

# SKYLOOK

Vol. 1-No. 6&7

Let's Separate Fact from Fantasy

February & March 1968

## SAUCER CHASES CAR

THE EVENING NEWS, Harrisburg, Pa. There was more in area skies than snow and rain this past week-end; at least 42 persons reported UFO sightings, three women reporting one at close range.

Mrs. Gladys Lehman, Mrs. Charles Little and Cathy Benhill, all of Mechanicsburg and employees of the Cumberland County Nursing Home, Carlisle RD 1, literally were accompanied to work by a UFO last Friday (Jan. 12) morning.

The three were in a car approximately a half mile west of Mechanicsburg on Trindle Rd. at 6:10 a.m. Traveling west they said they were joined by a UFO which cruised along to their right for about two miles, "Not more than 300 feet in the air."

It then swerved in front of their car and traveled ahead of them "in the middle of the road" for another two miles, then passed over to the left and continued westward toward Carlisle.

The women reported the incident to George B. Cook, of 9 Glenwood Dr., Camp Hill, chairman of the local subcommittee of the National Investigations Committee of Aerial Phenomena.

They described the UFO as being shaped like a pancake, Cook said, and they added it was about 30 feet in length, its center section five to seven feet thick, tapering off at the ends and sides. The center section appeared to give off a white haze and the object had a pulsating red tail light.

The following day, Saturday at 6:20 a.m. the same women along with 17 other employees of the Cumberland County Nursing Home viewed another UFO a little more than a block south of Trindle Rd. near Claremont Rd.

Cook said he interviewed many of the 17 witnesses and said they told him the UFO was about 350 feet in the air and that as they watched it, the object rose slowly, stopped, gave off a white haze of light that changed to red, red-orange, and back to white.

"Then it really got interesting," Cook said. The witnesses said they saw "what definitely appeared to be a door opening to the right side

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## LORENZENS MAY SPEAK

John Scheussler sent us a copy of a letter he received from Jim Lorenzen, who heads APRO at the Tucson, Arizona, headquarters, and Mr. Lorenzen has tentatively agreed to attend a Spring meeting to be sponsored by the Missouri APRO chapter.

As reported in the January issue, John is working on plans for our get together in Columbia, with full cooperation of that city's Chamber of Commerce who will gladly furnish information on hotels, motels, transportation, press and radio coverage, etc.

If you are interested and will plan to attend, write TODAY to John F. Scheussler, P.O. Box 223, St. Charles, Mo., 63301. He welcomes suggestions for the program, and he must have some idea of how many will plan to be present.

## ASKS RED AID IN UFO STUDY

KANSAS CITY TIMES. Feb. 24.--Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director of an Air Force-financed investigation of unidentified flying objects, said yesterday that he has appealed to the scientists of the Soviet Union to cooperate in a study of flying saucers.

The appeal, in the form of a letter from Condon, was relayed three weeks ago by the prestigious National Academy of Sciences to the Soviet Academy, Condon said from Boulder, Colorado.

Editor's note: This significant news seems to indicate the Condon group is taking a serious look at the problem and a meaningful report should come from their study. It's a big step forward.

## SORRY WE'RE LATE!!!!!!

We are sorry we are out late, and hope your philosophy is "better late than never." Our publisher, John Kuhns, was up to his ears in extra school work and just couldn't cut the stencils any sooner. He tells us he'll try his best to keep up in the future

## SKYLOOK

\$2.00 per year, published once a month.  
Send subscriptions to the Publisher.

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## With the Editor

A school teacher in Pennsylvania sent us two clippings on UFO's from the teachers' and class rooms' editions of January copies of MY WEEKLY READER, an American Education publication. A brief review was given of unidentified flying objects in this country since 1947, including several outstanding examples. Mention was made of the Air Force Operation Blue Book and the Colorado study now in operation. While the articles contain nothing "new" to the average reader, it is newsworthy to note the study of aerial phenomena is being called to the attention of grade school teachers and pupils.

One frequently reads of college students who may or may not be members of APRO or NICAP meeting to organize groups to study ufology, with faculty sponsorship and membership.

The recent issue of the UFO INVESTIGATOR, the NICAP publication, carries a story of the first college UFO filter center organized at Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, N.H., with full cooperation of the college's president Frank S. DePietro and Dean, Dr. Clifford H. Coles. A 24-hour set up handles reports of UFO sightings phoned in any hour of the day or night, and good ones are immediately reported to the Dr. Condon group.

At the University of California a non-credit course on UFO's has been introduced and 60 students attended the first two-hour class.

First thing you know, one can admit an interest in UFO's without being considered a kook!

## FLYING BUBBLE IN COLORADO

We credit the Ownesboro, Ky. MESSENGER of Jan. 4th with the most complete report we have read on Colorado's "flying bubble." Castle Rock's Sheriff's deputy R. S. Weimer said about a dozen "reliable citizens" reported seeing a big flying bubble over the town the night of January 2nd.

Howard Ellis, businessman, 42, first saw the bubble hovering about 50 feet above him. It had a dozen lights "the color of car headlights that have mud on them" shining down on him. The bubble seemed to be transparent and silent.

Others watched the object as it hovered over the Douglas County courthouse and then it shot straight up and disappeared, shooting out a couple balls of flame.

An Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said no air craft were known to be in the area at the time, and Morris Felming, director of the Douglas County Civil Defense Agency, said his agency would test Ellis' blood to see if any radiation of unknown or foreign matter was in his bloodstream. Since he was the closest person to the object.

If any of our readers have anything further on this story, send it in and we'll use it.

## THESE ARE NOT UFO'S

by Ted Phillips, Jr.

During February Echos 1 and 2, Pageos and Explorer 19 will be visible. Mercury and Mars will be seen in the western sky right after sunset. Venus will be visible for a very short time before sunrise. Jupiter and Saturn are visible with the former rising about sundown.

## TULSA GROUP MEETS

An APRO membership meeting was held in Tulsa the evening of January 17th with a good attendance reported by Bill Courter, chairman of APRO's Oklahoma section. Speakers were Robert Stiff and Hayden Hewes, of Oklahoma City and members of the International UFO Bureau headquarters in that city.

## TRUCK DRIVER SEES DISC

Ted Phillips, our assistant editor, interviewed a truck driver, who did not want his name used, who sighted an unidentified object the evening of April 5, last year, about 5:15 p.m. The driver was on highway No. 50, west of Sedalia and saw a disc shaped object, silver in color, hovering overhead. He described it as "large" and had a good view of it for a minute or more.

SEND IN YOUR REPORTS TODAY!

## WILL TRACK UFO's

The EVENING NEWS, Harrisburg, Pa., recently carried a story of infra-red detection used in tracking unidentified flying objects.

Two infra-red detection devices and infra-red lamps, along with other instruments valued at almost \$13,000 and including walkie-talkie radios, base radio units and geiger counters have been received by George B. Cook, of Camp Hill, chairman of the local subcommittee of NICAP and senior squadron 308, Civil Air Patrol. The equipment was a gift from Lt. Col. David S. Keffer to the two area units working jointly in local UFO investigations. (Editor's Note-- see front page story.)

When a UFO report comes to Cook now, he has access to more than 300 CAP members and 94 local radio station units throughout the four counties of the Harrisburg area.

Col. R. B. Willingham, CAP squadron commander, has had an avid interest in UFO's for years, dating back to 1948 when he was a leading a squadron of F-94 jets near the Mexican border in Texas and was advised by radio that three UFO's "flying information" were near. He picked them up on his plane radar and was informed one of the UFO's had crashed a few miles away from him in Mexico. He went to the scene of the crash but was prevented by the Mexican authorities from making an investigation or coming any closer than 60 feet. From that vantage point the wreckage seemed to consist of "numerous pieces of metal polished on the outside, very rough on the inner sides.

## ELECTRIC JOLT CUTS SONIC BOOM

One of the intriguing factors in the fast moving space vehicles is the lack of the sonic boom. John Schuessler sends us an article from a January issue of the ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT which covers a revolutionary approach to the problem of sonic booms (with interesting connotations re flying saucers).

Speakers for the Northrop Corp told a news conference that a discharge of electricity into the air ahead of faster-than-sound aircraft may not only lessen the intensity of booms but also cut aerodynamic drag \*\*\* the discharge of electricity ahead of a fast moving object repels the molecules of air ahead and makes them get out of the way. The molecules then tend to flow smoothly around the object instead of jamming up in front of it. This compression of air molecules ahead of supersonic craft creates a pressure wave which results in a sonic boom when it hits the ground.

The Boeing Co., the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are interested in the new line of research.

## THE GREAT UFO PROBE

"Can We Trust the Upcoming Condon Report?"

By Herbert Shuldiner

(Reprinted courtesy of Popular Science Monthly (c) 1967 by Popular Science Publishing Co.)

After 20 years of swirling controversy, science is taking its most searching look into the mystery of UFO's.

The intensive probe is headed by Dr. Edward U. Condon, former head of the National Bureau of Standards, and currently professor of physics at the University of Colorado. He is aided by up to 30 top scientists from every field that might figure in the study of flying saucers. Condon was handed this hot potato by the Air Force, which has failed to satisfy many thousands of believers with its explanations of saucer sightings. They've given him about \$500,000 through the University of Colorado to make an objective study that, it is hoped, will satisfy believers and skeptics alike.

Can the Condon study finally solve the riddle of flying saucers, which has persistently eluded military investigators? Is it an attempt by the Air Force to white wash the subject?

POPULAR SCIENCE took a close look at the work of the Condon team to bring you this progress report on the great UFO probe as the first year of the investigation is completed.

Condon entered the scene with the detached objectivity of an outsider with no special knowledge of saucers. His reputation as a tough-minded scientist was firmly established when he headed the National Bureau of Standards from 1945 to 1951. Condon reorganized the Bureau, modernized its operations, and moved its scientific functions out of the political arena, resisting Congressional pressures for such things as the approval of essentially worthless products.

An Open Mind. Condon's attitude toward UFO's when he started the probe was: "I'm an agnostic. I simply don't know." But he believed there was a need to find out whether there is a physical reality to saucers, and if so, their origin. The study is open to any possibility, and the theory that UFO's are extraterrestrial in origin has not been excluded from the considerations.

His chief aides include Dr. Robert J. Low, a meteorologist; Dr. Franklin E. Roach, an astrophysicist, and an airglow specialist; and significantly, Dr. Stuart W. Cook, chairman of Colorado's psychology department. Many skeptics claim most saucers originate in

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## UFO PROBE--CONTINUED

the minds of the viewer. Regardless of their backgrounds, all his aides share Condon's objective approach and his feeling that more information is needed to determine the origin of UFO's.

Nothing Hidden. The Condon team has complete access to the files of Project Blue Book, the Air Force office for UFO investigations. There are over 15,000 UFO reports in its files--about 20 percent of these sightings truly unidentified.

Maj. Hector Quintanilla Jr., director of Blue Book, says Condon's aides have asked for only about 400 case histories of the older saucer sightings. These are the classic cases that have been extensively written about in UFO literature.

Although Project Blue Book continues to investigate saucers, it gets nothing in return from Condon's team. "It's a one-way street," Quintanilla says. "I don't want to bias him in any way, so I don't request anything from him."

Dondon and his aides have conferred with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of Northwestern University's Department of Astronomy and Scientific Consultant to Project Blue Book, who has looked into many of the Air Force's most puzzling cases. They also questioned Air Force scientific adviser Jacques Vallee on the methodology employed in Project Blue Book's investigations.

The conferences were followed by a meeting last June at the University of Colorado, which was attended by about 100 of the 140 Air Force UFO investigating officers--every base has one to tighten report procedures in an attempt to gain a more scientific description of saucers' sightings.

Condon has not confined his inquiries to Air Force and scientific personnel. He also has called in some of the Air Force's severest critics to get their views on saucers. Officers of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), an organization that believes there's something to flying saucers, have visited Boulder to submit evidence. Retired Marine Corps Major Donald E. Keyhoe and Richard J. Hall, NICAP's top officials, have occasionally consulted with Condon's group to review the organization's documented sightings.

Hall says Condon is making a broad frontal attack on the whole problem and "I couldn't be more pleased." Asked if he thought Condon might whitewash the saucer mystery, Hall says, "I don't think he would."

Even the "Kooks." Condon is willing to listen to anyone involved in saucer sightings--even the "kooks" as Hall puts it. He recently attended a saucer congress in New York City that heard many of the way out believers and "contactees" (those who claim to have contacted crews from outer space). One of the speakers at the Congress was Vi-Venus, who claimed she was from the planet after which she was named. Hall says this type gives serious saucer researchers a black eye and NICAP boycotted the New York congress.

However willing the Colorado researchers are to consider even bizarre "evidence," they are seriously attempting to zero in on UFO's in a scientific manner. They are especially anxious to investigate current cases that can be observed from start to finish.

One of their biggest accomplishments is the establishment of a team of trained investigators around the country, who can get to the scene of any important UFO sighting within 24 hours with cameras and other equipment.

The Condon group also hope police departments will make efforts to get photos of UFO's that can be scientifically analyzed. They have devised a meticulous questionnaire for saucer reporters to fill out--size, shape, color, motion, and other characteristics. The answers are fed into a computer and the scientists hope eventually to discover additional patterns of saucer phenomena.

The Colorado investigators follow up the questionnaires with phone calls to the persons from whom a reports originate. If they cannot clarify a report in a phone conversation, and the sighting is deemed of sufficient importance, investigators go to the scene to check it out.

An Eye on the Scene. Some cases yield solutions easily when investigators get a first hand look at the scene. In a recent Connecticut sighting, for example, a "glowing object" turned out to be an electrical arc, created when the wet branches of trees slapped against, and short-circuited, a power line. But other cases continue to puzzle investigators.

Two of Condon's team recently travelled to the Winnipeg, Canada, area to investigate a weird story of a man "burned by the exhaust of a saucer." The victim claimed he spotted a strange, saucer-like vehicle in a clearing as he walked through the bush. When he approached the vehicle, he heard vocal sounds coming from inside. He peered in the open hatch and the vehicle suddenly took off in a vertical climb, emitting a jet exhaust that burned him.

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of the object, which they estimated to be 40 to 50 feet round. From the door opening, four very distinct red smaller objects were emitted, at an evenly spaced intervals at 45 degree downward positions.

The four smaller red objects disappeared below treetops and five more objects came out of the UFO "door"--- these five being white in color.

A similar UFO phenomenon was seen by the Rev. Richard Mossir, of Dillsburg RD 3, Saturday at 9:05 p.m., who said he had witnessed six red pulsating objects leaving a white aerial object which seemed to explode in the sky as the red objects left it.

Other sightings were reported in Summerdale (a UFO hovering over a house), Rutherford Heights, Regina St., and throughout the West Shore area between Camp Hill and Carlisle and up into Perry County.

The sightings were investigated by Cook and NICAP sub-committee members: Col. Robert B. Willingham and Robert L. Rineard, both of Mechanicsburg, and Ivan Kerns and John W. Steigleman Jr., both of Carlisle.

Cook said he had statements from 42 persons who witness UFO's on Friday and Saturday (Jan, 12-13). "And those are only the ones I've talked with," he said. "I'm sure they're many more."

THE GREAT UFO PROBE--CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

The man struggled out of the bush with burns that actually required hospital treatment. But when released, he was unable to lead the scientists to the clearing. The site is still undiscovered.

Because of such frustrations, the Condon group is hoping for an opportunity to use technical equipment that could yield scientific data more precise and easier to analyze than the testimony of witnesses. But there has been no opportunity to capture a UFO in the act.

While they wait for such a break, the Colorado scientists are attempting to check scientifically some of the strange things that reportedly have occurred when UFO's have been spotted--power failures and car engines going dead after drivers reported they saw a UFO.

Every power failure attributed to UFO's is being scrutinized. Condon's group has approached a number of power-company experts for aid in pin pointing the cause of each power failure.

When will the Condon group complete their work? Their research should be wrapped up

by mid 1968 when preparing the report--certain to be a best seller--will begin.

Before the report is released to the public, it will be reviewed by a special committee of the National Academy of Sciences. They will check the Condon group's scientific methods and determine whether their conclusions are scientifically valid. After the Academy approves the report, it will be made public.

Will Anything be Held Back? The Air Force answer is that the report will not be classified. The Condon group is pledged to withhold any data on classified aircraft or missiles it might come across in its investigations, but an Air Force spokesman says "Everyone knows practically everything we have now."

Can you trust the upcoming Condon Report? The editors of POPULAR SCIENCE believe you can. The reputation and character of Condon and his aides insure that this study will be no white-wash, as some predict, but will lay the groundwork for a better understanding of UFO's in general and reports of sightings in particular.

The great UFO probe should also set better standards for continuing studies of flying saucer reports and the related mysteries of the univers in which we live.

#### MORE FUNDS FOR UFO STUDY

The Air Force has awarded the University of Colorado at Boulder around \$180,000 to continue the study of unidentified flying objects under direction of Dr. Condon.

This will extend the project through September of this year. Project coordinator Robert J. Low reports the Operational phase of the UFO investigation should be finished by June 30th after which the report will be written and submitted to the National Academy of Sciences for review. It will then be sent to the USAF's Office of Scientific Research and it is not known when or how the Air Force will release the report to the public--or whether it will be slanted toward Air Force "policy", we might add.

#### LETTER FROM AUTHOR

The Skylook editor had a letter from Otto O. Binder, author of WHAT WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS, one of the best paperback we have read on flying saucers. Mr. Binder hopes to find new material for OUR SPACE AGE, his syndicated panel which has been running daily for seven years in many newspapers, and asks to be placed on our mailing list.

## AT THE NEWS STAND

by Ted Phillips, Jr.

NATIONAL ENQUIRER, Jan. 14--"59 People Terrified When Flying Saucer Cuts Radio, Dims Lights on Airliner." Excellent report on truly mysterious sighting. Feb. 18--"Excellent UFO photos . ." article on best UFO photos ever seen by Canadian Defense officials. Feb. 25--"2,000 UFO Sightings Reported in Pennsylvania", good article on the Harrisburg flap of last summer.

MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, Jan., 1968--"How Flying Saucers Can Injure You."

SAGA--Jan., 1968--"UFO Mystery--Outer Space Calling Earth?"

ARGOSY--Jan., 1968--"Flying Saucers, Our Secret Weapon"--story of air cushion vehicles used in Vietnam war, no UFO's.

GRIT--Feb. 11--"Saucer Lady"--good article on Maryland UFO.

FATE--Feb. 1968, "UFO Off Shag Harbor" and "Oddball Saucers That Fit No Pattern."

THE NEW REPORT ON FLYING SAUCERS--A Fawcett Publication. 75¢.

POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHY--article by Dr. Hynek on how to photograph a UFO.

TRUE--March 1968, "What Was the Thing Over the Great Lakes?"

SAGA--March 1968, "Flying Saucer Silencers."

THE FLYING SAUCER READER--Edited by Jay David, a Signet book, 75¢. Very interesting..

THE REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS" by Edward J. Ruppelt, An Ace book. 50¢.

UFO'S 1968--K.M.R. Publication. 75¢.

SOVIET LIFE-- February 1968. Good article, "UFOS Where do They Come From?"

CORONET--March 1968. "The Wildest Flying Saucer Story of Them All"--a rehash of the Shippy story.

RUDDER--February 1968. "UFO's At Sea."

## LECTURES ON THE MOON

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, senior scientist in astrophysics at the Smithsonian Institution and director of the Harvard College observatory lectured on "The Moon As An Abode of Life" at the McDonnell Planetarium in St. Louis, Jan. 18.

John Schuessler, among those attending the lecture, reports Dr. Menzel believes water and an atmosphere probably existed on the earth's moon sometime in its history. He bases his theory on photographs taken by the Surveyor spacecraft and believes the first astronauts to land on the moon will find fossils of previous moon life.

The astronomer doesn't believe volcanic action or faults caused by movement of the moon's

crust explains the meandering lines and apparent erosion of the surface of the moon. He thinks the lines are dired up river beds and states some scientists have flatly called them river beds. He said it probably would have taken 100,000,000 years for the atmosphere and water of the moon to dissipate to its present condition. Assuming his theory is correct, Menzel said, there may be deposits of water in the form of ice trapped in pockets under the surface of the moon and these deposits could be mined by astronauts and water and oxygen produced for easier survival on the lunar surface.

His theories are interesting and may be proved or disproved by lunar exploration within the next decade.

While Dr. Menzel did not mention UFO's our readers will be interested in knowing he has written two books on unidentified flying objects.

## SNIPPY BACK IN THE NEWS

The TULSA WORLD, Feb. 11, reports an analysis of the remains of Snippy, the Colorado horse, shows nothing unnatural about the death. You remember Snippy, of course, the horse whose "natural" death caused so much excitement in the Alamosa, Col. area last Septmeber.

The remains were examined by six scientists at the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada and "They said the horse might have been hit in the neck by lightning." Dr. Richard Norton, who drafted the final report, concluded: "Since the death of the horse took place during the thunder storm season and in an area where thunderstorms are common it is possible that the horse could have been struck in the neck by lightning and killed." And if that doesn't go over--a little swamp gas, anybody?

Well . . . rest in peace, Snippy.

## RUSSIAN SCIENTIST SPEAKS OUT

Our able assistant editor, Ted Phillips, Jr., called our attention to a fine article in the February issue of SOVIET LIFE,

"Unidentified Flying Objects" written by Felix Zigel, Doctor of Science (Technology) assistant professor at the Moscow Aviation Institute covers "first the facts" several striking and reliable UFO observations; and then conclusions.

We found this article so interesting for many reasons, we are reproducing it almost in its entirety, with permission of the publishers. Deletion of lists of names, meaningless to our readers, and other omissions will be indicated by the usual asterisk.  
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## RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS--CONT.

First Account. The place of observation is Kazakhstan, the field camp of a geophysical expedition from a Leningrad research institute. The nearest populated locality, Koktal, is 11 miles away. The time of observation is August 16, 1960, about 11 P.M. local time.

According to Mater of Geology and Mineralogy Nikolai Socheranov, the camp chief, a strange, luminous body suddenly appeared over the mountains on the eastern slope of the valley. It was moving from north to south, and its visible diameter was one and a half times longer than the Moon's.

A few seconds later the body disappeared behind a mountain top, reappeared and headed southeast, keeping constant speed and height above the earth. The body described an arc in the sky and disappeared behind the mountains, leaving no trace.

The unidentified flying object was observed by eight scientific workers, members of the geophysical expedition.

Second Account. On July 26, 1965, Latvian astronomers Robert Vitolniek, Yan Melders and Esmeralda Vitolniek were studying noctilucent clouds at an observation station at Ogda. At 9:35 P.M. they noticed an unusually bright star moving slowly in a westerly direction. Looked at through binoculars with a magnification of eight diameters, the "star" resolved itself into a small, flat speck. The telescope then disclosed the following incredible picture.

In the heart of a lens-shaped disc, which the astronomers estimated to be about 325 feet across, was clearly evident a thickened part, a small sphere. Around the disc, at a distance of two diameters, were three spheres resembling the one in the center. The spheres slowly rotated around the disc as the entire system diminished in size, gradually leaving the Earth. Some 15 to 20 minutes later the spheres began to move away from the disc, as if receding in different directions. The sphere in the center also left its place and moved away. Finally at 10 P.M. all these shining emerald green bodies were so far away that the astronomers lost sight of them.

This strange picture was observed in the northern part of the sky at about 60 degrees above the horizon. The astronomers estimated that the enigmatic objects were about 60 miles above the Earth.

Third Account. A long radiogram arrived at the office of the magazine "Smena," for which I had written an article on UFOs. It was

sent by First Mate Bashashin on behalf of the crew of the Soviet ship Izhevsk.

On August 2, 1967, at 11:30 P.M. Moscow time, while crossing the Norwegian Sea in a westerly direction, Izhevsk sailors witnessed this unusual phenomenon, said the radio gram:

"There were three of us in the cabin-- Captain Markov, Senior Engineer Ivanov and myself. Sysoyev, navigator on duty, reported a strange phenomenon in the sky. We ran to the bridge and saw a sphere-like whitish spot moving southward.

"A few minutes later a bright spot flared up high in the sky. For a couple of seconds it rushed headlong from west to east at an angle of 15 degrees to the Earth, getting much larger. Suddenly it came to a stop and with a play of bright rainbow colors (yellow predominating) began throwing off sparks and became enveloped in a white shroud.

"Once again the sphere-like white nebula began moving south. The procedure was repeated four times. On the fifth and last time the spot's behavior changed. It stopped midway, turned over and assumed the shape of an egg with the thicker end up. Then a powerful white jet squirted from the lower end, after which the 'egg' grew pale, became enveloped in white mist with its white tail, began to head southward.

All this strange celestial activity was visible for an hour and then vanished into thin air.

Fourth Account. Not one but several reports came from astronomers of the Mountain Astrophysical Station, USSR Academy of Sciences, 12 miles from Kislovodsk, Caucasus.

In July 1967 the station received letters from local newspapers reporting the flight of a strange reddish crescent across the sky at 9:20 P.M. on July 17.

In the very early morning of July 18, 1967, astronomer H. I. Potter, who was observing the Moon at the Mountain Station, noticed a strange formation against a clear starry sky at 2:50 A.M. Moscow time. A white cloud appeared in the northeast at an elevation of about 20 degrees. Its diameter was twice as long as that of the Moon but its nose was several times less bright.

The cloud itself had a dense milkywhite color, with a rosy red nucleus clearly discernible near its northern end. The cloud expanded and grew paler. A few minutes later the white cloud dispersed completely, but the reddish nucleus remained. Toward

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## RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS--CONT.

daybreak it lost its outlines and then disappeared. Photographs showing its changes were taken.

At 8:40 P.M. on August 8, 1967, at the same Mountain Station astronomer Anatoli Sazanov observed an unfamiliar flying object. It was shaped like an asymmetrical crescent, with its convex side turned in the direction of its movement. Narrow, faintly luminous ribbons resembling the condensation trail of a jet plane followed behind the horns of the crescent. Its diameter was two-thirds that of the Moon, but it was not as bright. It was yellow with a reddish tinge.

The object was flying horizontally in the northern part of the sky, from west to east, at about 20 degrees above the horizon. It covered the distance from Ursa Major to Cassiopeya in half a minute. A bright star of the first magnitude was moving at a constant distance ahead of the crescent.

As it moved away from the observers, the crescent dwindled, turned into a small disc and then instantly disappeared.

The mysterious object was seen by 10 of the station's scientific workers. It was also observed in Kislovodsk. According to Sazanov the crescent was 12 miles away, and it was no less than 500 feet across.

Optical Illusion? Let us stop here and draw some conclusions. Even if all the UFO evidence amounted to no more than these four accounts it is clear that the evidence exists. The fact of the matter is, however, that many thousands of such observations have been documented in the past 20 years. They come from dozens of countries and virtually every corner of our planet, including the Arctic and Antarctic. The UFO phenomenon is too widespread to be dismissed lightly.

A growing number of serious scientists are not satisfied with explanations characterizing the sightings as visual aberrations. It goes without saying that the phenomenon attracts, and will unfortunately continue to, all sorts of publicity-seekers. But we do not stop using money because there are counterfeiters. The task of science is, precisely, the obligation to distinguish between the false and the true.

Thus, if science considers flying saucers a hallucination, it still must explain the cause of the global psychic illness. That may well be as difficult to establish as the true nature of UFOs.

The well-known American astrophysicist Donald Menzel says that flying saucers are optical phenomena in the Earth's atmosphere. Because of Professor Menzel's scientific prestige the explanation is generally accepted. But it does not hold water. As soon as we go on from this generalization to concrete interpretations of concrete observations, it becomes evident that UFOs will not reduce themselves to optical phenomena of the mirage, rainbow or halo type. Try the Menzel explanation on the four accounts we cited earlier. Nothing intelligible will emerge. What we seem to be dealing with here is a kind of reality still unexplored.

The appearance of UFOs is almost always accompanied by a luminescence of air and the formation of an atmospheric plasma. This fact is the basis for the "plasma" hypothesis of UFOs as accumulations of atmospheric plasma of the ball lightning type. But this explanation does not hold up either. Ball lightning is always a product of thunderstorms, and the appearance of UFOs has no relation to weather. Ball lightning diameters as a rule run four to five inches, no larger; the diameters of flying discs are tens and even hundreds of times that size. The behavior of UFOs, their shapes and other physical properties are quite different from what we know of ball lightning.

Saucers and Balls. To find a clue to the nature of UFOs, we must study all the reports on these surprising and, to my mind, real objects. Only a scientific analysis will reveal the truth. What is, however, clear already is that UFO phenomenon can be objectively analyzed and classified. The UFO classification adopted by foreign investigators is also confirmed by Soviet observers.

By day when observed from Earth or planes, UFOs appear as bright discs with a metallic tinge. Assistant Professor Vyacheslav Zaitsev observed such a flying saucer in 1964, above Bologoye, from a TU-104 aircraft making a scheduled flight. The huge bright metal disc slid under the liner's belly, made a turn and at some distance took a course parallel with the aircraft. A bulging core resembling a cabin could be seen in the heart of the disc. After flying alongside the plane for several seconds, it swerved abruptly and disappeared.

A similar object was observed by goetic astronomer Lyudmila Tsekhanovich in the sum-

(cont. on page nine)

mer of 1965 near Sukhumi, Caucas. The UFO made a swift maneuver over the sea, then headed for the mountains. The astronomer was, however, able to see that the central protruding part of the disc had holes which seemed to be lit from the inside.

UFO movements are peculiar. Sometimes they hover over the earth for tens of minutes. In flight they can develop incredible speeds and accelerations.

At 9:45 on the evening of June 17, 1966, on the outskirts of Enlista a team of geophysicists from the Institute of Oil and Gas Industry, Volgograd, led by V. G. Krylov, noticed a reddish object moving across the sky. It was shaped like a small disc.

Suddenly the body began to fall swiftly along a helical trajectory, its reddish color changing to bright white-blue. Then there was sort of a flare, and instead of the body a bright-blue round cloud appeared. It quickly spread out and melted away.

Depending on the viewing angle, flying discs look flattened or cigar-shaped or spherical. In some cases a UFO appears as a crescent, turning into a disc before your eyes.

(cont. in April)

#### SIX UFO'S OVER MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS

Six unidentified flying objects were seen over Freeburg and Belleville, Ill., and St. Louis and Cape Girardeau on Friday night, January 19, this year.

Thanks to John F. Schuessler, of St. Charles, and David A. Schroth, of St. Louis, who obtained reports of sightings and a news story from the FREEBURG TRIBUNE, we are able to piece together an account of the UFO's as seen by several witnesses.

Phil Nichols, 16, of Smithton; Donna Meier, 16, and her mother Mrs. Armin Meier; and Lorraine Baumgart, a neighbor of the Meiers, all saw the six objects from the Meier home, 508 South State Street, in Freeburg. Later interviewed by Jerry Brown, also of Freeburg, the following report was given--Phil and Donna were standing in front of the house, facing northwest when suddenly six objects came into view from the direction of New Athens, heading northwesterly. It was seven o'clock on a clear night and the bright lights on the objects were outstanding. There were red and green flashes and a white pulsating light. The description was similar to conventional aircraft until the objects were directly overhead and came to a dead stop. By this time Mrs. Meier and her neighbor were also watching

the objects and observed them during their period of hovering.

The objects then began to slowly drift downward to the alarm of the onlookers. Donna said, "I wanted to run as far away as I could." Suddenly changing to ascent, the objects rose, leveled off, then again stopped briefly before moving off in the same northwesterly direction. They seemed to travel slowly until they were north of town where they "zoomed off" and disappeared.

No noise was reported and the objects seemed to be solid in form. Others in Freeburg also reported seeing the objects and it was learned they had been tracked on radar.

The next day rumor circulated that the Air Force had been testing a new type of helicopter, but the Meiers group are not buying that. They are familiar with helicopters, Mrs. Meier said, and besides there was no sound.

Kenneth A. Klamm, of Belleville and a former weather forecaster and private pilot, also observed the objects and sent in a report to John Schuessler.

He was driving along Main Street in Belleville and observed the six objects, flying from the east to the west. Four of them, he said, were flying in a "follow the leader" fashion in a straight line while the fifth object flew zig-zag between the first four at a high rate of speed. The sixth object seemed to be much higher than the others and traveling faster. The objects were in sight about one minute. Mr. Klamm also reported seeing the flashing lights, but heard no sound. His first impression was the objects were moving too slowly to be conventional aircraft, but it occurred to him they could be helicopters from the Scott Air Force Base.

#### LAST CALL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

John Schuessler, who has been trying to plan a statewide meeting of Ufologists in Columbia sometime this spring, tells us he isn't getting much response from SKYLOOK readers. Have YOU written to John to tell him you are interested? If not, write him now.

The purpose of the meeting is for a get together of Missouri APRO members to get acquainted, discussing ufology, listening to guest speakers, and coming up with ideas to further the study of UFO sightings.

If you are interested and have suggestions for the program, write TODAY to John Schuessler, P.O. Box 223, St. Charles, Missouri, 63301.

## UFO'S IN FOUR STATES

EVENING NEWS, Harrisburg, Pa., March 4. Residents of several states, including Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky, reported seeing numerous unidentified flying objects streaking through the skies last night.

A spokesman for the Greater Cincinnati Airport Control Tower said the UFO's were probably a meteorite breaking up.

The Ohio Highway Patrol said residents all over the state reported seeing the same objects. State Police in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky also received telephone calls from curious persons.

Some observers said they saw "two brilliant white UFOs with long tails," while others reported a string of objects "ranging anywhere from gold in color to various shades."

A story out of Washington, D.C., carried by the KANSAS CITY TIMES, March 7, has this to say: A bright, unidentified flying object spotted by hundreds of persons in the east and the southeast last Sunday may have been a piece of space junk, a Pentagon spokesman said yesterday.

An Air Force officer said reports of a moving, slightly flickering light by the Air Force's project Blue Book which investigates UFO sightings, but a spokesman said the object had all the earmarks of a piece of space debris, possibly an old rocket booster.

The North American Air Defense command in Colorado Springs, which keeps track of all the hardware in the sky, told the National Aeronautics and Space Administration it was unable to confirm or contradict speculation that the Sunday sightings represented re-entry of part of the Soviet spacecraft Zond 4 launched last Saturday.

Editor's Note: If any of our readers have any local reports on the above sightings please send them in.

## ENGINEER ADDRESSES GROUP

John F. Schuessler of St. Charles, a senior design engineer employed by McDonnell Astronautics Co., of St. Louis, spoke at a meeting of the Tri-State UFO Discussion Group in Hannibal, Wednesday night, Feb. 21st at the Arch Street Methodist Church.

Officers were installed at this meeting with Bill Schelen of Quincy, Ill., named Chairman. The group will meet again March 20th at the Hamilton High School in Quincy with meetings open to anyone interested in the scientific study of the UFO phenomena.

## SOVIET ASKED TO AID IN UFO PROBE

Dr. Edward Condon, director of an Air Force financed investigation of UFO's announced Feb. 23rd, that he has asked scientists of the Soviet Union to cooperate in a study of flying saucers.

The letter from Condon was relayed three weeks earlier by the prestigious National Academy of Sciences to the Soviet Academy. The request was prompted by news reports from Moscow quoting informed sources as saying the Soviet government had set up a special commission to investigate reports of flying saucers.

Condon said he hasn't had an answer yet, "but I guess it's too soon to expect one."

In a telephone interview from Boulder, Colo., Condon declined to say whether his research to date has made him a believer in flying saucers.

"I'm getting to be more one way than the other," he said, "but I'm not going to tell you what that way is."

Condon, a physicist now on the University of Colorado faculty, formerly headed the U.S. Bureau of Standards. He was named director of the UFO study 15 months ago and heads the probe designed to find out whether unidentified flying objects are natural phenomena or possibly aircraft from distant planets.

Dr. Condon said the investigation will not be completed until sometime in June, according to the ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT of Feb. 25th, and the report will not be made public until November or December.

Condon's letter "said in essence, that we are doing a job for the American Air Force, and we have an interest in any similar research, you may be doing-- and we'll be glad to exchange information with you. So, the letter says, 'how shall we get together?'"

The KANSAS CITY TIMES on March 1st reported that Dr. Condon, 66, was confined to his home after a "recurrence of a heart ailment" on Feb. 29th. His condition was not considered serious.

The report was also made that Dr. Condon had asked for and received Dr. J. Allen Hynek's files of unexplained UFO cases. Dr. Hynek has been a UFO consultant to the Air Force for 18 years and is Director of the Dearborn observatory at Chicago.

SEND YOUR REPORTS IN BEFORE THE 10th!

A big city newspaper recently devoted four columns with double headlines to a report on "UFOS--Identified", a new book by Phillip J. Klass. You can purchase a copy of this erudite (?) classic for \$6.95. to help you decide if you must add this volume to your library, we'll tell you Mr. Klass has solved the mystery. Unidentified flying objects--ALL unidentified flying objects--are "whirling globs of electrified gas" or to boil it all down to one word--"plasma." His "intensive study" brings him to this conclusion.

NICAP officials say he is an instant expert who knows beans about UFO's."

Mr. K. is convinced that any size, shape, color, etceters UFO is plasma. One can read his book and wonder no more.

Well, we are still wondering. How about you?

Incidentally, we also wonder why the average newspaper comments on a report of UFO's being sighted over a four state area with a brief paragraph, or ignores it entirely (more often the latter), but gives front page space and headlines to any story debunking UFO's. When a sighting turns out to be plastic bags with lighted candles, the boys setting up the hoax have their pictures taken and make front page with all the publicity which probably motivated their prank.

Nevertheless, this fact emerges--every day more and more resonsible citizens are seeing and reporting unidentified flying objects, and demands for serious investigation increase.

We regard Dr. Condon's asking Soviet scientists to cooperate in the investigation of UFO's as a step forward. While Dr. Condon is careful not to state his views on UFO's prior to releasing his report to the government, it doesn't seem plausible to think he would invite Russia's cooperation if he has come to the conclusion ther is nothing to investigate.

On March 1st the KANSAS CITY TIMES announced Dr. Condon has requested the list of sightings from J. Allen Hynek, another straw in the wind as we speculate as to Dr. Condon's ultimate conclusions.

In this connection the U.F.O. INVESTIGATOR, NICAP's publication, carried a story in their recen issue to the effect that Dr. Hynek has announced that if the Colorado Project's conclusion is completely negative--denying UFO reality--"He will take the wraps off his personal files of good unexplained cases and make them public."

It occurs to us that if Dr. Condon antici-

pates government "policy" will water down his report he may also wish to take exception and will have the Soviet and Dr. Hynek's findings to back his own conclusions.

UFO STOPS CARS

Karl Farlow, 25, of Dawley, Shrophire, England, driving his truck, and a man with a woman companion in a Jaguar were approaching each other, coming from opposite directions, when the engines, lights of both vehicles and a portable radio in the truck suddenly failed as a UFO hovered over the surface of the road between the two vehicles. The time was the first week in November, 1967, and the place was a road in Southhampton, England.

Farlow, who made the report, said he was shaking with fright and unable to believe his won eyes as he sat in his truck cab and watched the 15-foot wide, egg-shaped UFO hover for two minutes. The object, noiseless, rose vertically for 40 feet and then glided off easterly at a "fantastic" speed, whereupon the lgihts of both vehicles blazed again.

The two drivers compared notes, but the Jaguar's occupants "not wishing to be involved" left the scene. Farlow drove to the nearest call box. At once a Hampshire patrol car rushed to the spot and Farlow was interviewed. Declared police constable Roy Nincham, "Mr. Farlow appeared to be quite sober and very firghtened." Another policeman said, "We have no reason to suspect the informant was lying. Farlow said, "I am not a drinking man." Efforts to contact the Jaquar driver were unsuccessful.

This story was carried in the TORONTO DAILY STAR, Nov. 7, and we obtained it from Gene Duplantier's fine magazine SAUCERS, SPACE, & SCIENCE, 17 Shetland St., Willowdale, Ontario, Canada.

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