'Saucer Man' Doubts Disks Exist; Says Air Force Finds No Basis

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Roger M. Ramey, the Air Force "saucer man," said today that six years of flying saucer reports had "reasonably well" convinced him that there was no such thing.

But he edged cautiously around a suggestion that something more orthodox crossed the nation's Alaskan borders, the nearest Russia, last April.

General Ramey, director of United States Air Force Operations, is handling the investigation into the current reports on unexplained objects in the sky. He said the Air Force had kept track of such reports from the first one in 1947. General Ramey was interviewed on the CBS-TV program "Man of the Week."

Not one of some 1,500 saucer reports since 1947, General Ramey said, has offered solid evidence that anything material was involved. And all the reports together, he added, did not establish any pattern that could be construed as menacing.

An interviewer said there was a report that on last April 17 contrails—feathery, vapor trails left by high-flying aircraft—appeared over Alaska and "caused quite an alert."

General Ramey shied from any direct answer, even when the statement was repeated and the question added. "What was found?" But he said:

"There have been some instances of unexplained contrails that we carry as unexplained, possibly caused by a reconnaissance plane, or at least by an unidentified craft."

He did not say whether he was referring to Alaska. He added that saucer reports did not involve evidence such as contrails, indicating something material, and that that was part of the case against them.

About what he called "unidentified objects," General Ramey made these statements:

"Some people see things that aren't there. Some people describe things they haven't seen. It is noticeable that reports come in waves. There are some reports of incredible things from credible people."

"There has never been any instance of anything that could be tracked—that is, traced by radar or otherwise, entering, passing over and leaving the country. The radar sightings have been sporadic. There has been no suggestive pattern established."

"We are reasonably well convinced they are not material, solid objects."

"About 20 per cent of the reports in Air Force hands remain to be explained."

"I can say definitely they (saucers) are not our own."

"I still believe they are some phenomena that is not easily explained."

Dr. Jessie Sprowls, Professor of Abnormal Psychology at the University of Maryland, said the flying saucers "just ain't there."

Skeptic Scoffs at Lowell Thomas' Denial He's Host to Saucermen

By RICHARD CARTER

Lowell Thomas, the newscaster and world traveler, denied yesterday that he has been entertaining visitors from another planet at his farm in Pawling, N. Y.

It seems that there has been a rumor about interplanetary explorers singling out Thomas, swooping down on his estate, assuring him of their peaceful intentions, and inviting him to visit their home planet. Mode of travel: flying saucer.

Thomas said that the only interplanetary individual he has seen this season is Willy Ley, the rocket expert, with whom he spent pleasant hours knocking and rapping the idea of flying saucers.

He and Ley are agreed, Thomas went on, that the saucers sometimes are figments of imagination and sometimes are reflections from ground lights. He concluded with a wish that



there were such a thing as a flying saucer so that he could take a ride on one.

His explanation may have satfied the uncritical, but there are holes in it. First of all, he denied only that the flying saucer landed at his estate and that the Mysterious Visitors From Another Planet have been visiting him. Assuming that he is telling the truth, what about the myriad other aspects of the report? Is Lowell Thomas the only person with a farm?

How is the public to know that the saucer didn't land elsewhere? Perhaps, at this moment, the interplanetary explorers are having a highball with Fulton Lewis, Jr. Or, if not Lewis, isn't it strange and perhaps significant that nothing very much has been heard lately from H. V. Kaltenborn?

No, Lowell, it won't jell. Those Men From Another Planet are somewhere and, since you seem to be so positive that they're not in Pawling, perhaps you'd better come up with an alternative.

Like, for instance, Arthur Godfrey.

HAL BOYLE

Sorry He Saw That Saucer

By SAUL PETT Oct 27
For Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—If the first space ship from Mars were to land in my backyard, I'd beg the little men to go away.

This is one big news story I want to avoid. It's not that I'm afraid of people from another world. I'm more afraid of the people in this one.

You see, a few months ago, when lots of folks were seeing "Flying Saucers" in the sky, I happened to see something. Until now, I've been unable to tell the whole story. I needed time to regain my perspective, to develop some protective scar tissue.

Anyway, while minding my own business at home one night, I saw this orange ball in the sky. It was about the size of a quarter, made no sound and was clearly visible as it moved from horizon to horizon.

* * *

Like a good reporter, I immediately called my city desk. The next day I ran into a barrage of office humor. Didn't I think complete rest was indicated? Relax and those spots before your eyes will go away, a lay doctor advised. Could it have been the olive in the Martini?

A poker-faced photographer cornered me near the water cooler and said he had seen a flying saucer. Au revoir and goodbye, I said. No kidding, he said. You of all people shouldn't be skeptical, too. All right, I said, where did you see your flying saucer, Mr. Jones?

Cautiously turning left and right, like a pitchman watching for a cop, he whispered, in a subway, at 86th St.

That night the Air Force announced Washington radar had picked up certain peculiar objects at the same time I had seen my orange ball over New Jersey. For awhile, I felt like a vindicated hero. Now they quoted me in the news stories.

* * *

But the next day I discovered something I never really had appreciated before. When your name appears over a news story, few people notice it. When it appears in the story, as part of the news, you are suddenly swept up in a public momentum completely beyond you. Nothing you can say or do will slow it down.

The delicatessen man, ordinarily quite solicitous, cracked to my wife —"Your husband is quite a publicity hound, isn't he?"

In another town, friends phoned my mother and asked if I were sick. For awhile, it seemed like my brother might have to close up his law office or change his name to avoid identification with an hallucinating relative.

At school, kids cross-examined my children about what their father saw. I had visions of the teachers giving my scarred-for-life heirs puzzled, side-long looks.

A local paper wrote an editorial saying I should have had better sense, reporting what I did. The editorial suggested either I had been suffering from too much heat or too much alcohol.

* * *

Just when the furor seemed to be dying down, I came home one night to find my wife waiting breathlessly.

"They want you on television," she said.

"Nuts," I said, "I've looked silly enough."

"They mentioned money."

So I appeared on television and regretted that, too. I was nervous throughout and later, when I got paid, I wasn't allowed to enjoy the dough. My wife and kids had a long hot seminar on what to do with the money. A lady in Kiel, Germany, who had read the news stories, wrote me that she and her six children could use cash, too.

And even now there are still people who come up and whisper: "Look, I'm your friend. You can tell me. Did you really see anything that night?"

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Inventor Says Plane Beats Jet Saucers

PITTSBURGH (U.P.) — A Pittsburgh engineer believes he has perfected a plane that will equal the reported maneuverability of "flying saucers."

Ralph Dravo Davia, 38, calls his aircraft the "Verti-Jet" and if it can do what he claims, it will be as far in advance of modern aviation as the "saucers" are reported to be.

His theory is that the ship will combine the powers of vertical ascent, supersonic speeds in excess of 2,000 m.p.h. and the ability to hover in the air. The exact way these things will be accomplished is a top drawer secret.

Davia said that scientists all over the country have agreed that the plane would be practical from an engineering standpoint. The experts include scientists in major technical schools, aircraft engineers and air force officials.

One expert, Davia said, considers the "Verti-Jet" to be the closest approach yet to conquering the complex problems of outer space. Another thought that it would have fuel problems, which limit it to an hour of flying time.

The opinion never dampened the inventor's ardor. He thinks fuel problems will be solved soon. At any rate, the "Verti-Jet" could go from New York to Denver in an hour, according to Davia.

Davia said he took the plans to Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, president of Eastern Airlines. He was referred to Eastern's vice president in charge of engineering, Charles Froesch.

Froesch, a member of the commission on aeronautics at the Pentagon, asked him to present plans of the "Verti-Jet" for further study.

FROM-THE MIRROR

THEY'LL FIND MAN OF MARS IN NEXT DEAL

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Oct. 13 (AP)—A group of New Zealand scientists, engineers and air pilots today formed a society dedicated to proving that flying saucers really exist.

The founders of the new society—the Civilian Saucer Investigation of New Zealand, Inc. — said saucers must be operated by a high intelligence since they avoid even pursuing aircraft.

The society members also suggested saucers recently sighted in Australia and New Zealand were due to someone's interest in the recent explosion of Britain's first atomic weapon on the Monte Bello Islands off Australia.

Albuquerque Tribune
August 27, 1952

Disc Observer Claims Saucers Secret Weapon

Dr. Lincoln LaPaz's tesimony in the Sept. 10 issue of People Today magazine that "flying saucers" are earth-made missiles was upheld Monday by deductions of a saucer observer.

Charles Kowall, 710 Lead Ave. SW, who has seen a group of "flying discs" on five different occasions, has decided that because Air Force officers haven't contacted him about his observations they "know all about saucers."

"Or," he adds, "they are instructed not to do any investigating."

In his article, LaPaz, head of the Institute of Meteoritics at the University of New Mexico, says about the same thing:

"Compare the saucers with the atomic bomb. If someone had asked a Manhattan Project official for an explanation of the brilliant mushroom of light at Alamogordo, he would have received a blank stare and been told that no such thing ever happened."

The weekly magazine set forth the belief the saucers are guided missiles fathered by both the U.S. and Russian governments.

Kowall, formerly a British Air Force observer, feels about the same way since he has seen a formation of "saucers" fly through the night sky five times, the last time on Sunday.

Again, the formation of discs flew above the clouds from south to north about 65-70 degrees up from the horizon and were in view some 10 seconds. The time was 9:27 p. m., within a few minutes of the other three observations 202 Wildwood Ln. SW, and some companions reported they saw a glowing white object shaped like a boomerang fly first east from the center of the sky, disappear, then a few minutes later cruise in a circle almost straight overhead, and disappear again.

"These things are no secret to the Air Force," Kowall asserted, but they are to me; so, since the officials won't tell me about them, I'm going to try to find out about them myself."

This week, he said he is going to plot the position of the objects with a compass at his home, then the next time he sees them he will note the compass reading from several miles away from his house. With this as a start, he hopes to be able to estimate the altitude and possibly the size and speed of the discs.

Newest Saucer Formation Here Colored Lavender

A hotel owner has added "lavender" to the bold race of flying saucers through Albuquerque skies.

And late Wednesday night, Julian Wise, 620 Solano Dr. SE, took a photograph of a glowing disc over the city.

An Albuquerque man told The Journal late Tuesday night that he had seen a flight of round, lavender-glowing objects travel due north at a terrific speed in a V formation, open end in front. His observance culminated months of nights sitting on the roof of his First St NW hotel watching for a flying saucer.

Appearance of the objects, he said, contradicted his statement to his wife a few minutes before when he said he believed saucers were a "bunch of malarkey."

"I didn't believe in flying saucers before," he said, "but I do not doubt my 20-20 vision." He said he watched the saucers, estimated to be about 14 inches in diameter if at a 1000 feet altitude, for a full two and one-half minutes. The Kirtland Air Force Base traffic control tower reported no knowledge of the mysterious flight, the hotelman added.

Wise submitted a photograph with his report of a flying saucer. Given a five-minute exposure, the picture shows a tiny object (too small to be reproduced in a newspaper) which he said was a glowing disc going directly away from him at "a very high speed."

Three other persons, Wise said, observed the saucer as it fluctuated from dim to bright and sped away.

He also pointed out a flash of lighting caught by the camera and appearing on the negative.

Air Force Claims La Paz Theory on Saucers Untrue

By The Associated Press

The Air Force disagrees with the theories of a University of New Mexico scientist about "flying saucers."

Its position was reiterated Thursday when a spokesman was asked for comment on published remarks by Dr. Lincoln La Paz on the subject.

La Paz, head of the Institute of Meteoritics at the University, had advanced the opinion that the mysterious discs are earth-made guided missiles—some belonging to the United States, other to Russia.

He is quoted in the Sept. 10 issue of "People Today," a weekly magazine.

Questioned about this, a spokesman in Washington repeated what was described as the Air Force's standing answer to flying saucer queries.

"The Air Force has stated in the past, and reaffirms at the present time," the statement said, "that these unidentified aerial phenomena are not a secret weapon, missle or aircraft developed by the United States.

"None of the three military departments nor any other agency in the government is conducting experiments, classified or otherwise, with flying objects which could be a basis for the reported phenomenon.

"As far as is known, there is nothing in them that is associated with material or vehicles that are directed against the United States, from another country or from other planets."

L. A. 'SAUCERS' CAVORT IN SKY

Residents Report Varied Crop of Discs Winging Way Aloft

A Extra Aug 4/52

Flying saucer reports continued to flourish in the Los Angeles area yesterday as persons at widely scattered points claimed they had sighted weird, varicolored discs cavorting in the skies over the city.

The oddest report came from Grant C. Hinton, of 3254 Hope street, Huntington Park, who told deputies at Firestone Park Sheriff's Substation that he and his family and neighbors saw two distinct objects in the sky at 11:25 p. m. Saturday.

The discs changed from red to white and green and blue as they hovered on the horizon for 15 minutes, Grant reported.

"They seemed to remain fixed in one spot, and appeared to be too high in altitude to be aircraft," Grant said.

"Finally, one disappeared, and a short while later the other did, too."

HEADS EAST——

At 3:30 a. m. yesterday, Merl Clausen of 7341 Pia Rio Nide, Downey, reported that he saw an "arrow-like object" in the sky above his home.

The strange object, which remained in sight about half an hour, appeared to be heading due east, Clauson said.

In Burbank, an hour earlier, an unidentified person telephoned to report he had seen two flying saucers hovering over Universal Studio.

The caller, who said he was a student at the University of Southern California and a World War II bomber pilot, told police the saucers were large and blue-colored, with their lights blinking off and on.

TRAVELING FAST——

Both appeared to be traveling much faster than planes, he said.

At approximately the same time, 10 miles away, James Bunn, of 2953 South Harvard street, reported that he and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Fannie Hoosman, saw a reddish-orange saucer-like object zig-zagging across the sky.

"It was big and had a fringe of what appeared to be reddish exhaust vapors trailing behind it," Bunn said.

He said the object remained in sight for nearly a minute, then veered from its north-south course and disappeared in a westerly direction out over the Pacific.

In the early evening Paul Bodine, president of the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce saw what appeared to him as a "saucerlike" object in the northeast.

Flying Saucers Reported Seen In City Area

SB Sun Aug 2/52

San Bernardino has its flying saucers now, too—at least three people saw what appeared to be round or silvery objects in the sky Friday afternoon over Muscoy and the south part of San Bernardino.

Norton Air Force Base however took a dim view of the reports and checked with two pilots who had flown over the Muscoy area at approximately the times that saucers were seen and neither pilot saw any strange objects.

The observer on Second Avenue east of Muscoy reported that at 3:44 p.m. Friday, a round object swooped down on him and other witnesses, then shot upward, hovering over them a few seconds before disappearing.

Other reports came earlier from the region of Seventh Street and Mt. Vernon Ave., stating that a silvery object was seen streaking across the sky south toward Colton.

Floyd Smith, civilian chief of management relations, after making an investigation of sources at the base, found that the weather bureau had not launched any large balloons Friday. He said that freak atmospheric conditions and winds could have blown a weather balloon over from George Air Force Base, Victorville, but that to get over the mountains the balloon would have been high enough to burst in the low pressure.

OBJECT OUT OF THE NIGHT

SB Sun

Scared Salesman Says Saucer Swoop Nearly Overturns Car

July 31/52

ENID, Okla. (AP) — A photographic supply salesman told police he was almost swept from the highway Tuesday night by a huge "flying saucer" which swooped low at terrific speed.

Sid Eubanks, 50, Wichita, Kan., told his bizarre tale to Desk Sgt. Vern Benell, who said the man was still trembling when he walked into the police station.

Eubanks said the mystery object, appearing as a "yellow-green, then yellow-brown streak about 400 feet long," suddenly swooped low over U. S. Highway 81 and completely reversed directions, disappearing in a few seconds into the west.

He said the "tremendous pressure nearly threw my automobile off the road."

The object loomed suddenly out of the night between Bison and Waukomis, south of here, Eubanks said. He described it as a huge round ball when directly over him.



'SAUCERS' NO MENACE TO U.S.—Maj. Gen. John A. Samford, director of Air Force Intelligence, points a finger as he emphasizes at a press conference late Tuesday that recent "saucer" sightings over Washington are derived from natural causes. He added that an analysis of mysterious object sightings for six years revealed "no pattern that shows anything remotely consistent with any menace to the United States." (AP Wirephoto)

AIR FORCE EXPERTS SAY FLYING 'WHATZITS' APPEAR TO BE MERE LAYERS OF COLD AIR

WASHINGTON (AP)—Radar screens showed flying "Whatzits" over the nation's capital for five hours early Tuesday, but Air Force experts said they appeared to be mere layers of cold air.

Maj. Gen. John A. Samford, director of Air Force intelligence, discounted any theory that the Washington area is being menaced by unknown aerial vehicles from abroad or from other worlds.

SCORES OF OBJECTS

Experienced radar operators at the Civil Aeronautics Administration Traffic Control Center reported scores of unidentified objects flitted about the capital sky from 1:30 a.m. to 5 a.m. EST.

It was the third time in 10 days that radar — an electronic device which tracks only physical objects, not imagination—picked up signs of something unknown packing through pre-dawn black skies.

On the two earlier occasions, sightings were confirmed by more than one radar set, and veteran pilots, asked to investigate, said they saw mysterious lights zooming hither and yon. All that led to one of the biggest flying saucer mysteries yet.

SIGHTINGS UNCONFIRMED

But Tusday's sightings — little spots on a fluorescent radar screen —were unconfirmed by other radar sets in the area or by visual sky watchers.

And the Air Force threw lots of cold water on any chilling speculation about men or missiles from Mars—or enemy nations.

Samford and fellow Air Force officers told a news conference, called especially to answer questions about the recent goings-on, that they are personally satisfied there was a natural cause.

AIR 'SANDWICHES'

Their explanation:

In hot, humid weather—such as Washington and other eastern areas have been having—layers of cold air are likely to get sandwiched between layers of warm air, in what is called a temperature inversion.

These layers produce strong reactions on radar screens, the officers said.

They didn't add any specific explanation of the reported moving lights, but presumably the cold air layers could reflect searchlights or other lights from the earth below.

400 UNEXPLAINED

The Air Force chiefs conceded that of about 2,000 reports on flying saucers, about 400 have not yet been explained satisfactorily. The Air Force is giving these reports an "adequate but not frantic" check, they said.

When a reporter pressed the suggestion of a possible menace from some other country by means of something scientifically new, Samford said there is no such menace "unless somebody has an object which has unlimited power without any mass." His implication was that he was setting up a scientific impossibility.

And he denied flatly at another point that the reported sightings could have resulted from anything that the United States itself is doing.

SPECIAL CAMERAS

He announced the air force has ordered 200 cameras equipped with special grids which will tell whether objects sighted produce their own light from burning gas or whether they are mere reflections.

CAA radar operators said as many as 12 objects were picked up on the radar screen at one time early Tuesday. They appeared in an arc about 15 miles long from Herndon, Va., 10 miles west of Washington, to Andrews Air Force Base, about five miles southeast.

Radar tracks showed they were moving about 90 to 120 miles per hour from the Northwest to the Southeast, roughly an angle of 60 degrees from the prevailing wind.

5 Photos of 'Flying Saucers' Like Pot Lids Snapped at Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 8.—(INS)—Pictures of a "flying saucer" which appeared near Rio de Janeiro were published today in the newspaper Dario da Noite.

At the scene were two photographers at Barra de Tijuca Beach when they saw what appeared to be an airplane coming toward them head-on. Photographers Ed Keffel and Joao Martins shot five pictures.

The completed pictures as published show an object appearing somewhat like a pot lid with a knob-like protuberance in the center.

The cameraman said the saucer came in from over the sea, losing altitude as it approached. They said it passed several hundred feet over their heads and appeared to be "rocking like a slowly falling leaf." Then, they said, it made a slow curve, picked up great speed and headed back to sea and disappeared.

Brazil's Minister of Aviation has called for an immediate examination of the photographs.

The cameramen said the object was larger than a commercial airplane, and was round and wingless.

(In Washington, the U. S. Air Force said it would welcome photographs of the "saucer" but could not promise to make an on-the-spot investigation).

4 Report Fantastic Flying Ball

HOGANSBURG, N. Y., Oct. 3 (AP).—Four northern New York residents claimed today to have seen a fantastic flying ball, powered by a motor-driven propellor, land near St. Regis and Hogansburg, then take off and vanish over Massena.

They described the ball as a dark brown rubber or plastic sphere about four feet in diameter, with no appendages other than a propeller and a two-foot brass shaft. They said it bore no markings.

Alex LaFrance, 20; Peter Phillips, 40, and Francis Arquette, 16, told police they saw it land in a field near this Canadian border Indian reservation, bounce about three times and stop.

They said the sphere took off with a humming noise at about 25 miles an hour.

Mrs. Angus Cook, 26, a housewife, reported she heard a sound like a motor and saw the ball about 400 feet up in the sky. She said it landed about 200 yards from her home.

SAW BALL LAND.

Checks with the U.S. Weather Bureau and the Civil Aeronautics Authority appeared to dispel the possibility that the object could have been a weather balloon.

James Mason, chief communicator at the Massena Airport CAA station, said the wind velocity at the time was three miles an hour, hardly strong enough to whip a balloon into the air from the ground.

'FANTASTIC!'

At Syracuse, U. S. Meterologist Andrew P. Keller said no object of the type described is used by his department.

In Ottawa, A. D. McClean, controller of Canadian Civil aviation, said:

"I don't know of any Canadian machine that corresponds to that description."

"Fantastic is all I can say."

Big Story in the Sky

From BOSTON TRAVELER, May 5, 1952.

HAVE YOU HEARD

By Bill Schofield

This is bargain day in the flying saucer department, and you're getting two stories for the price of one—the first from a resident of western Massachusetts and the second from Navy Secretary Dan Kimball.



Personally I don't care how many people believe stories like these, or how many snicker at them. But as far as I'm concerned, I'll continue to collect them and catalogue them and puzzle over them with an open mind until somebody comes up with a hard-fact explanation of all the weird things that have been going on in the skies during the past five years. So far, nobody has been able to do this.

When and if they do, I'm convinced it will be one of the biggest news stories of all time.

For the first of today's incidents, then, let's go westward to the town of Greenfield, where Dr. Albert Baller sighted three big flying spheres traveling at fantastic speed one day last February.

This time the story is told by Charles T. Earley, a 35-year-old tap and die worker, who was startled half out of his wits on the afternoon of March 30 by a visit from a pair of flying rings.

It was a sunny afternoon, cloudless and windless, and Earley was in his backyard burning leaves at about 3 P. M., when he heard a sound overhead like the rushing of a heavy breeze.

"I looked up and saw this thing coming down from the top of the sky," he says. "It was coming at terrific speed. At first it looked a little smaller than the moon. It was so bright I thought it might be a falling star. It was shining like chrome.

"IT CAME DOWN FAST and stopped about 1500 feet overhead. It was like a big whirling ring 30 feet across and I could see the blue sky through its middle. It hovered overhead for a second or two and then turned up on edge and I could see there were two rings instead of one. They looked to be about five feet apart and were not joined."

The rings, Earley says, then raced across the sky about one mile to the southwest. There they dropped back to the flat position again and then took off toward Sungarloaf Mountain, following the contour of the earth. Nearing Sugarloaf, they banked and hesitated for a moment—then shot skyward and vanished at unbelievable speed.

"They shot straight up so fast they just blurred out of sight," Earley says.

So much for Greenfield. Now listen to Secretary Kimball.

THE CABINET MEMBER told his story to an audience of Navy officers and air cadets a couple of weeks ago at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola. He may have expected it would stop there, but since he made no such request, and since nothing was said about his remarks being off the record, I'll take the liberty of repeating his report.

On a recent flight across the Pacific, he said, he was flying at night from Pearl Harbor to Guam. Another plane, with additional members of his party, was trailing several miles behind on the same course.

Kimball stressed the fact that he has the utmost faith and confidence in the pilot who was with him that night—a pilot who has flown him for thousands of miles over a period of years.

Somewhere out over the dark Pacific, he said, the pilot came back to the cabin visibly excited and reported that a flying saucer had appeared out of nowhere, had flown abeam the secretary's plane for some distance, and had just raced ahead and shot up into the sky and out of sight. He and the co-pilot had both watched the phenomenon, he said. He asked if he should radio a report of the incident to Pearl Harbor.

Kimball advised him not to, pointing out that Pearl Harbor probably wouldn't believe the story. Instead, the secretary suggested sending a message to the plane astern and ordering them to keep a sharp lookout for any unusual sights.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, the second plane radioed excitedly that a flying saucer had just come down and flown alongside the wing tip, then had shot ahead and vanished into the sky.

Shakespeare had it right: "There are stranger things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Bay Area Aviation News

Saw 'Saucers' Near Mt. Diablo, Says Flier

April 30 50

By GEORGE RHODES
Call-Bulletin Aviation Writer

A high ranking U. S. Air Force Reserve officer described in detail today his encounter with a flight of more than 12 triangular shaped "flying saucers" over the San Francisco bay area two years ago.

Colonel Frank A. Flynn, wartime commander of Tonopah (Nev.) Air Force Base, told The Call-Bulletin he is convinced that flying objects he saw near Mount Diablo while flying his own airplane from San Francisco to Sacramento in April, 1948, were controlled, experimental American aircraft.

Colonel Flynn is chairman of the American Legion California Department's Aviation Commission and a San Francisco attorney.

SIGHTED OVER MT. DIABLO

"I was flying to Sacramento in daylight alone in my BT-13 from San Francisco," Flynn said. "Approaching Mount Diablo at about 175 miles an hour I saw more than a dozen objects flying in stacked formation on different levels ranging from 3,000 to 10,000 foot altitudes.

"My altitude was about 3,000 feet and I was on a level with three of the strange objects flying straight in line at the bottom of the stacked formation.

"I managed to get within 700 to 1,000 feet of the nearest object. It was roughly triangular in shape, white on top and striped light and dark gray on the bottom surface.

"I could see no signs of any motive power, no openings in the triangular surfaces or in the fuselage bulge. They seemed to be about 20 feet in width from corner to corner of the delta shape.

"All were exactly on the same course, heading in the direction of Moffett Field.

"Shortly after I first spotted them, the entire group of objects tipped one edge upward momentarily as if an updraft from the lee side of Mount Diablo had up-ended them. Quickly, the flying objects righted themselves at exactly the same moment.

"RADIO CONTROLLED"

"Not once did I see any vapor trails, exhaust gas or any sort of emanation or glow from them. Their motive power must have something completely new.

"I could see three of the triangle shapes on top of the formation at about 10,000 feet, each behind the other. About 2,000 feet lower there were two more in line. Others were in twos or threes at lower elevations. All were moving at least twice faster than my speed.

"Their surfaces were perfectly smooth aerodynamically, of some material that resembled neither metal nor plastic. I can only conclude, personally, that they were radionically controlled American military aircraft.

"When I landed at Sacramento I told Governor Warren's secretary, now San Francisco Superior Judge William L. Sweigert, about my experiences. I decided then I would say no more about them."

Flying Saucers Now in Italy

ROME, May 6.—(AP)—Two flashing objects high over Rome's central Piazza Colonna brought cries of "flying saucers" from gathering crowds, and tied up traffic today.

Hundreds of persons on their way to work stopped to watch them.

The two objects over Palazzo Chigi—the foreign ministry—appeared to be a mile or more high and, at that distance, stove-lid size.

They moved slowly but appeared to be revolving on an axis and flashing at regular intervals, like a revolving mirror in the sun or a miniature air beacon.

Thurs., Aug. 7, 1952

Atmospheric Phenomena Similar To 'Flying Saucers' Produced

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Evening Star reported Wednesday that Army engineers, working with a vacuum bell in a laboratory, have produced atmospheric phenomena which may explain the widespread reports of "Flying Saucers."

In a copyrighted story by W. H. Shippen, the Star said the experiments created airborne objects which "can speed up, hover indefinitely or disappear and reappear in a flash."

"The man-made saucers" occasionally fly in formation. Moreover, they are believed to have substance enough to show up on the screen of a radar designed to track them."

What the experimenters did, the Star said, was use the vacuum bell as a tiny working-model of the stratosphere and reproduce "two forces—very low air pressure which is balanced against static electricity in a way to give off light."

BELIEVED CAUSE

"Experimenters in the research and development laboratory at Fort Belvoir (Va.) believe these two are the primary factors responsible for saucer sightings by competent observers," the story added.

The Star published its report on the experiments following a night of rain during which radar screens, scanning the skies over the capital, showed a flurry of mystery objects.

In line with the theory that they are atmospheric phenomena, an Air Force spokesman noted that the radar sightings—tiny blips on a fluorescent screen—started about the time a thunderstorm hit the area.

FIGHTERS SENT UP

Two jet fighters were sent up from Newcastle, Del., shortly after midnight but the pilots reported they saw nothing unusual. During the time the planes were aloft, the radar screens picked up none of the usual "blips."

The Star said the experiments at Fort Belvoir were carried out by Noel W. Scott, a physicist who is also an amateur astronomer.

Tuesday, the Star said, Scott gave a demonstration for Lt. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, chief of Army engineers, and others. He used a vacuum bell 18 inches across and a little less than three feet tall.

The paper gave this account of the demonstration:

"Mr. Scott produced a near-vacuum within the bell jar, roughly corresponding to pressure believed to exist at an altitude of 200 miles above the earth. Very thin air within the bell was ionized through exposure to static electricity fed into a metal circle at the base of the bell.

"When minute quantities of air were let into the glass container, a bubble - shaped glow of orange light began to rise from the center of the base. The light expanded into the shape of a small electric globe. Here it remained poised, or could be induced to detach itself from the base, or float off against the glass wall.

GLOW DEVELOPED

"When the light floated free, a faint purplish glow developed at its base, as if the object was propelled or sustained in position by a jet exhaust. To some observers, it resembled a glowing orange balloon emitting a purplish gas or flame; to others, a new model for a space ship.

"The motion of the objects developing within the bell could be controlled to some extent from the outside. The lights tended to follow a small electric magnet drawn along the glass, or even the wave of a man's hand. This occurred when the man's body contained enough static electricity to influence the lights.

"At times, small orange lights about the size of marbles rolled across the base and made minute flashes on the glass. Mr. Scott said these lights sometimes float in formation. He believes they are drawn into position and into the same motion by ionized layers or minute cloud masses within the jar.

PRINCIPLES KNOWN

"The experimenters say their method of producing the phenomena may be new, but the principles involved have been known for years to students and physicists."

Repeatedly in recent weeks radar screens around Washington have shown unidentified objects in the air. Air Force chiefs have said they are personally satisfied that the sightings were caused by weather phenomenon.

A spokesman at Andrews Field said two unidentified objects showed on the field's radar screen at 10:20 p.m. moving slowly from Washington to Mount Vernon, George Washington's home.

A few minutes later two more images appeared on the screen, four to six miles east of the field, which is about seven miles southeast of Washington. These objects appeared to move slowly, then stop, then fly away.

MORE APPEAR

A similar image appeared shortly after midnight.

At one point the Civil Aeronautics Administration control tower at Washington National Airport asked Andrews to investigate an object showing up on its radar screen. Andrews located the object by radar and a visual check from Andrews control tower showed it to be an airplane approaching Washington.

DATE?

DICK WILLIAMS

★ Mirror Entertainment Editor ★



SOUTH AMERICAN SAUCER PHOTOS

I've just had a look at those much publicized South American photographs which are supposed to be the best ever made of a flying saucer.

If the shots are genuine—a contingency which must always be raised in view of the long line of hoaxes—these are indeed sensational photos. They are close and detailed, rather than hazy and far away.

Printed in an eight-page section of the Brazilian news-picture magazine O Cruzeiro, they show photos of a new type of saucer with no revolving outer rim as heretofore. It is shown hovering, flying and rolling on edge over the sea near Sugarloaf Mountain outside Rio de Janeiro.

The photographs were made with a Rolleiflex by two regular staff cameramen of the magazine. They were on another assignment on May 6 when they happened to sight the saucer outside the city.

The saucer appears to be of moderate size, perhaps of regular airliner proportions, and has a raised but stationary inner rim



COMEDIANS PETRILLO, MITCHELL WITH CHARLITA

on both top and bottom sides. Copies of the magazine were received locally from South American associates by Civilian Saucer Investigations at Post Office Box 1971.

[illegible] will 20th-Century Fox sell

SKYWAYS

Flying Saucers Bring Skepticism

BY MARVIN MILES, Times Aviation Editor

Don't look now, but those flying saucers are cropping up again. Life Magazine came out with a spread—"a real case for interplanetary flying" and spokesmen for a small, new university claim they have solved the space-traveling phenomena with the discovery of "electrogravitational coupling."

Trouble is, we hear mostly from the "believers." That's quite natural. Everyone loves a mystery and the "believers" keep the fascination rolling. On the other hand there are a lot of "nonbelievers," too, but their opinions are negative and therefore uninteresting because they add nothing to the mystery.

NEGATIVE SIDE, TOO

We wish Life had given equal space to the negative side of the saucer situation in even debate. But no. That would have dulled the import of the article and its tagline:

"Before these awesome questions, science—and mankind—can yet only halt in wonder. Answers may come in a generation—or tomorrow. Somewhere in the dark skies there may be those who know."

Frankly, we're skeptical for several reasons. We've chased down too many saucer stories to find at their origin only drunks, psychopaths, gagsters and would-be profiteers.

Take the last chap who brought us a "picture" of two saucers. He swore he saw the blobs of light during a desert trip and whirled his camera fast enough to take a photograph. From identations on the negative we established the "objects" were merely water marks. Our informant obviously had taken a casual picture, come up with a couple of white marks he didn't recognize and decided to make the story good.

We're curious, too, about the broad scale of descriptions of the saucers: green fireballs, revolving disks, cylinders, cigar-shaped ships as big or bigger than a B-29, some with wings, some without wings, shapeless patches of luminescense . . . If they're really from out of space, there's a strange variety of configurations to explain.

And we're intrigued with the ease with which the observers estimate size, speed and distance with no reference point. That's a tough job when all three factors are unknown.

And another point we can't explain—perhaps you can—is why these objects, in the vast majority of cases, are seen only by one or two persons. With few exceptions, such as the so-called Lubbock Lights, observation is strictly limited. If the phenomenon is so startling, why don't masses of people see the same thing?

Can't Prove Anything

We acknowledge that we can't prove saucers don't exist any more than anyone else can prove they do. That's what keeps us on the skeptical side—not one iota of proof in all the furore. Why hasn't a saucer crashed or at least left some telltale evidence of its passing? Why, if they're manned by a friendly "intelligence," so to speak, have they not made contact with this troubled globe?

Give us a little proof, instead of theory, conjecture and exciting "sightings," and we'll be a believer, too!

Saw the midgets run down Palm Springs way last Sunday—a real show. The little 85 h.p. jobs average about 17 feet in span and just over 500 pounds gross. They rack up from 185 to 200 m.p.h. on the

Bright, Speedy, Noiseless

(With a Blue-Green Tail)

An atmospheric phenomona, generally speaking.

But more specifically—a flaming, then sparking ball of fire which moved at terrific speed from southeast to northwest over Fayette county late last night, apparently at a constant level.

It startled the population, from two women sitting in a porch swing to a group of graduating seniors at Lafayette High school, but it was without explanation in this age of science fiction and flying saucers.

It could well have been a merteorite, or a meteor. Witnesses, reporting it individually, described it somewhat the same—about the size of a football in appearance with a "12-foot blue-green tail."

No meteorological phenomenon was expected last night, said Prof. H. H. Downing of the University of Kentucky's mathematics and astronomy department.

Prof. Downing said he saw what he thought was a ball of fire in the sky about 10:30 p.m., but was certain it was an airplane when it travelled in the direction of Blue Grass Field.

The U. S. Weather Bureau at the airport and the CAA tower there said nothing was seen, but an Eastern Airlines pilot, standing at the field, sighted what he described as a "falling star" at the approximate 10:30 time.

The time varied in other eye-witness reports here, and a dispatch from Paducah, where a meteor had been seen once before lately, put a "large meteor or something" flashing over that city about 10 p.m., Lexington time.

The Paducah report described the path of the fireball as "travelling northeast" and the thing itself "was about the size of a softball trailing a fiery plume."

Ed Weddle, 705 Melrose avenue, a newspaper photographer, saw the meteor while driving near Lafayette school. It was moving in an arc, southeast to northwest, he said, describing it similar to other reports here.

Neville Dunn, 412 Kingsway drive, said the ball of fire was the size of a football, with a blue-green tail, travelling at a terrific rate of speed, noiseless, sparking and about the height of the First National Bank building.

Both he and Weddle said it seemed to disintergrate.

Mrs. Tom White, 236 Willard street, said it appeared to her and a friend, Mrs. Lida Richie, 237 Willard, to be about the size of a football and was a "smoky color."

The mysterious object also was witnessed by B. Carmichael, 149 Westgate drive, and C. J. Myers, 319 Park View avenue.

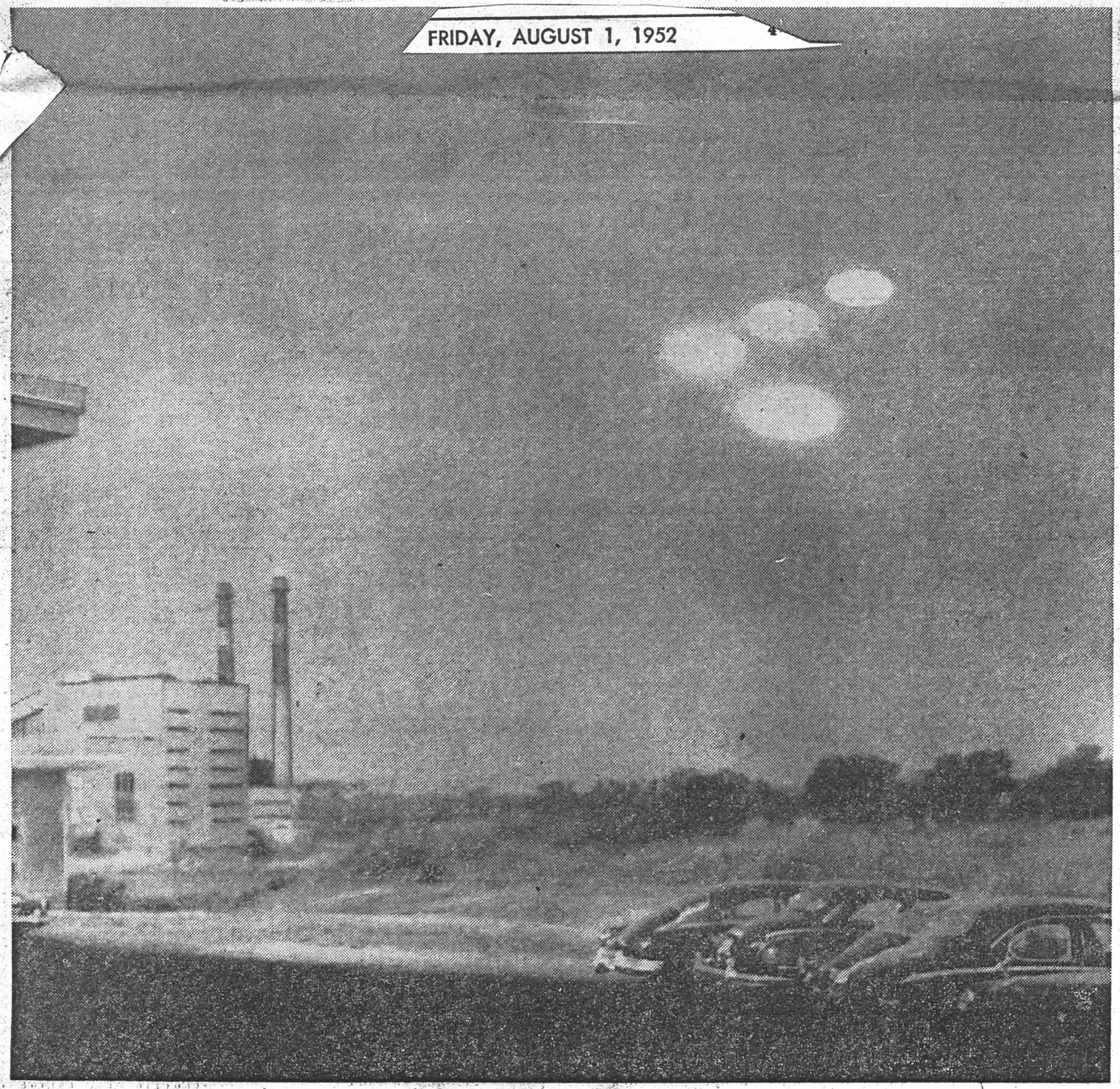
RIO'S FLYING SAUCERS 'BEST'

Los Angeles Examiner *
Sat., May 10, 1952 Sec. I—5

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 9.—(INS)—The military attache at the United States Embassy in Rio De Janeiro examined today negatives of five photographs taken of a "flying saucer" sighted over Rio Wednesday and called them the best he had ever seen of the phenomenon.

Col. Jack Werley Hughes and several Brazilian air force officials visited the office of the newspaper O Cruziero, to study the photographs "shot" by the paper's cameramen, Ed Keffel and Joao Martins.

Following publication the pictures will be made available to the U. S. Embassy for study by the American Air Force.



'PHENOMENAL'

'Shutterbug' Grabs Photo of 'Saucers'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—Coast Guard headquarters today made public a photograph of "unidentified aerial phenomena" taken by a 21-year-old Coast Guard photographer.

The photo clearly shows four round objects. Each appears to have two identical shafts of light extending across its center and protruding at the forward and rear ends. The lights are in a V formation.

The Coast Guard said it has no opinion as to the cause or source of the "objects" and was releasing the picture only because of the widespread public interest in aerial phenomena.

The picture was snapped by Shell R. Alpert, Salem, Mass., air station photographer.

The Coast Guard said Alpert sighted several brilliant white lights through the station's photo lab window at 9:35 a.m., July 16.

Alpert watched the lights, which "seemed to be wavering," for five or six seconds before attempting to photograph them. By the time he had focused his camera the lights were "considerably dimmed down."

Doc 85

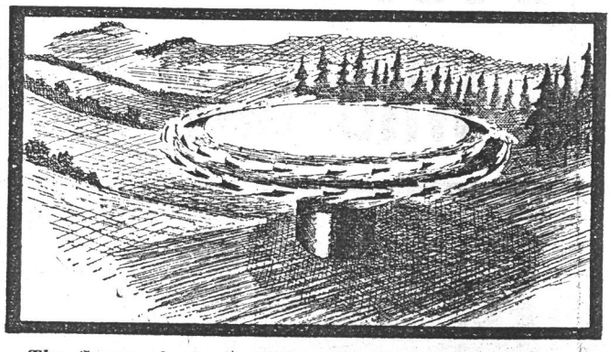
50 YARDS AWAY TAKE OFF IN A

From ANTONY TERRY, Berlin, Saturday

ARMED with a sensational affidavit sworn by an eye-witness, intelligence officers in West Berlin are to-day investigating one of the most amazing "flying saucer" stories ever reported.

Evidence that a weird contraption—"like a 50ft. warming pan without a handle, and with a 10ft. conning tower"—took off with a crew of two from a forest clearing in the Soviet zone is being studied at the highest level. It is hoped to answer the big question: Are "flying saucers" a secret new Russian invention?

Man who first brought to light this remarkable story (reported briefly in later editions of the *Sunday Graphic* last week) is grey-haired, 48-year-old ex-Mayor Oskar Linke, of Gleimershausen, near Meiningen. He had escaped from the Russian zone with his wife and six children.



The Saucer begins to take off: the outer disk whirls faster and faster, rising up the centre "conning-tower," which remains stationary.

Men in metal

I can now reveal that in the company of West Berlin officials, Herr Linke, with his 11-year-old step-daughter Gabriele, last week swore this solemn and formal affidavit before a judge:—

"I was riding home on my motor-cycle, with Gabriele on the pillion, when a tyre burst near the village of Hasselbach.

"As we were pushing the machine toward Hasselbach, Gabriele pointed to something about 150 yards away. At first sight, in the half light, I took it for a young deer.

"I left my motor-cycle by a tree while I approached the 'deer' cautiously. I was now about 60 yards from it.

"I then realised that my first impression had been incorrect. The thing I had noticed was really two apparently human figures, now about 50 yards from me.

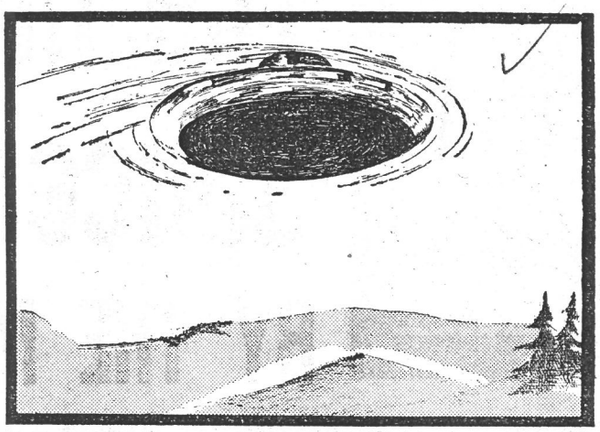
"They appeared to be clothed in a kind of shimmering, metallic substance, and were bending down and studying something on the ground.

A 'warming pan'

"I wormed my way to within about 30 feet of them. Peering over a small ridge, I noticed a large object, which I judged to be about 40 to 50 feet across, though it was hard to say exactly. It looked like a huge oval warming pan.

"There were two rows of holes along the sides, about a foot in diameter. Each row was

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."

SB Sun Aug 1 52

TRICKY RADAR HABITS PROVE SAUCER 'BLIPS' CAN BE ALMOST ANYTHING

WASHINGTON (AP) — Air Force experts say there's nothing to be excited about when radar picks up unidentified objects, or flying saucers. Radar, they say, is a tricky gadget.

Called to Washington in the wake of a flurry of excitement following the radar-spotting of scores of flying saucers in the past 10 days, specialists in the field said:

It is not unusual for radar to pick up rain squalls, birds, water spouts, and even surf spray.

Warm air over cool air can deflect radar waves and cause false responses.

At Wright-Patterson field, Dayton, Ohio, objects seen on radar circled high "in such a manner that we became concerned." Aircraft sent up to investigate found that the radar sightings were a kind of ice formation in the sky.

But this was about the trickiest trick of all:

At one base, the airborne radar of a night fighter sent up to investigate a suspicious "blip" locked into a definite sighting. The pilot followed the screen image until he suddenly discovered it was leading him into the ground.

He swerved upward just in time to avoid crashing, then flew back to his starting point and followed the same radar sighting two more times. Both times it led him earthward.

The conclusion: a radar wave somehow bent groundward and rebounded from an object on solid earth.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1952.

'Flying Saucer' Queries Hamper Air Force Work

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, July 31— The Air Force said today that it was getting so many "flying saucer" queries that regular intelligence work had been affected.

Most of the inquiries are from press and radio, but many are from the public, Pentagon spokesmen said. The service also has received 432 written reports on "sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena" so far this year, the spokesmen added.

One man in the press relations section is working full time on the "saucer" queries. A new flood of questions led him to send many to the Office of the Director of Military Intelligence for reply. That office, in turn, has relayed many queries to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Dayton, Ohio.

The Coast Guard, meanwhile, said that it would make public soon a photograph supposedly showing five mysterious objects in flight over Salem, Mass. The picture was taken a week ago by a Coast Guardsman.

HAL BOYLE'S NOTEBOOK

S.B. Sun Aug 2 '52

Tom Swift May Be Making Saucers in Bid To Again Be Hero of American Boyhood

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK,—(AP)—It must be Tom Swift, flying those Flying Saucers around?

You remember Tom, the all-American boy inventor. He took up where Thomas Edison left off. The Horatio Alger heroes were scheming opportunists, the Rover Boys were juvenile hoboes, and Frank Merriwell was a tramp athlete compared to Tom Swift, the dedicated youthful scientist.

A generation ago he was the fictional hero of every near-sighted lad whose scrawny frame compelled him to believe in the power of brain over brawn. How they loved to read about Tom Swift and his motorcycle, Tom Swift and his glider, Tom Swift and his submarine, Tom Swift and his flying machine, Tom Swift and his pogo stick.

Well, sometime after the end of the First World War, as best I can recall, his fans lost interest in Tom and his fantastic contraptions and began reading Ernest Hemingway and Faith Baldwin. They had learned about love, and found it more fascinating than anything Tom Swift ever had invented.

Heart-broken, Tom dropped from sight. What happened to him? It is my belief that all these years he has been secretly perfecting Flying Saucers, hoping with this crowning scientific achievement to win his old fans back.

HE SHALL RETURN

Some one of these days a tall, elderly man, not unhandsome despite his greying temples, will stride into Air Force Headquarters in the Pantagon, lay a bundle of blueprints on the desk and say:

"Here are the plans for my Flying Saucers. I give them to you as a patriotic service."

"And who are you?" will ask the chairborne eagle.

"Just Tom Swift," will come the firm but modest reply.

I hate to think what will happen then. Three Air Force cops will hit him from three sides and cart him off to a psychopathic ward, as the fine old inventor yells, "I am, too, Tom Swift! I am! I am! I am!"

And that will be the end of Tom Swift and his Flying Saucer.

ODD AF ATTITUDE

The reason I believe that the Flying Saucers are a Tom Swift invention is that I can't understand the Air Force's attitude toward them.

It has checked some 2,000 reported sightings of Flying Saucers in the last year—25 per cent by military pilots—and says 1,600 of them can be explained as optical illusions, caused by weather conditions. Some 400 cases are still left unexplained, but the Air Force says it sees in them no pattern inimical to the United States.

What puzzles me is why, with all the thousands of American airmen in the sky in the last World War, no Flying Saucers were reported before 1947. Were optical illusions and weather changes invented in 1947?

Nope, I still believe there is something besides illusion to it all. If it isn't Tom Swift, then some other inventor is fooling around up there—maybe Jules Verne.

Los Angeles Examiner
16—Sec. 1 Mon., Aug. 4, 1952

AIRMAN DENIES SAUCERS OURS

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—(INS)—The Chief of Operations of the Air Force today denied that either Russia or our own Air Force could have produced the "flying saucers" which have purportedly been sighted all over the country.

Maj. Gen. Roger H. Ramey said the "saucers" could not be Soviet-built because the Russians "have no ability to produce an object that uses such a tremendous source of power that it can't be traced by radar."

Asked whether the objects could have been operated by the American Air Force, Ramey told a network television audience they were definitely "not our own."

ADMITS CURIOSITY——

Conceding that the Air Force is curious as to the origin of the mysterious phenomena, Ramey added that he doesn't think the saucers "enter into the defense problem of the country." He said that experts have dismissed 80 per cent of the 1500 saucer reports received since 1946 as caused by airplanes, balloons or guided missiles.

The operations chief said that the Air Force regards the "interplanetary origin" explanation of the saucers as only a possibility.

Angeles Examiner photo.

June 18/52
LA Exam

'Saucer' Off Beach Seen by Ex-Air Pilot

If Dick McMahon, technical writer for the Northrrop Aircraft Company and a former Air Force pilot, didn't see a flying saucer off the coast yesterday morning, he'd like to know "what that thing was."

Standing on the porch of his apartment at 758 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, shortly before 7 a. m., McMahon spotted what he believed to be an airplane on the water.

"It was about 15 miles out and five to eight degrees above the horizon," he recalled. "It didn't take me long to realize that it wasn't an airplane because it would be too small to be visible at that distance.

NOT SURE ABOUT SKY LIGHT.

Authorities Believe It Could Be Plane or Meteorite.

Fort Smith, Ark., Nov. 7. (AP) — Authorities were undecided tonight whether the flash of light seen over Sugarloaf mountain in Western Arkansas this morning was a burning airplane or a meteorite.

Some persons said they saw a flaming silver plane crash into the mountain, six miles from Hartford.

Others reported seeing a flash of light but said they didn't believe it was a plane.

This led to speculation that the streak of light was a meteorite which flashed across the Oklahoma sky.

Search planes from Ft. Smith and ground crews looking around the 2,350-foot mountain reported they had sighted no wreckage. And civil aeronautics authority spokesmen at Ft. Smith said no planes had been known to be flying in the area at the time of the reported crash.

Hartford is 25 miles south of Ft. Smith.

Flying Disc

4 Veteran Pilots Tell Seeing Sky Saucer

July 5/52

By United Press

DENVER, July 5.—Four veteran pilots from Florida said today they saw a "pancaked flying saucer" about 20,000 feet above the Hanford atomic plant at Richlands, Wash.

The four, Capt. John Baldwin of Coral Gables, Fla.; Capt. George Robertson of Miami; D. Shenkel of Miami, and Steven Summers of Hialeah, Fla., described the object as a "perfectly round disc, white in color and almost transparent with small vapor trails off it like the tentacles of an octopus."

Baldwin said he was piloting a C-46 Civil Air Mission craft carrying 50 Korean veterans to Columbia, S. C., for discharge, when he spotted the object about 10,000 to 15,000 feet directly above his plane.

"All of us have been flying a number of years and we've seen all kinds of clouds and formations but none of us has ever seen anything like this before," Baldwin said.

Einstein Not Interested in Discs

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 23,1952

Dear Sir:

Those people have seen something. What it is I do not know and I am not curious to know.

Sincerely yours,
A. Einstein.

encl. Albert Einstein.

Mr.Louis A.Gardner
911 West 7th.Pl.
Los Angeles 14,Cal.

THE ANSWER—Here is a copy of the letter the Rev. Gardner received from Dr. Einstein. It reads: "Dear Sir: Those people have seen something. What it is I do not know and I am not curious to know. Sincerely yours, A. Einstein." The letter was air mailed.

Asked his "candid opinion" on whether or not "flying saucers are real," Dr. Albert Einstein, world-famous scientist, sent the Rev. Louis A. Gardner of Los Angeles, this reply, the minister revealed yesterday:

"Dear Sir:

"Those people have seen something. What it is I do not know and I am not curious to know.

"Sincerely Yours,
"A Einstein."

The Rev. Mr. Gardner, who lives at 911 West Seventh place, said of the brief reply:

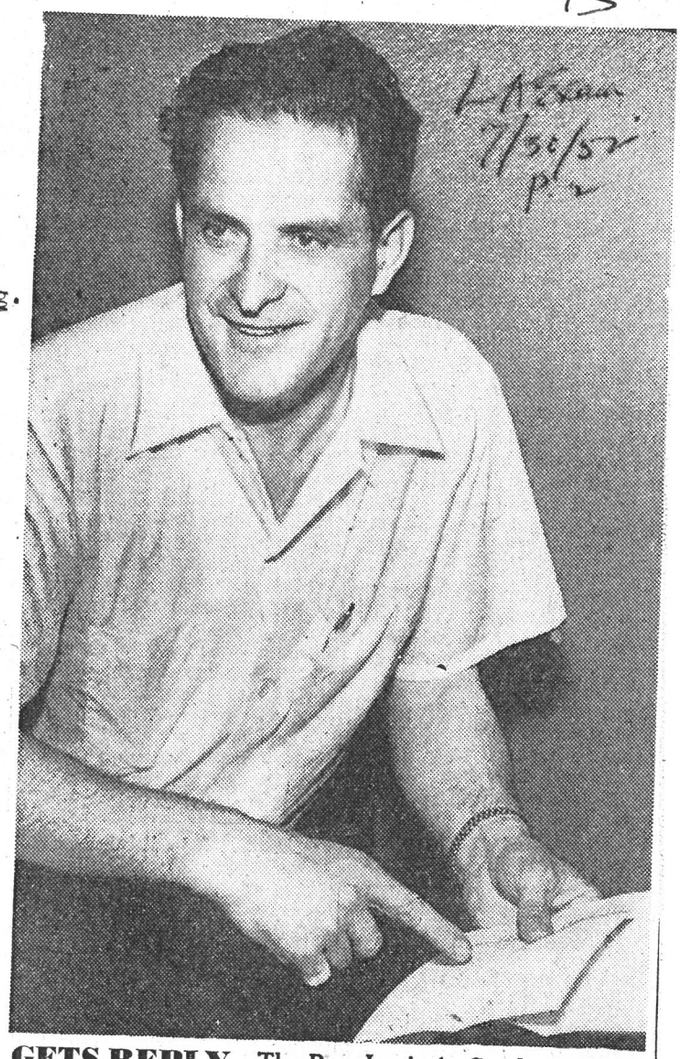
"Evidently Dr. Einstein's mind, with its great scientific span, has passed beyond the average person's curiosity about such phenomena as flying saucers.

"But I appreciate the fact that he would answer, promptly, by airmail, my letter when he has so many thousands to consider."

The minister, an inter-denominational evangelist, said he had asked the famous Princeton scientist whether the saucers originate in outer space, coming from Mars or Venus, or if they are products of our military rivals or our own Air Force experiments.

He said he had cited Ezekiel 1:16 as tending to substantiate the reality of flying saucers. This verse reads:

"The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the color of a beryl; and the four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel."



GETS REPLY—The Rev. Louis A. Gardner of Los Angeles holds the letter he received from Dr. Albert Einstein in answer to his question whether the scientist thought "flying saucers" originate in outer space.
—Los Angeles Examiner photo.

August 1[illegible] 1952 Los Angeles Herald Express

Mrs D.B. in confirming a sighting she had reported previously wrote the editor a rebuke to the "two very wise guys" who were telling a million ~~or~~ or so people that they didn't see what they saw but only some ionized air. "My answer to them," she wrote is: 'Nuts.'

Positive

I read in the paper that two very wise guys are at it again, telling a million or so people that they didn't see what they saw but only some ionized air. My answer to them is: "NUTS."

What I saw right up over Los Angeles was round and it flashed as bright as a mirror. It was no reflection from the sun. It moved in a way that no airplane ever moved with a dipping motion and it was obviously intelligently controlled. If that was a piece of hot air, these experts are only a puff of smoke from the cigars they are smoking."

~~MRS. D. B.~~

~~Letter. Express Aug 16~~

Flying Saucers Reported In Two Areas of France

PARIS, April 7.—(INS)—"Flying saucers" were reported Friday to have been observed in two localities of France.

Newspaper dispatches said residents of Grenoble reported seeing a metallic object which appeared to remain stationary high in the sky.

Other accounts said that inhabitants of Chambery reported a saucerlike object in the heavens which left a trail of vapor.

Air Force Explains 2-Hour Delay In Chasing 'Objects' Over Capital

Dem BN Y Times 7/29/52

WASHINGTON, July 28 (AP)—The Air Force said tonight the current series of "flying saucer" reports had brought no change in its twenty-four-hour-a-day program to challenge any unidentified and potentially hostile object in the skies over the United States.

Unidentified objects were spotted on radar screens at the Washington National Airport this weekend.

Reports of the sightings reached the Air Force and jet fighter-interceptor planes made a search of the Washington area. One pilot reported seeing "lights" that he had not been able to overtake.

An Air Force official tonight said its Air Defense Command had been ready for many months to challenge any unknown object aloft.

Air Force interceptors and pilots started the continuous watch on a limited basis before the start of fighting in Korea, the official noted. At the outset the watch was confined to the areas over key targets. Later, after the hostilities in Korea increased, the threat of an all-out war and as more fast-climbing jets became available, the Air Force gradually extended the watch across the northern and the coastal sectors of the natino. The continuous state of readiness now extends to the air space above all areas of the countrdy that contain vital military or industrial installations.

Jet interceptors were sent aloft this past week-end after the radar maintained by the Civil Aeronautics Administration near the Washington National Airport showed objects on its screen that should no thave been there.

Actually the jet interceptors did not take off from their base near Newcastle, Del., until nearly two hours after the radar watcher at Washington first saw the unexplained objects on his radar screen.

The Air Force explained today that the delay was caused by the report having been sent to an Air Force flight center at Middletown, Pa., instead of through the Air Force command post in the Pentagon.

Air Force officers happened to visit the radar post at the National Airport Saturday night and learned about the mysterious spots on the radar screen. These officers telehponed the command post and the jets took the air at Newcastle within five minutes.

Despite the renewed flurry of excitement about the unidentifed objects, the Air Force maintained its stand that it still did not know whether any such thing actually exists. For several years Air Force technical and intelligence experts have methodically studied and field away all "flying saucer" reports that have been passed on to them.

'Objects' Seen Over Tarrytown

Special to The New York Times.

TARRYTOWN, N. Y., July 28—Streaks of light, reportedly similar to those spotted over Washington twice within the last week, were sighted in the sky above this Hudson River village shortly before midnight last night. Eastern Air Defense Force officials are investigating.

The flashes were reported to the Defense Force Filter Center in White Plains by Joseph Pulsoni, post supervisor, and two ground force observers at a spotters' post atop an apartment house here. The report was relayed to an area radar station, according to Maj. F. B. Johnson, commanding the filter center.

His Hobby: Those Flying OOOOOOOOs

Serious Collection Of 'Sauceriana' Compiled By LC Senior

BY STAFFORD BRYANT

To young George Fawcett of Lynchburg College, there had always been something to that flying saucer business.

Ever since 1947, when the tales of the skyborne disks first began to circulate, it had been George's hobby to study the legend.

At first, he was not to see the flying dishware himself.

The Mount Airy, N. C. senior at LC nevertheless proceeded to build up a serious collection of "saucerinia." By this year, he had gathered three books on the subject, 21 magazine and newspaper articles, and some 17 pictures. He had even begun corresponding with other saucer enthusiasts.

The Big Break

Then came to "Leaky" Fawcett, 22, the big break every saucer fancier dreams of: a vision of the Real Thing.

George tells this story:

He was crossing the grounds of the Westover campus on the morning of this July 6 when he saw IT, high in a clear sky and hovering over the college administration building—an orange disk suspended in midair.

"The thing zigzagged," says Leaky, "then settled down to a straight course and moved off toward the west."

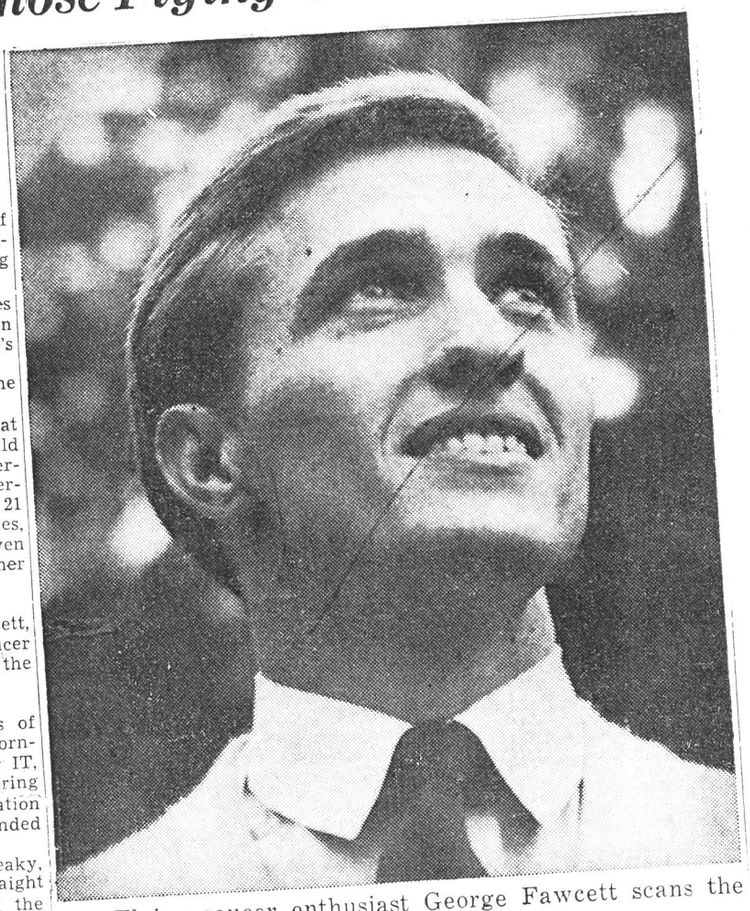
Whether or not you believe young Fawcett's tale—and he is quick to admit that his skeptics are legion—you can't escape feeling that the lad is sincere in his quest for the answer to the flying saucer riddle.

Possibly like all other saucerites, George has to endure an immense amount of ribbing from his acquaintances.

"Hey Leaky! Over there above the dorm!" a pal will shout, and a chorus of grinning young men point their arms steeply toward the sky.

"What makes me mad are the people that won't even consider it," George declares. "After all, not many years ago people wouldn't consider reporting a shooting star for fear of being ridiculed."

But this blond, collegiate-looking lad seems not to concern himself entirely with the barbs at his expanse.



Flying saucer enthusiast George Fawcett scans the skies above Lynchburg College.

There's not much time for worry in his schedule of preparing the studies for his physical education major, participating in several sports, managing campus intramurals, writing for the college newspaper, doing the campus social life and handling his part-time job at the YMCA.

He's considered an expert at tennis, a game which requires certain mastry of a very, very tangible form of flying object.

It appears there's been quite a bit of intramural wrangling among the saucer fraternity itself as to just what causes the phenomenon. Leaky scoffs at the Navy's point-blank statement that what everybody's been seeing are in reality merely observation balloons.

The two flying saucer theories he gives most credance to: military weapon development and research for interplanetary travel.

But he doesn't rule out entirely the supernatural posibilities. Indeed, he points out, when he first looked into the flying saucer business, he thought there might be some religious significance to it all.

When you press Leaky hard, he concedes that he's not quite absolutely certain the flying saucers exist.

"I don't know," he muses solemnly. "But I'd like to find out."

All Around the Town:

Flying Saucers Are Old Story

By HAL BOYLE

THE flying saucer story, you know, is by no means a new one.

About 30 years ago, a man named Charles Fort rounded up and published a whole series of reports about mysterious objects in the sky. He said his sources, mainly, were newspapers, and he cited the names and dates of the papers. In case his readers were interested in checking the references.

Some accounts were well over 100 years ago, before the age of airplanes and before very much was known about balloons.

The reports of sightings, according to Fort, came from many different parts of the world—from North Carolina, from a ship en route to Bermuda, and a whole spate from the north coast of England. In fact, that section of the British Isles was, in its day, the flying saucer center, just as the Southwestern part of the United States seems to be today.

Descriptions of Saucers

Some of the descriptions quoted by Fort are almost identical with the ones we read today . . . "An object of great luminosity, moving at high speed"..."It moved backward and forward across the sky, apparently without turning"..."The object hovered, motionless in the air, above a house."

I should think this would be very reassuring to the Air Force officers in Washington who are collecting data on the saucers and trying to explain them. (Major-Gen. Roger M. Ramey said the other day about one-fifth of all the reported sightings "remain to be explained.")

If people saw, or thought they saw, objects in the sky a century or more ago, these questions immediately arise:

Were observers subject then, as now, to the same hallucinations?

Why didn't the saucers' crews ever land? Surely, the world must have been a happier place in the 19th century than it is now. Where have the saucers been during the intervening time? Did we somehow get mislaid on their inter-stellar charts?

All of this seems not to have impressed Charles Fort very much, one way or another, while he was writing about it. His own theories were such that he could take, in stride, the possibility of visitations to the earth by creatures from another planet.

Bizarre Theories

Fort was a rebel and a heretic who set himself against most of the accepted beliefs of science. Some of his ideas sound the least bit bizarre, even in this electronic age.

His theory of "teleportation," as I dimly got it, permitted material objects—including plants and animals—to be de-materialized and then transported through space. Fertile and living things may have been brought to this earth from other worlds in that way, he said.

Fort said there might be some of these creatures right here in New York, on Fifth ave. And if you ever have stood on Fifth ave. watching the passing parade, you will find this not difficult to believe.

Their reports must make interesting reading. Probably they say "...And these earth-people are still so savage that the males wear neckties in the heat of the Summer..."

Well, personally, I hope one of the saucers makes a landing one of these days, and we get a press conference with the crew captain. Being so many million years older than we, they ought to have the answers to most of the problems besetting us. For example:

"Captain, how did you folks out there on Ursa Major handle a national political convention so that there were fewer and better speeches?"

Most likely, he will shake his head, sadly, and reply:

"We haven't got that licked yet."

(Bob Considine is on vacation. His column, "On the Line," will be resumed upon his return.)

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Flying Saucer Query Forms Being Readied

Next time you spot a flying saucer, you will be asked to fill out an Air Force form which eventually will be processed by the 27th Air Division (Defense) intelligence officer at Norton Air Force Base.

A United Press release from the Pasadena Air Force Filter Center stated that the forms would go to Air Intelligence at Norton Base following their evaluation by the Air Defense Command. Officers in the 27th Air Division, however, refused to comment on what they do with the forms.

The form has 25 questions on the "unidentified flying objects" and will be distributed nationally.

Most of the questions concern a description of the object, its surroundings and the time it was spotted. But there is one "loaded" question:

"Did you get any fragments?"

In Washington, It's Not the Heat, It's the Hallucination



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