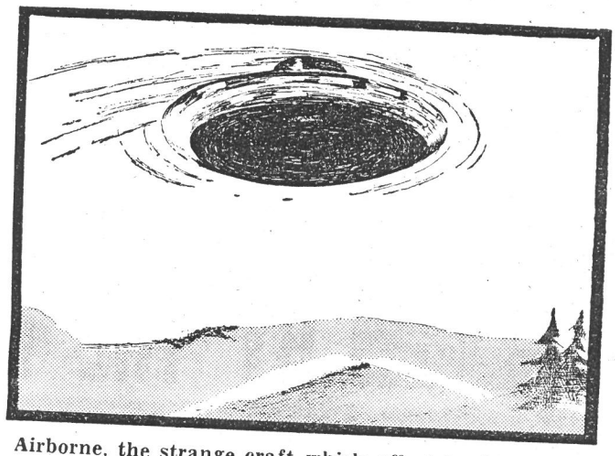
I SAW TWO MEN 'FLYING SAUCER'



Airborne, the strange craft whirls off at terrific speed, soon to be out of sight. As it left the ground the central tower rose again.

roughly a foot and a half from the next.

"Out of the metallic object rose a black cylindrical 'conning tower,' about ten feet high."

Linke went on. I was now alarmed by a call from my daughter, who had remained some distance back. The sound must have reached the two figures, for they rushed back to the object, clambered rapidly up the side of the 'conning tower,' and disappeared inside

Glowing colours

"Previously I had noticed that one appeared to be carrying a lamp on his chest. The lamp flashed on and off at regular intervals.

"The outer edge of the warming pan,' in which the holes were sunk now started to glow.

"The colour at first seemed green, then changed to red. At the same time I heard a slight hum. As the glow and the sound increased, the conning tower' was retracting into the centre of the 'warming pan,' and the whole object rose slowly from the ground.

"From the swirling effect of the glowing 'exhaust,' I got the impression that the whole object was spinning like a top.

"It seemed to be resting on the cylindrical piece which had sunk through the centre of the object and was now protruding from the bottom and standing on the ground.

"The warming pan, with its glowing outside ring of flame, was now some feet off the earth.

"Then I noticed that the whole object was rising slowly from the earth. The cylinder on which it had rested had now disappeared inside the centre and reappeared again through the top.

"The rate of ascent now became much greater, and at the same time my daughter and I heard a whistling sound, rather like the noise made by a falling bomb, but not nearly so loud.

"The object rose in a horizontal position, swerved away towards a nearby village and disappeared, still gaining height over the hills and forests towards Stockheim."

Several other people in the area later told Herr Linke they had seen something which they took for a comet. One, a shepherd, Georg Derbst, who was about a mile and a half away, said he thought a comet had "bounced" off the earth

A sawmill watchman told Herr Linke he had seen what he thought was a 'low-flying comet" flash away from the hill where Herr Linke saw the object.

Hole in ground

After appearing before the judge, Herr Linke told me: "I would almost have believed that my daughter and I had dreamed the whole episode were it not for one thing:

"When the thing had gone, I went to the place where it had been standing. I found a circular depression, evidently freshly made, where the earth had been driven down.

"This was exactly the shape of the 'conning tower'; I realised then that I had not been dreaming."

He continued: 'I never heard the expression flying saucer until I escaped to West Berlin from the Soviet zone.

"When I saw the thing first I thought it was a new Russian war machine

"I was terrified for the Soviets do not like one to know about their goings-on, and people are shut up for years in East Germany for knowing too much."

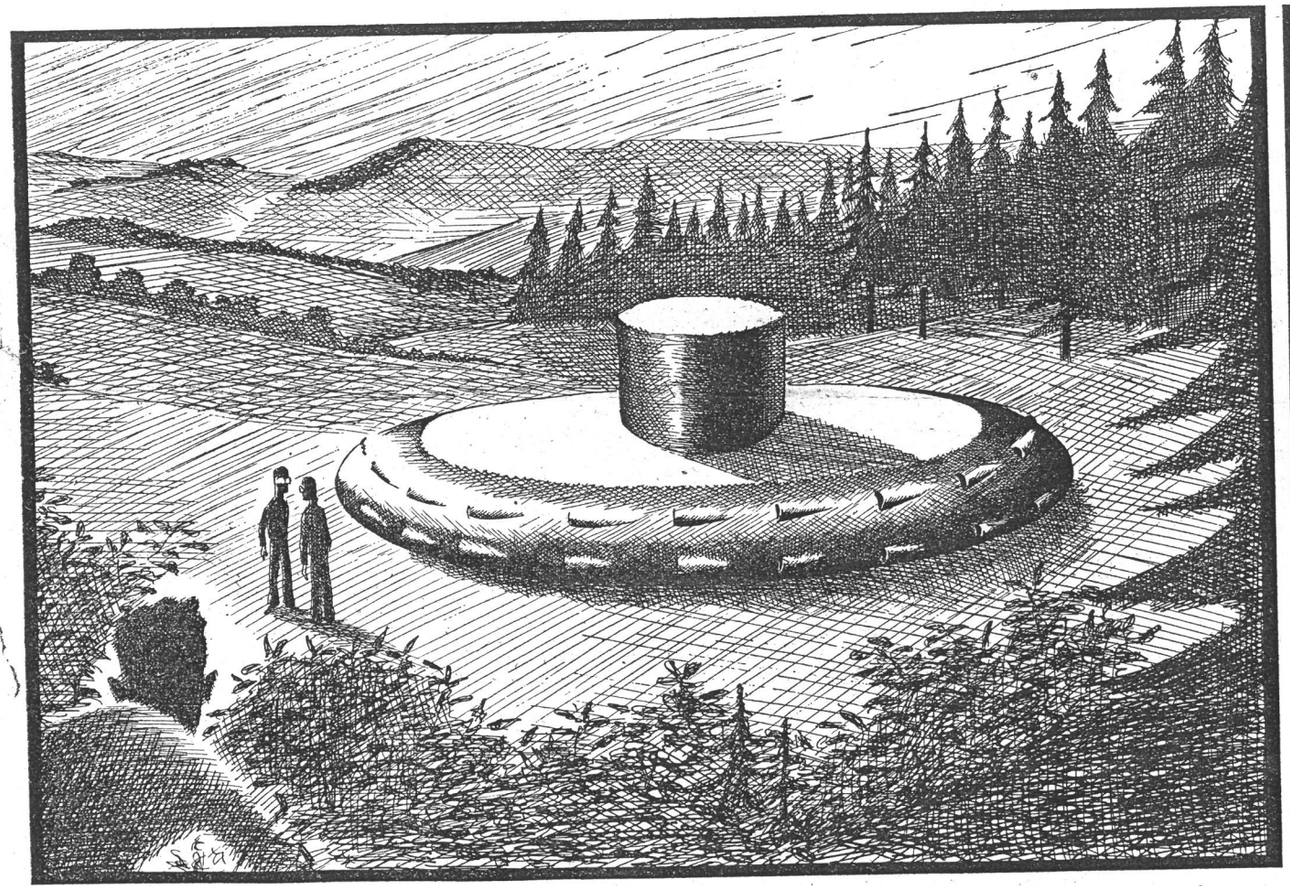
FOOTNOTE FROM VICKERS CHIEF DESIGNER

Mr. George Edwards, Chief Designer for Vickers Aircraft, had this to say about the East Zone "saucer" last night: "Believe in flying saucers? I don't know. There is little wrong in the idea of a circular wing. Before and during the First World War Britain developed a circular wing aircraft. And it flew. WE called it the Flying Doughnut!

"There is little to stop us developing a Flying Saucer—except the money and the need. What can a saucer do that is better than a conventional aircraft?

"If Herr Linke's description is accurate it may be that the machine is designed as a military hover plane. It would appear from his comment on its 'glow' that it houses a jet plant designed to provide vertical take-off. The 'cylinder' would obviously have to retract into the 'body' in order to prevent resistance.

"Metallic suits are possible, too—they could be a form of protective clothing for use in high altitudes. There is nothing impossible about the story, although, to believe in the actual existence of the Saucer I would have to be shown one myself."



Eye-witness Herr Linke himself directed the artist to produce this vivid impression of the flying saucer as he saw it in the clearing: beside it stand the two members of the crew, who took off in it shortly after.

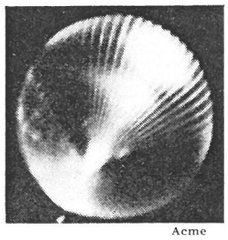


They saw the Flying Saucer: Oskar Linke and his 12-year-old step-daughter.

The March of the News

Solved. Hundreds of Americans who will swear they've seen fantastic saucers flying through the skies got a belated bit of comforting news last week . . . They haven't just been imagining things.

At long last, the U. S. Navy has broken its official silence . . . It has been experimenting with huge, high-soaring balloons that, once aloft, look for all the world like flying saucers (see pictures).



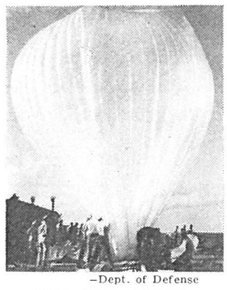
Acme

IN THE SKY
It's a "saucer"

Thus was explained away a mystery that had people speculating on everything from an invasion from Mars to the more prosaic truth: balloons . . . At the peak of the flying-saucer season, the Air Force made its own investigation . . . The conclusion: nothing to it . . . Later *U. S. News & World Report*, after a detailed study, reported that unusual experiments were going on in the skies . . . and said the evidence pointed to the U. S. Navy . . . But even as late as last month a writer in *Cosmopolitan* magazine, after interviewing Air Force experts, dismissed the whole idea of flying saucers as "purely idiotic and wholly nonexistent."

The latest. Last week, in *Look* magazine, Dr. Urner Liddel, chief of the nuclear-physics branch of the Office of Naval Research, said: "There is no longer any need to keep the public in the dark about what flying saucers are."

A flying saucer, Dr. Liddel said, actually is the under part of a Navy balloon, 100 feet in diameter, called a "Skyhook" . . . It is used to carry sensitive instruments aloft to the edge of the earth's atmosphere, there to measure nature's own atom explosions . . . "Skyhooks" can go up 19 miles and still be visible from the earth . . . Often they are whipped along by winds at 200 miles an hour.



—Dept. of Defense

ON THE LEVEL
It's a balloon

Coincidence. These things help to convince Dr. Liddel that his "Skyhooks" and the oft-reported flying saucers are the same, says *Look:* Flying-saucer reports started when the balloon experiments started . . . The saucers were seen in areas where the balloons were used.

From below, it is impossible to see the sphere of the balloon . . . One sees only the cup at the bottom . . . Lateral rays of the sun cause the rim of the cup to glow like an engine exhaust . . . Sometimes they light up the whole balloon . . . Dr. Liddel and his associates investigated 2,000 flying-saucer episodes and concluded: "There is not a single reliable report of an observation which is not attributable to the cosmic balloons."

Clusters. But what about people who have seen formations of flying saucers hurtling through the skies? . . . These are clusters of smaller Navy balloons—10 to 15 feet in diameter—that sometimes are used in place of the bulkier "Skyhooks."

Encore. Flying-saucer reports have not been so frequent in recent weeks . . . The Navy, for now, has reduced the volume of "Skyhook" experiments . . . But look for another rash of "Martian invasion" reports within the year . . . New and improved "Skyhooks" are on the way . . . These balloons will look as much like flying saucers this year as they did last . . . And, despite official silence, still other secret and grotesque experiments are going on high in the skies over the U. S.

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'SPACE SPIES'

Other Planet Sending Discs?

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (AP)—A sensational claim that so-called "flying saucers" are space vehicles from another planet kindled new controversy on the subject today.

The Air Force promptly discounted the claim. A spokesman said:

"Air Force studies of 'flying saucers' lend no support to the view that they come from another planet."

The assertion that the flying discs are real and that they are used by visitors from another planet was made by True magazine in an article it calls the "most important true story we have ever published."

It was written for the January issue by Donald E. Keyhoe, a former information chief for the Aeronautics branch of the U. S. Commerce Department.

The magazine, saying its conclusions were based on an eight-months investigation, stated:

"For the past 175 years, the planet earth has been under systematic close-range examination by living, intelligent observers from another planet.

'VISITS' INCREASED

"The intensity of this observation, and the frequency of the visits to the earth's atmosphere, by which it is being conducted, have increased markedly in the past two years."

The flying discs, Keyhoe writes, vary "in no important particular from well-developed American plans for the exploration of space expected to come to fruition within the next 50 years. There is reason to believe, however, that some other race of thinking beings is a matter of two and a quarter centuries ahead of us."

The article says that "Project Saucer," operated by U. S. Army Air Force investigators and charged with solving the mystery, "are receiving and evaluating" reports of sighted flying discs at the rate of 12 a month.

True learned, Keyhoe says, that a "rocket authority stationed at Wright Field has told 'Project Saucer' personnel flatly that the saucers are interplanetary and that no other conclusion is possible."

REPORTS CHECKED

Cases of reliably reported sightings, the writer says, are closely checked by teams of air intelligence officers and technicians.

"Astronomers, rocket experts, guided-missile consultants, aero-medical men and other specialists work on a hush-hush basis," Keyhoe said.

The magazine says the interplanetary vehicles have been identified and categorized as three main types — a small, non-pilot-carrying disc-shaped aircraft equipped with some form of television or impulse transmitter; a metallic, disc-shaped aircraft operating on a helicopter principle, and a dirigible-shaped, wingless aircraft.

"It is the opinion of True," the article states, "that the flying saucers are real and that they come from no enemy on earth. It is also True's opinion that the Air Forces and Project Saucer are doing a serious important job to safeguard American security."

Giant Green Fireball In Sky Over L.A.

Southlanders had something besides flying saucers to talk about yesterday, the new subject being a "giant fireball," apparently a meteor, that whizzed and sparked across California skies Sunday night.

Two lay observers at Mt. Wilson Observatory reported a "very brilliant green ball" sailing through the skies, whipping a trail of sparks.

The phenomenon also was seen, according to reports, in New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada.

Possible Path

The observers at Mt. Wilson were visitors. J. O. Hickox, solar observer—who missed a glimpse of the streaking fireball—said most reports indicate the meteor evidently was traveling east to west.

"Unless it burned out beforehand, it should have landed in the ocean," Hickox pointed out.

The exact location, he added, probably wouldn't be possible to estimate until all reports from persons who saw it are studied by experts.

"It undoubtedly ranks as one of the very large meteors, however," he said, "because it was seen across such a great stretch of the country."

Large Size Hinted

Griffith Observatory personnel didn't see the fireball, but also said that the meteor must have been larger than the average because of the great number of reports from widespread areas.

The object was seen at approximately 11:28 p.m. (PDT).

Three Albuquerque policemen described the meteor as a "bluish-green ball of fire."

In Kingman, Ariz., residents said the object appeared as a "strange reddish light" that gave off white sparks east of their city. Some residents thought a jet plane was crashing.

Other reports came from Prescott, Ariz., and various areas of Nevada. The fireball was visible for approximately five seconds.

and in the parish.

Flying Saucers Seen Near Nev. Atom Test Site, Claim

By International News Service

LAS VEGAS, Nev., April 18.—A flight of flying saucers near the Nevada test site, where important new atomic tests are being made, has been reported by five men at Nellis Air Force Base, near Las Vegas.

Those who said they saw the saucers are T/Sgt. Orville Lawson, Rudy Toncer, foreman of the sheet metal shop, and shop workers R. K. Van Houtin, Edward Gregory and Charles Ruliffson.

The men said they counted 18 circular, dull-white objects streaking across the sky north of the air base at 12:05 p. m. yesterday.

They were flying on an easterly course which apparently had taken them directly over or very close to the atomic weapons proving ground.

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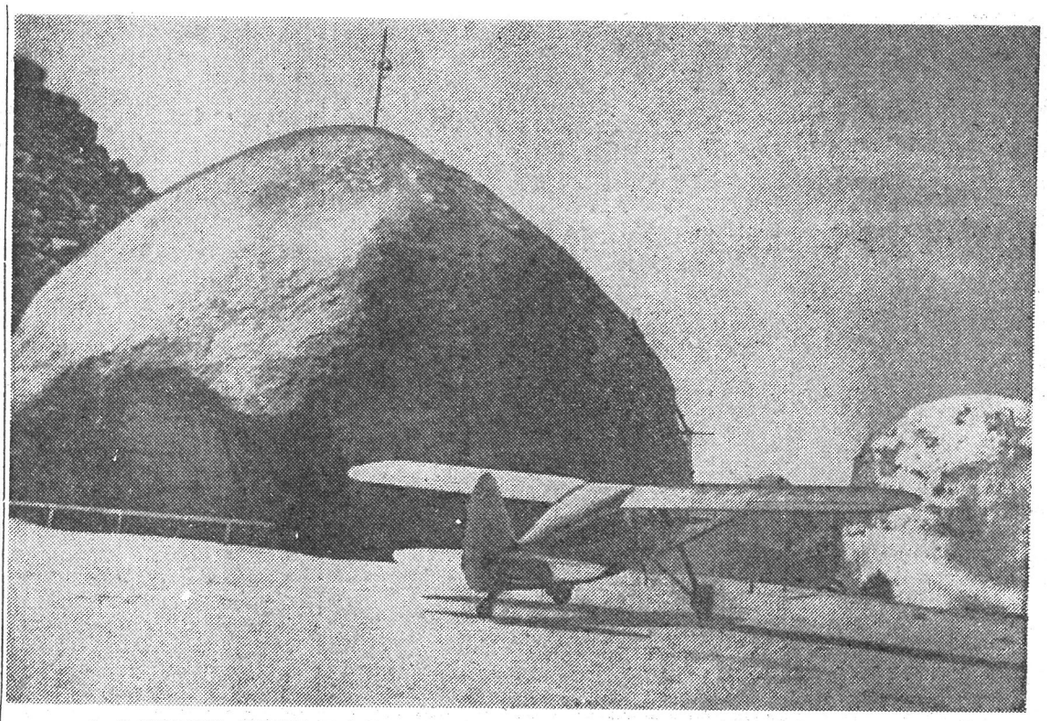
With JAMES COPP

TUESDAY TALK: A society column is not the place you generally run to for electronic or aeronautical data, any more than it would be your source for geometric theorems or cake recipes. But today's tidbit—scientific though it may be—is so important it may soon be appearing in every column from here to Zanzibar, society or otherwise.

HERE'S WHAT: If you can sit patiently for the next few weeks, 10 to 1 you're going to learn the answer to the flying saucer mystery. And the truth is every bit as fantastic as speculation about it has been.

THROUGH THE University for Social Research, Dr. Mason Rose, in association with some of the world's top physicists and aeronautical engineers, will break the story. Not only that, but he will present nearly undeniable evidence that the saucers are coming from outer space and that we are being observed from other planets.

RUMORS THAT the mystery will soon be solved are not new. But the explanation of what the saucers are and how they work is—and appears for the first time in this column: The flying saucers do not fly. They are carried in an electrical field, which itself moves . . . A few weeks from now, a gathering of business and scientific leaders will take place, and actual saucers will be demonstrated.



A 7-STORY HIGH ROCK MARKS MEETING SITE OF MYSTIC CULT
Members converse with "beings from the unseen realms" in cavern beneath boulder.

VHEN THOSE FLYING SAUCERS LAND

Cult, Fearing Disaster, Has Home in Rock Cave

L A Mirror Oct 29/52

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the first of two articles telling the story of California's newest and fastest growing cult, the Giant Rock group.)

BY OMAR GARRISON
Mirror Staff Writer

Members of a strange sect who hold their meetings under a giant boulder in the Mojave Desert and claim they talk regularly with beings on flying saucers are convinced that cataclysmic changes will occur on earth in the near future.

They are making preparations accordingly.

In their remote desert sanctuary, 16 miles from Joshua Tree, Cal., they are storing quantities of food and are building a little community of homes as a refuge against the impending disaster.

The group is known as Brotherhood of the Cosmic Christ, and its rapidly growing membership is reported to number scores of Southern California believers.

I made the 157-mile trek across the sandy waste to their desert citadel, and there in a cavern room beneath a huge rock seven stories high heard them converse with what they described as "beings from the unseen realms."

Former Test Pilot

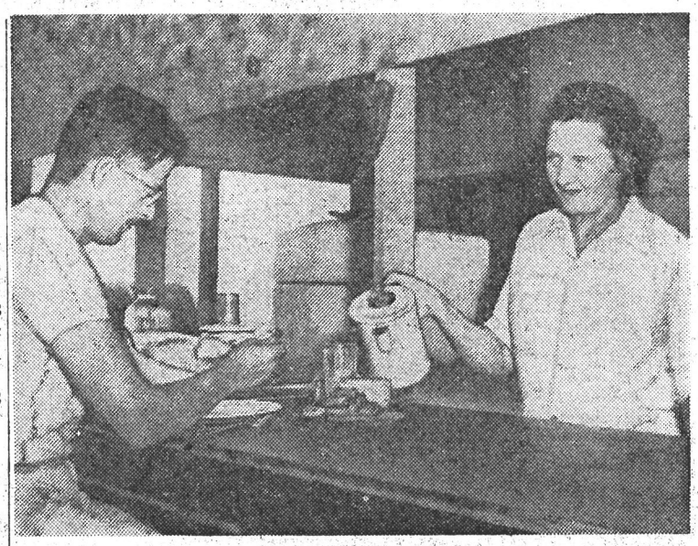
Leader and founder of the cult is blond, balding George van Tassel, 42, a former Lockheed test pilot.

"I was instructed through automatic writing about five years ago to establish a center in preparation for coming changes," the slow-spoken flier explained. "I was told to ignore the old and to follow directions of the inspirational present."

Following these "directions," Van Tassel quit his job and with his wife and three daughters retired to an abandoned airstrip in the desert at a place known as Giant Rock.

An underground room beneath the enormous boulder had been excavated some years previously by a German prospector who, during World War II, dynamited himself to bits when officers approached his hideaway to question him about messages alleged to have been sent by him from a secret wireless on the rock.

In this subterranean chamber Van Tassel held his first "meetings" with only his family in attendance.



WIFE OF THE SECT'S FOUNDER
Mrs. Van Tassel serves coffee to unidentified member.

Gradually, however, people began to make the long pilgrimage across the miles of washboard road to join him.

'Plain Americans'

When I arrived at the rock shortly after dusk, a dozen or more members who are building homes among the surrounding volcanic rocks were seated at a big picnic table beneath an overhanging ledge, finishing their communal dinner.

Their ages ranged from children of 5 or 6 to a couple of mature years. Both men and women were in appearance "plain American," without any of the intensity of speech and manner that often characterizes cultists.

Van Tassel explained that nonresident members would arrive later for the meeting scheduled for that night. Meanwhile, he offered a brief introduction to the aims and operation of the group.

"Our world is about to undergo a series of great changes," he said. "We have been advised that we are moving into another dimension. Those who can change into the new life will go on, those who can't will drop back to the phase of life that is replacing our own."

The youthful-looking, sunbrowned cultist spoke slowly, emphasizing key words like a teacher instructing an algebra class.

It was not until Jan. 6 of this year, he said, that the group began to receive messages from the "Ventlas" (his name for flying saucers).

"We were warned that American scientists were dangerously near to exploding the hydrogen bomb, and if that were to happen all life on earth would be extinguished.

"On April 6 we were told that some of the saucers would buzz Washington. I wrote that information to the Air Force in Washington and have a signed receipt for the letter. They received it on July 22, just before the saucers were sighted by radar in the capital."

Have the saucers ever landed on earth?

"No," answered Van Tassel, "but we have been told that they will land. And when they do, government censorship won't be able to keep it from the people. They have told us they will arrive by millions in the night skies."

He ceased speaking and for a moment there was an unearthly silence.

"Come on," Van Tassel said suddenly, getting to his feet. "I'll take you down to the room where we meet."

TOMORROW: A "message" from the realms of "Schare."

A-4 Los Angeles Herald & Express
★★★ Thursday, September 4, 1952

Policeman's Tale

See Fireballs In Mont. Sky

By United Press

HELENA, Mont., Sept. 4.—Residents of Montana scanned the skies today for another appearance of two "green fireballs" which flashed through the heavens and calsed speculation that the state may have aerial fireworks similar to those in the southwest.

The Helena Police Department reported that yesterday's phenomena appeared two hours apart and were "green with a red tinge and a glittering exterior."

Police Officer William J. Orsello said he saw the first object at 8:30 p. m., and the second at 10:44 p. m. He said the first one appeared for about five seconds and that both traveled in a westerly direction over Helena.

'SHORT TAIL'

Orsello described the second "fireball" as similar to the first except that it had a "very short tail." He said it "appeared to fall on the other side of Mount Helena" which is west of the city.

"It resembled a falling star," the officer said, "but I've never seen a falling star of that color before."

One eyewitness described the second object as a green traffic light.

WATCHED IT ZOOM

"If you were to take the green part of a traffic light out of a socket and toss it into the air, it would look exactly like the fireball, but wouldn't be half as bright," he said.

The witness said the "fireball" was bright enough to shine behind some clouds. "I watched it zoom behind some clouds and I still could see it," he said.

THEY ARE—BUT WHAT?

Air Force About-Faces on Flying Disc Mystery

April 3/52

BY DICK WILLIAMS
Mirror Staff Writer

There have been two important new developments in the flying saucer mystery.

The U.S. Air Force, in a major policy change, is resuming large-scale investigations and concedes that it is unable to explain what many of the flying disc and fireball sightings are.

Life magazine in an eight-page spread this week says there is a strong case for interplanetary saucers and publishes some of the most impressive findings to date resulting from more than a year's investigation of its own.

I was given exclusive permission to report Life's findings here in advance.

Life says that the Air Force has taken these actions:

1—Alerted all operational units to report in detail any sightings of unidentified aerial objects.

2—Asked all other groups, scientists, private and commercial pilots, weather observers to immediately report any such sightings directly to Air Intelligence Center at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, O.

3—Asks all citizens to report any sightings to the nearest Air Force installation.

There will be no ridicule of any reports, it is emphasized. All will be treated in confidence.

The Air Force is taking its most positive action to date in the most puzzling sky mystery of our age. It states that there is no reason as yet to believe that any of the flying saucers are caused by a foreign power or constitute any present danger to the United States or its citizens.

Life's Facts

Life's investigations revealed these facts as irrefutable:

1—Discs, cylinders and similar objects of geometrical form, luminous quality and solid nature for several years have been, and may be now, actually present in the atmosphere of the earth.

2—Globes of green fire, of a brightness more intense than the full moon's, have frequently passed through the skies.

3—These objects cannot be explained by present science as natural phenomena but solely as artificial devices, created and operated by a high intelligence.

4—Finally, no power plant known or projected on earth could account for the performance of these devices.

To a public which may well be bewildered by the long cover-up and brush-off of this important and vital subject, Life says its extensive findings show these additional facts on saucers:

1—They are not psychological phenomena.
2—They are not products of U.S. research.
3—They are not a Russian development.
4—They are not distortions of the atmosphere resulting from atomic activity.
5—They are not all skyhook balloons, as has been incorrectly theorized before. Skyhooks are cosmic ray testing devices.

What are they? Visitors from space?

Life, reporting 10 detailed, reliable incidents and the evaluation of each, says there is a case for interplanetary saucers.

And it quotes a number of ranking scientists to back that conclusion.

Among them are Dr. Walther Riedel, once chief designer and research director at the German rocket center in Peenemunde now engaged in secret work for the United States.

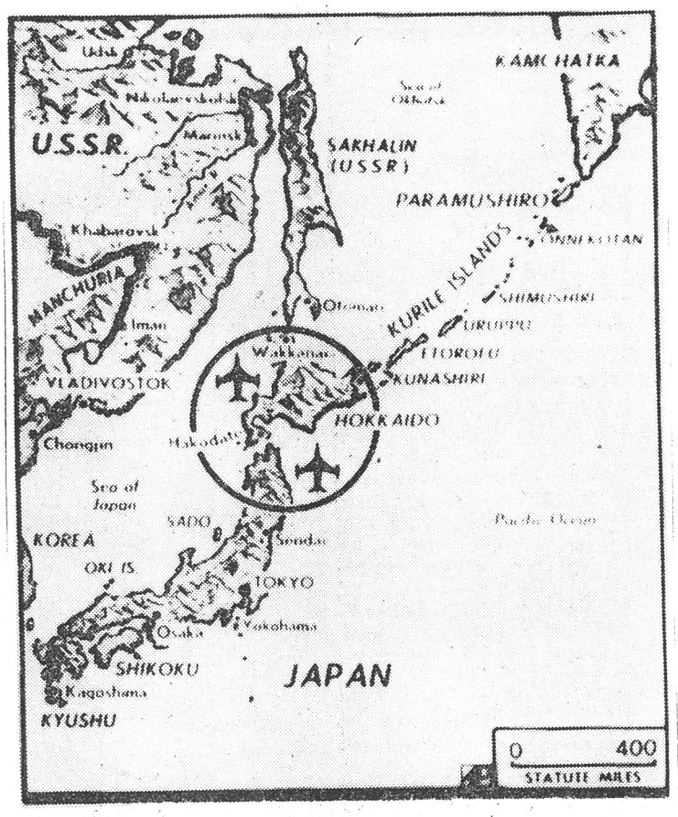
He says: "I am completely convinced that they have an out-of-this-world basis."

Says Dr. Maurice A. Biot, one of the leading aerodynamicists in the United States: "My opinion for some time has been that they have an extraterrestrial origin."

Who? What? Why?

As Life says, answers may come in a generation.

Or tomorrow.



Where Flying Objects Sighted

Circle encompasses area of Japan's northernmost islands where U.S. Air Force planes have sighted and chased mysterious flying objects, according to an Air Force disclosure Wednesday. Pilots reported the objects as "rotating clusters of red, white and green lights." Ground observers also reported sightings, and the objects were tracked on radar.—**Associated Press Wirephoto.**

'Signals' From Space Puzzle Scientists

LONDON, Oct. 4.—(AP)—British scientists admitted puzzlement today over mysterious "radio signals" from space.

They can't figure out the origin of the sounds received here daily. They produce a hissing noise and are visible when passed through a cathode ray tube.

They are similar to radio signals known to emanate from the stars.

But plotting of the mystery signals—continuous and unintelligible—indicates they are coming from outer space where no major stars are known to be.

TAPE RECORDINGS—

There is no suggestion the signals are anything but natural phenomena.

Their existence was disclosed with announcement that tape recordings of the noises have been made and will be shown visually on cathode ray tubes at a scientific exhibition in connection with next year's festival of Britain.

"All sorts of theories are being advanced," said A. J. Garratt, staff physicist for the festival. "But none of them is entirely satisfactory. The discovery may alter some of our ideas of the stars."

Garratt said the signals were first picked up on coastal defense radar systems during the war.

Now, they are being received on "radio telescopes" tuned to directional antenna which sweeps the sky as the earth turns.

Dr. A. C. B. Lovell, senior physicist at Manchester, said "the problem we are faced with is that a particularly strong signal is being received from a part of the sky where no large bodies are known to be."

THERE ARE SAUCERS, U.S. SCIENTIST INSISTS

Feb 26/52

Illustrated on Page 2, Part I

SCITUATE, Mass., Feb. 25 (AP) A former Air Force scientist today brushed aside the idea that flying saucers are just balloons and urged a full investigation of what he said may be experiments by "a potential enemy of the United States."

Dr. Anthony O. Mirarchi, who was employed by the Air Force as an air chemist in its geophysical laboratory, took issue with a recent magazine article written by Dr. Urner Liddel, Navy scientist. Liddel said what people have been seeing are plastic balloons sent into the upper air for radiation research.

Mirarchi said that if flying saucers are experimental missiles launched by foreign hands they could "lead to a worse Pearl Harbor than we ever experienced."

"The Navy report is erroneous—it lulls people into a false sense of security," he said in an interview.

He said that as an assistant chief of a branch of the Geophysical Research Organization, he conducted an investigation and recommended a "considerable appropriation" to press a study of the mysterious phenomena.

At Washington, an Air Force spokesman who was asked about Mirarchi's contentions had this to say:

"In over 500 investigations we have made so far we have yet to find one concrete bit of evidence to back up these reports of flying saucers."



SAYS PEOPLE LULLED—Dr. Anthony O. Mirarchi, former Air Force scientist, uses blackboard drawing at Scituate (Mass.) home to explain theory that so-called flying saucers have "maneuvered motion" and represent more than mere research balloons.

Story on Page 1, Part 1

(AP) Wirephoto

L A Times (?)

Dec 18 51

ROAMING AROUND

With AUSTIN CONOVER

Belief in Flying Saucers Mounts

Belief in flying saucers is growing, according to a public opinion survey that extends back four years.

When I first started asking people about flying saucer reports, only one in five told me that they thought there were such things.

Now, four years later, only one in five says that flying saucers are purely a product of the imagination.

* * *

During a talk on flying saucers to the Sepulveda Optimist Club the other evening, I asked all who believe in flying saucers to raise a hand. The room was full of raised hands. Only a few did not go up.

The showing I consider interesting, because my talk was strictly reportorial and without any expression of my own opinion.

* *

Jay Ulis, insurance broker, who is president of the club, commented: "There must be some basis of fact in the reports, because so many people say they have seen flying saucers."

Dr. Charles F. Shields, chiropractor, mentioned the book "Behind the Flying Saucer" by Frank Scully. He said that it convinced him that the saucers are from another planet.

John DeBron, set dresser, remarked: "They could be Russian aircraft. Who knows what the German V-2 rocket scientists are now developing deep in Siberia."

R. Ernie Gerke, merchandiser, said that the saucers, if real, are of this world.

"I can't understand people who scoff at the reports of reliable observers," declared L. H. Phillips, attorney. "An Air Force captain tells not only of sighting a saucer but also of trying to catch it."

"There were people who didn't believe Columbus," commented Nat Leslie, musician.

* * *

"The ideal space ship," said Henry G. Zeber, machinist, "would be built of a metal that could be made gravitational or anti-gravitational by electrical control.

"For instance, when rockets made of this metal were launched from the earth it would be so light that it would shoot beyond the earth's gravitational pull. When entering the gravitational field of a planet to be examined, the captain would reverse the switch and the metal would instantly become heavy. Gentle landings would be made by switching the controls off and on."

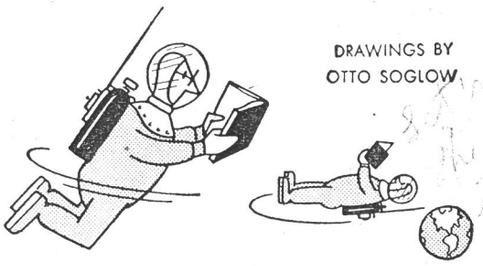
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Next it will be

Space Libraries



DRAWINGS BY
OTTO SOGLOW

By George Dixon

Detroit Times 12/14/52

WASHINGTON—If a two-headed man from Mars writes a best-seller and desires to copyright it, with his two conks listed as co-authors, he will find the U. S. Copyright Office all set to cooperate.

The Copyright Office is an adjunct of the Library of Congress and does not make a habit of indulging in wild flights of fantasy. Nevertheless, it has become the first civilian agency of government to recognize the imminence of interplanetary travel.

Because it has to deal with special and peculiar problems, which seem to assume a wider scope with the passage of every generation, the Copyright Office is now pondering how to extend this country's copyright laws to cover the Moon, Mars and Venus.

Writing in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin, Donald F Reines, a Copyright Office examiner, said that the day may not be far distant when a writer or composer can reserve rights of publication throughout the Milky Way

Mr. Reines pointed out that his division of late has been swamped with books and articles dealing with the conquest of space. Should interplanetary travel become commonplace, it might result in all sorts of infringement and plagiarism.

For instance, a plagiarist in Truth or Consequences, N.M., might apply for a copyright on a book about hell-raising on Halley's Comet, never letting on he had cribbed it from a bibliophile on the Big Dipper.

Moreover, observed Mr. Reines with the true interplanetary spirit, unless the present 28-year period of copyright is extended, those authors domiciled at the other end of the galaxy might suffer great hardship. He added.

It's Getting Harder to Brush

Journal-Times

WASHINGTON —(NEA)— The flying saucers are back. July 31/52

And their return to the headlines has been the result of a startling new development:

For the first time, numerous and simultaneous visual sightings have been confirmed by official Civil Aeronautics Administration radar observations. This has happened twice under almost identical circumstances on two successive Saturday nights.

This new chapter in the weird flying saucer story was written in the skies over Washington for six hours before dawn on Sunday, July 20, and again one week later. The details and implications of what took place are now confirmed by CAA and the Air Force.

Full details of what happened the first night are being revealed for the first time by NEA Service.

These are the facts:

Beginning shortly after midnight, and continuing until dawn, eight experienced CAA radar operators and technicians, manning the air route traffic control center in hanger No. 6 at National Airport, tracked from seven to ten unidentifiable and mysterious objects performing strange gyrations in the skies in a 30-mile radius above Washington.

Harry G. Barnes, who has been with CAA for nine years, mostly in radar work, was in charge of the group. After making sure that the objects were not known aircraft and that the radar was operating perfectly, he checked his findings with the radar operators in the control tower. They instantly confirmed what he saw, and continued to do so. The two radars are completely separate units.

Later the radar at nearby Andrews Air Force base also confirmed the sightings.

* * *

When the center radar showed one of the unidentified objects in a low position in the northwest sky, the operators in the tower were able to see it. One of them, Howard Cocklin, who has been with CAA for five years, describes it:

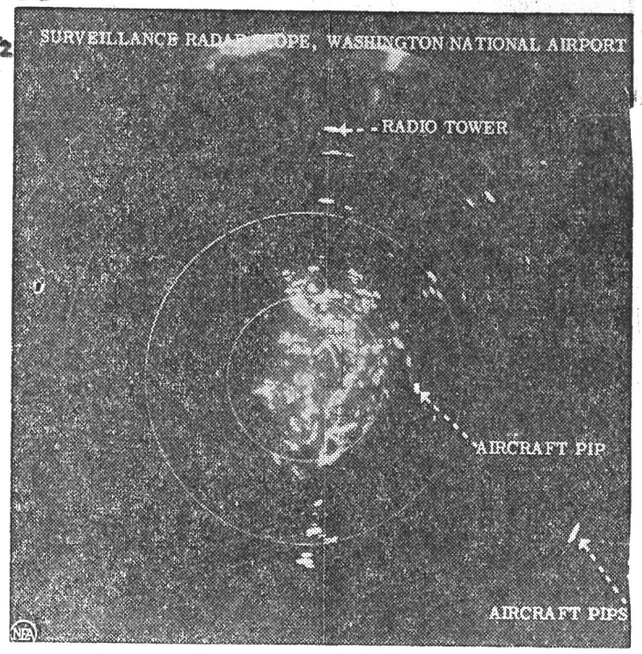
"It was a good-sized light, yellow to orange in color. At first it looked like a great big star. Then it began to move in a manner which made you realize it couldn't be a star. There was no unusual high speed about its movements and at times it seemed to hover. We could see it moving around like that for about 15 minutes, It just disappeared into the northwest sky."

There are no windows in the center Barnes was operating. None of the eight men could leave to go outside to try to check their own radar sightings visually.

As is normal at that time air traffic was very light. But at the first opportunity an operator in Barnes' office contacted Capital Airlines pilot Capt. S. C. Pierman shortly after he took off and asked him to look for the objects.

For about 14 minutes, Pierman was in direct, two-way communication with Barnes. While he was within radar range, Pierman was able to see six objects which showed up on the path indicated by the center's radar. Pierman's sightings reported to Barnes coincided exactly with the radar sightings, Barnes reports.

* * *



LARGE RADAR SCOPE at Washington National Airport presents a picture like this to CAA traffic controllers. Mystery pips were tracked from midnight until dawn on the first night.

Pierman is a 17-year veteran of commercial flying and is described by Capital Airlines officials as very level-headed and "taciturn." After he landed in Detroit Pierman had this to say about the sightings:

"In my years of flying I've seen a lot of falling or shooting stars —whatever you call them — but these were much faster than anything like that I've ever seen. They were moving too fast for that. They were about the same size as the brighter stars. And they were much higher than our 6,000-foot altitude. I couldn't estimate the speed accurately. Please remember I didn't speak of them as flying saucers—only very fast moving lights."

Charles Wheaton, first officer on the flight with Pierman, a veteran of 12 years of flying confirms Pierman's sightings and adds:

"Before the other night, I always discounted alleged flying saucers as atmospheric phenomenon. But now I feel I have actually seen some active strange objects which defy explanation."

* * *

The mystery of the flying saucers had its start on June 24, 1947, when a Boise, Idaho, businessman, Kenneth Arnold, flew his private plane over the jagged peaks of Washington's Mt. Ranier. When he landed, he breathlessly reported having seen "a chain of nine saucer-like objects playing tag at fantastic speeds."

Since then there have been thousands of sightings all over the world, many obviously reported by crackpots. But a substantial number have been so strange and reliably described, even the Air Force has had to admit that they were unexplainable.

Many books have been written on the subject. Hundreds of magazine articles have treated all aspects of the question. However, a review of most of what has been written and officially reported on the subject points up several unique aspects to the recent Washington sightings:

It's the first time that three separate radar sets have reported identical sightings.

It's the first time they have remained under observation in one area for so long a time.

It's the first time so many completely responsible men, including radar operators and pilots, all observed and reported the same thing at the same time, with all reports checking so accurately.

* * *

Both nights there were scores of unofficial stories of persons in the area who claim to have seen one or more strange lights moving about in the sky.

Saul Pett, a news service reporter in River Edge, N. J., wrote a detailed story on one that he saw just before seven objects appeared on the CAA radar screen at National Airport. He said:

"It looked like a sphere, so deeply orange colored that it appeared almost the shade of rust. It was silent as death. It was moving too fast and evenly to be a balloon. I saw a flying saucer and you can't convince me that there is no such animal."

He said it disappeared in the direction of Washington.

* * *

The Air Force has the responsibility of finding out what there is to the saucer reports. After two years' study it finally reported in 1950:

"All evidence and analyses indicate that the reports of unidentified flying objects are the result of: (1) Misinterpretation of various conventional objects; (2) a mild form of mass hysteria; (3) or hoaxes."

Lt. Col. DeWitt R. Searles, an Air Force press officer, was given the job of officially denying the existence of saucers from then on. His file on the subject was labeled "death of the saucers."

On June 17 of this year, however, Col. Searles was forced to reveal a slight alteration in the Air Force stand on saucers. He issued a statement which said:

"No concrete evidence has yet reached us to either prove or disprove the existence of the so-called flying saucers. However, there remain a number of sightings which have not been satisfactorily explained. As long as this is true the Air Force will continue to investigate flying saucers reports."

* * *

Air Force reaction to the recent Washington sightings has been curious, and its reports have been conflicting. A few minutes after CAA confirmed its sightings on the 20th it reported the fact to the Air Force in a normal but classified procedure.

For the next several days the Air Force claimed that its radar at nearby Andrews Air Force base did not confirm the findings of the CAA radar. Later, however, the Air Force reversed itself and admitted that the Andrews radar did pick up the objects, four hours after the first CAA report.

On July 20, then, the strange objects appeared on three separate radar sets for two hours. A week later the Air Force admitted



AIRLINES pilot S. C. Pierman saw six "objects" at the same time the CAA radar did.

Off 'Flying Saucers' As Silly

RACIN



RADAR CONTROL ROOM of CAA at Washington airport tracked the strange objects on the large scope in center foreground. It shows positi on of aircraft within a radius of 70 miles.

that its Andrews radar had practically identical sightings to the other two all evening.

The first night no fighter planes went aloft to investigate the sightings. A week later, however, the Air Force sent up jets to try to get a closer look at the objects.

The only report from the fighter pilots was that they saw strange lights, moving too fast for the 600 mph jets to intercept.

* * *

Another conflicting Air Force report concerns a saucer expert from the now-barricaded unit at Dayton, Capt. E. J. Ruppelt. He "happened" to be in town at the time. An AF spokesman said that he would interview all of the persons involved in the sightings.

A week later, however, Capt. Ruppelt had left town and had not contacted a single one of the CAA persons involved. Col. Searles reported that he had taken a copy of Barnes' brief summary report in long hand over the telephone next day. That constitutes the Air Force's only official recognition of the events of the 20th. The AF, however, now promises to make a thorough investigation of the events of both nights.

In the unofficial category of saucer study is the theory of Dr. Donald H. Menzel, a Harvard professor of astrophysics. It seems to have had most effect in debunking saucer reports among the experts.

He says visual sightings could be ordinary lights which are reflected from warm layers of air. And he says radar can produce a false pip in the same way.

According to several experts in Washington, who asked not to be quoted, Menzel's theory does not account for the simultaneous visual and radar sightings.

Further, it isn't likely that any warm layer of reflecting air would have remained constant for so long a period over Washington that night.

* * *

Coincidental with the recent Washington sightings and increased reports of saucer sightings all over the U. S. this summer, have been increased rumors around the Pentagon and from other government agencies attempting to explain saucers. And they appear to be coming from more reliable sources, although these sources continue to refuse to let themselves be identified.

Most persistent rumor is that Boeing Airplane Co. in Seattle, Wash., is either making flying saucers or has been in charge of the engineering of the project. The rumor goes that very small parts of the saucers are being made by widely scattered subcontractors and that the finished items are being assembled at some remote site.

A Boeing spokesman in Seattle flatly denies this rumor, as does the Air Force.



TOWERMAN Howard Cocklin, after watching one of the objects, is sure it wasn't a star.

The descriptions of the saucers which have been sighted indicate that some radically new source of power would be needed to make the objects move as fast as they did.

* * *

If this were true it doesn't make sense that the Air Force would be expending such a tremendous effort to improve its present jet engines, which would be made completely obsolete by the new source of power. Nor would the Air Force be likely to have its saucers practice maneuvers early Sunday morning around Washington.

In the wierder category of rumors is the one that the saucers are either Russian-built or from another planet and that several of them have crashed and have been picked up by the Air Force. It goes on to theorize that the Air Force has been able to repair some of them and make them operate and at the same time is trying to build some of its own just like them.

This would account for the Air Force being extremely interested in some sightings, and apparently very disinterested in others.

Col. Searles, who has had more experience in denying saucer rumors than anyone in the Pentagon, just laughs at this idea.

Criticizes Balloon Article

Editor, The Herald:

I wonder just what level of intelligence you credit your readers with? I am referring to the article in Tuesday morning's Herald entitled "Saucers Identifed as Balloons," by a Dr. Urner Liddel.

Let me ask you and Dr. Liddel how you explain the following saucer incidents with your phoney balloon theory: If all saucers were balloons at very high altitudes, then what were those saucers which were seen by reliable people at very low altitudes? Many authenticated sightings were reported at tree-top level, and moving horizontally at extreme speeds. How do you fit your balloon theory to that one?

How can a balloon outmaneuver a P-51 fighter airplane? Why did a mere balloon give Lt. Gorman of the North Dakota National Guard such a stiff dog-fight on the evening of Oct. 1, 1948, over the airport at Fargo, N. D.? Also would appreciate it very much if you could satisfactorily explain to me how a balloon can make right-angle turns and climbs or dives at better than 400 miles an hour? That's what happened in Lt. Gorman's dog-fight, and in several other airplane encounters with the so-called saucers. Also how do you account for the saucers being ringed with fire and in some cases kicking streaks of flame as they accelerate during pursuit by our planes at night?

Date?

How does your "balloon cluster" explanation fit the three-day-long flying-saucer air circus over Farmington, N. M., on the days of March 16, 17, and 18, 1950? The whole town saw them every day, and as I sit writing this letter I have before me a copy of the Las Vegas, N. M., Daily Optic of March 18, 1950, giving the full details of eyewitness accounts. The number of saucers was estimated at not less than 500, and they were dog-fighting and cutting didoes all over the sky, not for minutes, but for several hours. Again they were reported to be making right-angle turns, climbs, dives and even square loops! Some balloons Dr. Urner Liddel is releasing! He should send them over to Korea; they are better than any jet fighter our air force has over there, don't you think?

I have named only a tiny fraction of the hundreds of authenticated sightings, but these should be enough for you to start answering.

It is almost unbelievable that you would print such an obviously fabricated story in your paper. The general public that has not seriously investigated this subject will no doubt accept your fairy tale about balloons, but where does that leave those readers of your paper who stop and think about things? It leaves them very disillusioned, to put it very mildly.

What is the American press coming to, when it will allow itself to be so used by the government? Free press? I wonder. Print this if you have the nerve.

MILAN RAFAYKO

Lexington.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Rafayko's quarrel is with Dr. Lidell, not with The Herald. The Associated Press article was published because we considered it interesting to our readers, not because this newspaper has any positive opinion on "flying saucers" vs. balloons. Furthermore, The Herald is not being "used" by the government; there is no compulsion on the press to publish or omit any news it receives.

July 27, '52 L A Times

Space Travel Already Here, Scientists Say

Space travel "is here," assert Drs. Konrad J. K. Buettner and Heinz Haber, UCLA experts on upper air research.

They point out that men in "space suits" and "space craft" already have risen to altitudes at which 96% of the earth's atmosphere lies below them. Furthermore, an unmanned two-stage rocket has climbed to 255 miles where, for all practical purposes, you are in a vacuum.

Different Factors

The physicists point out that in these regions only three terrestrial factors make such an environment different from that of interplanetary space. These three factors are:

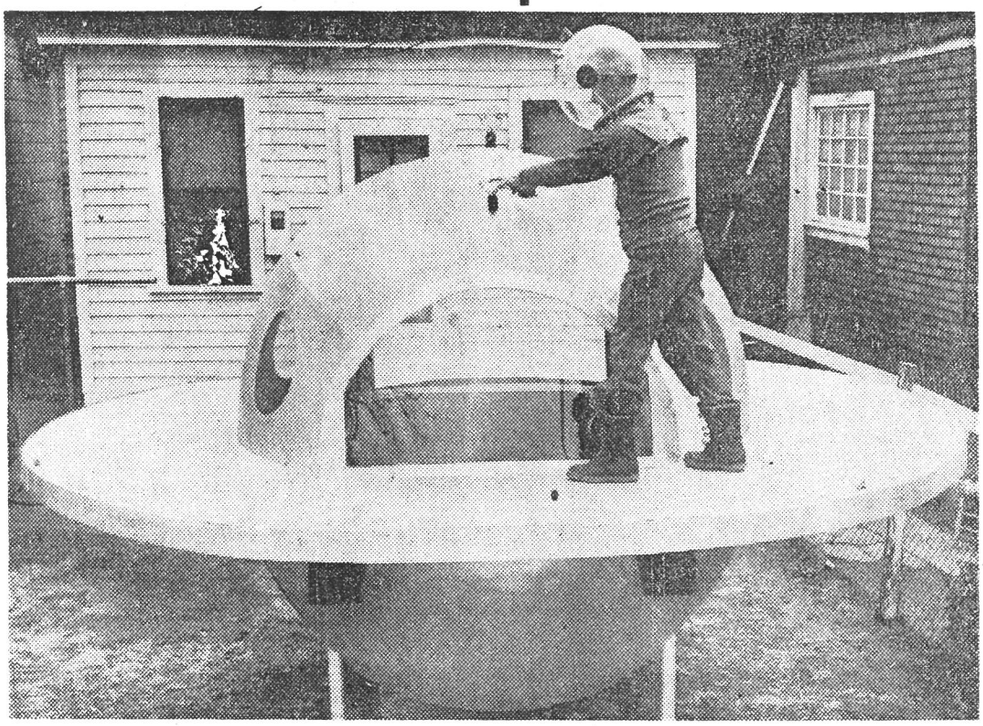
The bulk of the earth which keeps 50% of meteors and cosmic ray particles at a distance. Second, the magnetic field of the earth that deflects certain cosmic ray particles. And third, the heat radiation reflected and emitted by the earth and its atmosphere.

New Name for Region

Drs. Buettner and Haber have a new name for the region which men have started to explore. The "aeropause," they agree, should be the name of that part of the atmosphere in which conditions of empty outer space are approached while not being completely duplicated.

If you fly in the aeropause, say the UCLA physicists, there is only one way in which such movement differs from true space travel: at present such flights last only a few minutes.

Granddad Is 'Space Pilot'



Detroit Times Photo

SPACF SUIT-CLAD JOHN GERGELY ON THE RIM OF HIS FLYING SAUCER

. . . it's a real flying saucer except that it doesn't fly . . .

By RAY GUILES

A real flying saucer landed in a backyard at 9622 Graham.

Most any day a stocky grandfather, John Gergely, 45, dressed in a space helmet and suit, can be seen around the shiny craft.

The saucer is 10 feet high and 16 feet in diameter. Its cabin can hold six persons and 10 men can stand on the flat rim encircling the globular cabin.

Twin jet exhausts project from the rear, and soon there will be space guns installed on the ship.

WON'T REACH MOON

But the ship never will soar to the moon or mars. And the "M" on Gergely's space suit does not stand for either astral body.

He says.

"It stands for money.

"I've spent $800 on this already, and it has been worth every penny. I plan to put it on a trailer and rent it to stores as an advertising stunt.

"You know, they can claim values out of this world brought by a flying saucer."

CAN'T LOSE

Gergely got the idea to build the ship from all the talk about flying saucers.

An $80-a-week auto mechanic, he figures:

"I can't lose on this. If the companies won't go for it as an advertising stunt, I can always use it as a hot dog stand and serve coffee on the rim of the saucer."

Meanwhile, Gergely is the envy of the children in the neighborhood, and his grandson, Jimmie Bacon, 5, who says:

"Gee, I wish I had a suit like gramps. I'm going for a ride when he uses it the first time."

National Guardian

June 26, 1952

U.S. SPY SCARE MARATHON REACHES FOR THE MOON

'Space Platforms' and the

June 26/52
The Nat'l Guardian

By William A. Reuben

WITH Washington's foreign and domestic policies facing a new crisis as "free world" allies and its own citizens balked in all directions, "spy sensations" were laid on double-thick in June in what looked like a planned effort to scare the balkers back in line.

The season was ushered in at a communion breakfast in New York when U.S. Atty. Myles Lane unveiled a startling new charge against Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, "atom spies" under



MYLES T. LANE
The 21st century mind

death sentence in Sing Sing. "These spies," he said, (N.Y. Times, 6/2)

> ". . . had given Soviet Russia some of our top secrets, including a project for a platform 3,000 miles in space. . . . [Because of the Rosenbergs, the Russians found out about this in 1944-5], before some of our own top people knew about the project."

50 YEARS OLD: The "revelation" came a few days before the Rosenbergs' petition for a Supreme Court hearing was filed, as public opinion measurably mounted against the conviction and sentence. The press played up the U.S. Atty.'s new charge widely; these facts were unmentioned:

- The Russian Science Survey published in 1903 K. Ziolovsky's findings on "The Rocket in Cosmic Space," sketching the possibilities of space travel. Since the many "space station" theories subsequently advanced all hinge on observations, speculations and experiments concerning rockets, Russian scientists can properly take credit for being the pioneers in this field.
- Between 1926 and 1929 two societies were set up in the U.S.S.R. to promote study of space travel, solve its problems.
- In 1923 the first theory of a space station was developed by Germany's Herman Oberth, rocket expert and astronautical theorist, in his book The Rocket Into Interplanetary Space.
- Since 1922 information about space stations has been public property expounded and discussed in countless books and journals all over the world.
- In 1948 Defense Secy. Forrestal, who was locked up a month later after running down the street in his nightshirt crying "The Reds are coming!" and subsequently succeeded in his fourth suicide attempt, referred in his annual report to a secret "earth satellite vehicle program" that the U.S. Army was engaged in. Scoffing at the "secret" report, the N.Y. Times' science editor Kaempffert pointed out (1/2/49) that the space-station "notion has engaged the astronauts for many years" and Forrestal's "earth satellite vehicle" could be traced directly to the work of Oberth.

Secrecy and Deadlines Held Bars To Progress in Conquest of Space

Paper by von Braun, Chief Authority on Rockets, Read at Congress, Also Scores Government Time Limits on Research

BY DREW MIDDLETON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

STUTTGART, Germany, Sept. 5—Science's fight against pressures imposed by government deadlines and the secrecy demanded by military security received a new and unexpected recruit today in Dr. Wernher von Braun.

For fifteen years Dr. von Braun has labored, first for the Government of Hitler's Germany and at present for the United States Government, on the development of long-range rockets. In a paper read for him before the International Congress of Astronautics here Dr. von Braun assailed the system of government control that leaves little room for curiosity "in any technical development project" and is not conducive "to the search for truth."

Rumors About von Braun

Dr. von Braun, according to United States delegates to the congress, was unable to attend because he had been ill and work had piled up in his absence. They are sticking to this story in face of rumors that reason for his absence is that he is far too important a person from the standpoint of national security to be allowed to leave the United States.

What he calls "rocketry" is close to Dr. von Braun's heart and so is the development of astronautics. But the latter, he emphasized, has faced since its inception "an apparently insuperable block: Contact with important and actual rocketry projects has been to all intents and purposes impossible by reason of military security."

Such security carries its own penalties, according to Dr. von Braun, for the process cannot be continued for long without drawing upon knowledge gained by researchers in the international field.

Citing Charles Kettering's dictum that a wall of secrecy around a laboratory fences out more than it fences in, Dr. von Braun declared that any development project whose personnel was kept out of touch with the "fecundating" effect of free exchange of scientific thought "must eventually wither."

The development of rockets depends in the view of most of the delegates on resarch by the whole world; interplanetary travel is an international matter. But they believe that progress is being delayed by the absence of what Dr. von Braun calls "new perceptions" in basic research.

Deadlines Held Injurious

The German scientist in his sharp criticism of the stultifying effect of governmental control of scientific research made it clear that he did not expect great progress to be made in rocket construction so long as scientific thought was subjected to the pressure of deadlines set by governments.

"When there is a deadline to be met, more especially one made inexorable by the exigencies of war, hot or cold, there is little room for curiosity, divine or otherwise, in any technical development project," wrote the world's leading authority on rocket construction.

"Nor is the atmosphere of such an establishment conducive to the search for Truth."

These are sharp words from a man who has been maintained in the United States almost since the end of the war and they criticize the whole system of scientific research for military purposes of which Dr. von Braun is a part.

He held most of the responsibility for the work at Peenemuende, the great German rocket and jet experimental station during World War II, and he told Congress that pressures exerted upon an enterprise of that kind including, it is assumed, his present experimental station at Huntsville, Ala., "are so great as practically to inhibit the conception and utilization of original thinking."

Envies 'Free' Scientists

"I truly envy," he declared, "those who are free to devote themselves to basic problems relating to future interplanetary voyaging."

Even if these researchers are prevented by military security from learning about progress on rocket construction, he said, they face an inexhaustible reservoir of other problems that must be solved before space travel is practical.

He pointed out that among the difficulties of life in a sealed space was how to deal with twenty-nine toxic agents given off by or generated in the body.

Another subject that must be studied is the design of life-saving devices that will permit voyagers to abandon safely space ships in trouble. Yet another is the study of the effects of prolonged weightlessness upon human beings.

A more practical study, Dr. von Braun said, is the inexhaustible subject of housekeeping aboard a space ship.

"How can you boil anything, if the water won't stay in contact with the bottom of the pot?" he asked. "Drinking is another problem as is washing the hands without getting one's clothes sopping wet * * * . How can one design an interplanetary water closet?"

★ Matt Weinstock

Exclusive!

H. A. Von Flugen was so deeply moved by the oratory from Chicago he sat down and wrote his keynote speech for the national convention of Tired Leprechauns, flying saucer division, to be held in Woodland Hills, naturally at an unannounced date. They don't want any people around.

Note Von Flugen's forthright approach to major problems, his stalwart refusal to compromise on domestic issues, his insistence on not wearing any man's collar. The speech:



WEINSTOCK

"Recent developments in the field of aeroelasticity have revealed some highly interesting and hitherto unsuspected aspects of the geometrical properties of stiffened thin-walled cylinders subjected to stresses beyond the proportional limit. Of particular interest in this regard are structures fabricated from the newer plastic materials.

"Let us consider, for example, the case of a circular fuselage section of typical plastic construction. The construction is conventional in all respects, being composed of a thin outer skin and a stouter inner structure.

"As a limiting case, let us consider the condition of complete dimensional reversal, i. e., the cylinder is turned inside out.

"Now then. Under ordinary circumstances it is a generally accepted fact that the outside diameter of any cylindrical structure is equal to or greater than the inside diameter. However, in the case of our specimen, the outside diameter is inside! Conversely, of course, the inside diameter is outside and, consequently, exceeds the outside diameter.

"In order to explain this seemingly impossible occurrence, it is necessary that we analyze the actual mechanics of dimensional reversal. What have we done? The geometrical characteristics of our specimen have been so rearranged that we now have the outside skin inside. Or, looking at it in another way, we have placed the inside stoutside outside. Now, if the outside skinside is inside and the inside stoutside is outside, it follows that the thinner skin is inner and the outer parts are stouter. This, of course, is rather drastic —even for a truly elastic plastic.

"However, we must not lose sight of the fact that our dimensional analysis has shown conclusively that the inside diameter, being outside, is the outside diameter and the outside diameter, being inside, is the inside diameter, and that, since the inside and the outside diameters coincide, the entire structure has no thickness and therefore isn't. Thank you, fellow Leprechauns for your kind attention."

This mec. brain figures in so many science fiction stories.
N.Y. Times, July 13.

L 17

SCIENTIFIC PUZZLER SOLVED BY 'BRAIN'

Electronic Answer Due to Lead to Understanding of Principles Ruling Fluids in Motion

Columbia University announced yesterday the solution of a basic problem that has confronted scientists for more than sixty years and could not have been solved by any human mathematician.

The correct answer was finally found by the International Business Machines' giant electronic "brain" at 590 Madison Avenue, known as the selective sequence electronic calculator. The machine's 12,500 vacuum tubes performed some 20,000,000 calculations in a total working time of 150 hours, telescoping in that time interval an estimated 100 years of computations with the aid of a desk calculator, or more 1,000 years of figuring with paper and pencil.

The solution is expected to lead to a better understanding of the principles governing fluids in motion (hydrodynamics), which, in turn, could lead to the design of better aircraft, steam turbines, hydroelectric power generating machinery and possibly more efficient atomic power plants. It may also pave the way to the solution of related problems in the study of the complicated phenomena of turbulence, which, according to modern theories, played an important role in the origin of the universe.

Announcement of the latest achievement of the robot "mathematician," which can give answers only when there is a human brain to think up the proper questions, was made yesterday by Prof. Wallace J. Eckert, director of the Watson Scientific Computing Laboratory at Columbia. The work was done under the direction of Dr. L. H. Thomas, professor of physics on the staff of the laboratory, which uses the giant calculator at the I. B. M. offices on Madison Avenue.

Briefly, the machine has finally settled a theoretical controversy begun in 1888, when the British scientist, William Thomson Kelvin, started speculation on the origin of turbulence in a stream of fluid flowing at uniform speed between two parallel plates. A hypothetical example of this situation, Dr. Thomas explained, would be a curtain of water falling between parallel sheets ofg lass at constant speed.

Lord Kelvin, and many present-day authorities in the field of hydrodynamics, believed that some finite, outside disturbance would have to be introduced into such a stream to break up its regular motion. The electronic robot proved, however, that the great Lord Kelvin and his followers were wrong. It established the fact, Professor Thomas reported, that "fluids of low viscosity, when moving rapidly, become unstable without any outside influence.

oath.

announced here today.

Air Force Asks Funds to 'Maintain 24-Hour Alert'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP)—The Air Force has asked Congress for funds so the Air Defense Command can "maintain a 24-hour alert," with planes available for immediate action against an invader.

This was disclosed today in a report released by the House Military Appropriations Subcommittee on its closed door hearing December 7 on the pending $16,844,000,000 additional request for the armed forces.

Secretary of the Air Force Thomas K. Finletter told the subcommittee funds from this apropriation would be used to assign additional pilots and maintenance crews to units of the Air Defense Command so it can keep a round-the-clock watch.

He said the Air Force is stepping up its strength from 48 wings (formerly called groups) to 68 by June 1951 and then to 84 by June 1952. He indicated the Air Force is working on plans that will require more money for still further expansion even before the 1952 goal is reached.

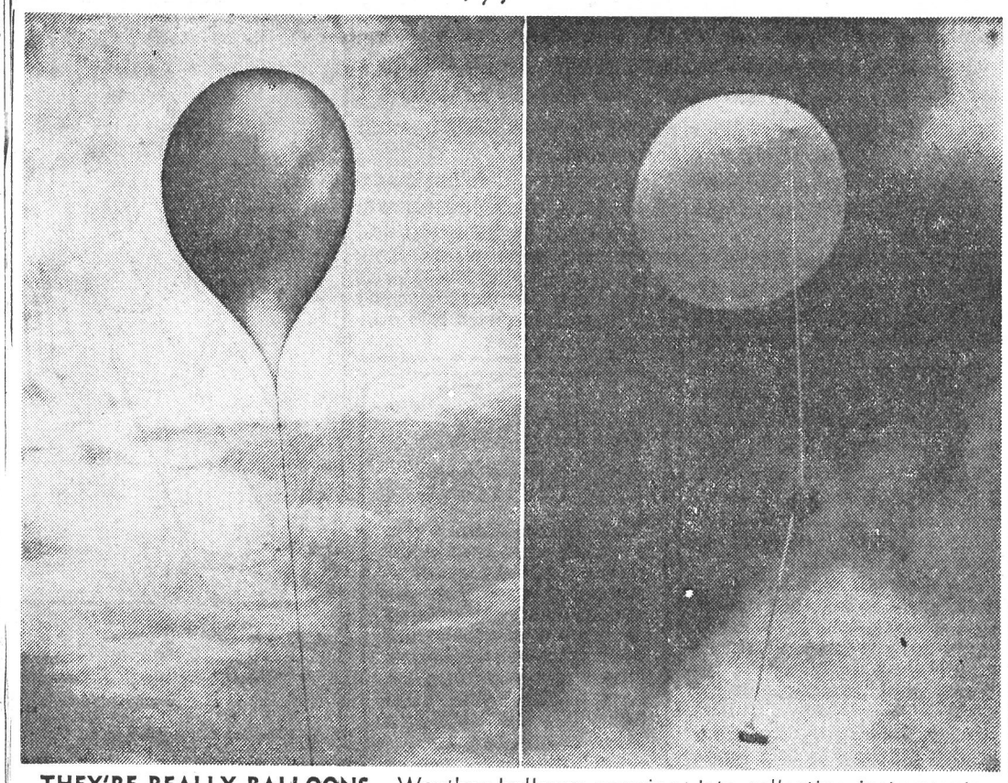
Finletter said the Air Force is pushing work on the "radar fence," the secret identification devices being spotted in critical areas around the country to warn of approaching aircraft.

The Air Force is planning toward the perhaps not far distant day when its fighters and bombers will be outmoded by guided missiles—some of which will be capable of carrying the A-bomb.

Major General Gordon P. Saville, Deputy Chief of Staff for Development, said that last summer "in the light of recent international developments," the Air Force revised its program in an attempt to get these weapons into earlier operational use.

Last summer an informed Air Force source said it was hoped to get guided missiles into operational use and to the stage where they would begin replacing conventional type planes in from eight to ten years. Indications are that the Air Force is advancing this time table.

L.A. Times



THEY'RE REALLY BALLOONS—Weather balloons carrying data-collecting instruments are shown in contrast against the sky, illustrating how witnesses could be led into believing they are flying saucers. Many such reports have been made recently.

Saucers Only Balloons to Weather Observers

Devices Released at Long Beach to Gather Data From High Altitudes, Spokesman Says

Those unidentified objects reported over the Southland recently are no mystery as far as the weather station at the Long Beach Air Force Base is concerned.

A spokesman for the station said most of the strange objects can be written off as high-altitude balloons released at Long Beach to gather weather data 16 to 20 miles above the earth.

The explanation tallied with the belief of John Aldrich, chief aviation forecaster for the U.S. Weather Bureau at International Airport, who told The Times last week he believed the balloons were often mistaken for flying saucers or other unexplained phenomenon.

Capt. Irving Van Brunt, meteorologist who heads the Air Force weather station at Long Beach, said yesterday it had been proved that many of the objects were actually weather balloons which the station sends aloft four times daily—at 1 a.m., 7 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m

"And every time we send up the balloons," he added, "we get a flock of calls from people wanting to know what they are and wondering if they're flying saucers. The calls usually come within a half hour after the balloons are released."

He said the balloons are about 5 feet in diameter and carry a small radio apparatus which transmits sound waves to the base's radar installation. The waves are translated into weather data.

High Climbers

The balloons, Capt. Van Brunt said, climb to an altitude of 80,000 to 100,000 feet. They drift along in prevailing air currents and eventually explode, and a small red parachute lowers the transmitter and deflated balloon to earth.

One of the high-flying pieces of equipment came to rest on the television aerial atop Singer Margaret Whiting's home early last week, he said. She reported it but the weather station said it has no further use for the transmitters when they complete a flight.

"We can't explain all the sightings of strange objects around here recently, but the majority have proved to be balloons," he said. "As far as the increasing number of reports we've had recently is concerned, mob psychology could be the answer."

Light Reflected

He said it was possible for the balloon and radio apparatus to give divergent and puzzling ap-

Many Call

The object was reported by other witnesses who called the San Pedro police desk and Norwalk Sheriff's station. Hagan said his station had received a number of calls within the past few days, all about the same time, reporting similar objects in the sky.

Martin Devy Dubovay, an architect of 6800 Pacific View Drive, gave a different description of an apparition he observed several days ago at 6 p.m. while he was standing a few blocks from Hollywood Blvd. He said the objects looked like a gigantic pair of spectacles.

". . . It consisted of two identical discs separated from each other by a distance of one-quarter of their diameters. The superstructure looked lighter in color than the body of the discs," he told The Times.

"The entire rims of the discs seemed to be glowing like a white flame, not only on the side toward the sun but also around the entire circumference. Judging by the silence of their operation and their color, my guess would be that they were flying at an altitude of 60,000 feet and must have been 350 feet in diameter. They disappeared toward the Pacific Ocean."

pearances as they float along in the sky. The metal apparatus, for example, often reflects the sun and moon in brilliant flashes of light that give the odd illusion of an unearthly object.

In other instances, he said, it is possible for the apparatus to appear to leave a vapor trail. This would occur when the balloon bursts and the transmitter begins to fall, causing the deflated balloon to flow behind it.

The Long Beach station is the only weather office in this area which releases the balloons, Van Brunt explained, but the Navy in San Diego and the Travis Air Force Base use them.

Blamed on Balloon

Meanwhile, a Norwalk Sheriff's sergeant yesterday gave a possible explanation for the glowing object reported in the sky by three San Pedro policemen Saturday night.

Sgt. George Hagan said he and two deputies observed the phenomenon about 8 p.m. They checked with the Long Beach base and learned that one of the station's weather balloons, released about 7 p.m., had exploded at 42,000 feet, creating the strange sight.

"We watched the balloon—it had a greenish glow—rise, and then explode. It seemed to leave vapor trails when it vanished," Hagan said. However, he said they did not observe the three little "saucerettes" the policemen said took shape following the explosion.

SHOP TOD

A Flying Saucer Theory

After the recent article appearing in the Los Angeles Times on photographic equipment being developed to reveal the true source of light of the flying saucers it is time someone came forward with a reasonable explanation of this illusion. The public has been led to believe that these saucers are a new type of plane either being tried out by this country or Russia and some go so far as to suggest they are space ships either from Mars or some other planet. I believe that the following theory is held by some of the scientists in this country today but so far no one has ventured to try to explain the difficult technical phenomenon behind the so-called flying saucers.

These flying saucers are no more mysterious than the zodiacal light (northern lights) seen in the Northwestern States after nightfall in the early spring months and the Northeastern States before dawn in the autumn months. The flying saucers are nothing but rotating electrical fields of fine particles of cosmic dust speeding through the earth's atmosphere.

Perhaps the easy way to explain this electrical rotating field is to say that it is similar to the whirlwind we see in the street from time to time. One suddenly sees this whirlwind start picking up dust and other small particles as it increases its size and speed for a few hundred feet. But suddenly it disappears for it has spent its energy and has not encountered any other favorable air currents to keep up its energy and keep it moving.

We know that the air around us is constantly in motion. It is this constant movement of air currents that sometimes, due to adverse conditions, become turbulent, causing these small whirlwinds and even on a much larger scale can result in tornadoes and hurricanes.

Scientists today keep an accurate daily check of these adverse wind currents and know whether the directions of any of these currents are such that they could cause what is termed a high-pressure head. This high-pressure head is the cause of storms and under certain conditions can start a hurricane and then the weather experts can chart the probable course the hurricane will take.

Scientists today recognize the fact that everything in the universe when broken down to its smallest unit is composed of atoms, which are electrical particles in constant motion and rotating at tremendous speeds. Therefore, these adverse air currents causing whirlwinds and tornadoes are in reality nothing but electrical magnetic currents and fields which are constantly in motion in the earth's atmosphere.

The earth is constantly passing through electrical charged fields of meteoric debris or cosmic dust, some of which would be invisible to the eye, others that may be as large as a grain of sand and in rare instances could be of enormous size. Owing to the tremendous speed of these particles reaching the earth's atmosphere they usually burn themselves up before reaching the earth but in rare instances these particles are large enough to not completely disintegrate before reaching the earth.

It is easy to see that these small particles of electrically charged cosmic ash are attracted to each other and form bodies of these small particles which cut the lines of force of the earth and, like an electrical motor, can result in what is called a rotating field which under the right conditions can develop a tremendous force.

These electrical magnetic rotating fields are in constant motion in the earth's atmosphere and like the small whirlwind in the street suddenly pick up speed and streak across the sky until finally all energy is dissipated. Now, under ideal conditions on a bright sunny day when the sun's rays are at the right angle, a refraction of light takes place on these small particles and electrically charged bodies of this rotating field and like the spectroscope breaks it up into colors that are visible to the eye.

A similar illusion is suggested by the refraction of light that takes place when the sun's rays pass through small raindrops resulting in the rainbow.

These rotating electrical fields can, like the hurricane, pick up other electrically charged particles and become more concentrated, resulting in an electrical field of tremendous rotating force.

Should an airplane enter one of these rotating fields of sufficient energy it would disintegrate in the same way as if it had entered the center of a tornado. One can draw his own conclusion upon what may have happened to the Army plane that presumably disintegrated chasing a flying saucer a few years back.

To set everyone's mind at ease, these rotating electrical fields usually dissipate their energy without causing any apparent disturbance or destruction, but they could build up a highly concentrated field of these particles of charged atoms and then, gathering up speed, develop a tremendous heat which could touch off a chain reaction resulting in a type of atomic explosion. This atomic explosion could dwarf any ever touched off by man. Normally this explosion would take place high up in the earth's atmosphere the same as the one recently occurring in Seattle during the early morning hours.

This resulted in an explosion felt over an area of more than a hundred miles and gave off a weird yellowish-blue light similar to that seen in the recent atomic tests. Such an explosion could, however, take place at a height of not over a mile above the earth itself and in such a case would have easily destroyed the city of Seattle. There is some evidence that this might have happened centuries past. Perhaps instead of calling these phenomena flying saucers a better name would be atmospheric electrical whirlpools, or electrical whirlpools, for in reality this is what they are. J. M. S.,
Montebello.

While not intending to take sides in the great flying saucer dispute, I feel that I have a public duty to report the actual facts, as observed, of a strange object recently sighted in the atmosphere.

About 7:22 on the morning of June 23, I observed this strange object rising through the atmosphere. It presented many of the typical characteristics reported in previous sightings by other observers. It was light in color and had the usual round, saucer-shaped appearance. No wings were visible nor was any smoke trail apparent.

When first seen the object was ascending in a straight vertical line at a moderate speed. The movement was somewhat erratic and there was a gentle side-to-side movement. The object then stopped ascending and began a slow horizontal movement back and forth, as if patrolling, in an arc of about 30 deg.

As I squinted for a closer look, the object suddenly resumed its rapid ascent and disappeared from view on a southwesterly course in the general direction of the water spot on the bathroom ceiling, passing about six inches in front of my nose.

I would estimate its diameter to be about one millimeter. Controlling my growing excitement with a tremendous exertion of will power, I continued shaving. F. C. E.,
Pasadena.