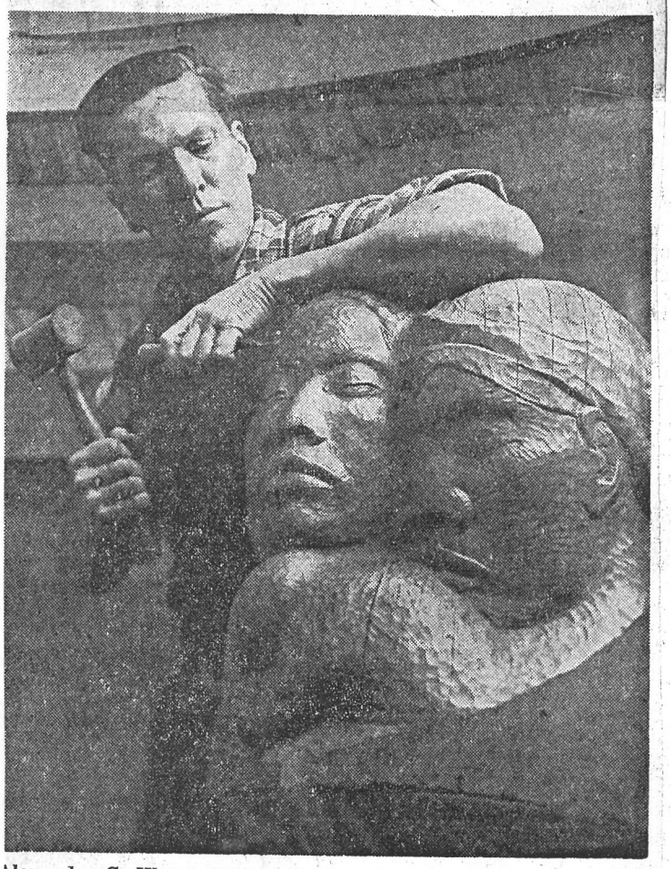
Flying Saucer Inventor



Alexander G. Weygers (above), Carmel Valley sculptor shown at work at his studio here, patented the "flying saucer" in 1944. The tory and pictures are shown for the first time in The Herald today.

"Discopter" May Be What People Have Seen Lately

Machine Offered to U. S. Airplane Companies 5 Years Ago; Kept Secret

(Copyright, 1950, Monterey Peninsula Herald)

By RITCH LOVEJOY

The man who conceived the flying saucer in 1927, completed specifications and drawings, and patented it in 1944, is a talented engineer, artist, engraver, sculptor and teacher named Alexander G. Weygers, 48, who lives with his wife, Marian, in Carmel Valley.

The patented name of the flying saucer is Discopter, which may indicate to you how it works, but which does not indicate the subtle improvements over modern flying methods that Weygers theorized so far ahead of his time.

The Discopter was designed to work with the conventional power of the time, but so thoroughly did the inventor develop all possible factors, that he included a modification sketch depicting the use of jet propulsion, at that time still unpublicized.

SUBMITTED DESIGN

During 1944-45, Weygers submitted his patent disclosure to major aircraft factories of America. A condensed example of his answers may be seen in this excerpt from a communication of Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation:

"Your most interesting disclosure on the Discopter has been submitted for the consideration of several engineers including Mr. William B. Stout at Dearborn, Michigan. In keeping with the policy of this corporation, the various comments and reactions have been forwarded to the corporation patent department for ultimate recommendation.

"It is the concensus . . . that your invention is too advanced for the present interest of Consolidated Vultee . . . Obviously, a true analysis of an invention as revolutionary in its scope as yours, would require far greater study and experimentation than can be afforded at this time. (Apr. 1945).

"We are not undertaking therefore, to even comment . . . and are merely advising you that its magnitude is beyond our present capacity . . ."

"SIMILAR" CRAFT?

More pertinent in one sense is a letter from a large corporation which enclosed an affidavit for Weygers, which asked him to sign a release on any "similar" development with which the company "might" have "already" experimented. When Weygers demanded the return of his material, the company returned it with a note saying that it "had not been opened."

At any rate, if Weygers' Discopter is flying, he has never had any of his specifications formally accepted. And no particular attention was showered upon the inventor when he exhibited his drawings in Art Gallery some time ago, except concerning their usual aesthetic qualities and meticulous detail.

But also with foresight, Weygers retired to Carmel Valley, built himself a functionally designed studio, and continued with his teaching of sculpture, his own work, and his beautifully intricate wood engravings, carved with hand-forged tools.

"There is no use to push an idea ahead of your time," he says. "The day comes when a need is shown, a gap is made, and then the gap is filled. It might now be of value to come out of hiding."

After allowing this reporter hours of his time to study the many details, the different modifications and specifications, Weygers went hungrily back to his art work.

"When it is needed, they will come for it. It is built on years of development of known principles."

FLIGHT THEORY

Weygers has written a yet unpublished philosophy of flight, in which he points out that man has copied the bird under the erroneous impression that the most obvious way to fly is to copy bird's flight. To him it is as impractical to make a plane like a bird or a modification of a bird, as it would be to make an automobile look like a horse or a motorcycle like a man.

Three salient characteristics distinguish his craft from the helicopter, although it bears a superficial resemblance and is sustained by at least one rotor.

The rotor or rotors in the Discopter are enclosed within a vertical tunnel, the rotor is cunningly designed to work without a main shaft (thus there is no weak point at the shaft as on a propellor blade, and the entire blade is efficiently used), and all moving parts are protectively enclosed in the cleanly streamlined contours of the craft.

THE STRUCTURE

Variations of the craft from the transoceanic type to that carrying a single pilot may be seen in today's illustrations.

"I have patented the structure rather than the behavior of the Discopter," Weygers explains. "There are so many relative factors to be covered, including variations in the general shape, power, and need. These were designed for

(Continued on page 5)

Inventor of Flying Saucer Is

Sculptor Patented Discopter

(Continued from page 1)

transportation and cargo, stabilization with additional stabilization devices, and repetition of every part in the ring structure, which would make for fantastic speed in mass production."

The air passes through the tunnel in vertical fashion when the ship is in hovering position, however for forward motion the air can be reflected by louvers which can be placed in any slanted position thus interrupting the downward flow of air at the exit of the wind tunnel. This provides a resultant force in horizontal direction as well as a resultant force sustaining the ship as it did before. The steering blades are operated by a stick such as that in a conventional airplane.

(Anyone has flown or has seen children fly toy propellors off the end of a spiraled wire.)

PRACTICABILITY

The craft is shaped for strength, like a sea urchin's body, which withstands the pounding waves of the tidal region. The craft has the profile of a streamlined body, only multiplied ad infinitum within its circle. It will land on terrain or sea, with such ideal distribution of weight that its draft is shallow, and afloat it canot upset since it is in principal a multiform outrigger canoe, and its moving parts are hidden and not vulnerable to storm.

The weakest part of an ordinary plane is its wing and the joining at the propellor. There is nothing here to snap or rip off. The Discopter hanging in air is like a suspension bridge, cabled in all directions at once. A special side-invention would cause it to fall, if power should fail, like a leaf, swinging from side to side until it settled.

No ice can be formed because the exhaust system of the power plant has been devised in a manner to distribute the hot exhaust gasses, at the intake of the air tunnel so that the heated air and exhaust gases mixed will pass through the tunnel and its moving parts.

Should jets be used, they can be placed where the force of the released gases from the multiple jet nozzles will as nearly as possible duplicate the condition created by the rotors as described above. Thus creating again the required slipstream through the center tunnel.

THE SPEED

"I would not hazard to estimate the speed," Weygers says. "All matters such as speed are relative. But deductions (would indicate) makers . . . may have a pleasant surprise . . ."

To estimate the speed of any theoretical aircraft, says Weygers, tests must be made in advance in a wind tunnel.

But the ship's speed is controlled, it is maneuverable, and is also designed to lift and hover. It will slip into ports and anchor snug with its turtle back to the weather. The engine exhaust system has been designed to muffle engine sounds effectively.

Naturally the years of preparation and mathematical calculation which have gone into the Discopter cannot be printed within this short space. Time will disclose and evaluate the work of Weygers. But his theory of flight is as advanced as was that of Leonardo DaVinci and his winged ship, for which power could not be developed.

Now either ship can be flown, and Weygers and his wife often smile at the imaginative sketches of artists and their already "outmoded" flying saucers.

THE INVENTOR

Weygers, whose fine carvings and other art have often been reviewed in the Monterey Peninsula Herald, is the son of Dutch plantation owners in Java.

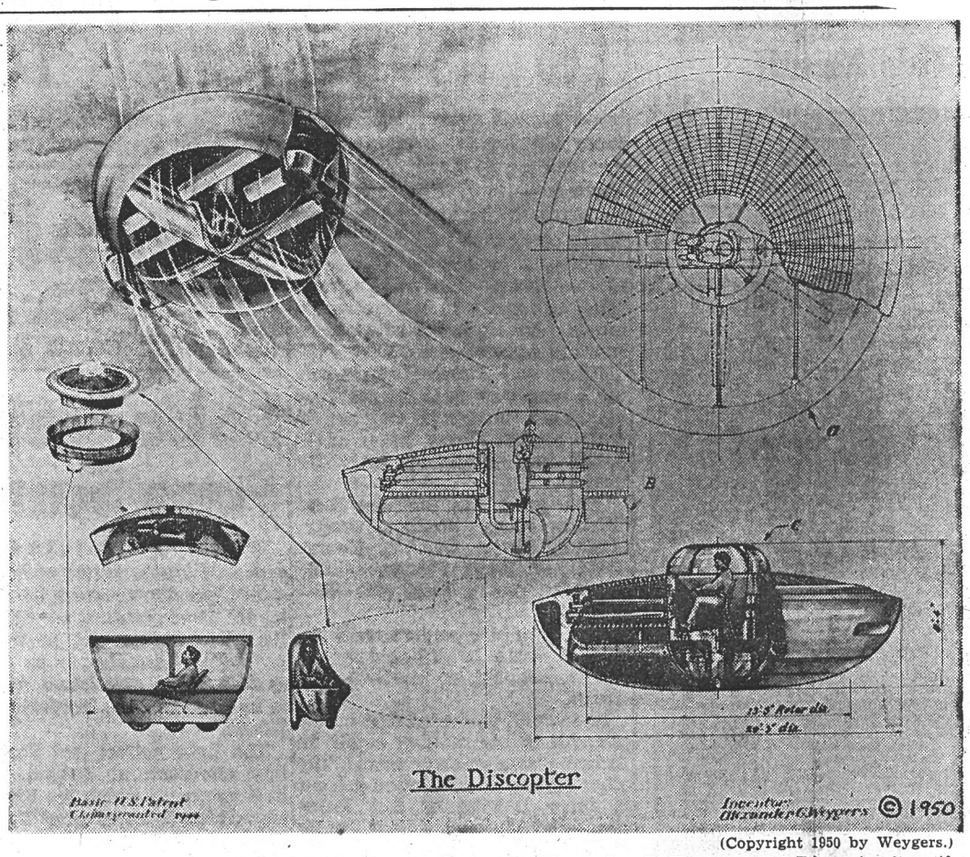
He was educated in Holland, where he received a degree in mechanical engineering and naval architecture in 1923 at Dordrecht University. He came to Seattle as an employe of the Washington Iron Works after first practicing his profession for three years in the Dutch East Indies.

In 1928 he plunged into the serious study of art, working in sculpture for a year under Loredo Taft in Chicago at his famous Midway Studios. He continued his studies in Europe for the next two years, and with a burning energy delved in all the phases of his craft, carving in all media, casting in bronze, and wood engraving in the manner of Gustave Dore, yet with an originality all his own. (He owns one of the finest Dore collections in America.)

THE DISCOPTER

When he returned to this country he gave art instruction in Seattle and later in Berkeley, and was widely exhibited. In 1944 following a medical discharge from the Army, he came to Carmel Valley with Mrs. Weygers, also an accomplished artist, shelving his art work long enough to do production illustrations for Northrup Aircraft in connection with the war effort. The new craft reflects in design the work of the engineer combined with that of the artist.

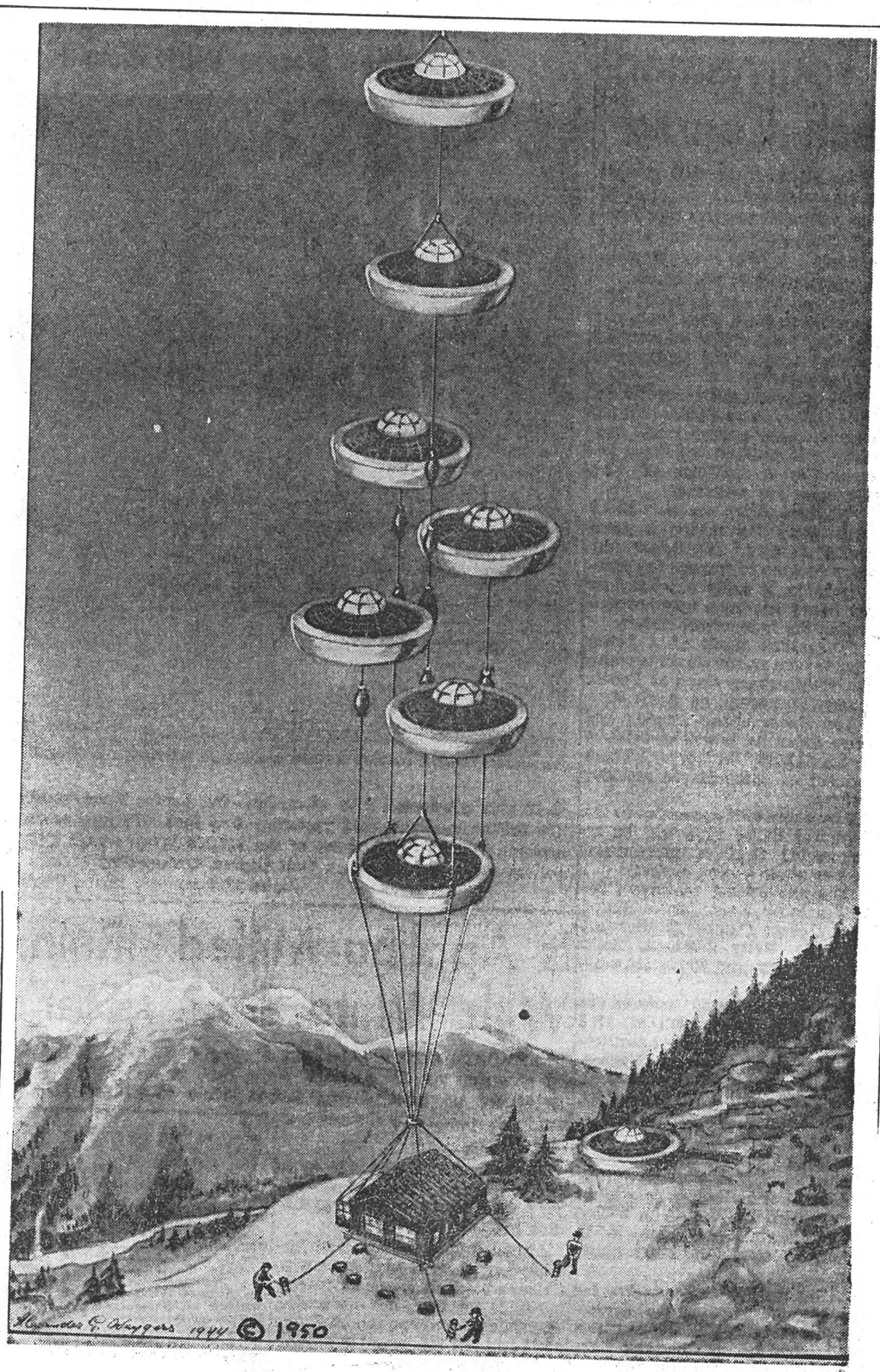
Feeling that the time had come when it was his duty to finish the Discopter upon which he had worked so long, Weygers also labored tirelessly for two years compiling the material and drawing the designs and specifications. This is the first appearance of those designs in any publication.



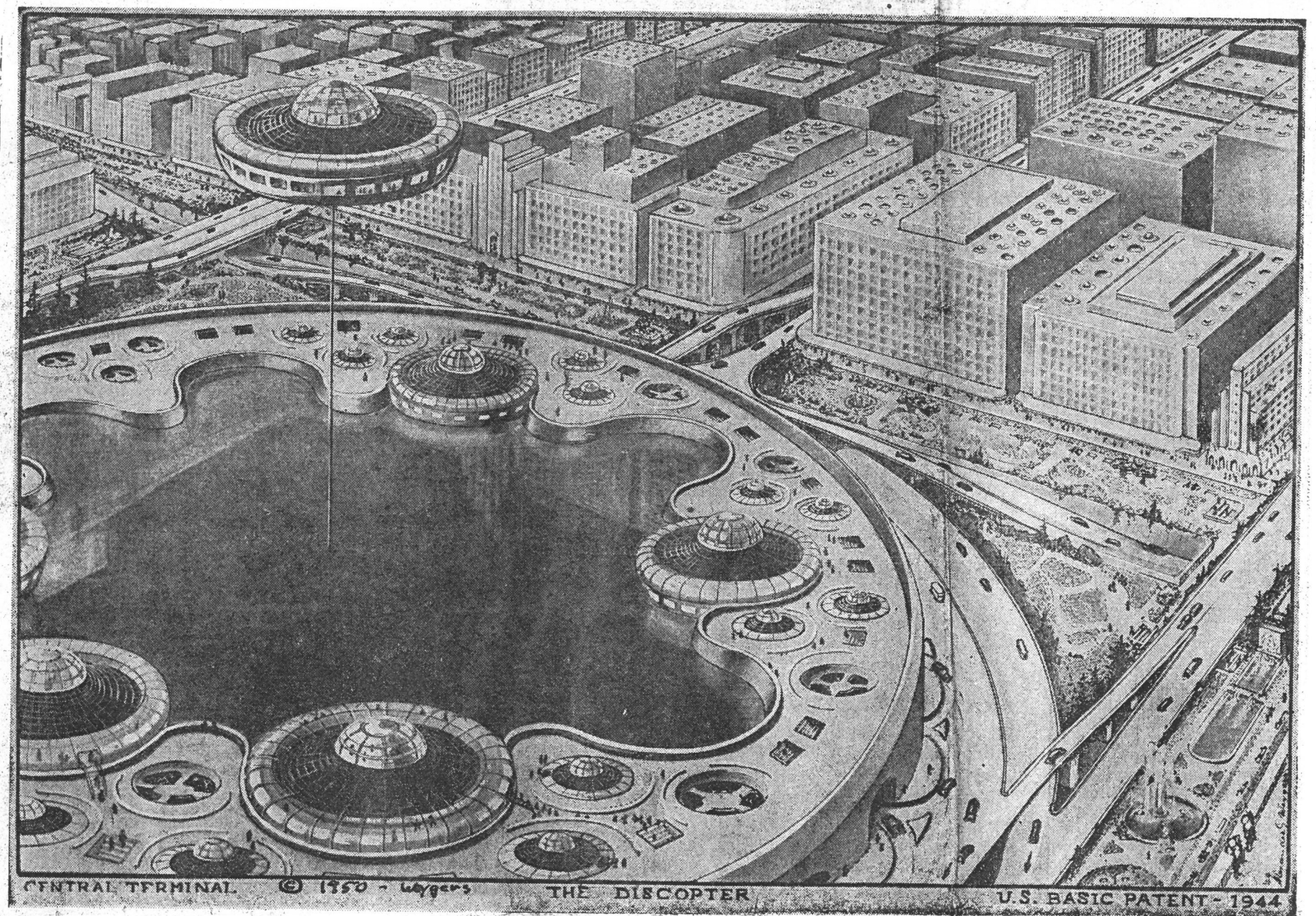
(Copyright 1950 by Weygers.)

Left we see diagrammed in a drawing by the inventor, Alexander G. Weygers, the Discopter in action. In the upper left, lines indicate the slipstream, drawn down through the grilled framework over steering blades. A top view and cross-section are shown, and lower right, the single-pilot Discopter. Note how blades revolve around the cockpit, thus strengthening them and eliminating flimsy propellor shaft of today's plane or helicopter. Left is one of the many variations which may be applied. The cockpit may be attached to the disc edge. (No outside parts move.) Right, Discopter tugs move a cabin, built in town, to a remote foundation in a mountain retreat.

Resident of the Peninsula



Discopter Invented in 1944; May Be in Production



(Copyright 1950 by Weygers.)

Here is the design of a City of the Future, drawn by Alexander G. Weygers of Carmel Valley, the inventor of the Discopter. Patent 2,337,835, filed by Weygers in 1944, discloses his plans and specifications, and is defined in today's Monterey Peninsula Herald for the first time in an exclusive, copyrighted interview. Above, Weygers' remarkable picture shows a water port on a rooftop. The light craft needs only a shallow draft and the water is only two feet deep. The large ships are Discopter transoceanics, the others are transcontinentals, and so on down to urban workers' single-cabin ships in the distance, snuggled into their rooftop weatherproofed ports. Picture above was drawn in 1944.

BY AL CAPP

I'L ABNER



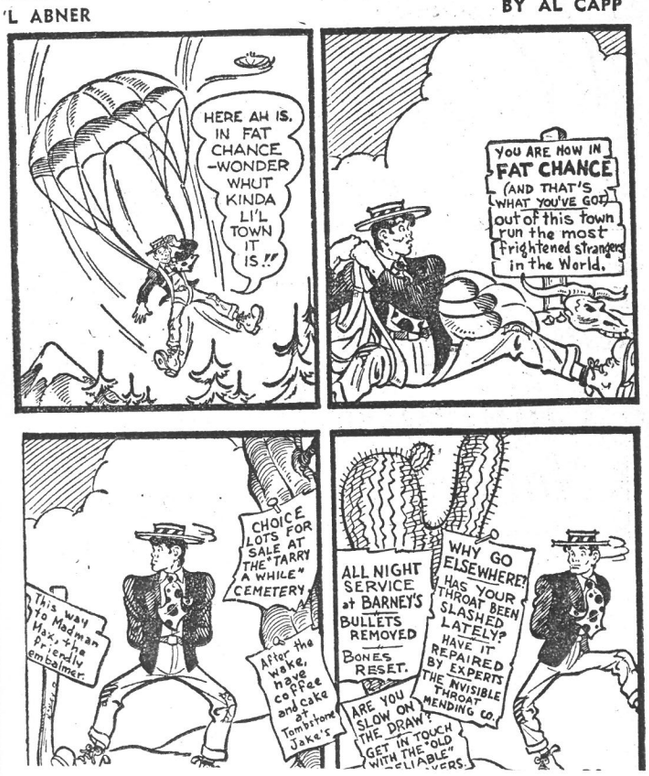
BY AL CAPP

LI'L ABNER



BY AL CAPP

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BY AL CAPP

LI'L ABNER



FLYING SAUCERS

The Story That May Be Bigger Even Than Atom Bomb Wars

Full Inquiry Into The No. 1 Sensation Of The Age

BY THE EDITOR OF THE SUNDAY DISPATCH

I HAVE decided to publish in the SUNDAY DISPATCH a series of the most sensational articles ever printed in any newspaper. The word "sensational" is much overworked, but I use it deliberately today because there is no other expression that can properly describe either the subject or the articles.

For the question is the most "sensational" in the world today—WHAT ARE THESE FLYING SAUCERS?

Millions of people laugh at newspaper reports of Flying Saucers. They do not believe they exist; they do not believe anyone has seen one; they dismiss the whole subject as nonsense not worth a minute's serious thought.

But not everyone takes that view, and I have found that many intelligent and distinguished people in all parts of the world are intensely interested in Flying Saucers and treat such reports very seriously indeed.

Some months ago I published in this newspaper an article entitled "The Day They Saw The Flying Saucer at Orangeburg." It consisted of extracts from a local paper in a small American town over which a Flying Saucer had appeared a few days earlier.

Personal Letter

A few days after I had printed that article I received a personal letter from one of the most famous men alive today. I will not give you his name, but I must ask you to accept my word that you, your family, and all your friends would certainly know of him. He is a man who commands universal respect and admiration. And this is what he wrote to me after that article about the Flying Saucers had been published:

"These extraordinary things have now been seen in almost every part of the world—Scandinavia, North America, South America, Central Europe, etc. The reports are always vague and the newspapers generally try to ridicule them. As a result it is difficult for any seriously interested person to find out very much about them. I should therefore like to congratulate you on having had both the intelligence (and, incidentally, the courage) to print the first serious helpful article which I have read on the Flying Saucer."

A few weeks ago I had a lon talk about Flying Saucers wit the writer of that letter, and was as the result of that dis cussion that I decided to plac before the readers of th *Sunday Dispatch* all that known about the Flying Saucer and all the theories about the no matter how sensational an fantastic.

Some people will scoff at th very idea, but I promise this—n intelligent person who reads thes articles with an open mind wi laugh at the end.

The United States Governmer has taken the Flying Saucers se iously. Have you ever heard abou "Project Saucer"? That is th name of the special investigatio set up by the U.S. Air Force t inquire into 375 separate Flyin Saucer reports

Do you know that although the were able to explain away th majority of the incidents ther were 34 for which it wa impossible to find any explana tion?

Suddenly Silence

No one has ever cleared up th mystery of Captain Thoma Mantell, a U.S. pilot with 3,0(flying hours to his credit. He an two other pilots were given orde to chase a Flying Saucer nea Fort Knox, Kentucky. The othe were outdistanced by the strang object, but Mantell went on. H described the chase by radio up t the point when he was closing i on the Flying Saucer. Ther suddenly, silence. His plane di integrated in mid-air, and his bod was found near Fort Kno Mantell died chasing somethin that neither he nor any other pilo could identify—AND THERE WA NO JOKE OR HOAX ABOU MANTELL'S DEATH

~~CX2 JSP 4/10~~

~~DXR41~~

~~YORK, PENNSYLVANIA~~---THIS TIME, IT'S A NINE-MAN PENNSYLVANIA STATE HIGHWAY CREW. AND THE SAUCER WAS BLACK.

ROBERT JENKINS---FOREMAN OF THE CREW---SAYS HE AND THE WORKERS SAW A BLACK "FLYING SAUCER" FLYING AT "TERRIFIC" SPEED ABOUT 500 FEET OVER THEIR HEADS TODAY.

THE CREW WAS WORKING IN THE PIGEON HILLS SECTION NEAR YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, AT THE TIME.

THEY DESCRIBED THE "SAUCER" AS OVAL IN SHAPE, ABOUT 20 FEET IN DIAMETER, AND WITH NO WINGS OR PROPELLOR.

Boise Pilot Links Saucers, Sub Sightings

BOISE, Ida., April 10.—(UP)—Kenneth Arnold, the private pilot who made the first report of flying saucers three years ago, said Monday he's convinced there is a definite link between them and the mysterious submarines reported off U. S. coastlines.

In fact, the Boise businessman wouldn't be surprised if they turned out to be one and the same thing.

He agrees with those who think the strange aircraft might be space ships from another planet. And he doesn't scoff at reports that "little men" have fled from alleged crackups of flying saucers in Mexico and southern California.

"Who am I to say that no such men exist?" says Arnold. "My mind is always open to anything. I haven't seen any of the tiny men myself. But I have letters from persons who have seen them. And they're serious persons, too."

Despite this, the air force and even President Truman have repeatedly denied knowing anything about the flying saucers.

Arnold's collection of flying saucer material includes tape recordings, photographs, newspaper and magazine clippings and piles of technical data. His daily mail is crammed with new information from well wishers, cranks and scoffers.

Arnold touched off the flying saucer stories three years ago. He claims that while flying his small private plane to Yakima, Wash., on a balmy June day in 1947, he saw nine peculiar, tailless aircraft over Mt. Rainier.

"I told the truth then," said Arnold Monday, "and I'm telling the truth now."

Texan, 12, Tells Tale

AMARILLO, Tex., April 10.—(UP) — Twelve-year-old David Lightfood claimed Monday that he touched a "flying saucer" and that it sprayed him with a gas that raised red welts on his face and arm.

Many persons tended to believe that David, as a true son of Texas, might be getting an early start as a teller of tall tales. But his story was backed by his cousin, Charles Lightfoot, 9.

The boys were fishing ten miles northeast of here Saturday, they said, when something "like a balloon" sailed over their heads and landed beyond a slight rise.

David ran to it. He said it was the size of an auto tire, about eighteen inches thick, and curved on the bottom with a top looking like a flat plate.

The top half was still spinning as he approached. The disk was blue-gray in color and red-hot otherwise, he said.

"I dived for it but my fingers barely touched it," he said. "It was slick like a snake and plenty hot."

Then the top started spinning faster, "made a whistling noise and took off," he said. It was out of sight in ten seconds.

He said that as it left the ground, the gadget released a gas or spray which reddened his arm and face and caused small welts.

Mysterious Flying Fireballs Thrill Colorado!

Colorado and Wyoming were invaded by mysterious flying fireballs last night.

The blazing objects, traveling at terrific speed, were sighted all the way from Laramie, Wyo., to Pueblo as they traced a southerly path across a star-spangled sky.

First Colorado reports came from Fort Collins, where Mrs. M. C. Simpson said she saw "one big object and several smaller ones" behind it..

That was at about 10:45 p. m.

Seven minutes later, an Arvada man spotted the objects over his home. They moved in a southeasterly direction over Denver and disappeared at the horizon.

From then on, The Rocky Mountain News switchboard was swamped with callers asking what the fireballs were and offering descriptions of the mysterious objects.

Before reaching Denver, the ethereal visitors were generally reported to be one or two big balls of fire with about three smaller ones trailing behind.

From Denver on, however, no mention was made of the trailers. Only the two bigger objects were reported sighted.

Most Denver witnesses described the objects as tear-shaped and spewing red and yellow or orange-colored flame. Some said they looked like flaming baseballs.

Only two men, Ted Berg of 2 Corona st. and an unidentified commercial pilot reported hearing anything resembling an engine noise. Mr. Berg said the fireballs gave off a "cracking, hissing sound" and the pilot reported a low humming noise.

At Lowry Air Force Base, the public information office reported the two objects were

(Continued on Page 30)

Rocky Mountain News
A Scripps-Howard Newspaper
Colorado's First Newspaper—Founded in 1859
91ST YEAR: NO. 264 Entered as second class matter, postoffice, Denver. Published every morning by Denver Publishing Co. DENVER, COLO., THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, 1950
SUNRISE EDITION
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
WEATHER—Fair.
PRICE 5 CENTS

City and State Are Thrilled by Aerial Fireballs

(Continued from Page 1)

spotted by three enlisted men on duty in the control tower.

Corp. C. F. Ingram, who viewed the blazing balls through binoculars as they sped across Denver, said at first they appeared to be a cluster of lights.

* * *

As they moved over Lowry, however, they blended into two and continued to move in a horizontal path. He estimated their height at about 2000 feet and said they were "moving at a faster pace than any airplane."

Concurring in his view were Corp. E. G. Vlastakis and S-Sgt. A. J. Brugger, who were on duty, but did not have binoculars.

Two Denver patrolmen, Sam Wood and Al Westerkamp, the former an Air Force veteran, were at W. 46th ave. and Tejon st. when they spotted the fireballs.

* * *

At first the officers thought they were meteorites, but changed their minds, they said, when the objects kept moving parallel with the ground rather than toward it.

After leaving Denver, the flaming balls headed toward Pueblo, where they were seen by observers in the CAA control tower at the Pueblo Airport.

Observers there estimated the speed at 1000 miles per hour.

* * *

Heights and speeds of the objects varied with observers. They were reported as low as 2000 feet and as high as 20,000.

Here is the way various sharp-eyed Denverites saw what may be a new version of flying saucers:

Bill Tunney, 2700 Harrison st., general manager of Centennial Turf Club: "Twin balls of fire dropping down toward the Willshire Golf Course."

William Cook, Pioneer Village, Denver University: "A moving body of some kind, with definite dimensions. Two of them." Mr. Cook was a pilot in the last war.

* * *

Corporal Ingram, Lowry: "Appeared to be about two inches in diameter. They were ordinary flame-colored."

C. G. Wood, Colorado Woman's College: "If they were flying a mile high, they were traveling 400 miles an hour. If they were 20,000 feet up, they could have been going 600 to 700 miles an hour." Mr. Wood is a flier.

Bill Madsen, former Civil Air Patrol officer: "I saw a brilliant light approaching from the mountains and moving toward the southeast. It had a comet-like trail and scattered sparks behind it." Mr. Madsen viewed the object from Bow-Mar, southwest of Denver.

* * *

Lloyd Arnold, 194 Simms st., Lakewood, a structural engineer: "We saw four small and two large orange-flamed objects. They couldn't have been planes or meteors." Mr. Arnold viewed the objects from the front of 3351 N. Speer blvd. in the company of six other persons.

S. G. Hook, Arvada: "There

New Mexico 'Saucers' Resemble Square Box

New reports of flying saucer visitations spread in New Mexico Wednesday.

A house painter at Hobbs came up with a description of four huge objects which passed swiftly overhead—and he produced a cardboard model of what they looked like.

A couple at Eunice, N. M., meanwhile, described a fifth speeding object in the sky. They said it appeared to "revolve" and gave off a dull red glow. It was a scant 500 feet in the air, they said.

The house painter, Frank Bond, 39, said the four objects he saw didn't look like saucers, however.

"The front was sort of half-moon shaped, without propellers," he said. "There was an absolutely square fuselage with windows all along the side. There was no tail assembly nor were there any elevators or ailerons."

Their color was bright silver, he said. There was no vapor trail.

Bond estimated their size as similar to that of a giant B-29 bomber. He said they disappeared swiftly and must have been traveling 1,000 miles an hour or more.

The Eunice couple, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hedgpath, reported seeing a saucer thirty to fifty feet in diameter which glowed dully as it passed over the Skelly Oil company plant at which Hedgpath is an accountant.

The Hedgpaths said the object, only 500 feet high, loafed slowly over the little oil field town and then suddenly skimmed off at an extremely swift rate of speed.

Hedgpath, who said "I have seen jet planes in flight," described the saucer as "faster than anything else I have ever seen."

FIRST DISK SPOTTER STILL A BELIEVER

By CHARLES TURNER.

BOISE, Ida., April 17.—(UP)—The man who saw the first "flying saucer" said Monday he will prove they exist if it takes the rest of his life.

And life hasn't been the same for Kenneth Arnold, a flying salesman, since that balmy June day in 1947 when he spotted "nine peculiar aircraft" flying in formation near Mount Ranier, Wash.

Since that day, flying saucers have become his hobby—his obsession. He feels he must prove his eyes did not deceive him three years ago. He goes "saucer" hunting in the skies with a high-speed movie camera with a telephoto lens and has collected a fantastic library on "saucers" from all over the world.

"I told the truth when I made my report in June of 1947," said Arnold. "Furthermore, I've seen flying saucers on three different occasions since then. I've never forgiven myself for leaving my camera at home that day three years ago. It would have proved what I saw."

Arnold was making his salesman rounds by plane over the state of Washington three years ago when "flying saucers" came into his life.

"I saw nine peculiar-looking aircraft—tailless aircraft—flying at a terrific speed near Mount Ranier," he recalled. "They were smaller than DC-4's and were flying in a diagonal chain-like formation."

Trying to get across just what he had seen, Arnold explained that the craft seemed to "skim through the air—like a saucer over water." Thus, the "flying saucers" were christened.

No matter what the air force, the navy and President Truman say Arnold still believes saucers exist. And he gets phone calls night and day from people who agree with him.

Arnold's home on the outskirts of Boise has become a storehouse for big volumes of newspaper clippings, magazine articles, tape and wire recordings and letters from all over the world. He believes he has accumulated more information on flying saucers than any other private citizen in the world.

Odd Blinking Object Sighted Over A-Plant

Denver Post

A construction worker at Los Alamos, N. M., Tuesday described to The Denver Post a strange "blinking object" which soared over a highly restricted area of the big atomic energy center last month.

Lee Robinson of the Armex Construction company sent The Post a copy of a mimeographed form—prepared specifically by the AEC for "reports of unidentified aerial objects at Los Alamos."

The original three-page report, Robinson said, was submitted to the U. S. atomic energy security service last Sept. 12, the day Robinson and eight other employes of the Armex company witnessed the visitation.

"Believing that you are interested in unidentified aerial objects," Robinson wrote, "I am therefore enclosing a copy of a report submitted by me to the U. S. atomic energy security service . . . This identified object was not a balloon or a conventional type of aircraft."

ROUND, BRIGHT OBJECT.

Robinson said he and the other eight persons were eating lunch in the shade of a building in an area of the atomic energy commission reservation which Robinson described as "very restricted."

Another employe first saw the object. Robinson described it as "round" and "bright—at regular intervals." It appeared to be 20,000 feet in the sky.

He said it flashed alternately bright and then black at intervals of two seconds. The time of alternation was determined by counting, Robinson said, and was precisely regular in duration as long as the object was visible.

Another observer believed that the alternation of brightness was due to regular tilting motion of the object.

The object required three minutes and forty seconds to cross the sky from the time it first was seen until it disappeared. Its speed was not excessive, Robinson said.

HIGHLY CONCERNED.

The specially mimeographed forms, apparently printed on a large scale for routine reports of such objectives, gave rise to speculation the atomic energy center is highly concerned with them.

Although Los Alamos is fully guarded against strange aircraft, the forms used by Robinson contained questions hardly applicable to conventional aircraft.

Among the twenty-six questions on the list were these: Luminosity of object, apparent means of support and/or propulsion, and "odor" of the object.

2 States Mystified By 'Fireballs' in Sky

By TOM SWEARINGEN.
Denver Post Staff Writer.

Two or more unidentified fiery objects streaking fro mnorth to south along the eastern edge of the Rocky mountains had residents of Wyoming and Colorado arguing Thursday. Were they pieces of a meteorite or flying saucers or rocket ships—or what?

The objects were reported seen from as far north as Laramie to as far south as Trinidad, with most excited observers reporting them overhead at about 10:45 p. m. Wednesday.

Estimates of the speed of the objects ranged from 200 to 2,000 miles an hour, with most witnesses agreeing that they were traveling at an altitude of about 3,000 feet.

Astronomy students and air force men agreed that the objects "definitely were not meteorites," but were puzzled as to what else they might be. Observers in the airport control tower at Pueblo said the objects passed over there at a speed of about 1,000 miles an hour.

Capt. H. A. Gurney, pilot for the United Air Lines, had a ringside seat for an event which might have had considerable bearing on the objects which passed along the Rockies.

Gurney said he was flying over St. George, Utah, when he saw a giant meteor break into four pieces, with one of these breaking into two smaller pieces with a shower of sparks. Gurney said he saw this about 10:30 p. m. Wednesday.

Capt. Fred Gray and First Officer Gene Hershey of Continental Air Lines said they saw the objects zip overhead while they were at the Colorado Springs airport. The two men estimated the objects were flying at an altitude of about 3,000 feet at a speed of 800 miles an hour.

Most observers reported seeing two fairly large objects, tear-shaped, with flame coming from the rear of the objects. A number of reports also mentioned showers of sparks accompanying the "fireballs."

~~WXR35~~

~~OLEAN, NEW YORK~~--A FORMER AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT AT OLEAN, NEW YORK, HAS BROUGHT UP A NEW EXPLATION OF THE SO-CALLED "FLYING SAUCERS."

THE FORMER OFFICER---WHO DOESN'T WANT HIS NAME USED---SAYS THE MACHINES ARE "FOO-FIGHTERS."

"FOO-FIGHTERS," HE EXPLAINS, WERE RADIO-CONTROLLED IMAGES RESEMBLING BALLS OF FIRE. THEY FOLLOWED ALLIED NIGHT FLIERS DURING THE WAR OVER EUROPE.

HE SAYS GERMAN SCIENTISTS DEVELOPED THE IMAGES TO SCARE ALLIED PILOTS, AND HE BELIEVES WE'VE PERFECTED THE "FOO-FIGHTER" AS A PSYCHOLOGICAL WEAPON.

~~WV1013A4/10~~

WHITE MAN'S 'SAUCERS' NOW PLAGUE NAVAJOS

AZTEC, N. M., April 15.—(AP)—"Swish," it's happened.

Like their white brothers who recently saw flying objects in the sky here, the Navajo Indians now are seeings things, too.

Willie Blackie was the first. He was rolled up in his blanket on the desert the other night and woke up to see a coyote circling him. His story is chronicled in the Aztec Independent Review.

Even a thrown boot did not scare off the bold animal, which continued to walk around Willie.

Then suddenly, Willie says, there was a "swish." The coyote ducked and ran off as fast as he could.

And in bone dry desert country, Willie says he found two large pieces of ice on the ground. "I didn't know where the ice came from," he says, "but it was there and I think the big 'swish' dropped it."

As if that wasn't enough, said the newspaper, two Navajo shepherdesses—Bah Nez and her sister, say they were herding sheep that night and saw two round, moving objects in the sky so far away they couldn't tell what they were.

They say the objects moved about as fast as airplanes but didn't look as though they were planes.

Other Navajos say they saw nothing.

A COLORFUL VARIATION OF THE FLYING SAUCER WAS REPORTED IN GREYBULL, WYOMING, TODAY.

MRS. IRA SHERARD SAID SHE ANF FOUR OF HER FRIENDS WERE DRIVING TO GREYBULL FROM WORLAND WHEN THEY SIGHTED..

"A CIRCULAR OBJECT WITH A ROW OF BLUE LIGHTS DOWN THE MIDDLE, AND TWIN JETS."

THEY NOTICED THE OBJECT "FOR SEVERAL MINUTES, HOVERING OVER THE SULPHUR PLANT" ABOUT SEVEN MILES OUT OF WORLAND. THE TIME WAS ABOUT 11 P.M.

AS THEY APPROACHED IT, SHE REPORTED, IT SUDDENLY GATHERED SPEED AND DISAPPEARED WITHIN A MATTER OF SECONDS.

EDITORIAL PAGE SO THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW

THE DENVER POST

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1950

THE OPEN FORUM

"There Is No Hope for the Satisfied Man."—*Frederick G. Bonfils.*

Disks Fly Again

THOMAS SHARP (Open Forum March 10) seems somewhat skeptical of Frank Hearne's belief in "flying disks," (Open Forum March 8) and tries to explain these weird phenomena as pieces of paper carried aloft by squalls or a sailplane enthusiast riding the thermals.

But how would he explain the recent report of one of these



strange objects outrunning a B-29 at full throttle, over the southwestern U. S.?

Or, the (unofficial) report by five radar stations that some unknown object passed a V-2 rocket, on its way up, at a terrific rate of speed?

Or, the report by a noted scientist (unnamed of course) that these objects have been tracked at altitudes of seventy and eighty miles, and were traveling at stupendous speeds—the speed having been computed by a ballistic formula?

Or, the recent report that one of these objects hovered over Albuquerque for more than an hour, causing the air force to send jet planes in pursuit? The object then disappeared, leaving the jet fighters behind like the so-called paper.

For obvious reasons these scientists and businessmen desire to remain anonymous, since they do not wish to be called insane, like Columbus, Newton, or Einstein.

However, it is pure folly and egoism to believe that some being, in our, or another, universe, cannot have already discovered the method for obtaining energy from cosmic rays or light.

J. GARRISON,
D. U. Aeronautics Student.

D. U. Students Impressed by Talk Of Flying Disks and Little Men

By CHARLES LITTLE.
Denver Post Staff Writer.

About half the students of a University of Denver basic science class think there may be something to this flying disk talk.

The other half of the class—and most of the campus—was talking about the subject, whatever their opinions Friday.

The class had listened Wednesday night to a fantastic lecture by an unidentified individual who claimed knowledge of disks and little men inside them. He gave no documentation but the story was a thriller, by all accounts.

LACKING IN 'SHOW ME.'

Thursday the class talked the lecture over on the basis of "what can you believe." They agreed that they had no credentials, no identification for the lecturer, a middleaged man who "talked as well as a professor." They evaluated the discourse as to its credibility under the given conditions, and concluded the story was lacking in "show me."

Then they took a show of hands of members of the class who, at the conclusion of Wednesday's lecture, thought there might be something to flying saucers. About 60 per cent of the class so indicated.

Then another show of hands as to how many students still felt the same way. About half the class admitted they couldn't dismiss the subject.

IDENTITY NOT DISCLOSED.

The D. U. speaker's identity has not been disclosed by the Denver man who sponsored the talk. The class had requested to hear from an "authority" on existence of the objects.

The saucer season was in full swing elsewhere, too, judging from the several hundred "Is it true?" queries telephoned in to The Denver Post. The questions followed a rash of reports—the usual kind—on the disks.

Flying Saucer Toys Made Here Likened to 'Real Disks'

A flying saucer is liable to land in your back yard any day now.

A reliable observer reports that the disks have been operating in Denver for some time. And he should know; he builds them.

David Main, of the Action Toy company, said Friday that the new type aircraft being made by his company operates just like "the real flying disks."

They are available in local stores under the name "Super Stan the Flying Man."

Main said he has worked three and a half years designing the new toy and getting it into production. It is constructed of a special brightly colored plastic, and is weather-proof.

The craft is launched straight up and "it goes like a rocket," Main said. When it reaches an altitude of 150 to 200 feet, the rocket ship transforms itself into a rotating, floating disk.

Plans are being made for a flying contest to be held at Cheesman park in June, Main said, with prizes going for the longest and highest flights.

Mass Flight of Discs Viewed by Hundreds

FARMINGTON, N. M., March 17.—(AP)—Several hundred Farmington residents today reported what they described as a mass daylight flight of strange objects in the sky.

The Farmington Times collected stories from more than 20 persons in the Northwestern New Mexico city. I

Number of the objects varied from 20 to more than 100. They reportedly flew at about 15,000 feet and disappeared with a burst of speed to the northeast after loafing visibly over the city for about 20 minutes.

In Albuquerque, the Public Information Office at Kirtland Air Base and the CAA were unable to offer any explanation.

John Eaton, 29-year-old Naval veteran and private pilot, said an object appearing to be red was in the center of the formation, surrounded by silvery discs. He described them as "perfect replicas of a dinner table plate—even to the bottom ring." Six men saw the objects with him.

Walt Rogel, editor of the Times, interviewed a number of the persons who sighted the objects. He said there was "no sensation of fear, but rather stunned wonderment at seeing such things."

Doctor Makes Sketch Of Flying Disc He Saw

ALTOONA, Pa., March 17.—(UP)—Dr. Craig Hunter, 47, Berkley Springs, W. Va., tonight made a rough sketch of a flying saucer he saw at dusk Wednesday.

He said he hoped it might help clear up the mysterious phenomena.

Dr. Hunter, technical director of a Washington medical supply firm, saw the disc while driving near Clearfield, Pa. He said the saucer was traveling slowly from east to west at a very low altitude.

"The object appeared to be about 50 to 150 feet in diameter and was about 25 to 30 feet thick at the center," he said. "It was trailing a streamer about 200 feet long and 10 inches in width."

"The outer edge which was about 10 feet wide, had slits covering about one third of the area visible to me," Dr. Hunter said.

"It definitely was not an airplane," he added.

Is Your Saucer View Dim or Dimmick's?

LOS ANGELES, March 10.—(AP) Are you in a whirl over flying saucers? Pull up a cup and hear this: They seem to be coming equipped with midget pilots now.

First, there's the case of Mr. Dimmick's gimmick.

Ray L. Dimmick, a dynamite salesman, returned from a trip to Mexico and gave rise to a story about a space ship forty-six feet in diameter, ninety inches thick at the center, built of a metal harder than aluminum, powered by two motors—and manned by a cretin-type little gent only 23 inches tall.

Dimmick originally told reporters he personally saw this wreckage on a mountainside near Mexico City, but later backtracked and said he was told the story by two business associates. All he actually saw, according to his revised version, was a strip of metal, about six feet long, eight inches wide and three-quarters of an inch thick.

Dimmick said he was told that the tiny pilot was killed in the crash about three months ago, his body embalmed for scientific study and the main portion of the saucer put under military supervision in Mexico City.

The air force here heard Dimmick's story, declared it "absolutely unsubstantiated" and said there has been no word from the Mexican government about such a strange interloper.

Dimmick declined to name his sources.

The U. S. air materiel command said:

"We have carefully investigated all of the evidence presented to us regarding reports on flying saucers, and there is no evidence to support the existence of any interplanetary machines."

Mexican Astronomer Joaquin Gallo said that this is the season when Venus is brightest and guessed saucer-seers might be seeing the planet instead. Mexico's leading nuclear scientist, Dr. Manuel Sabdoval Vallarta, said he thinks the "saucers" are balloons released by U. S. weather stations along the border.

No Mexican authority could be found Thursday night who knew anything about the crash related by Dimmick.

So there you are. Which view do you take of the saucers—dim or Dimmick's?

'Zoom, Swish, Pfft!' Says Saucer Seer

The nerve-teasing speculation over the so-called flying saucer had Lewis Hayden, Denver aviation executive, wondering Friday if he hasn't sighted one himself.

Hayden disclosed for the first time he sighted what "could have been a flying saucer" last Sunday afternoon—"by the sheerest of accidents." His story:

"I was flying kites with my two boys, Peter and Lewis Jr., at Cranmer park. It was about 1:30 p. m. My kite was pretty high. And, suddenly, I picked up a flash of what looked like bright aluminum very high up.

ZOOMED OUT OF SIGHT.

"It was stationary. I told others what I had sighted. They couldn't pick it up. Suddenly, this object zoomed off to the northwest at a terrific rate of speed. It was out of sight in five seconds.

"No, I couldn't say how high it was. There was no way to gauge its size. And I couldn't describe its shape. It was very, very high—and shiny.

"I checked with the weather bureau immediately afterward. The bureau said there was a high prevailing northwesterly wind. Maybe it was nothing more than a piece of paper. But no wind that I have ever experienced could whisk a piece of paper out of sight at the rate that object was traveling."

Hayden acknowledged he "admitted the possibility that flying saucers exist," but insisted that this didn't influence his imagination. He added:

"All I know—it was very high, shiny like aluminum, and shot out of sight at a rate of speed unknown to modern aviation."

Flying Disks Not Just Glint in the Eye

AF Admits Pilotless Planes

By DAVID LAWRENCE.

WASHINGTON. — When the army lifted the seal of secrecy this week on its rocket motor research program conducted by the General Electric company in Schenectady, N. Y., it took a long step toward explaining the various kinds of objects flying in the air which have been called everything from "flying saucers" to meteors and interplanetary vehicles.



Lawrence.

This particular rocket, propelled by a motor, it now is disclosed officially, has been tested at the White Sands proving ground, New Mexico. But it is only one of a number of objects which observers could have seen flying in the air in that area.

The defense department, in its official statement, says the public has been misinterpreting "conventional aircraft," but what is "conventional" to the experts and scientists is not conventional to the observing public.

Thus, now flying around are pilotless planes which are capable of great speeds. Jet airplanes are relatively new to the public. Some of them disappear a few seconds after they are observed.

The propelled objects being seen in the air are of different types. Some are guided by other aircraft and are used to guide planes to particular targets. The research being done is extensive. On Jan. 5, last, the United Press published a dispatch from Los Angeles which said in part:

"A mammoth, hush-hush research program into push-button warfare today is taking up some of the postwar slack in southern California's aircraft industry. How much is being spent and how many persons are involved, the armed forces won't disclose. However, extent of the program is indicated by the fact that nearly every aircraft plant in this area has some part in the development of guided missiles."

Gen. Joseph McNarney, as chief of the air materiel command, is on record as saying that "great progress" has been made toward the development of devices to guide missiles with speeds up to 700 miles an hour and with ranges of 5,000 miles.

If you ask officials, therefore, whether they know of any "flying saucers," they will say, "No." If you ask them whether objects of various kinds unfamiliar to the public are being flown as a part of the numerous experiments by private companies doing government work, they will concede that this is what the public may be seeing—that is, misinterpreting "conventional" aircraft.

Most of the reports about the strange objects come from the southwestern part of the United States, where the experiments would logically develop. Thus on April 5 the Mineral County Independent, published in Hawthorne, Nev., reported that many of the residents had seen "for ten minutes" two flying objects to the rear of and considerably higher than a conventional airplane. The paper said:

"On one occasion this last-mentioned craft reached an altitude sufficiently low to cause observers to remark that it greatly resembled a 'flying wing,' as there were outlines of a horizontal surface that was not rounded as the 'discs' are supposed to be."

Experts in the government promptly said this was probably a type of "conventional" aircraft with certain accompanying devices.

For officials to explain all the different experiments would be to disclose military secrets. That is the principal reason why the defense department has called a halt on investigating the different reports.

Thus, not a single "flying saucer" investigation occurring in the year 1949 or thereafter has been made available to anybody in the newspaper or magazine world for inspection or check-up, despite published reports that everything has been shown to the press.

Maj. Jesse E. Stay, executive assistant in the defense department's office of public information, stated categorically that no air force "project saucer" reports on incidents since 1948 are available to the public. He added that most—but not all—of the reports made prior to that time are available, but that some information even from these had been deleted by the air force. He declared also that there are no plans to make these later reports available to the press. They are being kept at Wright field, Dayton, Ohio.

One thing government officials are ready to say positively—the flying objects being seen by the public are not from another planet or a foreign country. They are what the experts call "conventional" aircraft and, in due time, the public will learn what they mean to future warfare.

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Look Who Saw A Flying Disc! An Astronomer!

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., May 23. (U.P.) — Seymour L. Hess, Lowell Observatory astronomer, said today he saw a bright disc cutting through the clouds and that it "definitely was not an airplane."

He said in a signed statement that he spotted the object in the Southwestern skies around 12:15 p.m. Saturday.

Through four-power binoculars, it looked at first like a parachute, he said.

"But this may have been just the section of one half of a spherical object, the other half being in shadows. The object presented a visible disc to the naked eye. It definitely was not an airplane."

Williams Air Force Base near Phoenix, Ariz., disclaimed any knowledge of the object. The Air Force repeatedly has denied the existence of flying saucers.

OFFICERS FIND FLYING DISK! OR DID THEY?

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27 (AP) — Four Philadelphia policemen think they know what happens to flying saucers—they dissolve.

Patrolmen John Collins and Joseph Keenan reported last night they saw a mysterious object about six feet in diameter floating to earth in an open field.

They summoned Sgt. Joseph Cook and Patrolman James Casper. Then they approached the object and turned on their flashlights.

Collins tried to pick "the thing" up. The part touched by his hand dissolved, he said, leaving a sticky, odorless residue. Within a half hour the entire object had evaporated. It was so light, the policemen reported, it had not even bent the weeds on which it had rested.

Flying Saucer Over Nod Hill?

Did a flying saucer hover over Nod Hill last Friday afternoon? One Wilton resident thinks so, having observed a disk-like object for two to three minutes over the valley between the Manuelli home and the Tito farm. He has filled out an "Observer's Report of an Object in the Sky" for True Magazine, which has been acting as a clearing-house for flying saucer information.

The observer, who asked that his name not be used, described the object as circular and metallic, traveling south by couthwest a a brisk rate. It appeared not quite as large as a harvest moon, he said, and was observed at 45 degrees from the horizon.

The saucer-spotter was driving south on Nod Hill Road at the time of the observation, and proceeded slowly while the saucer was in view. Then a grove of trees near the Wilbur Olmstead property intervened. By the time the car had passed the trees, the object—whatever it was—had left the sky.

That the object was round, and fairly low in the sky, and that it strongly reflected the sun—these were facts of which the observer was sure. He said he was familiar with sun reflecting from the wings of an airplane, and had also considered a weather balloon—but that the object could not have been either of these. Its resemblance to a weather balloon was strong, but the rate of speed was greater, he felt, than a balloon could attain.

The sighting came to The Bulletin's attention when the observer called to ask if anyone else had reported seeing the same object. No one had. If any other Wiltonians see—or think they see—a flying saucer, this newspaper's staff will obtain True Magazine forms to be filled out.



EXAMINE DRAWING—Rev. and Mrs. Ross Vermillion looking at a drawing of the "dingus" they saw in the sky Thursday night. —(Eagle Staff Photo.)

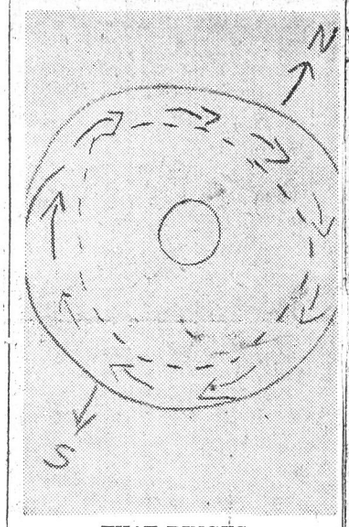
Wichita Eagle – about 7-1-50

Phone Rings Constantly as Minister Asked About Discs

Rev. Ross Vermillion of Cheney said Friday morning that he hoped, "there won't be too much of a fuss made over us seeing that flying disc.

"I'd hate to have my congregation shaking their heads about me," he said.

Rev. Vermillion, pastor of the Cheney Christian church, saw the mysterious flying object hovering



THAT DINGUS

over U.S. 54 nine miles west of Kingman at about midnight Thursday.

He reported the incident to The Wichita Eagle and since then life at his house has been "just one telephone call after another."

"First it was the Associated Press, then another newspaper, then the air force, and I don't know who all," said Mrs. Vermillion. "I'm afraid the children will begin to wonder what it's all about. We haven't told them just what happened yet."

"Right now, before anyone starts spreading screwey stories about us," the minister continued, "I want to say that we didn't see anything alive on that thing.

"There were absolutely no little green men with egg on their whiskers or any other assorted dobbies.

"I was a pilot during the war, and I've been a minister here in Cheney for two years. I have no desire to be pointed out as a nut or to have my children pointed out as little nuts.

"But the fact is that we saw this thing—I won't call it a flying saucer because it wasn't shaped like one—this 'disc' in the sky.

"We have people to back us up—the man from Meade who met us on the road. It was only up about 300 feet and there were no clouds with a full moon. We had about as clear a view of it as anyone could hope to have.

"I was going to shine my car's spotlight on it . . ."

"But I stopped him," put in Mrs. Vermillion. "I didn't want that dingus taking out after us. Chances are we'd have gone up in a puff of smoke or something."

"So I just watched," her husband continued. "It was about as big around as a B-29 is long. And it was a perfect circle. The edge was toward us when we first saw it. It had exactly the shape of a discus like they throw in the Olympics, except for a sort of pilot's canopy on top.

"There wasn't anyone or anything under that canopy.

"When we drove closer we had a bottom view. The outer rim was rotating—we could tell that—and the inside was stationary.

"After the man from Meade and his family came up, we started back to where we'd been. I turned off my lights, so as not to scare whoever was flying it. The other guy didn't though, and when that gadget saw both of us coming—it took about six seconds to get clean out of sight.

"That's all there was."

"I was scared," said Mrs. Vermillion.

"So was I," agreed her husband. "If it had a gun I didn't see it, but it wouldn't have needed one. I'd have died of fright the first move it made after me."

With regard to the possible effect of the "disc" on his work as a minister, Rev. Vermillion said he "wasn't sure."

"Probably won't have much effect, I hope," he said.

"I had thought of including it in my sermon Sunday, but I don't think I will, now. People are funny about things like that. I'd hate to have a member of my congregation sit on my head while someone called the laughing-academy."

Deputy Sheriffs Think They Saw Saucers

Have many Wichitans actually seen flying saucers but refused to mention the fact for fear of being laughed at?

Vern Scott and Charlie Cooper, deputies of Sheriff Bob Gray, think this may be the case.

Several nights ago, the two deputies were making their routine patrol near Furley, early in the morning. They saw a red glow in the night sky, of mysterious origin.

"I thought it was a meteor," said Scott, "until I reailzed that meteorites don't fall up."

The pair thought then that the red streak of fire was caused by a jet plane and that they couldn't hear the roar of the jet because their automobile engine was running. They turned off the motor —and all was silent. The red streak then went up at a 45 degree angle and went out of sight.

Scott and Cooper didn't mention their experience because they were afraid of having fun poked at them. Then in the Friday Morning Eagle, a story was reported in which Rev. Ross Vermillion of Cheney told of seeing a flying saucer.

When a man of the cloth had the courage to risk the belittlement of his fellows so, decided the deputies, did they. They told the story.

April 19/52

Texans report seeing 'flying banana'; Symington poohs it

DALLAS, Tex., April 19.-(U.P.)-Bewildered Texans today sought an explanation for "flying saucers," "flying bananas," and even a "dinner plate" which they thought they saw in the sky yesterday.

But all they got was another statement from Air Force Secretary W. Stuart Symington that there is "nothing at all" to such reports.

A shout of "flying saucers" set hundreds of persons to gazing at a silvery object hovering between Childress and Clarendon in northwest Texas.

But managing editor W. S. Warren of the Childress Index said "I'm sure it was no saucer."

Warren said that through a telescope it looked like "a big fat balloon" which "apparently was slowly drifting with the wind at tremendous altitude." He thought it might be a plastic weather balloon.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration asked pilots to watch for the object. But the crew of a B-36 bomber took the plane to 40,000 feet over Childress without seeing anything unusual.

Childress CAA chief W. A. Flippen said "it was plainly visible" and "through binoculars it looked like a soap bubble."

Oklahoma City weather experts said they released a plastic balloon Tuesday and that balloons often drift 150 miles at 55,000 feet.

Two fighter pilots said they flew within 5000 feet of the object and said it definitely wasn't a weather balloon. Pilot Douglas Pressley said it "did not move from its relative position, indicating to me it was not drifting with the winds as would a free-floating balloon."

Mysterious objects also were sighted over Fort Worth, Dallas and Austin.

Motorcycle Patrolman James C. Fann was among five persons who said they saw "a silver-looking, saucer-shaped, object with no wings traveling at a high rate of speed and very high" at Austin.

J. R. Chennault of Dallas and several neighbors sighted the "flying dinner plate" over northeast Dallas.

And Ira Maxey, a Fort Worth veteran of 3600 hours Air Force flying time, produced pictures of curved, banana-like objects he said left vapor trails in the sky last Sunday.

Amateur astronomer Oscar Monnig believed people were seeing the planet Venus. If so, he said, talk of saucers should fade soon as Venus grows fainter in coming months.

But Secretary Symington, interviewed at San Francisco, said he thinks most people who claim to sight saucers actually "are seeing high-flying jet planes that look unfamiliar." The Air Force has said repeatedly that it has no evidence of the actual existence of saucers.

TWA Pilot Reports Strange Object Flying With His Plane

KANSAS CITY, April 28 (U.P.) Capt. Robert Adickes, TWA pilot, said today that he, members of his crew and most of the 19 passengers aboard his plane last night saw an object "glowing cherry red and rolling like a wheel on its edge" in the sky near South Bend, Ind.

Adickes said that he'd been laughing somewhat at the stories about flying saucers and the like, but he was satisfied today he'd seen some kind of a flying machine where no known jets were operating.

"It was not fantasy and it was not a machine from Mars," Adickes said. "It was some kind of mechanical device, possibly powered by jet propulsion and controlled by gyroscopes and repulse radar."

The object took position off the starboard wing, at about half a mile distance, and flew alongside the TWA plane for five to eight minutes, according to Adickes.

The plane was flying close to 200 m.p.h.

"I veered toward it and it veered with the plane, keeping its distance of half a mile. I tried to turn directly toward it then and it took off at between 350 and 400 m.p.h.," Adickes said.

Adickes said it was hard to judge the size of the object at night but estimated it was about five feet thick and between 20 and 50 feet in diameter.

The Rangely Driller

America's Newsiest Newspaper

"In the Interests of Artesia, Rangely and the Rangely Oil Basin"

Vol. 1, No. 31 | RANGELY, COLORADO, FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1950 | Price 7 Cents

Oil Basin Folks Wonder, "Did They See Saucers?"

Seven Oil Basin residents today are wondering if what they saw were really flying saucers.

In three widely-separated incidents, they were startled by mysterious glowing spheres— as hundreds of other Americans have been.

None will say flatly that what they saw were the mysterious saucers. Neither will they deny it.

ONE MOVES FAST

A. W. Jay, head of Continental Camp, said his wife and daughter, Judy, 11, all saw in the northern part of the sky a round ball apparently a great distance away moving with such speed they had troble following it. They set the time at 9:45 p. m. Monday when they were motoring home from town.

"The whatever-it-was had a phosphorus-like glow about the edges. It made my hair stand up," Mr. Jay said.

He reported his first reaction that he had been through an optical illusion until he saw his family similarly entranced.

ONE FLIES LOW

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Holden, Hagood Lease, were driving on a field road near there home when they saw a round object fly past them at eye level apparently 50 to 75 feet up the road.

"It banked, then headed north again the way it came," Mrs. Holden said calmly. Mr. Holden and she agreed it was a circular body from 3 to 4 feet in diameter.

Mrs. Holden described it as appearing to be covered with "a phosphorescent, metallic paint."

Both said they weren't frightened.

ONE STANDS STILL

Ronnie Grisdale and Charley Cook, California Production workers, said that at 7:30 a. m. April 15 they saw a mysterious glow high in the southeastern part of the sky while they were standing at the dog house by the tank battery.

Mr. Cook spotted it first and called Mr. Grisdale's attention to it.

We watched it approximately seven minutes until a cloud obscured it or it faded away," the latter said.

He observed that the object was too far away to tell much about its shape but the glow was "mighty strange."

WHAT WAS IT, THEN?

Did these seven really see flying saucers? All were conscious of the conflict raging over the possibility of their existence. All made an obvious effort to view the phenomena analytically.

All reports were verified by at least two persons.

What's your guess?

(Ed. note: This article will be sent to True Magazine which is collecting all possible data on saucer reports for possible analysis.)

-MONDAY, MAY 22, 1950 Los Angeles Times

MOST THINK DISKS ARE SECRET WEAPON

BY GEORGE GALLUP

PRINCETON, N.J., May 21—Hoax? Optical illusion? New secret weapon? Something from another planet hovering over the earth? Just what ARE those flying saucers?

A national survey by the American Institute of Public Opinion of the public's ideas about the mysterious disks shows that the largest number with opinions think they are new experimental weapons or flying contraptions being tested by the Army or Navy.

This represents quite a change in attitude since a similar survey in 1947, when the largest number labeled the flying celestial crockery nothing more than illusion or hoax.

Although President Truman and other government officials have denied knowing anything about flying saucer experiments, there has been persistent talk that something is back of the odd aerial sights which so many people claim to have seen.

Very Well Publicized

Whatever the truth may be, the flying saucers are certainly one of the best-publicized phenomena of the postwar era.

Virtually everyone—94% of the sample questioned in the survey—had heard or read about them. This compares with only 65% who have ever heard or read about the Marshall Plan, and 84% who know about the Taft-Hartley Act.

All who had heard or read of the saucers were asked in the institute survey:

What do you think these flying saucers are?

The vote:

Army or Navy experiments, new weapon, military secret	**23%**
Optical illusion, pipe-dream, hoax, etc.	**16**
Some kind of new airplane	**6**
Comets, shooting stars, something from another planet	**5**
Russian weapon, something from Russia	**3**
Weather devices	**1**
Miscellaneous	**3**
No such thing	**6**
Don't know	**32**
Haven't heard about them	**6**
	101%*

*Adds to more than 100% because some persons gave more than one answer.

Guesses included many odd things, such as "vapor pocket," "fragments of wreckage from the war," "boomerangs," and "flying metal parts from some big explosion."

One middle-aged man possibly referring to this spring's styles in millinery, said:

"They could be hats."

1 in 4 still say those discs are whisking

(By United Press)

the experts scoff. One out ..ery four Americans still beves there are flying saucers.

A survey of the man in the street in various American cities yesterday showed 66 per cent deny the existence of flying saucers, 8 per cent don't know and 26 per cent are sure there are such things.

Where do they come from? Nine per cent of the people questioned said from other planets. One per cent think they're from other countries, and a suspicious 2 per cent, despite constant Air Force denials, said the whizzing discs must be government space ship experiments.

The Air Force wearily repeated its opinion yesterday—flying saucers are only figments of the imagination.

The average guy isn't so sure, but one thing is certain: there is no alarm and considerable humor on the flying saucer front.

In Pittsburgh, Herb Morrison, a former lieutenant colonel in the Air Force and a pilot for 20 years, said "I didn't believe in flying saucers until I saw them."

Morrison said he saw five saucers one day while playing golf with six friends.

"They were definitely not airplanes and two of them even appeared to be flying loose formation," he said.

M. H. Kyle of Los Angeles has never seen one, but he believes "absolutely" that flying saucers are space ships from other planets.

"I don't know how they keep the fuel going, but they're thousands of years ahead of us. I don't believe this should be in the papers, as the masses' lives revolve around the church and Bob Hope and we shouldn't disturb them."

In Miami, Mrs. Louise Filteau, a waitress, agreed.

"Yes, I believe flying saucers are piloted by men from other planets," she said. "I just feel the ones out there are trying to reach this earth."

In New York, Andrew Grast, a Manhattan red cap, said he thought "we'll wake up some morning to find ourselves invaded by men from Mars or some place."

But Dorothy Landry, of Boston, a 29-year-old clerk, wasn't worried about an invasion.

"They'll take one look around, see the mess we're in, climb back into their saucers and go back where they came from," she said.

A policeman in Denver stopped directing traffic long enough to snap: "the only flying saucers I ever saw were the ones my wife throws at me. But don't quote me. She'd start throwing them again."

A New York cop backed up his Colorado cohort. "I don't believe in flying saucers but I sure as hell believe there are flying taxicabs," he said.

In Pittsburgh, Miami and staid old Boston, the score was eight to two against flying saucers. In Cleveland, Denver and New York, three out of every 10 persons believed in flying saucers.

In Chicago, half of the people questioned scoffed at flying saucers, the other half were "doubtful."

They're used to miracles in California and the people questioned there were split 50-50 on the existence of the whirling saucers.

And though the Air Force calls the discs just "misinterpretation of various conventional objects, a mild form of mass hysteria," reports of the saucers keep cropping up around the world—Havana, Mexico City and even the ancient city of Bursa, Turkey.

In Burma, Mohammedan priests chanting the meuzine from minarets reported they saw flying saucers in the sky.



"That's not a flying saucer. That's a discus thrown by that Meadow Gold Milk drinker out at D. U. Stadium."

Flying Disc Visits Texas; Boy Vows He Touched It

AMARILLO, Texas, April 9.—(UP)—A 12-year-old boy swore today he actually touched a junior-sized flying saucer before it "made a whistling noise and took off' after a lone-minute stay on earth.

Furthermore, the lad had the word of his companion to back up his claim—plus a red arm and face he said resulted from a gas or spray emitted by the strange object.

Both insisted their stories were true.

Believed It Balloon

David Lightfoot told the Amarillo Globe News he and his 9-year-old cousin, Charles Lightfoot, were fishing yesterday about 10 miles northeast of here when the weird episode began.

David said they sighted what they first thought was a balloon. The object passed only a few feet over their heads, he said. The contraption landed just beyond a slight hill.

The boy described it as about the same circumference as an automobile tire, and about 18 inches thick.

"It was rounded on the bottom with a top resembling a plate. The top part was separated from the top by about one-inch of space, but the parts were held together by some sort of screw in the middle," he said.

David said he noticed the small area between top and bottom was "real red, like it was on fire or something."

Top Was Spinning

The youth said the top half was still spinning as he approached.

"My fingers barely touched it," he said. "It was slick like a snake anl hot, too."

Before he could get a firm hold, David said, the top began spinning faster "and made a whistling noise and took off." It disappeared in less than 10 seconds.

The boy said the blue-gray object released a gas or spray in taking off which turned his arms and face a bright red, and caused small welts.

Educational Paper Backs Flying Disks

Saucers Are Air Force's Property, Fifth-Graders Told

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 30 (AP)—Fifth-grade school children the world over—if they learned their lessons last week—now know there are such things as flying saucers.

They know because their "newspaper" told them so.

Their newspaper is My Weekly Reader, published by the American Press of Columbus, one of the oldest educational publishing houses in the United States. It is required reading in many schools.

The newspaper goes to schools in every State and 55 foreign countries. Just how many the company won't say.

Says Saucers Seen

My Weekly Reader for the Sept. 18-22 week carried an article on flying saucers by Tom Trott, a frankly fictitious character.

Tom Trott told his youthful readers:

"This week, we are at an airport on the Atlantic Coast. The most exciting thing we have seen is 'flying saucers.'

"For several years, people in many parts of our country have claimed to have seen flying saucers. The government proved that some of these people were imagining things. However, I am now allowed to tell you that some flying saucers are real. They belong to our Air Force. They will some day be a big help to our country."

'Staff Convinced'

(Tom Trott and other writers to the contrary, the Air Force has said and repeated: "We have investigated all reports of flying saucers and find nothing to substantiate any of them.")

Why, then, did the publishing house—which has a 50-year tradition of responsibility to the youngsters it serves—publish such a story?

Says Miss Eleanor M. Johnson, managing editor of elementary school publications:

"The staff is convinced that flying saucers most certainly are among this nation's experimental aircraft.

"Our correspondent had one idea in mind and that thought was to calm any hysterical fears some children might have built up from hearing too much talk about mysterious flying objects from other planets or deadly flying weapons of our enemies."

Letters Cited

The American Education Press has received a number of letters from youngsters indicating a "widespread hysteria" among youngsters about "tiny, big-headed men from Venus" riding to earth in outlandish contraptions, Miss Johnson explained.

Here are some other things Trott's article told the fifth-graders about flying saucers:

"Flying saucers are made in several sizes. The smallest ones are 6 inches thick. The big ones are about as far across as the width of four or five city lots.

"Some of the saucers are raised in the middle like a pie. Others turn up around the edge like a saucer. They leave no trail of light or smoke. They make no sound. They are harmless.

They Disappear

"These strange flying things are made of material which dissolves after being in the air for a while. For this reason, the saucers disappear soon after they hit the ground. You probably will never find one. But if you do, you will find these words on it in black letters:

"Military secret of the United States of America Air Forces. Anyone damaging or revealing description or whereabouts of this missile is subject to prosecution by the United States government."

Miss Johnson says her staff's belief in flying saucers is based, in part, on a number of "similar reports on the so-called saucers printed in various periodicals over the last six months."