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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

And a warm thank you to all who sent the beautiful cards
and messages of good will during the holiday season.

--- Ye Ed.

"We tell it, as it is"

SKYLOOK

The Official Publication of the Midwest UFO Network

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A Message From Your Director

As MUFON enters its fourth year of UFO research as an organization and sponsorship of the THIRD ANNUAL MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE on June 17, 1972, at the Holiday Inn in Quincy, Ill., we are, indeed, proud to announce the name of our featured speaker. David R. Saunders, Ph.D., author of the book, "UFO's--Yes," and an active member of the "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects" at the University of Colorado, has accepted our invitation to speak. He has selected the title "New Lines for Orthoteny" as an intentional pun. He may begin by reviewing the general matter of applying statistics to UFO's and then move into the particular questions raised by the hypothesis of orthoteny. Students of UFO research are familiar with the outstanding work done in this area by Aime Michel in his book "Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery." Dr. Saunders joins an elite group by following Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Stanton T. Fried-

man to the lectern of the Midwest UFO Conference in successive years. Two other outstanding speakers have consented to speak on June 17, 1972. John F. Schuessler, Senior Engineer at McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics in St. Louis, Missouri, and R. Cedric Leonard, D. D., author and anthropologist of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, will implement the speakers previously announced--as Joe Brill, Franklin Park, Illinois, and Ted Phillips, Jr., Sedalia, Missouri. Mr. Schuessler is Missouri Director for MUFON, Director of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, editor of UFO POTPOURRI and staff member of SKYLOOK. Dr. Leonard is a consultant to MUFON in his field of expertise--anthropology. His Speech will be appropriately titled "UFO's in Antiquity."

Mr. George D. Fawcett, noted UFO lecturer and researcher for 25 years, has been appointed State-Section Director in NORTH CAROLINA for Surry and Forsyth counties. George resides at 607 North Main St., Mount Airy, North Carolina. He has already opened the public relations doors in the Winston-Salem area with a news article and announcement in the Winston-Salem "Journal" on Dec. 2, 1971, concerning his appointment to the MUFON post.

It is only coincidental that the new State-Section Director for Marion County, Illinois, Russell "Herb" Williams, hails from Salem, Illinois, residing at 300 Oak Tree. Herb's appointment for Marion County solidifies MUFON's coverage of Central Illinois.

Contratulations for another job well done are extended to the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis for the success of the December 5th lecture at the McDonnell Planetarium in which John F. Schuessler and Walter H. Andrus, Jr., were the speakers on the subject "UFO Challenge."

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SKYLOOK, January 1972

The MUFON Amateur Radio Communications Section, under the direction of Ronald M. Anderson WA9PAM as Net Control, continues to grow in activity and enthusiasm. On December 8 at 1900, CST, the following stations "checked in" when called by Acting Net Control WA9ARG in Quincy: WB9FWL, Greenfield, Wis.; KØJMA, Eagle Grove, Ia.; WØNC, St. Louis, Mo.; WB9BAW, Cisne, Ill.; WØDMY, Hebron, Nebr.; KØTII, Holdrege, Nebr.; WB4TPS, Troy, Tenn.; New Madrid, Mo. -WAØAZV; and WALFYO, Loulton, Alabama. Your Director, W9KRC, joined Marshall Goins, WA9ARG, in conducting the net. The MUFON net meets at 1900, CST, on the 8th and 26th of each month on 3.975 MHz.

Walt Andrus, Director, MUFON

Meeting Dates Announced

Beginning this month, the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis will have as its regular meeting place the auditorium of Lemay Bank, 152 Lemay Ferry Road. The three upcoming dates are January 16, February 20, and March 19. The time is 2 P.M. and refreshments will be served.

Crowd Attends UFO Lecture at Planetarium

A near capacity crowd, well over 300 people, came to the St. Louis McDonnell Planetarium Sunday evening, Dec. 5th, to hear "UFO Challenge" a program featuring lectures by John F. Schuessler and Walt Andrus. John defined the challenge by stating that UFO's indeed exist and that they represent a potentially great step up in space technology if we can analyze their means of travel. He described several cases in detail, emphasizing sightings in the St. Louis and surrounding area. Walt Andrus then continued by indicating how MUFON is picking up the challenge through its investigative and consulting staff. He described and showed slides from both classical and recent, less well known sightings.

The speakers were introduced by John Preisack, Assistant Director of the Planetarium. In opening the program Mr. Preisack related how Tycho Brahe carefully collected data on star and planet motions which were later used by Johannes Kepler in explaining planetary orbits. Thus Brahe is an inspiration for us today toward collecting UFO data which may serve as a basis for a future better understanding of UFO phenomena.

The program concluded with a very lively question and answer session which finally had to be closed before all the many would-be questioners could be heard.

The program was preceded by a good Press in the St. Louis and area and Mr. Schuessler had several radio interviews.

(Reported by W. P. Armstrong)

Speaking Dates

As of our deadline for copy, Dec. 20th, we do not have any speaking dates for January. Clarence Dargie, of O'Fallon, Ill., addressed the American Business Womens' Association "Boss of the Year" banquet in Belleville, Ill., Dec. 17, with more than 150 business women and their "bosses" present. His subject was "Biblical and Historical Accounts of UFOs." Mr. Dargie also spoke at the Belleville Area College on December 16th.

UFO Knocks Down Tree, Leaves Phosphorescent Circle on Kansas Farm

This may well be the biggest physical-evidence UFO report out of 1971. While investigation is still continuing, and we do not have results of soil analysis of samples taken at the site of an apparent near-landing, we will relate all the known facts at this writing.

Ronnie Johnson, 16-year-old-son of Mr. and Mrs. Durel Johnson, and his dog were taking care of a flock of sheep in the early darkness of November 2nd at the Johnson farm a mile and a half northeast of Delpho Kansas. It was about 7 o'clock when a brilliant light with a rumbling sound took off into the air from among trees behind a shed about 75 yards from the boy and his dog. The light blinded Ronnie for an instant (also the dog which hadn't recovered the next day when he was seen to run into a fence). Almost paralyzed with fear, the boy ran into the house to summon his parents. Minutes were lost while he convinced them he was not joking, but all were outdoors in time to see the bright, doughnut-shaped object and to hear its loud roar before it disappeared in the southern sky.

They went at once to the spot where Ronnie had seen the object rise above the shed and found a phosphorescent ring, about two feet wide, and eight feet across on the ground between the trees. A dead tree on one side of the ring had been crushed to the ground and was also glowing as did the limbs broken off and hanging from a living tree on the other side of the ring (the ring and the trees continued to glow at night for some time). Close-up photos were taken of the heat blisters on the trees at a later date.

Mrs. Johnson took pictures of the area immediately and also a sample of the soil from the ring. She scooped up the soil with her bare hands and her fingers immediately became numb. She told Mr. Phillips that it was a week before she was able to feel the pulses of patients in the nursing home where she is employed.

The following afternoon personnel from the Weather Bureau, sheriff's office and the Highway Patrol inspected the area. Samples of the soil from the dried, crusted area of the ring (the ground was wet and muddy inside and outside the ring), portions of the broken, blistered tree limb were taken for examination and testing. It was at this time the dog was seen running into a fence. (Ronnie's eyes bothered him for several days, but normal eyesight has returned.)

Sheriff Ralph Enlow said, "The ring was more than a foot wide and extended about a foot deep into the ground. The surrounding area was still muddy from recent rains, but the ring was extremely dry, as if something had sucked all the moisture from it. The ground was muddy both inside and outside the ring." The sample of earth taken contained white particles, and these were still present in the soil a month later when Mr. Phillips visited the site and took soil samples and photos of the area. The slides and photos show snow on the ground and pools of water standing--but the soil in the ring was perfectly dry.

Ronnie's estimate that the "thing" was some 8 feet in diameter and perhaps 10 feet tall, could be accurate, a reporter on the Delphos "Journal" concludes, judging from the size of the ring. There were no impressions in the ground to indicate landing marks. The reporter also observed that a helicopter or airplane would not have room to pass between the trees as did the object.

An official in the sheriff's office reported one other sighting of an object heading north near Minneapolis was made that same night by a Minneapolis resident.

(Continued on next page)

The "Wichita Eagle" also reported a cigar-shaped flying object near Welda, Kansas, seen about 9 a.m. Nov. 4 by Dr. Dean H. Stewart, a retired Army dentist of Manhattan, Kansas. Dr. Stewart was duck hunting at a lake about 1½ miles east of Welda when he saw the object.

"It was 1¼ to 1½ inches long, measured between my thumb and index finger, and almost the width of a pencil. It did not have wings and I could not see tail fins. There wasn't any sound or vapor trail. . . it seemed to be only about a half mile high. The nose cone was bright orange or reddish-orange with a white body. The object was moving very slowly in a north or northeasterly direction. I think I observed it for about 10 seconds."

When he took his eyes off the object to get his binoculars, it disappeared, he said.

The same newspaper reports that Mrs. Edward Johnson, of Abilene, Kansas, saw a kangaroo not far from her home on November 1st. We mention this "just for the record" as some of our readers collect reports of strange animals allegedly seen at or near UFO sightings.

This has been written from newspaper clippings supplied by Walter H. Andrus and Ted Phillips and from Mr. Phillips' verbal report. He also mentioned that Rod Steiger, a free-lance writer, and other investigators with individual or group interests have visited the Johnson farm so a report will appear in a number of publications. We hope you read it in SKYLOOK first.

We urge any of our readers who may have other clippings or further information on this sighting at the Johnson farm to write to SKYLOOK. We hope to have the result of the soil analysis soon.

Unnerving Sound from Green Object Over Medford, Oregon

On the night of September 6, 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Nightingale, their six children, and a boarder, Vernon Williams were suddenly awakened at 12:30 by a loud, electronic-type sound, now rising, now falling in intensity--a very penetrating and unnerving sound.

Each room at the Nightingale home, 1794, Stewart Ave., Medford, Ore., was checked to see if the sound could be coming from TV, radio, paper pump etc. TV and radio were not turned on to see if there would be any interference in reception.

Finally Mr. and Mrs. Nightingale went outside to check and saw a shining, bright green sharply outlined ball about the size of a basketball hanging motionless directly above a 45-50 foot high tree about 40 feet from the house. The light showed no variation in intensity or brilliance and was the same color as a green traffic stop light. It did not light up much of a surrounding area in spite of its brilliance.

After watching the light for an estimated 45 minutes, Mr. N. called the police. An officer arrived in time to see the light which by that time had started moving away to the east and finally disappeared. The strange sound continued throughout the observation period.
Credit: Carroll D. Watson, Shady Cove, Oregon.

IF there is a red X by your name on the address label, your subscription to SKYLOOK expires with this issue. A check for \$4 will bring you the magazine for another 12 months.

Following afternoon polo matches at a ranch near Big Horn, Wyoming fifteen people were relaxing after a late dinner, Labor Day, 6 September, 1971. Some of the guests were in the house, but most were on the porch admiring the brilliant night sky. At 10:15 PM MDT, those on the porch saw a number of brilliant objects rise out of the northwest horizon and disappear from sight over the southwest horizon. They watched the pulsating lights for about fifteen to twenty seconds. The guests, called from indoors, managed to get brief glimpses of only a few seconds. The objects were in tight formation and moving at high velocity giving the illusion to some of the witnesses of "streaking" rather than of individual objects. Those witnesses watching the entire passage of the "fleet" saw them as individual objects that pulsed in brightness. The effect was that of one object "leap-frogging" another, as one object would flash brilliantly while an adjacent object would fade. This random brightening and dimming continued throughout the visually observed portion of the flight and gave the appearance of "pulsating lights." However, it is evident that the "pulsating" feature was that of switching to one object, and then another, with no set pattern.

Witnesses included Dr. Robert Connell, veterinarian; a USAF Major, on leave from the Pentagon (name withheld), Malcolm Wallop, a Wyoming State Representative, and Allen Fordash, rancher. Malcolm, Fordash and the Air Force Major, all fliers, immediately contacted the FAA (located near Crazy Woman Vector Section) and determined there were no aircraft in the area, and certainly nothing to account for the multiple-object fly-over. FAA has no radar. No one was on duty. Requested operator to check.

Confirmation of the sighting from the Big Horn area came in the next day to the news room of radio station KWYO (Bob Wilson) of Sheridan, Wyoming. A couple in Sheridan reported the incident, their description being essentially the same. Two men driving between Parkman, Wyoming, and Wyola, Montana, confirmed they also saw the sighting with essentially the same features as previously described. The numbers of the Objects varied from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 20. The changing pulsating feature no doubt had considerable bearing on the difficulty of getting an accurate count.

The range is located at the foot of the Big Horn Range, and the flight path of the group of objects appeared to follow that of the range. They were lost from sight at the jutting finger of the range near Story, Wyoming. Descriptions agreed that the lights took a path parallel to the ground, but all attempts to get an estimate of actual height failed. The objects were not at high altitude aircraft level, but were over the mountains. Dr. Connell described them, and his wife agreed, as looking like "fire-flies" and also as "minnows". They appeared to have an oval bright leading portion, quite well defined and glowing in a self-luminous manner, not by reflected light, with a glowing tail. Length of tail one-half again as long as objects. The Objects kept a formation that was essentially 2 to 3 objects high with no more than 4 or 5 units long. There appeared to be essentially two separate horizontal lines of the objects, but the pulsating brightening and dimming confused the exact configuration of the formation. The formation was rectangular, the long dimension being in the direction of travel. There was no idea of how far away the objects were, but they were obviously not as high as normal jet

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altitude and much faster than any jet aircraft ever seen. The pattern of flight was direct and straight. There was no sound, no odor. The objects, as they pulsed in brightness, became as bright as a searchlight pointed straight at them, then faded quickly and the brilliant light would at once come from another object close by. There were several, at one time, brightening, then dimming, in random fashion, not just one brilliant pulse of light intermittently from one object. A confused pattern of flashing lights over the body of the formation. Not all the lights were of equal intensity, but it would be a steady light while "on." The apparent "tail" to the object was described mostly as sort of "reddish" glow. The appearance of the individual objects was elliptical in shape, narrower fore and aft, and thicker in the middle. Like a "school of fish when the grunion are running." the objects proper were of silver, white or cream color. The tail portion of the objects were described by one witness as looking like the "after tail" of a jet--looking into it.

The Air Force Major, Air Control, reportedly said he did not see any of the sighting, but had no comment. The angle of view from the porch (facing west) was from 30 to 40 degrees, and witnesses agreed they could not have been too far to the west of them, unless they were extremely high because the mountains rise abruptly in front of them from the ranch site looking west, 2000 feet. No animal reaction, an item Dr. Connell was alerted for, as the wild life in the area is his early-warning alert for earthquakes, high winds etc.

Connell's wife's observation to the AF Major that the sighting was certainly "no damned swamp gas" failed to produce any comment from him. Connell saw 10-15 objects. His wife saw 14 to 20. Others saw 8. None of the witnesses appeared to have had earlier sightings. They spoke of the many sightings over the years in an area known as St. Mary's Canyon. Also known as "Little Goose Canyon."

Editor's Note: We consider this a fine example of excellent reporting.

Round, White Object Seen Over Tulsa

At 5:37 P.M. Nov. 30, 1971, Todd Kyle, age 9, saw a round "baseball" shaped object traveling across the sky, and he and his mother, Mrs. Carla Kyle, of Tulsa, watched the object from their kitchen window for about ten seconds before it just "disappeared in mid air."

The object was white, about the size of a small, commercial airplane, and heading south in the eastern sky. Mrs. Kyle said the object was on a different flight path than most planes and there were no lights. Lights would be visible in the nearly dark and partly cloudy sky. The object followed a straight course.

Jeff Galyen, editor of MIDWEST UFO REPORT, interviewed Mrs. Kyle and Todd. In sending us the report, he adds, "I leave open the possibility that this object could have been a plane seen under abnormal conditions or a weather balloon. If I learn anything more, I'll let you know."

Editor's Note: Jeff tells us he is receiving so much copy, he has decided to publish bi-monthly instead of quarterly, and the new subscription price is \$1.50. Why not subscribe, or send 30¢ for a sample copy. The address: 4945 S. 72nd E. Ave., Tulsa, Okla. 74145.

Husband Expresses Doubt re UFOs--Then Wife Points at One!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Jareo, Jr., of Ballwin, Mo., had listened to some lectures on UFOs and Mrs. Jareo was keenly interested, while her husband was inclined to scoff at the whole idea.

At 6:40 p.m. on Sept. 30, 1971 the couple were shopping in Ellisville and were about ready to start home. They were in their MG Midget Convertible, with the top down, giving a clear view of the sky, preparing to leave the parking lot at the Zayres Department Store--and were discussing UFOs.

Mr. Jareo was commenting on the Henry Ford sighting as related in SKYLOOK, and Mrs. Jareo says his exact words were, "Well, they say Henry Ford said he saw it. If I heard Henry Ford say he saw it, then I'd believe it."

Mrs. Jareo tilted her head back in silent exasperation--and there it was! Very high in the clear sky, but close enough to see the circular shape with the slight dome was a UFO!

"It looked as if it were banking with its left area closest to earth," she explained. "It was traveling from north to south. At arms length, I would estimate the size to be that of a pearl. The shape was quite clear and there was no contrail.

"When the object had traveled from about 60 degrees (where we had first sighted it) to about 90 degrees, we quickly turned the car around in order to be facing it. Just at this point another object of the same size and shape appeared at about 75 degrees. In just an instant, it was there as if from nowhere. It was traveling from south to north. The two objects were about the same altitude, altho the object traveling north may have been a little lower. After watching the second object for a few seconds, we looked southward to pin point the first, which by that time, had disappeared--and then back to the second object and it was also lost to our vision."

Mrs. Jareo said, "The thing which impressed me so much about my first UFO sighting was the strange and beautiful timing. It was almost as if I were getting some very special help in proving to my husband that 'Saucers' do exist."

Two Arkansas Women Watch UFOs

Mrs. Tessie Lemley and Mrs. Mary Rommel, both of Little Rock, Ark., reported sighting UFOs while visiting at the Arthur Henderson farm south of the Big Danger Mountain between 10:30 and 11:00 p.m. on the night of September 4, 1971.

Mrs. Rommel reported sighting two UFOs in a meadow one fourth mile east of the farm house. One was hovering, with many pulsating lights; the other one was maneuvering, with a massive bunch of white pulsating lights all over it.

Mrs. Lemley reported the UFO she sighted was red pulsating lights, which sort of glided silently in from the southwest over Dardanelle reservoir. She lost sight of the UFO when it went behind trees.

Both women reported the length of sightings to be two to three minutes.

Source: "The Herald-Democrat," Clarksville, Ark., Nov. 4, 1971.

Credit: Lucius Farish

The following article was headlined on the front page of the "Vecernji List," a Zagreb, Yugoslavia newspaper, Nov. 23, 1967. A photograph of the UFOs also appeared on the front page.

MEMBERS OF THE CROATIAN NATURAL SCIENCE SOCIETY, ASTRONOMY SECTION,
OBSERVE THREE "FLYING SAUCERS" OVER ZAGREB

The day before yesterday, (Thursday) from the Observatory at Popov's tower, at about 9:00 p.m., excited young astronomers telephoned our paper. They were members of the Croatian Natural Science Society, Astronomy Department, who meet together there every night. They reported to us that they had suddenly observed over Zagreb "Flying Saucers." Shortly afterward our reporter was able to record their authentic statements which were documented by excellent photographs of what they had seen. This was well documented considering that this subject, as of later, has been very much in the limelight in our country and abroad.

It was around 8:45 p.m., said Zoran Farcich, a senior at the high school at Tresnjevka. "I stood at a window and all of a sudden I could not believe my eyes. Southeast under the star Aldebaran, in the constellation of Steer, I sighted three bright objects, that is, three glowing dots which emanated bluish colors. It appeared that two objects were motionless, while the third moved in the distance. Immediately, I ran to my photo laboratory and asked my colleague to get a camera and take some photographs of this occurrence. I had a very difficult time convincing him that this was not a joke."

"Really, I could not believe it at first," stated Damir Gradish, a student at the school for applied arts. I ran toward the window and there I saw two bright and one darker objects. We always keep cameras ready and it did not take me long to get a camera with a tripod and to take some pictures. I used Agfa film of 32 dins and I exposed it for two minutes. All the while I could observe the bright objects and follow them with my binoculars."

At the same time Zoran called upon Darko Fejzagish, a most articulate young student at the Tresnjevka high school, to take a small "Zeis" telescope and observe the bright objects. He said, "I have also seen the three objects, but by the time I had set up the telescope they had already gone. I really don't know what to make out of this appearance. They could not have been satellites, since it would not be logical to have three satellites together like that, and even if they were synchronized to fly together, they certainly could not have had such a brightness and intensity. Besides, the satellites follow a specific trajectory and maintain a certain speed."

The young members of the Croatian Natural Science Society, Astronomy Department were at a loss to explain the origin of these objects. Even the most renowned world scientists are unable to produce a convincing answer to this problem and it is all based on theoretical postulates. The pictures taken by the young Zagreb astronomers will be a valuable contribution for their further studies.

"I do not believe until I have seen," points out Zeljko Jakupec, a medical student. "But, here my colleagues have seen something indeed unusual. Their pictures appear to be very convincing. It is really difficult to explain what type of bright objects they were."

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Another member of the Astronomy department, Kresimir Cosich, a graduate of high school, supports the statements of his colleagues: "We have often received various informations about the so called 'flying saucers' and they were always discounted by scientific analysis. But in my opinion it is impossible that the pictures taken by Damir shows any of the known celestial bodies. You see, these are three objects of fairly intensive brightness. Under similar conditions it is impossible to see such objects in the sky. Here we are dealing with something very out of the ordinary and unknown."

All the excitement among the members of the Astronomy department was only understandable. They have managed to observe and to secure documented proof of the unusual appearance in our sky. Are they "flying saucers" so much discussed these days, or something else which is going to be explained by a scientist as part of astronomy? (that is, natural astronomical occurrences) At any rate, last night there appeared over Zagreb a puzzle, or perhaps we should say three puzzles.

Search for Meteorite in Taylor, Mo., Area

Walter H. Andrus, Director of MUFON, and George A. Koch, astronomer, both of Quincy, Ill., and others in the Tri-State UFO Study Group are working with the Smithsonian Institute to recover a meteorite which fell in the Taylor, Mo., area at 11:50 PM November 19th.

The Smithsonian scientists are certain the meteorite, possibly the size of a basketball, is partly buried somewhere in a four-square mile area of bottom lands stretching a few miles north of Taylor and a mile from the Mississippi river. It may turn out to be only the third meteorite whose place in the heavens has been pinpointed by scientists. Without going into all the scientific know-how used today, it is known the object came from somewhere between Mars and Jupiter and the Smithsonian's photographic network cameras tracked it to the area under investigation.

It was Andrus and Koch's reports on the sonic booms that gave the scientists the proof they needed that the object actually fell to earth.

Dr. Richard McCrosky, of Harvard, his wife and Jerome Shao arrived in Quincy, Ill., Monday and were preceded a day by Guenther "Skip" Schwartz, field manager for the photographic network at Lincoln, Nebr., and his aides, Ivan Burr and James Sohl. Wednesday night the two scientists met with 25 members of the Tri-State UFO Study Group at the home of Walter H. Andrus. This group did much preliminary contacting of witnesses since the meteorite fell to earth.

A woman at Hull reported a loud noise. Hannibal police received calls. There were at least 75 good reports, Andrus said, from Center and Hannibal in Missouri; Chambersburg, Farmington and Fairfield, Iowa, and only one from Quincy.

"What we're looking for," McCrosky said, "is a hole in the ground." At the bottom of a hole which could be a foot or more deep, he expects to find the major one of four pieces into which photos showed the meteorite broke as it fell. It would probably be a stony-like, rounded but not spherical, rock, whose center looks much like concrete, with specks of iron and tiny spheres inside. Its outer portions will be a striking black (from atmosphere burn) which will later turn brownish. It will be only slightly radioactive (not dangerous), but will remain so only one or two months. Testing it will provide more information about outer space.

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Venus is visible in the southwestern sky just after sunset, setting at 7:30 p.m. January 1st and at 8:25 p.m. February 1st. Mars is seen as a fading reddish object setting at 11:40 p.m. January 1st and at 11:15 p.m. Feb. 1st. Jupiter is not visible during the first half of January, but can be seen before sunrise by Feb. 1st. Saturn is visible in the evening sky setting at 4:20 p.m. January 1st, 2:15 a.m. Feb. 1st.

The Constellations, No. 14, Orion (The Hunter) . . . By Mark Herbstritt

Orion in Greek mythology was the prototype of big, good-natured, well meaning and clumsy youth. He was a giant and extremely powerful. Most of the ancient cultures picture this constellation as a giant, a king, a mighty man. Orion dominates the winter sky. It culminates at 9 PM on January 27 and is the finest of all the constellations.

It is easily identified by the general outline of four bright stars of an irregular rectangle with a line of three stars crossing the center of the great rectangle. The uppermost of these three belt stars lies almost exactly on the celestial equator. These belt stars are about 50 degrees above the southern horizon at culmination.

The brightest star in Orion, Alpha Orionis (Betelgeuse) is a super giant, more than 100 times the diameter of the sun. The star in the southwest corner of the great rectangle of Orion, Beta Orionis (Rigel) is a blue supergiant. Below the belt of Orion is one of the most magnificent nebulae in our galaxy. This is the great nebula in Orion --M-42. This nebula is 1600 light years distant. Orion is the only constellation visible in northern latitudes that contains two first magnitude stars: Beelgeuse and Rigel.

Search for Meteorite, continued

"Some of the pieces could be reasonably expected to be found in Illinois," he told the group.

When it is found, the meteorite will go to the Smithsonian. There, as here, it will be carefully handled, dismembered, and its parts sent to 10 or a dozen laboratories in the U. S. and overseas for study much like that devoted to the famous moon rocks.

(Written from a lengthy report in the Dec. 16, 1971 issue of the Quincy, Ill. "Herald-Whig" and information given by the staff.)

SORRY! Again we lack space for more on the Mars orbits. Thanks to all sending in material, and we'll try again next month. We trust our readers are following the latest news in the daily papers, but feel it has a place in SKYLOOK also. And our thanks to others whose reports didn't get in this month. Keep them coming, and we'll do our best. It really hurts to leave out good copy. If we could just find some stretch-paper. . . or a stretch budget. . . .

You don't have to be a member of MUFON to subscribe to SKYLOOK--but if you ARE, you should be reading MUFON's official publication.

In last month's column, I made the statement that Exposition Press has published five books dealing with the UFO subject over the past twelve years or so. Actually, they have published six--I neglected to mention Eugene Burt's UFOs AND DIAMAGNETISM, their most recent UFO title. Even though the Burt book has been mentioned in this column previously and has also been reviewed in detail by staff member John F. Schuessler, it should have been included in the listing of books available from Exposition Press.

I am told that Renato Vesco's INTERCEPT--BUT DON'T SHOOT (reviewed in the August 1971 issue of SKYLOOK) is now available in a paperback edition from Grove Press, Inc. - 53 East 11th St. - N.Y., N.Y. 10023. The price is \$1.95, plus postage. The Vesco book is sub-titled "The True Story of the Flying Saucers." It isn't, but at least \$1.95 is better than the hardcover pricetag of \$8.50.

The latest NATIONAL ENQUIRER articles pertaining to UFOs are to be found in the December 19 and December 26 issues of that publication. The former item deals with Canadian researcher Arthur Bray's views on the UFO subject and the need for an investigation of the phenomena by the United Nations. The latter article is a report of a "winged disc" seen by hundreds of observers over Ceylon on several occasions in recent months.

If you are interested in the latest on Ted Owens and his alleged contacts with the "SIs" (Space Intelligences), Otto Binder recounts Ted's latest exploits in the January issue of SAGA. Ted, it seems, is now decimating the ranks of pro football players with his SI-induced mental powers. And you thought you had problems!

The latest word on Dr. Hynek's forthcoming book is that it will be out in April from Henry Regnery Co. with the title, THE UFO EXPERIENCE. Additional details will be reported here as they become available.

UFO COMMENTARY May Be Delayed

The editor of UFO COMMENTARY wishes to announce that the next issue may be delayed or postponed until March 1972 due to incapacitating illness. We hope the readership will understand. --Allen Benz.

Editor's Note: Mr. Benz has informed us the next issue will feature an article on "The Yugoslavia Flap of 1967" by Joe Brill (who writes our UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain Series), a section on "Meet the Staff" and will introduce "Key to the World Sighting Index." Paul Braczyk's book reviews will be included as usual, and there will be other material. Mr. Benz is the new editor of the quarterly ufo publication, and you may write him at 833 Shoshone St., N., Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301. We hope he will soon be out of the hospital and in good health again.

We are delighted with the big double-issue of Editor Bonita Roman's "The Ohio UFO Reporter" featuring a new wave of UFO Sightings in Ohio and containing many other UFO reports and articles. You'll get a lot for your money if you send 50 cents for this September-November issue. The address is RR# 3, Yankee Road, Middletown, Ohio, 45042. A year's subscription is \$3.00 (\$4.00 foreign).

Triangular Objects Over Swan Lake, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Huffman, of Stover, Mo., were on their way home the last Sunday evening in October, 1971, when they saw two triangular-shaped objects hanging motionless in a clear sky just west of Swan Lake, Mo. They stopped their car to watch the objects for a time and were unable to identify them.

Couple Report Bright Light

On Oct. 11, 1971, Mr. and Mrs. L. B., of Sedalia, Mo. observed a bright, white light flying in a southwesterly direction about 0630. The light appeared to hover in the distance and flashed at regular intervals when moving away. A report was made to Ted Phillips, who thinks the light may have been an aircraft.

Brilliant Flash of Light

On October 15, 1971, R. Y., of Sedalia, reported seeing a brilliant flash of light which seemed to come near the ground in front of his car. He described the flash as being so bright that it hurt his eyes to look at it. There was no sound. The light was seen at 2100, just north of Sedalia. Ted Phillips, to whom the report was made, feels this could have been an unusually bright meteor.

Bright Red Light Seen Through Falling Snow

Mr. B, of Sedalia, age 52, and a reliable individual, observed a rather strange event during falling snow on Sunday evening, Nov. 28, 1971. Mr. B had just let his dog out in the back yard at about 2000 and, as he stood at the door, he saw a brilliant red flash on the snow. The flash was followed quickly by two more and Mr. B. moved out on the back step and looked toward the west. He saw, at an elevation of about 30 degrees, a bright red glow which was flashing brilliant bursts of reddish light. The flashes were visible through the snow which was falling at a good rate. After several flashes, the light disappeared. The witness felt that it was not an aircraft light as it appeared to be hovering and was just too bright. The report was made to Ted Phillips.

Two See Beam of Green Light

In the Spring of 1967 a young man and his mother, of Tipton, Mo., observed a bright green light hovering near their home and a beam of light was projected on the ground. (Recently reported to Ted Phillips)

Two Feel Heat from Red Light

Mrs. R. and her daughter were doing the chores early one morning in 1970 at their home at Newark, Mo., when they noticed a bright red light by their house--but not as high from the ground as the rooftop. They shone their flashlight at the light and report that a light left the object and came toward them. They could both feel heat from the light and both ran. When they returned to the site later, the light, or object, was gone. (Reported to Ted Phillips, of Sedalia)

Resume on "The 1897 Mysterious Airships", By Walter H. Andrus

We have all heard the expression--"there is nothing new under the sun." This statement can be applied to the 1897 airship sightings if they are compared to present day UFO reports. If we disregard the fact that the year was 1897 and briefly review a few of the cases, the reports have a striking similarity to the 1950-70 era.

It may have been an April Fool joke when first reported to the "St. Louis Post Dispatch" from Kansas City, Mo. on April 2, 1897 but as the month progressed, the sightings were too incredible to dismiss.

RIDICULE by newspaper editors was prevalent, as noted in the "Quincy Daily Herald," April 9, to quote a few phrases: "It appears to be quite a common thing for wild-eyed citizens of Kansas, Utah or Evanston to look into the nocturnal heavens and see an airship floating above them. Either the whiskey or the imagination is unusually violent in those parts. No one notes this aerial wanderer in the daytime. It only comes out at night, and it is variously described." (and so on) This was considered humorous by the editor but it would discourage citizens from reporting sightings. Sound familiar?

CLAIMS IT IS A STAR--Astronomer Arthur C. Lunn of Lawrence University date line Appleton, Wis. April 13, proved beyond a doubt that the supposed airship observed Monday night was the star Bertelguese in the Constellation Orion. "Telescopes at Washington and St. Louis Universities swept the sky from zenith to horizon in a north-westerly direction last night as the professors at these institutions endeavored to solve the mystery that is now puzzling the Central West." Yes, stars and planets are frequently misinterpreted. This is evident to any UFO investigator when he counts the number of telephone calls and reports that describe nothing more than the planet Mars or Venus.

ARTIFACTS--"The Airship Explodes" date line Kalamazoo, Mich. April 14. "Mr. and Mrs. Wallace say they heard the explosion distinctly but thought it was thunder. But the discoveries of the morning are sufficient to establish the veracity of the two actual observers. In one place, two miles from Scott's, there was found a large coil of heavy wire, evidently a part of some electrical appliance. At another point a propellor blade of some very light material was discovered in a partially fused condition." Reports of this nature "smack" of some present day UFOlogists who are so anxious to obtain "material evidence" that they allow their imaginations to replace scientific and laboratory analysis.

HOAXES--"Had a Fake Air Ship" Waterloo, Iowa, April 20, 1897, from the "Quincy Daily Herald." The "Professor" told how he sailed in it from San Francisco--five thousand people visit and wonder at it--was just a joke by a Local Wag. "The crude craft was firmly anchored in the west bank of the Cedar River, just inside the city limits. It was constructed of canvas, heavily painted and stitched, with a framework of light lumber. The principal parts of the concern were two large cigar-shaped balloons, each thirty-six feet in length and about 10x12x7 feet in size, inside of which were the compressors and generators, with which the stranger guarding the monster seemed to be perfectly familiar and of which he spoke quite freely." Yes, an elaborate joke and hoax, but simply thumb through your UFO research files for present day examples.

AIRSHIP INVENTOR--Omaha, Nebr., April 26, 1847, from "Quincy Morning WHIG." (After requesting by note an option on ground sufficient to fly

(Continued on next page)

Airship Resume - 2-

an airship daily from the Transmississippi Exposition in Omaha and signed by "A. C. Clinton" he came forward and claimed that he was the inventor but his actual name was Clinton A. Case. (Incidentally, he was unable to fulfil the option.) To give credibility to his case, the Omaha report states: "He exhibited his invention, under a pledge of secrecy, to Alva J. Grover, the well-known civil engineer of Omaha-- plans of a craft designed for navigating the air, together with drawings of a propelling engine, the like of which the engineer had never seen before. After a careful study of the blueprints of Mr. Case's machine, Mr. Grover declared himself of the opinion that an airship or aeroplane built upon those lines would be able to navigate the air, providing resistance to air currents and steering gear were in relative proportions to the lifting capacity of the plane." (He submitted his plans to Prof. Roland of John Hopkins University and Mr. Maxim, the well-known experimenter in aerial navigation and Chief of the Balloon Corps of the United States Army, receiving favorable replies from each.) Some of his friends would like to believe that he was responsible for the airship which toured the central and western states, but there is no evidence that he was able to secure financial backing so as to produce such a craft.

MULTIPLE WITNESS SIGHTINGS--"The Airship Over Quincy" from the Quincy "Morning Whig," April 11, 1897. "The airship which has been skylarking over Kansas and Iowa for the last week, and was over Chicago Friday night, paid a visit to Quincy last night, and was seen by quite a number of reliable persons. It came down from the north over the river, circled over the city for about fifteen minutes and then disappeared to the south.

"It was shortly after 11 o'clock when the strange aerial visitor was first seen, and as the night was perfectly clear, with a half moon high in the heavens, the opportunities for observation were all that could be desired outside of daylight. Hundreds of men who were on the streets at that hour saw it, or say they did, and the descriptions of it given by different persons who witnessed it from different points are remarkably similar.

"The airship was first seen by some men on the levee, and at that time it was over the river north of the city, and appeared to be a short distance north of the bridge. Their attention was first attracted by a bright white light, and they supposed it to be the searchlight on some steamer coming down the river, especially as there were red and green lights on either side of the white one, but it was so close to the Illinois shore, while the channel and the draw of the bridge are close to the Missouri side, that they watched it, wondering what a steam boat could be doing there. It was flying very low when first seen, but as they watched the light, which occasionally wavered from side to side, the thing rose in the air and sailed over the River-view Park or thereabouts. It traveled in an easterly direction for a mile or so, then slowly circled to the south, and then headed to the west again. It hovered for several minutes at a point about over South Park. It swung around until the light from the headlight streamed to the north, and then it started in that direction as if intending to come back over the city along about Eighth Street. It proceeded perhaps half a mile, when the thing appeared to change its mind, and stopped. The headlight, which seemed to be backed by powerful reflectors, was waved up and down several times, the smaller lights just back of it were shirled around in a circle several times the same way that a railroad switchman waves his lantern, and then turning suddenly about the

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Airship Resume - 3-

thing started off to the south. Its speed must have been tremendous, for in a few minutes it was clear out of sight.

"What it was, where it came from or where it went no one knows, but there appears to be no reason to doubt but that it was a veritable airship. Its motions were such that it was manifestly guided by human hands, and moreover it was at times so close to the earth that a tolerably fair view was had of it. At times it did not appear to be more than 400 or 500 feet above the ground, and in the bright moonlight was plainly silhouetted against the clear sky. Men who saw the thing describe it as a long, slender body shaped like a cigar, and made of some bright metal, perhaps aluminum, on which the moonlight glistened. On either side of the hull extending outwards and upwards were what appeared to be wings, and above the hull could be seen the misty outlines of some sort of superstructure, a clear view of which, however, was intercepted by the wings. In the front end of the thing was a headlight, and from the brightness and intensity of the stream of light thrown out it was apparently similar to the searchlights used on steamboats. About midway of the hull were small lights, a green light on the starboard or right hand side, and a red light on the port or left hand side, the same as on smoke stacks of steamboats. Several of the men who saw the strange craft said they thought they heard voices coming from it, and from the way the lights were manipulated there were at least three men on it. The aerial navigators certainly had their craft under perfect control, for they sailed in all directions and at varying height.

"Men who saw it agree as to the general appearance of the airship, but they differ as to the size of it. One witness said he thought it was about seventy feet long, another put it at twice that size, and still another said it was not more than fifty feet in length.

"Whatever it is, Quincy people have seen it, and they want to know more about it. They will when the inventor gets tired of skylarking and decides to let the rest of the world in on his wonderful invention.

OCCUPANT CASE--"Quincy Daily Herald," April 15, 1897, date line Springfield, Ill. "Adolph Winkle and John Hull, two well-known farm hands, made affidavit that the airship landed two miles north of here at noon today. They visited the ship and conversed with the inmates - two men and one woman. They were repairing their electric apparatus and searchlight machinery. They said they came here from Quincy in thirty minutes, and will make report to the government when Cuba is declared free. The ship and occupants left for the south at 1 p.m."

LANDING CASES--"Quincy Morning Whig," April 15, 1897, date line Carlinville, Ill., April 14. "The much heralded airship has been seen not only in its aerial flight, but on ground in the northern part of the country. . . Monday afternoon about 3 o'clock it descended in a field owned by Z. Thacker, a mile north of Nilwood. Three men, William Street, Ed Tupler and Frank Metcalf, say that they saw it. After a period of fifteen minutes it sailed north. The next notice taken of it was at Green Ridge, a mining camp, where a large crowd of people saw it settle a mile north in a grove. They hastened to investigate but when they got within a half mile, it again rose and continued its northward journey."

ANOTHER "SNIPPY CASE"--"Quincy Daily Herald," April 28, 1897, date line Topeka, Kansas, April 28. (See the concluding article in the December 1971 issue of SKYLOOK.) This case was documented as far as possible at the time of the sighting and must certainly go into UFO historical records as one of the most creditable of that time. Multiple

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Airship Resume-4-

witnesses, humanoid, detailed descriptions of the craft, and a collaborating witness when the hide of the heifer was found, all add up providing the details needed by a UFO researcher for a well documented case.

SCIENTISTS INTERESTED--"Quincy Morning Whig," April 13, 1897. Professor Henry S. Pritchett, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. was interviewed in his laboratory concerning the airship. He frankly stated that he was as mystified as anyone. He was very receptive to the idea that someone could have solved the great problem of the century--aerial navigation. "It would indeed be wonderful if the great problem is solved at last, and in the face of such testimony I cannot gainsay but it has. The matter has now become a matter for investigation by scientific men and the professors of Washington University will do their utmost to solve it tonight."

AIRSHIP IS PHOTOGRAPHED--from the "Chicago Times-Herald," as published in the "St. Louis Post-Dispatch," April 13, 1897. "Walter McCann of Rogers Park, near Chicago, says he photographed the airship Sunday morning and has three witnesses who say they saw him do it. Experts say the photograph he shows is genuine and has not been "doctored"; that is, an addition made to the negative to give the image of the aerial ship. Mr. McCann tells the following story according to the Times-Herald: "I saw a strange looking object in the sky coming in from the south. It looked like a big cigar. It came nearer, and I saw at a glance that it was not a balloon. I realized it was the much talked of airship. My boy's camera was in the store. I ran and got it as the thing approached. The sky was clear. Conditions favored a good photograph. A plate was ready. I ran to Greenleaf Avenue and Market Street and got a good shot at it. With G. A. Overocker, whose attention was attracted to it, I ran down the Northwestern tracks and we got a second picture a few minutes later. E. L. Osborne and William Hoodless also saw the airship. I am no longer a skeptic. I distinctly saw the outlines of a man in the rear of the machine. He pulled a revolving rudder, or some sort of contrivance which steered the course of the airship. This strange invention came within 600 feet of the earth as near as I could estimate it. The lower portion of the airship was thin and made of some light white metal like aluminum. The upper portion was gark and long like a big cigar, pointed in front and with some kind of arrangement in the rear to which cables are attached. The pilot pulled these and steered the course from south to northwest. We watched the flight of the airship until it went east and disappeared from view. I returned to the store with the plates, attended to my morning papers and with Overocker, finished proofs as soon as possible."

"I saw him take the first picture," said G. A. Overocker, "and assisted him with the second." E. L. Osborne and William Hoodless corroborate the story. They say they saw it but didn't have their cameras with them. Their description tallies with the photographs taken." (The conditions associated with this photograph meet nearly all of Dr. J. Allen Hynek's requirements for a creditable and authentic UFO photograph.)

Whatever conclusions the reader may draw from these newspaper accounts of the mysterious airship of 1897 will be his own conjecture. However, we use another expression that is very appropos at this particular point in time. "Hindsight is always 40-40." Yes, we can always look back in time and ask ourselves why we didn't make an important decision, since we now know the outcome. Aeronautical history provides the great-

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est credence to the fact that an airship capable of performing the reported maneuvers had not been invented in 1897.

In 1897 Quincy's famous balloonist Thomas Scott Baldwin was still making exhibition parachute jumps from gas-filled balloons. His early experiments with controlled balloons started in 1900 when he heard the news of successes with motor-powered balloons and dirigibles in Europe. His first endeavor was a foot-powered dirigible that could only be navigated in a very awkward fashion, and was of very limited value. In 1903 he constructed a new balloon 105 feet in length, powered by a ten-horsepower automobile engine. When he saw an example of Glen Curtis' light-weight two-cylinder motorcycle engine, he recognized that this was the light weight engine that he needed. The twenty-horsepowered Curtis' water-cooled engine operated a tractor propeller through a shaft transmission, giving the 52 foot length balloon a speed of twenty miles per hour. The first flight of the "California Arrow" was made on August 3, 1904 before thousands of spectators at Oakland, California.

For the first time in this country, a man ascended in a lighter-than-air craft, sailed on a predetermined course and returned to the point from which he started, keeping the craft under control throughout the flight. This flight received nationwide publicity which is now a matter of historical record. Thomas Scott Baldwin followed this success with several improved versions. On August 6, 1908 he built and delivered the first dirigible to be purchased by the United States government, the now famous "Signal Corps No. 1."

Did some unknown inventor in the United States perfect a dirigible prior to the lighter-than-air craft built by Thomas Scott Baldwin? There is no evidence that Clinton A. Case was ever able to obtain financing to build his proposed craft. This aeronautical history has been related to show that in the year 1897 someone could have built such a craft, because conditions and the state-of-the-art were ripe for this giant step. The study of the 1897 mysterious airships is an intriguing as the study of the UFO phenomena. We will leave the decision to the readers to make their own conjecture whether the 1897 sightings were UFOs or, indeed, the first dirigibles to be invented.

Editor's Note: Our readers have expressed a great deal of interest in the series relating to "that mysterious 1897 airship" and we invite all who have material not included in Mr. Andrus' research to send it to SKYLOOK. We are holding reports, sent in during the past year, and will begin a new series on the airship, using clips sent in by readers in the February issue. Do go through your files and send us your airship items. Material returned if you request.

Give Yourself a Gift! Get some money for Christmas? Why not make yourself a gift of the "Conference Proceedings" of the 1971 Midwest UFO Conference held in St. Louis last June. All the lectures made by Stanton Friedman, William H. Hunkins, Hayden C. Hewes, Sherman J. Larsen, Ted Phillips, Alexander Calandra, Ph.D., Leonard H. Stringfield and more. This is a handsome book to add to your permanent library. It is selling so well a second printing has been ordered.

Send \$3.00 to UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc., Box 9, O'Fallon, Mo. 63366.

A Message from Carol Halford-Watkins, Editor of TOPSIDE

It has been with genuine regret and a great deal of frustration that I was unable to continue with the publication of TOPSIDE in 1971 due to my husband's continued heart trouble and personal incapacitation caused by two accidents.

In early November, my husband suffered an acute coronary and while he was in the hospital, I had a bad fall in which I broke both bones in my right arm (still in a cast) and badly sprained my left wrist. My husband now faces the prospect of open heart surgery in the early part of the New Year as his only hope of survival, and I would deeply appreciate your prayers for his recovery.

When I have recovered from my own injuries and am able to type again, I still hope to continue with the publication of TOPSIDE, and in the meantime, I wish to thank sincerely all those of my readers who have borne so patiently with the long but unavoidable delay and to express my gratitude to the many editors who have so kindly and faithfully continued to send me their exchange publications.

I wish all my good friends a very Happy New Year and may God bless you one and all.

Sincerely,

Carol Halford-Watkins

We suggest you drop Carol a card or letter to help brighten these dark days. It helps to know there are friends who care. Her address is 95 Centre St., Aylmer, Quebec, Canada. --Ye Ed.

UFO Detector! World's smallest, solid state. No N-S orienting. Works even when you walk. Don't miss your next UFO. Swiss made. Free air-mailing anywhere. Send only \$10.00 to: Impressions Plastiques, Box 31, Chatelaine 1211, Switzerland

Editor's Note: We cannot reproduce the illustration accompanying the ad; but we received one of the detectors and can state it is enclosed in a neat plastic box; about the size of a package of cigarets.

Boys Report UFOs--Police Laugh

Three breathless 14-year-old boys saw three UFOs the night of Dec. 1, 1971, and dashed to the nearest telephone booth to inform the "Herald-News" of Garfield, N. J., of their find. They claimed the UFOs were "cigar-shaped," "glowing blue and green" and heading in the southeast direction along Passaic Street. They refused to give their names because, said one, "people might think we're crazy or something."

The police, when contacted, said they hadn't received any reports and one officer suggested "Maybe the kids should change their brand of smokes."

One of our readers, John T. Clossey, of Lyndhurst, N. J. (two miles from Garfield) sent us the clipping from the newspaper and is trying to learn the names of the boys and to give us further details of the sighting. And, perhaps the law officer would do well to follow his own advice.
