

the apro bulletin

VOL. 27, NO. 6

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

DECEMBER, 1978

CE III Encounter in Nebraska

By DAVE KENNEY
Field Investigator

1723 Sighting in Louisiana

The following description of an unusual aerial object was furnished by Hobart Key, and is from "Dupratz History of Louisiana", limited edition by J.S.W. Harmanson, Publisher, New Orleans, Louisiana. The text is from the English edition of 1774, pages 36, 37 and 38:

"Towards the autumn of this year I saw a phaenomenon which struck the superstitious with great terror: it was in effect so extraordinary, that I never remember to have heard of anything that either resembled, or even came up to it. I had just supped without doors, in order to enjoy the cool of the evening; my face was turned to the west, and I sat before my table to examine some planets which had already appeared. I perceived a glimmering light, which made me raise my eyes; and immediately I saw, at the elevation of about 45 degrees above the horizon, a light proceeding from the south, of the breadth of three inches, which went off to the north, always spreading itself as it moved, and made itself heard by a whizzing light like that of the largest sky-rocket. I judged by the eye that this light could not be above our atmosphere, and the whizzing noise which I heard confirmed me in that notion. When it came in like manner to be about 45 degrees to the north above the horizon, it stopped short, and ceased enlarging itself: in that place it appeared to be twenty inches broad; so that in its course, which had been very rapid, it formed the figure of a trumpet-marine, and left in its passage very lively sparks, shining brighter than those which fly from under a smith's hammer; but they were extinguished almost as fast as they were emitted.

At the north elevation I just mentioned, there issued out with a great noise from the middle of the large end, a ball quite round, and all on fire: this ball was about six inches in diameter; it fell below the horizon to thenorth, and emitted about twenty minutes after, a hollow, but very loud noise for the space of a minute, which appeared to come from a great distance. The light began to be weakened to the south, after emitting the ball, and at length disappeared, before the noise of the ball was heard."

* * * * *

The following incident is an example of a truly incredible event reported by a totally credible witness. The witness is a prominent, highly respected business man whose name is familiar to nearly everyone in the Los Angeles area. As the owner and president of a large firm, he is an extremely busy executive who has had neither the time nor the inclination to become familiarized with UFO phenomena. Nevertheless, his account does contain many striking similarities to previously reported encounters—similarities which would normally be familiar only to someone who has carefully researched the subject. The brilliant lights, the "electric motor" sound, the apparent abduction and the car chase are characteristic of many reports. The shape of the object and the appearance and behaviour of its occupant, however, are not typical and present some intriguing implications which may shed new light on CE III encounters. His account of the incident is as follows:

On the evening of September 14, 1978, the witness concluded his business activities in Washington, D.C., and departed for Sioux City, Iowa. His ultimate destination was Randolph, Nebraska, about 55 miles southwest of Sioux City, where he had scheduled a business meeting for the following morning. After arriving at the Sioux City airport, he obtained a rental car (a 1978 Chevette) and left for Randolph at about 9:30 PM, MDST.

Traveling west on Interstate 20, he stopped in Laurel, Nebraska for a cup of coffee. Laurel is about 40 miles west and slightly south of Sioux City. He then continued his journey, still on Interstate 20, and passed through the small community of Belden, about 6 miles west of Laurel. Several miles beyond Belden, he noticed an extremely bright light projected downward by a descending object. At first he thought it was meteor, or possibly a helicopter equipped with floodlights. He quickly realized it was neither, however, as he watched an object—the source of the illumination—descend on a column of white light and land on the road ahead of him.

He stopped his car about 20 yards from the object which had landed partly on the road and partly on the shoulder. It closely resembled an army tank. It appeared to have treads but he did not see them move. It also appeared to have turrets (but no guns) and perhaps a standard camouflage paint scheme. Some light was still being

[See CE III - Page Three]

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN
Copyright © 1979 by the
AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, INC.

3910 E. Kleindale Road
Tucson, Arizona 85712
Phone: 602 — 793-1825 and 602 — 326-0059
Coral E. Lorenzen, Editor
Norman Duke, Richard Beal,
Brian James, Lance P. Johnson,
Robert Gonzales, Artists

A.P.R.O. STAFF

International Director L. J. Lorenzen
Director of Research .. James A. Harder, Ph.D.
Public Relations Hal Starr
Secretary-Treasurer..... Coral E. Lorenzen
Membership Secretary .. Madeleine H. Cooper
Staff Librarian Allen Benz
Office ManagerChristine Panter

The A.P.R.O. Bulletin is the official copyrighted publication of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., (A.P.R.O.), 3910 E. Kleindale Rd., Tucson, Arizona 85712, and is issued every month to members and subscribers. The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., a non-profit corporation established under the laws of the State of Arizona and a federally recognized scientific and educational tax-exempt organization, is dedicated to the eventual solution of the phenomenon of unidentified flying objects. Inquiries pertaining to membership and subscription may be made to the above address.

A.P.R.O. Membership including Bulletin:
United States \$12.00/yr.
Canada & Mexico \$13.00/yr.
(Canadian Currency will be accepted)
All other countries \$15.00/yr.
Subscription to Bulletin only: Same as Above

News wires, newspapers, radio and television stations may quote up to 250 words from this publication, provided that the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc. (or A.P.R.O.), Tucson, Arizona, is given as the source. Written permission of the Editor must be obtained for quotes in excess of 250 words.

FIRST UFO EXHIBIT

On November 10th, 1978, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen flew to Minneapolis, Minnesota to view the UFO exhibit on the 51st floor of the IDS building in that city. APRO (Mr. Lorenzen in particular) had worked closely with Richard Hobson, the exhibits director, in furnishing much of the display material.

Contact with Mr. Lorenzen was made by telephone in the spring and after contacting the offices of other UFO groups, Hobson visited the APRO offices and, upon examining our sighting and photo files and library, decided we were the best source of display material.

Mr. Lorenzen worked with witnesses and a local

artist, Albert Lavigne, who did much of the work on the models used on the TV show, "Project UFO", to produce models of UFOs as well as occupants. The exhibit is constantly being up-dated and contains not only models, but taped interviews and many photos. We urge our Minnesota members to view the exhibit as it is quite an experience.

Members elsewhere who plan to visit Minneapolis or have a long lay-over between airplane flights are urged to visit the exhibit also.

Mr. Gene Lundholm, Field Investigator in Superior, Wisconsin, drove to Minneapolis on the 12th and drove Mr. Lorenzen to Barron, Wisconsin on Saturday where he joined Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen at dinner with Mrs. Lorenzen's family. It is always a good experience to meet and visit with members in the field and the Lorenzens will try to co-ordinate with local members for future APRO trips.

When the Lorenzens changed planes in Denver on the trip to Minneapolis, they were met by Dr. Peter Van Arsdale, APRO's consultant in Anthropology, who is carrying on the investigation of the "Rocky Mountain Ranch phenomena". With Dr. Van Arsdale were "the business partner" and "Barbara" who are two of the principal witnesses in the report, and it was a good opportunity to visit with them and evaluate them as witnesses first hand. The Rocky Mountain report remains the most interesting and baffling report the Lorenzens have ever examined.

* * * * *

MARGARET DAVIS DIES

Mrs. Margaret Davis, APRO Field Investigator in Barron, Wisconsin passed away on Thursday, November 9, at her home, of apparent heart failure. She conducted the investigations in her area in 1978 which resulted in the corroboration of sightings in the New Scandia, Minnesota area of March 22, 1978.

Mrs. Davis is an example of how valuable women are in the field of UFO research. She knew what questions to ask, and was meticulous in her attention to detail. A personal friend of Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen, she will be sorely missed. We ask members in Northwestern Wisconsin to double their efforts to recruit members in the Northwestern Wisconsin area.

* * * * *

PLEASE SEND OLD AND
NEW ZIP CODES WITH
ADDRESS CHANGES

[Continued from Page One]

emitted by the object but he heard no sound.

The witness opened the car door and started to get out. He was partially out of the car with one foot on the ground when a door in the side of the object opened and a man stepped out. The witness stated that the man appeared to be a normal human in every respect—dark haired, of normal size, and wearing white duck pants and a white shirt. The man then spoke to the witness, addressing him by his first name:

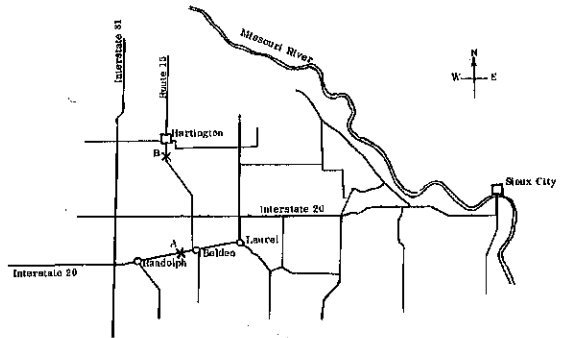
"Well, Bob—what do you think of *this*?"

The man then re-entered the object, the door closed, and the object then lifted off in the same manner it had landed, ascending on a brilliant column of light. The witness did hear a sound when the object lifted off—a high pitched whine—but it in no way resembled the sound of an aircraft or helicopter engine. The light was so intense that he could not look directly at it and had to shield his eyes as he watched it ascend.

He does not remember getting back into the car, but the next thing he recalls is that he was back in the car and was driving down the road. An object—perhaps the same one—was following him closely, beaming a light through the rear window with such intensity that the interior of the car was as bright as daylight. He then realized he was no longer on Interstate 20 but was on an entirely different road. The witness stated that his family had owned property in this section of Nebraska (Cedar County) since 1880, and he was therefore thoroughly familiar with all its towns, highways and backroads. In a few moments he had determined his new location—he was near the town of Hartington, heading south on Route 15, and was 12 to 15 miles north of where he had been, apparently only an instant earlier.

Understandably, the witness had become frightened by this time and tried to outrun the object, driving as fast as possible. The object, however, stayed right behind him. He knew that the road would eventually intersect with Interstate 20 at Belden, so he continued racing south at speeds of 90 to 95. When he neared the spot where he had made his initial sighting, the object suddenly stopped following him and zoomed off. He then continued on to Randolph, arriving there at about 11:00 PM, and immediately placed a phone call to the Sioux City police department. They suggested he report the incident to a UFO organization in Seattle (Phenomena Research) whose phone number they had on file. After checking into his motel room, he called this organization and reported his experience to Mr. Bob Gribble, who subsequently asked that APRO investigate the incident.

After his business meeting in the morning, the witness made numerous inquiries to determine if anyone else had seen the UFO. He was unable to find any witnesses for his sighting, but did find one



A. Location of initial sighting and encounter
B. Location immediately after encounter

person who had seen a UFO in that area a year earlier.

Throughout the entire sequence of events, the witness did not see any other cars. No EM effects were noted—the car's engine, lights and instruments all functioned normally at all times. He was not aware of any unaccountable loss of time, nor did he experience any ill effects such as burns, skin rash or headaches. He did not think it was likely that the object had left any discernible marks on the paved road and therefore he did not attempt to locate and inspect the precise spot of the landing afterward.

As mentioned earlier, the witness had previously not had any particular interest in UFOs, and in view of his position and reputation in the business community, he obviously has much to lose and nothing to gain by revealing his experience. His desire for anonymity is therefore understandable. His sincerity and firm conviction in the reality of the incident are evidenced by the considerable time and effort he spent in getting his report to the proper people, and by the detailed notes of the events that he made while they were still fresh in his memory.

ITALIAN REPORTS

An undated clipping from the New York Times informs us that there have been many sightings in Italy in the latter part of 1978. We urge our Italian members to forward all available press reports and we will put our translators to work so that all the members will be apprised of the details. Following are the available details:

In Rome, bank clerk Nino Raffagnino spotted an object and took several photos with his camera fitted with a 1,000 millimeter lens. One, taken while the object was stationary, showed a disc of light with a hole in the middle.

[See Italian - Page Four]

Italian

[Continued from Page Three]

Officers of the Palermo police, alerted by citizens' calls, also snapped photos. Taken while the UFO was moving, they showed a long, wide streak of light. Reports were also made by National Police Corp officers at Lecce, in the south, and from two soldiers standing guard at Brindisi, on the Adriatic Coast.

Other reports came from Sicily and Milan, and an alarming item came from San Benedetto, de Tronto, a fishing village on the Adriatic sea near Pescara, where two fishermen in a boat were reported to have disappeared without a trace on a clear night when the sea was "smooth as a mirror" and lit by a full moon. Fishermen refused to go out at night after that. Immediately, talk of an "Adriatic Triangle" began reminiscent of a legendary "Bermuda Triangle" where ships and planes are rumored to have disappeared.

An American soldier stationed in Italy sent the following information about sightings he is investigating.

Globes emitting white and yellow light were sighted from Milan to the small town of Vibo Valenzia in the southern province of Calabria. More than two hundred people attending an early morning mass in Vibo Valenzia said they saw a glowing ball hover over a field near the parish church before moving off at high speed. Farmers in a province of Tuscany, north of Rome, also said they saw a round, glowing object soaring above them. Citizens in Bologna and Ferrara reported a dome-like shape moving at low altitude.

Thanks to Sgt. Thomas E. Hunt for that information. The date of all reports was pre-dawn of December 18, so it is likely the other sightings took place in December also.

* * * * *

1957 RADAR CASE

By Ann Druffel

(Mrs. Druffel is one of the better known and competent UFO Researchers in the Los Angeles area.)

A local businessman, who requests anonymity and whom we will call Mr. C., shared the details of a startling UFO experience which occurred when he was on active duty with the AF Air Defense Command in the late 1950s.

According to Mr. C.'s statement, he was on duty with the 740th AC and WS Squadron at Ellsworth AF Base in South Dakota. The year, as far as can

be determined, was 1957.

At 2:00 or 3:00 o'clock in the morning, a call came from an adjacent radar site requesting confirmation on an unknown airborne target which was behaving strangely. The other radar site had detected it hovering, then suddenly rushing forward at 100 miles per hour.

The 740th Squadron radar plotted the target and confirmed it fully, making many checks to be sure the blip was not caused by weather or some electrical phenomenon. It was determined that the radar signal was from a solid, unknown object at 30,000 feet.

Mr. C., who was the Air Force radar controller on duty, scrambled a fighter from the 54th Fighter Interceptor Squadron to investigate it. The fighter squadron, as well as Mr. C.'s radar base, were both part of the 29th Air Squadron.

The night was calm, clear and dark: as an F-86D radar-equipped jet rushed toward the vicinity of the object. The jet's radar picked up a contact in the same spot where both ground radar sites painted it. But there was no visual evidence of an object.

Suddenly, at the exact spot where the object was evidently hovering, the pursuing aircraft met severe turbulence. The target disappeared simultaneously on all three scopes, then about three seconds later reappeared 60 miles away. The fantastic speed of the maneuver indicated that the object had traveled on the order of 10,000 miles per hour.

Again the plane was vectored toward the object which was, as before, being detected by three radars but still presenting no visual appearance. As the plane passed directly into the blip, the turbulence was so severe that the F-86D was practically knocked upside down. And once again the object disappeared off the scopes, simultaneously with the teeth-shattering turbulence. It reappeared a few seconds later, miles away in another part of the sky.

Mr. C. prepared to vector the F-86D toward the object a third time. But the jet's pilot refused to approach it again. He said to Mr. C. over the intercom, "If you want to see what that thing is, come up here and do it yourself!"

The radar control crew of the 740th Squadron noted the puzzling incident in their log. The next day they received orders through official channels that the logs must be changed. All reference to the object and the jet chase were ordered erased. The crew followed orders.

In 1958, after serving four years, Mr. C. left the Air Force and at present is employed in a position of responsibility in the Los Angeles area. As the years passed, he said nothing about the incident, for he did not know what regulations might be in effect to enforce silence, even on a civilian.

Privately, he theorized that the turbulence, which had severely shaken a heavy fighter jet,

[See Radar-Page Five]

Radar

[Continued from Page Four]

might have been due to a temporary vacuum left by the rapid departure of the object, and into which the jet unwittingly flew. He is aware, of course, of the phenomenon of CAT (clear air turbulence) which is still not well understood by physicists. But the fact that the jet encountered the severe turbulence at the point at which it met the blip on the scope precludes the possibility that it was experiencing a normal phenomenon.

Mr. C. stated that all possible checks had been made to identify the blip as inversion-caused or the result of an electrical atmospheric phenomenon. He was acquainted with the fact that sometimes radar sets at certain frequencies pick up electrical anomalies. He had switched the set to other frequencies to delete this possibility, and the two other radar sources concerned had done the same.

Mr. C. stated that at least two of the airmen in the control tower on that night, live in the Southern California area and will confirm the incident. He wishes before they are contacted, however, that the problem of governmental regulations be cleared up.

He asked the question, "What would be the situation of a former military man releasing information on a UFO experience since all UFO data has, ostensibly, been declassified?"

In accordance with Mr. C's request, I wrote to Secretary of Defence Harold Brown at the Pentagon on March 11, 1978, giving Mr. C. full anonymity. On March 21 the following answer came from Colonel Charles D. Cooper, USAF, Deputy Chief, Community Relations Division, Office of Information, Department of the Air Force, Washington D.C.

"... in 1976 all AF documentation regarding UFO phenomena was transferred to the National Archives and Records Service in Washington, D.C. to insure greatest public accessibility.

However, the alleged sighting [Mr. C's] may have resulted in a Communication Instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings (CIRVIS) report which is used to document various sightings of unexplained or unusual events . . .

"Blanket releasability of CIRVIS reports is not possible due to the wide range of defense topics covered by them. Each report would have to be reviewed on an individual basis . . . to determine releasability.

"If this sighting did not generate a CIRVIS report, we know of no reason why the incident cannot be presented to interested organizations. If the former AF member has any further questions . . . advise him to correspond directly with this office . . ."

The above letter was discussed at length with Mr. C. So far as he could determine, the incident had not resulted in a CIRVIS report. Since the

reports they had made of it had been scrubbed from the logs, he could not see how in any sense it could be part of a CIRVIS report. However, could a CIRVIS report have been filed, without MR. C's knowledge, by the higher officials who ordered the radar crew to delete the incident from their logs?

Mr. C. is satisfied at this point that the above facts can be safely given publicity, but wishes to maintain anonymity for the time being. He is hopeful some other research organization, or some independent UFO investigator, has prior knowledge of the same incident from another source, perhaps even the jet pilot himself, and that such information can be correlated with his own. Since there is safety in numbers, Mr. C. might be persuaded to speak out publicly if other witnesses to the same occurrence have already done so.

(If anyone in the membership has any knowledge of this incident, please contact APRO Headquarters. Any additional information will be forwarded to Mrs. Druffel for her files).

Three Ocean Sightings

Three reports of UFO encounters by ocean-going vessels have come into headquarters which are presented here. The first was forwarded by Attorney Donald L. Merriman of the law firm, Merriman, Crawther and Merriman of Baltimore, Maryland. We present his report in his own words:

"I was the Officer of the Deck aboard the U.S.S. Gainard, DD 707, a naval destroyer sometime in either late 1952 or early 1953. I had reported to the bridge to take over the 2000-2400 watch and, as I recall, there were several other officers on the bridge with me keeping me company and we had just passed the word with regard to the movie being shown on the fantail. As you may or may not know, the gun mount is simply rotated and a movie screen is attached to the side of the mount and all personnel at the movie sit facing the bow of the vessel. I only point this out because undoubtedly other people on the vessel probably saw what we saw.

"In any case, it was not quite dark but it would be dark in five to 15 minutes and we were heading north toward Newport, Rhode Island, so that we would have been cruising on a heading of 350° or thereabouts. I recall also that we were approximately due East of Key West, Florida, and, as it turned out, this was significant.

"The officers keeping me company were mature, sophisticated and educated. We all saw far out ahead of the ship a bright light which came from the righthand side and from "nowhere" and it streaked across the entire expanse of the horizon

[See Ocean-Page Six]

Ocean

[Continued from Page Five]

from right to left in a perfectly horizontal plane and it disappeared across the horizon to the left. In recap, I suppose you could say that it was heading in the direction of the U.S. mainland (Key West?) because it was going from East to West. The object was obviously far away and far out in front of us and it was disturbing. It made no noise and, despite the distance away, it appeared to look like a lighted 100-watt light bulb that someone might throw across in a straight line in total darkness.

"All of the officers saw it and all of them discussed it with some knowledgeable background. We all concluded that it was not a falling star or a comet because it did not descend or fall or go out and it certainly had no tail. I thought it was so significant that I told the C.O. about it later and I actually logged it into the Ship's Log, as I recall. There is always some embarrassment connected with these things and these sightings and, therefore, I don't believe I talked to anyone else about the matter.

"Finally, however, I must tell you of something else which was somewhat startling. We had been in Cuba but one of the officers lived in Key West, Florida, and, when we got to Newport and we received our mail, that officer received a copy of a newspaper local to Key West. There was an article in the paper concerning people at an outdoor movie witnessing a very similar phenomena at about the same time and on the same date as the sighting I had witnessed. The distance between Key West and our ship would probably have been 300-400 miles and I would suppose that the actual speed of the object could have been worked out very easily."

Our next case comes from George Balanos, APRO Representative for Greece and is considered to be a most unusual report.

April 17, 1978

Sighting aboard M/V "Samos Storm", Greek Merchant Navy.

Position: 435 miles east of Bermuda (31°55' North long. 56°20' West lat.)

Course: 256°

Date and local time: April 17, 1978, 01:30.

Witnesses: Kolokythas, Angelos, 3rd Officer, Greek; Fiallos, Hilbertro, sailor, probably Argentinian (not sure about the spelling of his first name).

Narrator: Kolokythas, Angelos. He signed his original report and permits his name to be used.

Investigator: Balanos, George, A.P.R.O. representative for Greece.

Note: Compare with "Ship's crew sees UFO" in *APRO Bulletin*, May, 1978, Vol. 26, No. 11.

Witness Kolokythas was on the bridge with Fiallos. The weather was moderate and very slightly cloudy. The moon was (probably) low above the horizon. The speed of the ship was 17.5 miles per hour.

Quite suddenly the whole ship was illuminated by something like a very strong searchlight. They could not see the source as it was over them. A few seconds later the 3rd Officer looked out and up and had time enough to see the source or part of it. It was just a circle of bright white light. Though he can not be sure of its distance, he thinks it was no bigger than 5 meters (15 feet) in diameter.

The round light was in fact a sort of searchlight, only it had no beam of light. The "beam" was made up out of countless bright points that were slowly coming down like tiny snowflakes. The color of the light points was white, very bright but not bright enough to hurt the eyes. At the same time a complete silence prevailed on the ship. They could hear nothing, even the sound of the engines. They tried to talk but could not hear their own voices. The radar was out at the time and as far as they can say, there were no electrical or mechanical disturbances of any sort.

The slowly falling light points had a very weird effect on their surroundings. The whole ship was as bright as day and every color looked very intense and lively. The light had an even stranger effect. On whatever one looked at, if it was in profile, had a very dark layer around it about one or two inches thick. Around that dark layer there was a very thin but intensely bright line, like a thinner outer layer. That second outer layer was extremely bright, like that of an electric arc, but still it was not hurting the eyes.

The whole incident took about 8 to 10 seconds. A few seconds before the end the 3rd Officer looked out and up and saw the bright circle I mentioned above. The bright points were coming from it and the only difference one saw by looking at the source was that the bright points were denser as they were coming out. On the whole, it looked like a searchlight with a beam of bright dust and not light.

The light was turned off as suddenly as it had come on and again without any sound. After that nothing could be seen in the sky. They checked their compass and saw that it was oscillating right and left about 12° from the proper course. It kept on acting like that for 5 to 10 minutes and then it became normal again. There were no other after-effects. Only the main witness confessed that he was highly terrified and could not sleep well for a week afterward.

Also, the next day, at about 14:00, a four-engined propeller-driven plane approached the ship, flying very low. It made a turn around and in front of the ship and flew away. It was not a Coast Guard plane. Though the witness is not absolutely sure, it was a USAF plane. The crew wondered about what it was looking for.

The following comes from an APRO member who is the wife of the Captain of a British Merchant ship. The narrative is in her own words. The date and location are not given but we expect to have them and will publish as a follow-up.

We, in the meantime had a close encounter, type II. I was not present. One of our junior officers, the second mate to be exact, and the seacunny on duty saw a strange very luminous ball, almost as large as two cars coming head on, at no more than half a mile dead ahead of the ship, hovering over the water and shining orange and white. Our seacunny who is a strict Muslim started muttering about Divine wrath and ghostly phenomena. The mate, who is more practical, deviated the vessel two degrees to port to avoid a collision, only to have the object jump to the altered course, always at the same distance and at the speed of the vessel. He came back on course, and the same thing happened. Frustrated, he just kept on watching it to see what happened. Nothing did, the object kept on just the same for almost 20 minutes, then suddenly glided to one side and disappeared leisurely behind the aft accommodation. As UFOs are anathema to my husband (and I would say any officer who likes to keep a good job) he did not log it. If you would be interested in more data I shall have him make a drawing of what he thought he saw and talk to the seacunny. A thing I have not been able to do yet, as he has the dog watch and we are trafficking in very busy lanes at the moment.

I have also set all watches to watch the Heavens as carefully as the sea and see what happens.

Multiple Phenomena on a Rocky Mountain Ranch

By John S. Derr, Ph.D.

and

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D.

[Continued]

Jim: I'm just the opposite. If you ever found out anything, I'd love to know. I'm pretty sure that the things that happened out there are significant enough, at least, like the box. I haven't read about the box but enough people have seen it. I'm reasonably sure that there is one permanent installation that can be tracked down or at least surveyed by someone. And I'm reasonably sure that the activity is increasing, not diminishing. I have some curiosity about how often this is happening. I have read reports about the alleged kidnapping of Travis Walton in Arizona. The same type of thing--occurred with the man on Mt. Evans who said something was after him. And it just quietly disappeared out of the news. And of course, I'm familiar with the Betty and Barney Hill

thing. I have mixed feelings--like the Hickson-Parker case in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Barbara: I'm skeptical about anything I haven't experienced myself.

Jim: But when it happens to you, your skepticism goes very quickly, you know. It's a hard thing. I can't believe it happened to somebody else; but at the same time, I don't doubt that it happened to me. I think it is probably the same spot that a lot of people are in.

Barbara Thinks Children Have Unhealthy Interest in UFOs

Barbara: I don't want my kids to get anymore into this. The youngest boy is very bright and is getting too wrapped up in this. It is too much; it's unhealthy--too much of anything is unhealthy, I think. I don't see anything other than the tremendous, what I consider, unhealthy interest. If something comes on TV or if there is an article in a magazine, Sam will go to great lengths to hear it including sneaking, lying or whatever in order to get to the TV, spending lunch money for a magazine, and seeing Close Encounters of the Third Kind. And I think that's unhealthy to get that wrapped in it.

Sweet Smell

Jim: There is something I would like to know from you. When you are mining beryllium it gives off a sweet smell. I would really like to know exactly what type of a sweet smell. What we have experienced out there and a number of people have, is a very heavy permeating odor of, at first we thought vanilla, and then we finally refined to cherry-vanilla and it permeated whole large areas. We have driven through it in the car and stopped, part way through, and it's still there. It's there during times when there has been wind which would have blown anything away from a natural herb or flower or whatever.

Barbara: A friend of my husband's who is a rock hound had found some rocks out there that he said indicated beryl possibly on the property. I don't really know that much about it.

Jim: A friend of mine was doing some library research and all she was able to find was the fact that mining beryllium gives off a sweet smell, but never found out exactly what. And there are a lot of different types of sweet smells. And I would be interested in knowing about that. I'm sure a mining engineer could tell but I don't happen to know any.

Investigator: Your ranch is located in an area of coal mines, so I think it more likely that the sweet smell comes from methane gas escaping.

Numerous People See Disks

Jim: Of course, I've insisted that everyone else stay away. Part of the reason that I got so

involved--I guess I have a macho complex. I felt it was my duty to protect everybody. We saw disks every often, very regularly. John saw them, I saw them, other people saw them. A friend of ours from Wisconsin saw them. He came back one night and one of them came right in front of his car. Harry was with him.

Barbara: There were, within the two years we were there, an awfully large number of sightings.

Jim: From what I can determine, the activity has accelerated since we moved out, not diminished. We understand that from the neighbors. I took friends out there that came from California. We weren't any sooner camped--we put out sleeping bags in the woods to be right in the midst of it--than the sounds started around us. Robert has his dog with him; the dog crept up and climbed under the covers with him. He got the full dose of what we call the "creepy's"--that tremendous sense of personal danger without any stimulus. It's like a biochemical reaction. You can give injections and cause the same reaction in a person.

Coping with the Experience

Barbara: I must be honest; I have to consult a psychiatrist on my own. I have a great deal of difficulty dealing with this. I know what my own eyes saw; it isn't that my vision is poor and I thought I saw what I saw. I know what I experienced; the increased pulse rate and all that were not caused by an outside stimulus because nothing had happened to cause it. I heard no sound and saw nothing. My hearing is not that fantastic; my eyesight is not very good at all. I know there are people who have very good hearing ranges and often hear things, and subconsciously they come to conclusions consciously. I don't have that range of hearing to do that. I know what happened to me and I'm just trying to put it into some sort of reference so that I can deal with it.

Jim: I think that probably what she is saying, and I experienced it too, is the total sense of helplessness. I know what gave me the feeling was the inability to move. I never feared them; I never feared "Big Foot" or any of them in the sense of personal danger. But I don't think people can easily face a sense of total helplessness. I think the way I saved by sanity because it didn't really bother me appreciably, was by doing something, like sleeping with my shotgun. And I just wiped out the fact that I couldn't move if they didn't want me to. Somehow, I still felt the power to do something.

Barbara: But I don't have the range of experience that you have either. You have lived a very full life and I have not.

Jim: Well, this is not something I have lived before.

Barbara: No, not that but you have a broader base to face something with. I don't. I have never had anything that startling in my life happen to me.

Jim: Is this all absolutely confidential?

Investigator: Absolutely.

Jim: Well, what she meant by my range of experience. . . I was a security officer in the Air Force and I transferred to a Security Agency. I worked for them when I was young and they paid my way to college. I have kind of thrived on intrigue, to some extent. So I could deal very well with intrigue. I think in a way, it prepared me to deal with the ranch. But I never thought anything like this would happen to me. And some of the things that happened, I really would like to tell you; it would be beneficial to me to get it off my chest. But I'm locked into a situational thing.

Barbara: Well, let me work a few more times with my psychiatrist and maybe we can come up with something. Since I've been trying to deal with this, my weight has gone up about 30 pounds and I'm now smoking almost three packs of cigarettes a day. Five years ago I didn't smoke at all. I'm turning myself into an absolute physical wreck and I do have to deal with it because I don't want my family to suffer. I started with the psychiatrist about three months ago. I'm sure he doesn't believe a thing I'm saying, but he is helping me at least say, alright, if you believe it, that's fine; let's deal with it from that point.

Jim: She really didn't crack until that night when she thought we were under attack, when the paint on the porch caught fire; then she cracked.

Barbara: I don't know if you have ever wanted anything so bad you can taste it, as the expression goes; and that's how badly I wanted that ranch. But I couldn't face it. I think the psychiatrist thinks he is helping me. I'm sure that he doesn't believe me. But he is approaching it with the fact that if I believe it, I don't have to be insane to believe it. If I believe I saw it, and I can deal with it on a rational basis, then we can work from there. That's what I've gotten from him. You have to understand that once you face the fact, then it really doesn't make any difference whether someone believes you or not.

[To be continued in the next issue]

* * * * *

NOTE: Because of unavailability of paper and other considerations, we are still behind in our Bulletin publication schedule.

However, at this printing the general conditions are improving, and the January, February and March issues are being prepared. The staff appreciates your patience in this matter.

* * * * *

*UN Press Release
Dated December 12, 1978*

**SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
APPROVES RECOMMENDATION
ON EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL MATTERS**

**Member States Invited
to Co-ordinate Investigations**

The Special Political Committee met this morning to resume consideration of the item entitled "Establishment of an agency or a department of the United Nations for undertaking, co-ordinating and disseminating the results of research into unidentified flying objects and related phenomena."

The Committee began consideration of this item on 27 November, hearing a statement by the Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy (see Press Release GA/AH/1478).

The Prime Minister introduced at the time a draft resolution, submitted by Grenada (document A/SPC/33/L.20), which would have the Secretary-General appoint a group of experts, under the aegis of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to define guidelines for a United Nations study of "the nature and origin of unidentified flying objects and related phenomena."

Other speakers at the meeting were Wellington Friday, Grenada's Minister of Education, and three experts who appeared as part of the delegation of Grenada: J. Allen, Hyneck, Jacques F. Vallee, and Lieut. Col. Larry Coyne.

At another meeting that afternoon, 27 November, the Committee concluded its general debate on this item, and deferred consideration of the draft resolution until a later meeting pending consultations (see Press Release GA/AH/1479).

Speakers at that meeting were Mr. Friday, Grenada's Minister of Education, who read out a letter received from Gordon Cooper, former United States astronaut, and Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist who appeared as part of the delegation of Grenada.

Under the terms of the draft resolution submitted by Grenada, the General Assembly would recommend that the United Nations, in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies, "initiate, conduct and co-ordinate research into the nature and origin of unidentified flying objects and related phenomena."

The Secretary-General would be requested to invite Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to transmit to him by 31 May 1979 information and proposals which would facilitate the proposed study.

He would also be asked to appoint, at the earliest possible date, a three-member group of experts, under the aegis of the Outer Space Committee, to define guidelines for the proposed study. The group of experts would meet during the sessions of the Outer Space Committee and would report on its work, through that body, to next year's General Assembly session.

The Assembly would also decide to include in the provisional agenda of next year's Assembly session an item entitled "Report of the Group of Experts of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for the defining of guidelines for the study of unidentified flying objects and related phenomena."

This morning's meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Special Political Committee, Rodolfo Piza Escalante (Costa Rica), at 11:52 a.m.

He said that delegations interested in this question had held lengthy consultations since the last meeting on the matter, and had prepared a draft decision, which was now before the Committee.

The paper reads as follows:

"The Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly adoption of the following consensus:

"The General Assembly has taken note of the statements made, and draft resolutions submitted by Grenada at the 32nd and 33rd sessions of the General Assembly regarding unidentified flying objects and related phenomena.

"The General Assembly invites interested member States to take appropriate steps to co-ordinate on a national level scientific research and investigation into extraterrestrial life, including unidentified flying objects, and to inform the Secretary-General of the observations, research, and evaluation of such activities.

The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to transmit the statements of the delegation of Grenada and the relevant documentation to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, so that they may consider them at their 1979 meeting.

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space will permit Grenada, upon its request, to present their views to the Committee at its next session. The Committee's deliberation will be included in its report which will be considered by the General Assembly at its 34th session."

GEORGE A. GRIFFITH (Grenada) supported the working paper now before the Committee. He hoped that there would be a consensus for its adoption.

[Continued on back mailer]

[Continued]

This working paper, he said, was not intended to in any way supersede draft resolution A/SPC/33/L.20 introduced by the Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric M. Gairy, in his address to the Committee. Rather it was the hope that "some interim measure" could be formally adopted through which guidelines could be obtained for future consideration of the item in a measure reasonably palatable to all Member States, he said.

While it remained his delegation's viewpoint that the subject of research into extra-terrestrial phenomena, including UFOs, was the responsibility of the global community, his delegation was mindful of the constraints with which individual Member States were faced in their dealing with subject matters that could seem controversial to some, and an exciting novelty to others, he commented.

Because the subject matter was still relatively new at the level of the United Nations his delegation was prepared to hold a dialogue with every Member State at the Committee level, as well as on an individual basis, "with a view to, not only arousing the interest of Member States to the level of that which is obtained among scientists, researchers and the general population, but also with a view to making genuine steps towards co-operation in dealing with the reality of the phenomenon."

"The life of this Organization," he said, "endures in a measure equal to the attitude with which we view the principles of negotiation, compromise and accommodation: Political decisions and solutions to methods, action and approach to topics of world significance must essentially be motivated by the willingness on the part of individual Member States to be prepared to review each other's concern in the light of the significance of those concerning to the global community."

Mr. GRIFFITH said his delegation was grateful for the continued co-operation and support of which it was assured from delegations. It was clear that there was still need for further dialogue on the item before foisting on the United Nations or an any designated committee the task of the research envisaged.

He said that no attempt was being made to force Member States into any positions, but rather it was left totally up to Members and to the level of their interest in following the direction of the working paper.

He repeated the firm conviction of his Prime Minister in the efficacy of research in unidentified flying objects. This was a subject matter of concern to all mankind and the question of research must essentially be an integral part of man's attempt to solve the social, economic and political problems of the world, he concluded.

Letters

The article on "Candle Baloon Construction and Observation Notes," by P. Wayne LaPorte is interesting and should be useful to UFO investigators. But the author should have cautioned that such devices pose a potential fire hazard.

More important, LaPorte claims that such hot-air balloons "cannot lift railroad flares and drop them like aviation expert and UFO skeptic Phil Klass claims in his book 'UFOs Explained.'"

It is unfortunate that LaPorte did not study carefully the account of the original UFO incident in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, July 8, 1968, front page, and the follow-up explanation on page 12 of the July 9 edition.

He would have learned that the explanation offered by teen-agers, that they had constructed the plastic hot-air balloons and attached flares with long fuses (so the flares would not ignite until some time after the balloon reached altitude) "has been accepted by the Seattle police, McChord AFB officials, the Federal Aeronautics (sic) Administration, and observers at Boeing Field control tower, who saw the lighted objects."

LaPorte would have discovered that when police searched a street where ground observers had reported seeing a flaming thing fall, "Officer G.R. Tollefson said fragments of a fire were found but there were no balloon fragments. At Precinct 2 headquarters, a desk sergeant described the remains (found) as 'like a pile of cigar ashes.'" This is an apt description for the burned residue from a flare.

Basic aerodynamics suggests that the ability of a hot-air balloon to carry "additional payload" beyond its own weight depends on the volume of the balloon and the weight of the payload.

If LaPorte agrees that the squadron of UFOs reported by the general aviation pilot is explained by the squadron of glowing hot-air balloons launched by teen-agers on the night of July 7, 1968, then there is no reason to doubt the rest of their story about attaching flares, especially in view of the residue later recovered by the police.

It seems to me that LaPorte owes me, and my book, at least a brief correction in a forthcoming issue of "The A.P.R.O. Bulletin."

Sincerely,

Phill Klass