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no greater than $1/4$ of a degree. Thus Menzel's own calculation rules out his explanation if Moore's angle measurements are anywhere near correct. Since there is no reason to doubt that Moore's angle measurements could be off by a great amount (Menzel's theory would require that the measurements be in error by about a hundred degrees!), it must be Menzel's explanation which is in error.

It is important to note that an intelligent person, even one with no knowledge of atmospheric physics, could have discovered the error in Menzel's explanation if Menzel had included the factual data from the sighting. Of course, it is possible that Menzel himself didn't understand the conflict between the data and his calculation, but this possibility seems remote considering his background in science. It seems more likely to me that Menzel intentionally left out the numerical data (the sighting angles) and deliberately distorted the description of the sighting (making it appear as if the object only dropped downward and then rose upward) so that the reader would have no reason to doubt his explanation.

His explanation probably would be accepted by a person who already had a skeptical attitude. Such a person would find his opinion strengthened by Menzel's explanation of what was one of the most credible of the early sightings. By the standards often applied to "UFO believers" by the science community, that person would be considered "gullible." If, after reading the above discussion that person still felt that Menzel's presentation was a fair, unbiased, non-fraudulent, scientific treatment of a sighting made by credible, serious observers, then perhaps that person would like to buy my shares in a famous bridge...cheap.

Project Twinkle. Menzel and Hynek were not the only scientists who allowed skepticism to overrule their rationality. Let me now introduce Dr. Louis Elterman. The name "Elterman" is not well known in UFO history. However, he played a significant role in the development of that history because he wrote the final report of Project Twinkle.

Project Twinkle was established by the Geophysics Research Division (GRD) of the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory (AFCLR) in February 1950, after more than a year of sightings of the so-called "green fireballs" which appeared mainly (or only) in the southwestern states. It was the first directed effort to collect scientific data on unusual objects or "phenomena" that were seen over military reservations in the southwestern United States in the late 1940's.

The data which were to be collected under Project Twinkle included the descriptions of phenomena as derived from multiple witness sightings and from photographically recorded sightings. It was hoped that multiple optically instrumented sightings would occur so that object altitudes and sizes could be calculated. The project utilized the personnel of a contract company (Land-Air) that operated cinetheodolite (Askania) cameras as well as military personnel. The project ran through two contractual periods (April 1 to October 1, 1950 and October 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951). During the post-contractual peri-