

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — MARCH-APRIL, 1966

DISCS AT TRINIDAD, COLORADO



Shown here is artist's conception of objects involved in Michigan "Flap"

—By Norman Duke

On the 23rd of March, at a few minutes before 5 p.m., Mrs. Eulah Mae Hoch, Assistant Editor of the Trinidad, Colorado Chronicle News, was in the kitchen of her home when her 10-year-old son Dean excitedly reported that there were "flying saucers" outside. Mrs. Hoch asked him where they were and he said they had disappeared over the ridge but that several people had seen them. She told Dean to go out and ride his bicycle and let her know if they returned. She continued to prepare the evening meal, thinking that some child's kite had been responsible for the excitement.

In just a matter of minutes, he was back, more excited than before, so she decided to investigate. She and Dean stood beside the house and he pointed to the south where she spotted the objects immediately. They appeared to be approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away and large enough to see without searching the sky for them.

There were two silver objects, flat on the bottom and dome-shaped on top, moving in a floating manner between the Hoch home and a ridge extending to the West of Fisher's Peak. The objects were silhouetted against the ridge. One of the discs just cleared the trees on the ridge. The second object moved slightly up and down and at one point tilted to the right and caught a reflection from the sun. They both appeared to be capable of easy maneuvering and completely without sound that would indicate an engine of any kind. The objects were in sight for approximately five minutes during the second observation (by Mrs. Hoch and others). Their apparent size compares to that of a six-inch round object held at arm's length.

In many respects the above sighting was superior to most of the March incidents because it was a daylight incident had many observers, and the objects seen were close and details were noted. Although CBS news interviewed Mrs. Hoch and others, the film taken was not used on the Special on May 10. This illustrated the inclination of the press to latch onto an incident which gives little in the way of information (such as the Michigan cases) and completely ignore the "good" ones.

The Michigan Cases

It was originally planned to give a great deal of space to the Michigan sightings, but because of the wide publicity received, we will merely give the basic details of the two major ones, with some comments:

On Sunday night, the 20th of March, Mr. Frank Mannor, 47, and his son Ronald, 19, waded into a swamp near their home outside Dexter, Michigan to view an object hovering there. The time was 7:30 p.m. when the Mannor family saw the object "like a ball of fire", come out of the west, then drop below a clump of trees about a half mile behind their home. Mrs. Mannor was afraid to accompany the two on their investigation, and Mannor's two daughters refused to let their husbands go, so Mannor and Ronald started out. They got within 500 yards of the object and Mannor gave this description:

"We didn't carry no lights or guns. But

we know the area. Go hunting there all the time. We came over that knoll and there it was, about eye-level with us, no more than 500 yards away. It had a blue light in front, and in the back a light that kept changing from red to white, like it was rotating. Kind of like the light on a police car.

"It was almost flat on the bottom and kind of high and peaked on top. We couldn't see much except the outline and the lights at the ends, because the whole thing was wrapped in a light like a halo and it kept shimmering. It was like watching something across the desert. You know how the heat waves keep changing what you see. Ronnie said, Look at that horrible thing there!"—And just like that it was gone. We went down into the swamp but there was nothing. No smell of exhaust. Nothing."

Mrs. Mannor, meanwhile, had summoned police. Most of the deputies from the Washtenaw County (where Dexter is

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Fear, Then Anger

Over and over again some seemingly strange reactions on the part of observers have resulted from the viewing of UAOs. During the Michigan "flap", however, the reactions of people seeing the things for the first time demonstrated quite adequately the emotional strain which follows such an experience.

In the Michigan cases, people were startled to see the things they had not believed really existed, before. The words of one policeman echoed similar phrases with which we have become all too familiar through the years—"I saw it, but I still don't believe it." Others

said, "I didn't believe they existed before, but now I've seen one—and seeing is believing." These people are generally responsible, intelligent and highly-trained individuals.

We are not saying that the reactions are not understandable, nor that the people involved acted irrationally. But the oft repeated words, "The people are ready for the knowledge and they should be given all the facts" has a hollow ring.

After the impact of the strangeness of the objects they had seen struck them, the almost inevitable clamoring for "the truth" began and UFOlogists took up the chant. Then, when a mundane answer was furnished by badgered authorities, the fear which was initially felt was, understandably, replaced by anger. There seemed to be almost a feeling of relief by some. By putting pressure on authorities to "tell the truth" the fear was diverted and a more potent and cleansing emotion came into play . . . Anger.

It has seemed, for a long time, that most of us in the UFO field hesitate to look at ourselves and our motivations. Most of us have worked for years to bring about—what? The truth? APRO people have constantly noted that most UFOlogists do not want to really face the truth. Rather, they want someone to admit something and then take the responsibility. They want the "Air Force" or the "military" or the "government"—or someone—to recognize the existence of the UFOs as interplanetary vehicles. As we have explained before, this may not be possible at this time.

There are at least three motives, and possibly more, for the back-breaking work of UFO investigation: 1. Which should be the prime motivation, is curiosity. 2. Is hope of self-aggrandizement. 3. Is the attempt to make someone else responsible for what is feared to be an ugly truth.

Unfortunately, number one is in the minority, and most people who are motivated by one of the latter two has a touch of the other.

We touch upon these psychological concepts at this time for very good reason. If we, who have been so close to this situation for so long, cannot regiment ourselves to apply our intellects to finding answers, we have no right to ask the uninitiated to listen to our theories, conclusions and opinions.

There is good evidence to indicate that there is a special project under way (which has been in existence for some years) which is dedicated to finding the why, wheres and whences of the UAOs. If their correlations and findings are similar to ours, they have ample justifica-

tion for not making a public pronouncement about the UAOs.

The premise that "if the UAOs were going to take over the earth, they would have done so before this" is a feeble one. Any alien culture attempting to take 3 billion people by force would have to know a good deal about them. They would have to have an intimate knowledge of the geography of the planet involved, its national cultures, languages, its resources, military installations (offensive and defensive) and an intimate knowledge of its communications system.

So—we could be the subject of possible colonization. But there is yet another possibility besides take-over. It is possible that an alien race might simply want to make contact. If so, they would still have to know all about us before risking actual contact, in the event of attack upon themselves by a hysterical population.

The yardstick by which we must necessarily measure the possible intent of the interlopers is their furtive actions in the past. A complete reconnaissance of the entire globe's defenses and critical resources has been accomplished during the past nineteen years without the general public knowing what has been going on. Because of a predomination of scientists to whom the very idea of life elsewhere is ridiculous, the idea of intelligent life existing anywhere but earth was not considered until just the last few years. At this writing it has been conceded that certain photographs taken by Mariner have disclosed the presence of the much-debated "canals." It has also been conceded in recent news releases from John Hopkins University that the climate on Venus may not be as intolerable as was previously believed. Which all adds up to the possibility that life could exist elsewhere IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. But this premise has long been resisted and mainly by men of science, unfortunately—and especially astronomers.

Too many scientists have proceeded about the business of evaluating the UFO evidence without examining it, and with pre-conceived convictions about the possibility of life existing elsewhere.

So—a few people who are possibly a little more practical than most have spear-headed the civilian investigation of UFO reports. Unfortunately most of them have let emotions and appetite for recognition cloud the issue and little attention has been given to statistics.

Considerable resentment is being felt in the field of UFOlogy as a result of the CBS program, "UFO: Friend, Foe or Fantasy," aired on that network on the 10th of May. Let us suppose, for the

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Michigan . . .

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located) Sheriff's Road Patrol saw the lights. Deputy Stanley McFadden got close enough to see the object. As soon as he approached, however, the lights on the object went out and it "swooshed back" toward the west.

Mannor said he and his family heard it go over the house—with the sound of a ricocheting bullet.

According to other reports by policemen in the area, there were altogether five of the objects present. One nearly landed (the one seen by the Mannors) and the others hovered nearby. Stanley McFadden, a Washtenaw County Sheriff's deputy, said that he and Deputy David Fitzpatrick watched the object zip over their car about the same time that the Mannors reported the object had left the swamp.

At about this same time, Dexter Patrolman Robert Huniwell reported, he had seen a red and green flashing light arrangement which zipped down to hover within 10 feet of a police patrol car. When it rose again, he said, it was joined by a similar object.

Altogether, there were 20 sheriff's deputies involved in the search for the objects and most of them saw them. Two attempted to approach an object hovering near the ground but it flew off as they approached.

Mannor's description was more vivid than the rest, and he said that it was about the size of an automobile, with a raised portion on top and "antenna" on the bottom. This description closely matches that of an object photographed off the California coast in 1957 (see LIFE Magazine for 1 April 1966—Page 29).

Our artist's rendition of the Mannor object was based on description, drawings and his own knowledge of Michigan swamp terrain.

Several days after the Dexter sightings (and after the Hillsdale sighting, to be discussed next), Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force's consulting astrophysicist, visited the area and after his investigation tentatively identified the object seen as "swamp gas". The size of the object, the details observed, the altitude, the maneuvers, the speed, however, belie this explanation. If an individual has seen swamp gas, as this writer has, they could in no way fit the description of swamp gas to the descriptions of the object seen.

Other witnesses: Dexter Police Chief Robert Taylor, who watched the object on the ground from the Mannor home. Deputy Sheriff Thomas Kelly, who viewed it from afar with others: "It lit up the

swamp like an office building", he told reporters.

On the night of the 21st, Civil Defense director (Hillsdale County, Michigan) William Van Horn, 41, was called to the girls' dormitory at Hillsdale College to view some strange lights hovering over the arboretum there. For three hours he and the house mother and about 87 coeds observed the object over what the press called a "swamp".

The group described the "object" as emitting "wavering orange, red and white lights" and said it appeared to be hovering just above the swamp some 1000 to 1500 yards from the dormitory.

Police were summoned, but the officers reported the object was not visible from the road. Van Horn reported later that he could not establish the object's shape, but that through the glasses it was either round or oblong. A nearby airport beacon swept the area at regular intervals and when it did, the object sunk down; when the beacon swept away, the object appeared to rise again. Its lights appeared to be either fixed and a part of a rotating object or lights rotating around the object.

One of the girls, Miss Barbara Kohn, 21, of New Castle, Pennsylvania, whose taped report is on file at APRO, (Van Horn was interviewed by telephone by Mr. Lorenzen the day after the incident), said that she entered the dorm a little before 10:30 p. m., when Pinky (Cynthia Poffenberger, 18, of Cleveland) screamed. She was sitting on the bed watching the lightning when she saw the object. A few seconds later someone screamed, "UFO, UFO." Miss Kohn went to the window and saw something coming from the northeast. She said she heard a kind of high-frequency hum, but the shape was difficult to discern. The whole thing was glowing with silver light, and after it settled near the ground they saw individual lights. Some of Miss Kohn's comments:

"It was an intense sort of silver light, the whole thing glowing with silver light. Then it flashed red but it wasn't really flashing. I mean it changed from white to red but it did it so quickly it gave the appearance of flashing. Then the light went down and then the intensity of red built up again . . . it slowed up. It seemed to be moving very erratically, dipping and swinging. Sometimes it had a sort of pendulum look to it. Then it moved, still flashing, to the southeast and went down below the trees. Sometimes it looked larger than a car. Then it would look smaller when it would get dimmer."

With these quotes we get the impression that the object came in from the

swampy region to the northeast, maneuvered near the dormitory, headed south-east and settled near the ground of the arboretum.

Some observations: The object *did not* settle into a swamp as is generally believed. It hovered in the vicinity of or over a small artificial lake in the arboretum of the Hillsdale College. Adjacent to the arboretum is the football field with a bank of floodlights. There are paths in and around the arboretum.

Van Horn, the house mother and 87 coeds watched FOR THREE HOURS, then apparently left to retire WHILE THE OBJECT WAS STILL THERE. No one attempted to unpack (it was claimed all cameras were packed) a camera or go out for one in order to attempt to take pictures.

No one attempted to locate and pull the switch or switches which would have activated that bank of floodlights at the football field which might have shed some light on the object.

No one attempted to get a few hundred feet closer—which probably could have been accomplished (although Van Horn admitted later he was afraid the object had some kind of "ray" which might be used against him) without detection as it was dark and there was some rain.

The policemen who were summoned approached on available roads but none of them attempted to get closer to the object.

In early May Van Horn released a 24-page report, the gist of which was that he and the people with him had seen an unconventional aerial object and that Hynek had been grievously wrong in labelling it "swamp gas". He said that Hynek had not "stepped a foot into" the area where the sighting took place. He also stated (and rightly) that the weather had not been conducive to the forming of swamp gas.

Van Horn claims that there was a rise in radiation in the area where the sighting took place and that plants there had shown a lack of blue pigment "which would have been eliminated by high radiation." The tests were performed by Kipling Vandenberg, 15, and Jerry Wilson, 16.

Hynek, in turn, stated that he still believed marsh gas to be the logical explanation for the sightings. He also questioned why two boys had been called on to make the tests rather than professional chemists and biologists from Hillsdale College. He has a point.

The Hillsdale case has been so bound up in explanations, charges and counter-charges that our only conclusion must be that:

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Michigan . . .

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Something unusual was seen on the night of 21 March 1966 over the arboretum at Hillsdale, Michigan. There is something considerably out of the normal, too, in the actions of the observers inasmuch as they later indulged in the usual protestations of "AF cover-up." (See article elsewhere in this issue pertaining to the fear-anger syndrome).

Fear . . .

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sake of argument, that a secret project does exist which has deduced that the UFOs are interplanetary and may be inimical to man. Would they be duty bound to tell the public what they knew in response to repeated accusations? Or should they, as responsible people, withhold that information until they are sure?

At any rate, if we concede, as most of us do, that the UAOs monitor our radio and television broadcasts, it would be entirely unwise to release information to the public IF THERE WAS THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE THAT THE UAO OCCUPANTS WOULD INTERCEPT THAT INFORMATION. Therefore, any indoctrination of the public must be slow enough so as not to cause shock or hysteria, but it must also be fast enough to alert the population before what is considered to be "the deadline." And IT MUST BE DONE VIA THE WRITTEN WORD.

A Gallup Poll survey of American opinion recently elicited this information about UAOs in the U.S.: More than five million Americans claim to have seen something they believed to be a "flying saucer." Also, about 50 million people (about half our adult population) believe that the objects are real and not a figment of the imagination. There is a long jump, however, between believing they are real and assuming they are interplanetary space ships occupied by intelligent beings. And—

Only six per cent, or 300,000, or 1 out of every 666 (six hundred and sixty-six) Americans believes, that the UFOs are space vehicles from another civilization. This is a pretty glum picture for those UFOlogists who say "the people are ready."

We have mentioned, previously, that an outstanding number of sightings of UAOs have been made in the vicinity of or over school yards. If the appearance of the objects over cities for long periods of time and repeatedly, during the last year indicates an attempt at indoctrination, it may be that a peaceful contact may be attempted, and that schools are

being overflowed and the craft are exhibiting themselves there for a very good reason: Children are definitely less subject to dogmatic or pre-conceived notions than adults. Perhaps the visitors hope that exhibition over schools will influence the population to some extent. Certainly, anyone monitoring our major radio and TV networks will gather that people simply do not believe that "they" exist.

The pace has quickened since July 1965 when Mariner reached the environs of Mars and began sending signals back to earth. There has been no letup of sightings of UAOs to speak of—merely a lull for a few days from time to time. And the activity is certainly global in nature.

We expect that in the coming year we will experience more sightings of objects over cities, blackouts, water reconnaissance and occasional nocturnal visits to atomic and military installations. There is a possibility of another, new type of incident, and that is telephone "blackouts" as soon as telephone communications nerve centers are located by UAO occupants. The first experiments may take place on long-distance circuits by disabling of telephone micro-wave relay systems. In this way, many network television broadcasts could be blacked out also.

The pieces of a 19-year-old puzzle are beginning to fall into place. The key incidents which could have told us more and sooner, were cunningly concealed among a large number of "flyovers" which diverted our attention for some time. We might logically expect a sudden lull in UAO activity before any final move. Some attempt to contact "them" should be made in order to let them know we are aware of them and willing to make peaceful contact. If they are completely inimical (and this is not absolutely established), it seems unlikely that we could resist them and expect to win—at least at this stage it does not seem possible.

Those "Saucer Nests"

The Headquarters office was literally deluged with clippings dealing with the press-dubbed "saucer nests" found in Australia in January of this year. Fortunately these clips came from around the world and each carried a bit of significant information which helped to fill out the overall picture: We are especially indebted to Dr. P. M. H. Edwards of Victoria, Canada for a copy of correspondence with Mr. Albert Pennisi of N. Queensland, Australia, relative to the "footprints" found in the vicinity of the "nests."

At 9 a.m., on January 19, 1966, Mr.

George Pedley observed a vapor-like saucer-shaped object taking off from the swamp land near his farm at Tully, N. Queensland. In the area where the object had been, Pedley found a circular area in which the reeds are flattened in a clockwise direction and dried, whereas the surrounding reeds are green and healthy.

Pedley's attention was attracted to the spot by a hissing sound while he was driving his tractor through neighboring property. "It sounded like air escaping from a tire," he said. He drove on but suddenly he saw a "spaceship" (his words) rise at great speed out of a swamp called Horseshoe Lagoon about 25 yards ahead of him. "It was blue-grey, about 25 feet across and nine feet high. It spun at a terrific rate as it rose vertically to about 60 feet, then made a shallow dive and rose sharply. Travelling at a fantastic speed, it headed off in a south-westerly direction. It was out of sight in seconds. I saw no portholes or antennae and there was no sign of life either in or about the ship," Pedley told reporters later.

Pedley decided to stay quiet about the incident, but on his way home, encountered Mr. Albert Pennisi, owner of the property where the swamp is located. He told Pennisi, whereupon his neighbor related the fact that at 5:30 a.m. on that morning his dog suddenly "went mad" and bounded toward the lagoon.

On the following Thursday two sight-seers, Tom Warren and Hank Penning, took a walk around the lagoon and came upon the second of the "nests." This one, by the condition of the swirled reeds, appeared to be several days old whereas the third, nearby, seemed to be "fresh," the reeds in a more nearly green state. The second and third "nests" were about 25 yards from the first one seen by Pedley, but were hidden by dense scrub growth. The fresher "nest" was only 8 feet across and the reeds were flattened in an anti-clockwise direction.

At about three feet from the perimeter of the first "nest", there turned up, later, a patch of couch grass about four feet square which had been clipped at water level.

On the 24th, the Sydney Sun reported that RAAF officers would investigate the depressions, and Mr. Pennisi went into the 5-foot deep swamp to retrieve some of the grass. The "grass" or "reeds" and the mud that clung to the roots were floating on the top of the water "which is most unusual" according to Pennisi. He commented that "they must have been sucked up by something."

Further results of this investigation have not been aired to our knowledge, (See Nests, Page 8)

Report From Brazil—The First UAO Sightings In 1966

Dr. Olavo T. Fontes

After a lull of more than two months, there was a sudden revival of UAO sightings in Brazilian skies starting in the first days of March, 1966. This time, however—instead of UAO reports scattered all over the country as in last year's flap—what was observed was a concentration of sightings over and around the city of Rio de Janeiro. This local UAO wave included about nine incidents, which will be described below in chronological order.

1. On March 6, at 2:00 a.m., an unconventional aerial object was sighted by the medical staff working at the Lourenco Jorge Hospital. That hospital is located at Barra da Tijuca, a resort beach at the southern limit of Rio de Janeiro city where the population is sparse and constituted mostly of fishermen. The first person to see the object was Dr. Ivan de Almeida, who was walking along the beach close to the hospital. He immediately ran to call the medical staff and for more than two hours all of them—doctors and nurses—watched the maneuvers of the strange object. It was first sighted over the sea and was ovoid in shape, emitting a very bright red-yellow light which was reflected on the waters below. The observation ended a few minutes after 4:00 a.m., when the UAO started to climb up slowly, gradually diminishing the intensity of its light and finally disappearing into the cloudy sky.

Dr. Jeronimo Ferrari Gomes, a psychiatrist, the chief of the medical team that night, still refuses to believe in the existence of the so-called "flying saucers." However, he has no doubt that the object he sighted seemed to be intelligently-controlled. He reports that the strange body hovered motionless for several minutes, then suddenly increased its brightness for a few seconds and then diminished its light again—to disappear into the darkness. When it reappeared again, a few minutes later, it was over another place, mostly over the Marisco Rock where it hovered most of the time it was visible. Sometimes it slowly moved away toward the sea, to come back a few minutes later. No sound was heard at any time and the UAO appeared to be below the clouds. The speed at which it moved when maneuvering to change position seemed slow, except when it switched off its lights. The object looked like a solid body, sharply outlined against the darkness. No details were seen on its surface: a smooth ovoid shape with no portholes, wings, propellers,

jets or fins. An attempt was made to report the sighting to the Air Force and the National Observatory, but the telephones at the hospital were not working due to some defect in the lines. Several fishermen in the area reported that they had seen the movements of the object since 1:00 a.m., and also that the UAO had been spotted over the area by many of them several times, in previous nights.

The Air Force made no comment about the sighting. Drs. Lelio Gama and Muniz Barreto, director and vice-director of the National Observatory, declared to the press that no registration was made at the Observatory about the luminous object sighted over Barra da Tijuca, because it was not obviously an astronomical phenomenon. In their opinion, it was an optical illusion, or an airplane, or an atmospheric phenomenon — which evaluation was certainly beyond the scope of the Observatory.

2. The second sighting of the series—the most important for several reasons—was made at the National Motors Plant (Fabrica Nacional de Motores), which is a big government plant located a few miles to the north of Rio de Janeiro, at kilometer 23 on the Rio-Petropolis Highway. There is no town close to the plant, but three miles to the north there is a big water reservoir. High tension power lines pass about seven miles to the north of the plant.

At 10:40 a.m., on March 12, about ten employees who were inside the National Motors Plant were alerted by the shouts of a young watchman about a mysterious object that was approaching the place where his observation post was located. He was very upset and told them that at first he thought he was sighting a satellite or a shooting star, when he saw a luminous point moving at high speed in the cloudless sky. However, the strange object came down to an approximate altitude of about 1500 to 1800 feet, and was now hovering motionless very close to the plant.

At the same moment, all of them ran to the outside and sighted the object. What they saw was an ovoid object 18 feet in diameter at that altitude (about several times the apparent size of the full moon), emitting a white light so strong and bright that all the observers looking directly at it had trouble with their vision. The UAO was motionless and soundless, but at certain moments rays of light were emitted in bursts from all its circumference — looking like flashes of high intensity.

The Director-President of the plant, Army Colonel Jorge Alberto Silveira Martins, was immediately called and informed about the happenings. He came

with several engineers and technicians. He was so impressed and alarmed by the sighting that he decided to call for the help of the Army Police. An Army unit from Rio was sent to the plant, with anti-aircraft guns, with orders to protect the plant and even to fight if necessary. The Air Force was also alerted and reported that no airplanes or helicopters were flying at the time over the area.

After 30 minutes, the object suddenly lost its brightness but its body could still be easily seen in the moonlight. At the same instant, it disappeared silently moving at tremendous speed — to appear again a few moments later about half a mile away. Then, just like the first time, it disappeared again and was gone. Several minutes later the jeeps and trucks of the Army unit arrived at the plant.

On the following night, at the same hour, the same object came back over the plant. It came very close again but only for a few minutes. As a measure of security to protect the plant, the Director-President had ordered the anti-aircraft guns from the Army Police unit to remain at the place with their garrison. The effect of the object's second appearance on the soldiers was the worst possible: there was panic and hysteria which became generalized. One of the soldiers, completely out of control, tried to fire his anti-aircraft gun against the UAO and had to be physically restrained by his commander (an Army Captain). That officer had given orders to fire only in case of attack.

Reactions produced by the sighting of the UAO: Several kinds of reaction and different impressions were caused by the strange appearance. Some of the observers believed the UAO was a secret weapon from a foreign country, probably from the Soviet Union. The dominant opinion, however, was that it was an aircraft unknown on the face of the earth due to the flight characteristics observed, i.e., the power to fly silently at high speed to any direction and also the ability to hover motionless in space. So, to the group who defended this opinion, the propulsion system of the strange craft was totally unknown and everything indicated that it was intelligently controlled. Others limited themselves to observe the phenomenon, giving no opinion. To this group the object was only a "thing" that came from space. On the other side, however, all the observers agreed on one thing: the object came so close that the general impression was that it was going to land at any moment, or preparing to attack the plant. That was the reason for the emotional reactions of fear, panic or even hysteria that were

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dominant among the witnesses — including the military personnel.

One of the observers said to me: "We have been told year after year that those things don't exist. Then suddenly we see one of them coming closer and closer, preparing to land or to attack, who knows? We just can't stand it, because we can't adjust in a few seconds to a new kind of reality for which we are totally unprepared."

The sighting was witnessed by about 50 persons, among them the following: Colonel Jorge Alberto Silveira Martins, Jonas Ribeiro, Osmarino Jose da Silva, Luiz Carlos da Silva, Antonio Lima, Pedro Rolin, Jose Luiz Chagas, Elson da Silva Lima, Rodolfo Costa, Heitor Silvio de Souza and Manoel Rodrigues. The soldiers, sergeants and officers of the Army Police are not included.

The Director-President of the Plant, Colonel J. A. Silveira Martins, released instructions to all employees of the plant involved in the sighting to keep that matter under absolute secrecy, avoiding any comments about the UAO to other people and especially to the press. The order has been obeyed so that no publicity was given to the sighting until the present time.

3. On March 16, at 5:45 p.m., a white object, ovoid in shape, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean close to the Cagarras Island, after a violent explosion which caused alarm and fear among the people who watched from the Arpoador beach its rapid fall to the sea. An emergency call mobilized the Air Force Life Saving Service (SAR) and the Guanabara State Coast Guard (CMS). Several patrol boats from the CMS and two SAR helicopters searched the area until 7:15 p.m., but nothing was found. The CMS sailor Sergio Jorge Carvalho and the sentinel at the Copacabana Fortress witnessed the fall and explosion. They reported that the object had a white contrail and that a smaller parachute-like object was dropped from it just a few seconds before the crash. Other witnesses affirmed that more than one parachute-like object had been sighted. The CMS released the information that "at 5:45 p.m., a communication from the SAR reported the fall of a "strange object" in the area of the Cagarras Island. Four patrol boats were sent to search the place and nothing was found."

A crowd of several thousand people remained for several hours at the Arpoador beach, watching the search and discussing the events. The Cagarras is a small, deserted rocky island a few miles

to the west of Rio de Janeiro, just in front of the well-known Copacabana and Ipanema beaches. It was visited three days later by an expedition that made a complete search, but again nothing was found.

4. The same night of the Cagarras sighting, another medical team at the Lourenco Jorge Hospital reported the sighting of a second UAO over the place. According to Dr. Flavio Fraga, chief of the medical staff, the object was first sighted hovering over the Marisco Rock. It was very similar to the UAO sighted previously: ovoid in shape, emitting a red-yellow glow and about the size (apparent size) of the full moon. The sky was cloudless and the moon was visible in the first quarter. This time, however, the object was not moving like an aircraft, but more like a satellite or a night sun, rising in the east. It climbed up in the sky very slowly and was still visible after four hours, at an elevation of 95 degrees, moving to the west. Then it suddenly disappeared.

The UAO was first sighted at 1:45 a.m., and was gone at 5:45 a.m. The Police Patrol was called to the hospital, but the policemen concluded — after watching the object for two hours — that it was obviously a satellite, and went back to their headquarters. The press was also called and photographs were taken. One of them was printed next day by the newspaper "Ultima Hora." It showed only a round globe of light against the dark sky—just like a picture of the full moon.

5. On March 17, at 7:45 p.m., a formation of four UAOs was sighted from the district of Vista Alegre, in Cordovil, a suburb located at the north area of Rio de Janeiro. The first witness was Mr. Sergio Righy, who lives at house 19 Six Street. He was just coming back from his work when his attention was called to four luminous points moving along two parallel lines through the sky. Keeping the same position in relation to each other, the four objects came down at high speed and then climbed up again. At the highest point of their trajectory they separated: two went to the right and the two others turned to the left. Then all of them stopped suddenly in mid-air, for more than 10 seconds. Again they started to move at high speed and came together to fly in close formation. They emitted a bright white glow and looked like four first-magnitude stars flying in close formation. They maneuvered always at high speed, making right-angle turns and stopping in mid-air several times.

At that moment Mr. Righy was already shouting for his neighbors to watch

the phenomenon. In a few minutes a small crowd was gathered at the street—men, women and children. Mr. Agostinho de Deus, who lives at house 15, somehow was able to get binoculars. According to Mr. Righy, as seen through the binoculars, the objects were ovoid and had a flattened dome on top with a series of luminous points of yellow color. Just before moving away to the east, at high speed, the four UAOs stopped again in space, hovering over the area for about 30 seconds.

6. The industrialist Raul Feteira, his wife, daughters, and future son-in-law Homero Moreira de Freitas, a Federal employee, provided the following UAO report:

"On March 21, at 8:35 p.m., from the windows of our apartment at Icarai Beach, 177, we sighted a strange luminous object flying over the Boa Viagem Hill, in Niteroi city. The brightly glowing object was illuminated by a number of white lights, elliptical in shape, and placed along an exact circle. At naked-eye, however, we couldn't see the outlines of the central body encircled by the lights. But Homero and my daughter Carmen, using binoculars, were able to see a conical shape flattened on top.

"We thought it was an unusual balloon, but we found it strange its complete immobility against the strong wind which was blowing from the sea. Then suddenly all the white lights changed to a blood-red color and the object started to move to the left, and to rise, flying in the direction of the TV towers on top of the Sumare mountain, in Rio de Janeiro (on the other side of the Guanabara Bay). It was then that the object decelerated rapidly and abruptly reversed course, going back swiftly to its initial motionless position over the hill. Just for a few seconds its lights changed back to white and again turned to red, for the last time, but now with no brightness. A few minutes later, the object started to move at high speed to the right in a horizontal direction, then accelerated and climbed up, disappearing in a few seconds. It was soundless, but soon several airplanes were heard. They came in view with their peculiar lights, flying as in pursuit of the object which was disappearing over the horizon.

"It was not a balloon because of the sudden change in the color of the lights, at the same time, and because of the sudden motions at high speed to the left and right. It could not be an airplane, because an airplane or a formation of airplanes are not soundless, and airplanes cannot hover motionless for several minutes. Besides, the airplane's

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lights are never placed in a perfect circle. All those things indicate that the object we watched for 15 minutes was a very unusual kind of aircraft." Unquote.

7. On March 24, the businessman Jonas Franco, 23 years old, living at 213 Alexandre Ramos Street, in Jacarepagua, suffered a nervous shock and lost his voice because—as described in his written report—he sighted a flying disc over his house and almost landing on the roof.

"Everything happened in just a few seconds," he wrote. "It was a metallic object about the size of a car, shaped like a flattened disc and very bright. It was at 2:00 a.m., I heard something knocking on my door. When I opened the door I saw the "flying disc" hovering about 15 feet away. Its glow was so brilliant that my vision was dazzled. I ran away like a desperate man through the streets until I was grasped by a policeman, who took me to a hospital."

The policeman, Edwar Robson Brun (address: Estrada do Cafunda, 356), declared that he was passing through that place when he saw that man running like a terrified animal along Geremario Dantas Street. He reported: "Immediately I ran to get him, thinking he was a criminal. The man couldn't talk. His eyes were wide open, protruding from their sockets. I thought he had seen something terrifying and asked about what was happening. He couldn't answer. I decided then to take him to the Carlos Chagas hospital where he was given an injection. Calming down, Mr. Jonas Franco was able to write that "he had sighted a flying disc hovering over his house, and described the object as metallic, brilliant and soundless."

The friends of Jonas Franco testified that he was a normal person of good mental health, a responsible citizen with solid reputation, not given to the habit of telling lies or imaginary stories. The problem is that he is still dumb. Several doctors have been consulted, but until now no one was able to give back his voice, and he can only write. His nervous state is getting worse day by day.

Incidentally, Jacarepagua is a district located in the south zone of Rio de Janeiro, close to Barra da Tijuca.

8. On March 25 at 7:55 p.m., a satellite-like object about the apparent size of the full moon was spotted by six workers from the Santa Maria farm, which is the place where I go on weekends. That farm is close to the town of Vassouras, about 80 miles from Rio de Janeiro. The object was coming from

the south, from the direction of Rio, and moving with a kind of jerking motion. It was slow, round in shape and surrounded by a yellow glow. It was soundless when it came over the farm. It was moving along a linear trajectory but, when over the farm, it made a right-angle turn to the east and moved away with the same speed, disappearing over the horizon. The sighting lasted for about 20 minutes.

9. On March 29, at 11:00 p.m., the fisherman Geraldo Tavares de Almeida living at a place called Muzema, close to Barra da Tijuca, was fishing at the Jacarepagua Lagoon when a round object, very bright and soundless, dived at high speed over the area, almost touching the water.

"I was so frightened that I overturned my boat," he said. "If I weren't close to the edge of the lagoon, I would be dead now, because I can't swim. From the water I still could see the object maneuvering in the air for several minutes, before disappearing to the side of the Tijuca forest."

Northern States Have Small Flap

Various points in Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming reported UFOs in early April:

On the 1st, a Friday night, a pilot saw moving lights near Palmer Lake, Colorado. Warren Heckman of Denver, flying a Frontier Air Lines plane to Salt Lake City reported seeing a UFO south of Denver. Officials at Lowry AFB had asked him to check out the sighting, so he detoured from the flight pattern and followed the lights, closing to within an estimated three miles.

At Fort Collins residents reported seeing a strangely lighted object, and students at the Colorado State University weather station said they recorded the object on their radar screen. August Auer, research meteorologist at CSU, said the bright red object was at about 15,000 feet and had a glow around it. The object was estimated to be the size of a small car. It moved slowly out of the southwest, hovered for a few minutes, then moved off east.

Also in Colorado, at Golden, on the 10th, Jefferson County sheriff's officers and Golden policemen were among hundreds who sighted a red glowing object over that city. Dispatcher Dave Courtney said he watched the object for 20 minutes over South Tabletop Mountain east of Golden. He estimated it to be 1,000 to 1200 feet above the mountain, where it maneuvered and occasionally hovered. It was a red, glowing ball, and

eventually disappeared over the mountain.

In Wyoming, on the 10th also, Don Russell and his wife and several other drivers stopped to watch a strange object about four miles south of Bosler. Russell said the object looked like a balloon at first, but as he got closer he could see that it was large, and shiny on top. It was on the right side of the highway and when they got to a point about 200 feet from the object, it "disappeared," then reappeared and crossed the road. It then ascended straight up and disappeared into the sky.

Four of the sightings in Nebraska in early April will be presented here because of their detail and witnesses:

On the 7th of April Dr. Jack Lewis, Harry J. Farnham (lawyer and private pilot), James E. McBride (lawyer) and Dr. John W. Tanner, also a private pilot, were traveling on Interstate 80 near the Greenwood rest station between 7 and 8 p.m., returning to Omaha from Lincoln by auto after their plane was forced down at Lincoln by rain and low clouds.

The four men spotted what appeared to be a red beacon to the left of the highway at an estimated four hundred feet altitude. Then a big white light came on. Then they saw four or five bright red lights with an arrangement that would not fit the form of a helicopter or plane. The big white light came on again for four or five seconds, beaming toward the ground and penetrating the rain. The men observed this phenomenon for about seven minutes, after which the object took off at "fantastic speed" and disappeared.

On the 9th of April, Ronnie Prater and his grandmother, Mrs. Alice Goolsby, saw an unidentified light in the vicinity of the Missouri River and over the bridge at Rulo, Nebraska. On Sunday morning, the 10th, Ronnie and Alan Roland, Doug Rue, Bob Johnson, and Rowland Lynn, all teenagers of Falls City, Nebraska observed a huge light in the sky east of Rulo which they said settled into a grove of trees in a shower of sparks. The light was in view as they drove to White Cloud, Kansas. At one time a long, funnel-like pole was seen below the big red light. They also reported red, green and blue lights associated with the bright one.

South of Rulo, the boys saw what looked like a train headlamp darting about the trees in another wooded area, but there are no railroad tracks in that area. When they went into Rulo they notified the town marshal who also observed the strange light.

Two days later, on the 12th, Mrs. Harry Goolsby, Ronnie Prater's (see above) (See Northern, Page 8)

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grandmother, and Ronnie's brother, Jim, were outside at about 12:45 a.m., when they spotted a brilliant light which "bore down on them" from the south, moving above the Nebraska bank of the river. It momentarily turned red, but otherwise it was alternately brilliant and fading, she said. As it reached the bridge approach, moving erratically and swiftly, it momentarily hovered at about the height of the bridge spans. Then, in a sharp-angle reversal, it shot to the southeast, over the river and across to the Iowa side where it disappeared. There was no noise nor could they discern any shape behind the light. The length of observation was about one minute. Mrs. Goolsby's home is on the river bottom north of and near the railroad bridge at Rulo.

Partial Blackout In Five-State Area

Besides the other sightings in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska, a dumb-bell-shaped object was seen at Green River, and Evanston, Wyoming on the 19th of April. The object seemed large and both ends were glowing white and were joined by a brilliant red bar. It was seen by policemen and residents.

Then, on the 26th of April, there occurred a spotty blackout of electrical power in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Montana and Utah. Harry Caperton, supervisor for power in the Reclamation Bureau's Region 7, said in Denver that alternating current in transmission lines throughout the West, as far as Arizona and Oregon, began showing violent fluctuations shortly before the Rocky Mountain area outages.

More S.A. Sightings

Although Aerolineas Argentinas officials hesitated to confirm the report, a UAO was supposed to have paced an airliner of that company on the morning of the 7th of January 1966.

The aircraft had left the local airport at Buenos Aires en route to Neuquen, in Southern Argentina. The object, described as a glowing disc, was reported to have followed and apparently observed the plane along its course for 30 minutes. Newspaper El Mundo said that the Airlines Company hesitated to confirm the report as it wanted to avoid any kind of publicity which might affect it commercially.

A disc-shaped luminous object cruised very low above the downtown buildings

of Valencia, Venezuela on the evening of the 8th of January 1966. The object flew in a north to southwest direction, so low that at times the observers feared it would crash into the buildings. Radio stations in the area interrupted the programs to announce the presence of the object so that people could see it. No exact time is available for the first sighting, but at about 10 p.m., two more similar objects were seen flying from north to south at a high altitude.

At Acarigua, Venezuela, on the 19th of January, the passage of two luminous objects coincided with a blackout of that city. The objects came over at 7:55 p.m., one from the north, the other from the east. When the paths of the two objects crossed, the lights went out in the entire city.

Denver Teenagers Are Scared By Object

One of the weirdest incidents to come out of the April reports of UAOs was an incident at a park near Denver, Colorado on the 7th. Six teenagers drove to Daniels Park about 10 miles south of Littleton, Colorado, at 5:30 p.m., to have a picnic. They parked and walked about 300 yards to an old shelter house, where they built a fire and ate. At about 9:30 p.m., the youngsters heard what sounded like footsteps on top of the shelter. Two of the boys took a flashlight and went out to look but found nothing. The shelter is built into the side of a small hill. The area was very quiet but they heard a strange buzzing sound. They heard it while moving but when they stopped to listen the sound would stop. Finally they looked toward their car and saw, in a field near it, something that looked like a car with big round tail lights. The lights appeared to be moving about, then they were gone.

The two boys went back to the shelter house where the others had relit the fire and were told that they had seen a huge figure pass by the shelter. They said the figure was over six feet in height.

At that juncture, all of the youngsters decided to leave the area, and proceeded up to the car. On their way, and as they watched from the car, four objects "that looked like footballs with domes on them" maneuvered near them. The boys estimated that the objects were approximately 20 feet in diameter. After twenty minutes of watching the display, during which time a strange, pulsating, buzzing noise was heard, the group decided to leave. When they got into the car, it would start and run, but kept stalling out every few seconds as though the ig-

niton was being switched off and on. The radio would play nothing as the static was too pronounced. When they returned to Littleton they reported the incident to Police Chief John C. MacIvor. "The kids seemed very sincere and two of the girls were really frightened," MacIvor told the press. "Obviously they hadn't been drinking and I'm sure they weren't trying to perpetrate a fraud. I'm inclined to think they really saw something," he said.

Nests . . .

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but the February 26 issue of "The Dominion" said that a similar depression was found in a swamp one mile east of Sydney, Australia's Bankstown Airport, and seems almost identical to the other "nests" near Tully. This depression is 20 feet in diameter and was found by two school boys as they took a short cut through the swamp on their way home from school. "Tall reeds were flattened into the mud as if by some tremendous force and all were in a perfectly clockwise position," said the "Dominion." The boys also noticed what they described as a "pungent, chemical smell" but which was gone when they went back the next day.

Photos of the nests show a depressed area with the reeds plainly swirled from the center out, as if a powerful downdraft of air had acted upon them.

Not included in news reports were Mr. Pennisi's description of the strange "footprints" found there. He and Pedley found them the same day the nests were discovered, beside the large nest, and determined that they had not been made by animals. When notified, the police did not come to view the "nests" until the next morning, and by then the footprints had been obliterated by the curious who had come to see the nests. "Both George (Pedley) and I regret that we didn't know about former flying-saucer research before the event, as they were the people who should have been notified and could have taken control of the whole thing," Pennisi wrote Dr. Edwards.

He went on: "The footprints were about 3 inches in diameter and looked like (here Pennisi sketched what resembles the hoof mark of a calf) this, about 8 or 10 inches apart; by the 'frog' we meant there was no indentation on the heel, and the soil remained loose and raised. The large nest was 28 feet in diameter and clockwise, and the smaller nests were 8 feet and anti-clockwise."