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THE BOOMS ARE BACK!

WHAT IS A SKEPTIC?

By Coral E. Lorenzen

"UFOs and Outer Space Mysteries" came across my desk in late 1982, and is responsible for the generation of this article. The book is a soft cover, sells for \$6.95, is authored by James E. Oberg, and is not worth the price or the paper it's printed on. Why? Because even in the sub-title, "A Sympathetic Skeptic's Report", Oberg misrepresents himself and his product. Oberg is neither a skeptic nor sympathetic.

The Webster's New World Dictionary, Deluxe Edition, published in 1980, defines a skeptic as "a person who habitually doubts, questions or suspends judgement upon matters generally accepted." UFOs are certainly not generally accepted, so the skeptic definition does not apply to Oberg in that context. He does not simply doubt, question or suspend judgement, either. But let's examine another word and its application to Oberg and his methodology.

Detract: (Same dictionary) "To draw away - belittle - maliciously discrediting of someone's character, accomplishments, as by revealing hidden faults, or by slander." Let's see how the word detract relates to Oberg's methods and those of some of his colleagues.

THE SNOWFLAKE CAPER

On page 33 of "UFOs and Outer Space Mysteries", Oberg applies his methods to the Walton case, attempting to prejudice the reader at the very beginning. Quote: "Probably among the millions of Americans who watched (and were misled) by the pseudo-documentary were some Arizona woodsmen who were in a tight financial bind." (Note: Oberg is referring to NBC's presentation of the Betty and Barney Hill case).

STOP RIGHT THERE! With that *one sentence*, Oberg "sets up" the reader. *Fact*: The "woodsmen" (Walton and his fellow woodcutters) did not see the program in question. The woodsmen were *not* in a financial bind. The latter was misrepresentation number two.

The fairy story about the alleged financial problems of the crew boss, Mike Rogers, was the invention of champion equivocator Phill Klass, who is a colleague of Mr. Oberg. Here we have a beautiful illustration of how the alleged (by Klass) "financial problems" of one

(See SKEPTIC - Page Two)

Cities along the Gulf Coast were shaken by loud aerial booms on the afternoon of Saturday, February 26. The frightening noises caused a bombardment of telephone calls to the weather bureau, the press and law enforcement agencies from Alabama to Mississippi and as far north as Picayune, Louisiana.

Seven "blasts" were heard and felt over a period estimated variously from 30 to 45 minutes.

The Reverend Louis J. Eisele, an earthquake expert at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, said he registered booms at 12:11 and 12:30 p.m. on the nine seismographs at his installation. "The earth wiggled for about ten seconds", he said, and "It definitely was not something that came from underneath. It was pressure waves that came from something airborne over the Gulf (of Mexico)".

It was suggested that four National Guard F-4 Phantom fighter planes had broken the sound barrier near the Chandeleur Islands, 25 miles south of Gulfport, Mississippi around noon. The Louisiana Air National Guard spokesman who furnished that information asked not to be identified, however. Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr. of the Louisiana National Guard, said that he doubted that National Guard planes were responsible.

All in all, everyone who could have been responsible denied any culpability, but Eisele provided one inadvertant clue: He did not believe airplanes were responsible but cited meteors, *explosions in the Gulf waters* and, "though highly unlikely, flying saucers".

This is a STOP PRESS item, and we do not have time to check on back issues for references, but a recent Bulletin issue contained an article on the "Bermuda Triangle" which supplies a possible answer to the enigma of the booms.

Old timers will recall that strange booms plagued the Gulf Coast and the East Coast of the U. S. in the middle and late 1960s, coinciding with an intense period of UFO activity.

FIELD INVESTIGATION

From the time APRO and the Lorenzens moved to Tucson in July, 1960, Mr. Louis Daughtery served as a member of our Board of Directors and Director of Investigations for the State of Arizona until ill health prevented his participation in 1979. He contributed much in the way of improvement and change in investigative methods.

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Investigation

(Continued from Page One)

Mr. Daughtery passed away in January, 1982, but his death was not noted in the Bulletin at the time as Mrs. Lorenzen felt that plans being formulated to change and improve field investigation should be implemented and serve as a memorial to his years of service.

In the early 1970s, we issued our first and only Field Investigator's Manual. Although the methods outlined therein are still viable, considerable progress and a few changes have been made and it has been decided that another manual *will not* be issued at any foreseeable time for two reasons: 1) Changes and additions are few, and 2) The economy being what it is, we do not feel justified in issuing another manual simply to update a small number of items.

If those members and investigators who undertake case investigations will follow the general guideline of the four-page APRO Report Form, it will be adequate in most instances. In those cases where special instructions are needed, Headquarters will be in touch.

We again urge Field Investigators to inform

headquarters concerning their status and ability to take on investigations, and the geographical location and scope of their availability. The response has been good so far, but let's make it 100%!

* * * * *

Skeptic

(Continued from Page One)

man (Mike Rogers) becomes the financial bind of the whole group just in the RE-TELLING!

When the Walton story broke in November, 1975, APRO received a letter from Klass saying he hoped we weren't going to get involved in the case (!) We don't think he was worried about APRO - just what we might find out. This fear was demonstrated in a barrage of letters containing quotes from newspapers (we all know how inaccurate *they can be!*) which bolstered his pet theory that the Walton case was a hoax, or posed questions. Possibly he hoped to draw us into a debate and divert our attention from the investigation. One of those questions and its answer serve to demonstrate (we can't deal with all of them due to space limitations) Klass's turn of mind at the time. (Briefly, for the uninitiated, Walton and six others saw a strange, structured object at low altitude in the woods, a beam shot out from it and struck Walton. Walton fell to the ground, the others panicked and left. When they returned minutes later, Walton was gone. Despite intensive search, he was not found until five days later).

After Walton returned, it was learned that the local law enforcement people had been "tipped off" (probably by the telephone operator) that Walton was back and had called his family from Heber and asked for someone to come and get him. His brother Duane, a resident of Phoenix, was staying in Snowflake, waiting for news and helping in the search. When the call came through, Duane and his sister's husband, Grant Neff, drove to Heber, picked up Travis and brought him back.

In one of the flood of letters from Klass, he asked why the officer stationed outside Snowflake to watch for the Waltons' return, hadn't seen them re-enter Snowflake (Klass assumed Travis had been "hidden out" in Snowflake all the time). Inasmuch as we had Duane and Travis' testimony on the subject (the call had come in at midnight, the men had set out for Heber immediately and had Travis back in Snowflake by 1 a.m.) I decided to doublecheck. My first telephone call located Markshall Flake who, it turned out, had been delegated to watch for the men's return. He did not see them enter Snowflake. I asked him if he could explain why. His answer was quite simple: The Sheriff's office and local law enforcement headquarters were in such an uproar with telephone calls from the media as well as the mechanics of the

ongoing investigation that Marshall Flake didn't get the message from Sheriff Gilson to set up a watch for the men until well after 2 a.m.! One sentence of Marshall Flake's statement is most illuminating, however - he said the watch would have been fruitless in any case because Duane Walton was from Phoenix and no one knew what kind of car he owned and therefore they didn't know what kind of vehicle to be on the lookout for!

The upshot of the Klass "investigation" was that Klass did his "research" by telephone and mainly succeeded in casting aspersions concerning the characters of the people involved. Those of you interested in the truth about the Walton case should try to obtain a copy of Travis's book "The Walton Experience", (Berkley books, 1978, \$1.95). It may be difficult to obtain as only 26,000 were printed (Walton did not make a lot of money on his experience, despite what his detractors claim). I suggest you try used book stores.

No one has yet satisfactorily explained where Walton was for five days, clad only in boots, socks, underclothing, jeans, shirt and jacket. The overnight temperature in the Snowflake-Heber area in November, 1975, was 8 degrees Fahrenheit. The whole area was thoroughly searched by experienced horsemen, trackers in trucks, on foot, in planes and helicopters, and the woods were full of deer hunters. Yet no one saw Walton.

TRINDADE ISLAND

Getting back to Oberg's "Sympathetic" report, I have to suggest that he be a bit more thorough at checking his facts, and a little more honest in his representation of same. I refer the reader to page 115 which shows a reproduction of the famous Saturn-shaped UFO photo taken over the Island of Trindade in January, 1958. Oberg's caption reads, in part, "The witness was a professional trick photographer."

That sentence is *gross* misrepresentation. The truth is: One of the witnesses was the photographer who snapped the photos, was a professional marine photographer and was at the Island of Trindade to photograph the Navy exercises at the invitation of the Brazilian Navy. During the investigation, it was routinely asked if he had ever made a trick photo and he honestly admitted that he had. It should be made clear here and now that *any* competent photographer has had the opportunity and, indeed, has *taken* the opportunity to execute "trick" photography. It's a part of learning the craft, as Oberg well realizes. Almiro Barauna, the photographer, was a professional, had made "trick" photos during his career, but he *was not a professional trick photographer*.

The concluding words of Oberg's caption for the Trindade photo is: "and Donald Menzel has argued persuasively that this is a hoax."

Menzel may have argued persuasively, but in laying his foundation, Menzel, himself, perpetrated a hoax!

On page 210 of his book, "The World of Flying Saucers" (Doubleday, 1963), Menzel quotes an "unofficial Navy statement" allegedly made by a Navy spokesman and printed in the newspaper, "O Globo". The key words are: "No officer or sailor from the N.E. Almirante Saldanha (the ship from which the photographer, Almiro Barauna, took the photographs of the object circling the Island — the Ed.) witnessed the event." Menzel's source of reference at the end of the chapter is simply, "Flying Saucers" (?). I have never been able to locate that particular clipping or article, in all of the source material forwarded by our APRO Representative, Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, who investigated the Trindade case.

Now, let us go to Item 2 of a report issued by the Congress of Brazil after its investigation of the Trindade photos: "The UFO alarm was given *simultaneously* by members of the crew (italics mine-CEL) in the *stern* and the *bow* of the ship."

Another bit of Menzelian skuldiggery is demonstrated on Page 210 of Menzel's "The World of Flying Saucers." He quotes an *official* Brazilian Navy statement, and in his feverish attempt to change history to fit his pre-conceived ideas, he even changed the text of that! To wit:

"Clearly this Ministry will not be able to make any pronouncement concerning the reality of the object seen because the photographs do not constitute sufficient proof for this purpose." Menzel's source for this little gem is "Air Force files". We presume he means U.S. Air Force.

The original *official* Brazilian Navy statement reads: "Obviously, this Ministry cannot make any statement about the object sighted over the Island of Trindade, for the photos do not constitute evidence enough for such a purpose."

The critical phrases are: "reality of" — which is not a part of the Navy statement and obviously inserted by Menzel, "over the Island of Trindade", which Menzel deleted, and "evidence enough", which Menzel changed to "sufficient proof". There's a whale of a difference between the words "evidence" and "proof".

Why did Menzel make these changes? Possibly because he did not want history to know that the object was *seen over the island as well as photographed*, and he wanted to *cast doubt* as to the *reality of the object* itself!

In fact, Menzel cut and adjusted the official statements of the Brazilian Navy to suit his purposes. His motivation is the element in question. Was he driven by the same emotional need of so many scientists to explain away something whose very existence tears at their scientific credibility? Or — was he willing co-operator in a diabolic government-concocted plot to suppress any credible UFO evidence?

Coming forward 20 years to Oberg's book, we must conclude that, if two well-investigated cases such as the Trindade Island and Walton reports are so casually misrepresented, the remainder of Oberg's writings must be called into question.

Who is James Oberg? He is a colleague of Philip Klass, a member of the NASA Shuttle support team in Houston, Texas (John Schuessler of VISIT is similarly employed), a member or ex-member of the U.S. Air Force and a member of the Mutual UFO Network. The book cover notes the fact that Oberg is six feet, eight inches tall, and his "head is in the stars." I suggest his head is in the clouds and he should get back down to earth where the visibility is better.

ENGLAND SITE OF MINOR FLAP

August 1, 1982 - Peterborough - Elizabeth Isaacs saw an object described as twice the size of a tennis ball hovering about 10 feet above the roof of the Peterborough Regional Swimming Pool. She described a sphere-shaped, bright white light which suddenly gave off a red glow. "Then the edges seemed to flatten until it became disc-shaped and it shot off out of sight at fast speed," she said.

August 16, 1982 - Worcester - A brightly colored, cigar-shaped object "grew and grew" before splitting in two at about 10:10 p.m., according to Christopher Whippe. "When they split, they went off in two different directions and disappeared. It was at a great height; it must have been something larger than a jumbo jet," he said.

August 22, 1982 - Stafford - The Merritt family and a policeman watched a red, green and white glow hovering in the sky from 10:30 p.m. to after midnight. Mrs. Merritt said the glow near Stafford Castle "looked round, like a ball and it didn't move for a long time. Then it moved just a little bit towards the town."

"We know nothing about it," said a spokeswoman for the Birmingham Airport meteorological office. "We can't explain it." This would seem to rule out any natural phenomena such as Aurora Borealis.

August (?), 1982 - Markham - Several people, including police called to the scene, watched a mysterious object for 2 hours, between 11:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. The object was described as bright red and green with bands of light splaying outwards from a central point. According to witness David Edwards, "it hovered for quite a while very high up and then shot off very fast."

September 1, 1982 - Southampton - A black, doughnut-shaped object flew soundlessly over the Alexander family's home at about 9:30 a.m.

"Sometimes it would flip over and we could see the hole or concave part in the middle," said Mrs. K. Alexander. She said the object was too small to have been a plane or a helicopter.

September 4, 1982 - Lancashire - For 15 minutes, Hilda Martland, her husband William, and daughter Jean watched as 3 oblong objects circled their house. "The moon was giving them a shine," said Mrs. Martland. We'd go in the house, and come out again, and they would still be there." No further details of the objects were given.

September (?), 1982 - English Channel - The victorious crew of the Ocean Youth Club ketch Samuel Whitbread made a sighting of 7 "flying saucers" over the channel during a week of racing. Paul Alenson, skipper of the yacht, said, "When we were just out of Cherbourg, we saw a string of 7 bright orange lights hovering above the horizon. One of them moved across the others, then they all disappeared."

All the Whitbread crew saw them. One girl described them as bright red and Bob Ide, bosun, said, "There were 7 or 8 lights floating in the sky, flickering on and off."

October 23 (?), 1982 - Newport - A flying saucer, 200 feet in diameter, was spotted over Bettws, Newport, at 10:34 p.m. by a trained ex-military observer. About 10 minutes later, a long "railway carriage" shape was reported over Cwmbrian.

John Clarke was putting on a kettle in his kitchen when he spotted the object outside his window. He said it was a huge saucer-shaped object, 200 feet across, with a blue flashing light and a green light not blinking at all on the top. He watched the object for about 15 seconds before it vanished over the house. "I called my wife and then we both saw it heading away towards Cwmbrian," he said.

A few minutes later, Marion Gladys Mason was driving home when she sighted a long oblong shape in the sky, roughly the size of a railway carriage. It had two small white steady lights on each end and one small red one at the bottom. The object was still in sight when she got home, so she rushed upstairs and got her binoculars. She was able to estimate the object's speed at around 40 mph, before it turned over Cwmbrian and disappeared.

(Editor's note: Headquarters would appreciate any information pertaining to the relationship of the foregoing sightings and the ley lines in England.)

MYSTERY SURROUNDS UFO "RESIDUE"

August 15, 1982 - Marysville, IDAHO - Mr. and

Mrs. Derrald Baler had just gone to bed, between 10:30 and 11:00 p.m., when they saw a bright object fly overhead. Mrs. Baler ran to the front door and got a good view of the object. "It was pretty high and must have been pretty large. It had blue and green flashing lights so bright I closed my eyes," she said. By the time her husband got outside, he caught only a glimpse of the object as it went out of sight to the northeast. Although the sky was perfectly clear, Mrs. Baler heard "a boom, like thunder, in the distance."

The Baler's son, Dale, didn't see the object, but his friend and neighbor, Paul Lenz, saw the light and thought it was lightning. When the two boys got together the next morning, they decided to go down to the river to investigate. They talked to a group of campers who were sleeping out near the river and saw the object.

The campers said they saw the object "flashing all different colors." They were about 300 feet away when it "blew up" in front of them. The object had been traveling from the south at a high rate of speed.

The two boys started looking along the river bank for some evidence of the explosion and spotted a large piece of strange rock "rolling around" on the rocky river bottom in about 2½ feet of water. When Baler pulled it out of the water it felt "kind of gooshy, like wet ashes." "It was real soft, almost like charcoal - the kind they draw with," said Lenz. The ash-like outer crust surrounded a green and yellow glassy central core. The boys waded about 10 feet downstream and found four smaller pieces of similar rock.

Mrs. Baler took the rocks to the Ricks College science department and talked to "a young looking man." She couldn't remember the man's name, but said he told her it would have taken "something extremely hot" to have formed the rocks. He took a piece of one of the rocks to have it analyzed.

Nearly three months later, Robert Hoggan, head of the geology department at Ricks College, was surprised when contacted about the material. Checking with other members of the department, no one remembered talking to Mrs. Baler, and no one had a piece of the rock. Mrs. Baler returned home with the rocks in a paper bag. The outer shell has now dried and resembles gray volcanic rock. It rubs off much like encrusted sand. The largest piece weighs two pounds and is ten inches long.

PLEASE

Send Address Changes!

ASTRONOMICAL DATA

By Lee Emery

(Editor's Note: In Vol. 30, Issue 11, we incorrectly identified Mr. Emery's place of education. He attends New Mexico Tech at Socorro, not New Mexico State.)

The following star and planetary positions are approximate and are only intended to give observers from 20° to 50° north latitude a general idea of the location of some of the more prominent objects in the night sky. Times may vary up to 30 minutes either way, depending on the observer's location in relation to his local time meridian. Also, add one hour for the beginning of the month and subtract one hour for the end of the month. All times are *standard time*.

April 1983

Prominent planets: Venus is found at about 30° above the west after sunset, setting about 2¼ hours later.

Mars sets right after sunset and is probably too close to the sun to be seen.

Jupiter rises about 10 pm in the ESE. By midnight, it is located about 25° above the SE. It then moves across the southern sky towards the west maintaining an elevation of about 25° until sunrise. Jupiter is the brightest object in the southern sky throughout the night.

Saturn rises in the east just after the sun sets. By 11 pm, it has moved to a position 30° above the south, then moves 25° above the WSW by 3 am. Saturn sets in the west about 5 am.

Brightest stars:

At 9:00 pm: Arcturus is located 40° above the east. Procyon is 45° above the west, Capella is 40° above the WNW, and Sirius, Betelgeuse, Rigel and Aldebaran can be seen very low in the west.

At 11:00 pm: Vega has risen in the east and is now 30° above the horizon. Arcturus is 65° above the SE, Procyon is very low in the west, and Capella is 20° above the NNW.

At 1:00 am: Vega is 45° above the east, Arcturus can be seen 75° above the south, Antares is low in the southern sky, and Capella is setting in the north.

At 3:00 am: Vega is 70° above the east, Arcturus is found 50° above the west and Antares is about 20° above the south.

At 5:00 am: Vega is directly overhead, Arcturus is 25° above the west, and Antares has moved

further to the west and is now 20° above the SSW.

Moon Phases: Last quarter - April 5
New moon - April 13
First quarter - April 20
Full moon - April 27

Meteor showers: The *Lyrids* arrive on April 22, but can only be seen to the west of the North American continent during early morning hours.

May 1983

Prominent planets: *Venus* is located about 35-40° above the west after sunset, and sets about 3½ hours later.

Mars is still too close to the sun to be seen.

Jupiter rises in the east about an hour after sunset. By 11:00 pm, it is 40° above the south, then sets in the west soon after 3:00 am.

Brightest stars: Star positions remain basically the same as in April except times are approximately one hour earlier in the first part of the month, and two hours earlier towards the end of the month.

Moon Phases: Last quarter - May 5
New moon - May 12
First quarter - May 19
Full moon - May 26

Meteor showers: Watch for the *ETA Aquarids*, arriving in the early morning hours of May 3.

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YAKIMA INDIAN RECALLS UFO SIGHTINGS

By W. J. Vogel

The following incidents involving UFOs were related to me by Mr. D., of Toppenish, Washington, on the Yakima Indian Reservation. Mr. D. has been an acquaintance of mine for a number of years and I believe him to be a credible witness. He is a Yakima Indian and a logger by trade. The incidents were related to me on February 13, 1983 during a conversation.

INCIDENT #1:

While Mr. D. was stationed in California in 1954 as geants were en route from the base to a nearby town. This was during daylight hours. As they were on a

road which bisected a lettuce field, they both observed an object hovering over the nearby field. They stopped their vehicle and watched the object for an estimated time of 15 minutes.

The object was saucer-shaped, about 25 feet in diameter, the color of a tin can that has been in a fire, and had windows along the side. It was hovering about 100 feet off the ground, made no noise and while hovering appeared to have a slight wobble like a gyroscope would that was slowing down. Mr. D. said he made a special effort to see if anyone could be seen in the windows, but there was no one visible. He kept telling his sergeant that he would give anything to have a camera, but he didn't. Eventually the object began ascending and, gaining speed rapidly, disappeared from sight in the sky. Both observers agreed they would tell no one of their experience for fear they would be laughed at. Mr. D. said the sergeant can verify the sighting. They were about 500 feet from the object when it was hovering.

INCIDENT #2:

Mr. D. said he and a friend were proceeding from Goldendale to Vessey Springs (on the Reservation) through Kaiser Butte Guard Station (the entry point). After they had passed through Kaiser Butte, they noticed a light off to one side which was below a ridge line. They discussed it at some length as to what it was. (This sighting occurred in early evening after dark). They had stopped on a straight stretch of the road to answer nature's call and as they were standing outside of the pickup truck, they noticed the light was approaching. They both jumped in the truck and proceeded down the road at a high rate of speed. The object approached to right behind the truck and began following. The inside of the truck lit up and the heat was so strong on the backs of their necks, it was just short of an intensity strong enough to burn them. Eventually, after a short distance, the object veered off and moved back to its previous location. This occurred in 1972 during the summer.

INCIDENT #3:

Mr. D., another Indian, and a Mexican, were out in the Dry Logy area of the Reservation checking on some cattle. The Dry Logy area is southwest of Satus Lookout and the area of considerable UFO activity in the past. It was in the fall of 1979 or 1980 and very foggy. They became lost or disoriented in the fog and stopped to consider their location. They were riding horses. It was then they noticed through the fog a large, white ball. Although the "ball" which Mr. D. estimated to be about 20 to 25 feet in diameter was at times a considerable distance away in a very heavy fog, its intensity was such that it was very visible through the fog. It bounced around similar to what a basket ball would do if one threw it, although Mr. D. said its bounces seemed to be under control and not random type of thing. At times it would get closer and

then move further away. During this time, the horses became very upset and hard to handle and the men were somewhat frightened, too. The object made no noise.

The possibility of "ball lightning" can be completely eliminated as in this area, fog only forms when there are no clouds. It is, however, for what it is worth, in the *general* area of possible ground faults.

The object eventually moved off into the fog and disappeared. The horses then calmed down.

INCIDENT #4:

Mr. D. said that while they were parked on the edge of a meadow near Beauty Camp (on the Reservation a few miles north of Signal Peak Ranger Station) late one night, the entire meadow lit up in a bluish, eerie type of light. It was bright enough that they could observe all of the details in the meadow. It lasted less than a minute and then faded out. They were so fascinated at looking at the meadow that none of them thought to look overhead to see if something was visible. It is not certain when this happened but it is estimated to have occurred several years ago.

It is possible this light could have been caused by a passing meteor but as Mr. D. remembers, only the meadow and a short distance around lit up. Also, the length of time the light was visible would tend to eliminate a meteor.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Vogel is employed on the Yakima Reservation and enjoys a close, friendly relationship with the inhabitants. He has been a dependable source of UFO information in that area for many years.)

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PRESS REPORTS

By Joe and Doris Graziano

July 6 & August 28, 1982 - Penn Township, PENNSYLVANIA - On July 6th, at 10 p.m., residents of Level Green reported a large rectangular-shaped, 6 section object, with orange, red and yellow lights, flying very low over that section of the Township.

On August 28th, on a rural road outside of Latrobe, a couple riding in a car observed an 80 foot long, elliptical object hovering motionless about 50-100 feet above the ground. They described the object as a "squashed circle", with blue, red and green lights on its side, making a buzzing sound. A report of a similar nature was received on the same day at a location on the opposite side of the rural road. About an hour later, a similar report was received in the West Mifflin area.

August 12, 1982 - Carpinteria, CALIFORNIA - Joseph Scott and his mother spotted an object, at about 8:30 p.m., which slowly descended to the ocean

and hovered at the water line for about three minutes. The object was described as round and bronze in color, with windows around it and light in the bottom.

September 1, 1982 - Ridgecrest - Ardith Turbin and Linda Scott knocked on the door of their neighbor, Gene Schneider, at 10:40 p.m., claiming that a white light had buzzed them a few minutes before. They pointed out a small light in the NW sky, approximately 35° up, that was changing colors from red to green and yellow to green.

The three women watched this second, smaller light with binoculars for about five minutes. They said it didn't move or make any sound as the first object had. Turbin and Scott said the first object moved faster over their heads and made a swooshing sound. It was lower than the clouds and crossed the entire valley, east to west, in about eight seconds. It had "silver sparkles and spikes" and appeared to be too big for a shooting star.

Schneider returned to bed, but was awakened at midnight by Turbin, who said the light was back again, this time in the NE. They again watched it with binoculars and it was partly red and green with no evidence of the original alteration of colors. They watched this time for about three minutes.

August 17 & 18, 1982 - Clark, NEW JERSEY - Donna Carson and three friends claimed they saw a formation of nine yellowish lights hovering silently above them on the night of the 18th. After the report was published in a local paper, several other residents called to report similar sightings at about 9 p.m. on both the 17th and 18th.

Ann Ferko was sitting outside with her binoculars watching planes when she saw a group of lights coming to view. "Over the rooftops of the houses I saw what looked like a flashing light. Then there were two more. They looked like a blaze of fire. They were up so high, but it was such a clear night that I saw a plane go by and the lights were much higher," she said. Two of her neighbors also saw the lights.

Joan Duffy was driving home with her two daughters at about 9 p.m. on the 17th when she noticed three bright lights that looked like stars hovering in a "perfect triangle." As they watched, the objects disappeared one by one at about 30 second intervals. The next night, Duffy's 18-year-old daughter, Linda, was with three friends and they claim to have seen the same triangle of bright lights described by Donna Carson.

Frank Reilly thought he saw a squadron of helicopters heading toward the Linden Airport, but there was no sound and no blinking lights. He said there were at least ten objects which occupied "a large segment of the sky."

August 23, 1982 - Sturgis, MICHIGAN - Greg Hettinger and Jim Lincoln were eastbound on Chicago Road at about 9 p.m. when they saw "red, white and

blue lights blinking on and off." The men first thought the lights were from conventional aircraft, but neither could hear any sounds from the low-flying lights. Hettinger said they watched the lights for about 20 minutes as they first hovered over Sturgis and then traveled near Centreville before they "took off into the clouds."

September 9, 1982 - Elba Township - Marie Stock saw a strange light in the sky from her bedroom window and she and her husband, Leo, went outside for a better look. They watched through binoculars for several minutes and couldn't hear any sound. They checked on it a half an hour later and it was still there, but 15 minutes later it was gone.

Another woman spotted it about 15 minutes after Stock did. She said it was very large, very bright and looked like a large star of "some kind of strange airplane." The object reportedly was constantly changing colors from red, to yellow and then green.

August 20, 1982 - Salina, KANSAS - Willis Hinkson and Marjorie Devins were en route to a fishing pond around 4:30 p.m. when they spotted an object "on a waving flight path, tipping to one side and then the other." Hinkson slammed on the brakes and they watched until the object "apparently got to a desired altitude and flew off in a south-west direction faster than anything I have ever seen." They said that when the object tipped one way they could see a silver dome. Devins said it looked like a "big Frisbee."

A car ahead also stopped, so Hinkson drove up behind it. A man, who said his name was Mr. Bentz, walked to the Hinkson car and said he had also seen the object. He said it appeared to come from behind a hill up ahead.

September, 1982 - Hays - Farmer George Brungardt discovered strange burn marks, about ½ mile into his mile-long pasture. The set of burned spots formed a pattern about 8 feet long and 4 feet wide. At the base are 2 large burn marks, less than a foot wide and about 2 feet long. Even with the front edge of the larger marks are a series of 8 smaller marks about 8 inches apart. The pattern is repeated with another set of smaller marks about 10 feet from the first set.

Sheriff Gary Clark and Undersheriff Tom Keys said that nothing else is burned, there is no sign of footprints or tracks, and nothing to indicate movement of a vehicle into or out of the area. They also said there was an oily residue on the burned weeds and grass.

October 2, 1982 - Springfield, MISSOURI - At 5 p.m., the North Arkansas Community College volleyball team left a tournament in Kansas City for the long drive home. Three hours later, about 18 miles north of Springfield, Mo., on Hwy. 13, the group's attention was drawn to a pair of bright lights. Several rationalized that it was the headlights of a car on a

mountain road, but as the van rolled across the flat countryside, they saw that there was no mountain.

The bright sky could be seen below the object and a red light on the tail blinked, the only blinking light on the object. As the craft approached the van, coach Sue McDonald told the driver to slow down. She slowed from 60 mph and pulled to the side of the road, bringing the van to a stop. The women opened the van's door and jumped out.

The object "coasted" to a stop and hovered about a "football field" distance from the group for 10 to 15 seconds. Then it very slowly tilted to its right, turned in a semicircle and silently began flying off in an easterly direction, veering to the southeast.

The witnesses described the object as dark colored, or black, shaped like a boomerang with turned down wings and having a dome on the top. The bottom was almost concave and the 2 bright lights were not visible until it tilted to turn. When asked to describe the brightness of the lights, some of the 10 witnesses responded, "bright, bright . . . very intense . . . looked more like beams . . . real white." They added that there was a row of white and yellow lights under the 2 bright ones on the front. These lights varied in size and intensity. A check with the airport radar tower in Springfield revealed that no aircraft had been in that area all night.

October 11, 1982 - Milo, IOWA - Darlene Cumings was watching television when she heard a loud noise over her house. "I looked out my back window and saw something go down in the field. It had red lights around it," she said. She watched the object for a minute after it went down, then jumped in her car and drove into town to get her husband.

When they got back to the house, they could still see a white light and called the Fire Department. Law authorities and rescue workers soon arrived to begin a search, but the light had disappeared before they got there. Nevertheless, 25 to 30 people and a helicopter with spotlights searched the area for nearly two hours, but found nothing.

Warren County Deputy Sheriff Tom McNamara said two other families verified that an aircraft was flying low over the area, but they couldn't verify that it landed. A fourth family, however, told authorities that they thought they heard an airplane crash. McNamara said the Des Moines Airport radar showed no aircraft in that area at the time.

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RENEWAL NOTICE:

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Papers which were presented at the APRO UFOhio Symposium in June, 1981 are available from APRO Headquarters based on the following price schedule. Prices reflect copying costs at \$.10 per page plus postage. Please order by number, title and author.

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* * * * *

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear APRO

Just received Vol. 31, No. 1 & 2 issues and it appears that my time is up.

I am proudly renewing my membership and want to compliment you for (the) top class information you provide.

You are right by keeping (an) independent line, with provision for serious cooperation.

Being fluent in French, German, Spanish, Russian and Yugoslav (Serbo Croatian), time permitting, I accept to do some voluntary translations.

Sincerely,
(signed) Dimitri Ossipov

Thank you, Mr. Ossipov. Yours is one of many letters from the membership endorsing our non-alignment policy where a UFO Federation is concerned. We appreciate your offer to translate, and your talents will be put to good use shortly. . . . The Editor

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(please type or print)

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 Name: Miss _____ Date of birth: _____

Address: _____ City, State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Area Code) _____ Home _____ Business Phone _____ Citizenship: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: If university degrees were obtained, please specify in what fields: _____

Does applicant have a proficiency in any language other than English? If so, please specify. _____

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND: Please state: 1) current professional activity; 2) name of employer; 3) special qualifications and/or practical experience of value to APRO.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

FIELDS OF INTEREST: Please state: 1) personal fields of interest in relation to UFOs; 2) Would applicant be willing to participate in special projects in these fields?

1) _____

2) _____

Has applicant ever seen a UFO? _____ How many times? _____

To which other UFO organizations does applicant belong, if any? _____

Which are the 3 UFO books considered best by applicant? _____

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 Applicant's Signature

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