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* * * * *

LETTERS

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen:

Let me congratulate you both on your long service to the cause. I recall that at one time, there was some kind of rebellion in your ranks, but that was won out and you are continuing A.P.R.O. more successfully than ever.

A word about us, since we have had some type of connection for many years. My wife and I are both eighty-eight years old, and she is actively practicing, although I only come to the office and don't work. We are in good health and we hope you are also, although we receive hints from time to time of ill health in your family.

We notice that you still carry the results of the Cleveland convention a couple years ago, and we still treasure the report made at that convention of the saucers that landed in the forties in Arizona and the news was suppressed.

I am enclosing my renewal to the bulletin and hope it goes on for many years.

Yours very truly,
Carl F. Funk

the apro bulletin

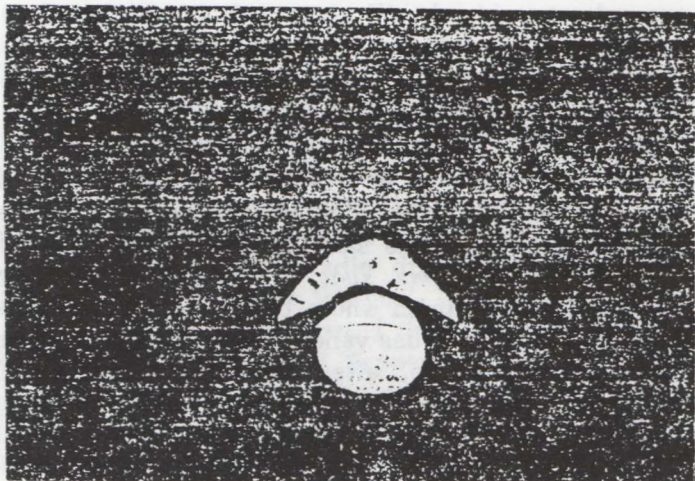
VOL. 32

TUCSON, ARIZONA

NO. 4

UFO OVER RIO DE JANEIRO

by Irene Granchi
APRO Representative, Brazil



Rio object seen and drawn by Regina Fiasis - See details, column 2.

SPACE MYTHS IN ROMANIAN FOLKLORE

By Tiberius A. Topor
(APRO Representative for Romania)

The space flight myths are wide spread, throughout the world. As V. Kernbach, one of our folklorists observes, in the Romanian mythofolklore they are preponderant. Certain aspects make them extremely original, by dealing with the subject of spaceflight in the form of fairy tales.

I personally have treated the subject of Romanian fairy tales in this respect and have analysed many a fable which have space flight as a central theme.

The category of fantastic fairy tales is the principal "deposit" of Romanian mythology. The flight systems' typology is mainly associated with its magical character.

Mr. Kernbach arrives at an interesting conclusion by stating that space flights in the form of astral flights are older than airflights, as themes in Romanian folklore.

In space flights, the magical character of the
(See "Folklore" - page 4)

On the 31st of October, 1983, from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 8:00 a.m. on November 1st, an unidentified object was seen by many individuals in and around Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Mrs. Granchi has presented us with an excellent first-person narrative of the events:

"At about 4:00 p.m. a journalist friend rang me up advising me to turn on Radio Globo, for they were describing the sighting of an object in the sky over Rio. My call to Radio Globo elicited the information that the broadcasting team had all gone up to the roof of their building (in a district not far from mine) and were watching something brilliant in the sky, and they gave me its direction, telling me they had news of this since morning from neighboring towns. From the verandah of my apartment I looked up, but could not see it. So I went to the 5th floor (I live on the third) and the neighbors let me see from theirs what they had started watching. Then I went to a fourth floor neighbor's, and they had binoculars, but I could not find the object in the sky which they were watching, as my eyesight is poor. Finally I saw a little speck among the clouds (the sky was partly cloudy) that came and went among them. After a time I went down to my own apartment, sat on the verandah, put the phone by me, and started receiving calls from associates in other parts of the city - Tijuca, Copacabana, etc., also from my son who was watching from the yacht club. The sky started to clear, and then I watched the alleged UFO - a silvery spot traveling slowly, then standing still.

"Then I saw a streak of white smoke traveling towards the UFO, changing route, turning left and disappearing among the clouds. This was between 5:10 and 5:50 p.m. I later learned that the streak had been left by an F-5E plane sent up by the Air Force. The plane itself was high and so small I could not see it, but the silvery object was comparatively large, for I could see it at about 70° above the horizon, in a NE position. By 6:20 p.m. the clouds had moved back so far as to leave a large space of very blue sky, in the middle of which stood the UFO, whose pulsating light - a slow pulse - made it glimmer bright and dim out very visibly throughout the sighting.

"However, at this hour, the light became intensely
(See "Rio" - page 2)

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Published July, 1984

Rio

(continued from page one)

bright and large, four or five times the brightness of Venus at its best, then dimmed off in two or three seconds, always at the same spot, until it vanished *entirely in the same spot* in the blue sky. My neighbor, a rabbi (with whom I am on greeting terms only) exclaimed, "It has vanished!" in a surprised tone of voice. Meanwhile, after speaking to a CISNE associate, Paulo Assis Brasil, who had been watching the UFO from another district, Leblon, he decided to come over to take some more photos, as he is a professional photographer. Also, at the same moment when the light vanished from my sight, another CISNE associate, Leonardo Bloomfield, rang me from his home in Jacarepagua, a distant suburb south of Rio, saying that he was watching a bright white light that had now turned red. He also informed me that an Air Force helicopter was trailing it. I also received a phone call from Regina Fiasis, who had just returned from Sao Pedro da Aldeia, north of Rio and had been watching this light since 9:30 in the morning, also with binoculars, and she and her husband were so impressed that they had rung the Air Force Base near their beach-home, and they had been told that no balloons had been sent up from there. This lady, formerly a fellow teacher at Cultura Inglesa, came over today to give her statement, together with her husband. Another phone call from Nova Friburgo, up in the hills outside Rio, from Ema Cantalmo, informed me she had seen a UFO among the clouds from 4:00 to 5:50 that afternoon, shaped like a losenge, or like a long child's balloon, transparent underneath. She had experienced a floating feeling herself and had also watched a plane trailing the UFO.

"At 6:58 another observation was added to the preceding one. By this time Paulo had arrived, taken two more photos, and the day had darkened, so the UFO was no longer clearly visible. I should add that, after it had disappeared before my eyes, it had reappeared in another position close to the first, and the clouds had gathered again. But at this hour we were all gathered in the living room when Alfonso, who had also come over, felt an impulse to go out onto the verandah and shouted, "the flying saucer!" very excit-

edly. My son and Paulo followed and they were in time to see the second flash from the UFO so bright that it lightened the whole sky, then the UFO leaving a streak of bright light on a trail heading south, and out of sight, in a split second of time. My son Roberto says it could have been traveling at 100,000 km.p.h.

"The next morning a phone call came from Leonardo at 6:30 to tell me he had been watching the alleged probe-balloon since 5:30, through binoculars. He later gave me a drawing of it. Two or three hours after that I rang one of our broadcasting stations, Radio Cidade, and they told me the whole staff had also watched the same from their building just outside town, at the same hour.

Ever since about 5:00 p.m. on October 31, the chief astronomer of the National Observatory, Ronaldo Rogerio Mourao, and then on television, said that what was being watched was a probe-balloon. "This strange "probe-balloon", however, was up in the sky much higher than the F-5E plane that had reached from 10,000 to 15,000 km. up, looked like a pinpoint to the naked eye, while the UFO that was much higher up, was large and clearly visible. According to my son it was about 50 times larger than the airplane."

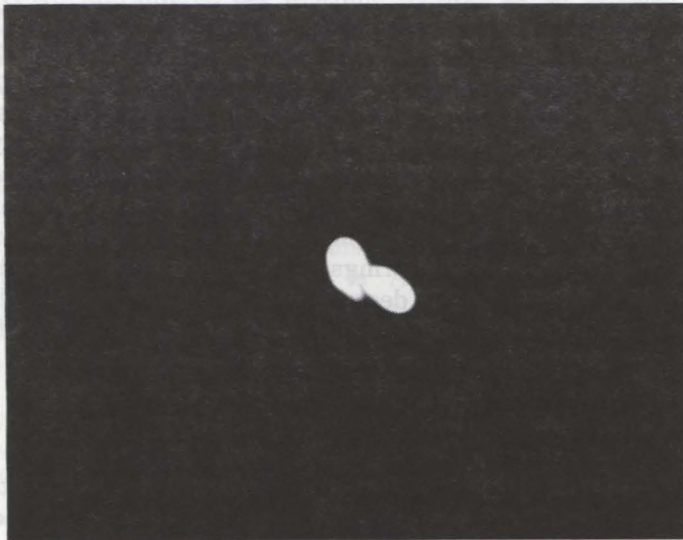


Photo of Rio object taken by Paulo Assis Brasil.

Thus ends Mrs. Granchi's first-hand account of her experience with the October 31 - November 1 object. We would very much like to present the entire content of the clippings translated and forwarded by Mrs. Granchi, but space does not allow. However, the following is a fair representation, although very much abbreviated:

On November 1st, O Dia, a Rio daily newspaper, published the statement of the pilot of the F-5E who had gone up to intercept the object, that it was only a weather balloon.

SINDACIA (Brazilian National Aerial Defense and Traffic Control) issued a statement that they had not detected anything in the skies over Brazilia, Minas Geries, Rio de Janeiro or San Paulo.

The National Space Research Institute claimed it had not launched anything from the Technical Center at San Jose dos Campos.

Sightings from Silva Jardim, Cabo Frio, Aranama, Rio Bonito and Itaborai, described a brilliant silver ball, plainly visible to the naked eye. The satellite-tracking station in Tangua was not able to identify the object. Motorists (sometimes imprudently) stopped their cars along the highway between Rio and Bahia, disrupting traffic.

On November 2, O Dia published an explanation proffered by Inacio Martins of the National Space Research Institute. He claimed it was a balloon launched from French scientists at Pretoria, South Africa on October 22. After being seen in Rio on the 31st of October, it was sighted in Sao Paulo on November 1st. The same article stated that a balloon was sent down on the 31st from Sao Manuite, in Sao Paulo State, and was expected to fly at 40,000 meters.

The November 1 issue of "O Fluminense", a Niteroi paper, described sightings of a spot of light in the sky, viewed from that city (across the bay from Rio) on the 31st. The article also stated that: A lady with binoculars said that the object was shaped like an umbrella, and had a silvery belt and a red one and a green one and never stood still in the sky. The control tower at Galeao issued a statement that the object had been picked up on radar but vanished at 9:30 p.m.

Colonel Mario Jase, an Air Force spokesman, said that the object monitored by the jet had been a balloon from south Africa.

There is a tremendous mountain of information in the clippings forwarded by Mrs. Granchi, all of which indicates that all of officialdom was intent upon giving some kind of explanation, regardless of the facts. Mrs. Granchi, who is President of the Center for Investigations on the Nature of Extraterrestrials (CISNE) was quoted (and misquoted) extensively.

One most interesting statement was presented in "O Fluminense" on November 2 which quoted Prof. Inacio Martin to the effect that he had received a telex on November 1 about the South African balloon, "Montgolfier", and it would probably make a second circumnavigation of the globe.

On the 6th day of November, "O Globo" published details of the sighting of "Montgolfier" in Rio, and carried the prediction of Prof. Inacio Martin, head of the Astrophysics Dept. in Sao Mael, Sao Paulo, that the balloon could fall on Brazilian territory within the following eight to ten days.

In view of all this, Mrs. Granchi's concluding statement is *most* interesting:

"Has anybody spotted contradictions? Why should

this balloon now be falling in Brazil, when it was supposed to circle the earth twice? Any explanations? Why should it look so different to the eyes of different witnesses, discriminating ones seen through binoculars? What about the behavior of whatever it was, seen by three witnesses (adult) from my verandah, 4:58 on Monday, October 31, where speed and appearance clash harshly with all official descriptions?

"It was a flash, a run, another flash (lighting all the sky) and off at vertiginous speed. Any answers? A graduated lady from Sao Paulo, spending the weekend in Ilha do Governador, near Rio, saw through a child's telescope a domed object with dark spots like windows, before she had a chance to hear from other people that it was a balloon. Others, independently, on that island off Rio also claim to have seen a UFO, and made drawings."

* * * * *

Folklore

(continued from page one)

"technology" is evidenced by magical transformation of neutral objects or beings into vehicles; in this specific case, space vehicles. The fairy (flying) horse is the most characteristic, and it can be found in the air flight myths lore. The myth is oversaturated with symbols, many difficult to decipher because of the maximally synthetic structure they have. Unenergized by magic, the horse is a jade. Its fantastic properties show up only when it is fed with "embers". We can speculate on this form of the horse, which is elongated. Reading attentively the details given in the tales, it is shown that in flight the horse holds its ears close to its outstretched head and neck, with the feet pressed close to its body underneath - a veritable aerodynamical shape! And the embers - i.e., fire "fuel", makes it an authentic vehicle! I emphasize that the concept originated in mesolithic and those pastoral tribes had the knowledge of our present-day "time-space continuum"!

So, returning to the horse as a "cosmic vehicle" in our fairy tales, we can see that it is a complex vehicle. Differing from similar prototypes like Pegasus, Slenir, etc., it does not fly directly, but first makes a "test flight".

At an attentive reading, we discover the location of the devices used for vehiculation and camouflage: the ears.

Another space vehicle in Romanian fairy tales is the water tower that is detached by magical power and flies, with its occupants, "with the speed of thought in endless space".

We can see the special form adapted, so to say, to flight; here it is a cylindrical shape.

A more specific space vehicle is the "Fairies' log"

that must be mounted. Reading the fairy tale, there comes to attention a few details such as the mechanical noise heard from a "fueloil brook" below. It is interesting to note that in the end, the "log" takes off towards the "wild wind" and its destination is the "Kiralina's empire" situated at a distance of "ten years" but which is covered in a second- "the time it takes to wipe your eyes". This vehicle is also elongated.

But there are fairy tales in which the intuitive myths of the space flight have other imagined shapes, such as the "golden miraculous globe" with which the "Earth Mother's Son-in-Law" flew with the speed of thought towards the stars and, when homesick, he returns "on the wings of the wind", suggesting perhaps re-entry into the atmosphere with this globular - perfect - space vehicle, equipped with retractable wings.

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HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

The APRO Bulletin Volume 29, #7 carried a front page article about a huge boomerang-shaped UFO which hovered over the smelter stacks of the Phelps-Dodge Copper Corporation in Morenci, Arizona on the night of 23 October, 1980. The sighting was verified by five copper company workers just off duty, and most of the members of the Morenci High School band practicing drills on the football field. This sighting recorded a ¼ mile (tip to tip) boomerang with one long side, and strings of colored lights along the top side. It was described as hovering over the smokestacks, one at a time, then slowly drifting off. The object shortly reappeared, then departed at fantastic speed.

As of May, APRO has received many reports of similar shaped and lighted objects moving over Dutchess and Westchester counties in New York State, toward the end of March 1983. One witness described his sighting as a craft almost 1000 feet across, about 800 feet up in the air, and strung with colored lights. Unlike the Morenci UFO, which seemed to travel or hover in horizontal position, this new version occasionally was seen to hover with point or apex down. The sightings so far reported lasted as long as 15 minutes and include all speeds from motionless hovering to departure at over 100 m.p.h. as this one outpaced a police cruiser. Every witness is emphatic that although the vehicle seen was, in some instances, larger than an airplane, it was not an airplane, and in fact, no airplane could hover within a couple of hundred feet of the ground and make no noise whatever.

* * * * *



Norah Bazzurro

MEET OUR NEW ILLUSTRATOR

The pretty young lady shown above is Norah Bazzurro of the Bronx, N. Y., who recently joined APRO and offered her welcome services as an illustrator. She has already produced a drawing which will be included in our brochure, and rendered the illustrations which accompanied the Mobile, Alabama (Patty Norris) case in the last issue of the Bulletin.

Norah is a high school graduate (art major) but is largely self-taught where her expertise is concerned. She has many interests and has been a volunteer at the Bronx zoo, helping to raise baby gorillas. The little fellow shown with Norah is Augustus, an African humanoid which she helped to raise.

* * * * *

ASTRONOMICAL DATA

By Lee Emery

The purpose of this column is to give observers a general idea of the location of significant stars and planets in the night sky. It is applicable in most areas of the U.S.A., Canada, Europe, Central Asia and Japan. All times are approximate and may vary up to 30 minutes either way, depending on the observer's location relative to the local time meridian. In addition, add one hour for the beginning of the month, and subtract one hour for the end of the month. All times are given in standard time.

AUGUST 1984

PROMINENT PLANETS: *Venus* is close to the sun

and probably won't be visible at sunset until the end of the month.

Mars can be seen about 45° above the SW after sunset, then sets in the west about 10:30 p.m.

Saturn is fairly close to *Mars* in the sky and therefore follows a similar path to *Mars*, setting just before *Mars* in the west.

Jupiter is about 30° above the south after sunset. It moves towards the west remaining fairly low in the sky until it sets in the west soon after 1:00 a.m.

BRIGHTEST STARS

9:00 p.m.: *Vega* is directly overhead

Antares is 30° above the south

Arcturus is 35° above the west

11:00 p.m.: *Vega* is 80° above the west

Antares is low in the WSW

Arcturus is low in the west

Capella is low in the NNE

1:00 a.m.: *Vega* is 50° above the west

Capella is 35° above the NE

Aldebaran is low in the east

3:00 a.m.: *Vega* is 30° above the WNW

Capella is 45° above the NE

Aldebaran is 40° above the east

The *Orion Constellation* has just risen in the east

5:00 a.m.: *Vega* is low in the NW

Capella is 65° above the east

Aldebaran is 60° above the SE

The *Orion Constellation* is 45° above the SE

Sirius is low in the ESE

Procyon is low in the east

METEOR SHOWERS: The *Perseids* arrive around August 12th.

SEPTEMBER 1984

PROMINENT PLANETS: *Venus* might be seen at sunset in the west, but it is doubtful.

Mars can be seen low in the SW after sunset, then sets about 9:30 p.m.

Saturn is very low in the WSW after sunset, and sets soon after.

Jupiter is low in the south after sunset and sets about 11:00 p.m. in the SW.

BRIGHTEST STARS: Star positions are unchanged except times are roughly one hour earlier in the first part of the month and two hours earlier in the last part.

METEOR SHOWERS: No major showers are expected.

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Please send address changes!

UFO Secrecy-- the International Dimension

(and the role of Intelligence Agencies)
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In the last issue, I discussed how U.S. government agencies, including the Air Materiel Command (Later the Air Technical Intelligence Command of Air Force Intelligence) and the CIA, had started investigations into the substantive issues of the UFO phenomena, only to find that they were deflected in their efforts. The rebuffs were presumably at the instigation of an intelligence agency already secretly working in the field-- at the present time the candidate agency is a section of the National Security Agency (NSA). The conventional explanation of this, among the UFO critics and government spokesmen, is that nothing of substance was ever found. Those with some knowledge of the evidence for the reality of UFOs, however, find that the further they dig, the more fascinating the evidence is. Surely this would also be true of government scientists, were they to get into the subject. It would just as surely be true of other government intelligence agencies in other parts of the world, once the subject came to their attention.

Internationally we have the example of an initial interest on the part of scientists in the USSR, when in December, 1967, reports reached the N.Y. Times that the Soviet government had begun a study under the leadership of Professor Felix Zigel and retired Major General P.F. Stolyarov of the USSR Air Force. An article by Professor Ziegel in the January, 1968, issue of *Soviet Life* offered many intriguing examples the author had collected, including reports from astronomers who watched a UFO (Flying through our own atmosphere) through their telescope. The admitted interest in UFOs was short lived, however, as Pravda issued a sharp statement in February showering the issue with ridicule. In Europe we have the example of a French program, GEPAN, which started out with high hopes, but which dashed after a few years. These developments parallel developments in the U.S., described in my earlier installments, of how several agencies began studies in the substantive issues of the UFO phenomena, only to find that their investigations were aborted.

CONVERSATION WITH CONDON

Those that were not aborted were influenced in other ways, as shown by the example of the University of Colorado study. In the summer of 1968 I visited Professor Edwin Condon, the nominal head of the project funded by the Air Force for the "Scientific Study" of Unidentified Flying Objects. The project

was in its final months of report preparation, and Dr. Condon and I had a frank discussion before the watchdog and manager of the project, Robert Low, had a chance to get over to Dr. Condon's office (when he heard I was there he did hurry over, but I think not to see me). Dr. Condon asked me what I would do, were I responsible for a project report that might reflect a conclusion that UFOs were a manifestation of Extra-terrestrial Intelligence (the ET Hypothesis, ETH). I said that I thought there would be other issues than the scientific ones, notably international repercussions and national security. He smiled the smile of a man who sees his own opinions reflected in the opinions of others and said that he had given the matter much thought, and had decided that if the answer was to be a positive finding of ETH, he would not make the finding public, but would take the report, in his briefcase, to the President's Science Advisor, and have the decision made in Washington. His feelings in this regard had been expressed earlier, in staff meetings, as recalled by Professor David Saunders.

A TRIO OF THEORIES

There are at least three hypotheses that might explain the suppression of information, from government sources, and a lack of apparent activity in UFO research by other government sources, and a lack of apparent activity in UFO research by other governments. Either there is nothing to *all* the reports except mistakes and frauds, as the critics would avow; all governments are independently following the U.S. lead in such a suppression; or there is to some extent at least, an international agreement among relevant intelligence agencies in both the western democracies and the Soviet Block nations to suppress information. Enough information has leaked out of the Soviet Union to suggest that UFOs are about as active over its territory as over the U.S., so Soviet intelligence agencies should have the same motivation for mounting a study as have their U.S. counterparts. They also have a stronger state apparatus for suppressing information, and seem to be using it.

What would be the motivation for such a severe suppression of information and the mounting of programs of disinformation, plus many programs designed to cast the spell of ridicule over the subject and over civilians trying to find out more about it? To gain some insight into such a motivation, may I suggest that you try, as an exercise, to get out of the mind-set of a person interested in UFO matters as an amateur, the position most of us are in, and try to get into the mind-set of a professional intelligence agent who has the job of studying UFOs not just a few hours a month, but forty hours or more a week. To this one should add the professional responsibility of an intelligence mission: to keep track of and study all

that could be a threat to the security of one's nation (or planet).

Strangers on one's borders that show no sign of cooperation or communication surely invite suspicion. Under such circumstances it is quite prudent to consider such a force of strangers a potential adversary with unknown motivations. Under these circumstances it would be wise to try to discover what the adversary is capable of doing and to analyze a worst-case scenario of a potential conflict. There is no place for a Polyanna faith that the strangers are friendly, even if they were to say they were. We should remember one mistake of the American Indians: they did not have an immigration service.

From the intelligence agency point of view the UFO phenomenon must be truly awesome-- the worst of science fiction come to life. One of the fears attributed to those who are suppressing UFO information is that they are worried about public panic-- the sort of panic that greeted the first radio dramatization of H.G. Wells' "The War of the Worlds". But in that event it could be plainly demonstrated that the broadcast was only fiction; what would happen if the government admitted that the possibility of such an invasion was being studied, and there was no way to deny its possibility? However, over the years, the intelligence agencies must have come to the realization that strangers from space are nothing exactly new-- that evidence from the past indicates that we are experiencing only an intensification of what may have been going on for centuries. An initial fear that this intensification could be a prelude to a general invasion could not be ruled out, but again, with the passing years, this seemed less and less a threat. Thus the policy of holding the lid on public disclosure of UFO facts seemed to be a success: there was no need to "Cry wolf" and the crisis passed.

THE CONTACTEE PROBLEM

With a lessened concern about a physical invasion, attention could be turned to a more subtle extraterrestrial activity, namely the increasing occurrence of UFO abductions. The clandestine nature of such contacts were doubly worrisome: first, because it suggested an unfriendly sort of contact, and second, because the motivation was entirely unknown. Gone were fantasies, if they ever existed, of friendly extraterrestrials sharing their science and technology with a grateful humanity. What is the motivation for such secret contacts between the extraterrestrials and humans? Again, a worst case scenario had to be considered: that a corps of cooperators are being recruited for some purpose not evident to us, but which purpose could well be sinister in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

An example, which may not have yet come to the attention of the authorities, is that of a very high

ranking employee of the former Atomic Energy Commission. This employee is now retired, but at one time was a privy to the most intimate secrets of the design and construction of nearly every type of atomic bomb. In interviewing him, I uncovered evidence that he had been abducted, but was unable to remember anything about the event until much later. In essence, during his capture, his mind had been emptied of all the information the UFO occupants could have wanted about bomb designs-- not that they were in need of knowing how to make atomic bombs, but that they obtained our particular designs for use in a defensive way. This made some sense to me in connection with an earlier bit of information revealed by a former intelligence worker who told me of repeated attempts, in the sixties, to shoot down UFOs using an atomic tipped missile. None of the warheads would detonate. I believe the U.S. has given up this sort of attack, and ironically, UFOs may have been spared having to counter further nuclear attacks by the negotiations that resulted in treaties prohibiting above-ground nuclear testing.

If the secret government agencies have uncovered as much as I have, they will have learned a number of other disturbing things. For one, those who have had a "hidden" UFO experience are found in disproportionate number among those who are active in various peace movements in this and other countries. Some of them have remarkable psychic abilities, which are currently being exploited by researchers supported by the Central Intelligence Agency. But who can know if the Soviets, who are well known for having an interest in psychic phenomena, are ahead of us in this area? For those with an intimate knowledge of UFO matters and who have a slightly paranoid reaction (normal for intelligence agencies), the sky is the limit.

Next issue: What do the ETs know that we could learn, but may not want to know?

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PRESS REPORTS

by Doris and Joe Graziano

NEW YORK - September 18, 1983 - Carmel - A set of mysterious lights, closely resembling those seen by hundreds of people in the area this spring and summer, reappeared over the Carmel police station. The lights, watched by a handful of policemen and passers-by, moved slowly across the sky for about ten minutes and then banked to the north.

John Torpey, whose wife, Linda, also saw the lights as they were driving in separate cars, described a "boomerang about 200 feet across." Carmel patrolman Thomas Bidington said about a half a dozen people called at 10:30 p.m. to report the V-shape of lights.

Yorktown police also reported getting several calls from residents who saw the lights.

MISSOURI - October 9, 1983 - Kimmswick - Keena Burr, 19, and her mother, Susan, spotted glowing shapes in the sky at about 10 p.m. The objects were silver-colored, oval-shaped and had two protruding lights at the top. The group of objects moved in precise formation in an up and down motion and then in a zigzag pattern, and each glowed alternately red and green.

About nine friends and family members confirmed that they saw the objects, and Mrs. Burr watched them until she retired around 1:30 a.m. Local law enforcement authorities confirmed that they also saw the glowing objects, but could offer no explanation.

PENNSYLVANIA - October 15, 1983 - Altoona - Catherine Burk was driving on Route 220, between 8:30 and 8:45 p.m., when she heard a "weird noise" like a fast whirling sound. The next thing she knew, her car was lifted onto two wheels. As she fought to regain control of the car, a silver flying object passed overhead and swooped away.

She described the object as bright silver and flat on top. It had a round, silver bottom that wasn't as bright, and was circular and on a tilt.

After the car was righted, Burk pulled to the side of the highway and said her vehicle wouldn't start again for 20 to 25 minutes. But even after she reached her home, she said she still saw a silver streak in the sky.

ENGLAND - October 17, 1983 - Bedhampton - Roger Woods and Frank Waters watched an oyster-shaped object that passed directly over their house at about 6:50 a.m. They said it was very bright with five separate lights attached to it, and traveled slowly and silently about 2000 feet up. They watched the object for a full five minutes before it swept overhead from Langstone and on to Waterville.

CALIFORNIA - October 15, 1983 - Klamath - The O'Hagen brothers, Michael, 12, and Patrick, 8, saw a glowing oval blob in the sky about 3 p.m. The object moved slowly out of the fog and was not making a sound.

A friend of the O'Hagens, Aaron Couch, 11, was conveniently armed with a Polaroid camera and had just enough time to make one exposure before the object moved off toward the Pacific Ocean. The photo is not very clear, probably because of the fog, but does show a dark blob against a light background.

OREGON - October 25, 1983 - Bend - Dan Kraus, a research assistant at the Pine Mountain Observatory, was outside the observatory building about 8 p.m. when a distant light caught his attention. "The thing that got me was it appeared to be half red- a different red than you usually see on aircraft," he said.

After about ten minutes, "It came shooting towards me and lit up incredibly bright," recalled Kraus. As

the light hovered silently over the observatory, Kraus thought he spotted antennas illuminated by the glare, and used a flashlight he was carrying to blip a Morse code message of S-O-S up at the object. But, as silently as it had approached, the object drifted off toward the west and out of sight behind a hill.

Kraus, who often fields telephone calls from less experienced observers who've mistakenly concluded that an extra-bright star or some atmospheric oddness was a UFO, is completely baffled by the event. A check around the area for possible explanations or other sightings turned up nothing.

ARKANSAS - December 28, 1983 - Springdale - Starting around 10 p.m., police were swamped with calls relating to mysterious booming sounds. Reports continued briskly for a while and then ceased.

Similar booms were heard in other parts of the state before Christmas. National Weather Service officials were unable to explain them, saying that they were not thunder because there were no thunder-type clouds near the areas where the booms were heard. An officer at Little Rock AFB said there were no military flights over the area that could have produced sonic booms.

The noises, which have been described as sounding like an explosion, a sonic boom, a book falling off a shelf and a hand pounding on a wooden door, apparently have been occurring since the beginning of the recent cold weather. Inquiries have produced a number of theories and guesses but no plausible explanations.

OKLAHOMA - January 4, 1984 - McAlester - An explosion-like noise rattled much of McAlester at about 9:15 a.m. The concussion shook homes throughout much of the city, particularly in the northern part, but no damage was reported.

Phil Bothwell, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said McAlester was the victim of a "substantial inversion" at around 9 a.m. and that may have led to the thundering boom. Others thought the noise may have been a sonic boom caused by military aircraft but James Ramsey, a supervisor with the FAA, said he couldn't explain the rumbling noise afterward.

CANADA - October 11, 1983 - Cochrane, Ontario - At least 11 men saw what they believe to be a UFO about four miles south of Cochrane at about 6:30 a.m. Ten of the men, employees of M.J. Labelle Co. Ltd., were on their way to work when they saw what was described as a 150 foot long egg-shaped object having a blunt and a round end with two larger spot lights at each end. The object made no noise as it hovered over the roadway.

Bob Johnson, an Ontario Provincial Police officer, was on his way to Hearst when he saw the object. He said that it was big and moved close to the ground at about 35 mph.

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