

# THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — MARCH, 1961

## Object Lands, Takes Off in Texas

### Sportsmen Watch Hovering UAO

At 9:30 p. m. on Thursday, 16 February 1961, sportsmen at Chamberlain Lake, Maine, observed an object with two powerful red and white beams of light. The thing was observed by individuals from Nugent's Airport and Sporting Camps and appeared to be hanging in mid-air at treetop level. It was visible for about 5 minutes until it appeared to fall to earth and "spend itself."

Allen O. Nugent pinpointed the sighting in the general area of Donnelly Point and the tramway, leading in the direction of Allagash Stream and Mountain.

Jerome Dickinson of Houlton reported the object to people at the camp after he sighted it. On the 17th, airplanes flew the general area in an attempt to spot the object, but nothing was found.

Mrs. Milton B. Steeves of Bangor, Maine, reported seeing a large, bright object "as big as a softball" which was traveling fast. No other details available. She said it gave her an "eerie" feeling.

On that same night, Mary C. Kimball, a member of APRO, observed a bright object which appeared to be a star, which left its place in the sky and traveled in the direction of Ursa Major. She and friends had been watching the general group in which the "star" was first seen, when it left and disappeared.

### Object Over Kansas And Oregon

An object described by observers as circular or oval, glowing in colors from yellow to orange, red and green, drifted through the sky in an east-to-west course on the evening of 29 January 1961.

On the same date, Rawleigh J. Hoopes of Ontario, Oregon, reported that he and his wife and 16-year-old daughter saw a bright, oblong object flash through the sky over Ontario. Hoopes was driving near the town when the object was seen. Police said no other sightings were reported.

### Nebraskans See UAO, Smell Same

The Mabel Grimes column of the Sheridan County Star (Rushville, Nebraska) for 12 January 1961, disclosed the presence of a brightly lit unidentified object in the vicinity of Rushville at 9 p. m.

At that time, two fifteen-year-olds, Bill Klindt and Mike Hensley, were on the way to the Klindt home. While still a few hundred feet away, they noticed an irritating stench which made their eyes smart. They ran to the Klindt house and entered the kitchen. Bill's mother noticed the boys' watering and bloodshot eyes, and asked what was wrong. They told her about the odd smell. She glanced out the window toward the south, saw a bright object which was slowly proceeding across the sky. Knowing that it was no astronomical body, Mrs. Klindt went outside for a better look. The object was proceeding generally from southwest to northeast, and appeared the size of a street light about a block away. A vapor, which appeared to be illuminated, was rising from the top of the object. When last seen, the object appeared to be landing northwest of Rushville.

Mrs. Klindt called Sheriff Hills who immediately drove to the Klindt home. He noted that the strange smell was very similar to tear gas, but in the downtown section (about 3 blocks from the Klindt home) the odor was more like something burning. The C&L Cafe in downtown Rushville got a dose of the foul smell through the ventilator fan system, making it quite uncomfortable for some time.

Although Sheriff Hill did not see the light, he smelled the strange odor, and checked all sources of tear gas. All tear gas in the area was accounted for. The odor dissipated about 20 minutes after the object disappeared in the northwest.

On Sheriff Hill's request, an Air Force Major from Rapid City came to Rushville to investigate. After taking down available information, the AF man

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A clipping forwarded by Mrs. W. E. Sanford of Taos, N. M., turned out to be one of the most important leads on a UAO sighting we have received in several years. Taken from the Wichita Falls, Texas Times of Wednesday, January 11, the article stated that a private pilot had tracked an unidentified object to its landing point near Benjamin, Texas on the evening of the 10th. Several law enforcement officers participated in a ground search directed by the pilot of the plane, Attorney W. K. Rutledge of Abilene, who had spotted the object at about 8,000 feet at 9:12 p. m. According to the paper, Rutledge was flying at 6,500 feet, and the object was above at about 8,000. The Times said Rutledge had described the object as a "huge ball of light."

On the 11th, the Times reported that a Lt. McClure of Sheppard Air Force Base met Rutledge at the Benjamin courthouse at about 3 p. m., after which the two proceeded to the general area where Rutledge believed the object landed. Rutledge told the Times that ground searchers were within 100 yards of the object when he had to end his "circling" because of a shortage of fuel. The object had ceased to glow in the meantime.

Investigation of the facts surrounding this incident unearthed several important points. An interview with Mrs. H. T. Melton, wife of the Sheriff, also police radio transmitter operator, revealed that she had operated the police radio during the search. She first heard of the object on the radio, directed police cars in the search and went outside and saw the object herself. It was in the southeast, much larger than Venus, red in color, and following a zigzag course in a general western direction. "It seemed to flutter," she said. One of the things she heard on the radio during the air-ground search was Rutledge saying that the object "Lit up his plane," and later, that the object was only about 100 yards away from searchers when he had to leave because of fuel shortage.

When Rutledge was interviewed later, he was quite vague, kept saying he was

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## Object Lands

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not at all sure of what he saw now, that it was probably just a light, and that it had disappeared over the horizon. He said he had made a full report to the Air Force, and really couldn't make a definite statement at that time.

Obviously, an interview with the newspaper reporter was in order. The man who wrote the article was not available, so Cliff Clines, News Editor of the Record News (the morning edition; our first clipping came from the afternoon Times) was interviewed. He stood behind the information printed in the paper, and said that he had had a reporter over at Benjamin early on the morning of the 11th, the day after the incident. Witnesses talked quite freely, he said, but after the Air Force man showed up in the afternoon, the reporter couldn't get any more information; Rutledge hesitated to talk about it further.

On the 12th, Clines said, he received several strong indications that the Air Force had the area of the supposed landing of the object roped off and was not letting anyone near it. An attempt

to check out this lead ended in failure; Air Force officials were not available for comment.

After learning that Rutledge's testimony had changed after being interviewed by the Air Force's Lt. McClure, further checking showed that other law enforcement officers had not been interviewed by the Air Force. Chief of Police Joe Massey of Munday, Texas, had been the first to see the object, and had been a part of the ground searching party. His information clarified several things.

Munday said that Rutledge had followed the object from Wichita Falls to Benjamin where it apparently went down in a pasture. Three mobile units were closing in on it. One was 18 miles to the east of it (one mile north of Munday), two others were about 7 miles to the north and south respectively when the police chief and a city alderman (of Munday) saw a bright light go straight up "like a sky rocket" and go out at "3 or 4 hundred feet." (The plane never got below 5000 feet). The pilot told ground crews over the radio relay network that the object began to fade after 30 or 40 minutes on the ground. The plane circled for 20 or 30 minutes after the light was seen leaving the ground.

This account is by no means the end of this case; further information is being requested from various sources. It is possible, that the object tracked to a pasture near Benjamin by Rutledge, left the ground at high speed at a time when Rutledge was such a position that it would not be noticed. Further details and findings will be presented in a future issue or issues.

## Nebraskans

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said he had no logical explanation, and that the object and smell could not be accounted for by any equipment from his Base.

Other confirmation of a strange object in the Rushville area came from Jerry Hoffman and his companions who said they were driving toward Chadron on Highway 20 when they saw a bright globe hovering at the crest of a hill but as they speeded up to get a closer look it turned to a rosy-colored glow and faded out. Near the Rushville hospital John Hills and Mark and Grant Strong saw the same or a similar object in the sky.

Judy Dobry and Ed Bolek, driving back from Gordon, saw a bright object near what they thought was the Bolek pasture, but after they started in that direction the light faded, later appearing to the north of them.

There is no definite indication or evidence that the strange smell is connected with the UAO observed. However, inasmuch as there is no explanation for the odor, the coincidence of an unusual aerial object and the odor being present at the same time, is strange. We hope to be able to gather further information on this case. Thanks to Marilyn Calver for the clippings which initiated the report. All principals in the case were interviewed.

## Thanksgiving Object Seen From New York

At 6:15 New York Time on 23 November, 1960, many calls concerning unidentified objects came into the Buffalo, New York Evening News switchboard. Some callers described one bright point of light with a tail, others described two points of light, each with a 'bushy tail.'

One of the observers was 15-year-old Clark Chapman, amateur astronomer, who was out observing the planet Mercury. At about 6:15 he rushed into the house and roused his father from bed so that he could see the object. By the time Chapman, a Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory scientist, got outside, there was only a wisp of a cloud, but he accepted his son's description of a "bright point of light" with a tail. Clark described it as "like a comet, bright with a fanlike tail."

Ernst Both, curator of astronomy, Buffalo Museum of Science suggested it might have been high-flying planes with the sun shining on the contrails. The Detroit Metropolitan Airport's foil-shower explanation was touted, but Clark who has observed foil showers said it definitely wasn't that. Weatherman Barney Wiggin said "we don't believe there was any connection with the Tiros satellite, but we just don't know what it was."

APRO has found no conventional explanation which fits all the facts.

## Russians Have "Contacters" Too

Reports coming out of Russia indicate that the flying saucer "contact cult" fad has caught on, despite attempts to discourage such activities by the government. It would appear, according to APRO's information, that quite a number of landings and near-landings have taken place in that country in the last 8 months. The cultists (after all, this is a common phenomena in itself) seem to manifest themselves as soon as the opportunity presents itself, and Russia is no exception. It may be that a lot of Russians are looking for a salvation of sorts, also.

# Aerial Phenomena Research Organization

4407 E. Linden

Tucson, Arizona

31 March 1961

To: JOHN F. KENNEDY

President of the United States

From: The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization.

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aerial Objects.

The UFO problem, in its present phase at least, began rather obscurely with the appearance of the so-called "Foo Fighters" over Europe during World War Two. The subject sprang into national prominence in 1948 and remained so until 1952 when several factors (which will be dealt with later) combined to cause the UFO to be considered generally a subject worthy only of ridicule.

Contrary to the popular misconception, there exists at present a considerable body of empirical data which establishes beyond reasonable doubt the physical reality of the UFO and provides a basis for the hypothesis of extraterrestrial origin. The following are cases in point:

## THE TRINDADE ISLAND INCIDENT [1]

The realness of the UFO has been established through photography. Admittedly a photograph by itself does not constitute proof, but derives its worth as such from its attribution. For this reason the photos taken at Trindade Island during an International Geophysical Year expedition provide an excellent example of the class of evidence constituting conclusive proof. Due to the manner in which they were acquired, their authenticity is unassailable.

On January 16, 1958 a Brazilian Naval vessel prepared to depart from Trindade Island, a Brazilian possession in the mid-Atlantic, to perform some oceanographic studies. On deck was Almiro Barauna, an underwater photography expert on board at the invitation of the Brazilian Navy. Barauna had a camera in hand for the purpose of photographing a life boat drill.

Several of the hundred people on deck called his attention to an airborne object which was rapidly approaching the island. Mr. Barauna managed to get four good exposures. The film was developed almost immediately in an improvised darkroom aboard the ship. Commander Bacellar, Commanding Officer of the Island Garrison awaited outside the door while Air Force Captain Jose Teobaldo accompanied the photographer inside, holding a flashlight during the development procedure. In ensuing tests, witnesses who had been on deck during the incident were able to consistently pick Barauna's pictures from a wide assortment of photos of airborne objects and identify them as pictures of the object they had seen at the time. After a show of considerable reluctance, on 23 February 1958 a spokesman for the Brazilian Navy told the press that the authenticity of the photos taken aboard the NE "Almirante Saldanha" was now confirmed beyond any doubt and that those who had rejected them as proof were entirely wrong.

Immediately after a conference with the President of Brazil on Feb. 24, 1958, Alves Camera, the Brazilian Navy Minister, told the press that he didn't believe in flying saucers before, but after Barauna's photographic evidence he was convinced. He also said, "The Brazilian Navy has a big secret which cannot be released, because it cannot be explained." He confirmed once more the authenticity of the pictures taken from the NE "Almirante Saldanha."

A Congressional investigation (Brazilian) into the incident brought out the additional testimony that the same or similar object had been seen several times by the Garrison at Trindade Island and on one occasion had been photographed. The photo compared favor-

ably with Barauna's. The object shown in both cases is a slightly elongated sphere or egg-shape with an encircling rim in the horizontal plane.

Interestingly, a research paper written by Professor Jun' Inchi Takanashi of Osaka, Japan, establishes the existence of a "Saturn-shaped" UFO, in complete independence of the Trindade Island case.

## ORTHOTENY

This term, coined by French Scientist Aime Michel, expresses the fact that UFO sightings for discrete periods of time formed straight line (or great circle path) patterns. [2]

For a period of six weeks during the summer of 1954, UFOs were reported daily over France and other parts of Europe. Aime Michle found that the sightings for many 24 hour periods, when plotted on a map, produced straight line patterns. Any two points define a straight line but the odds against a third random point falling on that same line are astronomical. Therefore, when patterns appear containing alignments of three, four, five and six points, a condition exists which simply cannot be attributed to chance. When this peculiar phenomena recurs day after day it is even more remarkable.

In seeking an explanation, the common hoax or hallucination theories must be discarded immediately for there is no corollary to support the idea that liars or visionaries, or combinations of the two—speaking independently—tend to do so in geographical alignment with each other.

An object whose observation was restricted to a long straight line would have been flying too low to be astronomical in nature (i. e., meteors, fireballs). All eyewitness reports support the idea that the objects were low and therefore close to the observers. Were these reports then the result of the misconstruing of familiar objects (planes, balloons, birds)? Once again logic does not support the idea that only observers located on straight lines misconstrue conventional objects.

Michel sums the matter up in the following syllogism:

1. All "rational" explanations of saucers attribute them to psychological phenomena pure and simple (hallucinations, lies, or hoaxes) or to erroneous interpretations of ordinary events, in itself a psychological phenomenon.
2. Except by chance, psychological phenomena cannot occur in such a geometric pattern as a straight line.
3. But we have shown that the observed patterns are not attributable to mere chance.
4. Therefore, no "rational" explanation can account for the facts.

General L. M. Chassin, General Air Defense Coordinator, Allied Air Forces, Central Europe (NATO) goes a little further. Referring to orthoteny as "webs and networks that unmistakably suggest a systematic aerial exploration," he says, "orthoteny cannot be the result of chance. It indicates purposive and intelligent action." [2]

Orthoteny is not peculiar to France in 1954 alone. It reappeared in Brazil in May, 1960. Thirty-seven sightings of low-flying unidentified object over Northeastern Brazil between the hours of 6 and 8 p. m. on the evening of May 3, 1960, were recorded. Study by A.P.R.O. Representative Dr. Olavo T. Fontes revealed that the sightings formed webs and networks similar to those of France in 1954. [3]

## PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

An incident was reported near Ubatuba Brazil wherein a flying disc was said to explode over the water's edge. Metallic fragments were produced as a purported result.

A.P.R.O.'s Brazilian Representative arranged for a series of tests to be performed at the Mineral Production Laboratory, a division of the National Department of Mineral Production—a Brazilian government laboratory. The results in all cases indicated magnesium with no detectable trace elements; a most remarkable result when considered in connection with the fact that present earth technology does not seem to be able to duplicate this state of purity. [4] [14].

## ULTRASONICS AND RADIATION

Symptoms suggesting the use of ultrasonics appear in the vicinity of some UFOs. Examples:

A scoutmaster of West Palm Beach, Florida reported contact with a UFO in a palmetto thicket. The roots of the grass in the area were found to be charred. [5]

A UFO hovered over two sentries on a fortress rooftop in Brazil. They were burned only where their clothing touched their bodies, severely enough to require hospitalization. [6]

There are cases of apparent radiation effects:

Mrs. Leita Kuhn of Madison, Ohio suffered apparent radiation damage to her skin and eyes after an incident involving a glowing UFO. [7]

Rene Gilham was hospitalized for treatment of burns presumably caused by radiation after proximity to a UFO. [8]

Philip Small and Alvin Cohen of Baltimore, Maryland saw a UFO at Loch Raven bridge at 11:30 p. m. on 26 October 1958. Small, who was closest to the object, experienced facial burns when it accelerated upward. [9]

Incidents such as these could provide valuable data if properly pursued. Assumption that a given case is the result of a fabrication or subjective experience provides the investigator with the added burden of accounting for the damaged tissue. In the case of radiation damage, this becomes especially difficult since most sources of damaging radiation are inaccessible to the public. In most cases of this type obvious motivations for hoax are also lacking. Sodium Amytal and/or hypnotism applied by an expert could do much toward establishing or refuting the objective reality of such incidents. Hypnotism proved most useful in obtaining useful data in a UFO investigation in Sweden in 1959. [10]

## COMPLICATING FACTORS

Objective research is handicapped and inhibited by the existence of elements which introduce bogus evidence and in general focus disrepute on the subject.

A group of cults has arisen characterized by the claim of "contact" with "space people." These cults feed on the fact that many individuals, in the face of modern technology, have become disillusioned with conventional religion.

Clues: The "contactee" invariably makes it clear that he possesses some special quality which induced the space beings to select him as their communicant. His spacemen are consistently tall and handsome (ideal from a human standpoint). He consistently overlooks the fact that the more reliable cases (those supported by the fact of orthoteny, for instance, usually indicate that the UFO occupant is small of stature.

Psychical projections are sometimes mistaken for and reported as real occurrences by the participants. It is pointed out by C. C. Jung, eminent Swiss psychologist, that such experiences are sometimes incurred by groups as well as individuals. [11]

Probably the most serious obstacle is the lack of basic data. An Air Force program in effect since 1953 further complicates the problem. Although a spokesman for the project has boasted to the press of spending as much as \$10,000 of taxpayers' money on a single case, the information gathered in this manner is not made available to the public. Instead, it is channeled into an apology program with the express purpose of "identifying or explaining" [12] the UFOs in a manner which will "strip away the aura of mystery they have so unfortunately acquired." [13] Though undoubtedly well-meaning in concept, the implementation of this program sometimes requires that important evidence be altered or ignored.

Resultantly, the well-intentioned citizen who furnishes this evidence in good faith is often made to appear as an utter fool or a charlatan. It is not surprising then to find a growing tendency among individuals to withhold UFO information.

It may seem, upon superficial consideration, that the UFO problem is merely one for military intelligence—one that would succumb readily to a "scientific" study. It is not. It is (1) above all, a violently emotional problem, (2) a red-hot political problem and (3) only incidentally a scientific problem.

Basically, the scientific problem is the easiest of the three. Science invariably gives an exact answer to a properly phrased question, but the other two aspects are not characterized by the same clear-cut simplicity, and, moreover, are powerful enough to encourage the scientific world to avoid the problem at present.

The violent emotional responses stem from the fact that the idea of vehicles from another planet or star system attacks one of the basic tenets of our world picture. It is not easy for the scientific man, who believes, very sincerely, that his life is entirely rational, to accept or appreciate that he remains a human scientist and that his reactions are emotional. Therefore in this special case he manages to overlook a very basic tenet—that observational data should never be discounted on the basis of authority and/or theory.

Within our present social-ideological structure the scientist and militarist are cast respectively in the "father-image" roles of "sage-adviser" and "warrior-protector." To expect either to endorse the fact of extraterrestrial visitation is in effect to expect him to attack his own potency, prestige and security—the very validity of his own existence.

The layman, however, interprets the matter differently. He is faced with the fact that official opinions often seem to contradict available evidence. He concludes that "a conspiracy of official silence exists" concerning the "true facts." The idea that "Father lies" is preferable to the idea that "Father just doesn't know." He consoles himself with the thought that this is "all for his own good."

We are in urgent need of the acquisition and objective analysis of basic data. The United States is at present putting all its eggs in one basket and has thus fallen victim to a program which inadvertently stifles vital information at its source and plays ostrich in the face of possible potential danger.

There are no definite indications of hostility on the part of our visitors, but, equally important, there is no indication of friendliness either. Possibly we are only the subject of a routine survey—an Interstellar Geophysical Year, so to speak. To fail to educate the public concerning the facts at hand, however, is to court danger of a particularly insidious nature.

An idea presented by C. G. Jung in 1954 [15] and reiterated by the Brookings Institute needs urgent reconsideration in view of the information presented above:

"Discovery of the existence of a race of superior beings in the Universe could cause the civilization of Earth to topple. Even on Earth societies have disintegrated when confronted by a superior society and others continued through changed."

The UFO problem embodies an urgency which defies expression. Procrastination is no solution. To leave matters as they are would seem to indicate that we are anxious to re-learn bitter lessons of history: Billy Mitchell — Maginot — Pearl Harbor.

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Respectfully Yours,

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