

# THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA

MAY-JUNE 1973

## CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN BRAZIL

### The Aurora, Texas Case

The alleged crash of a UFO on April 17, 1897, has been hauled into the focus of the news media again. For new members who may not have read the basic story, we will recount it briefly again:

A. Mr. S.E. Hayden, a "stringer" for newspapers (one who provides local news to big-city newspapers) submitted the story to the Dallas Morning News on April 17, 1897. In effect, it said that at about 6 a.m. a huge, silver-colored, cigar-shaped object appeared over the southern horizon, showing two gasoline engines along each side. Both of these engines turned propellers and another propeller, which "bored through the air" was mounted on top, apparently for vertical lift. This is the general description furnished by several people in several areas prior to the Aurora incident.

It was estimated that the object was 200 to 300 feet long and 50 feet wide. Seven windows (at least, according to the story) were strung along the bottom, and a strong headlight flashed out of the nose. Depending on who was telling the story, it was piloted by one of several persons, some of whom were wearing blue sailor suits.

This was the general description of a strange "airship" which had been reported throughout the United States that year. However, in the case of the Aurora "ship", it was piloted by only one individual - a "Martian". Hayden said it came in low over the Aurora town square, zoomed north above Judge J.S. Proctor's house which was located on a hill and struck the Judge's windmill and exploded. Debris was allegedly scattered far and wide and when the citizens of Aurora rushed to the site of the wreck they found the badly disfigured body of the pilot. T.J. Weems, allegedly the U.S. Signal Corps Service Officer and also an authority on astronomy, made the pronouncement that the pilot "came from the planet Mars."

Further, the story read, papers were found among the wreckage but the writing could not be deciphered. According to Hayden, the local citizenry cleaned up the debris and at noon that day gave the pilot a Christian burial at the Aurora cemetery which is located on a hill near the town.

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### Artifact Found - Disappears

Mr. Donald Worley, APRO's Field Investigator at Connorsville, Indiana, has submitted the following interesting report of a UFO incident which took place on a farm between Gaynorsville and Milhousen (Decatur County) Indiana on the morning of March 10, 1972. As usual, Mr. Worley has furnished complete details of a most intriguing UFO report.

At a little after 4 a.m. on the 10th, Mr. K.G. (name withheld upon request) awoke with a "terrible pain" in his stomach. It was so severe that he got out of bed, then laid down and rolled on the floor. He thought at the time that he might be having a heart attack (despite that fact that he is only 35) and wakened his wife, M. The pain began to subside so he got up and paced the floor.

Shortly, both Mr. and Mrs. G. spotted a great orange glow beyond the trees to the southeast on Mr. G's father's farm. It lit up the area and seemed to change in intensity. After a while Mr. G. felt well again and went back to bed; however, his wife stayed up and watched the glow for about an hour, after which an orange-colored glowing boomerang-shaped object ascended from the area where the glow was, and flew west. When it was south of the G. home, it appeared to be about the size of a "flying boxcar" aircraft, and only about 150 feet away from the house. She estimated that the object was about the size of a grapefruit held at arm's length - in other words very large and very close. It flew at the speed of "an ordinary aircraft", she said, and disappeared into the southwest at an elevation of about 45 degrees.

Both Mr. and Mrs. G. agreed that there had been no wind, no precipitation, no moon, and only one light in the vicinity - a dusk to dawn yard light about a half mile from their house.

On the next day, Mr. G's father and his son were letting hogs into the field on the elder Mr. G's farm, when they found a very strange orange-red (not glowing but very bright, they said) "stone." They found it too heavy to carry back to the farm but did roll it a few feet. The stone was flattish and had purple-colored pits

(See Artifact - Page Three)

The following is preliminary information on an incident which took place at dawn on the 22nd of May 1973 between Itajobi and Catanduva:

Onilson Papero, who is employed with a firm in Oswaldo Cruz, a district in S.J. do Rio Preto, reported that at dawn on the 22nd of May he observed a very intense blue light that caused his car to become transparent, interfered with the radio and the engine of his car, made a noise like a turbine and attracted him toward it as if "it were a magnet".

It was 3 a.m. when Onilson, who had taken a girl home to Itajobi, was driving to Catanduva on State Route 321. When near km. 7 his engine started to fail and at the same time the radio which had been working well, began to register a considerable amount of interference. Onilson started to gear his car (an Opala) down from high to second and then to first gear in an attempt to keep it running. By this time the interior of the car was lit up, giving Papero the feeling that something had gone wrong with the electrical system. Then a beam of light hit him straight in the face and he had to pull the car to the curb. Until this time he thought that a truck was approaching him, but nothing passed. When the beam of light struck him he had put his hands over his face. When no car passed he lowered his hands, opened the door and saw, at an altitude of about 10 meters (about 36 feet) and a distance of 15 meters (about 50 feet) a strange-appearing object. By this time the temperature had begun to rise and Papero was gasping for air.

Then, Onilson said, a kind of curtain or net appeared to cover the object and the temperature fell to normal and he was able to breath with more comfort. It was at this time that he saw a tube coming down out of the object and he started to run but felt as though something was pulling him back. He looked back and saw only a beam of light over the car covering it and turning it transparent. The object was opaque, he said, but the light around it as bright as day. He ran a little further, he said, and then lost consciousness.

At about 5 a.m. two young men came upon the Opala with the door open and Papero lying some distance away in the road, on his back, in the rain. Some

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RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, INC.

3910 E. Kleindale Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85712  
Phone: 602-793-1825 and 602-326-0059

Coral E. Lorenzen, Editor  
Norman Duke, Richard Beal,  
Brian James, Jacqueline Joseffer, Artists

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## James Visits APRO



Brian James, one of APRO's staff artists whose work has graced the *Bulletin* on several occasions in the last year, visited Tucson and APRO on the 17th and 18th of June. Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen were pleased to play host to Brian, his wife Karen and son Michael whom they found to be a lovely family. More of Mr. James' work will be seen in future issues of the *Bulletin*. They are pictured above in the living room of the Lorenzen home.

## Australian Scientist on Extraterrestrial Life

While attending the annual general meeting of the Australian Academy of Science Professor R.D. Brown of the chemistry faculty of Melbourne's Monash University, was interviewed by the press concerning his views about the possibility of life on other planets. Professor Brown recently discovered the existence of molecules in space which could be the "building blocks" of organic matter, and his discovery points to the existence of biologically active matter in space.

While delivering a paper dealing with organic matter in interstellar space at the symposium on the origin of planets and life, he said, "Our solar system is now believed to be a typical one, and half of the stars you see in the sky could have similar systems around them. It is probable that virtually all of these systems have at least one terrestrial planet — like earth — with a similar distance from its sun and other factors which would give a fair chance for life to evolve.

"Other planets like earth are now believed to be rather common throughout the universe. Only about 20 years ago, planet systems were thought to be very

(See *Scientist* — Page Six)

## Another Apology

At this writing it is hoped that the May-June *Bulletin* will be on schedule (in the mail before July 15). However, the extreme tardiness of the March-April issue was due to another set of unforeseen and sad circumstances.

On the 23rd of May Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen were called to the bedside of Mr. Lorenzen's father in San Francisco. He passed away on the 25th and the ensuing funeral required that the Lorenzens be away from Tucson until May 30th. The coming months will be difficult for Mr. Lorenzen as he was named executor of his father's estate and the work involved in disposing of same will take a considerable amount of his spare time.

We hope that the membership will understand any further delays in the near future and we at Headquarters hope that

with the new volunteer help things will be on an even keel before too much time passes.

## Transitions

We are saddened to announce the passing of two of our oldest supporters and field investigators, Mr. David V. Lansden of Cairo, Illinois and Mr. Clancy D. Tull of Kansas City, Missouri. The membership will recall their names from the pages of the *Bulletin* in the past years when their investigations were published in its pages. Both were attorneys.

It is at a time like this that we realize just how long APRO has been in the field of UFO Research when we begin to lose valuable people such as Mr. Lansden and Mr. Tull. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

## Encounter

(Continued from Page One)

papers were strewn about but it was later found that nothing was missing, although there had been two checks among the papers.

The men called a patrolman to proceed to the area immediately and succeeded in waking Papero who became panic-stricken and told his story. The policeman took him to the Pedro Abino Hospital where Dr. Elias Azis Chediak examined him. He was put under observation until 7 p.m. that evening and nothing unusual was observed so he was sent home to Catanduva.

It was noted that Papero's normally brown hair turned completely black on the night of his experience but has since returned to its normal color. Also, some yellow spots which showed up on his body several days after the experience have disappeared. They caused him no discomfort.

Onilson Papero is one of those individuals who used to scoff at the idea of flying saucers, and now says he never wants to see another one again.

It was later learned that at least six other witnesses had seen the object of the 22nd including two businessmen in Catanduva, and a member of the congregation of the Catanduva Parish Catholic church.

## Artifact

(Continued from Page One)

distributed across its surface. They decided to come back to the field the next day and retrieve the strange rock. However, when they returned the stone was gone. They searched the general area thoroughly but it was not to be found.

It was determined later that the stone was in approximately the same area where the G.s had seen the glow the night before. They theorized that perhaps fox hunters had carried the thing off and went so far as to query fox hunters they encountered in the area. Their questions were met with ridicule as the general feeling was: "what would we want with a rock?" There were no tracks of vehicles found on the ground in the field which would account for the mysterious disappearance of the strange artifact.

Field Investigator Worley suggests that no human acquired the rock and that perhaps it was retrieved by the vehicle which dropped it in the first place.

## Aurora

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Those, basically are the alleged "facts". Most UFO researchers are familiar with the "Airship" flap of 1897 when unidentified airships were reported in various states across the country. It has yet to be proved what the things were, if, indeed they existed at all. The accounts would be much more easy to verify if the descriptions had been more detailed and not tinged with so much emotion.

But-back to Aurora. A little background is helpful here. Aurora was in pitiful straits in 1896 and 1897. An epidemic of spotted fever had decimated the population and a lot of people left town because of it or the failure of the cotton crop or the bypass of Aurora by the railroad or a combination of all three circumstances. What had been a thriving country town was now a ghost town. S.E. Hayden, a cotton buyer, was in as bad a fix as anyone else.

Seventy years passed and the question of the Aurora crash was brought up again by UFO researchers during the furor of the 1966 "flap" when the Condon Committee was commissioned to investigate UFO reports and determine whether or not UFOs really existed.

Wise County (where Aurora is located) historians pronounced the whole tale a hoax but few believed them. The only qualified scientist to investigate the affair was Dr. Alfred E. Kraus, then Director of the Kilgore Research Institute at West Texas State University. He made two visits to Aurora during which he carried out a careful investigation. On his second trip he used a metal detector to search the supposed crash site but turned up nothing of interest. What he found, he said, were old stove lids, rings used on horse bridles and some 1932 license plates, but nothing which could be interpreted as having been a part of a "flying silver cigar".

Dr. Kraus also interviewed people who had lived in Aurora at the time and they denied any knowledge of a crash. One, Oscar Lowery of Newark, was a resident of Aurora and 11 years old at the time. He had been visited by no less than a dozen newspaper and magazine reporters, one of whom offered him a large sum of money to verify the crash story. But he stuck to his story and would not budge, even with the offer of money.

It has also been learned (and this can be verified by Jerry Flemmons, reporter with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram) that in the early 1960's an aging telegrapher confessed that the stories had begun with a telegraph operator in Iowa and had spread to Texas, and had no basis in fact.

Now we come to the present. Around the middle of April, a UFO buff who has a reputation as a gadfly who flits hither and yon as circumstances allow

when a midwest area is infected with UFO reports, brought up the Aurora case again. He apparently had not done any research to speak of because he was not aware of the basic history involved.

As this individual began to get attention from the news media, others jumped on the bandwagon and the controversy flared anew. This new crew of Aurora "investigators" included a newspaper reporter who showed up at the little town wearing a jacket emblazoned with the NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) emblem and leaving the impression that he was a representative of NASA. He made no attempt to identify himself as other than that, either.

But - he produced bits of "fused" metal resembling aluminum, which he claimed he retrieved from the "crash site". During a telephone interview with Mrs. Lorenzen, the *Bulletin's* editor, he said that immediately upon finding the metal he had "sent it out of the country" to be analyzed because he was afraid that government authorities might confiscate it. Daily newspaper articles in Dallas papers said that the metal had been sent to a government research laboratory in Canada, and another sample to a scientist in this country. But the reporter and his cohorts refused to identify the latter.

Because Dr. J. Allen Hynek was mentioned prominently in news articles as planning to visit Aurora to investigate the findings, Mrs. Lorenzen put in a call to him and asked him if he had any knowledge of Dr. Kraus' investigation to which he replied that he did not. She also pointed out that Kraus' investigation in 1967 had yielded no mysterious metal. Dr. Hynek then informed her that he knew the name of the scientist who had examined the mysterious metal and that the man was legitimate. She asked him if the metal was unusual. It was a fairly common aluminum alloy, he said.

Referring back to the file on the 1897 crash, including recent clippings from Dallas papers, the APRO staff noted that while quite a bit of very mundane metal was found by the current investigation, the new metal was found to be an aluminum alloy which could not have been manufactured on earth before 1908 but later. While the mundane metal (iron) was badly rusted, the aluminum alloy, according to the unnamed scientist, was in good condition. A check with members of the Consulting Staff of APRO yielded some interesting information concerning this turn of events:

Aluminum alloy manufactured prior to World War II contained copper and had it been buried for such a long period it would have been badly corroded. Alloys developed and manufactured during and since World War II are much harder and would stand up under the elements much better. However, even the

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## ADDRESS CHANGES

Always include old and new  
Zip Codes.

## Aurora

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newer aluminum alloys would not be in "good shape" after being exposed to the elements for 76 years. Yet the metal found in May, 1973 are described by the investigators as being in remarkably good condition.

Now some pieces of the puzzle begin to fall together, if we consider the facts available. Dr. Kraus found that there was no T.J. Weems of the Signal Corps in Aurora in 1897, but Jeff Weems was the local blacksmith. Dr. Kraus found no unusual metal, aluminum alloy or otherwise in 1967, yet it allegedly showed up on the crash site after the initial flurry of publicity in April of this year.

The most recent "finding" is a stone with a triangular inscription etched on it which the current investigators hint might be the stone used to mark the grave. The news articles dealing with this discovery describe the inscription as being cigar-shaped whereas it is actually a triangle.

Two elderly people have been located who declare they remember their parents talking about the "airship crash" and allegedly having gone to the scene and describing it later. They also said they could locate the grave, which they did, but each sent the investigators to a different grave site.

It is amazing that the 1973 Aurora "investigators" have not taken the obvious route: examination of cemetery records would be of prime importance. It is strange, too, that the Wise County Historical Society, which has carefully and laboriously recorded the history of that county (the spotted fever epidemic, the failure of the cotton crop and the railroad bypass of Aurora) did not record such an historical happening as the crashing of an airship, especially since there were no airships in those days.

An examination of all the "evidence" leads us to an obvious conclusion: The aluminum alloy arrived at Aurora after 1967 when Kraus examined the crash site and therefore has no bearing on the mystery whatsoever. Whether the aluminum was brought to the scene by publicity-seeking UFO buffs or by people who wanted to inject some life into a ghost town (Aurora was re-incorporated in 1972) we may never know but it seems certain that we should relegate the story of the 1897 Aurora, Texas airship crash to the hoax bin.

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Moving?

Please send address changes!

## Object Photographed in Canada

Our thanks to member John Revenboer for forwarding the accompanying photographs and the details about same. On the 16th of March 1973, Bert Harvey of Sesequinika, Ontario, Canada sighted one and then three strange glowing objects in the northern sky. The objects appeared to be hovering in the general direction of Canadian Forces Base Ramore so he telephoned the Provincial Police who in turn phoned the Base but were informed that nothing was visible on radar in the vicinity.

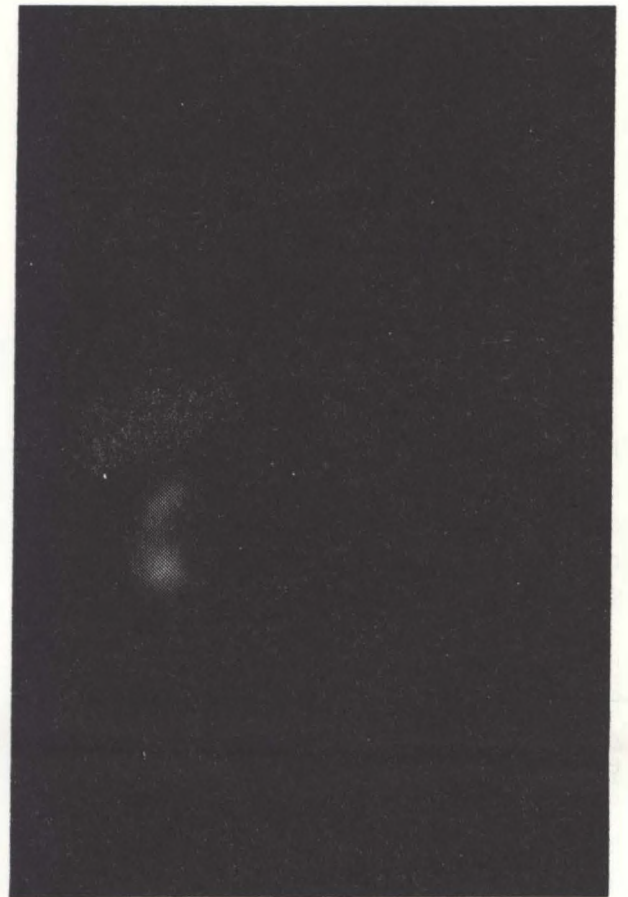


Original Photo

Harvey said the objects were constantly changing colors from red to green to blue, that they started moving about and at one point two of them appeared to merge and then separate again.

Harvey watched the mysterious trio from 9 p.m. until 2:30 a.m. in the company of his wife Ada and his son Rod of Toronto, and Dave Barnacal, a conservation officer for the Swastika branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

On Thursday evening the objects were spotted again by Mr. Harvey but this time they appeared to be much farther away. A news photographer, Mr. John Scott Watson was called to the scene. He later described the objects as each looking very much like a very bright star and said that every now and then they appeared to move very slowly in different directions "Each one of them kept changing color", he said, "but were too distant to enable me to take photographs."



Blowup of Original Photo

Several hours later, however, Mr. Watson returned to Sesequinika and observed two of the objects— one in the northeast and the other, much closer, in the northwest. He took time exposures at 5, 10 and 15 seconds. The photo shown on this page is one of the blow-ups which appears to show either an object with two lighted portions or two separate objects. Watson said, "I would not swear that any of the things I saw tonight were unidentified flying objects. But at the same time it seems strange to me that five stars would be changing color at the same time and moving in different directions."

## Engineer Observes UFO

On the 22nd of March, Mr. Oscar Wills, Chief engineer for the Central Illinois Public Service Company at Grand Tower, Illinois, observed a UFO hovering over the 69,000 volt transformer yard.

Wills, who was working the 3 to 11 p.m. shift, said that at about 9:15 p.m. he received a call from the company turbine operator, Mr. Willis Hughes, who informed him that he was watching an unusual object which was apparently a bit north of the power station. Wills walked out the north door of the station and immediately spotted the saucer-shaped object hovering over the transformer yard. He estimated its height at about 1500 feet and added that the sight amazed him. The object had a large number of pulsating lights around the edge of it, and it changed color from bright red to white and sometimes to amber. He thought its diameter was

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## Engineer

(Continued from Page Four)

approximately 25 to 30 feet and that the lights numbered about 30 which entirely circled the craft except for an area of about 6 or 8 feet.

Wills estimated the object's distance to be about 300 yards, and ventured 50 yards closer to it and although he was feeling "shaky" he walked another 100 to 150 yards toward the object. At that point he was about 100 yards from it. Because he was alone he decided to go back to the plant and alert others, and as he began walking he looked back over his shoulder and saw it begin to move. It moved over the west side of the plant, across the Mississippi River and stopped again. Wills then walked around the plant to the sea wall where he could observe the object hovering over the sea wall.

The loudspeaker announced that there was a call for Wills so he went into the plant where he took another call from Mr. Hughes who wanted to know if he had seen the object, and said that he was still watching it from his home about a mile and a half from the plant. When Wills went back outside again the object was gone. He estimated that he had watched the craft for 7 or 8 minutes, and Hughes said he had watched it for 20 minutes before his first call to alert Wills.

After the second call from Hughes, Wills went back outside and stayed there for another 30 minutes hoping to catch a glimpse of the object again, but all he saw were four jet aircraft which he assumed to be military because of their high speed, which made several passes over the plant and the Mississippi River as though searching the area. After 8 or 10 passes which lasted about 8 minutes, the jets left.

Wills was definite in his description and said that the object was definitely solid and not just a gaseous mass.

Five days after the incident, the *Santa Ana Register* (California) queried the Air Force about the jets but was told by an Air Force spokesman that Headquarters North American Air Defense Command had said that no planes had been scrambled in the area of Grand Tower and that no report of UFOs had been received by the Air Force.

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## Eastern UFO Symposium

APRO urges all members to obtain the *Proceedings of the Eastern UFO Symposium* (held at Baltimore, Maryland on January 23rd, 1971), a new publication brought out by APRO and available at \$3.00 postpaid in the U.S., Canada and Mexico (\$3.50 all other countries). Please make checks payable to APRO.

## Australian Mystery Rings

The *Australasian Post* for May 10, 1973, carried an article titled "Riddle of the Rings" which dealt with strange markings on the ground at the farm of Mr. Geoff Bibby at Navarre, 145 miles northwest of Melbourne.

First discovered by Mr. Bibby in September 1972, they are two circular strips of bare ground two feet wide and a short distance apart. Within and outside the circles the grass grows normally except for a few patches of bare earth inside the rings. Bibby paced them out and found that they were 78 to 84 feet in diameter.

In May, 1973, the rings were still devoid of vegetation and became a source of concern to Mr. Bibby as he feared that whatever had caused them might spread to the rest of his property. He decided to take a look at the soil itself and dug down into one of the circles. Whereas the soil appeared normal on the surface, the soil he dug out was heavily impregnated with a white substance unlike anything he had seen before. He dug up other samples and found that whereas the soil inside the bars rings and outside them was as normal as the rest of the pasture, the bare patches all contained the strange white substance.

As the rings gained the attention of outsiders, tests were made for radioactivity but none was found. Soil samples were examined in an attempt to identify the white substance but at the time of the publication of the account it was only known that the substance was neither animal or vegetable in origin.

This mystery is recounted in the *Bulletin* because of the similarity of the description of the white substance to that found in the soil in Iowa (U.S.A.) bean fields in July 1972, as well as the soil in the white patch on the Johnson farm at Delphos, Kansas (see the headline story, page 1 of the November-December 1971 *Bulletin*). The white substance in the Iowa bean field case was not identified and the markings were erroneously identified as the results of lightning strikes.

Because curious ground markings have been known to result from UFO landings, Australian researchers theorized that the Navarre rings may have been caused by a UFO. The Bibbys had not seen any unusual aerial objects, but a neighbor, Mrs. Lorna Slorach who lives on a 2850-acre farm adjoining the Bibby property, said that she had seen an unusual object in November 1969, about three years before Mr. Bibby found the rings. It happened about midnight, she said, but she couldn't recall the exact date. She noticed a bright light moving across the sky from the southwest and as it approached and was "about halfway up the sky", she could see that it was actually a circle of lights made up of large

and small lights arranged alternately. She couldn't discern whether the lights were around the middle or bottom of the object, but did note that it travelled in complete silence. Her mother-in-law saw it, and her father-in-law who was in the car was told to look up but he thought she was pointing to a tree and turned on the car headlights in order to see better. The instant the lights were turned on the lights in the sky went out abruptly.

One further detail about the white substance is that when a piece of it is extracted from the soil and rubbed between the fingers, it completely disappears.

The *Bulletin* will publish any further information when it is received.

## Students Observe UFO in New Hampshire

Thanks to Field Investigator Basil Woods and our new Consultant, Walter N. Webb for the details on this case. The initial information came to us from the Portsmouth Herald of April 3 which said that three Belknap College astronomy students, Gene Major of Stamford, Conn., Harry Bridges of Philadelphia, and Bruce Wingate, of Compton, Plains, N.J., observed a dark red sphere from 8:15 to 8:40 p.m. on the night of March 28th from the Belknap College Observatory. Mr. Bridges' testimony follows:

On March 28th, 1973, Bruce Wingate, Eugene Major, and myself, Harry Bridges, did see and observe the following in relation to an Unidentified Flying Object:

At about 8:15 + - 2 min. Gene pointed out a flashing red light to the SSE in direction and about 6 - 8° above the true horizon. We estimate brightness to be of perhaps +1 to -1. The object remained the same apparent magnitude throughout the entire sighting. At 8:24, I got a sighting of the object through our twelve and one half inch reflecting telescope. It appeared a dull red glow with a fuzzy perimeter, oval in shape; slight, though, almost a flattened sphere.

The disc had a bright red flashing light about 1/8th its diameter which flashed at one second intervals at different horizontal points on the object, but in the same vertical plane, indicating possible rotation. Gene and Bruce also observed this phenomenon.

At about 8:30, they both went downstairs to the 6-inch mounted on the lawn where they had been doing variable star observations the previous hour. The six as well as the twelve has excellent optics. All of us saw the object move horizontally with a slight incline from SSE to SSW twice then vertically to a standstill (we know it was stationary because we sighted with scopes through a nearby tree) where it stayed about 45 (See Students - Page Six)

## Students

(Continued from Page Five)

seconds, then dropped below horizon. After about 2 minutes it reappeared in the SW, then dropped rapidly, not be seen again.

While stationary, I alone observed through the 12 inch a second fainter similar object to it's left, about ¼ it's angular size and brightness. It also blinked. It quickly vanished. Bruce also saw the second object, but with binoculars (7 x 50). The weather was excellent and our eyes adjusted. We reported the incident the next day to a local radio station and *omitted* that there was a *second* object. Some people mentioned that *a second fainter object* appeared and disappeared while they were watching.

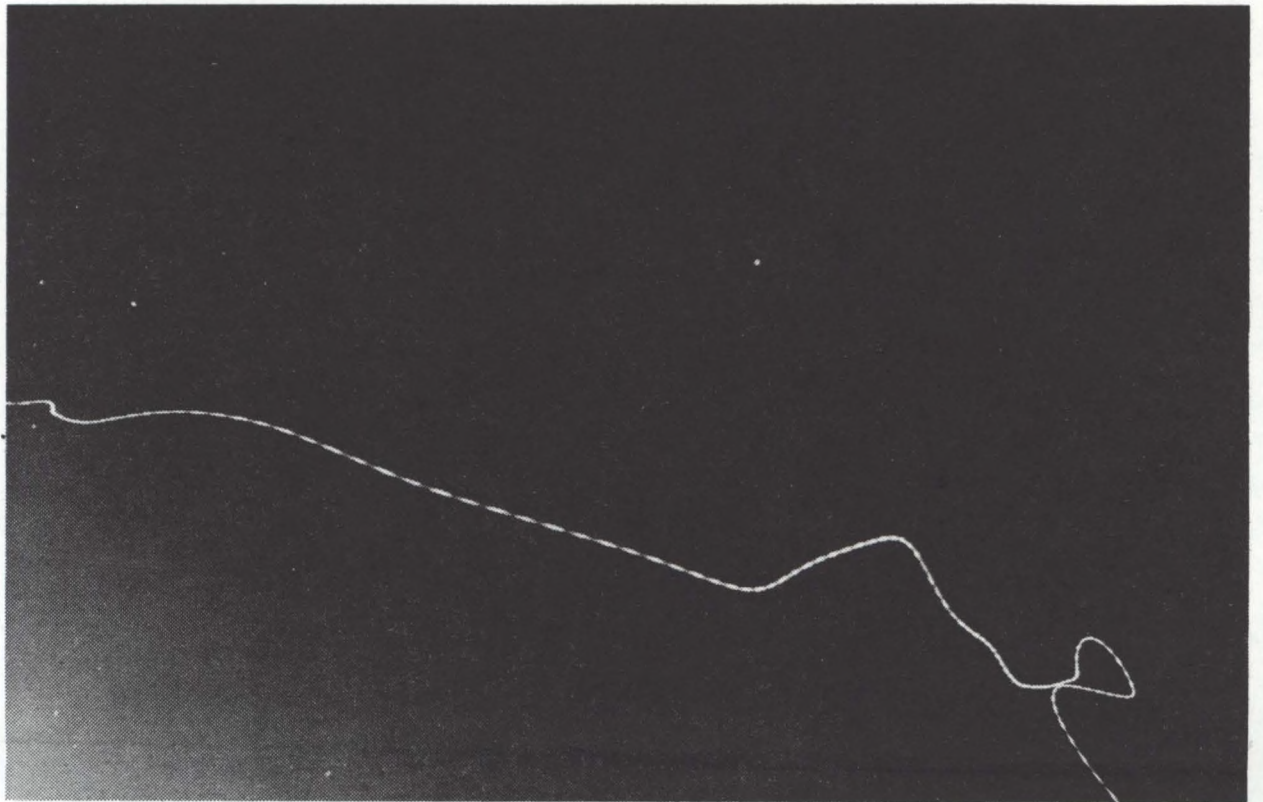
As also stated, no contact or communication took place during the incident. Also, no sounds or noises were heard and no exhaust or heat convection waves seemed to be present either on the ground or on the object. So far as we can determine, no helicopters, planes (save one that we clearly saw with *three red and white flashing lights*), or balloons were in the area at the time.

## UFO Track Photographed in Japan

Mr. Jun-Ichi Takanashi, APRO's Representative for Japan has forwarded a black and white photograph (seen on this page) of an alleged UFO trail photographed by Kazutaka Fujita, a Kosaka Junior High School boy, on the night of May 18, 1972. The boy had been taking pictures of a star field as he usually does each evening. A strange lighted object appeared from the south, he pointed the camera hurriedly and opened the shutter for about 30 seconds from 21h 14m 42s to 21h 15m, 12s. The resulting photo shows the flight pattern of the object which curved and wound freely and described an intermittent glowing line in the night sky.

Mr. Takanashi points out that we cannot definitely label this photo as one of a UFO, but it seems fairly certain that it is not the track of an ordinary airplane nor artificial satellite because of the intricate path it describes.

Mr. Takanashi compares this photo with one which was published in the November-December 1966 *ARPO Bulletin*. Briefly, the details are these: John T. Hopf; APRO's Photoanalyst, also an amateur astronomer, was trying to record the flight of the Geminid meteor shower at between midnight and 3:10 a.m. on December 13, 1966 with his four Kodak Medalist cameras set up in his



UFO Track Photographed May 18, 1972

roof-top observatory. Whereas his cameras picked up only three meteors during that time, one of the cameras (f3.5, 4" focal length, lens wide open) recorded no less than twelve magnificent curving paths of unidentified, intermittently pulsating bright light sources in the night sky. These paths were apparently recorded on the film when he was changing the film in two of the other cameras with his back turned to the south, in which direction that particular camera faced. After analyzing the facts available (there had been no sound, for one thing) Hopf could find no mundane explanation for what he had recorded on film.

And so it would seem that Mr. Hopf and Kazutaka Fujita photographed the same type of phenomenon.

## Scientist

(Continued from Page Two)

rare indeed." He further said that other planets did not have to have things exactly the same as on earth for life to evolve and that if single cells existed on suitable planets it would seem that the development of intelligent creatures would be "inevitable".

When queried about "flying saucers", however, Professor Brown had this to say: He does not think any intelligent creatures on other planets would be interested in looking at us, and, "There are so many other likely stars that would require visiting and it takes so long to travel the vast distances, that trips to any one part of the universe would be very infrequent." He does go along with the theory that the earth may have been visited thousands of years ago and possibly a couple of times since, but as

for people who say they have seen "flying around with little green men and so on", he dismisses them as "cranks". And he rules out "flying saucers" simply because they are reported "too frequently".

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## Please Note:

Quite often we dispatch investigators to interview witnesses of UFO sightings which come to us via newspaper clippings. It is imperative that those who forward clippings give us the name of the paper, the city and state, and the date. This may simply be penned in on the clipping, as long as it is included.

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## Back Bulletins Available

APRO has a stock of back bulletins which are available to members and subscribers at 50 cents each, postpaid, as per the following list:

1958-Jul.

1959-Mar.

1960-Jul., Sep., Nov.

1961-Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep.

1962-Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep., Nov.

1963-Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep., Nov.

1967-Nov.-Dec.

1968-Mar.-Apr., Jul-Aug., Sep.-Oct., Nov.-Dec.

1969-Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr.

1970-Nov.-Dec.

1971-Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., Jul.-Aug., Nov.-Dec.

1972-Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., May-Jun., July-Aug., Sep.-Oct., Nov.-Dec.

1973-Jan.-Feb.

# Celestial Events. August/September 1973

MARS competes with JUPITER for celestial prominence as it approaches opposition (Sun-Earth-Mars alignment) late in September. During the August/September period the magnitude of Mars increases from -0.6 to -1.9, as it reaches its apex in the sky ever earlier in the morning sky (*morning star*). Jupiter, now an *evening star*, diminishes in brightness from mag. -2.4 to -2.1. (To locate Mars and Jupiter, see table below.)

VENUS is emerging from the glare of the Sun as an evening Star of mag. -3.7 at the end of September. SATURN remains dim during this period. Stars SIRIUS and CANOPUS reach their zenith in the

morning sky. (To locate the Sun, Venus, Sirius, and Canopus, see table below.)

The most significant CONJUNCTIONS in August and September are of Jupiter and the Moon at 2124 UT on 12 August and 2346 UT on 9 September (in both cases Jupiter is 3° or 6 lunar diameters South of the Moon), and of Venus which is 2° (4 lunar diameters) North of the Moon at 0418 UT on 30 September. (To locate the Moon, see table below.)

The only major METEOR SHOWER occurs on about 10-14 August. This nighttime shower, the *Perseids*, will be obscured by moonlight (85-100% illumination; see table below). At 0000 UT on 12 August (the date of the *Perseid* maximum), the radiant is at 274° GHA\* and +57° declination. (\*GHA increases about 15°/hour.)

## Report from Tasmania

Mr. William K. Roberts, APRO's Representative for Tasmania, has forwarded the following information on UFO activity in his area:

Mrs. Alvera Marks of Dover was awakened at 3:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 28th by a noise similar to the "whirr or scream of an electric motor". Going outside onto the veranda she saw a large round reddish light in the northern sky. Mrs. Marks woke her husband and a friend of the family who was holidaying with them to come and see the mystery object which they watched for the next 15 to 20 minutes.

The witnesses estimated the light to be well under the overcast sky at little more than 100 ft. altitude and 300 yards away above the tree tops. The object appeared as a two thirds-moon-sized round light that did not give off any rays and seemed to them to be a very dense light. The noise fluctuated throughout the sighting growing louder at one stage when two smaller lights appeared just to the west of the main object. Toward the end of the sighting the light seemed to diminish in size, then the light expanded, the noise grew louder and it suddenly disappeared, the sound stopping also.

Investigation by TUFOIC (Tasmanian UFO Investigation Center) ascertained that the cloud level was about 2000 to 3000 feet and that there had been a thunderstorm sometime prior to the sighting but that at the time the light was seen the storm had passed. The DCA said there were no aircraft in the area at the time. It was also discovered that the combined fire/burglary alarm at the Dover shop had been activated and this could have accounted for the noise associated with the UFO. Both the shopkeeper and the resident next door to the shop noticed an orange glow behind the trees in the direction of the Marks sighting. They were unable to see the cause of the glow. When the alarm was finally turned off it seemed to be "running down". The Police could find no signs of fire or burglary.

A Weather Bureau spokesman said that a strong discharge in the area and a surge of power could have triggered off the shop's alarm system. This would have required a very strong electrical storm of the type not usual in Tasmania. He also commented that the glow from a fire started by a lightning strike could have accounted for the UFO but no evidence to this effect has been forthcoming. The only remaining explanation is ball lightning but generally this only lasts a matter of seconds to a minute and is seen during a thunderstorm. Currently the light must remain unidentified.

The resulting publicity in the press and on Television produced a flurry of reports  
(See Tasmania - Page Eight)

### Astronomical Ephemeris<sup>2</sup> (August-September 1973)

Date (0000 UT)	Canopus		Jupiter		Mars		Sirius		Sun		Venus	
	GHA	Dec	GHA	Dec	GHA	Dec	GHA	Dec	GHA	Dec	GHA	Dec
1 Aug	214°	-53°	360°	-19°	286°	+ 6°	208°	-17°	178°	+18°	149°	+10°
1 Sep	244	-53	34	-20	304	+10	239	-17	180	+ 8	146	- 6
1 Oct	274	-53	65	-20	333	+11	269	-17	183	- 3	142	-20

### Moon<sup>1</sup>

Date (0000 UT)	GHA	Dec	Frac. Ill.
1 Aug	151°	+ 4°	7%
3	128	- 7	22
5	105	-17	41
7	82	-23	60
9	58	-25	78
11	35	-22	91
13	12	-16	99
15	350	- 7	99

Date (0000 UT)	GHA	Dec	Frac. Ill.
17 Aug	329°	+ 4°	91%
19	306	+14	76
21	280	+22	55
23	252	+25	32
25	222	+21	13
27	195	+12	2
29	171	+ 1	1
31	148	-10	10

Date (0000 UT)	GHA	Dec	Frac. Ill.
2 Sep	125°	-19°	25%
4	101	-24	44
6	77	-24	63
8	54	-20	80
10	31	-13	93
12	10	- 3	99
14	348	+ 8	98
16	323	+17	87

Date (0000 UT)	GHA	Dec	Frac. Ill.
18 Sep	296°	+23°	69%
20	267	+24	46
22	240	+18	25
24	214	+ 8	8
26	191	- 3	1
28	168	-13	2
30	144	-21	12
2 Oct	120	-24	28

<sup>1</sup>Dates (UT) of lunar phases: First Quarter (50% illuminated) 5 August; Full Moon (100% ill.) 14 August; Last Quarter (50% ill.) 21 August; New Moon (0% ill.) 28 August; First Quarter 4 September; Full Moon 12 September; Last Quarter 19 September; New Moon 26 September.

<sup>2</sup>See the January-February 1973 APRO Bulletin (pp. 8-9) for detailed explanation. Formulas:

LHA = GHA - West long.

LHA = GHA + East long.

sin Alt. = (sin Dec.)X(sin Lat.) + (cos Dec.)X(cos LHA)X(cos Lat.)

sin Az. = -(cos Dec.)X(sin LHA)/(cos Alt.)

## Tasmania

(Continued from Page Seven)

giving TUFOIC its busiest period since the New Norfolk sightings of December 1971.

On the evening of March 27th at 9:30 p.m. a Lenah Valley resident reported a bright orange light that descended the northern slopes of Mt. Wellington. The light circled halfway down the mountainside, then returned over the mountain top to the SW. This was followed on the same night by a sighting at 3 a.m. (28th) from Kempton of a flame-red light atop White Hill. The round half-moon-sized light was in sight for about a minute. The light then seemed to drop down behind the hill and no sound was heard at the time. The DCA said there were no planes in the area and the weather was overcast. A search of the hilltop shortly afterwards by TUFOIC failed to find any marks or explanation of the sighting.

Red light reports continued to come to hand, the next being from Chigwell at 8 p.m. on the evening of the 28th. This time a red light was seen by several people as it travelled north over the hills in the Old Beach area. The light was in view for a minute or more. What puzzled the witnesses most of all was when the light dropped to the ground in the Old Beach area, then shortly after just went out. No exact location could be given where the light landed and inquiries at Old Beach itself proved negative. The DCA once again said that no planes were flying at the time of the report.

The red light saga continued when TUFOIC learned that at 7 p.m. (just prior to the Ghigwell report) a shimmering grey egg to football-shaped object with two infrared lights had been seen at Adventure Bay. Dover, where the first sighting was reported, is 15 miles west and Hobart 30 miles north of Adventure Bay.

An Adventure Bay resident and her daughter saw the larger than moon-sized object for about 15 minutes. A red flash drew the daughter's attention to the object which was stationary in the northwestern sky with the two red lights on its lower side. The object disappeared while the witness was inside and when they came out to view the object again they were unable to locate it. The weather at the time was fine and clear with no aircraft in the area.

In the space of 24 hours TUFOIC had five red light type sightings, none of which could be attributed to aircraft or astronomical phenomena. The following week brought about a dozen reports including strange whining noises heard at Warrane and Mole Creek, but TUFOIC was able to find possible explanations for these cases.

A further red light incident occurred on April 5th when a red light was seen floating down in the Lauderdale area but TUFOIC was unable to follow up the details of this sighting. However on April 10th at 10:05 p.m. a witness saw from East Moonah the last of the red light reports. Our witness was looking to the east from his home when he noticed a bright matchhead-sized light (red) at 10° elevation and travelling to the south. The light performed a 90° turn and headed away out of sight towards the east. It had been in view for some 15 seconds. With no planes in the area and the sky overcast there seems to be no explanation for the light.

## Flap Over Rhode Island

*(The following is a report condensing details of 1973 sightings in the vicinity of Kingston and southern Rhode Island, compiled by Field Investigator Donald Todd. Sightings taking places in other areas are so specified.)*

March 5, Monday, 2:00 p.m. The first daylight sighting. Mrs. Ann Gardner reported seeing an object moving in front of Shannock Fire Tower. Tower and hill are 445 feet in height. She watched the object move slowly from southern horizon to northern horizon. It was round, flatish, disc shaped, about the size of a dirigible. It showed no lights, made no sound and had the appearance of an aluminized disc.

March 5, Monday, 9:00 p.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner saw the same object she has been seeing regularly, moving across the horizon. It had brilliant white lights with a large, red glowing top. As it moved westward, the lights flashed out abruptly.

March 6, Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. A woman in Hope Valley watched a helicopter go overhead. It was heard plainly at slightly higher than treetop level. As she watched it disappear, she noted what she thought was a second helicopter following the first. As the second object flew overhead, at the same height, she realized that the object was round, with brilliant, white flashing lights and with two blue-white beams shining from the front. There was absolutely no noise coming from it, which startled her. It appeared to be following the helicopter. The dogs in the yard put up an awful racket.

March 13, Tuesday, 2:15 a.m. Two girls attendants at the Ladd School for the retarded, 5 miles north of the Kingston rotary, reported seeing an object hovering in the sky about 200-300 feet up. The object was revolving on its own axis while hovering. It had three windows with bright lights. After about 20 minutes it faded and then just disappeared.

March 18, Sunday, 9:00 p.m. A family watched a set of flashing red lights come in low off Block Island Sound in the area of Shelter Harbor. There was no sound, the object looked to be about the size of the moon when low on the horizon, and it proceeded north-eastward becoming lost to sight.

March 20, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner reported an object moving slowly from southwest to northeast, flashing bright red and white lights. There was no sound at all from the object.

March 21, Wednesday, 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner reported an object lower than she had ever seen it before. It was extremely low in the valley, lower than the opposite hill. It moved slowly in a northerly direction. It was flashing with the largest red lights she had ever seen. Then it began to flash red and white. A plane approached the area and the object's lights went out instantly.

March 21, Wednesday, 7:15 p.m. Shortly after Mrs. Gardner's call to me, Ray Serebetz and I proceeded along Rte. 138 and viewed an object moving slowly northward along the trees and flashing red and green lights. No sound came from it and it appeared to be making a large circle. We lost the object over the trees. We proceeded south on Rt. 2 toward Wood River Jct. and approximately 2 miles further we again saw the same object flashing red and green. With binoculars resting on the jeep roof, we could not resolve any shape. Since the object now appeared to be paralleling our course, we proceeded to Wood River via Shannock Hill keeping the object in view. As we drove down into the opposite valley however, (Wood River Jct.) the object was lost to view.

March 23, Friday, 7:30 p.m. Mr. Anthony Calouri of Snake Hill Rd. Gloucester, and family saw a bright, luminous object moving erratically across the sky from southeast to northwest at about 1000 feet. It changed speeds frequently, rose, descended but maintained its original direction. It was observed from two to three minutes. No sound was heard from it. As several planes approached (in the normal approach to Hillsgrove Airport) the object dimmed to an orange-red glow and moved away.

March 24, Saturday, 4:00 a.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner reported seeing an object with brilliant, white lights hovering over the United Nuclear Plant in Wood River. It hovered over the plant for five or six minutes from the time Mrs. Gardner first saw it, then it moved away in a westerly direction.

March 25, Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Two couples going south on Rte. 2 in Sun Valley, saw an object lighted brilliantly white, coming over the trees. The object passed overhead then turned and

(See Rhode Island, Page Nine)

## Rhode Island

(Continued from Page Eight)

followed them for approximately a mile and a half. It then veered away blinking red, green and white. The object was round, spinning and about the size of a harvest moon. The couples were extremely frightened when I talked to them.

March 27, Tuesday, 8:45 p.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner reported an object with bright lights making a half circle turn over the United Nuclear Plant. The object had white lights and began blinking red as it moved slowly from south to west. It passed very low over the trees and the plant.

March 27, Tuesday, 12:15 a.m. A man returning home from work at Rhode Island Hospital (Providence) going south on Rte. 95, noticed a roundish object glowing orange-red and flying parallel to him. The object was approximately 200-300 feet up. The driver of the car was maintaining the speed limit, 55 mph and the object was keeping pace with him. He thought maybe it was a reflection in his windshield so he stopped the car and got out. The object stopped ahead of him and was pulsing. He listened for a noise but heard none. He got back into his car and continued. The object accompanied him for about another 15 miles and then just before the Rte. 138 Kingston Interchange, it veered off and flew away to the west.

March 28, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Two girls saw an object with a rough triangular shape hovering over the trees on Stony Lane, Exeter. The object glowed with brilliant white lights. It had smaller green and red lights at the points of the triangle. The object was up about 200 feet and made a slight buzzing sound as it moved away.

April 5, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. A man and woman watched an object glowing orange-red pass from the east then turn north at treetop level on top of Shannock Hill (367 ft.). The object seemed to glow stronger then weaker, then stronger again as it moved in fits and starts.

April 6, Friday, 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Ann Gardner watched a red pulsing object move toward Shannock Fire Tower. The light was of a pinkish red and very large, much larger than helicopter lights and pulsing, not blinking.

April 6, Friday, 8:00 p.m. A man reported seeing an intensely bright light hovering over rte 1 for about 20 minutes. It then became a sort of greenish glow and moved slowly toward Alton where it changed to a brilliant white again and seemed to dip down toward the trees.

April 7, Saturday, 9:00 p.m. Jane Sweet saw a red glowing object moving west adjacent to Rte.1. It turned white then red, and then back to white again. The underside seemed to have white dots

moving in a circle. The object was not very high over the trees and it moved with no noise.

April 7, Saturday, 10:00 p.m. A woman saw a bright white object circle her farm near Alton. The object passed over three times. It lit up the whole yard and shone a bright, white light from beneath onto the yard. It made no noise as it circled overhead. It was much larger than the moon and had a sort of whitish-green vapor about it. It finally flew away toward the west.

April 8, Sunday, 9:00 p.m. Several residents of Brookfield Hills (near Providence) reported a disc-shaped object with flashing green and red lights. It was spinning as it moved across the sky. There was no noise and it flew low and slow. "Sort of eerie like. It was scary," they said.

April 9, Monday, 7:15 p.m. Two men standing by the Wood River Junction Post Office looked up to see a bright, white object, approximately 40 feet across moving slowly east over the trees, about 100-200 feet up. No noise came from the object and it passed over the Wood River Jct. intersection. Suddenly it turned a cherry-red then dimmed down to an almost invisible orange and sped away eastward. A moment or two later a twin engine, radar plane (E1B) came in over the trees going in the same direction as the glowing object.

April 10, Tuesday, 9:00 p.m. Mrs. Joseph De Blasi driving west on Rte. 1 saw an orange-red object moving in slowly from the north. She thought it was a helicopter and dismissed it. About a mile further down the road, the object passed directly over her car and the lights and ignition began to falter. The object flew off in a westerly direction low over the trees. At this time, it was a yellowish-orange with a green vapor or haze all around the outside edges. The object was the full width of the road. (42 feet)

April 11, Wednesday, 10:30 p.m. A glowing, red object was seen moving south across the sky at about 500 feet, off Newport. The U.S. Coast Guard investigated and reported that the object was an aircraft with red running lights on. The local residents disagreed, saying that the object was one, single red glow, moving erratically and with no noise.

April 12, Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Curtis Sherman (a co-worker) at home on Pt. Judith Rd. Narragansett, watched an orange-red object moving slowly over his house toward the north. It was about 400-500 feet up. It was the size of a large plane and made no noise as it moved overhead. It seemed to have a green ring around it and seemed to go bright and dim alternately.

April 12, Thursday, 9:00 p.m. While over at Wood River Junction observing, the following occurred over my own

house:

My Neighbor Warner Sweet observed an object moving westward, adjacent to Rte. 1, at about 200 feet maximum. It moved erratically and slowly. Mrs. Sweet brought out the scanner scope and they watched the object move along at a snail's pace. The size was larger than the Cherokee plane Warner pilots and was orange-red with a green haze around the outside. The object made no noise and moved westerly over the trees.

April 13, Friday, 9:15 p.m. From the roof of my house, I observed an object moving directly toward me from the north. It was at treetop level, moving hesitantly. It shone with a half-circle of extremely bright lights with a pulsing red one either in the middle or on top. It was soundless and approached to within a quarter mile or less when suddenly it made an abrupt "U" turn and accelerated north. (An aircraft could not have made such an acute "U" turn) Almost immediately the area was flooded with helicopters and small craft.

## Press Reports

The following are, as usual, only a few of the many press reports forwarded to APRO. Some are under investigation and when completed will be carried in the *Followup* column in a future issue.

*Easton, Pa., U.S., March 22, 1973.* At shortly after 10 p.m. Allentown *Morning Call* photographer Tel Toulomelis was stationed in Hackett Park when he spotted an unidentified light which moved to the left, then the right and began to speed up. Using a 200mm telephoto lens he began shooting pictures. On the following night Toulomelis was in Hackett Park again with several other spectators and they saw two lights moving in the same fashion as the night before. The latter were later identified as jetliners coming in to land at the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport. However, the photograph obtained by Toulomelis on the night of March 22nd shows a slightly blurred, oval-shaped object.

*Nazareth, Pa., U.S., March 22, 1973.* Todd Jones of Nazareth was out watching the sky in hopes of seeing a UFO which had been reported by many in the area. At between 9:05 and 10:05 p.m. he claimed he saw several objects moving slowly south to north which he and a companion said looked so bright through binoculars that they could hardly continue to look at them.

*Los Alamitos, Calif., U.S. March 23, 1973.* Karen Harper and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Harper of Los Alamitos were outside their home at 8:30 p.m. when they observed a red light below the clouds which turned to a white flash and disappeared into the cloud cover.