocean, moving due east. Return moved within track radar acquisition range, and was locked on. Estimated speed of approach 2000 mph, prior to lock-on. At estimated range 10-15,000 yards, target made abrupt turn to port, breaking track lock-on, and moved rapidly north out of range. Intensity of the blip indicated a vehicle equal to a larger than largest commercial aircraft. No known aircraft could perform the turn that the blip described on the PPI scope. The turn was made within a few seconds of track radar lock-on--no time to verify speed. Speed estimated by travel between returns based on search radar sweep time. Calculations verified by radar operator on duty--he also saw return on scope. Sighting not reported to Area Control until after off-screen. Thought might be system failure. Heard nothing more from A.C." (Credit, John F. Schuessler)

Editor's Note: Mr. and Mrs. John Doe (their real names on file) attended a lecture by John Schuessler at Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Mo., Dec. 2nd and came forward from the audience to tell of their UFO sighting. Further details were obtained later in a personal interview by Art Epstein and permission was given to publish their story, with holding their real name. Mr. Epstein's very interesting report follows:

Date of sighting: March 1, 1967. Time: about 9:30 PM, and again at 11. Place: Jennings, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis in St. Louis County, and eight miles from the St. Louis Municipal Airport. Weather: Dark, clear and cold.

There had been a report in the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat" on Jan. 31, 1967, that a Mrs. Meyer of Emma Ave. Jennings, had seen an oval-shaped wheel come out of the sky and close to the street. Having read that item, Mrs. John Doe paid particular attention to the red and green lights she saw on the evening of March 1st. They seemed to be about the wing-span of a small plane apart, and she went outside to get a better look as the the pair of lights coming directly back from the direction that they had been headed without turning around as an ordinary plane would have to do.

She called to her husband to bring the binoculars and both took turn observing the lights. Mr. Doe said he could not make out any body detail, but that at times he got a glint of reflected light off a shiny surface. The pair of lights just "floated," he said. No engine noise was heard. The lights traversed the neighborhood about four times, all turns being at a 90-degree angle. There was no blinking. After hovering over the Doe home three or four minutes, the lights moved to the west and out of sight.

Mr. Doe went back indoors, but his wife went around to the back of the house to see if she could see anything more and caught another glimpse of the lights just before they disappeared, only to be replaced in a few minutes by a red ball of light. Mrs. Doe estimates this ball was over a cemetery about a block away. The red ball of light went "down the field and came right back to its point of origin," she said. This was repeated about three times and then it disappeared.

Two hours later, about 11 P.M. Mrs. Doe decided to go outdoors for just one more look from the back of their home. After several minutes she noticed a large cloud to the northwest that had the most peculiar lightning in it and coming from it. "The lightning came out like many thin fingers," she said. To her it was very odd and different from any lightning she had ever seen before. She said she was so awe stricken, she was afraid to go get her husband, as she didn't want to miss anything that might happen while she went inside.

She was facing west and estimated the cloud must have been over the Norwood Golf course about two miles distant. As she watched, the "lightning" continued to come out of what appeared to be the nose of a blimp. No, she thought, it can't be a blimp, because or blimps don't have a row of square windows running along the side from front to back. "I could actually see each window and the bar that separates the upper and lower pane," she reported, "and the bright golden light beams that came out of each pane looked like oars on a boat."

"It looked like a huge submarine floating in the sky," she continued

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Sky Submarine, . . continued

All of the afore mentioned details slowly came into view as the cloud dissipated, or as the "submarine" came out of the cloud, Mrs. Doe explained. The fingers of lightning continued to shoot out of the nose of the ship and seemed to draw it forward toward the south. Mrs. Doe never saw the rear end of the craft as the cloud seemed to linger at the rear and to move with the craft. As to the length of the object, she estimated that as she stood there and compared it to the width of their lot (50 feet wide) it would have covered three lots, viewing it from her position.

She reported she had to take two Bufferin before she could go to sleep--and no wonder! She also reported that she had written a full report of what they had seen and mailed it to the Condon Committee in Colorado and apparently no notice was taken of the report.

Good Attendance at UFO Lecture at Breese, Ill.

A free, illustrated lecture and panel discussion on Unidentified Flying Objects, was held in the gymnasium of the Mater Dei high school in Breese, Ill., Sunday afternoon, Jan. 10, with more than 200 in attendance.

Mrs. Rosetta Holmes, of Carlyle, Ill, acted as Mistress of Ceremonies introducing the main speaker and panelist members, and was largely responsible for setting up the program and arranged the advance publicity.

Walter A. Andrus, Director of the Midwest UFO Network, gave a two hour lecture on UFOs, with illustrated slides. Due to a break down of the heating system, the room was cold, but the interest shown was warm and no one left during the entire afternoon's program. Included in the audience were Sisters and students from the Notre Dame Collage in St. Louis, who later indicated their interest in having a similar program presented in their school.

Mrs. Holmes acted as moderator during the hour panel question and answer session. The panelists were: John F. Schuessler, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and State (Mo.) director of MUFON; Walter Andrus; Dr. Willard P. Armstrong, Missouri Director of Ham Radio Communications for MUFON; John Preisack, Assistant Director of the McDonnell Planetarium in St. Louis; Arthur J. Epstein, of the St. Louis Study Group; and Robert Smulling, Illinois State Director of MUFON and Photography Consultant, of Hamilton, Ill. (Our readers will recognize the SKYLOOK staff members listed)

The fact that faculty members, students and parents gathered with open minds to listen to a program of this nature and showed their interest by the questions asked during the panel program, made it a rewarding afternoon for all taking part and speaks well for the growing public interest in the UFO enigma.

WANTED: (1) the book "The Expanding Case for the UFO" by the late M. K. Jessup; (2) any information or reference concerning the interest and/or work of the late Wilhelm Reich in relation to the UFO phenomenon, as mentioned briefly in the 1969 biography, "Wilhelm Reich." Write: David A. Schroth, 4517 Pennsylvania Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63111.

Do you have taped UFO reports? Jo Clark (editor of DATA NET CONTROL), 340 Harvard Drive, Rt. 2, Ben Lomond, Calif., 95005, writes: "I have transcribed many tapes. We need original reports to supplement our clips." Why don't you write to her and make a deal.

Major Donald E. Keyhoe, U. S. Marine Corps, Retired, in his 1955 book "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy," gives great weight to an incident which took place on 23 November 1953, above Michigan's Upper Peninsula. It involves the alleged collision of an unidentified flying object with a United States Air Force interceptor aircraft, an F-89. The passage reads:

"It was the evening of November 23, and wintry darkness had settled over Michigan. At an isolated radar station Air Defense operators were watching their scope in a routine guard against possible enemy attack.

"Suddenly the 'blip' of an unknown machine appeared on the glass screen. The Ground Control Intercept officer took a quick look. The 'unknown' was flying over the Soo Locks--and no aircraft was scheduled near that important target. Whatever it was, it had to be identified swiftly.

"In less than two minutes an F-89 from Kimross Field was streaking towards the locks. At the jet's controls was Lieutenant Felix Moncla, Jr., a veteran at 26. Behind him was Lieutenant R. R. Wilson, 22-year old Oklahoman, acting as radar observer. Guided by Ground Control Moncla climbed steeply toward the 'unknown.'

"Back at GCI, the Controller watched the jet's blip on his glowing radarscope. As it moved toward the UFO's blip, the strange craft changed course. The controller called Moncla, gave him the new bearing. From the scope he saw that the F-89 was now over Sault Sainte Marie, though to the crew the city's lights would be only a blur, quickly lost behind.

"The UFO, flying as fast as a jet airliner, was heading toward Lake Superior. At over 500 miles per hour the F-89 raced after it, out across Whitefish Bay.

"Nine more minutes ticked by in the tense quiet of the GCI radar room. Gradually the F-89 cut down the gap. By now, the controller knew; Wilson should have spotted their quarry on the fighter's short-range radar. Watching the chase, he cut in his microphone and called the fighter's code name.

"Target should soon be visual. Still bearing---" He broke off, staring at the scope. The two blips had suddenly merged into one.

"Whether the strange machine had abruptly slowed or Moncla unaccountably had put on full power, no one in the room could tell.

"But one thing seemed grimly certain; the two machines were locked together, as if in a smashing collision.

"For a moment longer the huge, ominous blip remained on the glass. Then it quickly went off the scope."

This incident impressed Keyhoe primarily because no wreckage was found. No remains of the F-89 or its crew, nor any remains of what Keyhoe insists, upon what tangible evidence it is impossible to determine, was a "machine." Better yet, a "strange machine." The UFO.

The inference being that F-89s that collide with UFOs never return in one piece. Or, in any pieces. A merger best avoided.

This incident, as narrated by Keyhoe, came sharply to mind a short while ago in reading an article in "The New York Times Magazine," dated 22 November 1970, which described the activities of American aircraft carriers, their planes, and pilots, on patrol in the Mediterranean. The similarities are remarkable.

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"Perhaps the strangest intercept of all was made by Lieutenant Commander Howard Young, a Vietnam veteran with more than 1,600 hours of flying time in Phantoms. After one launch, his on-board radar failed to pick up the assigned target, and so he was directed to an intercept point by the ship's radar control. When Young reported to the ship that he still could not see the target, the radar controller replied, 'You've merged with it.' " I rolled over," Young recalls, "and I saw a flock of geese. I couldn't believe they'd been picked up by radar so I broke away from them and asked the radar controller to give me the bearing and distance again. He sent me right back to the geese."

This incident occurred at an unspecified time recently. The circumstances of both reports, even to the wordings, are curiously coincidental. Both unidentified radar targets were initially "unknowns." UFOs. In each instance interceptor aircraft were directed towards the UFOs by radar controllers who had unidentified blips on their scopes. In each instance the intercept aircraft "merged" with the UFOs. In the latter instance the aircraft survived the merger.

The problem of "birdstrike," aircraft-bird collisions, is very great, and increasing daily. Aircraft, private, military, and commercial, have been damaged, or totally destroyed after bird-caused crashes, and at much lower speeds than Moncla's "500 miles per hour." The spectacle of an aircraft, any aircraft traveling at 500 miles per hour, colliding with one or more birds, especially the size of geese, is horrifying. Neither participant would survive.

If modern radar, such as that now in use by our Armed Forces, can present a flock of geese as an unknown target, presumably aircraft, it might be well to consider the qualities of those radar devices in use in 1953, when Moncla and Wilson were directed into an intercept course with an unknown target, presumed to be an aircraft. One or more birdstrikes at 500 miles per hour would destroy an aircraft, and probably the occupants. And the event would certainly scatter any groupings of birds. Any "blip" returned from a closed formation would thus disappear.

Donald H. Menzel, considering the "Kimross" incident in his "The World of Flying Saucers," finds it necessary to re-arrange the sequence of events presented by Keyhoe in order to explain away the loss of Moncla and Wilson, and their aircraft, as a case of pilot vertigo. He does not explain what Wilson was saying into his radio while Moncla was careening about the sky, his senses failing him, but under those circumstances something might be expected. Nothing was heard, a point upon which Keyhoe and Menzel, at least, agree.

For some readers, the UFO enigma must be constantly dramatized. Even after decades, or generations, of UFO activity, some readers will not give it any attention unless the mystery of the UFO, the "strange machine," is rendered in a crude, frightening terms. But, to satisfy this appetite, is it necessary to retail the very real agonies of very real people, survived by very real families, as UFO-perpetrated crimes?

Not necessary, surely, but profitable indeed.

CAPRO, P. O. Box 1316, Winnipeg 1, Manitoba, Canada, has come out with a new staff and a new look--and we like it. Director, Brian G. Hay, is trying to find a new Editor. Glad to see this bi-monthly ufozine again. Good luck in the new set-up, Mr. Hay.

THE ASTRONOMY CORNER

The February Sky By Ted Phillips

Venus, the old UFO culprit, is seen in the eastern sky before sunrise. It rises at about 4:00 a.m. February 1 and at 4:50 a.m. by the end of February. It is very bright and should be considered in any UFO sighting that may be reported between the rising time and dawn. The planet has been reported as a UFO numerous times and has been described as being triangular in shape, crescent-shaped with a ring of smaller lights. If seen from a moving automobile, it may be reported as having considerable motion. It has been seen as a bright yellow or white object, if near the horizon, it is generally described as a large reddish object.

Mars is also a morning star and will be increasing in brightness as the year progresses. January 1, it rises about 2:50 a.m.; rising at 2:20 a.m. by the end of the month. It will be seen in the southeast until dawn. Jupiter appears as a bright object in the eastern sky before dawn; it rises at 2:30 a.m. February 1, and at 1:00 a.m. March 1. Saturn is visible in the high southern sky until 1:00 a.m. February 1, and sets at 11:20 p.m. March 1.

The Constellations No. 3: Gemini (The Twins) By Mark Herbstritt

The constellation Gemini crosses the meridian at 9 PM on February 19. Gemini are the twins, Castor and Pollux, sons of Leda by Jupiter. In ancient times, the two bright stars were considered to be twins.

To the Arabs Castor and Pollux were two kids, in line with the pastoral culture of those people. The name Gemini is Latin and is fairly recent. The twins were famous for two sporting events--Pollux was the originator of self-defense and Castor was the first man ever to bestride a horse.

Gemini is prominent high in the heavens on these February evenings. The position of the planet Uranus when it was discovered by Sir William Herschel in 1781 was not far from Eta Geminorum. It was also in this region that Pluto stood when it was discovered in 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh. Both these discoveries were complicated by the fact that the star-strewn stream of the Milky Way crosses the corner of Gemini and makes the proof of the discovery, particularly of an object as faint as Pluto, a project of tremendous difficulty.

Scientists Discover 2 Galaxies "Kansas City Times," Jan. 11, 1971--

Using facilities at four observatories to track down a report about strange space objects, a team of astronomers has discovered two previously undetected galaxies right in the earth's galactic backyard. The discovery is like finding that an apparently vacant lot across the street has been the site of an invisible house for many years.

Location of the two galaxies, named Maffei 1 and Maffei 2 and their apparent size and distance from earth was reported yesterday in the Astrophysical Journal by astronomers from the University of California at Berkeley, the California Institute of Technology and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The nine astronomers who write the article said that interstellar dust in the Milky Way galaxy, of which earth is a part, has obscured the two galaxies and prevented their detection.

The discovery means astronomers must revise their concept of what they call the Local Group of galaxies, those nearest earth. The Local Group previously was believed made up of five galaxies--the Milky Way of which the sun is a minor star, the Andromeda galaxy and three small

(continued on next page)

Astronomy Corner, Continued

er satellite galaxies.

The newly discovered galaxies are named after a young Italian astronomer, Paolo Maffei, who reported in 1968 in an obscure scientific journal he had found two strange objects on infrared photographs made in the Laboratory of Astrophysics at Frascati, Italy.

The report caught the attention of Robert Landau, a graduate student at the University of California, who was puzzled by two objects appearing in an area where interstellar dust is the thickest. He reasoned that since the objects were visible on infrared photographs through the dust, they might be much larger than they appeared.

A study was begun using facilities at Lick observatory at Mount Hamilton, Calif., Leuschner observatory at Lafayette, Calif., the Hale observatories near Los Angeles and a radio telescope at Hat Creek, N. D. It confirmed Landau's idea that the two objects might be nearby galaxies. (Editor's Comment: You will note Mr. Herbstritt mentioned the difficulty of discovering objects in the Milky Way--Pluto as recently as 1930--and now two new galaxies. Who knows what else may lie behind the star-dust curtain, right in our own "back yard"? Not being an astronomer, we cannot assess the importance of this discovery, but we find it an exciting and awesome news story.)

Scientist Gives Jupiter 'Star' Rating: The "Arkansas Gazette" on Dec. 20, 1970, quotes Dr. Robert Wildey, an astrogeologist, as giving Jupiter, the solar system's largest planet, star rating.

Wildey, of the U. S. Geological Survey's Center of Astrogeology at Flagstaff, Ari., says Jupiter seems to be radiating 2.5 times as much energy into space as it gets from the sun.

"It may be," he said, "that Jupiter has not quite finished 'falling together' into a rigid planet from the original interstellar debris from which it was formed, so that its power generation is essentially gravitational energy conversion."

Stars such as the sun generate energy from nuclear processes in their hot and highly compressed cores. Wildey did not suggest that Jupiter, too, has an interior nuclear power plant, although some other scientists have speculated so in the past.

Energy sent into space by earth and other planets is a re-radiation of energy which came originally from the sun.

Wildey and Dr. Laurence Trafton of the University of Texas' McDonald Observatory studied Jupiter with the 200-inch Mount Palomar telescope in California, the world's largest. They correlated their results with data obtained by a small telescope flown in a high-altitude plane by Dr. Frank Low of the University of Arizona and Rice University.

If Jupiter's only energy source was the sun, its temperature should be about 270 degrees below zero Fahrenheit. The two differently gathered sets of data indicate, however, that it actually is as "high" as minus 202 degrees. This, Wildey said, suggests that "Jupiter is radiating more power than it receives from the sun."

Wildey made it clear that Jupiter is not self-luminous. Like the earth, it shines in reflected sunlight. Its excess radiation consists of invisible infrared light. (Credit-Lou Farish)

Don't forget

Saturday, June 12, 1971

The Midwest UFO Conference will be held in St. Louis, Mo.

QUINCY DAILY HERALD

April 13, 1897

A RACE WITH THE AIRSHIP

Burlington Fast Mail Has a Race With
the Queer Machine

Burlington, Ia., April 13. - Engineer F. L. Bullard, on engine 950 of the fast mail, saw the airship. This popular railroad man states that when he left Chicago yesterday morning and when he reached Western Avenue he saw a huge spectacle in the sky moving along in the same direction with his train. He watched it for a few minutes and then was compelled to give his undivided attention to his engine for five or ten minutes, and when he again looked out the monster was some distance ahead. He stated that the train was going at the rate of seventy miles an hour at the time, and when they reached Lisle, Ill., the ship was lost sight of, being miles ahead. Mr. Bullard thought that this aerial schooner must have been traveling at the rate of 100 to 150 miles per hour.

QUINCY MORNING WHIG, April 13, 1897

IT WAS THE AIRSHIP SURE

Hundreds of Persons Saw
It Over Quincy

WHOLE COUNTRY EXCITED

Scientists Looking for the Mysterious
Stranger-Bloomington Sees it in Daylight-
Interviews with Eminent Astronomers -
More Descriptions of it

Any number of reliable witnesses were found Sunday and yesterday who declared they had seen the airship which passed over Quincy shortly after 11 o'clock Saturday night, and quite a number of telephone messages were received at this office from persons who desired to corroborate the story of the presence of the mysterious stranger. One man declared that he had not only witnessed the thing, but heard a distinct whirring noise as it passed over the city. A farmer in Melrose, living four miles south of the city was in town yesterday and stated that he was sitting up with a sick child Saturday night and happened to look out of the window and saw an airship as it hovered in the air south of the city. He hurried out of the house and got a good look at it. He said it did not appear to be more than 200 feet above the earth at that time, and he could plainly distinguish its form. His description tallied exactly with that given by others who saw it and which was published in THE SUNDAY WHIG. The visit of the aerial navigator was the talk of the town, and while some were inclined to scoff, with so much corroborative evidence from reliable witnesses, it is impossible to doubt that it was really an airship that was seen.

(continued on next page)

Scientists and astronomers all over the country have become deeply interested in the airship and are trying to find out more about it. A dispatch from St. Louis says: "Telescopes at Washington and at St. Louis universities swept the sky from zenith to horizon in a northwesterly direction last night and the professors at these institutions endeavored to solve the mystery that is now puzzling the central west.

"It is the general belief that an airship is floating over the states of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Kansas. This belief is entertained by men of scientific attainments as well as those not so well versed in the field of natural philosophy.

"The rumor that a strange aerial body had been seen became current a fortnight ago and was laughed at. It was repeated and wise men said the nocturnal observers were suffering from optical illusions due to excessive libations, or that the light from a brilliant star had been magnified by the imagination.

"Within the last three days the evidence that something unusual is moving midst the clouds has become so conclusive and has so much corroboration that wiseacres have ceased to jibe, and while wondering what the mystery can be, they are doing their utmost to solve it.

"Telegrams were received Saturday morning from correspondents in four central states stating that a luminous body had been seen moving in a northwesterly direction Friday night. Different colored lights were seen flashing from the object, and its lines were easily distinguished.

"It was viewed by thousands at Chicago, and was declared by Max I. Hosmar, secretary of the Chicago Aeronautical Association, to be an airship. He averred moreover that he knew one of the men in the aerial craft, Prof. Hough, of Northwestern University said that it must have been a star that was seen, but thousands of Chicagoans ridiculed the idea.

"A reporter visited Union Station Saturday and interviewed train hands and passengers arriving from the west and northwest. They all said the airship was the one topic of conversation in the region through which they passed. Hundreds had seen the object and all were mystified.

"Visits were then paid Washington and St. Louis universities. At the former Prof. Henry S. Pritchett was found in the laboratory.

"I know what you wish to speak with me about," he said when the reporter entered, "and I will frankly tell you I am as mystified as anyone."

"Can it be possible that it is an airship?"

"Why, of course it can. This is an age of wonderful inventions. Suppose a man has solved the great problem of the century--aerial navigation--what more probable than that he would float around over cities in just such a manner. He would thus be the talk of the civilized world and it is the light, whatever it is, was between the clouds and the earth."

"What is your solution of the mystery, professor?"

"I have none to offer. I am as much puzzled as any one. Something unusual has been seen, and that is as far as I know. When I first read the many telegrams this morning I thought some practical joker might have sent up a hot-air balloon, but after thought I concluded that was not possible. No hot-air balloon would float so long, nor could it have hovered over so many points."

(Continued next month)

UFO Appraisal, page 5 (Continued from January issue of SKYLOOK)
conclusions.

There is an interesting parallel between the history of the UFO problem and the history of weather modification ("rainmaking"). After almost 20 years of taboo by the scientific community, weather modification has now achieved scientific recognition due to the fact that some courageous, high-caliber scientists entered the arena. This has resulted in a revision of the viewpoint of the National Academy of Science.

The immediate question is how to attack the UFO problem without the pitfalls of past attempts. There is little doubt that the short-time, one-shot approach of an ad hoc team is neither promising nor economical. This is especially true if the study team decides--as the University of Colorado group did--to concentrate on current rather than past observations. As the UFO statistics show, this results in the devotion of precious time to investigating the noise, rather than the signal. It was mentioned earlier that the Colorado University study faced formidable odds because of the short duration of its contract. If the recommendation of the O'Brien committee to negotiate multiple contracts for continuing investigations had been followed, this difficulty would perhaps have been avoided. There is also little hope to expect a solution of this extremely complex problem by the efforts of a single individual.

The Subcommittee sees the only promising approach as a continuing, moderate-level effort with emphasis on improved data collection by objective means and on high-quality scientific analysis. This would eliminate the difficult problem of witness credibility. An economic and technically sound approach involving available remote-sensing capabilities and certain software changes will require some thinking on the side of the aerospace engineering community. Proposals along this line are already in the hands of the Subcommittee. The financial support should be kept at a moderately low level (It is estimated that a small fraction of the costs of the University of Colorado study would be required initially) until reevaluation of the situation allows another assessment. Without such an effort the controversy can be expected to suffer further polarization and confusion.

The Subcommittee feels that a strictly scientific-technological view of the UFO problem leads to this conclusion and that, for a technical committee, there is no need to stress the public and social aspects of the UFO controversy, which may have subsided only temporarily and will continue to clamor for a more conclusive and convincing answer. The Subcommittee is aware of several books on UFOs to be published in the near future. What is needed now is a moratorium in the UFO discussion--with an objective, wait-and-see attitude on the part of the scientific and engineering community, the government, and the public.

The approach recommended by this committee requires not only the attention of the scientist and engineer, but also a readiness of government agencies to consider sound proposals in this field without bias or fear of ridicule and repercussion--or, as Condon expresses it, "on an openminded, unprejudiced basis." This perhaps is our most important conclusion.

Finally, the Subcommittee believes the decision by the Air Force to divorce itself from the UFO problem should be completed by allowing the files to be archived by a civilian agency, either government or univer-

(continued on next page)

UFO Appraisal, page 6.

sity, after proper safeguards for the protection of witnesses and their names as well as full declassification procedures.

This Subcommittee intends to publish additional information on the UFO problem in the AIAA journals and to give the members of AIAA an opportunity to form their own opinion. This information will include typical examples of the so-called "hard-core residue" and some potential engineering approaches to a solution of the controversy.

Note: At the suggestion of the AIAA management, the Technical Committee on Atmospheric Environment and the Technical Committee on Space and Atmospheric Physics jointly formed the UFO Subcommittee in 1967. Special care was taken that none of its members was committed one way or another on the UFO issue in order that an unbiased assessment could be made. The committee was composed of ten representatives from the following: Martin-Marietta, TRW Systems, Hughes Aircraft, NOAA Environmental Research Laboratories, Georgia Institute of Technology, Meteorology Research Inc., McDonnell Douglas Missile & Space Systems, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and U. S. Army Electronics Command.

A "Flying Flame" Seen in Illinois

Robert Smulling, of Hamilton, Ill., and State Director of MUFON for Illinois, reports a "flying flame" in the Illinois sky, as seen by several witnesses.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. McGinnis, of Elvaston, were headed east on Highway 96 toward Elvaston, about 10:30 or 11:00 PM, Dec. 31st, when they noticed a bright light in the sky passing over the southeast edge of the city. It was foggy, but as the light neared their car, they saw what they described as a "flame," yellowish-orange in color. It looked as though it could be coming from a rocket or blow torch, but no solid object could be seen.

On Jan. 3rd Dana O'Brien and Margot Miller reported to Mr. Smulling that they and four other young adults also saw a flying flame on Dec. 31st about 10:30 PM as they were nearing Elvaston. They saw a bright light in the southeast moving northwest in their direction. As it came closer, they saw another light drop from the first which continued its course to the northwest. The falling light fell to the ground to their right, just off the highway. They stopped their car and backed to a point not more than 15 feet from the flame was burning upward in the ditch. It was yellowish-orange, about 10 inches tall and 1½ inches around. They also described it as a flame resembling one that would come from a blow torch or welder. There was no smoke or sound. At first the observers worried about a grass fire, but deciding it would be too hot to handle, continued on their way. On Jan. 2nd two of the observers returned to the spot, but found the ditch full of ice and saw no trace of a flare or burned grass. Any such trace was doubtless covered by the ice.

Since these reports were received, a third comes from Mr. Smulling. About 9 PM the night of Dec. 31st or Jan. 1st or 2nd, 1971 (the lady isn't sure), Mrs. J. O. Hoerner, whose home overlooks the Mississippi river at Keokuk, Ia., looked from a window to see a red light low in the sky approaching from the north. It appeared to be as close as 100 feet and emitted yellowish sparks as those from 4th of July sparklers. She also thought something red was hanging from the red light. From this close approach, it made a semicircle back over the river and disappeared to the north. [We hope to get more on this one.]

In Others' Words--continued

(Exposition Press Inc., 50 Jericho Turnpike, Jericho, N. Y. 11753 -\$5)
Because of my ignorance of physics, I can do no better than to quote the author: "... I attempt to show how the magnetic fields developed by positive electrical charges could explain many of the truly puzzling UFO observations: their silence; the lack of a sonic boom; their high accelerations and ability to make sharp changes in direction; clouds which form around them; the various colors emitted associated with the type of motion; radiation felt by observers; the disruption of electrical circuits; the spinning of magnetic compasses in their vicinity; their shapes; and the principles by which they could make interstellar trips." Okay, John Schuessler and you other technicians in the reading audience, let's have your comments! And this is echoed by Ye Ed.

Rev. David F. Webber of the Southwest Radio Church of the Air (P.O. Box 1144, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73101) has recently published a booklet entitled WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS. Rev. Webber's views have come about as a consequence of reading the more widely-publicized UFO books and comparing UFO manifestations with Biblical accounts. The booklet (selling for \$1.50 per copy) contains little information not found in other UFO texts.

A new paperback, GODS, DEMONS AND UFO'S, by Eric Norman (Lancer Books, 95¢), contains a great deal of re-hashed material, although an occasional new bit of information may be found by diligent digging. The "slant" of the book is adequately summed up by the title. A few new details regarding the Ashland, Nebraska, contact case of Herbert Schirmer are to be found, making for one of the more interesting portions of the book.

Brinsley Le Poer Trench's first UFO book, THE SKY PEOPLE, has recently been reprinted in paperback by Award Books (75¢). If any changes have been made in this new edition, they will be mentioned in a later column. At this writing, I have not yet seen the paperback version.

Editor's Note: Since we asked our readers to name their favorite feature in SKYLOOK, a great many have written in to inform us that Lou's column IN OTHERS' WORDS gets their vote, so apparently this column and THE ASTRONOMY CORNER are long-time favorites. We're glad to know this and always welcome reader comment.

SHORT NOTES . . . Ted's Catalog of Missouri Cases will be continued next month. . . The March issue will include more UFO reports by Robert Smulling. . . Guillermo E. Aldunati, editor of A.O.A. International UFO Newsletter, Casilla Postal 467, Rosario, Argentina, plans to visit the U.S.A. in June and is preparing a lecture on "UFOs in Argentina" and would like bookings. . . we'll review BIOVERSE, a new ufozine, next month. . . and another broken glass story. . . an article by Mark Herbstritt. . . you Fortean fans, Rod Dyke has added a FORTEANA clipping service to his UFO clips, and the FORTEAN service is \$2 per month--write Rod at UFO Research Committee, 3521 S. W. 104th St., Seattle, Wash., 98146. . . Hope to have room for a fascinating account of the "moving rocks" of Death Valley next time. . . Our biggest problem is always finding room for the good copy coming in every month. Wish we could afford to get out a ufozine twice this size--we could fill it. . . we'll get the Gurney Angel Hair report in next month. . . we have a surprise next month too, but we'll let you wonder about that. Only C.G. knows. . . Keep those cards and letters coming in, folks! We appreciate them. --Ye Ed

BEFORE

By Lucius Farish.

The following report was contained in a letter to the British scientific journal, "English Mechanic and World of Science," issue of August 18, 1916. The letter, from a correspondent identifying himself as "Rigel" of Limerick, Ireland, quoted another letter which had appeared in the IRISH INDEPENDENT, signed by "An Observer" of Ballinaslie, Ireland:

"Sir,--On the night of July 31 (1916) a wonderful light appeared in the sky just above the horizon. I saw it a little after 11 p.m., and it looked like an immense fire. At 11:15 p.m. the light moved along the sky to the North-east, and then it appeared as a great, luminous star. At 12 p.m. it moved back again in a Northerly direction, and showed as a great blaze of fire in the same place as I first saw it, and there it shone until 4 a.m. the following morning, when it disappeared. It was a marvellous phenomenon, the like of which I never beheld before last night." (Credit: Charles F. Flood)

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Editor and Publisher, Mrs. Norma E. Short, Box 129, Stover, Mo., 65078
Staff: Walter Andrus, 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill., 62301; Art Epstein, 9626 Radio Drive, Affton, Mo., 63123; Lucius Farish, Route 1, Plumerville, Ark., 72127; Rosetta Holmes, 1690 Hill Drive, Carlyle, Ill., 62231; Ted Phillips, P. O. Box 615, Sedalia, Mo., 65301; John Schuessler, P. O. Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo., 63366.

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