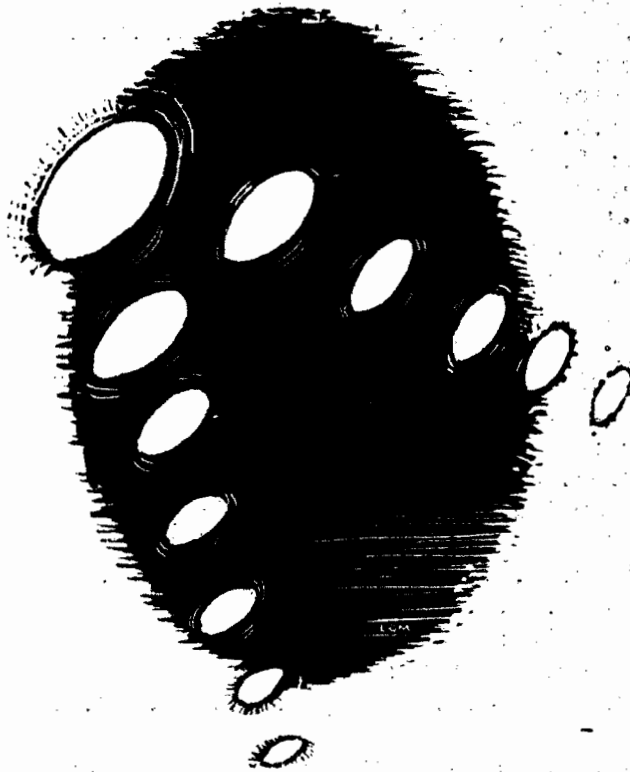


LUFORO BULLETIN



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LONDON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ORGANISATION

HONORARY SECRETARY now:

Miss M.D. Holmes, 59, Marlborough Road, BEXLEYHEATH, Kent, England.

ELECTIONS

At the Second Annual General Meeting of
London Unidentified Flying Object Research Organisation
held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on December 2nd, 1961,
the following elections were made:

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REPORTS: All reports of UFOs should be addressed to the Chairman, G.N.P. Stephenson, 12, Dorset Road, Cheam, SUTTON, Surrey, England.

* L U F O R O B U L L E T I N *

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VOL.II Nos.11 & 12

November & December 1961

FISHERMEN TELL OF STRANGE GLISTENING OBJECTS IN SKY

The third hand of the trawler Lepanto was on watch as the vessel heaved on the North Sea swell..suddenly in the north-eastern sky he saw an object,stationary and glistening. It was pear-shaped and silvery in colour.

The third hand,Mr.J H Upton of Grimsby, told an Evening Telegraph reporter: 'I called to other members of the crew to come and have a look'.

'Then another object, the same shape, came up alongside it and after a moment together, they both went away like lightning.'

Mr Upton said the objects were at a high altitude. He said that through binoculars he seemed to see another half of the object. After two minutes, they both disappeared on an east-north-easterly course.

'I've seen lots of things in the sky' he said,'but never anything like this before. It was certainly not a rocket.' Mr Upton has been at sea for 24 years.

The chief engineer, Mr.Toby Barnett described the afternoon interlude. He said 'What Mr Upton says is true. He did call me up and I looked up and saw this object. It looked like a miniature barrage balloon. It seemed to me to be a pinkish-grey, and appeared to be changing its shape all the time. There was no noise. When they shot off there was no exhaust and no smoke.'

Mr.Barnett said the objects were 'vey high indeed' He went on : 'The first one kept revolving and making itself into shapes. It was directly above the trawler, and as we went on to the star-board, another joined it. I asked what they were, and with that they were off together, at terrific speed. Really fast,faster than anything believeable.'

Mr. Barnett, who said the cook was there at the time, added that before they eventually went, they formed themselves into parachute shaped objects, and vanished to the east.

-Evening Telegraph September 29th 1961 Credit T.U.F.O.S.

BLUE-WHITE LIGHT OVER DURHAM

On the night of the 22nd. September '61, Mr D.G.Leng of Whitley Bay, Northumberland, was standing outside with a friend in Durham, when they suddenly noticed a bright blue-white light flashing across a gap in the clouds (9/10ths.cover) at a seemingly tremendous speed. It disappeared only to be seen a second later through another gap, following the same straight path. There was no sound from the object. Mr.Leng says in his letter:"..had it been an aircraft of known type flying just above the clouds, it could never have covered the distance described in such a short space of time, and not without being audible."

He goes on to mention that it was extremely bright, brighter than the brightest star, but with no particular shape. It was travelling northwards in a direction slightly east of north. The sighting took place at 12:01 am.

Credit T.U.F.O.S.

ADAMSKI-TYPE OBJECT OVER ISLE OF WIGHT .

Possibly one of the most convincing sightings to have occurred within the past months has been, the Adamski-Darbishire type object which appeared over the Isle of Wight on July 3rd.

Several people in the vicinity of Ryde had seen UFO's. As a result of an interview on Southern Television, Mrs Smith, of Ryde phoned Commander Mole, of Seaview, who appeared on the interview, that she, too, had seen a peculiar object on the night of July 3rd.

At 12-15 am. Mrs. Smith and her daughter, Mrs. Taylor were looking out to sea when they noticed 5 distinct lights in a row which slowly approached them. During the approach, the object itself became visible. At first Mrs. Smith thought it may have been a hovercraft, but no sound was emitted. The five porthole lights projected rays of orange-coloured light whilst the base seemed to glow with orange light. Diffused orange light appeared around the top of the circular craft. Mrs Taylor's drawing shows that the object bears a remarkable resemblance to the crafts seen by George Adamski and Stephen Darbishire. At first the UFO had assumed a side elevation, but gradually tilted, presenting its plan form. It must be stated that Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Taylor were standing on the flat roof of the Taylor's home at Ryde. The UFO approached them at eye-level, and was approximately 60' above ground.

Suddenly the UFO shot off and upward retracing the direction from which it had come. The speed of its departure left Mrs Smith 'quite dizzy'! A glowing ring of light persisted for about five minutes before it dispersed into the air, where the object had been.

Leonard G. Cramp, who carried out an extensive investigation of this sighting, mentions that a friend of his had, that same evening, seen some bright lights in a remote field, which were preceded by a 'strange and very local whirlwind.'

GREEN FIREBALL

On Wednesday 5th May 1961, Mr R. Brook, of Stratford-on-Avon, was bringing in his telescope after observing some star fields. The time was 11:4 pm. when a bright object appeared in the north-west beginning with an ordinary meteor track but rapidly brightening and ending with a brilliant flash which was decidedly green in colour. Traces of particles broke off with the flash.

DATA: Duration - 6 secs. Track length - 16° approx. Mag. -2 or 3½
Elevation - 25° down to 9°.

PINK LIGHTS FLASH ACROSS SKY

Mr. McPoland of Barrow, Lancashire, was locking up his back-yard door on the night of Tuesday 15th. August '61 when. "I got the shock of my life, there were three pink objects moving at an incredible speed across the sky. They were only visible for four seconds, but they resembled inverted saucers," he said.

"The objects, which I took to be flying saucers, were travelling in a straight line from the north-west to the south-east. They were an equal distance from each other," Mr. McPoland said.

A Met. Office spokesman assured him that these objects were nothing to do with the Meteorological Office balloon launchings.

"I don't wish to be facetious," he added, "but they could have been something from outer space."

- from North Western Ev. News

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* WE SINCERELY WISH ALL OUR READERS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS *
*
* AND A PROMISING NEW YEAR *
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THE MARTIAN SATELLITES MAY BE ARTIFICIAL

J. G. Roberts

Several Russian scientists are of the opinion that the two minute satellites of Mars may be artificial. If so - who built them - and why....?

Probably the first astronomer to conjecture that the planet Mars had satellites, like our earth, was Johannes Kepler, who stated, back in the seventeen century, that Mars had in fact got two satellites. Although many searches were made for them using the largest telescope available at the time, nothing was found until 1877, when Asaph Hall, an American astronomer, discovered the two tiny moons, which were named Phobos and Deimos, circling Mars.

In a paper written for the U.S.S.R Academy of Sciences recently Assistant Professor F. Zigel theorised that the satellites of Mars originated, or were built between the years 1862 and 1877, the year they were discovered.

He bases his theory on several facts. One is that although a search was made at the time of Kepler's statement of the existence of the Martian satellites, they were never seen although astronomers searched diligently for them for over two hundred years. The telescopes used were, for instance, of the same calibre as that of Herschel's with which that astronomer discovered, together with Lassell, satellites of Uranus which are far fainter and far harder to see than the Martian moons. Zigel states that the simple reason they were not seen is because they were not there at the time!

Another fact which Zigel claims supports his theory is that the sizes of the satellites of Mars are far smaller than the 'normal' planetary satellites. "They could not have separated from their mother planet", he says, "or they would have a far greater mass. Furthermore, neither could Phobos, in such a case go around Mars faster than the planet rotates." Zigel goes on to say that there "is no natural process which could be held responsible for their formation."

However, other Moscow astronomers say that the Martian satellites were and are natural, and that they were discovered in 1877 mainly because of the superior quality of the telescopes used at that time. In reply, Zigel says that this does not hold water as many telescopes inferior to Hall's have since seen the satellites many times.

In 1951, an American astronomer - Hard, voiced the opinion that Phobos and Deimos were two large artificial satellites made and put into orbit by Martians. This theory was put forward at a later date and in greater detail by Professor Shklovsky of the Academy of Sciences. Phobos and Deimos revolve around Mars in circular orbits (similar to the orbits of some artificial satellites) which are almost exactly in the same plane of the Martian equator. Shklovsky showed that the abnormal acceleration which Phobos undergoes during part of its orbit around Mars can be explained only if the satellite is considered to be hollow. The possibility of Phobos being hollow would be out of the question if it were a natural body. He further states that if Phobos and Deimos were to have shiny, metallic outer surfaces, their apparent diameters would be much larger than at present assumed. The diameters of satellites can only be determined by measuring their apparent diameter as seen in the telescope, and their relative brightness.

Construction of huge space stations of over 10 or 20 miles across presents no theoretical problems today. Once the material is in orbit, and all the parts are circling the planet together it is comparatively straightforward to assemble them into as big a structure as is desired. Without the application of any external force, all the parts would be in a state of weightlessness and large sections could be manipulated with relative ease. Professor Zigel has said that Soviet scientists were already planning huge space stations designed to orbit the earth, "tens or even hundreds of metres across."

OVERSEAS SIGHTING REPORTS

DISC ELUDES PILOT AFTER FAST CHASE OVER UTAH CENTRAL AIRPORT

Officials of the U.S. Air Force launched an investigation late Monday on reports of an unidentified flying object in the sky resembling a 'flying saucer'.

The object was sighted first by a pilot, Waldo J Harris, Salt Lake City, as he was on a takeoff at the Utah Central Airport 3200 W. 2100 South. (Monday 2nd October 1961)

Air Force officials who began the investigation of the sighting said that it was "undoubtedly the best report we have had of 'unidentified flying objects' in the area - one not identifiable as either an Echo satellite, a meteorite or a manned aircraft."

Mr. Harris told Hill Air Force Base security officers that: "At first I thought it was another plane south of the field,

"..but when I was airborne I was surprised to find the object was still in the same position as when I had first sighted it."

"I changed my heading and flew toward what appeared to be a large disc hovering with a rocking motion at an altitude of between 6500' and 7000 feet," he declared.

He estimated the distance between the object and his plane as about five miles and that it appeared to be a light gray disc at least 50 feet across and four feet thick.

Mr Harris said the object hovered for a time over the Utah Lake Omni station and then began moving west "at an extremely accelerated rate of speed" and disappeared.

All other persons who said they saw the object agreed that it travelled at what appeared to be a high rate of speed.

The U.S. Weather Bureau said that the prevailing winds measured by a weather balloon at 10 am. shortly before the object was sighted, were clocked at two miles per hour and were from a south-easterly direction.

The next weather balloon was sent aloft at 4 pm. when the winds at 7000 feet were registered as being from the northwest and about five miles an hour.

Seven witnesses at Utah Central Airport reported sighting the object from the ground. Some of them who used binoculars to watch the object were Mr and Mrs Jay Galbraith, owners and operators of the airport, and four other witnesses working at the airport. All the witnesses reported watching the object for "more than 15 minutes". Virgil S Redmond, also at the base, having just landed said that "whatever it was seemed to be rocking while hovering almost stationary just south of the field. At times, as it turned, it looked almost like a zeppelin."

The Air Force said late Monday that an investigator from Hill Air Force Base security division had conducted a routine investigation of the reported sightings. The findings will now be forwarded to Air Force headquarters in Washington D.C. for evaluation.

A Base spokesman said that the long range radar at the base had not reported anything unusual during the day, although the range of surveillance radar does not usually extend into the south Salt Lake City area.

Credit James D Wardle /from The Salt Lake Tribune 3/10/'61

B.O.A.C and PanAmerican JETS ENCOUNTER DOUGHNUT DISC OBJECT OVER PACIFIC OCEAN

From NICAP we have news of a documented encounter between two jet airliners and a doughnut shaped ufo over the Pacific ocean on September 21st 1961. Reports were radioed to FAA towers at

at Wake and Honolulu by Capt. R.F. Griffin, commanding a B.O.A.C plane, and by a PanAmerican Airways captain.

Capt. Griffin said the BOAC jet was at 37,000 feet, in a grey, pre-dawn sky, when the UFO appeared.

"Suddenly we saw this bright ring in the sky, about 50 degrees up." The British pilot described the object as round, with sharply outlined edges and a "very clear hole" in the centre. "It was travelling in our direction but at far greater speed. There appeared to be reflected light coming down from it. The object went over the horizon in seven minutes."

The confirming PanAmerican report was also logged at Honolulu. The Federal Aviation Agency is releasing these reports to NICAP after official permission.

Pending a more thorough evaluation NICAP suggested the following points concerning the sighting:-

1 The object was not an ICBM missile, nor was it the re-entry of a satellite into the atmosphere as these appear as only briefly visible small fireballs.

2 The sun was the cause of the reflected light. At that time it had set below the horizon an hour before. To catch its rays the UFO had to be very high.

3 At such a high altitude, the UFO had to be extremely large (at least 100 feet in diameter) for its edges and the hole to be so clearly visible to the BOAC crew. The size and the description rule out all earth-made rockets, satellites, or Echo - type balloons.

Credit UFO Investigator

CYLINDER-SHAPED OBJECT OVER SAN FRANCISCO

September 3rd. San Francisco, California. A cylinder, or projectile-shaped UFO, with two bright lights was reported hovering over the western edge of the city in the early morning hours. According to the Enterprise Journal, photographs were taken and they will be evaluated by 'military authorities' - UFO Investigator

BRAZILIAN SIGHTING - 1960

A well-known Brazilian writer - Rachel de Queiroz described in the paper "O Cruzeiro" a sighting which took place on the night of May 13th. 1960 in Ceara state. That night, men leading a mule train were followed by an "airplane without wings" for three hours. On the following night saucer landings on a hill in Ceara were reported. Apparently a crew member waved to a fisherman to approach

But the man was afraid and consequently ran away. The same evening a 'saucer' had cruised over the town and had been witnessed by many people.

Credit SBEDV-Rio De Janeiro

AUSTRALIA - 12 SAUCERS DISCARD WHITE MESH-LIKE SUBSTANCE

"Twelve silvery "white metal flying saucers like a sputnik", trailing a white substance which crumbled before it could be preserved were sighted flying at about 10,000 feet seven miles west of Meekatharra (Western Australia) yesterday (August 5th.1961)

Shearers on Mt.Hale station said the objects appeared to be travelling in pairs. They were able to keep the pairs of objects in sight for about two minutes as they travelled in clear weather at a high speed from north to south.

Shearing contractor Mr Edwin Payne,37, reported the sightings to Meekatharra police. He said the round objects left a 'fall-out' of a white substance as they sped through the sky.

It formed into streamer-like trails as it fell. When he and other witnesses picked the substance up, it crumbled in their hands, and they had no way of preserving it for examination. He described it as "a snowy white, fine mesh kind of stuff."

The sightings, by about 12 people, were between 8.30 and 9.15am. A spokesman for the R.A.A.F., Pearce, said last night there were no service aircraft in the area at the time of the reported sightings.

The Director of the Perth Museum, Dr.W.D.Ride, said last night it seemed improbable to him that a substance which was described as being of a fine mesh on the ground could be seen at the height reported."

Credit The Sunday Times (Perth W.A.)
and Tyneside UFO Society

On February 22nd 1955 a grey, cobwebby and slightly radio-active substance fell out of the sky covering half a square mile of ground near Elmira New York state U.S.A.. It was identified as extremely short-fibred cotton by a professor of chemistry at Elmira College. He said the radioactivity was normal during the series of atomic tests being held at the time.

This substance, commonly known as 'angel-hair' tends to be associated with certain types of UFO and is frequently reported over the world.

FLYING OBJECT SEEN OVER QUEENSLAND

On the morning of Monday June 5th. this year sixty people in Queensland, watched a silver-red sphere perform aerobatics

in a clear sky. The local police constable, schoolchildren and business men watched the object for almost 3½ hours in the sky over Millaa Millaa, 45 miles west of Innisfail.

Towards the end of the object's performance the commanding officer of the R.A.A.F. base at Townsville sent up a trainer aircraft, but it arrived after the object had disappeared.

Constable W.Anderson, surveying the object through binoculars said the object looked like a silver sphere, about 6in. across. It turned to become cone-shaped, with half its length at the narrow end a red colour. Then it shot off to the east, and later returned to its previous position.

"It might be Venus" was the comment from the secretary of the Astronomical Society of Queensland. "At this time the position of Venus in relation to the sun makes it clearly visible in daytime."

from 'The West Australian' 6/6/61
Credit Tyneside UFO Society

Commenting on the Meekatharra sightings, a R.A.A.F. officer said that many reports of this nature are investigated, and that in 97% of cases a simple explanation is found - usually associated with aircraft movements or meteors. At least the Australian Air Force is more generous by 1% than the U.S.A.F. in their allowance of "unknowns"!

ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED SUBMARINE

Sydney, Thursday Nov.16th: Senator John Gorton, Australian Minister for the Navy, said today that Australian and New Zealand warships had detected and tracked what could have been an unidentified submarine off Sydney harbour during joint naval exercises.

Senator Gorton said there had been no visual sighting of the mystery object. Contact was lost shortly after a search was started.

Neither Britain nor the US had any submarines in the area at the time,

'West Lancashire Evening Gazette' Nov.16 1961
Credit J.G.Roberts

It is interesting to note the resemblance between this 'mystery submarine' and the unidentified object off the Argentine coast some months back. (new term: UDO=Unidentified Diving Object) Naturally this could well be some audacious Russian sub. however, all these incidents are worth bearing in mind.

see overpage for other reports...

LATE NEWS REPORT...from our U.S.A. representative...

RED UFO FIRES OFF GREEN SPARKS

Ottumwa, IOWA - The object described below was seen on the loth of September this year by Robert Cloyd of Ottumwa.

He had just retired for the night and from his window he noticed a red light travelling from the south at a slow rate. AT first he thought it was an airplane beacon light. But it did not blink. He watched it as it progressed across the sky. Suddenly it stopped and sparks began to shoot out from all sides. It did this for perhaps a minute. The sparks were red and green. The UFO then shot straight up for some distance, approx. from 2000' to 8000 feet. It then split and two objects shot down from it. They were white, and sped away in opposite directions. Mr. Cloyd had tried to get his binoculars, but when he reached the window the object had disappeared.

From the Foreign Department... translated from "Neue Furcher Feitung"
(Switzerland)

'FIERY OBJECT' OVER UNTERTERZEE

On Monday October 16th. at 4.30 am. a strange fiery object appeared over the town of Unterterzee(provinee St.Gall). It travelled across the sky in a north-easterly direction. It left a wide fiery tail which spread across the valley and illuminated it for a moment. The object passed over at a relatively moderate speed. This occurrence might have a connection with the re-entry of the 'Discoverer 32' satellite.

'SILVERY OBJECT' - ROTORUA NEW ZEALAND

12-30 pm.

April 14th.1961 - Mr and Mrs R.Alexander of Wallace Crescent Rotorua, were leaving their house when they noticed that there were two aircraft overhead - one coming in and the other going out. While casually watching these planes they suddenly noticed a round silvery object which hovered for a few seconds, then shot away in the direction of Tauranga. The sky was quite cloudless at the time, and the witnesses are quite emphatic in their description of what they saw.

They immediately went to the offices of the 'POST' to report it, and find out whether anyone else had seen it, but although their report was taken down no mention was made in the paper. A phone call to the aerodrome by a 'POST' reporter, brought forth the reply that " they didn't know what it was" - Credit to N.Z Scientific Space research Bulletin.

NEW SCIENTIST - September 1st.1961 - SECOND NATURAL SATELLITE

"A second natural satellite of the earth has been discovered by K Kordylewski of the Cracow Observatory according to a recent report (Scientific American Vol.205 No.2 Page 71). It consists of two cloud-like objects in the same orbit as the moon but travelling 60 degrees behind it.

In the 18th.century, the French mathematician J.L.Lagrange calculated that there should be two positions of stable gravitational equilibrium in a system containing one massive body rotating about one another. They lie 60 degrees respectively ahead of and behind the revolving body, in its orbit. That these positions actually exist was verified in 1904 when one of the trojan asteroids was found in the Sun-Jupiter system.

Conditions will be favourable this month for observing the second position, ahead of the moon."

- Credit H.Bunting,DIGAP

UNIDENTIFIED RADIO SOURCES - Polar Axis Telescope to be built

"Work is expected to begin shortly on construction of a new 50' polar axis telescope at Jodrell Bank, Cheshire.

It will be used mainly in conjunction with the giant 250 ft. radio telescope to probe unidentified radio forces in remote parts of the universe.(underline mine - Ed.)

The new telescope has been designed by Mr.H.c.Husband, who also designed the 250 ft.telescope. It will be situated a third of a mile from the maintelescope.

Sir Bernard Lovell, director of the station, said today that he hoped the telescope would be working within the next few months."

from the Evening Telegraph, Friday September 29th.'61 - Credit TUFOS

MARTIANS AT WORK? - Woomera man theorises on Martian Satellites.

The West Australian - Tues day June 6th 1961 - Credit TUFOS

"SYDNEY - Sunday; Mr.V.J.M.Bosher, of the weapons research establishment at Woomera, believes Martians may be sending satellites into space.

He told the Astronomical Society of South Australia, of which he is president, that two moons orbiting Mars had unusual brightness suggesting that they may be artificial satellites put up from Mars.

They were so small they should have been invisible from the earth, 35,000,000 miles away, but were visible at quite bright magnitude through telescopes."

MYSTERY EXPLOSION - this time in Newcastle

From the Sunday Sun October 15 1961 - Credit TUFOS

"A mystery explosion which rocked part of Newcastle's West End yesterday, was heard as far away as Low Fell.

A number of people around the Corporation Street area reported hearing a loud noise during the morning.

Mr K.Latcham, who is manager of the Bath Hotel, in Corporation Street, said:"The windows and doors fairly shook as we heard the explosion, but nobody can offer an explanation. It sounded as though it could have come from the direction of Dunston power station.'

However, a spokesman of the North Eastern Electricity Board said he had not received any report of the explosion.

Nor were Newcastle Fire Brigade or the West End police station any wiser, though they had received a number of reports from people who had heard the explosion."

THE TIAHUANOCO CALENDAR - correction from J.Cleary-Baker Ph.D.

"The Tiahuanoco ruins are pre-Incan, not Incan as you state. (see September issue) Only occultists, followers of Hoerbiger's Cosmic Ice theory and - it seems - Russian orators, would ascribe to them an antiquity of 10,000 years. Radio-carbon datings suggest that their builders probably flourished a little before 3,000 B.C. I doubt very much that these people knew the rotation period of Venus, which, with all due respect to the Academy of Science of the U.S.S.R., is still a matter of dispute among astronomers."

MY FLYING SAUCER - letter to the Daily Express 10/10/61

"Early this week, in a clear blue sky, I noticed five discs flying at a great height, line astern, near London Airport. They emitted a strange silverish light and I could distinguish their ribbed construction.

I rushed for my camera and prepared to take The Authentic Photograph of a flying saucer. By this time, four had passed out of sight, but the fifth landed, yes, actually landed on my roof. But then who would want to publish a photograph of a piece of thistledown!" - from a reader in Buckinghamshire.

EIGHT MILE DRILLING BY U.S.S.R. GEOLOGISTS - KAZAKHSTAN

From the Daily Mirror, 23/10/1961 - Credit J.D.Llewellyn

"The Russians are now racing the Americans to be the first into INNER SPACE - the scientific term for probing the secrets of the Earth.

British geologists learned yesterday that the Russians have started work on drilling a super-hole which, when complete will go down EIGHT MILES. The site: near Lake Aral-Sor Kazakhstan

WANTED - SIX PLANES - LAST SEEN 1945 IN THE VICINITY OF BAHAMAS

Five TBM-type aircraft departed from Fort Lauderdale Naval Air station on a routine navigation training flight at 1408 (208 m) local time on 5 December 1945. At 1600 (4pm.) a message was intercepted by the tower which indicated that the five aircraft were lost in the vicinity of the Bahamas Islands. At this time a message was sent out in the 'blind' (without acknowledgement) advising the flight to take a heading of 270 degrees, or if their compasses were out (which was most unlikely but possible) to fly towards the sun. It was a clear day with less than 10 knots wind on the surface. Air Sea Rescue was initiated at 1927 (7,27) when a PBM-type aircraft took off from Banana River, Florida to search for the missing aircraft. This plane had thirteen people on board. It made one position report, and was not heard from again. Since that date, no additional information has been obtained concerning the five TBM's or the PBM, although an intensive search was carried out at that time.

- Credit UFOlogy Bulletin April 1961

AMAZING STATEMENT BY USAF DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION

Washington August 15th. 1960 - Major General Arno H Luchman, USAF director of information, today told all base commanders, 'there is a relationship between the Air Force's interest in space surveillance of the atmosphere near earth for unidentified flying objects - UFO's!

Luchman made the statement in an Air Force Information Policy Letter for Commanders - a photocopy of which is in UFOlogy Bulletin files.

This has just reached us from America and is taken from UFOlogy Bulletin for September 1960. The statement was made in a section of a letter telling of the AF's operation of the National Space Surveillance Control Center, Bedford, Massachusetts, USA.

'PUBLIC INTEREST SINKS TO NEW LOW' - Apparent apathy in USA concerning study of unidentified flying objects

Last September Robert J Gribble, international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Group, officially disbanded this scientific research organisation.

Gribble said: "Within the last year I have watched public 'scientific interest in the subject drop to a very disappointing state, resulting in the influx of a fringe of individuals who have associated UFO's with abstract subjects to the extent that they have turned the entire subject into a three-ring circus."

June Larson and John Weigle - editors of UFOlogy Bulletin comment "this...is indicative of a serious trend in UFOlogy. At a time when serious, scientific research is needed most, the people who can provide such research are being forced to give up major contributions to the field because of financial difficulties."

Luckily the growth of 'colleges of universal wisdom' and associated cults is confined to a certain extent to the USA, but the above remarks should be noted by serious researchers.

LUFORO PUBLICITY - Interest in the Press.

'Something in the sky - article by Arthur Hopcraft - the GUARDIAN September 29th 1961

"HOWEVER big the question mark which hangs over George Adamski's assertion that flying saucers have landed, they have, without a doubt, arrived. Painstaking inquiries by Harvard University's professor of astro-physics and a member of the Menapi Anglican Mission, MA(Oxon) can be taken or left; but is there a Briton who can stay an obstinate unbeliever in the face of reports by a policeman, a sub-postmaster and a naval lieutenant commander all in a single issue of a flying saucer bulletin?

The London Unidentified Flying Object Research Organisation feels that there is enough evidence of unexplained phenomena to support a request to UNESCO for help in setting up an international body to investigate UFO's. The first step on the road to Paris will probably be a conference in London at which a British federation of UFO research societies will be formed.

The situation is clearly serious. LUFORO points out in its current bulletin that 'many civilian UFO researchers today feel that unless a proper international investigation is carried out with the co-operation of governments of all nationalities there is little use in their continuing research with the meagre information that is reaching them. Indeed, some have already lost interest.'

"LUFORO's own patient attempts to awaken the Air Ministry to its responsibilities have had scant success. The ministry had decided not to send one of its officials to take part in a brains trust in the Caxton Hall on UFOs, and its response to reports of UFO sightings receives the reply that these odd objects, whatever they were, do not appear to constitute a threat to the air defence of the country. 'However', adds LUFORO, 'the problem of distinguishing UFOs from an enemy's approaching rockets on the radar screen must be an embarrassing one.'"

A ministry spokesman yesterday denied any embarrassment. Ninety per cent of all reports of UFOs could be adequately explained - as distinct from explained away - and no proper investigation was possible in the case of the other 10 per cent because of the 'very woolly nature of the information given.'

LUFORO is making every effort to ensure that reports of sightings by its 350 members are not woolly but specific. It provides questionnaires thoughtfully drawn up to extract the maximum information from the observer with economy of words.

The LUFORO Bulletin asks its readers to try to explain a sighting as a known or familiar object and submit for analysis only what seems quite inexplicable. 'Green fireballs may be cometoids and small luminous spheres may be electro-static phenomena, while disc-shaped and cupola-towered objects may be extra-terrestrial craft.'

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES - Monday December 4th 1961

report from the Press Association on lecture at LUFORO's A.G.M.

CIGAR-SHAPED OBJECT IN SKY - Colchester lecturer's Spacecraft belief

"Mr A.J.Watts, of Elmstead Market, a lecturer at the North-East Essex Technical College, Colchester, and previously a forecaster at the Meteorological Office, is convinced that an "extra-terrestrial craft of some kind" was seen over Essex on the night of June 30th.

'I am not keen on the term flying saucer because of the ridicule which has been attached to it,' he said on Saturday at the Annual General Meeting of the London Unidentified Flying Object Research Organisation.

'It was becoming dusk when we saw two bright lights-much brighter than Jupiter-hovering in the sky over Halstead, about 20 miles away,' he said.

'After about a minute, the lights faded, but some minutes later they reappeared in the same spot and remained stationary.'

"After about another minute they began to move North and rapidly faded. With the brilliance gone, one could then see a dark cigar-shaped object moving off in an arc against the sky."

Mr Watts estimated the object as 250 feet long and its average speed about 1,000 mph. as it accelerated away.

He said that subsequently he heard from other people. One suggested the object was an aircraft preparing to land at Wethersfield, and the pilot was trying his landing lights as a safety measure.

Mr Watts said he could not agree with this explanation, nor did he accept an Air Ministry explanation that what was seen was a cloud searchlight."

Mr Watts has made a complete investigation on the Essex lights of June 30th. the results of which were the subject of an extremely interesting lecture at our A.G.M. on December 2nd.

'PREDICTION' - January 1962

Douglas Hunt, in 'World News Digest' - "In great detail, the Milwaukee Journal publishes an account of a Wisconsin farmer who reports the landing on his farm of a UFO. He claims to have seen three men, height about three-foot-six, and to have given one of them some water in response to a request in sign language.

This is, of course, only one of the innumerable reports of UFOs that are constantly appearing in the press all over the world"

- this refers to the Joe Simonton case reported in the May bulletin.

TWO MORE MYSTERY LIGHTS over Pulham Market, Norfolk

from the Eastern Evening News - 11th August 1961.

"Mr. Peter Kent, a 27-year-old plumber, of Harleston, reported to the police at Harleston last night that, while cycling with his girl friend at Pulham Market, he saw mysterious and unidentifiable lights in the sky.

He told a reporter that at 9.35 pm. he and the girl saw two lights which gave the appearance of dipped head-lights or searchlights pointed downwards approaching in the sky from the west. They were no more than 1,000 ft. up, and they came towards them and then receded.

'At the nearest they were about 500 yards away,' he said. 'there was a blue flash like something fusing when they disappeared. The whole thing did not last more than a minute and there was absolutely no noise. We were quite shaken by it. The lights were too close together to have been on the wing-tips of a plane and too far apart for a car.' (continued on page 18)

AIMS OF LUFORO: Unbiased scientific investigation of reports of Unidentified Flying Objects and associated claims; collection of first-hand evidence of verifiable data; publicising information in bulletins and by other means; and bringing about closer co-operation and understanding between UFO researchers.

INVESTIGATIONS: Witnesses are required to complete a special UFO Sighting Report Form (S.3.) containing an exhaustive questionnaire. Wherever possible local Investigators are asked to interview witnesses and submit a full report. Routine investigations are carried out under the direction of the Chairmen. More investigators are urgently required for the purpose of interviewing witnesses in their area and carrying out tests.

RESE/RCH: Data will be correlated under the direction of the Research Co-ordinator and the problems of research studied in order to establish working methods. Members are invited to offer their assistance.

MEETINGS: Members in the London area and neighbouring counties will shortly be notified of the future programme of Meetings.

INFORMATION SERVICE: Members may avail themselves of LUFORO's postal Information Service. All enquiries must be addressed to the Hon. Sec. and must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope: they must also be headed "Information Service" in block letters. The time elapsing before a reply is made will depend on the quantity of correspondence received, and only information already obtained by LUFORO can be given.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Associate membership of LUFORO is free of charge, associate members being entitled to free use of the Information Service only.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT: Secretary: F.M. Bull, 14, Battinson Street, Scouthowram, Halifax, Yorkshire, England. All foreign language correspondence, reports or publications should be sent to the Foreign Department for translation into English.

CONTACT INVESTIGATION SECTION: Secretary: R. Shephard, 88, Heathcroft, Hampstead Way, London, N.W.11, England. This Section has been formed to investigate the "contact" claims, particularly those pertaining to the British Isles. As this is a subsidiary activity of LUFORO, membership of the Section is not restricted to full Members only and associate members may be admitted, but applicants must complete the special application form. The Section will be holding its first Meeting soon.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON AFFILIATE GROUP: Chairman: J.D. Llewellyn, 80, West Green Drive, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, England. The Group holds monthly meetings.

(continued from page 16)

Mr Kent added that they had not been drinking and were seriously enough disturbed by the sight to think it advisable to report the matter to the police." - Credit to P.F. Johnson.

This sighting bears a remarkable resemblance to the Hertfordshire and Essex lights of June 30th. In each case twin lights have been reported with no apparent sideways movement.

CRIMSON FLASHING LIGHT OVER STRATFORD-ON-AVON

Mr.J.D.Llewellyn sends us a report of an object seen by his wife at 8.05 pm.G.M.T.on November 9th.1961. He himself witnessed the object together with a friend of their's.

It is described as an'intermittent flashing crimson coloured light moving very slowly in a N.W. direction from 220° to 240° approx. It then stopped and dropped a short distance appearing smaller and fainter. The sighting took 7 minutes. Apart from slight ground mist the sky was clear and starlit. No sound throughout observation. The distance was difficult to estimate due to the low altitude.

Both Mr.and Mrs. Llewellyn are familiar with aircraft identification lights.Irregularity of flashing and low elevation were cause of puzzlement in trying to put an explanation on behaviour of the light. So much so that it prompted a 999 call reporting what may have been an aircraft in distress on its final glide to earth. The local Police station intimated that they would inform the nearest Air Authority and immediately called on the observers where fullest details were taken.

The following morning Mr.Llewellyn 'phoned Air Traffic Control at Gaydon, a local airfield, asking if, in fact, an aircraft had been in distress to account for the sighting. After making enquiries the officer replied stating that none had been reported in the vicinity and they had no knowledge of any of their own from the base.

He went on to say that American aircraft carried a large red flashing anti-collision light, but confirmed that this would be showing, together with the standard identification lights.

His next, rather surprising comment was:"It could have been a flying saucer."!!

This report ties up with the sighting of the 'flashing red ball' seen over Belfast on July 27 this year. by a Belfast draughtsman and his wife.(reported in the bulletin for September)

(N.B. The Guardian article on pages 14 & 15 is not quoted in full.)