

FLYING PING PONG BALLS OVER BRAZIL



Capt. Kenji Terauchi holds drawing of object he sighted. Photo courtesy Japanese magazine, "Emma".

FOLLOW-UP

In Volume 33, Issue #5 of the BULLETIN, we carried the details and accompanying sketches relating to the sighting of a large object over Alaska on the evening of November 17, 1986. The drawings, for the most part, depicted the arrangements of lights and for that reason, we present here a photo of the commander of that aircraft (a Japan Air Lines Jumbo Jet) shown holding a drawing of how the object appeared to him. We would like to call the reader's attention to the fact that the object closely resembles what has become known as a particular type of UFO - the "Saturn-shape".

THIRTY YEARS AGO

The first (or perhaps one of the first) Saturn-

(see "Follow-Up" - page three)

Newspapers throughout the world devoted column after column and page after page to a spectacular UFO display over southeastern Brazil on the night of May 19, 1986. Lt. Kleber Caldas Marinho, 25, was flying his U.S.-made F5E fighter plane and came within 12 miles of one of the objects but had to turn back to base as he was running low on fuel.

The objects were first sighted in the southeastern city of Sao Jose dos Campos. "It was not a star, and it couldn't have been another plane. It couldn't have been anything now existing," he told the press at a hastily-called press conference the next day. Marinho said the object was a pulsating light, red and white, but mostly white.

OTHERS GIVE CHASE

Another pilot, Capt. Marcio Jordao, 29, also an F5E pilot, said he saw "a red light that didn't vary, but evidently was moving. I got to within 25 miles but couldn't go any faster. Visibility was great; there were no clouds and no other air traffic".

Col. Ozires Silva, president of the state oil company, Petrobras, was flying in a private plane near Sao Jose dos Campos when he said he saw the UFO. "It wasn't like any of the classical flying objects seen in the movies, Silva told television interviewers, "It wasn't in the form of a flying saucer or plate. Instead what I saw were illuminated points."

CLASSIC RADAR CASE

Questioners who asked about possible radar returns were told that fighters were sent up initially because the UFOs were "saturating radar and interfering with air traffic." The latter statement came from Air Force Minister General Octavio Moreira Lima.

TV Globo, Brazil's largest commercial TV network, showed film taken by a cameraman in the southern city of Maringa which showed a silvery pulsating light in the sky, which gave a much larger image than any star ever photographed. Colonel Sidney Obino Azambuja, 51, chief of Staff of the Brazilian Aerospace Defense Command said that "The

(see "Brazil" - page two)

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Published September, 1987

Brazil

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radar blips persisted. We had phenomena, and they were seen."

PRESS INTEREST GROWS

By Thursday of that week, the press knew they had a hot one on their hands, and according to all of the information available to APRO, it is surprising that the case did not get better coverage even in the United States.

Co. Silva was actually landing his plane when he saw three colored lights which darted like ping pong balls through the dark sky and he saw three returns on radar at the same time. He informed the Brazilian Defense Center by radio, canceled his landing and gave chase. The defense center went on alert and sent jet fighters aloft in pursuit of the lights.

AIRCRAFT SURROUNDED

When the excitement began to settle down a bit, the information became a little more clear. On Thursday, AF Minister Lima announced that six air force jets had chased more than a dozen objects and that, at one point, one plane was surrounded by them. He also said that the pilots of the planes reported that the objects were intense green red and white lights that moved at between 160 and 990 miles per hour and they picked up solid returns on their radar simultaneously.

At one time, one of the jets was pursued by 13 objects - 7 on one side and 6 on his other side. He was running out of fuel, and headed for base. However, three supersonic Mirage-3 fighters were sent aloft armed with Sidewinder and Matra 530 missiles. They detected the objects on radar but they were unable to see the lights, Lima told the press.

APRO has considerable more information which has to be read, sorted and digested and when that has been accomplished a further report will be issued.

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Follow-Up

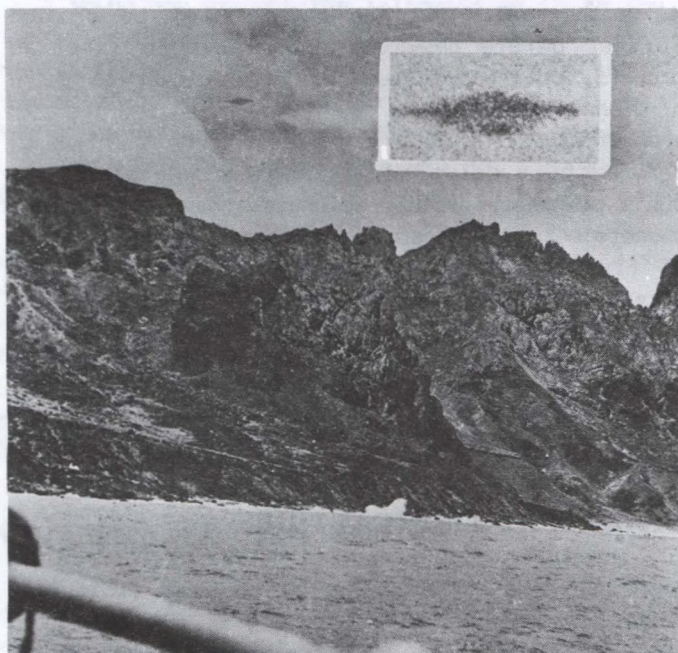
(continued from page one)

shaped objects to be recorded was in January, 1957 off Trindade Island, Brazil, when almost all of the crew of the Almirante Saldanha, a Naval sailing ship, watched a Saturn-shaped object come from the East, circle the Island, hover over the highest peak, then head out to sea.

The sighting took place at 12:15 p.m., and the object was photographed by a professional who was on board as a guest. Six shots were taken but one registered nothing but the ship's railing and the sea because of the jostling on deck.

STILL UNIDENTIFIED

Despite efforts to discredit the photographer and misrepresent the facts in the case, the report is still considered unidentified. Dr. Donald Menzel, the Harvard astronomer who was Debunker No. 1 back in the 1950s-1960s, even went so far as to misquote an official Brazilian Naval Ministry report



on the case in order to bolster his own theory that the object was the result of a hoax. The only difference between the Trindade case and the Alaskan case of last November seems to be the size of the ring around the middle of the object, which was considerably larger on the Trindade object. That may or may not be due to the fact that the Alaska object was seen at night. We will keep the reader up to date with any further important findings in this case.

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UFOs GAIN RESPECTABILITY

Ohio State University astronomer Walter E. Mitchell Jr. says of UFOs: "I find the whole area fascinating and rife with possibilities." Until a few years ago, such an admission would have cost Mitchell professional respect and maybe even his job. But since the 1970s, scientists have become less stuffy about fringe phenomena.

A 1976 poll of astronomers and physicists by Stanford University astronomer Peter Sturrock found that 53 per cent of those responding thought UFOs deserved scientific study.

Sturrock later founded the Society for Scientific Exploration, a group committed to the belief that no mystery should be ignored "simply because it is not now an accepted part of scientific or scholarly knowledge.

"I think scientists should be interested in all phenomena," says John D. Kraus, professor emeritus of electrical engineering and creator of the OSU radio telescope which searches the skies for extraterrestrial intelligence. Robert Dixon, assistant director of the telescope, wishes there was a way to get more evidence. "The difficulty is to create a scientific experiment in this area," he says. "I'd love to design such an experiment if I knew how to do it."

(Editor's note: One can't help wonder if Mitchell, Kraus or Dixon are aware of the thousands of amateurs who spent a good share of their lives and fortunes building the mountain of evidence which leads to the interest of scientists.)

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FOLLOW-UP

By Coral E. Lorenzen

TUCSON OBJECTS IDENTIFIED?

On October 7, 1985, groups of lights or lighted objects were observed crossing the Tucson valley under a heavy cloud cover. The objects were seen by the police helicopter pilot, detected on radar at Tucson International Airport, and they or other objects were seen by a witness outside the valley in the Avra Valley, at Redington Pass (northeast of town where they were observed to be exiting the area) and southeast of Tucson International Airport.

Because of cloudy conditions and intermittent rain, there were few citizens out and about that night and witnesses were sparse; Headquarters is convinced that there are probably other witnesses who just did not read or hear our requests for addi-

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Follow-Up

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tional information. However, we feel that the in-depth investigation we carried out is sufficient to label the report unidentified.

DISSENTING OPINIONS

During the summer of 1986, I had an opportunity to talk with Jerry Clark, of FATE magazine, on another matter, and we discussed the Tucson case. Jerry is also a member of the new Board of Directors of CUFOS, which underwent revamping after Dr. Hynek's death in April of that year.

The subject of the Tucson case came up and Jerry informed me that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of CUFOS, that august body had decided that the Tucson case was a CIA exercise. I did not attempt to debate the point with Clark as it was obvious he had not carefully read the entire report and that CUFOS had not investigated.

During the first few days of the investigation in early October 1985, APRO received a telephone call from a gentleman who identified himself as a representative of CUFOS and offered to "send a man down to Tucson to help in the investigation". I told him that we had several people working on it already and that another person unfamiliar with the city, the people involved, etc., would just "get underfoot". I did not discourage him from launching his own investigation, however, and his parting question was what I got the impression the initial call was about in the first place: "Are you (APRO) in touch with the Media?" I assured him we were and terminated the call.

THE 'AIR FORCE' CHIMES IN

About two months after Clark's revelation about the Tucson case, APRO received a telephone call, allegedly from someone in California who was, according to the caller, doing us a favor by informing us that "The Air Force" had officially pronounced the objects over Tucson as nothing else but radar chaff. The caller repeatedly refused to identify himself, so it was chalked up to the "mysterious ones". In APRO that phrase applies to the many UFO buffs who are not satisfied with the mystery of the UFOs, but have to add to it with a little adornment here and there.

So, almost two years after the fact, those objects which baffled the Aircraft controllers, helicopter pilot, as well as the Air Force authorities at Davis-Monthan Base here at Tucson

still appear to be unidentified. Anyone, including the CUFOS Board is welcome to submit their argument concerning the identification of the case.

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NEW EVIDENCE FOR MORE SOLAR SYSTEMS

Speaking at a joint meeting of the American Astronomical Society and Canadian Astronomical Society in Vancouver, British Columbia, Bruce Campbell, a research associate at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria, B. C., stated that strong evidence for possible planets outside our solar system has been found. That evidence indicates that celestial bodies 300 to 3,000 times as massive as Earth are orbiting up to seven stars.

SIMILAR TO JUPITER

Campbell stated "I think it is fair to say they will be giant gaseous bodies, not unlike Jupiter". He further said that the objects must be studied further before they can definitely be labelled planets, but their masses lie much closer to those of planets than of stars.

In their drive to attempt to understand the sun's planetary system, scientists have long sought planets outside the solar system and the possibility of finding life elsewhere. Previous claims of detecting other planets have not withstood scientific scrutiny. Campbell says he believes his evidence is stronger because of a new method that allowed detecting smaller celestial bodies and because seven out of sixteen stars studied showed evidence of such bodies.

OTHER SCIENTISTS CAUTIOUS

Interviews with other scientists at the meeting indicated that they preferred to look closely at Campbell's data before evaluating it. William Baum, director of planetary research at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona, said: "It appears to be a solid piece of work." The new work is based on six years of observing 16 stars with sunlike masses about 59 trillion miles to 295 trillion miles from earth.

STARS IDENTIFIED

Campbell said researchers found definite evidence of bodies orbiting two stars: Epsilon Eridani in the southern autumn sky and Gamma Cephei,

which is visible in the northern sky. The evidence suggests that there is one body orbiting each star, with estimated masses falling within a range from that of Jupiter to 10 times that mass, he said.

After presenting his evidence, Campbell announced his resignation from his government-financed post. He had one year remaining on his contract with Canada's National Research Council, but his project was being hurt by the Canadian government's decision to cut the NRC annual budget from \$520 to \$380 million.

(Readers should remember this little tidbit concerning the job change; it may be an indication of financial things to come and the "communicators" may be hard put to get the financing they badly need to keep their projects going...The Editor).

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CHILDREN SIGHT SPLITTING DIAMOND

A young boy brought the following ad in to the classified department of the Spencer, Indiana EVENING WORLD: "Nine year old Kevin Goodman saw a diamond shape thing in the sky. It broke up into four other different diamond shapes and disappeared. I want to know if anyone else saw it. By Kevin. 829-4452.

Curious about its origin, the WORLD sent a reporter out to the address given and he talked to the boy. This is the information he received:

"I was coming back from the YMCA (in Bloomington) when I saw this thing in the sky. It looked like it was about a mile up and had a reddish ring around it. This happened about 9:30 at night. It was real clear out."

ANOTHER STUDENT'S VIEW

Kevin was riding in the car with his father but was the only one to see the apparition. He said it happened "pretty quick", and it "felt strange to my eyes. I could hardly take a bath when I got home." The next day Kevin told about his sighting in class and another third grader, Stacey Ellett, told what she had seen.

"I was at home playing "Hide and Seek", she said, "I saw something that was shaped like a diamond, about four inches across. It broke up into four pieces, and it happened so fast I hardly got a chance to look at it very long."

Whereas Kevin had described a reddish ring, Stacey said the diamond she observed had a ring

around it which sparkled "red, purple and blue". She said her muscles started tightening "and my whole body felt strange when I saw it."

The article about the report was published in the June 10, 1987 paper, but no precise date was given for the incident, except that it was seen in May. The WORLD also wrote that Kevin planned to write to NASA about the object and ask if anyone has reported any other similar objects.

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NEW COMPUTER CHIP AIDS SETI

Scientists scanning the universe for radio signals from extraterrestrials have 10 million channels to tune in on, thanks to the efforts of Stanford University graduate students. The students, under the guidance of program team leader Ivan Linscott, developed a computer chip 40 times more powerful than current circuit boards.

SETI researchers are using the new chip with a radio telescope 85 feet in diameter to listen for radio transmissions. Engineers at Stanford are focusing on an area of about 1,000 stars. Speculation is that extraterrestrials might use pulsing radio beacons to attract attention of civilizations throughout the galaxies.

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UNUSUAL INCIDENTS IN PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY

The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained has compiled an account of sightings in Pennsylvania in past years that reveals an unusual concentration in Elk County. Stan Gordon, director of the Association, said two sightings were reported in Ridgway in 1984. On March 19 a bright orange globe was seen moving for several minutes, and on April 8, a bright object with two yellow lights was reported.

On January 8, 1985, two multi-colored lights came from two directions and joined together over Puxsutawney. On June 21 of the same year a very large elongated white glowing object with six blue non-blinking lights was reported. Similar objects were reported that same night from Fayette, Somerset and Allegheny Counties.

In 1986, sightings were reported on January 7, January 23 and February 28, March 25, August 12 and 31 and October 14. PASU investigators have also made casts of alleged bigfoot tracks near Latrobe

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and several cougar sightings have been reported throughout the county. The cougar has been declared extinct in the Eastern portions of the United States.

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PROFESSOR SEEKS ET SIGNALS

Harvard University professor Paul Horowitz, an electronics engineer and author of a widely used electronics textbook, is the latest researcher to enter the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, or SETI. He designed and built a sophisticated electronic device he calls META - Megachannel Extra-Terrestrial Assay.

Horowitz first became interested in SETI at a lecture by Frank Drake, the University of Ohio professor who ran the first SETI project, called Project Ozma. In 1981, Horowitz built "Suitcase SETI", a portable unit that could search more frequencies and stars in a minute than the primitive Ozma receiver could have done in 100,000 years. But META can do even more.

First, Horowitz arranged to take over the obsolete 84-foot radiotelescope dish at Harvard's Oak Ridge observatory. This allowed him, with his automated META equipment, to search round the clock. In the course of a year, 79 percent of the sky is swept.

META's first year has passed without a positive signal, but this year Horowitz plans to sweep at twice the hydrogen frequency, and has other candidate frequencies for the future, if necessary. With support from Carl Sagan's Planetary Society and a \$100,000 check from filmmaker Steven Spielberg, Horowitz is convinced that contact will someday be made.

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AN OLDIE BUT GOODIE

By Michael D. Swords

August 10, 1809. London, England in the evening. It was in the midst of four straight clear days in the area, but on this day a complete coverage of "black pitchy cloud" filled the sky. No breaks were visible, and vivid blasts of lightning flashed through the mass. Below the dark ceiling "light, flocky clouds...apparently luminous throughout" were scattered.

"They seemed full of little dazzling and dancing specks of light, that sometimes shone as stars through a misty cloud. Some of those increased

gradually, and then died away; but one of them increased to such a degree as to equal Venus in size and lustre. This luminous body moved with considerable rapidity around the edge of that mass in which it appeared."

Shortly a second nocturnal light issued from a second cloud at considerable distance. No lightning ever flashed from the clouds producing the lights, but they were self-luminous, emitting "a light of a pale phosphoric color."

"Meteorological Chronicle," Edinburgh Annual Register 2:500, 508. 1810.

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HAS NAVY FLIGHT 19 BEEN FOUND?

Any UFOlogist who has done his basic background reading on the subject is familiar with Navy Flight 19, that small band of five TBM-3 Avengers which went astray in the area dubbed "The Bermuda Triangle" forty years ago. A twin-engine Navy Martin Mariner which subsequently was sent to search for the missing flight, was also lost.

On February 24 of this year, now famous Mel Fisher, the treasure hunter who has pulled millions of dollars worth of booty out of the ocean's depth, pulled a Grumman Avenger out of 33 feet of water 20 miles west of Key West. The revelation was made to the press by Don Kincaid, vice president of Treasure Salvors, Inc., Fisher's salvage company.

NO REAL MYSTERY?

The mystery of the missing flight has been held up before slaving mystery buffs for years as an example of the lengths to which "the government" will go to "cover-up" UFO mysteries. Frank Edwards, author of "Flying Saucers, Serious Business" was one of the first to lay the blame for the loss of the Navy planes to Air Force cover-up, or something.

The Associated Press story datelined Key West, Florida, carried basic information about the original report, citing Charles Bertitz's 1974 book which told of ships and planes vanishing into the mysterious void. The article pointed out that the area where the plane was found was far beyond the westernmost boundary of the legendary Miami-Bermuda-San Juan triangle.

SECOND TIME AROUND

Fisher said that he had "stumbled across" the plane in 1971 during a search for a galleon and was

in the vicinity again during the middle of February and decided to pull it up out of curiosity. He said he thought the plane could be one of the Avengers lost in 1945.

When the fuselage was hoisted from the water, an open parachute spilled out, said Scott Nierling, a photographer for Treasure Salvors. The aircraft, estimated to be 40 feet from tip to tail, still bore Navy markings, and had a wingspan of 60 feet.

ONE MYSTERY REMAINS

Kim Fisher, the Salvage master's son, told the press that there were no human remains in the aircraft. That would seem to leave enough mystery for the buffs to chew on for quite a while. The parachute was there, but no pilot. Did he jump without the chute, or try to get out after he hit the water? Etc., etc., etc.

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BRITISH JET EVADES UFO OVER RUSSIA

A British Airways jetliner took evasive maneuvers to avoid collision with a "weird light" spotted while the airplane was over the Soviet Union on April 22nd. Although the incident took place two months ago, the information did not surface until June 27, when an article appeared in the London Times.

BA spokesman Alan Solloway told the press that the crew of a Boeing 747 (Jumbo jet) reported seeing a "UFO" over Russia while on a routine flight between London and Bangkok, Thailand. He stated that it was the first such case in the Airlines' history.

At this writing (July 3) details are sketchy and we hope to have more later. However, all five members of the aircraft's crew reported seeing the object which was described as "an object with twinkling lights flying directly toward us" and then vanishing quickly over the Kazhakstan horizon.

DEFINITELY NOT AN AIRCRAFT

First Officer Anthony Colin, 42, was quoted as saying: "It was definitely not an aircraft. Of that I am positive. None of us had ever seen anything like it before. We are all bitter, cynical aviators who like a scientific explanation for everything. But this has got us foxed."

RE-ENTERING SATELLITE?

Howard Miles, director of the artificial satel-

lite section of the British Astronomical Association, told the Times that the crew could have seen a satellite re-entering the atmosphere after falling out of orbit.

But he said satellites normally burn up at an altitude of about 80 miles and the aircraft was flying at about 10 miles.

Solloway said BA has had cases of crews reporting burning space debris, but that they couldn't recall a UFO being sighted and being logged as a "UFO." Usually there is a scientific explanation for whatever is seen, but there doesn't seem to be one for this."

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Follow-Up

AUSTRALIAN MYSTERY REMAINS UNSOLVED

On October 21, 1978, a mystery sound interrupted transmission between pilot Frederick Valentich and Melbourne Flight Service. Prior to the sound, Valentich had reported the approach and description of an unidentified flying object. Eight years later, no trace had ever been found of either the pilot or his blue and white Cessna aircraft.

The period of UFO activity around the Bass Strait had been building up for more than six weeks prior to the Valentich incident. Whatever happened to him and his aircraft, there is no doubt that a UFO was involved. Scores of observers reported UFOs that day and night to radio and TV stations, newspapers and to the Victorian UFO Research Society.

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PRESS REPORTS

By Joe and Dorie Graziano

MINNESOTA, Rose Creek, December 18, 1986. A rural Rose Creek man said he had parked his vehicle in a shed and was walking toward his house around 6 p.m. when he noticed two lights in the southwestern sky. A longer look revealed that there were four lights. Two star-colored lights, one about ten times brighter than the other, seemed to move in unison, as though they were part of one object. A smaller, reddish-orange light and a "fair-sized" pale white light revolved around the other two lights.

After watching the noiseless object for several minutes, the man went inside. About an hour later,

(see next page)

he went back outside and the object was still hovering in the sky. Several minutes later, it started to move slowly, and then faster. It was out of sight

WISCONSIN, Waukesha, November 24, 1986. Dale Goretske was driving home from a friend's house around 11 p.m. when he noticed some flashing red lights to the southeast. "As I got closer it looked like squad car lights spinning around," he said. "But it was up in the sky "

Goretske pulled into a car dealer's parking lot and watched the object, which was about 150 yards away. It was described as a flattened triangle, about 75 feet wide, with pairs of flashing red lights at each corner. On the sides of the object were pairs of white and red lights which did not flash. The craft itself was a dark brown or black color. As it hovered, it rotated slowly and made no sound.

Goretsky watched the object for 2 to 3 minutes and decided to try to get a closer look. As he drove toward it, the craft stopped rotating and began to move. It stayed in front of him flying very low, crossed the highway and headed over a stand of trees. Goretske lost sight of the object behind the trees and drove around trying, unsuccessfully, to relocate it.

Belleville, January 15-16, 1987. Belleville police officer Glen Kazmar was on routine patrol accompanied by a civilian ride-along when they spotted bright lights in the sky around 2:50 a.m. The officer had first seen the red, white and blue flashing lights about six hours earlier, but didn't tell anyone.

Kazmar notified a police dispatcher about the sighting and they in turn contacted the FAA radar center in Illinois. "Chicago radar came up with a slow-moving object which they were unable to identify or make voice contact with," the officer said.

A Dane County sheriff's deputy and officers in Green County also spotted the object. Kazmar said he watched it hang in the same spot for 35 to 40 minutes.

Larry Jelle reported a cigar or blimp-shaped object at 1:30 a.m. the same morning. He said it was as long as a DC-10 but had no wings. Its only lights were one red on both the front and rear of the craft.

Dick Sailer, manager of airship relations for Goodyear, said there was "no chance whatsoever" that the craft was a Goodyear blimp. Furthermore, he ruled out the possibility of any other blimps operating at the time because of their susceptibility to snow and ice.

BRAZIL, Brasilia, September 3, 1986. The pilot

of flight 471, Transbrasil, reported a UFO at around 9:30 p.m. about 60 miles from Para, Minas. The object was full of green, yellow and red lights and was also seen by the pilot of another smaller jet.

WESTERN EUROPE, September 23, 1986 (AP) An unidentified flying object described as a blue-green fireball startled observatories, air traffic controllers and thousands of other witnesses in five Western European countries. West German astronomers said the object appeared to be a disintegrating meteorite, while an air safety spokesman in Luxembourg speculated it might be a wayward rocket from NATO maneuvers.

France's National Center for Space Studies said it could have been caused by space debris. But the European Space Agency operations center in Darmstadt, West Germany, said it had no evidence of falling space satellites in the region.

SWEDEN, Ostersund, September 5, 1986. Gerd Festin was driving near Angsta at 7 p.m., when he saw an object "in the air, right in a glade." The object was described as oblong, round at the bottom and just a little crushed on the upper side. It was unlit and appeared gray in color.

After returning home, Gerd saw an object standing still in the air over the Lockne sea. It was a "prolonged white light, nearly as a halo around the object."

At four in the morning, Gerd was awakened by a cow mooing. She woke up her husband, Arne, and both went outside and again saw the object. "The object's light was so bright that it was impossible to get a description of what it looked like," Gerd said. She described the size as like a passenger plane, rounded at the bottom and flat on top.

Dalarma Region, September 12, 1986. Two observations of a brightly lighted object flying in the sky were made in the early morning. Berta Eriksson got up at 2 a.m. to get some fresh air and saw a brilliant white lighted ball with a lilac tail gliding through the air at a very low level.

At about 1 a.m. on the same night, Nelly Eriksson went outside with her dog and observed a disc-like, brilliantly lighted object floating near the treetops. As the object disappeared to the east, the blinding light decreased and changed to more of a metallic brightness.

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