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# SKYLOOK

"We tell it as it is"

September 1973

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Send Subscriptions to SKYLOOK, Box 129, Stover, Mo. 65078

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Mrs. Norma E. Short, Editor and Publisher

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No. 70

STANTON T. FRIEDMAN, nuclear physicist and noted authority on UFOs, will give an illustrated lecture "Flying Saucers ARE Real" on Monday, September 24, at 7:30 P.M. at the Machinists' Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton, Mo. The lecture will be followed by a question and answer period. Tickets, if purchased in advance by mail are \$2.00 for the main floor seats, \$1.00 for balcony seats. Tickets purchased at the door the night of the lecture will be \$2.50 and \$1.50. To order by mail, send a check payable to ILCO Productions, a stamped self-addressed envelope, and indicate number and kind of tickets wanted. ILCO Productions is a newly-established St. Louis firm which plans to sponsor a series of public lectures on UFOs, psychic phenomena and related topics. Friedman, who was one of the main speakers at the MUFON Symposium in Kansas City in June, needs no introduction to SKYLOOK readers. His lectures to colleges and professional groups have won him widespread fame, and many consider him the most authoritative and the most interesting speaker on UFOs today. Take advantage of this opportunity to attend one of his lectures.

ILCO Productions, P. O. Box 12653, St. Louis, Mo. 63141

This is not a paid advertisement. We're giving Mr. Friedman this space because we consider this "good news" for our many readers in the St. Louis area, and we don't want them to miss it. The best for the best! --Ye Ed.

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Special Features In This Issue . . . SKYLOOK Reporter Investigates Another UFO Landing . . . Many See "Thing" in Tennessee Sky . . . Report on 1897 Aurora, Texas, Investigation by Walter H. Andrus . . . More on the Emden, Mo. Sighting . . . Brightest Comet in Recent Years Coming . . . plus the Regular Features . . . Message From Your Director . . . In Others' Words . . . Astronomy Page . . . Organization News . . . Announcements . . . Many UFO Reports

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"It would be megalomania to think that we are the one intelligent civilization in the universe."--Heidelberg astronomer Sebastian von Hoerner.

Official Publication of the Mutual UFO Network

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#### SUBSCRIPTION

See Cover.  
Published Monthly  
Mail check to editor.

#### ADVERTISING

Classified: 5¢ a word. Address, and make check payable to: MUFON Inc, Minimum charge, \$1.00. 40 Christopher Court, Quincy, Ill., 62301. We reserve right to reject unsuitable material.

SKYLOOK was first published in September 1967. Your editor became publisher also in 1969, and SKYLOOK became a monthly publication.

We became the official publication of the Midwest UFO Network (now the Mutual UFO Network) in May, 1969. Subscriptions are open to members and non members.

SKYLOOK is staffed by and for adults. Our policy is to tell it as it is, and we make every effort to separate fact from fantasy in investigating and reporting.

Readers are invited to send UFO reports and news clips. Credit will be given for material used, but anonymity promised when you request it.

The deadline for copy for next month's issue is always the 20th of this month. Please send in material as early as possible as we hold open only two pages for the morning mail of the 20th.

Mail all material for SKYLOOK to the editor. Enquiries re MUFON should be mailed to Walter H. Andrus, 40 Christopher Ct., Quincy, Ill. 62301.

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#### Where To Order MUFON Publications

The Field Investigator's Manual - guidelines, techniques and suggestions on how to conduct UFO sighting interview, investigation, report forms etc. Price: \$1.50 to MUFON members; \$2.00 to non-members, USA and Canada; outside, \$2.75.

1972 Conference Proceedings - a big book, speeches made at 1972 Conference, and a wealth of other material on UFOs. \$3.25 in USA and Canada; \$4.00 elsewhere.

MUFON Symposium 1973 - All the lectures, other UFO papers, a history of MUFON; by Stanton T. Friedman, J. Allen Hynek, Walter H. Andrus, Ted Phillips, Adrian Vance, John F. Schuessler and Barry H. Downing. \$3.25 in USA and Canada; \$4.00 elsewhere.

## A Message From Your Director

Bill Case, State Director for Texas, is proud to announce the following appointments: Gary R. Brown, Route 4, Box 431, Denton, Texas 76201, telephone AC 817 497-3106 (K5MWJ) as State-Section Director for Denton and Cooke Counties; James J. Ferritto, 408 E. Walker, Decatur, Texas, 76234, telephone AC 817 627-2479, to the position of State-Section Director for Wise and Montague Counties; and Ray Stanford, P. O. Box 5310, Austin, Texas 78763, telephone AC 512 441-3543, as State-Section Director for Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell and Hays Counties. Charles D. Yarborough, 5148 East Belknap, Fort Worth, Texas 76117, telephone AC 817 834-7474, a practicing attorney, has volunteered to serve MUFON as a "Legal Advisor and Counselor."

It is with extreme pleasure that MUFON welcomes Robert M. Wood, Ph.D., 1727 Candlestick Lane, Newport Beach, Ca. 92660, telephone AC 714 548-2878, as our new Consultant in Engineering/Physics. Bob brings with him a wealth of experience in the aerospace industry and UFO research. Paul C. Cerny, State Director for Northern California, has selected Bradley Johnston, 2288 Buena Vista Ave., Livermore, Ca. 94550, telephone AC 415 447-5881, as State-Section Director for Alameda, Contra Costa, and Stanislaus Counties.

Your Director is proud to welcome Gerald K. Ginnings, Ph. D., Box 2326, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tenn. 37601, telephone AC 615 928-8568, as our new State Director for Tennessee. With his many years of experience in education, electronics (Amateur Radio WA4JYT) and in the UFO field, Jerry will be a solid asset to MUFON.

Elmer A. Kral, State Director for Nebraska, has appointed Joseph M. Adams, Route 1, Box 138A, Chadron, Nebr. 69337, telephone AC 308 432-4129 as State-Section Director for Dawes and Sheridan Counties.

Congratulations and two dozen roses to Rosie and Dick Holmes for being such gracious hosts for their fifth annual MUFON Picnic at Carlyle, Ill. on July 22. Visitors from eight states attended this annual event to enjoy the delicious food, hear outstanding speakers and to participate in the congenial socializing.

On July 12, your Director had the privilege of meeting in Dallas, Texas, with State-Section Directors Stanley C. Ferguson, Thomas R. Adams, and State Astronomy Director, Earl F. Watt's in Earl's home, along with other UFO friends to plan for the growth of MUFON in Texas.

Following closely upon the recent successful Fourth Annual MUFON Symposium in Kansas City, Mo., on June 16, Larry Moyers, State Director for Ohio and Earl J. Neff, State-Section Director for the Cleveland area, have announced that the Fifth Annual MUFON Symposium will be held Saturday, June 22, 1974, at the beautiful new AKRON-CASCADE Holiday Inn, 5 Cascade Plaza, Akron, Ohio, 44308. The Symposium will be hosted by F.S.I.C. (Flying Saucer Investigating Committee) and C.U.P. (Cleveland Ufology Project). A. E. "Marc" Candusso, formerly MUFON Co-State Director for Ohio, has already pledged his active support to Larry and Earl. The first public announcement of the date for the 1974 MUFON Symposium was made by Earl J. Neff on July 31 when he was interviewed by Jim Stagg in a full hour UFO program on WMAQ in Chicago.

Circle this date, June 22, 1974, on your calendar now so that you can start making plans to attend, and watch SKYLOOK for more details as they develop.

Walt Andrus, Director  
MUFON

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Notice to Our Readers The UFOs Behind the Iron Curtain article, by Joe Brill intended for this issue is lengthy, and rather than divide it into two parts, we are holding for the October issue when it will appear in its entirety. More and more good copy is coming in, and it's like pulling a tooth to leave out good reports. We could be a weekly.

**SKYLOOK Reporter Investigates Another UFO Landing - Object is Seen by Three Witnesses - Tree Limbs Broken - Imprints Left in Soil**

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It was about 12:30 the night of June 28, 1973. The sky was clear and there was a very light breeze. It was quiet at the "Smith" mobile home in a wooded area at the end of a dead end lane. Even the family dogs, which normally took their duties as watch dogs seriously and found something to yap at just ever so often, were silent. It was just about like any other Thursday night at the X Trailer Court at the edge of a Missouri college town, but an event was to occur which the Smith family will never forget.

John Smith, age 41 and a long time employee at the college, was relaxing in the living room and listening to music on a record player. It had been a long day and he was about ready to turn in. Mary, the teen age daughter, went into the kitchen to the refrigerator and through the open north window heard a "thrashing sound" in the direction of some scattered trees about 80 feet distant. As the sound persisted, she was a little alarmed and called to her father. As he moved to the window, she ran to the screened porch at the front of the home and locked the door, then returned to the window and both peered into the darkness.

Suddenly, from above, two beams of light appeared, very bright and silvery white in color, about 50 feet from the window. The beams were about five feet apart, tapering from about four feet wide at the top to two feet at the ground. As suddenly as they had appeared, they faded out, and a bright oval form was seen. Smith estimated it to be about 12-15 feet in diameter and very near the ground. It was so bright, he had to turn his eyes away briefly. No surface details of the object could be seen at this point. The area was "lit up as bright as day" and the thrashing sound continued with the trees moving back and forth as if in a strong wind with the exception of one which seemed to be pulled toward the ground "with a tugging motion." Shortly after the entire object was visible, the thrashing noise ceased, but the "tugging motion" of one tree continued; then there was a loud, cracking sound and the tugging ceased. The next morning it was seen that a large limb had broken away from the main trunk at a point 17 feet above the ground and had the appearance of having been twisted by some giant hand.

As Smith moved to another window, he saw his dogs lying very quiet between the house and a shed, and was astounded that they were not barking. Alarmed by the strange happenings, he went to his bedroom for his guns and brought them to the kitchen where he loaded them and placed them near at hand at the north window where Mary kept watch. The object remained in the same position and light from its glowing form illuminated the trees as far away as 100 feet.

Smith decided to call for help. The object began moving away to the north, passing below tree limbs through an open area some 20 feet wide. It moved parallel to the ground until it reached the edge of the field, then raised slightly and hovered some 200 feet from the house. The light was not as bright as before, and Smith and his daughter could now see the object was silver-white at the center with a blue band of light and an orange glow extending to the outer edge. It hovered briefly, then moved back with a smooth, slow motion to its original position over the field. At no time could any sound be heard from the strange craft.

Smith dialed the trailer court for directory assistance. Mrs. Brown, who took the call, later told Ted Phillips that Smith was very excited and seemed to be frightened as he described the event. He told her he needed help and asked her to contact the police. She said she would

call the operator at the telephone company and ask her to call Smith at once.

While Smith had been talking to Mrs. Brown, the house lights dimmed twice. As he completed his call, he hung up and went back to the window.

Mrs. Jones, on duty at the telephone company, received Mrs. Brown's call and immediately dialed the Smith home. There was no busy signal, no ring, and, in her opinion, as she told Mr. Phillips later, the line was dead. She tried dialing the number five times, pausing after the third or fourth call to check back with Mrs. Brown to be sure she had the right number. After the fifth try (she stated that it would have taken perhaps three minutes to dial five times, waiting briefly after each dial and contacting Mrs. Brown) she did get through.

During this time Smith was concerned as no one had called back, and it is understandable how the minutes could seem very long in such a situation. He picked up the receiver to try to call again and heard the operator call his name. He told her what had happened and said he was frightened for his children, interrupting his report to ask his daughter if the thing was still outside and what it was doing. Both operators told Phillips later they felt he was entirely sober and was telling the truth. There was no doubt as to his obvious alarm and sincerity.

Mrs. Jones then contacted the FAA at the regional airport and the person on duty there listened to Smith's story and was also impressed by his fright and sincerity. Smith was told the police would be contacted and hung up.

The time was exactly 12:53 as stamped by the electric clock as the call was logged at the Flight Station.

At this time the object was moving toward the Smith home, and his alarm grew. As he stated when interviewed by Phillips, "It came back, and we had it, I'll tell you. We didn't know what to do; we both got kind of scared. I said, 'What's gonna happen? Something's gonna happen here!'" This cold feeling came over me, I got speechless at this time. I just had this cold feeling when it came back that second time. I was just sure, like you almost feel that you were gonna get killed or something! Like death was at you, this was it! I didn't know what to do, I just froze. I just knew that this was it and no one would come, no policeman. I was scared to go out the door, I wouldn't have gone outside, no way."

The object then moved away, through the trees, toward the field. There was no sound, and this time the trees did not move. As the object neared a point at the near edge of the field, it raised slightly until it reached a point over the field some 200 feet away. It was still below the tree line to the north. As it hovered there, the orange and blue bands could be seen again with the silver-white center. The glow then began to "shrink," Smith said, until the object completely disappeared and was not seen again.

The police arrived about 1:45 a.m., explaining the delay was due to a bad accident in the area. One young officer walked to the area with Smith, looked about briefly and seemed unimpressed. He did not see the broken limb at that time, and it seems possible he did not see the deep imprints left in the ground. Some lighter markings on the ground he dismissed as "rabbit tracks."

Disturbed at having this frightening experience dismissed so lightly, Smith told the officer, "Just forget the whole thing." He then called the Flight Service Station to report the police had been there.

Ted Phillips interviewed the Smiths first on July 9, 1973, getting their story and taking measurements and photographs of the site visited by the object. The broken limb described earlier was still hanging from the tree trunk, and there were other broken limbs and tree damage.

Leaves in the area of the broken limbs had a scorched appearance, up to 25-35 feet above the ground. On a second visit on July 14, the broken limbs were bare, and on a third visit on July 28, it was noted that additional leaves had fallen or were dying all along the flight path. Leaves on the far side of these trees were normal.

A reporter from the local newspaper visited the site on the day of the sighting and checked the area for radiation. None was detected. The reporter, who weighs 300 pounds, told Phillips he tried to make a heel mark by one of the imprints left in the ground, and he could insert his heel to a depth of only  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. The imprints, which we must assume were made by the object's landing gear and which followed the same description and pattern of other landing cases, were 2 feet deep and more. We must assume a weight of well over 300 pounds on each imprint as the reporter could not force his heel more than a half inch into the hard soil. The exact outline of one imprint is shown on this page, taken from the drawing made by Phillips.

This account is written from 11 typed (single space) pages of the detailed investigation made by Ted Phillips. While the identity of the witnesses will be known to our readers living in the area of the sighting as the local newspaper reported the happening under big headlines clear across the front page, we have changed the names of all concerned in order to protect the Smith family from further publicity. They were pretty shaken up by the frightening experience, and do not want others coming to their home to ask questions or to prowl about the premises. They're glad it's in the past and fervently hope nothing like this ever happens to them again.

This sighting, witnessed by an adult, a 16-year old girl and a small boy, and leaving physical evidence leads Phillips to state, "I believe the man has described a very real event."

Consider again the outstanding features:

Animal Reaction--dogs very quiet, flattened position near the ground near shed.

Electrical Failure --all lights in trailer dimmed two times during the first close approach.

Telephone Failure - line dead for about 3 minutes, confirmed by operator.

Effects of Object on Surrounding Area - (A) Illuminated entire area with extremely bright low, area illuminated, at least 100 feet in diameter. (B) Trees around object showed considerable movement during first close approach. (C) Thrashing sound heard during first close approach. (D) Tugging motion on tree. (E) Large tree limb broken, smaller limbs on this limb broken. (F) Complex series of imprints along flight path. (G) Leaves wilted on tree limbs over flight path.

Editor's Note: We can't remember the specific case and haven't time to search back issues at this time, but we're sure we do remember another landing case in which the police were slow in reaching the scene because of a bad accident in the area. Just coincidence? This might be a subject for investigation in the future.

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#### MUFON Consultant Advises Study

Ron Westrum, our sociology consultant, recommends that field investigators be familiar with some of the vagaries of eye-witness testimony. They should, at one time or another, peruse a book on the psychology of testimony--they may be shocked at how inaccurate experiments have shown even experts to be. The best source is still Hugo Muensterberg's "On the Witness Stand" (1915) but not all libraries will have it. A good investment is James Marshall "Law and Psychology in Conflict" (Anchor Books, Doubleday 1969) for \$1.45. Either of these works will dispel the idea that eyewitness testimony is necessarily superior.

## Many See "Thing" In Tennessee Sky - What Is It?

The August 5th edition of "The Knoxville News-Sentinel" gives headlines to a front page report on "the thing" seen in the skies above LaFollette, Tenn., since July 5th. More than 50 persons, including the serious-minded mayor have reported seeing the object variously described as a rounded light, usually orange in color, that moves a few hundred feet above the ground in a north-to-south direction, appearing usually around 9:50 p.m. Some joke about it. Others including an Oak Ridge scientist, take it seriously. More than 100 Citizen Band radio operators discuss the "thing" and maintain their own skywatch report on sightings over a wide area. Radio reports keep the interested public up to date.

In Knoxville, Mrs. James R. Guyton, Jr., a lawyer, 7141 Cheshire Drive, told of seeing a "large ball of fire" due north of her home at 12:30 a.m. July 22. She said, "We had just turned TV off and gotten in bed when a bright, flickering flame appeared outside our second story bedroom window. I thought our sunporch roof was on fire! I ran and pulled aside the curtains and saw the object just over the trees. By the time my husband reached the window it had disappeared. Although he said he saw a puff of smoke, I didn't have my glasses on, so saw no smoke."

"It's not a star, not a plane, not a weather balloon, nothing natural," said Mayor James P. Freeman from atop Knob Hill, a 1700 foot knoll overlooking La Follette from the south.

While the mayor and a group, including the reporter from the News-Sentinel and another skywatch group, headed by Radio Station WLPF's news director, Frank Epperson, were looking for the thing and saw nothing, back at the radio station, a call came in from a woman who lives on U.S. 25 North, saying the light was over Peabody Mountain. The mayor, who is also police commissioner, raced with telescope toward Jackboro and parked near a drive-in theater on the 4-lane highway, but the object did not appear.

But the mayor--in company with his two sons and Bill Russell, a high school biology teacher--did see the object while fishing on Cove Lake late in July. It was an orange light, about 1/3 the size of a full moon, on the side of Pine Mountain below Interstate 75. It moved behind trees and reappeared in a gap, then vanished, Mayor Freeman said.

A driver for Tennessee Highway Department headed his dump truck towards Huntsville, near the Cambell-Scott County line and reported both he and his companion were attracted to an orange glow moving in the opposite direction, hovering over the highway and moving toward Caryville. It disappeared in an instant. The driver said he had met no vehicles.

K. C. Haaland, chemical scientist at Oak Ridge National laboratory, told the News-Sentinel he didn't know what the object was "but I'm convinced from what reliable people who have seen the mysterious thing tell me it is something unusual. I'm not taking the reports lightly.

Some think the light may be just a reflection, but Haaland talked to a woman who said she had seen the object in the daytime. Another theory is that the object is a weather balloon. Those who have seen the object do not accept that nor do they go along with explanation it could be the landing lights on jets dropping into the Knoxville airport--with the jet engines idled in the descent and the noise less noticeable and far behind the aircraft lights.

Bob Hewlett, a field investigator for MUFON, is among those continuing an investigation, and perhaps we'll have a solution for the next issue of SKYLOOK. Or--will the mystery deepen?

Credit: News clips from Gerald K. Ginnings, MUFON Director for Tennessee, and Lou Farish, SKYLOOK staff member.

Editor's Note: Mr. Andrus' article was airmailed from Tulsa, Okla., in plenty of time to reach SKYLOOK before the deadline for copy, but did not do so, so could not be included in the August issue.

As promised in the July issue of SKYLOOK, the following is an up date report of the progress being made in the investigation into the 1897 newspaper report of the crash of an airship and the subsequent burial of the pilot's body in the Aurora cemetery. Through the outstanding investigative work of Bill Case, Aviation Writer for the "Dallas Times Herald" newspaper and MUFON State Director for Texas, with the able assistance of Earl Watts, MUFON Field Investigator and State Director of Astronomy, the following facts are submitted as evidence that H. E. Hayden's original story to both the Dallas and Fort Worth newspapers cannot be considered a complete hoax as some people have implied.

We have tape recorded the statement by C. C. (Charlie) Stephens, of Aurora, Texas, that his father, James Stephens was "an eye-witness to the crash of an airship on the crash site." Mr. Stephens, however, holds firmly that his father mentioned no body in connection with the crash although he did not visit the scene until the next day after correspondent H. E. Hayden reported it was buried in Aurora cemetery.

Mrs. Mary Evans, age 91, now of Newark, Texas, who lived in Aurora at the time of the incident, stated in a tape recorded interview with Bill Case that she recalls her family and friends talking about the crash, although she, being only 15 years old at the time, was not allowed to go to the scene. (Her mother and father did view the crash site.) During a second interview with Mrs. Evans, she told Mr. Case that a "body was recovered and a piece of the aircraft was stuck up as a marker" in the cemetery.

A grave was found with the aid of a metal detector in the Aurora cemetery in an area where cemetery records were incomplete and did not identify either the owner of the plot or the person buried in the grave. A small triangular shaped native sandstone marker has existed on this grave for "at least 65 to 70 years and probably longer" per town marshal H. R. Idell, and other residents of Aurora. The only identification on the stone was a scratched drawing of an object that looked like the front of a UFO having three round portholes or windows. After the photograph of the marker under an old oak tree appeared in the "Dallas Times Herald," someone stole the marker on June 14, 1973.

Even tho we have disclosed a few slight discrepancies in H. E. Hayden's original newspaper account, it cannot be divorced from the fact that it was "one of more than 500 airship sighting reports" published in Dallas and Fort Worth newspapers from April 14 through April 27, 1897. An often asked question is "What happened to the reported pilot's log written in hieroglyphics?" No mention can be found of it other than in the original story.

What additional scientific facts are available to substantiate the probability that a crash of an aircraft on the former Judge J. S. Proctor's homestead did indeed occur? This property is now owned by Brawley Oates and his wife Bonnie. One of the earlier metal samples dug up at the alleged crash site was analyzed under the direction of one of MUFON's very capable consultants and found to be an aluminum alloy. An alloy of this composition was not developed in laboratories in the United States until between 1908 and 1910 and not commercially available until 1920. Our consultant stated that the metal had been subjected to extreme heat and was probably in a molten condition

since specific elements were forced to the surface of the aluminum alloy nugget. Other metal samples were retrieved, using metal detectors at the possible crash site that were a four inches under the surface and imbedded into the limestone on the hillside. These pieces of metal also indicated they could have been in a molten condition when deposited, since they conformed to the configuration of the limestone. Samples of these metals were sent to John F. Schuessler, Deputy Director of MUFON and Consultant in Astronautics, on June 15. They have been submitted to laboratories at McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis for their expert analysis. Other samples were mailed to Prof. William A. Funkenbusch at Michigan Technological University in Houghton Michigan at his request for study by their faculty.

Preliminary investigation indicates a high probability that an explosion did take place on Judge J. S. Proctor's homestead which gives credibility to a possible crash.

Why is MUFON interested in this particular case? If H. E. Hayden's newspaper report is correct, we have possible access to pieces of a crashed UFO and hopefully some remains of a body in the cemetery grave. Our goal is two fold in nature; first to either prove that the story was a pure fabrication of H. E. Hayden and a hoax; or second, if it actually happened, to carry the investigation to a scientific conclusion based upon available evidence. Previous investigations into this legend over the years have been only cursory in nature and immediately branded a hoax, since no one took the time to conduct an in-depth study as is presently being done by MUFON. If scientific evidence exists to prove that the story is a hoax, MUFON will go "on record," and close this case permanently. However, if the evidence warrants continued investigation, as it now appears, it will be carried to a conclusion in as far as we may legally extend ourselves.

A registered letter was sent by MUFON to each member of the Aurora Cemetery Association requesting their permission to exhume the identified grave to determine if remains existed that would either confirm or dispel the original story. Through their attorney, they not only refused to permit such an exhumation, but forbid ufologists and MUFON in particular from entering the cemetery.

Due to the tremendous interest in this case, the news media in the United States and Canada requested that Bill Case and MUFON release a statement of our progress. On July 13th, Walter H. Andrus, Jr. Director of MUFON, personally answered these inquiries to the Dallas Times Herald newspaper and appeared on the following television and radio stations: KRLD radio (one hour tape), KDFW-TV (filmed news broadcasts), WFAA-TV (live on noon news), in Dallas; WBAP-TV (live on evening special) and a WBAP radio (25 minutes tape) in Fort Worth. Bill Case and Earl Watts are to be commended for arranging this outstanding exposure to the public for MUFON.

In several of the broadcasts, MUFON's Director appealed to the Aurora Cemetery Association and the residents of Wise County to permit the exhumation of the grave so as to "wrap up" this case and eliminate any further escapades through their well maintained cemetery by curiosity seekers and ufologists. On Saturday July 14, Walt Andrus met with Glenn McCrary, President of the Aurora Cemetery Association, and Lloyd McKinnon, member of the association in the Aurora cemetery for a 2-hour discussion. These gentlemen are very sincere about preserving their cemetery and fully accept their responsibilities to their community for preventing further damage.

Both Mr. McCrary and Mr. McKinnon, who had been expecting my visit to the cemetery, maintained their position that they would not permit

the possible body to be exhumed or, as stated through their attorney, Mr. W. A. Nobles, of Decatur, Texas, in writing to MUFON. However, both gentlemen did agree if legal action was taken through their attorney ("going over their heads" as they explained), they would certainly give the proposal further consideration. Since the personal appeal was ineffective, legal steps become the only alternative.

Before MUFON solicits legal assistance to seek exhumation of the grave, we must have scientific and legal evidence to justify such a serious move. We still need the complete analysis of the metal samples submitted to various labs in the United States and Canada as further scientific evidence. Lawyers are available in Texas to represent MUFON when this becomes the next step.

Walt Andrus visited the site of the alleged crash on the property of Brawley Oates, taking documentary photographs and interviewing both Brawley and his wife, Bonnie. Bill Case, in his 27 trips to Aurora, has conducted a very thorough interview with the residents, so no attempt was made during my visit to locate each of the contributors to duplicate their reports. Both Mr. McCrary and Mr. McKinnon are firm believers that the entire story is a hoax. As Mr. McKinnon points out, there is no record in the written history of Wise County, Texas, concerning the crash of such an airship in 1897. He believes that this should have been significant history if it indeed took place.

FOLLOW-UP, as of August 17th, 1973, by Walt Andrus:--Metal analysis details have been received from several laboratories where investigations have been conducted by metallurgists, physicists and chemists to determine the composition of pieces of metal imbedded under ground on the limestone surface at the alleged crash site. The different samples recovered by Bill Case and Earl Watts, through the aid of a metal detector, all show evidence of having been heated to a molten state when they were originally deposited. Basically, the samples are of an aluminum alloy, varying from an aluminum content of 65% to 95% and iron content from 25% down to 5%. Other elements are present in small quantities in certain of the submitted samples. Reports have been received from three aerospace company labs, one university and one private spectro-chemical research lab in four different states. The uniqueness of the metal has excited the interest of the metallurgists who are asking more questions in an effort to determine the origin or manufacturer of the aluminum alloy.

It is believed by many that our universe is made up of the same elements found on our Earth; therefore, we are not looking for an unknown element that might be evidence of extraterrestrial origin. We are searching for positive evidence of a combination of elements, or an alloy that has never been produced or manufactured on this Earth. If the continued lab investigation discloses such an alloy it will provide the evidence to seek further support of this interesting case by seeking a court order to exhume the alleged remains in the suspected grave in the Aurora, Texas, cemetery. Legal aid has been volunteered when and if exhumation is the next logical step.

As new information becomes available, it will be reported in SKYLOOK.

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**Don't Miss This!!      DON'T MISS THIS!**

On Sunday, Sept. 9, 1973, NBC TV is scheduled to repeat "In Search of Ancient Astronauts" (The von Daniken story). Watch your local newspaper for your station and time. We saw this and look forward to seeing it again.

UFO  
Reports

Strange Sound - Electricity Goes Off - Danielle Di Tomasso, 19, of Val-des-Lac, St. Agathe, Canada, had gone to bed the night of July 21, 1973 and was aroused by a strange sound, faint at first and then increasing in intensity, until "it was louder than a car motor" and "something like

a buzzing sound, but not exactly." It was 10:30 o'clock, and while this sound was heard, all the lights in the village went off. Right after the sound faded away, the lights came back on. The sky was clear with stars shining brightly. Miss Di Tomasso said, "Whether or not it had anything to do with a UFO is a mystery to me."

Credit: Lucy Bakay, Montreal, Canada.

UFOs In Indiana - Mr. F. H. Rittenhouse, of Huntington, Ind., sent us a clipping from a Ft. Wayne, Ind., newspaper ("The News Sentinel") of June 23, 1973 which states the residents of eastern Allen County have reported sightings of unexplained sky objects.

One resident reported seeing a large hovering aerial object described as round or pear-shaped with four or five red lights on top and bottom and a large white light atop. It was dome shaped at top and rounded at bottom with what appeared to be a partitioned frame within the window. Another resident said she saw the object while enroute to a food market, for awhile it was above her auto at a height estimated at equivalent to a block or two. After moments it suddenly took off eastward at unbelievable speed, gradually disappearing. Lights on the object dimmed gradually before its departure. This was at 10:30 PM on June 20.

An object sighted northeast of Ft. Wayne was described by some as being visible for a couple hours, moving in various directions and with a yellow light. The control tower at Baer Field said at that time that a pilot sighted an object but that it wasn't identified, but it was not a weather balloon.

Boys Report Strange Sky Object - Law Officers Scoff - Jeff Trigg, 16, Pete Kistner, 18, Dena Boucherie, 14, and Jerry Stallings, 14, of Fairfield, Ill., saw an illuminated object shaped like a "flat football" near Fairfield Airport about 10 P.M., July 6, as they were on the road to Miriam, Ill. Earlier, about 8 P.M. the same object was seen by Tommy Hutcheson, 16, and Loren Farmer, 16, near the Drive In Theatre and Fairfield Gun Club, as it passed over their car heading toward Geff, Ill.

The boys located the sheriff and his deputy at the Regal Inn at Fairfield and reported the sighting. The men went outside to look, saw nothing, and made light of the boys' report. Tommy and Loren returned to the site where they had seen the object, spotted it again to the west and then followed it to Geff where it was then lost to view behind some trees. The boys said the object was football shaped, with red and white alternating lights around it and was the size of a half dollar held at arms length.

Mrs. Alice Hearle, of Cisne, Ill., talked to the boys and sent us the report. She says the object could have been a small private plane or weather balloon, but the boys were unable to identify it. SKYLOOK would be interested in knowing if others in the area saw the object.

Did Saucer Make Return Visit? - Early in July, this year, something apparently landed or struck the Howard Groves' bean field near Clarion, Iowa, causing a mysterious depression several feet in diameter and a foot deep. Inside the depression Groves says he found fragments of a silver-like metal. Just outside the depression he found four holes which he thinks could have been made by the legs of a landing craft of some sort. And for forty yards around the depression the bean plants were wilted and brown, as if they had been burned by an intense heat.

Just a year ago to the day, Donald Slaikou, of Goldfield, had the same thing happen to one of his bean fields. He found the same kind

of mysterious depression, holes, and wilted beans on his own farm 14 miles west of the Groves' field.

Wright County Sheriff Robert Shaw, who investigated the mysterious depressions on the Slaikeu's farm last year and on Groves' farm this year says, "The two situations are identical. There appeared to be an intense extreme heat for a short period of time. Something disturbed the ground violently."

Sheriff Shaw says he doesn't believe in flying saucers, but adds, "It's so much of a coincidence, the same thing happened exactly one year later and only 14 miles away. . you begin to wonder about all sorts of things."

Farmer Groves doesn't believe that lightning or a craft like a helicopter could have caused the damage to his bean field, but he doesn't go so far as to say a flying saucer actually landed on his farm.

"I've got to see those things from outer space before I'll believe in 'em," he said, "but it is rather puzzling, don't you think?"

He adds this to the mystery: "My wife and I went down to a ballgame in Woolstock on July 8. When we got home our dog, Ginger, ran into the house and absolutely refused to come out. My wife had to drag him back outside. Ginger's never acted that way before. Cars or lightning never scared her like that before. Something's gotten into her, that's for sure."

Credit: D. R. Marks. Source: "Des Moines Register," July 23, 1973.  
Fuzzy, Glowing Object Seen in Canada - Lucy Bakay, of Montreal, Canada, looked out the window at 8:45 PM, April 17, 1973, and saw a large "fuzzy, glowing object" coming out of the southeast and moving to the northwest. It was the "size of the moon" and perhaps larger, oval-shaped with a dark rim around its center. The color was "a misty, off white." She viewed the object through a 7x35 Wide Angle Tasco binocular and judged it to be 600-700 feet above the ground at a distance of 1500-2000 yards. It moved slowly and was in view for three minutes. In reporting to SKYLOOK, Miss Bakay added, "There are no real swamps in the area around here."

More Light on Piedmont Lights - Laurence P. Rybak, of Woodridge, Ill., and State Section Director for MUFON, along with two friends, throws a little light on those controversial Piedmont, Mo., sightings. He writes: "While we were in Piedmont on June 23, 1973, we sat on top of the dam /Clearwater Lake/ from approximately 9:30 until 4 AM. We met some elderly people who had stated to us they had witnessed 2 UFOs swoop down and hover over the lake for a few minutes, then disappear. Upon further questioning they said that it had just appeared hovering over the water and hadn't swooped down at all, but they had imagined this is how it appeared. Well, approximately at 9:45-10:00 one of the people stated, 'There's one now.' Upon looking up, we realized that what they had been seeing were nothing more than satellites traveling in an approximate South to North direction. There were two sightings like this, and the people stated that this is what they had been seeing for nights. Also, pertaining to the same people, about 3 a.m. one of my friends noticed a ball which looked like a headlight of a car hovering over the lake and then suddenly moving across the lake. Upon further evaluation with the use of our binoculars, we discovered that this was just a fishing boat showing their headlight hovering due to charcoal smoke hovering over the lake, with the light reflecting off the water and above the light layer of smoke. After a minute or two of moving, the light 'mysteriously' went out. Apparently the fishermen had moved to a new spot. This, I believe, would explain what the people had spoken to us about."

However, Mr. Rybak and his friends also saw a sky object which they

were unable to identify. Between 2:30 and 3:00 AM. they say an oval-shaped yellow light, the size of a pencil eraser at arms length) in the northern sky, moving along the horizon to the southeast and disappearing from view in a haze. It could be seen for 3-5 minutes as it moved along 20-30 degrees above the horizon. Mr. Rybak states he does not know of any aircraft that would fit the pattern and size of the object, especially considering its great speed.

Editor's Note: Our readers will remember that Reg Bone, coach of Clearwater high school, two assistant Piedmont team managers and three players returning home from a basketball tournament saw a UFO off of Route 49 near Brushy Creek, the night of Feb. 21, 1973. All had a good look at the bright, but silent, flying object. The sighting was reported in the news media all over the United States and abroad (in the April issue of SKYLOOK, then with other follow-up reports) along with a flurry of other reports of UFOs in the Piedmont area. The sightings were investigated by MUFON and reported in SKYLOOK. We believe Coach Bone and his group saw a real unidentified flying object, while it seems that many who reported UFOs saw easily identified lights in the sky. That this should be true is perfectly natural and in no way implies disrespect to the many who made honest reports of objects they were unable to identify. Today, six months later, this magazine still receives letters asking about those Piedmont UFOs, and we continue to invite further information concerning them. In this reference, we believe you'll find the next report especially interesting.

Mysterious Light Seen from Bedroom Window - On the nights of April 19-20, 1973, a mysterious light which "looked like fire" and appeared to be as large as a small home was seen by Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Hahn at their home on Possum Creek near Lutesville, Mo. Mrs. Hahn told "The Banner Press" of Marble Hill, Mo. the huge light was first seen outside the bedroom windows about 10 p.m. The light illuminated the entire bedroom through the curtains. The Hahns didn't go outside, but she said she felt certain the entire area around that side of the house was illuminated because the light was so bright "it hurt my eyes," she said.

The next night at 3 a.m. she was awakened from her sleep with a bright light shining in her face. "It really scared me," she said. Both nights the light stayed at the window for about 30 minutes. The first night the light appeared to zigzag as it lowered toward the earth. "I guess it landed because it was getting lower when I closed my eyes because they were hurting; and when I opened them, the light was gone," she said.

She described the light as reddish, looked like fire and appeared to be round in shape and was "very big, half as big as a home."

Asked if the light could have been car lights from a road nearby, Mrs. Hahn said definitely not. She said she is familiar with car lights and this is out of the question. Asked if it could have been the moon, she likewise ruled this out because the moon is small in size compared to the huge light and is not nearly so bright.

She said she didn't think of the mysterious lights seen at Piedmont until some time afterward and decided this must have been the same thing that had been reported elsewhere.

Her husband, a retired oil distributor, saw the light with her both nights and is likewise baffled by it all.

Interested in this incident, the Banner-Press went back in their files to recount a happening five years ago. F. X. Peters and Gus Eftink and their families reported this one to the press.

It was on a February night about 9:30 or 10 p.m. when his dogs began barking. "They were having a fit, just going crazy," said Peters, adding that none of the others could hear a thing. Before long, a huge

elongated object dropped from the sky and had a white light on top of it and a red light and a green light on the ends of it. "It was as big as an Elfrink truck," said Peters and was shaped like a long green watermelon. "It came down about 200 yards from our house in a field which was between a wooded area and our home, so we could see it good."

Peters recalled that he and many others saw it land and saw it take off. It went straight up. Sometime later a spot was found where it apparently landed and the earth was sunken in three places, much like a tripod landing gear would make, and there was no growth of grass where the sunken places were. The earth appeared to have been burned at those three spots, Peters said.

L. T. Wilder, conservation agent, was called to the scene by Peters to inspect it. Peters said the sunken spots were about 20 feet apart. Peters said the landing site is in a 20-acre field, about 30 or 40 feet from a fence row. It is the highest ridge in the county and landed close to a marker placed by a geological survey team.

Peters said they didn't worry too much about this, however, when a weather balloon was found some time later in the area.

Comment: We'd like to know if the weather balloon fitted the description of the object described and if it could have been responsible for the high pitched sound which the dogs obviously heard. Does a weather balloon having landing gear, and could it burn the ground? We'd like to know.

Credit: Lou Farish

Staff Writer Has Second Thoughts on UFOs - A staff writer on "The Milwaukee Journal" writes Feb. 11, 1973, under his "Wisconsin Notes":--

We have been very skeptical of Unidentified Flying Objects--UFOs. But after hearing a report from a person in town whom we believe, there has to be something to it. This all happened Jan. 13, between 5 and 6 o'clock in the evening. This fellow was driving by Sam Dieck's farm on Highway G, going toward Marion, when he looked to his left and saw a red light in the sky. He didn't think too much about it, but then noticed that it was going so slow and was too low for an airplane. He said he blinked his eyes a few times, but it was still there. The object was just ahead and to the left and he could see two big red lights, one on each side, and an after-burner (like jet stream) coming out of the back. He said it was saucer shaped and looked like there could be windows on the sides, but thought it might just be reflections so wouldn't swear to that. It crossed the road between Doug Brandenburg's and Vernon Krueger's and then swung toward Marion over Rueben Houschultz's home. As he turned on Highway 110, the object started back toward Krueger's farm and as he got there it disappeared over the hill behind the old May farm. He said he did not just imagine it, that he actually saw it and reported it to police.

Phantom Glow Eludes Deputies - Sheriff's deputies chased a phantom glowing red object in the sky north of Vancouver Sunday night but found nothing. A dispatcher at the sheriff's office said several calls were received about the "glowing" object. One caller said it was observed from Hazel Dell, but other callers had observed it much farther north. No explanation for the observances was found.

Credit: Bruce Melton. Source: "The Columbian," Vancouver, Washington, June, 1973.

When you send us a newspaper clipping, be sure to give the name of the newspaper, city and state, and date of publication, so we can give credit in using the article in SKYLOOK.

We wanted to be sure you'd read this! Now turn the page and continue.

"Whirling" Noise Heard--UFO Seen - At 6:30 AM, July 31, 1973, Mrs. Elsie Randall and her daughter, Dawn, heard a "whirling" noise which attracted their attention. Listening intently, the noise seemed to be "beeping" in a continuous pattern. The two went outside to see if they could locate the source of the sound. The sound seemed to be from the sky, but trees blocked their vision and shortly afterward the sound faded into the distance. The sky was overcast with a low ceiling. Later that day, Mrs. Randall was interested in finding this item in the "Police Beat" of the "Telegraph Herald": "At 1:30 a.m. police received a report than an unidentified flying object was sighted over Murphy Park." Murphy Park is four blocks from the Randall home.

It is also interesting to read the last paragraph of the "Police Beat." It was: "Investigation continues into all but the UFO report." Reported by Thomas Miller, of Franklin Park, Ill.

Power Black Out--Sky Object Seen Following a power black out in the Cape Girardeau, Mo., area on July 2nd, the following letter, written by Margie Baker, of Risco, Mo., appeared in the July 18 edition of "The Daily Standard," Sikeston, Mo. --" \* \* about 9:15 p.m. our lights started getting dimmer. And I saw a flashing object coming from Malden over Risco toward New Madred. It was a bright light, not any color. It was flashing like a policeman's light on a car, as if the object was twirling. As this was occurring, our lights were getting dimmer. We turned them off and the object's flashes were thrown into the room facing the course of the object. And then it disappeared behind some trees. I am sure this was not a plane. I believe this is the cause of the power black out."

Credit: Mrs. Mildred Higgins, Fayetteville, Ark.

More on Emden, Mo. Sighting of July 13 - We had a brief account of a UFO sighting at Emden, Mo. July 13 (See page 13 of August SKYLOOK) and stated that Joseph Brill, of our staff, would interview the witnesses on their return from California. We now have Mr. Brill's report.

The sighting took place at 3:30 AM and lasted about ten minutes. We quote Mr. Stice when he was asked how he happened to observe the object. "Well, we were sleeping at the time. Our dog started barking. Of course, he'll bark every night if an animal comes up close to the house. But he had a strange bark, just a scared bark. That's the main reason I got up to see what was going on. He wouldn't leave the porch area, and he kept barking at that light. He just stood there and barked. Normally, if there's something out there, he'll just take off after it. But he was scared and you could tell it. The dog is always left outside of the house at night. I didn't go any farther than the porch and my wife stuck her head out of the door just once. Other than that she watched from behind the door."

Asked to describe what they had seen, Mr. Stice said: "After the dog woke us up, we went to the front door and opened it. We looked out and didn't see anything at the time. I went back to bed myself. My wife saw the light over there. Then I got up and as soon as I saw it, I just knew what it was. There wasn't any doubt in my mind. There wasn't any noise, and there wasn't any wind, just peaceful, quiet. It was in view for a long time. I'd say around ten minutes. It was about the size of the average car. It wasn't round and it wasn't really oval. It was kind of egg shaped or kind of oblong in shape. When it left, it moved in a northwest direction and approximately three minutes or so later, our neighbor's dogs started barking. I immediately telephoned Baldwin Airport in Quincy, but they

didn't seem as if they were in the least interested. They suggested that I call Scott Air Force Base.

"As for the height above the ground, the newspaper said it was 100 feet from the ground but that was wrong. I would say it was more like 20 feet or less above the ground. I estimated this because it was about half the height of a tree from the ground. It was located behind a tree and this made it good to judge how close it was to the ground. There is a clearing where it was setting.

"The color of this thing was hard to describe. It wasn't quite the color of the sun as it goes down and yet it wasn't dark enough to be red. It seemed to have a different color towards the center. It seemed to be more of an orange around the outside of it. It had a three dimensional look to it. It just looked like you could look right through it, or right into it. It was brighter on the inside than it was on the outside."

Asked how the object appeared as it left the area, Stice said: "That was really strange. When it left, it looked like it just went straight without raising or without lowering. It just seemed to go straight, well, just a slight rise maybe. Straight through the trees to the northwest. It flew at the same level or near to it as it had been all the time I watched it. It didn't move faster than five miles an hour.

"It left when my wife began turning on the lights inside the house. I was standing on the porch and she was standing just inside the front door. It did seem to flicker or maybe flutter a little when it began to move off. Then, real slow it started moving out. I kept listening close for any sound, but there wasn't any sound at all. It moved away at a slow and steady speed and it disappeared. Once it started to leave, it took about 20 seconds before I could no longer see it, as it was far behind the trees. And when I say it flickered when, or just before it moved off, I mean like your car's headlights will do when your engine is idling and then you step on the gas."

He also added that "the cows were bellowing on the hill" along with the dog barking. The night was calm with clear skies and a slight breeze out of the east.

Editor's Note: One gets the "feel" of the situation so much better when you have the observer's own words, and we think Mr. Stice did a fine job of giving us the whole picture. The report forms used to record a sighting have their value, but we greatly prefer the narrative form of reporting. Give us all the details, and we'll "cut" them at our desk if we have to because of space limitations. Thank you, Joe.

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Help Wanted: If you live in the Montgomery, Alabama, area and would be willing to assist a MUFON investigator with a UFO research project, please write to Dan Haeefe, 12532 Merrill St., Garden Grove, Ca. 92640.

Wanted: Copy of Brad Steiger's Varo edition of Case for UFO in magazine form. Please state condition and price. J. W. Haskel, 114 Stassney Lane, Austin, Texas. 78745.

Back Issues of SKYLOOK: At this time, we have: 2, June 1970; 3- February, 5-June, 1971; 7-February, 1-March, 1-May and 20-July and August, 1973. Send 35¢ plus 10¢ for each two copies (postage) ordered. Money refunded, or applied on your subscription if we are unable to supply all copies. Send check to SKYLOOK, Box 129, Stover, Mo., 65078. ( U.S.A. Only)

New Advertising Rates : 5¢ a word, minimum charge, \$1.00 for Classified ad in SKYLOOK. We reserve right to reject material considered unsuitable.

The August 19 issue of NATIONAL TATTLER contains a short article relating the claims of actor Stuart Whitman with regard to his alleged UFO contact. The same material has been printed numerous times in other places, so this is largely re-hash. Some of the details have been changed a bit, so wonder just what--if anything--really did happen to Whitman.

September SAGA features something of a "world roundup" of UFO reports by Warren Smith. Nothing here that you haven't read a half dozen times somewhere else. John Keel's monthly column is a bit more interesting.

David Techter contributes an article on the African flap of 1972 in the September issue of FATE. This is a good summary of some of the more outstanding events, but it is not a complete listing of all African reports.

With the multitude of books on the subject of "ancient astronauts" (and there are still more to be reviewed in future columns), it seems only fair to give credit to those researchers who pioneered the study of UFOs in history. One of the most erudite writers on this subject is W. Raymond Drake. His second book, GODS AND SPACEMEN IN THE ANCIENT EAST, has recently been published in paperback in England by Sphere Books Ltd. (30/32 Grays Inn Road, London, WC1, England). The vast scope of Drake's research is immediately apparent on reading the book and checking his quite extensive bibliography. Some of his personal views may seem a bit too "contactee-oriented" for some, but it is the bulk of his data which is so impressive. The price for this title is approximately \$1.00, as best I can decipher from the exchange rates. I understand that New American Library will be bringing out an American paperback edition in the near future.

Another UFO title recently published by Sphere Books (as an "Abacus" paperback) is John Keel's UFO'S: OPERATION TROJAN HORSE. This book has already been reviewed in this column, so I will only say that it may be ordered from the above address for \$1.50.

The first publication to deal exclusively with the UFO uproar at Piedmont, Missouri, is now available. Written by Hayden Hewes, it is titled EARTHPROBE and is available from Reg Bone, P. O. Box 174, Piedmont, Mo., 63957. The price is \$2.00 per copy, plus 25¢ postage. In the past, I have been rather critical of Hewes' various activities in the UFO field and I see no reason to change my views on the specific incidents which provoked my criticisms initially. However, I do believe in giving credit where it is due, and to my way of thinking EARTH-PROBE is quite nicely done little booklet. So far as I can tell, Hewes has not strayed too far from the facts in recounting the story of his investigations at Piedmont. He includes various photos and illustrations, some of which have not been publicized previously. An interesting study of a UFO flap area.

UFO paperbacks seem to be staging a comeback. Robert L. Dione's GOD DRIVES A FLYING SAUCER has recently been published by Bantam Books; Jean Sedy's THE COMING OF THE GODS is just out from Berkeley Books (a full review in a later column); and Peter Kolosimo's NOT OF THIS WORLD will be out shortly from Bantam Books.

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To Our Overseas Readers --Please do not send us currency for any of the books mentioned in this column. We do not know the price-plus-postage to your address, and the books are not available here in Stover--so do write directly to the publisher, or to other address given. --Ye Ed

ASTRONOMY NOTES  
\* \* \* \* \*  
The Constellations - Vulpecula (The Little Fox) - Vulpecula was named by Hevelius in 1690. He called it Vulpecula et Anser, "The Fox and the Goose," because it lay between Cygnus, the Swan and Aquila, the Eagle, in a sort of barnyard region of the sky. Vulpecula culminates at 9 PM on September 8. There are no notable stars in Vulpecula, but the Milky Way runs right through the middle of the Constellation and some of the glory of that great river of stars has washed to its shores in Vulpecula. It has one planetary nebula within its borders. This is M-27, the Dumbbell Nebula. It is a definite disk with dark markings that are so arranged as to make the object look a little like a dumbbell. Observing at Allegheny Observatory in Pittsburgh, Pa., Mullaney and McCall describe this object as viewed through different telescopes: In a 4 inch at 40x this planetary is large and bright, pinched near the middle. A 13 inch at 145x displays it as a large, puffy white cloud.  
By Mark Herbstritt.

The September Sky - Venus remains an evening object during the month, setting at 8:10 PM C.S.T. on September 1st and at 7:40 PM on Oct. 1st. Mars increases in brightness and is seen throughout the evening as it rises at 9:20 PM on Sept. 1st and at 7:20 PM on Oct. 1st. Jupiter may be seen during the evening hours, setting at 2:35 a.m. on Sept. 1st and at 12:30 a.m. Oct. 1st. Saturn is seen throughout the evening as it rises at 12:20 AM on Sept. 1st and at 10:00 PM on Oct. 1st.  
By Ted Phillips.

#### Brightest Comet in Recent Years Coming

The brightest comet to be seen in recent years will be visible to the aided eye by Oct. 1st. Comet Kohoutek was discovered by March 7, 1973 by Lubos Kohoutek (for whom it was named) on March 7, 1973 at the Hamburg Observatory with a 32 inch Schmidt telescope. In May the comet became lost in the evening twilight (at that time still much too faint to be seen with the unaided eye) and it will remain unobservable until Oct. 1st. It will be visible in the morning sky near the constellation Leo at that time with the aid of a small telescope. However by Nov. 1st it will be visible to the unaided eye, rising about 1½ hours before twilight. It will be fairly bright by the end of November. As it nears the position of the sun, it will be lost until it reappears in the evening sky just after sunset. This will take place around January 1st. On December 28 the comet will pass around the sun at a distance of 13,200,000 miles. It will be a spectacular sky object reaching its brightest point on January 15th and should be as bright as the planet Venus, perhaps much brighter. It will be visible to the unaided eye until February 17th.

We will keep you informed as to its location in the sky in future issues of SKYLOOK. Our readers, knowing what to expect, will not confuse this sky object with a UFO. --By Ted Phillips.

Bright Objects Seen with SKYLAB Were Space Junk. - In answer to our question re the bright objects seen when viewing Skylab (see August SKYLOOK, page 12), Mark Herbstritt informs us an article in the August 1973 SKY & TELESCOPE entitled "Amateur Observations of the Skylab Procession" states The Fernbank Science Center near Atlanta, Georgia, used a 36 inch Cassegrain Reflector to view Skylab at about 9:42 EDT, May 14, and saw seven bodies of which No. 4 was the space laboratory. The first was probably the S-II secondstage, the last the meteoroid shield that had torn loose and others were parts of the nose cone protective shroud. The seven objects varied in brightness. As of May 20, 12 objects were associated with Skylab.

## Many Attended Carlyle Lake Picnic

Those present do not need to be told the Carlyle Lake Picnic, held July 21-22 at Carlyle Lake in Illinois was a big success. The skywatch planned for Saturday night was a "wash out" as observation posts had just been set up when the rains came.

The all day picnic on Sunday was well attended with more than one hundred people present, and no one had trouble locating the picnic area as Bill Christian, of St. Louis, had painted large, attractive sign to point the way, and there many smaller signs. Brightly colored balloons decorated the shelter house and a four foot weather balloon bobbing in a breeze from the lake caught everyone's attention.

Everyone brought baskets of food and Rosetta and Dick Holmes, hosts for the 5th annual event, again cooked home made noodles, dipping them hot from the kettle into waiting plates.

"Rosie" acted as Mistress of Ceremonies during the afternoon program. Lou Farish, slated to be the main speaker, was unable to be present as a "bug" (not the Watergate variety) got to him the day before, and he telephoned his regrets. Clarence Dargie spoke on "UFOs In History" and we have received many favorable comments on his address. Walt Andrus, Joe Brill and John Schuessler also spoke and all had the attention of everyone present.

Mrs. Anna Ray, of Lawrenceville, Ill., was the lucky winner of an afghan; Mrs. James M. Keith, of Alton, Ill., won a plant arrangement; and Myron Craig, of Alma, Ill., won a year subscription to SKYLOOK. A flea market was an added attraction this year, and proceeds were turned over to the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis to assist in financing their many fine projects for educating the public re UFOs. Mrs. Mae Jannett and Mrs. Bill Christian were in charge of the flea market.

## UFO Group Meeting in Arkansas, September 1st, 2nd and 3rd

For some years Mildred and Ed Higgins have hosted an informal get together for UFO buffs at their home in September, and this year they are inviting anyone interested to their home at Starsong, Route 5, Fayetteville, Ark. on Sept. 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Mrs. Higgins, who is a MUFON representative says, "We have room to sleep quite a few in our home." If that isn't real Southern hospitality, we don't know what you'd call it!

The best way to find their place is to go to Fayetteville and then phone the Higgins. Their number is 442-6815. After you leave Fayetteville, you go 9 miles east on Hwy 16 E. to Round Mountain. When you reach Round Mountain, almost anyone can direct you to the Higgins home--but it might be best to telephone. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins went to the Carlyle Lake Picnic, and we expect many of the friends they made there will be interested in driving to Arkansas. We do hope the Postal Service whips up their Tortoise Express so this notice reached you in time.

Organization Notes -THE UFO STUDY GROUP OF GREATER ST. LOUIS will meet Sunday, Sept. 9, at 2 PM in the Community Meeting Room of the Lemay Bank, 152 Lemay Ferry Road, Lemay, Mo. The October meeting will be on the 21st, same time and place. - On Thursday, Aug. 23, John F. Schuessler, of the St. Louis study group, appeared on radio station KMOX, St. Louis, on the "At Your Service Program" - MUFON Director Walter H. Andrus and Bill Case appeared on CBC, Toronto, Canada August 15, speaking on UFOs. See announcement elsewhere re Stanton T. Friedman speaking in St. Louis on Sept. 24. Don't miss this opportunity to hear this noted speaker on the subject of UFOs--the best, according to mail received by Ye Ed.

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