

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — NOVEMBER, 1960

Nov. 23rd Sightings In U. S. Midwest

Australian UAO Sightings Continue

The September APRO Bulletin carried the story of a sighting of a huge cigar-shaped object accompanied by small disc-shaped objects, which were observed by Reverend Lionel Browning at Cressy, Tasmania Australia in October. Further information forwarded by Peter Norris, our Australian representative proves to be almost as interesting.

According to the information received, Mr. J. D. Robson, a witness to strange explosions on Thursday, 27 October, had also heard extremely loud explosions at the same time or approximately the same time that Reverend Browning observed the objects at Cressy.

The most recent audio phenomena took place at Cressy on the 27th of October, when many residents reported and described the "strange sensations" which accompanied explosions that night. The Examiner reported that all reports were very similar. Mr. J. Metcalfe of Cressy said that the explosion happened at 22 minutes before 10 p. m. He was sitting at home watching television when he experienced a peculiar sensation of "airlessness" before he heard a violent explosion. The windows started to rattle and it really felt as if the house was being lifted off its foundations, he said. There was only one explosion. He went outside and joined his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. T. Saltmarsh. "All we could see was a fading red glow to the northeast," Metcalfe stated.

Mr. and Mrs. Saltmarsh had been outside a little earlier and they saw the same red "reflection" but larger, they said. Asked if there were any similarity between the explosions of 27 October and those which took place recently at the Poatina hydro-electric project, Metcalfe said, "Definitely not."

Mr. and Mrs. K. G. Woodward saw an orange-colored ball hovering above the Western Tiers a little to the south of Poatina at the same time the explosion occurred. Woodward said the ball seemed to stay in the same position but

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Further Results IGY Investigation

Presented here are the final stages of an exchange of letters dealing with the Trindade Island incident—an effort to resolve the perplexing conflict between the official Brazilian conclusion and the U. S. Air Force evaluation of the incident.

Here, in chronological order are pertinent quotes from the remainder of the letters:

On the 30th of October APRO received a letter from the Office of the Secretary of the Navy of the United States. In paragraph two, Commander J. G. Brady, Head of the Dissemination Section of the Office of Naval Intelligence, stated: "The U. S. Air Force has the primary responsibility for the investigation, reporting and analysis of information and evidence relating to unidentified flying objects. All naval activities are required to report information concerning possible sightings of unidentified flying objects to the nearest appropriate U. S. Air Force activity. All inquiries from other than U. S. Navy or Air Force activities regarding unidentified flying objects are referred to the nearest appropriate U. S. Air Force activity."

Commander Brady concluded, in paragraph three: "The Navy has made no evaluation or official public statements on the subject of unidentified flying objects in the vicinity of Brazil. It would be improper for the Navy to make any public comment concerning the internal affairs of any other country." Unquote. Signed, J. G. Brady, etc.

On the 9th of November, a letter was addressed to Colonel Tacker from the Director, in which she referred to Commander Brady's letter and denial.

A letter dated 15 November and signed by Colonel Tacker, arrived on the 18th. The letter is most pertinent from paragraph two on to the conclusion. We quote: "In regard to your reference to Commander J. G. Brady's (U. S. Navy) letter of 26 October 1960, a simple case of semantics seems to be involved. It

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Between 6 a. m. and 6:30 a. m. on the morning of 23 November 1960, something or a combination of several things were observed by thousands of viewers in the mid-west from as far north as Ontario, Canada south to Indiana, and from St. Louis, Missouri to Cincinnati, Ohio.

The general concensus is that an unidentified object at high altitude is responsible. This is most likely true, for the object or objects responsible for the reports have not been identified. Sufficient data to identify the cause of the flurry as an unconventional aerial object, is not available to this date, however. We offer below the personal testimony of several people including three members of APRO, and urge the reader to reach his own conclusion. In at least one case unconventional shape is involved.

The most detailed sightings were those of members Rex S. Curtiss of Napeessing, Michigan and Mary A. Bradley of Wabash, Indiana. Miss Bradley's sighting precedes that of Mr. Curtiss by about five minutes and will be dealt with first, and other information from clippings, etc., will follow in chronological order.

At 6:10 a. m. EST on November 23, the continued barking of Miss Bradley's dog caused her to look out the window of her house. She saw what appeared to be a pale-looking trail half-way up in the southern sky, tapering at the top and spreading out like a long skirt. It was pale as moonlight. There was no moon and the sky was crystal clear so that the stars could also be seen.

Mrs. Bradley immediately stepped outside the house to get a better look, and observed that this "filmy skirt" was below a bright planet-like slowly-moving object which drifted toward the east but stayed fairly low in the sky, and seeming to be not too far in the distance. The trajectory was not steady and would at times turn upward and then eastward.

At between 6:15 and 6:18 a. m., the skirt-like light gradually spread apart until it revealed the bright moving object, which shown like a searchlight

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Editorial . . .

When APRO began its exchange of correspondence with the Air Force Public Information Division regarding the IGY photos and incident in July, there seemed to be a need for a clarification of certain widespread beliefs that censorship has played an important role in UFO research in the past thirteen years.

APRO's prime function has always been to investigate incidents involving unexplained aerial objects and report the results of same. Because the IGY incident had been researched and published by APRO and was apparently "under fire," so to speak, we decided to attempt to use it as an instrument with which to bring about a clarification of several issues at hand; the possibility of censorship in the UFO mystery, and the U.S. AF's position in regard to the highly interesting IGY photos.

The hue and cry among UFO researchers has been, for the most part,

in the past thirteen years, "Full speed ahead and damn the Air Force." Although at times it has seemed apparent that information was being withheld, we have all sadly failed in any attempt to prove that censorship was in fact being instituted. The fact that UFO research has become synonymous with "crackpotism," especially in the eyes of individuals closely associated with the Air Force project for evaluation and analysis of UFO information, may be due to the constant barrage of accusations.

Colonel Lawrence Tacker, author of the book, "Flying Saucers and the United States Air Force," is highly critical of private researchers, resorting to such terms as "hobby groups," etc., to describe the efforts of people whom he obviously feels are being something less than objective in their efforts. To expect Tacker to be anything less than resentful, would be expecting too much. If he were lying about the Air Force findings in respect to UFOs, it is doubtful that he would attach his name to a document such as "Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force." After all, he would naturally have misgivings about a book which could later be disproved. He might even fear the personal ridicule which he might be forced to endure if he were proved wrong.

Tacker's book was written with conviction; he believed what he wrote, that appears quite obvious. Since the book was published, the Colonel has appeared on several TV and radio shows, one of which was the Dave Garroway "Today" show. During this appearance Tacker gave every indication of being sincerely convinced of the conclusions put forth in his book. He had faith in what he had written, and the people who had supplied the information on which he based his book and its conclusions. Colonel Tacker is an Air Force career man, a professional soldier. Perhaps his book is an act of faith; faith in the branch of the military in which he serves.

To this date a review of Tacker's book by UFO researchers has not appeared. It is to be hoped that those of us who claim to be objective will not draw the line where "Flying Saucers and the U. S. Air Force" is concerned.

Special Report

Headquarters has not received a sufficient number of orders for Special Reports to merit printing. Those of you who have been putting off ordering feeling that you can order at any time, should order immediately. A limited number will be printed, but we must have a sufficient number of orders to justify the Special Report system.

Hopf Elected Chief Two-State UFO Group

The Two-State UFO Study Group, composed of individuals in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, elected John T. Hopf, APRO's Photo Analyst as their President in a meeting in Manomet, Massachusetts on 18 December. The group's function is to hold meetings in various parts of Rhode Island and Massachusetts for persons interested in aerial phenomena. The next session is planned for February. Mr. Hopf has been interested in UFO for many years and is well qualified for his post. The APRO staff wishes Mr. Hopf and the Study Group much success in their endeavor and is sure that if Mr. Hopf's performance in behalf of APRO is any indication, they will accomplish much.

Work on the next issue, (January) is under way. This issue is late due to an effort to gather more information on the 23 November sighting. We must reiterate our plea for ALL information gathered by members; sometimes this information may not seem to be important or it may not see print, but it may help in formulating a clear picture of what is taking place in various situations.

Midwest Sightings Midair Observed

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for about 3 minutes, and seemed focused like a spotlight on the earth below, right into her eyes.

Shortly thereafter, the bright object seemed to turn over dragging the pale skirt behind and obscuring the bright focused light previously seen, and a second object was visible above it, moving away from the first one and gaining altitude until it disappeared high up in the east, moving faster than the first mentioned object that dragged the pale "skirt." By then, the time was 6:20 a. m.

Gradually the first moving object turned over again dragging the swath-like pale skirt upward and southeastward. 6:22 a. m.

The first moving object turned again and disappeared into the eastern horizon, drifting so that only the trail-like skirt could be seen as the whole thing faded into the white glow of the approaching sunrise. 6:25 a. m.

At 6:25, after the object was out of sight, Miss Bradley called the police who said they also had been watching it, but "could give no explanation unless it was a weather balloon." To Miss Bradley, what she had seen did not fit the

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Midwest Sightings

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weather balloon theory or the Cape Canaveral rocket explanation which was preferred later.

At 6:15 a. m. of the same morning, Rex S. Curtiss of Lapeer, Michigan, was picked up by a co-worker, and they started toward Grand Blanc, where Curtiss is employed. While looking out the window at the stars, as is his custom, Curtiss spotted an object 5 or 6 degrees above the planet Mercury. It appeared momentarily to be a yellowish star. Before he realized it was "out of place," it had begun to increase in size. Within possibly three seconds a long funnel-shaped cloud appeared behind it, very dim at first like a wisp of cirrus, and appearing comet-like. The "star" was now changing color, and began to look blue. Before he could get his window rolled down for a better look, it was a vivid blue-white. The other riders in the car spotted it also, and Curtiss yelled for the driver to stop the car. Before the car came to a halt and before Curtiss could step out, another object exactly like the one under observation appeared a degree or two to the east and very rapidly became as vivid as the first. They were both proceeding in a northerly direction and appeared to be at the same altitude. The group of men "could hardly believe their eyes" when the "star" object became long like a cigar, or as one described it, "like a white bullet."

From the time that he first spotted the first object until the object changed its shape, a period of only about two minutes had elapsed. As the men watched, one object turned into the east, and the other into the west. The object which appeared to be further east made a long, sweeping 90 degree turn followed by its comet-like tail and "went out"; the other object made a 180 degree turn, turning into the south, and appeared to be going slower. As the latter object proceeded southward, it became more spectacular in its appearance. It was not fuzzy, but very distinct, and somewhat brighter than the following cloud. There were no wing protrusions; nothing but a vivid blue white light.

At this time, about 4 minutes had elapsed since the object was first sighted. Being somewhat late in their schedule, the men got into the car and went along their way, watching the object through the open car windows. They watched for another five minutes until the elliptical-shaped blue-white object faded out, still retaining its shape. Five minutes after that, WTAC Radio in Flint said that calls were coming in which indicated that people had seen a strange

light in the southeastern sky. Minutes later the same announcer read a bulletin which said that a rocket had been fired at Cape Canaveral, Florida, and that was what had been seen. When confronted with the fact that people had seen two lights, he explained (the announcer) that the second light was merely the second stage of the Canaveral rocket falling back to earth.

Several days after his sighting had been forwarded to headquarters, Curtiss was called by a friend who had been in Pennsylvania and while driving on the Pennsylvania freeway near Toledo, Ohio, at 6 a. m. EST had seen an unexplainable object in the sky. The individual did not care to have his name used, so we will record his sighting without it. At 6 a. m. the observer saw the object coming out of the east. He pulled his car over and stopped, also noting that 25 or 30 other cars were also stopped and the occupants were watching the object. The object's apparent size was about three times the size of Venus as it appears at this time of year. It was bluish-white, disc-shaped and all about it was a phosphorescent cloud that kept moving with the craft. The observer said that the cloud could be seen to roll and move about. The object was moving from east to west. There was no sound but a light bluish cloud fanned out behind the object. A considerable distance to the north were two more objects, both disc-shaped but considerably smaller, and flying in the same direction as the large object. After they had passed overhead the two smaller ones began to "close in" on the large one. They continued to close in until one went "over" the large object. The observer waited for it to come out the other side but it didn't. He said he was a little shocked at this because he had supposed the small one to be higher and merely passing over the large one. At that time the other small object pulled in and appeared to pass directly over and again, like the other, did not reappear at the other side of the large object. Neither of the small objects was seen again.

At Lambert Field, St. Louis, Missouri, an employee of an Airlines company spotted two bright objects with darker shapes and fan-like bright trails at about 5:15 CST. He watched the objects for several minutes, had time to walk to the front of an airplane, get the pilot to turn the ship around and watch the objects. According to this individual's report, both objects were following a curved trajectory into the east. The objects were seen in the east, at about 20 degree elevation.

Newspapers in Ohio and Michigan yielded considerable information. At

Cincinnati, Ohio, many reports were recorded by the Cincinnati Inquirer, but no definite data was published. "Most of the reports agreed that whatever was seen was in the eastern sky between 6:15 and 6:30 a. m. about 25 to 30 degrees above the horizon," was the only data referring to altitude and azimuth. Some individual reports were most interesting, however:

B. J. Sharrock of Hartwell was just arriving at work in Sharonville when he noticed the object. He snatched a pair of 10 power binoculars from his car and watched it for six minutes before it disappeared. "From what I could see," he said, "it was a solid man-made object." He said it looked cigar-shaped, like "two saucers upside down, rim to rim."

Further description included: "at one end was a searchlight or floodlight, shining down on a cloud." This light was at one end and then at the other, suggesting to Sharrock that the object was revolving. "On the side appeared to be a row of lights—where the rims would meet. The top and bottom were real black—real shiny jet black." He said he couldn't see the ends clearly because of "gaseous vapors" which surrounded it. *Spott.*

An observer near Toronto, Ontario, Canada, whose description was obtained by member Ted Davidson, reported that he saw two objects high in the sky, which appeared to be going south and a little toward the east. He described the objects as being "reddish" stars with fan-shaped silvery tails which followed them. The time of his sighting was between 6 and 6:30 a. m. EST.

Probably the most impressive of the group of sightings recorded in the pages of the Inquirer was the description of the object by Escal Bennett, Chief of the Cincinnati Weather Bureau office. According to the paper, Bennett had been at Abbe Observatory near Dayton on the morning of the 23rd and had accidentally spotted the object when he happened to glance up at the sky. His immediate reaction was that it was probably a bright planet, and he went back to his work. Knowing the current location of Venus, etc., Bennett wasn't satisfied, so he went outside to look again. Here is his description, according to the Inquirer:

"I have no idea what it was." Bennett discounted meteorological phenomena and weather balloons. It looked like a "hard core of light" on the edge of a cumulous cloud, with another light "flaring out about five degrees" at its bottom, and was veiled in a "faint fibrous white stuff," like smoke or vapor. Bennett also informed the Inquirer that observers at both Lunken and Greater

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World Roundup

Warsaw, Oct. 5, 1960—A flying saucer appeared last night above the village Starolka near Poznan. The mysterious object was moving in all directions and different altitudes. Finally it disappeared toward the south. This phenomena was perceived by a large number of inhabitants of Poznan and moreover, by policemen.

Warminster, England, Nov. 13, Capt. M. J. Massey-Beresford said Friday that he had seen a brilliant white object in the sky that could have been a "satellite coming in to land." Four other persons, including two sentries, also saw the object which was so bright it blinded them temporarily. It remained stationary a few seconds then traveled north, trailing a wake of white sparks. Another witness described it as looking "like a giant sun."

Cordoba, Argentina, on or about Dec. 26, 1960—A strange object which overflew the Maronas Hippodrome toward the southeast caused panic. The people watching it said that it was like a great moon and changed color from sky blue to bright blue to red. It was stationary for 45 minutes and then disappeared fast without any noise. From the authorities of Carrasco airport it was learned that they had no planes in that area nor any balloons. An army jeep patrolling the area saw nothing, but the staff of the local police station saw the UFO.

Alfredo Barragan, Commander of Transcontinental, observed the UFO while flying over Carrasco airport. Said he, "I supposed that it was a star but a few minutes later we heard a radio message from a Pluna Company plane on flight to Buenos Aires asking operations of Carrasco for details of the

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Australian UAOs

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swelled and shrank in size. "My wife and I watched it for a minute and a half or a little longer," he said. "Then it seemed to go out rather than move away. I would suggest that it was about 200 feet above the Tiers. As soon as it disappeared we both felt a most peculiar sensation, as if there was pressure all around us. Then came this terrific explosion."

Woodward said that at first he thought there may have been an air freighter in the area and the orange light was from its exhausts—but he decided against this after phoning the Department of Civil Aviation at Launceston Airport.

A spokesman for the department said that there had been a report of an ex-

plosion in the Cressy area and the matter would be reported to the R.A.A.F. This was normal procedure for all reports of strange sightings, the spokesman said.

No official explanation for either the Browning sighting or the 27th of October sighting has been given.

Since the sighting of 27 October there have been numerous reports of strange airborne objects in the Longford, Cressy, Poatina and Evandale districts. The Minister for Air, Mr. Osborne, told Mr. Duthie, a reporter in Tasmania, that he had instructed the resident Air Force officer in Tasmania, Wing Commander G. Weller, to interview Reverend Browning. This action was a result of a written report which the Civil Aviation Department had made on Mr. Browning's experiences. Osborne said that his department did not interview everyone who claimed to have seen unidentified flying objects, but that if no natural explanation was found, a more detailed investigation was made.

APRO will continue to keep a close watch on the Australia-New Zealand area where close-up detailed sightings continue to be made.

Midwest Sightings

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Cincinnati Airport towers saw it and William Howe, in charge of the Miami Conservancy District's Observation program at Dayton, confirmed the description and added that he saw two smaller lights near it.

On the basis of the Inquirer's information, the Director placed a long distance call to Mr. Bennett in order to verify the description and to possibly

Washington, D. C., December 14. A report presented to NASA by the Brookings Institute (Cost \$96,000) presented the opinion that discovery of a race of superior beings in the universe could cause the civilization of Earth to topple and, quote: "while the discovery of intelligent life in other parts of the Universe is not likely in the immediate future, it could nevertheless happen at any time." Unquote.

Also, "clearly, the better we can come to understand the factors involved in responding to such crises, the better prepared we may be."

"Even on earth," it added, "societies have disintegrated when confronted by a superior society and others continued though changed."

The sentiments expressed sound remarkably like those of C. G. Jung first expressed publicly in an interview for "Der Weltwoch" in 1954.

obtain more details. Bennett was very cooperative and in addition to the information already printed, he gave figures on elevation and azimuth.

Bennett observed the object at 6:22 a. m. on the 23rd, at an elevation of 22 to 25 degrees almost due east. It's apparent size was "three or four times the apparent diameter of Venus." Two smaller pinpoint objects were about 1 degree above and to the north of the large object. Bennett reaffirmed his original statement that he could not explain the objects, and that they certainly were not meteorological or astronomical phenomena nor weather balloons.

Before many hours had passed on the morning of November 23, so many inquiries had been directed to police stations, observatories, and air bases that officials were busy trying to find an answer for the sighting. Explanations were many and varied.

The Air Control Center of Detroit Metropolitan Airport said flatly the mysterious light was caused by dropping tin foil in a radar jamming exercise carried out by high-flying jet craft. According to the Detroit Center, the rays of the rising sun hitting the foil could have caused the sightings.

At Colorado Springs, the North American Air Defense Command said undoubtedly a big weather balloon sent up about 4 a. m. over Sioux Falls, S. D. had been sighted. The exact launching time was 4:50 CST, or 5:50 Eastern Standard Time, ten minutes before the crop of sightings began.

The Flint (Michigan) Journal printed an article listing all of the official explanations, and said that a Selfridge AFB spokesman had said the Base radar had picked up "possible tin foil" but couldn't be positive. "We think it was chaff," he said, "We don't know how much it was or who put it up there."

On the 24th of November, the same paper published an article concerning the fact that the research package from the balloon launched at Sioux Falls had come to rest near Manistee, Michigan at 4:30 p. m. on the 23rd. The package of instruments reportedly found on an Iowa farm was apparently from a routine Weather Bureau upper air study balloon. It also stated that the foil chaff had been dropped by Selfridge planes.

It was rumored during the first excitement concerning the sighting that a rocket launching at Cape Canaveral, Florida had been seen. The rocket explanation was shortly dropped.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Washington said the rocket Tiros II could not have been the

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Orthoteny In Brazil

PART III

By Dr. Olavo Fontes

THE ALIGNMENTS OF MAY 13

Map 1 was already finished when I met engineer Joao Martins, a well-known UAO investigator who has worked with me in many past cases. My purpose was to show him my results and discuss the problem of the alignments drawn on the map. As he had a network of about 800 correspondents all over the country, I requested him to verify the possible existence of letters reporting observations in the Northeast that day, from places not yet plotted on the map. His search uncovered several new sighting reports, from the following towns and locations: Parelhas, Currais Novos, Nova Cruz, Macaiba and Carnauba dos Dantas, State of Rio Grande do Norte; Picui and Brejo de Areia, State of Paraiba; and Sao Joao dos Patos, State of Maranhao. According to the information received, UAOs of several types had been observed by hundreds of people in the skies of Rio Grande do Norte and Paraiba; there was also a lonely observation from a location far to the West, in the State of Maranhao. These observations cannot be discussed here for reasons of space—but they were not different from the ones already described. Two examples will be given, to make it more clear.

At 6:40 p. m., the people of Nova Cruz, RGN, were startled by the sighting of a small white, luminous globe of light hovering over the town. After remaining motionless for several minutes, the white torch of light moved suddenly on a zigzag course and went away at high speed toward the East.

At 8:00 p. m., a disc-shaped object was spotted in the sky around Sao Joao dos Patos, Maranhao. It was dark-grey in color, with a kind of cupola on top—encircled by a red glow. It was traveling silently toward the East, remaining in sight for several minutes before finally disappearing into the horizon.

It is my opinion that these two UAOs were smaller craft like many others observed from other locations, which were going to meet some of the larger cloudy space ships placed at several dispersion centers over the Northeastern region that night.

The points corresponding to 6 of these new observations were carefully plotted on a second map, together with the 27 others already recorded. Two small villages not found on the maps available (Carnauba dos Dantas and Brejo de Areia) were excluded, for that reason. The results of such a study are

shown on Map 2—which records 51 absolutely straight lines, forming a network over an area of dispersion that covers the surface of the whole Northeast—including seven Brazilian States, as can be seen in Map 2.

There are 38 three-point alignments, 10 of four points, and 3 of five. Their meeting and intersection gives origin to 15 “stars,” where three to eight lines cross or meet each other; Iguatu, Colopolis, Cedro, Ico, Carius, Jucas, Farias Brito, Mombaca, Quivada, Quixera-mobim, Caninde, Redencao, Russas, Morada Nova and Picui. There are 16 “multi-radial apexes,” including 10 “external apexes,” where three to seven alignments meet and end: Bonfim, Petrolina-Juazeiro, Nova Cruz, Macaiba, Fortaleza, Paracuru, Acarau, Crateus, Sao Joao dos Patos and Oeiras, and also 6 “internal apexes,” many of them more a combination of apexes with straight lines: Cabrobo, Parelhas, Currais Novos, Campos Sales, Cajazeiras and Salgueiro.

There is no point failing to lie on or within the borders established by the geometrical network of alignments. This is very important. The complete list of alignments with approximate distances involved in each case is presented on Fig. 1. The reader is invited to make a more detailed examination of such alignments on the basis of the data available in the observations described in the first part of this report. And also to compare the results with the data obtained by Aime Michel, studying the French networks.

(See Fig. 1 in Sept. Bulletin).

MEANING AND PURPOSE

What can be the real meaning of these straight-line networks connected with UAO activities over certain regions of this planet? What kind of plan or purpose is behind such geometrical patterns drawn by UAOs? How many objects are really responsible for these groups of observations and alignments in each network? These are some of the important questions which could not be answered on the basis of the French cases alone. We are fortunate to find some clues in the Brazilian pattern; clues that shed some new light on the whole picture.

It would seem to be a plausible explanation, that of a well-organized reconnaissance of features of the Northeastern region of Brazil, securing certain types of detailed information pertaining to the geography of that area, carried out by a fleet of extraterrestrial machines. Apparently this would be the logical explanation for orthoteny and also, from our point of view, the most reassuring answer. Yet, several things do not fit into this agreeable theory.

Some of them, in fact, strongly suggest a very different meaning for orthoteny—at least in the Brazilian example discussed here. Therefore the following facts must be taken into consideration:

1. The Northeastern region of Brazil has been submitted, since 1953, to a particularly intense and detailed exploration, performed by discs, ball-shaped and cigar-shaped UAOs. Such a reconnaissance was, at the beginning, a systematic mapping program evidently related with the geographic features of the whole region. Yet, a study of the available evidence clearly indicates that the original purpose was gradually changed into a step-by-step military reconnaissance. That change, started in the last months of 1957, reached its peak early in 1958. The first targets of the military survey were the Air Force, Navy and Army Bases at Fortaleza, Natal, Recife and Salvador. The next objectives, according to the evidence collected involved *every* Army fortification across the region, civilian airports communication centers, federal highways and railroads of strategic interest. Finally, the survey shifted to the dams, power plants and water supply centers for the most important towns in the area.

2. The pattern outlined above was not apparent at first sight. It became obvious only when all observations recorded in the region were carefully plotted on maps and the common denominators were searched for. On the other hand, the reconnaissance activities referred to never attracted too much attention due to the fact that, in most cases, they were conducted by solitary UAOs, or by a small number of objects—one for each particular mission; the number of sightings recorded at any moment for the whole region was never outstanding, and there was no apparent connection between a given sequence of sightings. In the long run, however, a definite pattern began to appear—easily identified by those, like myself, who had plotted on maps all observations registered over the region in the last four years. The hundreds of “unknowns” sighted showed a very definite tendency to distribute according to the general pattern described above.

3. The Northeast is one of the most backward and undeveloped parts of the whole country, in a striking contrast with the East, Southeast and South. The towns are small and old, the local industry is scarce—due to the inadequate supply of water and electric power. The local roads, with the exception of the paved Federal highways, are very bad. The people are poor and ignorant. On

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Orthoteny

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the other hand, the mineral and ore deposits of the region are not abundant, or important in any way. There are no atomic minerals, there is no petrol or coal fields — only small deposits of tungsten, copper and tantalum ores. The climate is dry and hard.

4. From a strategic and tactical point of view, however, the Northeast is a very important region. It is essential for aerial communication and ocean navigation between four continents. Yet, it is not easy to defend in the case of invasion by an enemy. Terrestrial communications with the North are blocked by the dense tropical forest in the Amazon region. Communications with the South and Southeast are made only through a few Federal highways. Communications with the Southwest are made only through navigation along the Sao Francisco River. Besides, the heavily fortified installations in the area are concentrated along the coast, around the capitals of the States—mostly at Fortaleza, Natal and Recife. The military defenses in the interior are small and scattered. There is no radar network covering the whole region. There are no missile-launching bases.

At this point, it is necessary to study more closely the pattern of sightings over the Northeast, in the night of May 13. It is evident that the 33 points plotted on the map are population centers. They were the obvious targets for the UAOs that night. Why? What is the *common denominator* linking together all these targets? If we find the answer for this question, then we have the key to the riddle.

As a matter of fact—with the exception of Picui, Solonopolis and Farias Briton — ALL PLACES WITHIN THE ALIGNMENTS ARE COMMUNICATION CENTERS OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE. They are essential key points for road and railroad transport, as well as for river navigation through the Northeast. In other words, those points control terrestrial communications through the region; if they are blocked, the whole network of communications through the Northeast would be completely paralyzed and made useless, as well as the communications with the rest of the country. The communications with the fortified bases at the coast would be cut too.

We don't know how many UAOs were involved in the operation, but it may be important to stress the fact that *at least 8 different objects were seen simultaneously — at 7:00 P. M. — over different locations* across several States very distant from each other in most cases. An

accurate examination of the trajectories and behavior of these UAOs shows clearly that they were really different objects— not the same UAO, sighted simultaneously from those several locations. One of these objects was a flying disc, but the others were similar to the so-called “big cloud cigar” so many times reported in the past all over the world—and so well studied by Aime Michel in his last book. The available evidence indicates that UAOs belonging to this general type are *true* space ships, huge in size, containing *at least 5 smaller* scout craft, ovoid or disc-shaped, which are launched from the larger ships to explore the areas under inspection. At least 7 cigar-shaped (or ovoid) space ships were involved. On the basis of such data, it is reasonable to assume that *at least 42 UAOs* were involved on the May 13 operation over the Northeast. This whole operation was performed at night—from 6 P. M. to 8 P. M. (local times) carefully timed and perfectly coordinated, each UAO with a specific target, each one apparently aware of its position on the whole plan—knowing what to do and where. It was evidently a large-scale, well-planned and coordinated operation, a perfectly timed tactical maneuver, planned by intelligences having a perfect knowledge of the region. It is interesting to notice that the network of alignments included the location of major highways, railroad arteries, dams and locks, power stations and water reservoirs through the whole region — but excluded the three important military centers in the area: Fortaleza (which was only touched), Natal and Recife.

What was the meaning and purpose behind the May 13 large-scale reconnaissance?

If the pattern is real — not the result of wishful thinking, which distorts the outlines and makes one accept the conclusion as the final answer, when it may be only the result of coincidences—if the pattern is true, then the conclusion is that the Northeastern region of Brazil was selected by alien intelligences as one of the probable areas for UAO mass-landings in the future. There is no other alternative—if the pattern is real. Being so, the May 13 large-scale operation can be interpreted as a final test, a tactical maneuver of obvious military implications.

The pieces of the puzzle seem to fall together into one very clear pattern. A task force of alien space ships (cigar-shaped UAOs) will come down at night over the Northeast. The mass-landings will probably be made in the State of Ceara, inside the triangular area limited by Choro, Quixada, Cajazeiras, Campos Sales, Mombaca and Quixeramobim —

possibly around the town of Iguatu, cigar-shaped UAOs hovering over these points will be the dispersion centers for a number of smaller disc-shaped machines—that will spread out toward the points of strategic importance at the network's periphery. Their patrolling activities will give complete aerial protection and block terrestrial communications with the landing area. Cigar-shaped UAOs placed over Redencao and Macaibas will counteract any attack from the military bases at Fortaleza and Natal. UAOs over Petrolina and Juazeiro will cut the Sao Francisco River in two and block the Federal highway and railroad artery coming from Salvador; another railroad block will be established at Bonfim. Air control will be taken and completed; terrestrial communications will be entirely paralyzed at many points inside and outside the landing area. Shiploads of “men” and equipment could be landed there in just a few hours. Defense would be disorganized, scattered and hopeless. The block of communications would create a terrible situation. Weeks might pass before military reinforcements could be brought from other regions of the country. Air traffic would be obviously wiped out since the first hours. Radio communications would be disrupted, power plants paralyzed, etc., etc. Outside the landing area, no one would suspect what was happening there—until it was too late. There is no need to tell more. The reader can imagine the rest by himself.

Is this a bad dream? We don't know yet. The best thing to do is to take it as a warning—for all UAO investigators and military authorities all over the world. They must be aware that—if the pattern is real—similar tactical operations can be expected over other areas, over other countries, and that such areas were probably selected for mass-landings too.

As soon as possible, the conclusions of this investigation will be published in the Brazilian press. Lieutenant Montefusco, public relations officer at Fortaleza AF Base, said to the press that “the object or objects observed in the night of May 13 *were not* jet fighters from that Base, performing training flights” (Fortaleza O ESTADO, May 18). This statement was the only official reaction to the events of May 13, and suggest that Brazilian authorities are not informed about the whole picture. Therefore it is necessary to get the information to them.

If there is any hidden proof that attack or invasion is planned, we should be told at once. All of us—every country—should be told the truth and prepared to meet the danger. This is a mat-

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Orthoteny

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ter of common sense—to prepared the people for the UAO mass-landings. However, there is at least an even chance that the space races mean us no harm—they may be planning only to make sure that their landings will be made in safety. But even in this case we must be fully prepared. These beings from other solar systems seem to resemble us closely in form—but not in size and anatomic details. Even if they are friendly, their unusual appearance could cause panic—especially in the case of a mass-landing. We must guard against fear, panic and violence by our own people, so that no tragic mistake is made, changing peaceful visitors into deadly enemies. For the first meetings will be tense and dangerous, and we must prevent hysteria.

The truth should be told—NOW.

Midwest Sightings

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mysterious object since it went the other direction and was too high to be seen by the eyes.

University of Michigan officials, who put the Sioux Falls balloon, a 16-story camera observer, aloft, also discounted that explanation.

The only explanations which survived the onslaught of scientific disavowal is the one concerning "foil chaff," and two B52 bombers flying at 40,000 feet. We have no information at present concerning where these bombers were and from whence they came.

Because of a lack of details, we cannot reconstruct what happened at 6:00 to 6:30 a. m. on the morning of November 23, but we can make a few observations. The descriptions of objects which appeared to be fairly close seem to tally. They are the reports by the anonymous observer near Toledo, Ohio, Mr. Bennett at Cincinnati, Ohio, and Miss Bradley at Wabash, Indiana. The object seen by the man at Toledo was overhead and not moving at 6 a. m. but he cannot be certain about the time, for he did not check with his watch. The object seen by Miss Bradley closely resembles the description by Mr. Bennett, and the object was in the southern half of the sky moving toward the east at 6:10 a. m. It went out of sight at 6:25 a. m. Mr. Bennett sighted the object at 6:22, stated it was stationary, and almost due east of Clifton, Ohio. A few minutes deviation in watches and clocks could have caused the time difference between these two sightings, if they are indeed the same object. A fairly plausible theory concerning the movement of this object

or these objects can be formulated, if we assume that time estimates are not exact. There is not, at this time however, any explanation which would encompass the sighting of the object near Toledo from the Pennsylvania freeway.

Because of time coincidence and the angles observed as well as maneuvers, the objects seen by the airline employee at St. Louis, Missouri and the objects observed by Mr. Curtiss near Grand Blanc, Michigan, could have been the same ones. The maneuvers described by each were verified by the other. If this is so, the objects were of very large size and at an altitude in excess of 200 miles. This, of course, is only assumption based on a rough triangulation. This triangulation would place the objects, at 6:22, somewhere over central Virginia.

Because of the wide range of distance represented in these sightings, and because of the fact that the Balloon and Tiro explanations have been discarded, both by APRO and other agencies, we have two remaining possible explanations: Foil chaff and high-flying jet bombers.

The bombers, of course, must be ruled out of the Toledo, Cincinnati and Wabash sightings. The descriptions and apparent size rule out the possibility that planes were involved in any way.

The bomber explanation does not hold either in the St. Louis or Grand Blanc sightings because of obvious configuration (Grand Blanc) and the fact that planes close enough to be seen as clearly as Curtiss described them, would have offered other clues as to their identity. As the objects approached from the East they were red, the sun was behind them. When the first object made its turn it became bluish white, then showed its streamlined bullet shape, as it proceed south.

If we dismiss the detailed descriptions and drawing of the Grand Blanc and St. Louis sightings, then presuppose two separate sets of B52s flying at high altitude we could possibly accept the bomber theory in this case.

Where chaff is concerned, if we accept the theory, we must assume that the chaff followed the plane or planes so closely that it appeared as a vapor trail, and that the planes were actually much closer to the ground than the 25,000 figure quoted by officials. Mr. Curtiss was certain about the well-defined configuration of the objects he watched, and the fact that they gave the appearance of producing their own light rather than reflecting sunlight from the east.

Further details, personally interviewed witnesses, and all available clippings are badly needed by this office. We suggest that members in Wisconsin, Michi-

gan, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee search small-town papers for any description of sightings between the hours of 5 a. m. and 7 a. m. Eastern Standard Time, and 4 a. m. and 6 a. m. Central Standard Time on the 23rd of November, 1960, and forward information as soon as possible. The object seen by Miss Bradley, Mr. Bennett and at Toledo, had to go somewhere—east, north, south, west or UP. Someone, somewhere must have reported sightings which will give us a better overall picture of the incidents of 23 November. If any members have clippings which they have not sent in because they felt someone else would, we suggest they forward them as soon as possible.

IGY Investigation

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is true that the U. S. Navy has never made any public statement concerning this sighting. The Air Force as the designated agency to analyze and evaluate UFO sightings makes all public releases on this subject.

"The basis for the Air Force conclusion or evaluation and the resulting statement in my letter of 8 July to NICAP that this sighting was determined to be a hoax is a U. S. Navy Information Report dated 11 March 1958. This report states definitely that based upon the facts the incident was probably a publicity stunt or a hoax.

"In addition, the report contains the wording of the official statement of the Brazilian Navy Ministry concerning this sighting as follows:

"With reference to the reports appearing in the press that the Navy is opposed to divulge the facts concerning the appearance of a strange object over Trindade Island, this Cabinet declares that such information has no basis. This Ministry has no motive to impede the release of photographs of the referred to object taken by Mr. Almiro Barauna, who was at Trindade Island at the invitation of the Navy, and in the presence of a large number of the crew of AIMIRANTE SALDANHA from whose deck the photographs were taken. Clearly, this Ministry will not be able to make any pronouncement concerning the object seen because the photographs do not constitute sufficient proof for such purpose."

"This official statement of the Brazilian Navy Ministry clearly indicates the fact that the photographs were of no value in proving or disproving the existence of flying saucers as space ships." Unquote.

On the 1st of December, the Director
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IGY Investigation

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addressed a letter to Colonel Tacker, which is quoted here: "Thank you, etc. . . . Your quotation of the Brazilian Navy statement, which was included in the U.S. Navy Information report of 11 March 1958, in support of the USAF conclusion indicates that this conclusion is based on premature information. The statement you quote was issued while the Brazilian Navy was engaged in a fruitless attempt to disassociate itself from the case. Subsequent developments show that it was either in error, intentionally misleading, or both.

"On the same day that it was published in the Brazilian press (23 February 1958) an entirely contradictory statement was issued. A Navy (Brazilian) spokesman told the press that the authenticity of the photos taken aboard the 'NE Almirante Saldanha' was now confirmed beyond any doubt. On 24 February 1958, Admiral Alves Camera told UPI "that he didn't believe in flying saucers before, but after Barauna's photographic evidence he was convinced'."

"The above information and much, much more appears in the A.P.R.O. Bulletins forwarded to the Secretary of the Air Force—but apparently overlooked.

"To remedy this situation we are forwarding immediately pertinent copies of the Bulletin to A.T.I.C. With this information duly considered, a re-evaluation is obviously in order. Will you inform us of any new conclusion which is forthcoming?" Unquote.

On the 10th of December 1960, the Director received a letter dated 7 December, which contained the following short reference to the IGY incident: "In regard to the Brazilian sighting, I have given you all the information the Air Force has and the conclusion thereto." Unquote.

From one point of view this series of correspondence could be considered a waste of time and effort. From another point, however, several aspects are made clear as never before concerning official attitudes toward the UFO problem.

If one tried, a fairly convincing case could be made to support accusations of official conspiracy to withhold information, etc. Close scrutiny, however, does not seem to indicate that this is the case.

To begin with, Dick Hall's letter of inquiry concerning the IGY pictures, could have been answered with a non-committal statement to the effect that it would be inappropriate for the USAF to comment on the internal affairs of another country—a position assumed

later by the U.S. Navy when the full implications of the case became more apparent. Had Tacker not felt that the Air Force position was a fairly tenable one, it is not likely that he would have answered as he did. What apparently happened was this: The U.S. Navy forwarded a report of the incident as per regulation. The U.S. Air Force conclusion was based on this report and the case was closed.

As A.P.R.O. has pointed out, the Navy report was premature and resultantly incomplete. A.P.R.O.'s correspondence with Colonel Tacker suggests that the case should be reopened on this basis. This suggestion has been completely ignored. Why? Probably because in acceding to the suggestions of a "hobby group" it is feared that a dangerous precedent might be established.

We need here to review a little history. Present Air Force policy in regard to UFOs is based largely upon the recommendations of a panel of scientists convened in January 1953 at the request of the Air Force. The recommendations:

(a) That immediate steps be taken to strip the UFOs of the aura of mystery that they had unfortunately acquired.

(b) That the public be reassured of the total lack of evidence of inimical forces behind the phenomena.

(c) That Air Force investigative personnel be trained to recognize and reject false indications quickly and effectively.

To implement these recommendations, AFR 200-2 was written and has since undergone several revisions. In its present form it states in paragraph 3 that the Air Force has as an objective, "to explain or identify all UFO sightings." In paragraph 3C, the philosophy which should be used to guide all Air Force personnel reporting UFOs is outlined—namely that all UFOs can be explained as conventional phenomena if enough information is available.

Thus there is another reason for not reopening the Trindade Island case—a case which simply could not be "explained or identified" under the officially prescribed philosophy—a philosophy which would hardly permit the survival of indications of extraterrestrial UFOs.

Now, in all fairness it seems that the possibility should be considered that there is no deliberate Air Force policy to withhold UFO information from the public. It is suggested that, under the present policy, indications that some UFOs are of extraterrestrial origin are simply not given credence.

Ruppelt tells that there was a time when a group of individuals involved in the Air Force UFO program argued for the recognition of the UFOs as space

vehicles. It is quite obvious that the views of such individuals expressed privately and publicly contributed to the "aura of mystery" surrounding the subject. Tacker states it is conceivable that some person or persons associated with Air Force UFO program in the early days were personally convinced that flying saucers might be real and could be spaceships. From the preceding it can be concluded that the space ship believers were a minority who have long since been transferred out of the activity. Thus, although the Air Force, according to Colonel Tacker, "does not deny the possibility of life on other planets, in other solar systems, or in other galaxies," it simply says it has no evidence to date to support such a fact."

It is proposed that the Air Force program, as presently conceived, and implemented, is not capable of recognizing such evidence except as a last resort.

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World Roundup

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strange flying object." Mr. Barragan then called the Pluna Plane, Carrasco airport, and the Buenos Aires airport in an attempt to identify the object. Buenos Aires reported that they had no plane in that area.

For a space of six to eight minutes Barragan saw the UFO give out a bright color-changing light. First the color was blue, then it changed to green, to amber, and finally to red. Its size, according to Barragan, was as large as a plane, but round and flying at a height of 1000 to 1200 meters.

On 14 Nov. 1960 numerous individuals located in various parts of Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Illinois reported seeing a bright something in the sky. Some thought it was a plane crashing in flames. Many reported seeing a bright object explode into three pieces. A police sergeant in Southeast Chicago said he was thrown from his chair by the force of the explosion. A General Electric engineer stated, "I am involved in rocket materials, and made careful observations. I thought it might have something to do with the experiments on the discoverer. I saw it just as it came out of the plant and I checked my watch. It was 6:06 (EST). It was below the clouds."

C. B. Harnett, Springfield, Ill. reported: "I had left work and was walking eastward to my auto when a bright streak appeared in the eastern sky, about 40 degrees over the horizon. It was moving south to north on a course parallel to the horizon—it broke into several pieces. It was a brilliant white, except for its horizontal path, I would say it was a meteor."