

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA—MAY-JUNE 1972

RECENT REPORTS FROM NEW ZEALAND

More On French Landing Case

APRO has received further information on the landing case in France reported on page 8 of the March-April, 1972, issue of the *Bulletin*. The March issue of *Phenomenes Spatiaux*, journal of GEPA (Study Group on Aerial Phenomena), carries an article on GEPA's investigation into the case.

The sighting occurred on March 10, 1972, not March 18 as reported previously. The witness, Mr. M. Lauretz, was born in 1909, is "likeable" and is considered a "serious and trustworthy person." The incident occurred as he was on Departmental Highway No. 4 approaching National 181. At about 500 meters before the intersection, he spotted an object on his right at about 40° elevation. As he watched it through the car's windshield, it landed "rapidly". On top of the object was a small "red ball" which blinked out upon landing. The witness estimated the object to be 4 to 5 meters in diameter and about 2.5 meters tall. It had two openings resembling elliptical port-holes.

The witness also estimated that the object was about 200 meters distant (about 600 feet) and had an apparent size of 6 cm. at arm's length (over 2 inches). However, GEPA's investigator, an engineer, concluded that, at that distance, an object 6 cm. at arm's length would have a diameter of about 15 meters (instead of the 4-5 mentioned above). This cast doubt on the case, but it should be remembered that estimates by witnesses are not often precise. The sighting took place at night and the witness was astonished by the observation and could easily have misjudged its size. He admits that he did not get a clear, close-up view of the object. It was visible on the ground for about 40 seconds. Mr. Lauretz came to a halt when the object descended but left his motor running. A few seconds later, the object "blinked-out" and he could not see anything. It was then when he became more frightened and left. His car sputtered for the first 200 meters but it worked perfectly after that.

The witness, who was later harrassed by newsmen, never claimed that he saw a
(See Landing-Page Three)

Press Reports

The *Philippine News Service* (PNS) reported sightings of UFOs in *Tukuran*, 480 miles south of Manila which took place on the 24th of March, 1972. One individual, Tong Sanda Balinghingan, said that he fired his 45 caliber pistol at the object, after which the pistol cracked. The object vanished after the shot, he said. Andres Barsales Jr., an attorney, reported that he saw the mysterious vehicle "emitting strong rays" atop a hill, and laborers at an airport project reported seeing a "horse-like" vehicle coming out of a huge air ship. Police were reportedly investigating the sightings.

A farmer from *Riverina, Australia*, claims he saw a "flying saucer" while milking cows on his property near Waggo on June 4, 1972. Mr. John Campbell said that he was milking in the yard of his farm two miles outside Coolamon when he noticed the silvery object hovering motionless above the horizon. "It was like a saucer on its side with the sun shining on it" his wife said.

"As my husband watched it veer from left to right several times and dip up and down, there was a tiny black speck near the rear and a brilliant red tail streaming out behind it," Mrs. Campbell said.

Mr. Campbell watched the object for several minutes before going into the house to get his wife and four children from their beds to see it also. They watched the object until it suddenly streaked upwards and disappeared into the sky. Mrs. Campbell estimated that it had been visible for 15 minutes but neither she nor her husband would hazard a guess as to size or distance.

Several residents of *Scarboro, Ontario, Canada* reported that at 9:05 on the evening of June 11, a steady white light which dimmed, made a sharp left turn and disappeared, was seen over Toronto. A Dunlap Observatory official said the sighting was probably the planet Venus which appears very bright in the sky, dims and disappears as atmospheric conditions change. But one of the witnesses
(See Reports-Page Three)

Norman Alford, APRO's Representative for New Zealand has forwarded the details of two good reports in his country. The most striking of the two involved a bullet-shaped object which was observed for an hour over Havelock Hills by several Hawkes Bay residents. Three of the witnesses were Sergeant J. McCormack, Constable J. Gosman and Mr. Russell Orr, all of whom observed the object through a 1600 millimeter telescope from atop the Hastings police station.

Mr. Orr said that he and McCormack and Gosman sighted the object about 10 degrees above the southeastern horizon at 2:30 a.m. on May 19th. It was approximately the size of the planet Jupiter which was overhead at the time. In a letter to Mr. Alford, Mr. Orr wrote: "I have had no special interest in UFOs and take no more than passing interest in astronomy. I had not seen anything like this before. These comments may be of assistance:

"... in the space of little more than an hour (the object) traversed about 25 degrees. Its rate of progression was not constant; at times it appeared to stand still, then to speed up. With no reference point, it was impossible to say whether the object was within the earth's atmosphere.

"The object was shaped like a beer barrel, with one end shortened. It was bisected by a distinct dark band. The center was reddish-black and the outer edges pulsed in colours of magenta and cyan (blue). It filled nearly half of the 'frame' of the 1600 mm telescope.

"... The suggestion has been made that the object was the star Canopus. This it could not have been. I could in no way confirm this but I got the impression that the object was about 10-12 miles distant. If this was so, based on the degree of magnification of the telescope, the object would have been from 50 to 100 feet long."

The first report of the object was made by a Maraetotara man, his wife and sister-in-law at 10 p.m. the night before. An Orion aircraft from Ohakea participating in anti-submarine exercises over Hawkes' Bay was thought to have accounted for the object but the airfield
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Thank You

Mrs. Lorenzen would like to thank the members for the many letters of encouragement, get well cards and flowers which have arrived at her home since the announcement was made in the March-April *Bulletin* concerning her illness. She is making regular but slow progress and hopes to be back to her old work schedule and full work load by mid-September. Meanwhile, it is still necessary to request that no letters requiring answers should be addressed to her.

Apro Featured In Times Article

The *New York Times* News Service featured an article on UFOs which went out on the wire on Saturday, 24 June 1972 and which included considerable material about APRO. As is usual with news articles, there were some errors but

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Field Investigators Network

basically it was a positive presentation of the facts.

The *Times* article stated that "for most of the last 25 years, hardly a month has gone by without a deluge of publicity about new sightings." It is true that reports were made regularly during that time, but not every month, and there have been large segments of time when the press has not seen fit to carry UFO news at all. The article also identified Mr. Greenwell as a physicist, which he is not, and it also stated that the Lorenzens and Mr. Greenwell are "convinced that the earth is being visited by extraterrestrial vehicles", which is not true. Although all three think that the ETH (extraterrestrial hypothesis) best explains the facts at hand, they are not *convinced* that it is the answer.

Tucson's Arizona Daily Star picked up the feature and ran it in their Saturday morning edition and after interviewing Mrs. Lorenzen by telephone ran a sister article dealing with the most recent UFO

reports received by APRO including the sighting reported by Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Cooper (see elsewhere in this issue of the *Bulletin*).

It is quite likely that the *Times* article was picked up by other newspapers throughout the country and if so, Headquarters would like to know the extent of the coverage. Therefore we would like to request that members forward any clippings which come to hand which bear on this article.

Microfilming Project

Almost 2,500 UFO reports in APRO's files have been microfilmed since the Organization received funds for the microfilming project. During the course of the microfilming it has also been possible to ascertain, for the first time, the amount of reports contained in the files. The following is a breakdown of the microfilming to date (reports are filed in chronological order).

1,600 B.C.	-	1
500-400 B.C.	-	3
400-300 B.C.	-	2
300-200 B.C.	-	9
200-100 B.C.	-	22
100-0 B.C.	-	18
0-100 A.D.	-	4
100-200 A.D.	-	3
200-300 A.D.	-	-
300-400 A.D.	-	6
400-500 A.D.	-	1
500-600 A.D.	-	7
600-700 A.D.	-	7
700-800 A.D.	-	7
800-900 A.D.	-	8
900-1000	-	6
1000-1100	-	12
1100-1200	-	17
1200-1300	-	8
1300-1400	-	9
1400-1500	-	6
1500-1600	-	23
1600-1700	-	12
1700-1800	-	25
1800-1900	-	19
1900-1910	-	12
1910-1920	-	13
1920-1930	-	14
1930-1940	-	18
1940-1946	-	49
1947	-	81
1948	-	24
1949	-	47
1950	-	74
1951	-	51
1952	-	349
1953	-	132
1954	-	525
1955	-	226
1956	-	315
1957	-	376

The reports from 2,000 years ago are from Roman and Greek accounts of unusual aerial phenomena, many of which probably could have had mundane

(See Project-Page Four)

New Zealand

(Continued from Page One)

station reported later on the day of the 19th that no aircraft was in the area at the time of the sighting.

The Mount John tracking station and the observatory at South Island, the Royal New Zealand Air Force at Auckland, the Navy and the Meteorological Office at Wellington have been unable to identify the object or its origin.

The final sighting of the object began at 2:30 a.m. when Orr, McCormack, Constables Gosman and P. Moore spotted the object just above the red warning beacon of the Kahuranaki television translator. It was reported to them by Jack van Hooijdonk of Hastings.

The direction in which the object was slowly moving took it out of the category of astronomical bodies, for it was in the southeast and moving to the east. The color, illumination and movement ruled out the possibility that it could have been a weather balloon according to the Meteorological Office.

All in all, several people in the area observed what may have been the same object, including a man living on Waipatu Settlement Road who observed it at midnight, and a 10-year-old boy at Havelock North who saw it through an opaque window and behind trees early in the morning of the 19th. He opened the window for a better look, then roused his father who laughed at him and told him to go back to bed.

The Operations Officer at the Mount John station made the following statement to the press: "There should be nothing up there travelling at that speed and still be large enough to be visible through a telescope. To be visible for an hour it would have to be 4000 to 5000 miles up in space. At that distance a satellite could not be seen through anything but the most powerful instrument."

A spokesman at the Meteorological Office, who ruled out the possibility that the object was a balloon, said that the report was "a little more intriguing than the usual."

The second report comes from Timaru on South Island where, on April 3, 1972, at 12:30 a.m. eight persons reported seeing eight objects cross the sky from south to north directly overhead. In a single file formation, they appeared to spread outwards and scatter before disappearing from view. They wish to remain anonymous as they do not wish to be inundated with requests for additional information. Similar reports were made by other individuals on the same night but the number of objects varied.

A short while after the sightings a large metal sphere which measured approximately 16" in diameter was found on a

farm at Asburton, which is some 50 miles distant from Timaru. A second similar ball was found southwest of the first. Five days later it was taken to the police station where the first ball was being held and on April 13th a third ball was found in the Haka-tara-mea valley and later two more spheres were picked up. The last ball appeared to have Russian lettering stamped on its surface resembling a backward N and E. The last one to be found appeared to be in the best condition. The balls were not radioactive and final conclusions were awaited from the government's Department of Scientific Research which to date has furnished only the following short report: A tentative supposition is that the balls have come from Cosmos 482 Soviet Spacecraft, but no one is sure. The Russians have not claimed the objects.

Preliminary examination yielded the information that the balls are made of a titanium alloy and the welding evident on their surfaces is perfectly executed. The largest ball is 48 inches in circumference and is blue green in color. It has a 1/2 inch thick casing and weighs 30 pounds. The third ball discovered in the Haka-tara-mea Valley is 9 3/4" across. The balls are of foreign construction and temperatures in excess of 1600 degrees have melted down parts of the balls, usually in the pipe-like projections. Some of the spheres are from light grey to blue-green in color.

There have been several theories advanced about the origin and nature of the spheres but nothing that sounds definite at this time.

Reports

(Continued from Page One)

who called the Toronto Sun said that he was not convinced because the object he had seen hung over the city with a backdrop of clouds behind it.

Professional golfer, Mr. Ron Sarina of Warragamba, west of Sydney, Australia, reported on June 19th that he had found strange marks on the 56-acre property he is developing as a golf practice course.

Sarina said he was intrigued by the marks, which consisted of a 33-foot diameter circle of grass which had been flattened. Inside this circle was another three-foot diameter circle with indentations which indicated that a vehicle of some kind had stood there. The grass is "swirled around and in some places it is dying," reported Mr. Frank Wilks, director of the UFO Research Projects of Australasia.

Two airmen separately reported the sighting of a "bright orange object" at 1 a.m. on the morning of June 19 at George Air Force Base, California. The airmen,

Gary Corley and Randolph Wogoman, sighted the object as it sank behind a building southwest of their security police beat at the Base. They reported their sighting to the air police, the Victorville Sheriff's Office and Adelanto Police Department. No evidence was found of the object having landed, according to the Base Information Office. The airmen estimated the size of the object at about 375 feet in diameter.

Landing

(Continued from Page One)

"flying saucer." He thought that perhaps he had seen some type of helicopter. However, the object descended from 4000 elevation to ground level in 5 to 8 seconds which gives a speed of 100-200 meters per second (360-720 KPH). No helicopter can descend at that speed. Furthermore, the cabins of helicopters are in darkness during flight, while the UFO's interior, according to the witness, was lighted.

APRO wishes to thank GEPA, particularly Mr. Rene Fouere, GEPA's Secretary General, for providing this new information.

Reporting Instructions

Preparing the APRO report files for microfilming has demonstrated how important it is for persons submitting UFO reports to APRO to follow certain guidelines.

APRO provides UFO Report Forms to those persons who request them. Those persons who wish to describe their observations in the form of written testimonies should do so separately from correspondence and membership forms. If reports are contained in letters to APRO, xerox copies have to be made, one copy for the correspondence files and the other for the report files. This is added work and expense for APRO.

Likewise, persons who mail press clippings to APRO should mount them on full sheets (with glue, scotch tape or staples) for filing. If all members did this, it would save an enormous amount of work on the part of the APRO staff.

UFO Books for Sale

Mr. Richard V. Atkinson, APRO member and Field Investigator, has a collection of 23 UFO books for sale to interested parties. Correspondence on the subject should be addressed directly to Mr. Atkinson at 513 Lafayette Ave., Bedford, Pa. 15522.

Project

(Continued from Page Three)

explanations, such as meteorological or astronomical phenomena, but they are all included for the record. The late 19th Century "airship" sightings over the United States are *not* included in the above figures. This is not because APRO does not accept the "airships" as legitimate aerial phenomena but because APRO's files on the subject are not very extensive. It is known that others have very complete files on the "airship" reports so APRO decided not to include them in its catalog at this time.

A marked increase in reports is apparent from 1952 onwards. That was the year APRO was founded and report files were maintained. Reports prior to 1952 have filtered through to APRO over the years in lesser numbers. It should be noted that the totals in the above list include UFO Report Forms, letters from citizens describing their observations, reports received from other organizations (including many abroad) and newspaper clippings. Most do not represent, by any means, *investigated* cases as APRO was in its infancy in the early-mid 50s and the Field Investigators Network did not exist.

Statistics for years 1958 through 1971 will be given as microfilming progresses over the next several months.

UFO Over Michigan

At about 9:15 p.m. on March 8th, Mr. Carl Van Dam, owner of the Norton Manufacturing Company at Muskegon, Michigan, spotted a yellowish light approximately 30 degrees above the horizon while driving home from work. He pulled his car into a car wash where he and the attendant watched as the object slowly traveled across the sky, changing from yellow to blue to green, and then it went out.

As Van Dam was about to leave, the attendant pointed to the sky. The object had reappeared, traveling very fast and appearing brighter than before. Van Dam said it suddenly stopped where he had originally spotted it and appeared larger than it was initially.

The Muskegon Chronicle which carried an account of the sighting failed to carry such pertinent information as directions (e.g.-30 degrees above *which* horizon?) but the number of people who saw the object and other information indicate that this case is worth pursuing.

In addition to the large number of citizens in the Muskegon area who saw the object, it was viewed by Township officer Fred Taylor, Township Police Chief Lawrence Clarke, North Muskegon Police Chief Robert L. Kerschner, Sgt. Harold Merkle, and Coast Guard personnel.

Probably the most interesting facet of

this case is the fact that citizens called the Coast Guard to inform them that the Coast Guard frequency, Channel 16 on the UHF band, was filled with a "code transmission" that was so strong it blocked out voice transmissions. The Coast Guard was contacted and personnel on duty said they were receiving the "coded sounds" but were unable to "make any sense of it" and didn't know where they originated.

The article also said an investigation was being conducted by the Coast Guard District Commander's office.

The National Weather Service said that winds at the time were from the west at 10 miles per hour when the object was moving into the west, thus precluding the possibility that the object was a balloon.

The Federal Aviation Agency personnel said the object they were observing was not an air plane and they ruled out stars, planets and weather balloons as well.

A message was sent to the Air Force asking that they send up a plane to investigate. Selfridge AFB responded by saying they were not interested.

A Field Investigator has been dispatched to investigate and a follow-up report will be carried later.

APRO-NICAP Discussions

On May 26, 1972, Mr. Stuart Nixon, Executive Director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) of Washington D.C., was in Tucson for a two-day round of discussions with the APRO staff.

Although Mr. Richard Greenwell, APRO Assistant Director, visited NICAP in 1970 and Mrs. Coral Lorenzen, APRO Secretary, visited their office in 1971, this was the first time that a NICAP staff member had visited APRO headquarters. Mr. Nixon's visit came at a time when APRO-NICAP relations had improved considerably and it is expected that relations will improve further as a consequence of his visit.

The main topics which were discussed related to improving field investigation of UFO incidents, improving APRO-NICAP coordination in such investigations and the general future of UFO research and the roles which the two organizations will play in it.

A first step toward closer cooperation will be taken shortly as a result of Mr. Nixon's visit and this will be announced in *The APRO Bulletin*.

Member Hit By Flood

On Thursday, June 22nd, Mr. A. J. (Joe) Graziano, an APRO member and Field Investigator of Baltimore, Mary-

land, along with his two dogs, was rescued from his home by a rowboat which easily cleared the four-foot fence around the Graziano property. The flood which hit that area swirled water, mud and raw sewage through the ground floor of their home and all the furniture including a stereo and piano were a complete loss. Irreplaceable items such as photo albums of their dead pets, their library and an extensive UFO library were completely ruined.

Fortunately, Mrs. Graziano (Doris) was at work and was not subjected to the ordeal of the flood.

The Grazianos have spent much time, effort and money, often driving many miles in order to investigate UFO sightings in Maryland on behalf of APRO. If any of the membership would like to help this young couple recoup their extensive losses, they can do so by contacting them at 2355 Research Drive, Baltimore, Maryland, 21227.

Tucson UFOs Sighted

On June 10, 1972, between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m., Mr. Ervin R. Cooper observed several UFOs while sitting on his patio facing north.

Mr. Cooper was casually observing cloud formations over the Catalina mountains when an object "shaped like a banana" emerged out of the top of a cloud and rose at a rapid rate of speed straight up. Three small objects appeared to come out of the larger one; one went to the right (east), another to the left (west) and the third one went downward. All four objects disappeared in a matter of seconds.

The witness called his wife, who was inside the house, but Mrs. Cooper was only able to see one small object to the right, above the original cloud. Mrs. Cooper, coincidentally, is APRO's Membership Secretary. Mr. Cooper estimated that the large, "banana-shaped" object had an apparent size of an elongated tennis ball at arm's length. The smaller objects had the apparent size of dimes held at arm's length. The objects appeared dark against the blue sky.

Canadian Trappers Report UFOs

The *Minneapolis Star* of January 25, 1972, carried an article by Joe Hennessy on sightings of UFOs by two Canadian trappers, Allen Kielczewski and Horace Bowes, separated by 70 miles and un-

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Trappers

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known to each other. APRO has not investigated the incidents and relies entirely on Mr. Hennessy's investigation and article.

Allen Kielczewski, of Mine Center, traps along the north side of Lake Namakan, across from the Minnesota border. His report goes as follows: "One night last winter the lights went out and I thought the gasoline generator probably had shorted out. I went out to the back of the cabin and checked the machine but couldn't find anything wrong with it. Then I noticed the lights to the south toward the Minnesota shore of the lake. They were in a symmetrical row. The object was obscured by the sub-zero haze and it didn't appear to have the shape of an outlined structure . . . more like a mass.

"I would judge that it was about 90 feet high and perhaps a city block long. It just hovered over the ice. Then it lifted off and disappeared. But strangest of all, as soon as the object lifted off, the light plant went on again just like that" concluded Kielczewski, snapping his fingers.

Reporter Hennessy writes that Bowes was at first reluctant to relate his story. He said: "Well, the first reaction is that when you tell somebody about this, they might figure you had been out in the woods too long. But this was too clear to be mistaken. I saw a row of symmetrical lights. I would guess the height of the object was about 90 feet and probably 300 to 400 feet long. It just hovered over the lake for about three to four minutes, long enough to get a good look. Then it rose vertically in a fraction of a second and was gone."

Hennessy wrote that both witnesses had been lumbermen in their earlier days and were quite familiar with the territory. Neither of them had previously seen anything strange in the area, which is visited infrequently in the winter, and then mostly by trappers. The two trappers, who have never met, are considered level-headed and unafraid. Kielczewski has thrown snow balls at timber wolves playing in the snow. Bowes once killed a black bear with a lumberman's pike. The bear had raided his food and tried to chase him off the island. No dates or times are given for the sightings.

UFO Wave Over Chile

(Conclusion)

Another UFO was observed for several minutes the next day, September 25, 1971, by the entire crew of a schooner which was en route from Antofagasta to Iquique. Mr. Dietrich Barz, manager of the Guanaye Fishing Co. received a radio message from Manuel Malatesta, the cap-

tain of the *Martir Pescador*, describing the event. At 10:00 a.m., local time, the Guanaye Fishing Co. released the following press statement: "Our schooner *Martir Pescador*, sailing from Antofagasta to Iquique observed today at 6:10 hours a red ball of light which hovered over them for several minutes. At that time, they were 20 miles south of the mouth of the river Loa, 5 miles from the coast. Afterwards, the unidentified body sunk in the water about 3 miles from the ship. The phenomenon was observed by the entire crew which sails under the command of Captain Manuel Malatesta."

Three days later, another UFO was reportedly observed by two sisters, Elizabeth and Maria-Teresa Cataldo (15 and 12 years old respectively) at Lautaro, near Antofagasta. Maria Teresa was the first to observe the object, which she believed to be the Moon. Her sister stated it could not have been the Moon because it was far too big and brilliant. It had a "half-Moon shape" and it flew from Angamos Hill to Mejillones Bay. The girls reported the UFO took off at very great speed.

This report is lacking in many details. No exact time is given for the observation. Also, the duration of the sighting is not mentioned. Curiously, when questioned by reporters, the girls discounted the possibility of extraterrestrial visitation. Instead, they claimed, UFOs are of U.S. origin and they are in Chile for the purpose of harassing the population due to the political and social changes occurring in that country.

An observation by two soldiers of Chile's 15th Infantry Regiment took place about the middle of October at Calama, located about 100 miles inland from Tocopilla, in the Andean mountains. The date is believed to be October 14, but no time is given. The soldiers, who are not identified by name, were on guard duty at the regiment headquarters when they saw a UFO suspended over the military installation for about 5 minutes. They described the object as being 23 meters in diameter and giving out a bright blue light. It flew away at high speed. It was also reported that two women (no names given) observed a similar UFO hovering over the local cemetery at 10:30 p.m., local time, at an altitude of about 50 meters.

Numerous witnesses reported a UFO near Santiago, the capital, between 10 and 11 p.m. on October 22. A "luminous flying object" was seen in the Cajon del Maipo area, towards the Andes mountains; it was described as "almost perfectly round" and was reported to move vertically.

After moving vertically for about half an hour it remained stationary and emitted sparks, after which it moved away towards the Andes and was lost from sight. The red glare was described at times to be almost orange. The police in the

area admitted receiving many reports from citizens although they were unable to issue an opinion as to the nature of the phenomenon.

On October 30, another UFO was reported near Tocopilla. The witnesses were salesman Hernan Cuevas Horman-echea who was returning to Antofagasta from Tocopilla in his car, his friend Eduardo Fuentes and a third, unidentified person. They left Tocopilla about 1:30 a.m., local time. About one hour later, they observed a bright light out at sea, which they presumed to be a ship. As they watched, the light reportedly flew towards them at high speed and stopped at a distance of about one kilometer (it was previously about 5 kilometers out at sea). The witnesses claim that a light beam shot out from the "saucer" as they later called it — and began circling "as if looking for something." They also claim that the beam was curved "like water falling from a hose or something like that."

As they watched, they stopped a car which was heading for Tocopilla. The car contained five women and a man but the women were too frightened to leave their vehicle so the driver continued towards Tocopilla. The witnesses also claim that a passing truck driver had trouble negotiating the road due to the intense light being given off by the UFO. The light beam from the UFO reportedly covered a larger radius on every sweep and was now also illuminating the hills behind the witnesses. After a while, according to the witnesses, the UFO departed at great speed and was then visible at a distance of about 30 miles out at sea. The departure took "seconds." The rotating light beam was also reportedly visible at that distance.

No structural details or windows were seen on the object because of the intense light, the witnesses claim, and the UFO was completely silent, as far as they could determine.

The last of the 1971 UFO cases in Chile involves a Boeing 727 of the LAN-Chile airline, piloted by Captain Ricardo France, who has been flying with the airline for 17 years. The incident occurred on December 28, at 11:45 p.m., local time, as the cargo jet flight No. 892 was en route between Punta Arenas in the southernmost tip of Chile (near Tierra del Fuego) and Santiago, the capital. The 727, which was flying at about 31,000 feet, contacted the Puerto Montt tower control to determine if any other aircraft were known to be in the area, but the crew was informed in the negative. Other members of the crew were First Officer Eduardo Ortiz and Flight Engineer Victor Rubio. The tower controllers at Puerto Montt were Juan Sanson, Hernan Gomez,

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Octavio Poduje and Rosa Caro; they taped most of the 30 minute conversation between Captain France and themselves.

After landing, Captain France, who had never experienced anything similar and who never paid much attention to UFO reports, described how he saw a light which at first he thought was a planet, until he realized that it was far too bright. After calling Puerto Montt, the light gave a burst, like a flame, and disappeared.

A while later, while flying near Osorno, several red-colored objects appeared, some of which flew off in formation towards the Andes mountain range. For almost half an hour the crew watched several objects appear and disappear and change positions. Their distance was estimated to be between 10 and 20 miles.

Captain France described how the objects separated, moved about in "little jumps" and formed two groups. Finally, as the aircraft was in the vicinity of Chillan they all became lost on the horizon. This was at 0:18 hours on December 29th. The aircraft was flying at subsonic speed but the UFOs flew at both subsonic and supersonic speeds according to the computed speeds. Reports also indicated that the objects were observed visually by tower controllers at Concepcion.

Mr. Petrowitsch, APRO's Chilean Representative, obtained a copy of the 30 minute tape of the aircraft-tower conversations, parts of which appear below;

AIRCRAFT: This is LAN 892. For your information there are now 3 lights at 30,000 feet. Now there are 4. Sometimes a fourth one can be seen. They seem to be aircraft. They are aircraft and they are above the mountain range near San Martin de los Andes (in Argentina) and the lights are constantly changing color. TOWER: 892 received. Could you please indicate your speed?

AIRCRAFT: Our speed right now is Mach 0.84. They are continually changing position. They join formation at an extraordinary speed and then they separate, maintaining irregular distances between themselves. For your information, there are now 5, three have gone ahead of us and the other two have remained at our own speed.

TOWER: LAN 892. Please confirm if the unidentified objects have approached your aircraft?

AIRCRAFT: No. I would say they are maintaining an approximate distance of 10 to 20 miles. At this moment there are 4 in formation, in perfect formation and..... there are 8 in total now. They are all following the course of the plane.

At about 0.18 hours, the red lights began falling behind; the crew last saw them disappearing on the horizon towards the south, close to Argentina.

Although the sighting was made by qualified observers, it appears that the objects never approached the aircraft close enough for the crew to obtain more comprehensive data, such as size and shape.

Some of the estimates of distances and sizes have been left in the original metric system; for those who are not acquainted with this system, 1 meter equals 1.094 yards and 1 kilometer equals 0.621 miles.

Book Review

The UFO Experience

by J. Allen Hynek

Henry Regnery, Chicago, 1972

256 pages, \$6.95

T. S. Kuhn posits in his book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* that science advances in a revolutionary and not an evolutionary fashion. He argues that each discipline, once it is beyond infancy, operates within and views the world from, a particular paradigm. A paradigm is defined as a scientific achievement:

that some particular scientific community acknowledges for a time as supplying the foundation for its further practice. The achievement [must be] sufficiently unprecedented to attract an enduring group of adherents away from competing modes of scientific activity. Simultaneously, it [must be] sufficiently open-ended to leave all sorts of problems for the redefined group of practitioners to resolve (Kuhn, p. 10).

One could conceive of a paradigm as a scientific world view. Scientific revolutions occur when observations made by scientists in a particular field fail to fit into the paradigm in use.

In *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry* J. Allen Hynek argues that this may be the position science finds itself in today. New data, in the form of UFO observations, is not amenable to explanation in terms of our contemporary paradigms. Therefore, we may be confronting a phenomenon which requires a revolution in scientific thought and a shift of paradigms before it can be dealt with scientifically. Throughout the book Hynek conveys a feeling of electricity and optimism that we are on the threshold of a new discovery; something that may not be a mere extrapolation of our present conceptions of reality, such as extraterrestrial visitation, but something a quantum leap beyond.

This narrative, unlike any other discus-

sion of UFOs, is imbedded in the history of science. This puts the problem in perspective. Hynek considers it an example of an area of research which may require the tacit rejection of basic knowledge claims in established disciplines in order to admit of a legitimate inquiry. In the past, when similar conditions existed, it was not unusual for new ideas to be resisted by the established members of the scientific community. Hynek believes that the UFO phenomenon is meeting similar resistance.

Although the content of this volume is important, even more important, for purposes of obtaining an audience, are the credentials of the author. Hynek is Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University. For almost 20 years he functioned as the Scientific Consultant to the Air Force Projects Sign and Blue Book. He had access to the Blue Book files and investigated several hundred cases. During that period of time he was probably more closely attuned to the UFO problem than any other academic.

Many will ask why this book did not appear years ago? I think Hynek answers this question when he refers to his early position on UFO data:

As a junior in the ranks of science at that time, and not inclined to be a martyr or to make a fool of myself on the basis of incomplete data, I decided to remain neutral and let the phenomenon prove or disprove itself.

Why did the book appear now? Hynek is convinced that the Air Force and the scientific community were derelict in their responsibility to address the UFO puzzle. He witnessed the Air Force debacle at close range. From a more removed position he followed the workings of the Condon Committee at the University of Colorado. His conclusion is that the UFO data did not receive an adequate hearing. He considers it his responsibility to inform the scientific community as well as the interested layman of the events which occurred.

This book will prove to be an imposing landmark along the road to the legitimization of UFOs as an area of acceptable scientific investigation. This is not to say that the person steeped in UFO lore will find something new on every page. But it is to say that, by virtue of the proximity of the author to the Air Force UFO project, the weight of his academic credentials and the lucid manner in which he treats a nebulous subject, that many members of the heretofore uninterested scientific fraternity may be reached and possibly moved by the treatise. This volume may well have a similar effect to that of the *Condon Report*. Just as many academics were unwilling to read the less systematic UFO pulp literature, but were

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drawn to the Condon study because of its academic origin, so too, I think, this work will have the same drawing effect.

Hynek states in several places the purposes of the book. In the preface he says that he intends to write "a good book" about UFOs; a book which everyone associated with the field has wanted to see, and which you would not hesitate to recommend to a novice or an initiate to the UFO saga. He states in chapter one that he would like to clear away the many misconceptions about UFOs by presenting the data. And lastly he wants to address the question, are there "new empirical observations" within the UFO data needing new explanation schemes? By a "new empirical observation" he means an experience or piece of data which cannot be incorporated by existing scientific theory or theories. I will return to these points.

The book is composed of three parts. In Part I Hynek addresses the scientific response to UFOs, the experience of sighting a UFO, the characteristics of the UFO reporter and the "strangeness" of UFO reports.

The scientific response is characterized as poor. However, Hynek feels that there was justification for laughter (his own included). Scientists are socialized to expect a certain kind of world, a world in which UFOs do not fit. They receive most of their information from sensational newspaper accounts, which fail to portray UFO sightings accurately. Lastly, and most importantly, the Robertson Panel convened by the CIA in 1953 dismissed the UFO data. Composed of five physical science luminaries, the panel, or parts of it, met for five days to examine cases chosen by Blue Book officers. The resulting negative pronouncement made the study of UFOs academically unrespectable. It is Hynek's contention that once the scientific community is properly informed its members will take action.

The UFO sighting experience is conveyed through the skillful use of testimony given by witnesses. This approach transmits the wonderment, fear, confusion and concern of the reporters much better than if Hynek had merely recounted the experience in his own words.

Considerable effort is expended in discussing the UFO reporter. This is well worth doing. As is pointed out, the only source of data is the reporter. Therefore, we should be concerned with both his psychological and socio-economic characteristics. In the case of the former data is not available, but Hynek substitutes the following statement:

The reliable UFO reporter is generally acknowledged in his com-

munity to be a stable, reputable person, accustomed to responsibility — a family man, holding down a good job and known to be honest in his dealings with others.

The latter data, however, is available, and does not indicate significant differences from what would be expected by sampling the population. If, then, it is argued, we can assume our measuring instrument, the individual, is properly adjusted, why shouldn't we believe his account?

Well deserved attention is given to the "strangeness" of UFO reports. Hynek presents the S-P diagram which plots the strangeness of the report on the abscissa and its "probability" of occurrence on the ordinate. The higher the strangeness and probability ratings the more interesting the report is considered. Granted this is a subjective endeavor, but it enables the investigator to cull the data for the highest rated sightings which will contain the largest amount of information and, therefore, be the most profitable to analyze. It should be pointed out that this is practiced on true UFO reports only. By UFO Hynek means:

The reported perception of an object or light seen in the sky or upon the land the appearance, trajectory and general dynamic and luminescent behavior of which do not suggest a logical, conventional explanation and which is not only mystifying to the original percipients but remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification, if one is possible.

This definition disposes of all but the most subtle noise in the data base.

To facilitate management of the data a typology of reports is developed. The sightings are divided into two kinds; those made at greater than 500 feet and those made at less than 500 feet. The former consists of Nocturnal Lights, Daylight Discs and Radar-Visual Sightings. The latter is composed of Close Encounters of The First Kind (no interaction with the environment), Close Encounters of The Second Kind (interaction with the environment, i.e., landing marks, barking dogs etc.), and Close Encounters of The Third Kind (occupants are reported in or about the craft).

Part II, almost half of the book, presents a dozen or so cases in each category. This is the most significant section of the volume because in it appears a sampling of the best available evidence. A prototype for each of the six classes of sightings is developed. The credibility of the reports is increased by never using a case with less than two witnesses. Occupational data on the reporters is provided and an intuitive comparison is made of the types of

people who report in each of the six categories. Except for Close Encounters of The Second and Third Kind the types of reporters are quite similar.

Hynek believes that the real scientific pay dirt lies in Close Encounters of The Second Kind. For it is in these cases that instrumentation can be brought to bear. The problem is that in the past these reports were written off and the data lost. Such things as stopped car ignitions, radios and headlights, burnt rings, temporary paralysis and singed vegetation deserve extensive study. Hynek is convinced the events occurred. The question is, what caused them?

In Part III Hynek addresses the Air Force investigation, the Condon study and the future of UFO research.

If one can say that throughout the first ten chapters the Air Force is on the receiving end of numerous small barbs, it is only fair to characterize chapter eleven as one large barb. Hynek claims that in the early years the scientific fraternity was responsible for the Air Force position. "Even generals don't wish to be laughed at by scientists." Nevertheless, he considers the Air Force investigatory effort unforgivable. The main concern is that, over time, the data exhibited interesting characteristics which the Air Force failed to detect. This occurred because 1) Blue Book examined one case at a time and did not look for patterns, 2) there was an assumption on the project that UFOs were misperceptions, 3) the Pentagon frowned on the subject and 4) a "don't rock the boat" attitude predominated the Blue Book staff.

Blue Book investigatory methods receive scathing criticism. The Blue Book Theorem; "It can't be therefore it isn't" is derived from Hynek's experience with Air Force procedures. When asked by the Air Force for specific criticisms in 1968 he stated:

A. Blue Book is not fulfilling its missions

- 1) to determine if UFOs are a threat,
- 2) to use scientific or technical data obtained from the UFO investigation.

B. The Blue Book staff is too small and poorly trained.

C. Blue Book is a closed system having no dialogue with the scientific community.

D. Blue Book statistical methods are a travesty.

E. Blue Book expends too much time on poor cases and too little on good cases.

F. Blue Book information input is poor as a result of poor local interrogation.

G. Blue Book operates under the assumption that all reports are

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misidentifications.

H. Inadequate use has been made of the project's scientific consultant.

On the cover-up versus foul-up debate Hynek is undecided. He points out that the Blue Book investigation was shoddy; but, was it purposely so to function as a front for a quiet, thorough analysis? He indicates that one could make a strong case for either side of the argument.

Hynek is not gentle when he takes on the Condon study and its principal investigator Dr. Edward U. Condon. He is appalled at Condon's slanted summary which prefaces the report. This summary "adroitly avoided mentioning that there was embodied within the bowels of the report a remaining mystery." Hynek demonstrates that puzzling cases are systematically misrepresented. No words are minced in pointing out that Condon's politically worded preface unjustifiably put the "kiss of death" on the future funding of UFO research.

Substantively, it is argued that 1) the subject matter for study by the Condon Committee received incorrect definition, 2) the Committee studied the wrong problem.

In the first instance, approximately 75% of the cases found in the report are not true UFOs. They do not mystify individuals conversant with the UFO phenomenon. Many of the cases could be explained by the man on the street. In the second instance, the group attempted to test for the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. This hypothesis is not falsifiable. One can argue, for example, that if no evidence is found, it is because the extraterrestrial beings are so sophisticated that they are able to evade our best methods of detection. Therefore, Hynek concludes the Condon study was hopelessly impaired from its onset.

The chapter is closed by pulling the tail of the National Academy of Sciences for endorsing the scope and methodology of the *Condon Report*. In so doing, six claims are made which fault the methodology of the study:

- 1) the hypothesis was not falsifiable;
- 2) the definition of the problem assumed the answer;
- 3) the data chosen for the study was not relevant to the problem;
- 4) bias, prejudice and ridicule were not avoided;
- 5) ridicule became an accepted part of Dr. Condon's scientific method;
- 6) the director of the project did not understand the problem.

The most damning is point 2. For on page 9 of the *Condon Report*, a UFO is

defined as:

An unidentified flying object is here defined as the stimulus for a report made by one or more individuals of something seen in the sky (or an object thought to be capable of flight but seen when landed on earth) which the observer could not identify as having an ordinary natural origin and which seemed to him sufficiently puzzling that he undertook to make a report of it.

On the same page the problem is defined as:

The problem then becomes that of learning to recognize the various kinds of stimuli that give rise to UFO reports.

Hynek argues, I think justifiably, that this definition of the problem assumes the answer. All UFO reports are evoked by natural stimuli.

If the *Condon Report* demonstrated anything it is just the opposite of this. Approximately 25% of the data can not be attributed to natural causes. Read with this in mind, the study is a good argument for further research.

The volume concludes by Hynek stating what he thinks he has and has not demonstrated and where UFO research should go from here. He contends that:

- 1) UFOs deserve study.
- 2) The data points to an aspect of the world not yet explored.
- 3) Old data must be reorganized and new data must be collected in a more systematic fashion.
- 4) The Blue Book project and the *Condon Report* have failed to disprove 1-3.
- 5) 1-4 suggests UFOs are "new empirical facts".

He thinks it has not been shown that:

- 1) A shift in outlook on the world is necessary to study UFOs.
- 2) What a verifiable explanation of UFOs is.

Hynek argues the next phase of UFO research demands that the problem be rigorously defined and feasible methods of attack outlined. He advocates two approaches to the data. One is labeled passive, the other active.

In the case of the former, statistical techniques should be utilized to analyze large batches of data. This would first require getting the data into machine-readable form. Then, various sorts of correlational and factorial design studies could be executed. This might well get at the signal within the noise and indicate important patterns.

The active approach would involve examining individual multiple-witness, close encounter cases. Trained investigators would be needed. These would be full time researchers who could go out into the field at a moment's notice. If a

"hot spot" of sightings were established instrumentation could be transported to the scene.

I think it can be said that Hynek is successful in attaining his previously mentioned objectives. This will undoubtedly be the number one book on everyone's list when asked to recommend "a good book" on UFOs. The only material with which I have had contact that begins to compare with it are the first two books of Jacques Vallee and the largely unpublished papers of the late James McDonald. This is not to say that every aspect of the UFO phenomenon is touched upon. Such is far from true. However, Hynek uses the volume as a vehicle for making a case for the study of UFOs. He marshals data not to thrill or amaze, but to generate prototypes. He criticizes the Air Force investigation not to demonstrate a conspiracy, but to indicate that the Air Force endeavors were not rigorous (it is interesting that he does not rule out a conspiracy). In like fashion the Condon Committee and the National Academy of Sciences are treated. The intent is not to convince the reader that evil men plotted against the study of UFOs, but rather to show that most men trained in the physical sciences, and scientific method in general, are incapable of confronting a potentially anomalous phenomenon.

Anyone familiar with UFO literature realizes that a credibility problem exists. Just how much of a particular volume should one believe? Much to the displeasure of the reader, most UFO books do not provide basic documentation such as names, places, dates, sources of information etc. Fortunately, this book does not fall into that category. Names, dates, locations, it is all here. As a result, virtually all of the cases could be independently investigated.

By presenting the UFO data Hynek successfully removes misconceptions about the phenomenon. He copes with the charge that "only kooks see UFOs" by providing socio-economic information on the reporters. By developing a typology of well documented, thoroughly investigated multiple-witness cases the objection that sightings are made by lone individuals who see lights-in-the-sky is overcome. Through the skillful use of quotes from reporters the concern, fear, bewilderment and amazement which the witnesses experienced in conveyed. And by discussing his own reaction to investigatory work he imparts a bit of his awe and incredulity at the chronicled testimony.

Most important, for the systematic thrust of the book and the scientific audience it must reach, the Air Force and the *Condon Report* are taken to task. Since the Robertson Panel of 1953, the

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Air Force and members of the scientific community have claimed that Blue Book, backed up by some of the country's foremost scientists, successfully explained away the UFO enigma. The Condon study is now cited as reinforcement for this claim. For far too long, both studies have enjoyed a degree of legitimacy which only a man with the credentials of the author may once and for all put to rest.

The last objective of the book was to come to terms with the question, are UFOs new empirical observations? I think Hynek adduced the evidence to answer in the affirmative. Using his UFO definition one must admit that UFOs are phenomena which technically trained individuals who are familiar with investigative procedures cannot identify. Having established that the reporters are not kooks, one then has as much right to ask, why not believe them, as to ask, why believe them? Having already destroyed the Air Force and Condon Report arguments, Hynek concludes that, yes, UFOs are new empirical observations. What they are, however, remains open to question.

This volume will receive criticism from elements on both sides of the UFO controversy. It is the price Hynek will pay for approaching the subject with moderation. Those individuals who are long time UFO researchers will find that Hynek provides little new information and oversimplifies the phenomenon to avoid getting involved with its more esoteric aspects. Moreover, he does not acknowledge what most of them have concluded, that UFOs are manifestations of extraterrestrial visitation. On the other hand, the opponents of further UFO research will argue that he goes too far; that he has attempted to perpetrate a fraud against the academic community by clothing a nonsense subject in scientific garb.

I think Hynek is aware of the fence upon which he chooses to sit. There is a dual personality to the book. It is as if Hynek the scientist keeps Hynek the man in check. At one point he discusses landing marks, craft characteristics, rates of acceleration and humanoids. At another he is quick to point out that the phenomenon is unknown, that it is too early to theorize and that he prefers not to play the role of prophet.

This returns us to the question of Hynek's audience. For whom is he writing? Certainly not for the UFO detractors. They have made up their minds. And not for UFO researchers, they do not need convincing. As I suggested previously, this volume is addressed to a scientific constituency. A group which is

known to be conservative. A body, the antagonism of which is anathema to the progress of UFO research, while its cooperation is essential to legitimating UFOs as an acceptable area of scientific inquiry. Hynek's remarks, then, are couched in terms which seemingly are the most appropriate to the task. It is his belief that if the scientific fraternity is properly informed, segments of it will respond.

I would suggest that this will be a long tedious process. The scientific community will not be turned around overnight. In fact, I would tend to agree with Kuhn when he states that scientific revolutions don't take place until the older academicians, with vested interests in "science as usual," die off. This makes room for the younger men who sat in the wings unsuccessfully attempting to make their ideas heard.

The scientific community first became aware of UFOs 25 years ago. Now a new generation of academics is taking a second look at the subject. For example, in December, 1968, a UFO Subcommittee of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics published a statement in its journal *Astronautics And Aeronautics* asking the engineering and scientific communities to examine the UFO evidence. Two years later, in the November, 1970, issue the UFO Subcommittee criticized the conclusions of the Condon Report and advocated further study of the problem. In 1971, the same journal in its July and September issues published accounts of thoroughly investigated UFO cases. Also in 1971 an academic symposium sponsored by APRO was held at The University of Arizona and one sponsored by the Australia New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science took place at the University of Adelaide. Some time this year we can expect publication, in book form, of the papers presented at the 1969 American Association for the Advancement of Science UFO Symposium held in Boston. None of this activity would have been possible in the recent past. I think the progress is encouraging.

In numerous instances, Hynek, in his role as scientific consultant to Blue Book, was referred to as the "scientific watchdog" of the project. Many academics felt that UFOs were not a problem because a respected member of the astronomical community, in close touch with the phenomenon, did not speak out. Hynek has now spoken; a bit later than many would have liked, but, nevertheless, rather loud. It is now up to his scientific colleagues, who were quick to follow his lead in the past, to respond to the alarm.

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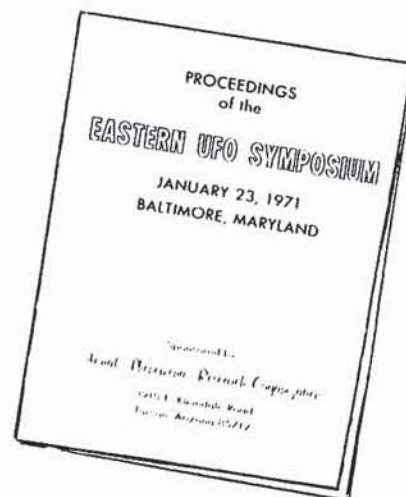
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