

# FLYING SAUCER

## REVIEW



SEPT.-OCT. 1955

Vol. 1

No. 4

# FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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VOL. 1 NO. 34

SEPT - OCT. JULY-AUGUST, 1955

BI-MONTHLY

"FLYING SAUCERS—Official. They will circle the earth 250 miles up at 18,000 miles an hour."

That's what the headlines said when the International Geophysical Year projects were announced a few weeks ago. And for many people these man-made spy-satellites explained the mass of mysterious objects that have been seen all over the world in large numbers for the past eight years. Balloons, electrical phenomena were out of fashion.

What few people would realise is that these "flying football satellites" will not be launched for another two or three years and that they cannot account for the thousands of "Things" we have seen over the past decade. Nor will they understand that because artificial satellites follow a constant course at a constant speed they are impossible to confuse with unidentified flying objects whose erratic behaviour indicates intelligent control.

And so the saucerphiles are left in precisely the same position they were in before the satellite plans were announced—labelled cranks and lunatics.

Curiously enough, members of Interplanetary Societies found the same reaction to their plans to conquer space when they first mooted the idea two or three decades ago. But, like the saucerphiles today, they put up with insults and opposition and fought for their "impractical" ideas. Now the story has changed somewhat. The Interplanetary

boys are being given a pat on the back for their far-sightedness. Their plans are no longer considered impractical. The artificial satellites prove it. In fact, the Arthur Clarkes have arrived.

Unfortunately the saucerers are working in reverse. They have no firm formulae from which to calculate performances and reactions. They must rely on rather nebulous and fleeting observations which are tantalising in the extreme. But, however fleeting those observations may be, there are plenty of them lending weight to the belief that we are being watched by beings of other worlds.

Several people claim to have made contact with creatures from outer space. The most convincing story of them all is the one told by two Norwegian girls, Edith Jacobsen and Asta Solvang. It is published in this issue in full for the first time outside Scandinavia. Unfortunately the girls were unprepared for such an event and were unable to substantiate their experience with any form of proof. Nevertheless, their integrity is winning them through and more and more people are coming round to the belief that their experience was genuine.

People everywhere should be prepared for incidents like this one and take advantage of the situation to discover as much as possible about the visitors. In this way positive proof of the origin of flying saucers can be obtained and the facts presented to the public. Saucerers don't want to be cranks and lunatics for ever.

# LET'S talk SPACE

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## TESTS SHOW COSMIC RAYS ARE NOT HARMFUL

**C**OSMIC rays are not the outer space threat it was first feared, although they may turn your hair white. This has been proved by space aviation doctors in the United States who recently announced that a traveller in space would be able to perform duties in a normal manner with no serious after-effects.

The announcement followed tests in which live monkeys and rats were sent up for long periods in huge balloons 15 to 20 miles above the earth.

Reporting on the experiments, Major Davis G. Simons, chief of the space biology branch of the Aero Medical Field Laboratory at the Holloman Air Development Centre, Michigan, said live animals were placed aboard balloons and sent to heights of from 50,000 to 120,000 ft. above Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., and were exposed to cosmic radiation at those heights for as long as 35 hours.

Monkeys used in the tests were observed closely before and after their ordeal, but they behaved perfectly normally after two flights.

The exposed animals were watched for six months after the experiments, the report continued. Scientists tentatively concluded that cosmic particles may have been overestimated as hazards to the nerve system. Also that a traveller in space should be able to perform in a normal manner with no serious after-effects.

The only noticeable effect was that black-haired rats sometimes started growing white hairs. This was after prolonged exposure to cosmic rays. It was caused by damage by the piercing ray particles to the hair follicle pigment cells.

It had long been feared that the rays might cause formation of cataracts over the eye lens, and damage the skin or permanently destroy nerve cells which the body cannot replace, added Major Simons.

However, after the tests, the experimenters decided that none of the experiments on either

physical or mental functions "showed any adverse effects as a result of being exposed to cosmic rays."

## U.S. BACKS CANADIAN SAUCER PLANE

**T**HE development of the Avro Canada flying saucer type aircraft, turned down in its initial stages by the Canadian Government last year, is now being financed by the United States Government, according to Canadian sources.

Officials of A. V. Roe say they are in no position to comment on the position.

Avro began research about three years ago on the aircraft, which embodies revolutionary principles of flight and propulsion and resembles a saucer with a chip out of the rim.\* The idea was to create a high-speed, high-altitude fighter which could take off and land vertically, and so dispense with costly and vulnerable runway systems.

By 1954, when the Canadian Government decided to withdraw its support from the secret project, it had spent \$400,000 on its development. Details of the U.S. contract, stated to have been drawn up and settled several months ago, are cloaked in secrecy. It makes the project the exclusive property of the United States Air Force, whose development Command headquarters at Baltimore receive regular reports on progress.

Military security surrounds every aspect of the project. And Canadian officials and military leaders can enter the research area only with special permission.

It is understood that the Avro Canada design is based on a new application of jet propulsion, but independent sources suggest that electromagnetic anti-gravity experiments now being carried out in Canada are closely linked with the project.

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\* See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June issue, for speculative cutaway drawing of the aircraft.

## FLEET OVER MIDLANDS

A NUMBER of strange objects flying at great speed and "glowing with incandescent light" were reported over Birmingham on August 26 by Mr. Denis Thursfield, a former Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Lieutenant-Commander. He said that although he would not describe the objects as flying saucers, it was a description most people would apply to them.

It was 7.30 p.m. when Mr. Thursfield first saw the U.F.O.s. At first he thought they were aircraft flying at about 20,000 ft.; but what seemed extraordinary about them was the fact that they were moving at such a great speed and left such a short vapour trail behind them.

He did not think they could have been ordinary aircraft because there was no sound from them and they glowed with an incandescent light even when they went behind the clouds.

They moved across the sky in a stately formation from the north-west on a southerly course. There were about 15 of them.

Mr. Thursfield said he would describe them as unexplained phenomena rather than flying saucers. He is obviously anxious to appear level headed and not associated with the lunatics who believe saucers exist.

Curiously enough, a similar formation was seen over Pisa on August 19. Ernesto Thayaht, head of C.I.R.N.O.S.—*Centro Indipendente Raccolta Notizie Osservazioni Spaziali*—and FLYING SAUCER REVIEW'S Italian correspondent, reported that a large U.F.O. accompanied by six smaller ones appeared over the city in "V" formation at dusk; the smaller machines on the arms of the "V" leading, with the larger "mother ship" in the centre at the back.

Further details of this incident are expected and should appear in the November-December issue.

## IS JUPITER ALIVE?

IS there life on the giant planet Jupiter, 84,600,000 miles away from earth? That is the question most people have been asking since Dr. B. F. Burke, of the Carnegie Institute, Washington D.C., picked up radio waves from Jupiter last May and Australian scientists made a point of listening in to them.

The discovery was made as waves on a fre-

quency of 22 megacycles per second in bursts of one second each were picked up during the testing of a new radio telescope. As a result a close watch was kept on the planet's movements and it was definitely established that the waves emanated from it every third day—from a spot that came opposite the earth during Jupiter's rotation on its own axis.

The question now is: "Are there scientists on Jupiter trying to bounce signals off earth as we try bouncing signals off the moon? Or have they been able to pick up signals from earth and are trying to make contact?"

The average scientist states dogmatically that there can be no life on Jupiter. But the more intelligent ones say that if there are living beings there they must be very different to us. For much of Jupiter's atmosphere is composed of poisonous, choking, ammonia gas. And although we could not live there, it does not necessarily mean that no life exists.

If one is to believe those who claim to have been saucer-riding round the Cosmos visiting the planets of other Solar Systems, including our own, one must accept the fact that civilisations on Jupiter and the other worlds exist. And in our own form.

While the more rational scientists are prepared to concede that there could be life on Jupiter, albeit in a different form to our own, they are too prepared to accept the evidence of rather unreliable instruments and to be a little too inflexible in their outlook.

By the same token the saucer jockeys expect the man in the street to believe their experiences without providing any evidence whatsoever. In many cases they are unable to supply proof because their experiences are entirely subjective.

But where they have happened physically there is surely an embryo bond between jockeys and scientists, and if these two sections of the community could stop baring their teeth at each other, progress towards a solution to the problem could be made much faster. For both have information that, properly integrated, would be of value to each other.

## SAUCER IN THE ANDES

FLYING saucers have appeared in the Andes. A Peruvian pastor reported in Ayaviri that he had seen one from very close. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is seeking details.

## RUSSIA PREPARES TO LAUNCH SATELLITE

THE Moscow newspaper, *Izvestia*, has announced that Russia is preparing to launch an artificial satellite around the earth.

In an article in the newspaper, Dr. G. I. Petrovsky said that Russian scientists now have "serious grounds to state that the time is not far off when cosmic ships will leave the earth regularly on interplanetary trips."

Dr. Petrovsky said it is possible to send rockets to the moon. Landing of the moon rocket would be indicated by an atomic or hydrogen bomb explosion which could be photographed through a telescope.

This announcement came after the International Geophysical Year plans were revealed. But really . . . what a crude way to announce direct contact with the moon!

## POSTMASTER SKETCHES SAUCER

A FLYING SAUCER closely resembling the one photographed by George Adamski in the Californian desert and young Stephen Darbishire at Coniston was seen and sketched by a Shropshire sub-postmaster on August 15.

Writing in the *Northwich Chronicle*, Mr. G. M. Betley said: "At about 7.30 p.m. on August 15 I saw an object in the sky which I can only presume to have been a flying saucer. I estimated it to be about half a mile to a mile high and two or three miles away. As it appeared first, it seemed the size of a small plate on edge. The sky at the time was almost cloudless, the sun shining very brightly low down in the west. The visibility was perfect.

"My attention was suddenly attracted by an extremely brilliant point of light in the sky, very like the reflection from a mirror. It seemed to come from a dome-shaped object either of highly-polished metal or glass; if metal it must have had a mirror polish to give such an intense reflection.

"I watched it remain perfectly stationary for about three minutes. My eyes becoming accustomed to the glare, I made out a shadowy outline of the circular background. At this time

I became aware of a jet plane coming up from the east, its vapour trail showing.

"When I looked back at the object it was moving directly away from me to the north-west, its brightness diminishing rapidly as if the reflecting surface was turning away. The object was now taking on a leaden colour and was almost circular in shape with a bright rim and a bright knob to one side, which may have been part of the dome still visible.

"It passed from sight for a moment, my view being obstructed by a tree, and as I hurried to keep it in sight I saw it had shrunk to the size of a half-crown. Then it vanished.

"Minutes later the jet roared over the spot the object had originally occupied, but there was nothing visible. It then turned in the direction of Ternhill aerodrome."

Mr. Betley's sketches show the conventional saucer with dome on top and three balls underneath. It was too far away for him to notice whether it had portholes.

## U.S. JETS SCRAMBLE FOR U.F.O.

JETS of the Air National Guard, U.S.A.F., at Lockbourne Air Force Base, Ohio, were scrambled at midnight on August 23 to intercept three U.F.O.s sighted in the vicinity of Cincinnati.

Reporting the incident in *Orbit*, Leonard H. Stringfield, the editor, said: "At about 12.10 the interceptors made contact and, swooping in at 20,000 ft., chased a U.F.O." that had been hovering over the control tower. It made off at an incredible speed.

"In the meanwhile, G.O.C. Posts at Forestville and Loveland reported the erratic flights of U.F.O.s to their Air Filter Centre, describing them as round, brilliant white spheres and discs."

*Orbit*, the official publication of Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects, is one of the best of the American saucer publications. Costing \$3.00 in the U.S. or Canada and \$3.60 abroad, it can be obtained from Leonard H. Stringfield, 7017 Britton Avenue, Cincinnati 27, Ohio, U.S.A.

Two other recommended U.S. publications are Flying Saucers International's *Saucers*, edited by Max B. Miller, and Meade Layne's *Round Robin and Clips, Quotes and Comments*.

ADD TO : LANDED DISC IN ARGENTINE

NOTE. In summer of 1958, FSR reader Peter Roe of Flat 59, Rivermead, Wilford Lane, West Bridgeford, Nottingham, wrote in to FSR about this case, which he said he had just found in a magazine (name not given). We told him we had already published it so long before as Sept/Oct. 1955.

The only new information about the case given in his letter was that the man who found the crashed disc in Argentina was Signor Eorice BESSA, aged 44, an Italian architect and former pilot of WW II, now residing in Argentina. The report appeared in Le Courrier Interplanétaire. Peter Roe only gave me the following introductory part, from which I deduced (and wrote back telling him) that we had published it. But on second thoughts, was I right? Perhaps it is a new case. For, note he quotes Bessa as having said the date was May 15, whereas our FSR article was based on a Caracas press report on the case and was dated May 7:

"On May 15, I was travelling alone in my car through the desert land. I was a bit distracted, thinking about business, and didn't pay much attention to the silvery object on the ground which appeared to the left of the road at a distance of about 300 metres. But approaching nearer, I began to notice the strange details such as portholes and translucent dome. At 50 metres distance, I stopped and scrutinized the object from the interior of my car. I could not see any sign of life and it occurred to me then that I might be looking at a crashed plane.

However, the strange form of the thing defeated that idea.

I left the car and approached closer on foot. Only at a distance of ten metres did I realize that I was standing in front of a saucer. I suddenly felt full of joy and did not hesitate to enter the strange craft when I found that the door was open.

Before entering, however, I examined the object in detail. It was about 10 metres in diameter and composed of two distinct parts.

The bottom one was in the shape of an overturned saucer, and the upper one cylindrical and covered on its top by a dome. The surface of the object had the color\* of polished chrome and, as in a curved mirror, I could see my reflection.

It appeared to be lifeless... no noise... no vibrations. The door placed at the foot of the cylindrical tower was open. The cabin was about two metres high, perfectly circular, and rather dark in color. Around the walls were rows of portholes...."

\* Peter Roe did not quote any further, but from the spelling of the word color it is evident he got it from an American source.

*Saucers* can be obtained from Max B. Miller, P.O. Box 34, Press Station, Los Angeles 35, California.

*Round Robin*—bi-monthly: \$5.00 per annum—and *Clips, Quotes and Comments*—bi-weekly, 12 issues \$5.00—from the Borderland Sciences Research Associates, 3524 Adams Avenue, San Diego 16, California.

## AS BIG AS A JET—WITH WINDOWS

FOUR young boys were sitting in a garden at Ponteland, Newcastle, on August 31, when one looked up and pointed . . . at a flying saucer.

They were Andrew Thomas, Robert Esau, David Thompson, Ian Nicholson, and the first thing they did was to run round and report it to the policeman's wife.

Describing it later, they said: "It seemed to come from nowhere—we looked up and there it was. It looked like a plate with another plate on top of it, upside down. There were little black dots round the sides which looked like windows."

As the boys looked the object rose into the air and disappeared into some cloud. They heard a high-pitched droning noise as it vanished. "It was a big as a jet plane," they said. "It was low enough for anyone in it to have a good look at what was going on down here."

## LANDED DISC ENTERED IN ARGENTINE

ON May 7, the Caracas, Venezuela, daily, *El Universal*, carried a story of an engineer's encounter with a saucer and its dead occupants in 1950.

The engineer was driving along a road in the Bahia Blanca district of the Argentine, when he saw a metallic disc-shaped object on the ground. He stopped his car, got out and went to investigate.

He watched for a few moments to see what would happen, but as all was quiet he approached it and found an opening in the side. Curious, he stepped inside and found a sort of curved divan with three seats, two of which were occupied by small beings covered from head to foot, except for an opening for the face, in tight-fitting brown overalls.

He estimated their height to be about four feet. Their faces seemed charred and burnt. Another little creature was sprawled in a seat situated in approximately the centre of the cabin.

In front of them was a screen with rays playing on it, and on the top of the screen was a rotating glass-like globe.

An ungovernable impulse urged the engineer to touch one of the creatures. It felt stiff and rigid. It was then, he said, that some inner voice warned him to get out as soon as possible as he was in the presence of "strange life."

He rushed to his car and returned to his hotel at high speed to relate his story to a few intimate friends who returned to the scene with him on the following day.

On reaching the spot, however, all they found of the disc was a heap of ashes and, in the sky above them, a cigar-shaped object and two discs.

One of the discs was hovering at an estimated height of 2,000 ft. It was about 30 ft. in diameter. The engineer took pictures of it but, of the six exposures, only two showed the craft with any degree of clarity.

The group felt they had been observed during their visit, for the two discs shot up, merged with the "cigar," which, after travelling horizontally for a short distance, disappeared into space at a colossal speed.

Footnote: We are indebted to A.P.R.O. Bulletin for this strange account.

## THE REVIEW IN AMERICA

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is in such demand in the United States and Canada that American representatives have been appointed.

In addition to speeding up communications, this move was made to relieve prospective subscribers of the need to study currency formalities before mailing their dues. Now, residents in North America may order this magazine by sending their subscriptions to: "Flying Saucer Review," Box 3B, 55 West 92nd Street, New York City 25, New York.

The demand for FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is not confined to the North American continent alone though. Every two months postmen in 35 different countries on six different continents deliver a new issue to subscribers. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW—the world's leading flying saucer journal—is spanning the planet.

# SPACEMAN LANDS IN NORWAY?

*Did a flying saucer land in Norway last year? Two sisters, 24-year-old Edith Jacobsen and 32-year-old Asta Solvang, claim they met the occupant. Few people believe their story. But they cannot be convinced that the man they met was an American pilot and that his machine was a helicopter. Both scoff at the idea that they would not know a helicopter when they saw one. They have seen numerous pictures of such aircraft, and as for other types of plane, they are frequent and familiar sights in the sky above their home town, Mosjoen. There was an American pilot with a helicopter in the vicinity at the time the contact was made. He was on loan, with his machine, to the Norwegian Government. But, when interviewed after his return to the American Forces in Germany, he denied emphatically that he had met two women in a forest clearing anywhere in Norway, or that he had landed in a forest. Although the story was widely reported, it has never been published in full outside Scandinavia. Now FLYING SAUCER REVIEW brings you extracts from Edith Jacobsen's personal story by arrangement with the Norwegian Magazine NA (Now).*

IT was on Friday, August 20, last year, that my sister and I went berry picking with our uncle, Halvdan Jacobsen, and made the contact. We picked blueberries and cloudberries. It was a bright, sunny day, and early in the afternoon our uncle wandered off on his own. How far? It is impossible to say.

"Asta and I went out on a fen where we thought there would be some nice berries to pick, when suddenly we saw a man in the distance. At first we thought he was another berry picker, but when he came nearer we saw he was not carrying anything. We walked towards him and wondered who he was.

"As we got near him he smiled and stretched out his hand. I, too, smiled and held out my hand, but he only brushed my palm with his. Then he began to talk, but we didn't understand a word. It didn't resemble any language I had heard, and I have studied English and German, and I am now studying Spanish. I have heard French and Russian on the radio.

"The stranger's language was very soft and melodious. It seemed to have few consonants and no gutturals at all.

"When we gathered that the man must be a foreigner from some distant country we took a closer look at him. He was of medium height, had pleasant, regular features and long hair with

a natural wave. He was rather dark. We didn't notice the colour of his eyes, but I believe they were slightly oblique.

"His hands were beautiful and expressive, with fine long fingers; rather like the hands I imagined a fine pianist would have. He wore no rings.

"He was clothed in a kind of overall, but as he wore a broad belt it could have been trousers and a blouse. The blouse fitted closely at the neck, but was otherwise loose. I could not see any buttons, zippers or fastenings. We didn't notice how he was shod.

"The thing that impressed us above all was the genuine friendliness he emanated. It gave us a feeling of goodness and security so that we did not feel in the least bit alarmed at the encounter. His smile convinced us that he did not contemplate anything evil.

"When it became clear that we did not understand him, and he did not understand us, he produced something with which to write. We took it for granted that it was paper and pencil, so we took no particular notice. He drew some circles, pointed out over the moor and then at us, and then pointed at himself and another circle. I had at once the impression that he wanted to tell us something about the solar system, but perhaps I was mistaken.

"The man then made a sign for us to follow him. He turned and walked out along the fen. We followed, and not far away we saw a curious contraption. It was grey-blue and looked like two giant pot lids placed together. It was about ten feet in diameter and about four and a half feet in height.

### The Thing

"Because the man was still so calm and convincingly friendly we were still not afraid, even though we thought this a very curious thing to find in the wilds. We approached the thing, but he made a sign that we were not to come too close. He then opened a kind of hatch on the top of the 'rim' which encircled the thing, crawled in and shut himself in.

"Presently, we heard a faint humming, like the droning of a large bumble bee, and the curious vessel rose slowly while rotating on its own axis.

"Then, and only then, did all I had read about flying saucers come to my mind. When the saucer reached about 100 ft. it hovered for a moment and then started rotating very fast. Finally it rose at tremendous speed and disappeared.

"Asta and I agreed not to tell anyone about the incident. The visitor had gone, and we had nothing with which to prove our story. And without proof the story would sound so fantastic that we were afraid of being ridiculed.

"It was Asta who first told the story. She couldn't hide it from her husband. That's why it spread around Mosjoen. A reporter from the local paper got hold of it and approached the police to get their confirmation. They asked us to make statements and later to take them to the locality of the landing. There were no signs to be found, but that wasn't surprising as six days had gone since our meeting.

"After that we couldn't venture out without being stopped in the street to tell the story anew.

"Many people laugh at us, and many are angry because they believe we are pulling their legs. But we have only told a story of something that definitely happened to us.

"We saw it simultaneously, and we reacted in the same way. But the questioning we went through was so intense that at times I thought I would lose my reason. The whole thing is so

fantastic that I can readily understand why people who have known me all my life refuse to believe me. People have a right to their own opinions, but I earnestly wish that some responsible person like a police official or a parson had had this experience. At least they would have been believed."

Finn Norstrom, who interviewed the sisters separately, said there were no discrepancies in their accounts. He added that Edith was mischievous enough to enjoy playing a great joke on people, but that it seemed highly improbable that she should stretch the joke so far and to adhere so firmly to a fabricated story.

Asta is a very calm and well-balanced person, he said, even if she feels somewhat troubled because of the uproar the affair had caused. Nobody who meets her would take her for anything else but an ordinary housewife. She is quiet, level headed and views all world problems with indifference if the porridge is in danger of burning.

### Opinions

The girls' uncle, Halvdan Jacobsen, who accompanied them on their berry-picking expedition, was troubled by the situation. He said: "I hesitate to accuse the girls of lying, but one fact is certain. No craft rose from the forest that day. I was never more than three or four minutes' walk from the girls, and I reckon I ought to have seen or heard something. No, flying saucers exist only in people's heads. We hear about them from every part of the world. They are weapons of the 'cold war' causing unrest and fear of war."

The girls' mother believes them, however. "That a man from another planet should land here seems too incredible to me," she said, "but I have no knowledge of such things. I would only have pooh-poohed the whole affair if I didn't know my daughters."

Commented Arvid Oyen and Jan Brechan, of the local road construction service: "We believe the story. People shouldn't be afraid to believe something unusual. We know the ladies; they are grown-up and trustworthy. We have no opinion to offer as to the place the man came from, but isn't it reasonable to suppose that inhabitants of other planets have progressed as far or farther than us?"

Many readers may disagree with the views expressed by Lord Nelson. It is the policy of this magazine, however, to examine every aspect of the U.F.O. question fearlessly in its search for the truth. That is why its columns are open to the theories of sceptics and believers alike. It has no "hobby horses" to ride.

# WHAT?

# WHENCE?

# WHY?

by **The Earl Nelson**

**Q**UITE recently I was told that I am a sceptic on the question of flying saucers. This is not strictly true. I keep a very open mind on most subjects, and in these days of ultra-rapid scientific progress nothing that might happen, however startling, would come as very much of a surprise to me. I would certainly be excited, but I should not be unduly surprised if I actually saw a flying saucer.

I have seen it stated, on good authority, that something like ninety per cent. of the appearances of these phenomena can be explained away as being due to known causes. The remaining ten per cent. provide us with the great enigma: What are they? Where do they come from? and Why?

I think it may be as well, to start with, if I quote here what I wrote in *Life and the Universe*, published October, 1953:

#### **FLYING SAUCERS: FACT OR FICTION?**

"A bullet-nosed, cigar-shaped object about 100 ft. long with a ring of flames at the end was seen for about 20 minutes over New Delhi, India. It was flying at a height of some 5,000 ft. travelling soundlessly, and had a maximum speed of about 2,000 miles an hour. Two jet fighters soared into the air to find out about the strange object. One second it was there—the next it had vanished . . . WHERE?"

"This extract from the *Sunday Dispatch* of April 6, 1952, describes one of a number of

similar objects which have been reported from time to time in various parts of the world. Some reported objects are said to have been circular in shape and to have resembled saucers, or dinner plates. Others have been described as having the appearance of revolving globes. Again, they are said to have flames, usually blue or orange, playing round the rim of the saucer, or coming from one end of those elongated like a cigar.

Over a period, reports of the appearance of these phenomena have become fairly numerous. Some appear to be well authenticated, coming from presumably responsible observers: crews and passengers of airliners, pilots and observers of military planes, and ships' officers. Sometimes such objects are stated to have been observed by a number of people at the same time, and this seems to rule out imagination or hallucination.

According to reports, the colour of the objects

Lord Nelson, a great great grand nephew of Admiral Lord Nelson, victor of Trafalgar and other famous sea battles during the Napoleonic wars, has for many years made a study of astronomy and anthropology. Well known as a lecturer, he is also a writer of repute. In 1953 his "Life In The Universe" was described as: "Probably the best book on the subject ever written." Another book of his "There Is Life On Mars," will be published in November.

varies, but they are usually said to be pink, blue, green, black, or pearly-white. Estimates of their size also vary considerably, ranging, in the case of the so-called flying saucers, from a diameter of 2 to 100 ft. or more. The length of the torpedo-shaped objects is said to vary between 100 and several hundred feet.

Their movements appear to be very erratic. At times they are said to hover, remaining almost stationary. At other times they move slowly, fast, or very fast, upwards, downwards, or laterally. Estimated speeds of up to 20,000 miles an hour have been reported, but more usually this is put at from 200 to 2,000 miles an hour.

### World Reports

The majority of these objects have been described as disc shaped, and they often appear to be spinning. They have been seen singly and in numbers; as many as ten or more are said to have been seen flying in formation. They are often described as shining, as if made of bright metal. Reports of their appearance have come from various parts of Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia. They are reported to move silently, and it is claimed that they have sometimes hit the ground, the resulting flash being visible in broad daylight. Although search parties have looked for traces of the objects, nothing has yet been found.

Various theories have been advanced in attempts to explain these phenomena. It has been suggested that they may be a new type of guided missile, the secret of which is being closely guarded by the government responsible for their production. Other explanations are that they are some kind of meteorite: or perhaps space ships or missiles coming from another planet.

There is always the possibility that they may be some type of very secret guided missile, but it seems strange that after all this time nothing about them has leaked out.

If we assume that they arrive from another planet, then their only likely place of origin is Mars. No other planet in the solar system, with the possible exception of Venus, is likely to be a home of life. It seems improbable that any life that may exist on Venus has yet progressed beyond the fish, amphibian, or perhaps, the reptilian stage.

On Mars, however, it is just possible that life commenced before it gained a hold on the earth,

and that it has now reached a high stage of development. This, of course, assumes that the inhabitants have been able to adapt themselves to the gradually changing conditions of their atmosphere over millions of years. If the objects came from Mars they might be unable to land here safely or, if they did land, to take off again, even though they carried a crew able to control the movements of the machines in flight. What is more, creatures adapted to life on Mars would perish almost as soon as they emerged from their machine, just as we should perish almost as soon as we set foot on Mars, unless we wore protective clothing and had some sort of breathing apparatus.

To suppose that such objects originate from planets outside the solar system—that is to say, planets belonging to other solar systems in space—is virtually to presume the impossible. Even travelling at the speed of light, it would take years for them to reach the earth, and the theory of Relativity lays it down that no material object can travel at anything approaching the speed of light.

This theory of visitors from another planet is purely a flight of fancy, and it seems almost that we must accept the idea that these objects are some kind of guided missile. If this were the true explanation, however, it seems strange that no parts or fragments have been found when the objects have been observed apparently to crash-land.

### Not Meteorites

The explanation that they may be some kind of meteorite is not easy to accept either. No meteorite could behave as they are reported to do. Any meteorite large enough to penetrate the atmosphere to within a few thousand feet of the ground would certainly not be silent but would make a considerable noise. It could not remain stationary, nor could it shoot upwards again, as flying saucers are said to do. Some of the colours, too, are not those usually associated with meteorites.

There are said to be reports of similar objects having been observed during the nineteenth, and even as far back as the eighteenth century. If this is true it demolishes the theory that they could be any kind of guided missile, or indeed anything attributable to the work of man.

So far we seem to be up against a blank wall

when we try to find a reasonable explanation of these phenomena.

There is another possibility, however, always assuming that the objects really have been seen and that their appearance and behaviour are really as described. I think it possible that they might be of electrical or electro-magnetic origin; possibly some kind of electrical tornado occurring in the upper atmosphere. Or perhaps something in the nature of ball lightning. Variations in shape might be explained by assuming the objects were viewed at different angles. There could, of course, be an actual difference in shape, the objects appearing sometimes as discs, sometimes as globes, or aerial torpedoes.

### Explanations

Such an explanation seems to fit the known facts of the appearance and behaviour of the objects, as reported by observers. It accounts satisfactorily for the various colours that have been seen, and their appearance is as described, to remain stationary, rise, dart away suddenly at enormous speed, or disappear without trace. It also explains why nothing has been found when they apparently crashed to the ground. If they *are*, in fact, an electrical phenomenon there would be nothing to find any more than after a flash of lightning strikes the ground.

This theory would also account for their silence, and would explain why they are often reported to be spinning rapidly. It also tallies with the fact that they are said to exhibit a shining appearance, as if constructed of some bright metal.

This theory may seem 'down to earth' compared with other colourful theories that have been advanced. But if such things really have been seen, and their appearance is as described, and if they behave in the way we are told they do, then I think it may not be so very far from the true explanation."

Well! there we have what I wrote prior to May 1953; and the above theory may or may not be the true explanation.

Since then, however, my studies and researches, together with information received from well-known astronomers in various parts of the world, have led me to the conclusion that a form of vegetable life definitely exists on Mars. It may be merely some lowly form, lichen, for example, or it may be a type of vegetation peculiar to the planet, which has evolved to suit

the conditions prevailing there, and of which, consequently, we have no knowledge. It is not impossible that animal life exists, or even intelligent life, but if there are intelligent beings, we can rest assured of one thing: they would bear little resemblance to ourselves, except in so much as they would possess large and efficient brains, and their fore limbs, like ours, would have lost their original use as a means of locomotion, and become adapted, over millions of years, to serve as the tools of the brain.

The pentadactyle limb is common to the four classes of vertebrates collectively known as tetrapods; that is, amphibia, reptiles, birds and mammals. The limb, which evolved as an adaptation to life on land, is therefore absent in fishes and other primitively aquatic vertebrates. The limb is in three parts, upper-arm or thigh, forearm or shank, and hand or foot. The latter carry five terminal digits, fingers or toes, hence the name pentadactyle. We ourselves are not even yet fully adapted to the upright position. Balancing the body on the hind legs is a difficult feat and one which every child has to learn afresh at great expenditure of time and effort.

### Evolution

Life, on any planet, has to adapt itself to prevailing conditions, and would evolve along lines suited to them. On earth, life has evolved in the way it has simply because it was forced to do so by the conditions existing here. Had conditions been very different, conditions of temperature, atmosphere, and so on, we ourselves would have evolved very differently; or, on the other hand, we might never have come into existence at all.

Our sun is one of at least a hundred thousand million stars in the galaxy, and only a very moderate specimen at that. Within range of the 200-inch telescope at Mount Palomar there are probably upwards of a thousand million other galaxies similar to ours, and when, in a year or two's time, Radio Astronomy gets into its stride, it will be able to cover an area of space at least five, and possibly ten, times as great as that now covered by the Mount Wilson telescope.

Recent scientific research leads us to assume that there are probably at least a hundred thousand million planets in our galaxy alone on which life exists; and perhaps many times that number on which it has existed in the past, or will exist in the future.

That flying saucers, or any other type of space

ship could travel here from planets belonging to other solar systems may be dismissed at once from the realms of anything but fantasy. The next nearest star to our Sun, Proxima Centauri, is distant about four and a quarter light years, one light year being the distance that light travels in the course of a year, moving at a speed of 186,283 miles per second, namely six million million miles, and most of the stars are very much farther away than Proxima Centauri.

### Other Planets

To come back therefore to our own solar system. We have two planets, apart from our own, on which some sort of intelligent life might perhaps exist. From the little knowledge we have of her, Venus is a very doubtful case, to say the least. She is enveloped in dense cloud; so much so that we cannot see the actual surface, and if there are creatures living there they may never see the sun or the stars. Even at mid-day the only light at the surface would be a dim kind of twilight. What is more, the Venusian clouds are not made up of water vapour, as are terrestrial clouds. One theory is that they are clouds of dust hurled into the atmosphere by great storms that continually rage over the surface; storms caused by the great contrast in temperature between the night and day sides of the planet, due to the fact that Venus turns very slowly on her axis. One day there is probably equal to at least twenty of ours. Another theory is that the clouds are formed of minute drops of oil. There is not space here to go into the reasons behind this theory, but they are quite feasible ones.

We are therefore left with only one planet out of the limitless billions in the Universe, from which flying saucers could possibly come: the planet Mars. That is if we are to assume that they really are some form of space ship and not a natural phenomena.

From what we know of Mars, it would seem to be a dying World. A World on which there is a desperate and growing shortage of water, a state of affairs that comes about at last on every planet, and that must eventually occur here. If, and it is a very big if, intelligent Martians exist, creatures that have mastered the problems of inter-planetary travel; it is understandable that they would wish to reach another planet with a view to colonising it. I have seen it stated that the creatures manning the flying saucers are well

disposed towards us. Never believe such poppycock. They might be well disposed so long as we allowed them to take over our world and dispossess us of the best parts of it, but not otherwise.

### Conclusion

In my book, **THERE IS LIFE ON MARS**, which is being published in November 1955, I have incorporated almost everything that modern science has been able to discover about the Planet. It deals with facts, not fiction.

When people tell me that they have met Martians or Venusians, who have landed here from flying saucers, and who resemble us in almost every detail, then I know, without further question, that they are, either (a) the victims of an elaborate hoax, (b) suffering from hallucination, or (c) the lineal descendants of Ananias.

If any nervous people are becoming unduly disturbed at the prospect of an invasion of the Earth by either Martians or Venusians, they can set their minds at rest. As I said before, no creatures adapted for existence on Mars or Venus could survive for more than a few moments in our atmosphere without the aid of elaborate breathing apparatus, nor could they remain here very long even with that. If anyone tells you this is not so, he is either talking through his hat, or has his tongue in his cheek, and in any case you may be quite certain that he knows little or nothing about either of these planets.

When the Red Planet closed in to 39,800,000 miles from earth last summer, the National Geographic-Lowell Observatory Expedition took 20,000 photographs of it from South Africa. These confirmed the existence of vegetation and the famous "canals."

The canals do not meander like normal stream drainage, said the Expedition's leader, E. C. Silpher, in an article illustrated with colour photographs in the September issue of "National Geographic Magazine." "One runs for 1,500 miles without a bend. Sometimes one canal will run right through another, something no sensible river will do."

They are so delicate, he added, that they are hard to catch on photographs. But enough have been taken to prove their reality and to show they change in intensity.

"To me they suggest lines of vegetation along watercourses," he said. "Some believe, with Professor Lowell, that they are of artificial origin."

Many new facts will emerge, however, when the Red Planet comes into even closer opposition—35,300,000 miles—in 1956.

# A NEW TREND IN SPACE TRAVEL

by Max B. Miller

In this article, the author, who is President of *Flying Saucers International* in Los Angeles, California, and editor of "Saucers," discusses our way to the stars.

FOR several years, there has been much talk, conjecture and hullabaloo on the establishment of a manned orbital satellite that will circle the Earth as a follow up to the minute spy satellites that will be launched during the international geophysical year which starts in 1957.

Top magazines have featured articles on this, motion pictures have been made, and so forth. Dr. Wernher von Braun, German rocket authority famous for his contribution to the V-2 rocket, has been largely responsible for the project's exploitation and possible success.

The group that advocates such a plan hope to spend something like four billion dollars to construct a number of three-stage rockets to carry the equipment 1,075 miles into outer space to build the proposed satellite.

From the construction of the satellite, it is hoped that scientists will be able eventually to go to the moon and our neighbouring planets.

However, there are many drawbacks to the proposed project:

(1) The heavy strain of enormous G-forces on the human body (1 G-force equals gravity, therefore 10 G-force would be ten times the force of Earth's gravity) during acceleration to reach escape-velocity (around six miles per second).

(2) The constant danger from ever-present ultra-violet and Cosmic radiation. The ship would have to be shielded from these, though Cosmic radiation will still penetrate.

(3) The great possibility that rocket ships or the satellite may be struck by a meteoroid (the body of a meteor).

(4) The apparent insurmountable limitations of

the present chemical reaction-rocket engine. The trip to the nearest planet would take many months. At the absolute theoretical maximum velocity—according to the Einstein Theory of Relativity (which is close to 186,280 miles per second) it would take about four and a half years to reach the *nearest* star. It would take some 1,700,000 years to reach the nearest galaxy (island universe), Andromeda.

The present conception of rocket travel is the utilisation of a chemical bi-fuel system. (Hydrazine and nitric acid is at present considered.) It is believed by the group exploiting this method of interplanetary flight that atomic energy may ultimately be harnessed into a force that may prove itself more desirable. To date, however, there is no indication as to just how this can be accomplished.

In their book, *Space Travel*, Kenneth W. Gatland and Anthony M. Kunesch state, in the final chapter, that even the stars are considered as possible destinations for future space ships. It would require more than 130,000 years to reach the *nearest* star with a chemical rocket, they say, but an atomic one *might* need only 350 years.

Since flying saucers were first widely sighted in 1947, those who were open-minded enough to consider their existence began to wonder what propulsive power they may use.

After many years of research, the present consensus of scientific minds at work on the subject indicate that the greatest possibility is that of an electro-gravitational force—or, sometimes shortened to G-field. The reported changing colour in sightings, tremendous speed, shape (a

circular airfoil would seem to have definite advantages), lack of visible means of propulsion, rapid acceleration and right-angle turns while travelling at thousands of miles per hour, all seem to indicate this.

Professor Hermann Oberth, world-famous German mathematician and rocket authority, told the International Astronautical Congress at Innsbruck, Germany, August 1954, that he not only believed in the existence of flying saucers, but also was convinced that they are extra-terrestrial.<sup>9</sup>

He added that the behaviour of flying saucers ruled out any means of propulsion known to us, and certainly rocket propulsion. A possible explanation, he declared, was the use of an "anti-gravity device."

### Project Magnet

In 1953, the Canadian Government set up "Project Magnet." This project, headed by Wilbur B. Smith, was for the *development* of a flying disc powered by electro-magnetic force. There are persistent, but unconfirmed rumours that the project has succeeded in its effort to harness such a power.

Smith announced that there is a 90 to 95 per cent. probability that flying saucers do exist, a 60 per cent. probability that they are "alien vehicles" in other words, "extra-terrestrial"), a 10 per cent. probability that they originate here on Earth and a 30 per cent. probability that they are inconceivable to man—such as some form of time travel involving a form of life other than protoplasm.

The question may be asked: "This is all fine, but what are the advantages over the present plans of rocket propulsion?"

Many. A few are listed below:

(1) Low cost of power, not the "billions" of dollars needed for fuel as in the present chemical-rocket conception. We need only to start the vehicle and it will continue in its acceleration until the desired velocity is reached.

(2) There is only one form of acceleration that we know of to date which will not cause the gravity force strain on the body: that is the pull (or perhaps "push") of gravity. Falling towards the Earth, a body accelerates at the speed of 32.2

feet per second, per second; yet there is the sensation of "weightlessness." Therefore, we can look for no danger or discomfort from the electro-gravitational field of propulsion.

(3) The space ship will theoretically be capable of tremendous speeds within the Earth's atmosphere. (The rocket ship nor any other type of vehicle would be able to withstand the atmospheric friction and would, consequently, disintegrate.

This is because the G-field craft will have a magnetic/gravitational force-field surrounding or in front of the craft. The "air" in the immediate vicinity of the ship will be captured and move along with it—the only result being a "glow" surrounding the craft—caused by the friction of the atmosphere hitting the "captured air," a phenomenon reported many times in flying saucer observations. This same field will prohibit ultra-violet and Cosmic radiation from penetrating the ship.

(4) Velocities near and of the speed of light should easily be achieved, as it will conceivably be possible to travel along magnetic lines of force or kindred radiation. And it is conjectured that it may well be possible to "warp space"; i.e., as presently conceived by cosmologists, space is curved. It may be possible, utilising the G-field theory, to go directly to a distant body, not taking a circular course. But this point is much too complex and theoretical to dwell upon deeply.

### Gravity Experiments

Now that the trend has been established that the idea of an electro-gravitational field has far more possibilities than the previous conception of space travel, just what is being done about it.

For one thing, for the study and research in the field of gravity, the non-profit Gravity Research Foundation of New Boston, New Hampshire was founded. In a recent bulletin entitled "Gravity and Metallurgy," the Foundation's president, George M. Rideout, declared:

"For six years this Foundation has been busy interesting scientists to seek means of 'harnessing' gravity. From the first it was believed that a *differential* must be discovered in order to make a gravity motor. Furthermore—with the possible exception of using power for a 'self-starter' as in the case of the automobile—we

<sup>9</sup> See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June issue.

insisted that no outside power be used. In other words, any acceptable motor must operate as 'perpetual motion' using only gravity or some supernatural force as power.

"So far as we now know, the above requires and awaits the discovery of an insulator, deflector or absorber of gravity in order to bring about such a differential. This thought has been the basis of 485 essays which have been submitted to the Foundation during the past six years. For the most original of these it has given awards amounting to \$10,800.

### Aviation History

"The history of aviation from the Wright brothers to the present is well known. The famous German Zeppelins of the 'thirties, which were being duplicated in the United States by the Goodyear Company at the expense of the U.S. Government, were soon discarded. Gradually all interest was directed to the heavier-than-air machines. The only unbeliever was Thomas A. Edison, who insisted that some means must be discovered to reduce the danger involved from falling. He insisted that the *proposed* helicopters, then on drawing boards and in aeronautical laboratories, would be discarded as were the Zeppelins."

The Glenn L. Martin Aviation Company recently announced its intention to begin a research project on gravity.

Aviation executive William P. Lear, who developed the F-5 electronic automatic pilot for jet planes and is chairman of Lear, Inc., Santa Monica, announced on February 2, 1955, his belief in the existence of flying saucers and stated that he believes they originate from outer space.

Lear gave the following reasons for this belief:

(1) "Numerous manifestations have been made over long periods of time.

(2) "Many observations have been made simultaneously by reliable observers.

(3) "There are great possibilities of scientific reality if the latest theory of *electro-gravitation* field is proved.

(4) "Actual serious efforts are now in progress to prove the existence of *anti-gravitational forces*. . . ."

One of the latest efforts in the range of a practical application to the solution comes in book

form. The book, published February 14 by T. Werner Laurie in Britain and the British Book Centre, Inc., in America, is titled *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer*, by Leonard G. Cramp, M.S.I.A., Member of the British Interplanetary Society.

The following is quoted from the Foreword of the book:

"The theory . . . was originally conceived prior to the second world war, and certainly long before the term 'flying saucer' came into general use. Can it be wondered therefore that the author took more than a casual interest in the significance of the many sightings? Indeed, the more he sifted the available information, the greater became his conviction that such a craft actually existed, and that there was more than a little justification for his theory. The reports coming in from ordinary people all over the world provided evidence of a phenomenon that he had hitherto only dreamt of.

### Reluctance

"Rocket enthusiasts may naturally be reluctant to admit an entirely different conception of space travel, and may therefore adopt a sceptical attitude towards the interplanetary flying saucer hypothesis. However, it is hoped that . . . the flying saucer reports do suggest an alternative and more attractive method of space travel. Neither need we await further developments in physical science; the pioneer never has waited, and never will, upon others when he has become inspired by a new idea.

". . . It may well be, even in our own time, that men will discover the key with which to unlock a force that is all about us and so enable us to use it for all our industries, transport, and finally, space travel."

The author goes on to say:

"Left to its natural conclusions, the development of the rocket as a space vehicle will obviously go through several stages. First, there is the bi-fuel step rocket principle that is being explored today. Secondly, the more advanced nuclear reaction rocket at present only dreamed of. Finally, as a result of findings brought out by atomic research, an entirely different and far more efficient means of anti-gravity will be discovered.

"Left to itself, the evolution of the rocket to

this stage will take a long time, perhaps as long as did the evolution of the internal combustion engine. . . .

"Must we persevere with the rocket as a means of interplanetary flight? Is there no other way to hasten the process? Yes, I am convinced that there is a better way to the stars. . . . In some respects it may be a disquieting thought to us who are rocket technicians and enthusiasts that the rocket may never be employed as an

interplanetary machine. It is perhaps a discouraging thought and will not be well received by many, but if we are truly determined in our efforts to get to the stars we should welcome the possibility of a better means of doing so and be glad to examine any theory without prejudice."

Concluding, he writes: ". . . To cling to the rocket as a means of interplanetary transport and to deny the possibility of a better means is to exhibit a bias not worthy of scientific thought."

## A NEW PATTERN OF BEHAVIOUR

IT is some time since any U.F.O. reports have reached the National Press, and the "Boomerang" seen over Lasham during the National Gliding Championships might not have been publicised even then had it not been for the current interest in the contests. The Lasham saucer by itself does not merit much excitement, however, and I would merely have noted it as another isolated report had it not been for other happenings in the same week; namely the announcement that artificial satellites are to be launched into space during the International Geophysical Year.

The Lasham U.F.O. was seen on July 26. Between July 25 and August 1, seven definite reports and a probable appeared in the Provincial Press. More interesting still is the fact that, except for two, all came from the north-west of England and Ireland. An examination could point to a conclusion I shall make later.

On July 25, Mr. William Drury said in a letter to the *Walsall Observer* that he saw a mushroom-shaped object which he described as the "eighth wonder." It was a glittering, silver object and passed in a leisurely manner over his back garden and made off in the direction of Walsall aerodrome. It made no sound and left no contrail, but Mr. Drury said it disappeared after a dark round cloud seemed to envelop it. He stated that he could see the object very clearly and that the time was 8.15 p.m.

The Lasham sighting was on the following day. Mrs. Yvonne Bonham, Secretary of the British Gliding Association, said the object hovered over the glider in which the British Gliding Champion, Philip Wills, was soaring before moving off at a very high speed. She estimated

*by Denis Montgomery*

its width at 40 ft. and its hovering altitude at 3,000 ft. She saw it for about thirty seconds.

Sheffield was watched by a U.F.O. on the following evening at 8.00 p.m. A brightly-illuminated and rounded object was seen.

The same night a cylindrical object was seen over Liverpool by a Mr. Jones and a number of his dock-worker colleagues. They watched it for eight minutes as it hovered over the Lever building and moved slowly away.

On the same night a retired headmaster from Ellesmere Port saw a mysterious thing. He and his neighbour, a *Liverpool Evening Express* sports columnist, watched it for five minutes. A ball of light was seen over the Irish Sea that same night and so was another, near Oban.

Finally, Mr. Thomas Bolton, who served on aircraft carriers with the Royal Navy for fourteen years, saw a flying saucer over Liverpool on August 1. It was a bright silvery-gold colour, left no vapour trails and emitted no rays. It was seen by four independent observers also.

The point I want to make about these sightings concerns saucers generally. It is becoming increasingly clear to me that certain areas are being selected for intensive observation. New Zealand, South Africa, Europe and South America have all experienced visitations of this kind.

There are definite patterns to these visits from space, definite species of U.F.O., and definite routes by which the saucers tend to travel. What emerges from all this, therefore, is that there is a systematic watch being kept on this planet.

# FLYING SAUCERS AND POLITICS

**I**F and when it is established as an irrefragable fact that a flying saucer from outer space has landed on this planet, bearing with it intelligent beings, the impact of that fact on man's life and thought would be tremendous.

Certain things would be explicit in such an arrival. First, it would prove that intelligent life exists elsewhere than on this planet, which would be a salutary check to the conceited notion that only this obscure planet on which we dwell can bear such life. Next, it would follow that the life on the heavenly body from which the saucer had come was a highly-organised life; for only a high degree of organisation could have enabled the visitors to have conquered the problems of space travel. Next it would follow from the visit that the inhabitants of that heavenly body desired, for some reason, to establish some sort of relations with the inhabitants of Earth.

## Analogy

It is beyond our wits to conceive all that these things would mean in various fields of life, or to imagine their impact on our political set-ups on Earth. The nearest analogy, and this is a very weak and inadequate one may be found if we look back at Europe before America was discovered. When the New World was discovered it would have been just as impossible for European man to foresee the consequences of that discovery as it would be now for us to forecast the consequences in various fields of our life of the arrival of flying saucers. But looking back, we can see what the results of the discovery of America have been so far.

When man first sailed round the earth, and came back to the point from which he started, it became evident that the earth was not flat but round. That meant a revolution in cosmogony and in geography. It meant, too, a change in the centre of gravity of the world of men. It has involved a tremendous shift in the balance of

by **W. J. Brown**

political power and economic strength. And a revolution in industrial processes. We can dimly conceive what the discovery of America has meant if we can picture how different the whole course of modern history would have been had there been no America taking part in it. With no America to siphon off millions of the surplus population of Europe, it is probable that European history during recent centuries would have been even bloodier than it has been. And without America in recent years all Europe would have fallen under the Russian yoke.

But perhaps in the present connection the principal result of the discovery of America was to compel us to think in terms of *continents* rather than *countries*. Men do not easily come to think in terms of continents. They think at first in terms of their own village or county. Only gradually do they think in terms of country. And still later in terms of continents. As the discovery of America compelled this widening of view, so the arrival of a flying saucer on earth would compel us to think in terms not of continents but of *worlds*. If there are to be relations between the inhabitants of two countries there must be some medium, *country-wide* in scope, to regulate those relations. If there are to be relations between the inhabitants of two continents there must be some medium, *continental in scope*, to

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W. J. Brown, ex-Independent Member of Parliament for Rugby until 1950, considers the effect the confirmation of the existence of flying saucers would have on world politics in this, the third in a series of articles intended to bring different points of view on the subject into focus.

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regulate those relations. If there are to be relations between the inhabitants of one planet and another, there must be some medium, *planetary in scope*, to regulate these, too.

The principal political impact of the arrival of Space visitors would be to make men think more in terms of the world, and less in terms of continents or countries. Just as the discovery of America added another dimension to human thought and action, so the arrival of beings from outer space would add another dimension, and one of vastly greater scope and potential impact.

### Impact

This would be true whether the visitors, and consequently the inhabitants of the world from which they came, were hostile or friendly. The conquest of space would imply a level of technical development by comparison with which even the latest achievements of our science might well seem clumsy and infantile. If "invaders" from another planet came with hostile intent they might well be expected to bring with them weapons and types of strategy which would make nonsense of all the weapons and military dispositions of Earth. We should have to combine for the first time as "*Earthmen*" resisting attack, say, by Martians. We should have to drop all the differences and competing ambitions which divide nations and groups of nations today. The Atlantic Charter, the European Defence Force, the Communist power-bloc, would become meaningless irrelevances to the new situation. The "*Curtains*" would have to come down all over the world. Plainly the political impact would be immense in every country. Most of our domestic differences within each country, the Party struggle for power, the exciting of class against class, would have their content taken from them. Just as during the last war we had to drop internal Party wranglings and concentrate on survival, so it would be again. But this time it would not only be domestic differences within countries which would have to be dropped, but differences between one country and another and one continent and another.

But there is nothing so far observed in the movements and dispositions of unidentified flying objects which suggests hostility from whoever or whatever it is that controls them. True, one American Air Force officer who pursued a group of these things high into the sky,

crashed with his plane to earth and was killed. That, however, might well have been due to some technical or human failure. Generally speaking, the one desire which these objects manifest, as soon as they are approached, seems to be to get away as quickly as possible.

Assuming that any invasion of the Earth were peaceful and well-disposed, still the re-adjustment of our whole life, including our political life, would have to go far and wide. From the fact that they would have conquered problems which we have hardly yet begun seriously to consider, it is to be deduced that there would be something of the same disparity in knowledge and equipment as, say, there was when European man first confronted the Redskins of America or the blacks of Africa and Australia. We should represent a "backward race," a "primitive civilisation," by comparison with our "invaders" and the civilisation from which they came.

Now when backward civilisations are confronted by more advanced ones they must either adjust themselves to the more advanced or go under. On the premises I have adopted for purposes of this discussion (and on the assumption, too, that our "invaders" would behave better to us humans than human whites have behaved to Redskins, Africans and Aborigines when the white civilisation has invaded "backward areas" of the earth), the main preoccupation of Earthmen would be to acquire the more advanced science, the better techniques, the more refined civilisation and codes of manners we may expect our invaders to possess. That might well involve a shake-up of a revolutionary order in our sciences, our industrial processes, and our political and social organisation which would make the scientific and industrial advances of the last two centuries, remarkable as they have been, appear as a very minor adjustment indeed. It might even make the new Industrial Revolution of Automatism, on to which we have now begun to enter, not much more.

### Interrelation

Since industrial production, scientific techniques, finance and political organisation are inextricably related to each other, such a change as I postulate might indeed amount to a real Revolution in our whole way of life, with the politics of the first half of the twentieth century

(Continued on page 31)

# CURRENT EVENTS IN THE HEAVENS

## A BI-MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE NIGHT-SKY

by W. Schroeder

THE next two months bring near to us once more the long evenings of the winter, and we shall be more and more inclined to look up to the stars, be it in mere admiration or for the purpose of study. If we are looking for flying saucers during these months, we must not forget that an apparent increase in their numbers may well have its reason in the extended hours of darkness. Many of these objects are easily overlooked during the hours of daylight, but hardly ever at night, and so it seems only natural that reports will be more numerous during the winter.

Observing conditions during October and November become increasingly favourable, as the time from sunset to sunrise increases from about 12½ hours on October 1 to 15½ hours on November 30 (See Fig. 1). The whole of this interval is, of course, not available for observation as the sky is much too bright even some considerable time after sunset and before sunrise, but even the time of complete darkness extends to about 13 hours at the end of the period under review.

### Civil Twilight

The interval of twilight is usually defined in rather vague terms, but actually there are three different definitions of this. The first is called the Civil Twilight, and the end of it is marked by the time when it is too dark for any outdoor work which requires daylight. The sun is then six degrees below the horizon, and the times of the end and beginning of Civil Twilight are indicated in Fig. 1 by the broken line following the heavy line marked sunset, respectively that pre-

ceding the line marked sunrise, going from left to right across the diagram.

Nautical Twilight is the period which is useful to the navigator; during this the brighter stars used in navigation are already visible, but the

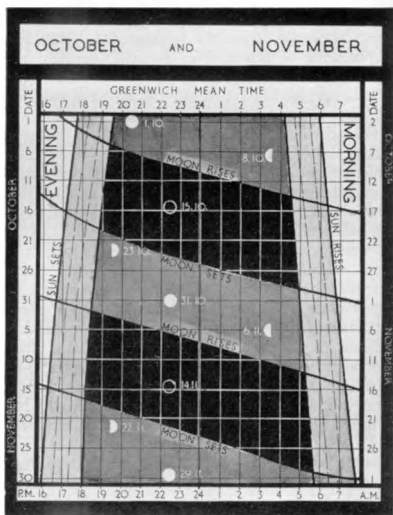


Fig. 1. The times of sunset and sunrise, with phases of the moon and times of moonrise and moonset during October and November.

horizon has not yet disappeared in the darkness. As navigators use a sextant for their measurements which can be used only while the horizon is visible, the reason for calling it "Nautical" Twilight becomes obvious. At the end of this period the horizon becomes indistinct, and the sun is then 12 degrees below the horizon. The second broken line in the diagram indicates the times when Nautical Twilight ends or begins.

Astronomical Twilight ends or begins when the sun is 18 degrees below the horizon, and at this time the last traces of daylight have vanished. This instant is indicated by another heavy line in the diagram.

Most useful for observations of any kind are, of course, those evenings on which no moon is shining, and in October these are the evenings from the 8th to the 20th, and in November from the 4th to the 17th.

### Light Disturbance

During the winter, the periods of full moon become more and more useless for observation. As the full moon is always more or less opposite the sun, she will be high up in the sky during the winter while the sun is low, and the higher in the sky the moon climbs, the greater is the disturbance caused by her light.

During November the moon presents us with two interesting phenomena. The first occurs on the 16th, when the narrow crescent of the moon,

Fig. 2. The aspect of the south-western sky at 4 p.m. on November 16, 1955.

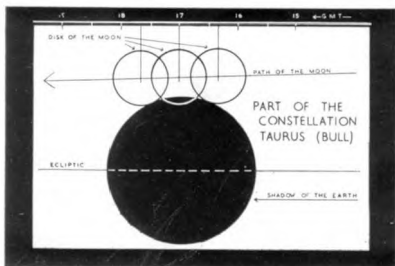


Fig. 3. The apparent movement of the moon's disk relative to the earth's shadow in the evening of November 29.

then only two days old, passes the brilliant planet Venus. Fig. 2 shows the aspect of the south-western sky on November 16 at 4 p.m., which is about the time of sunset. Only Venus and the moon will be visible then, as the stars of the surrounding constellation Ophiuchus are too faint to be seen against the bright sky, and even the bright reddish star Aldebaran below will be invisible.

### Ophiuchus

As it may be rather difficult to find Venus or the moon on that day, it is best to try to locate the constellation Ophiuchus at 6 p.m. on the same date of October, when its position in relation to the horizon will be exactly the same as it will be two hours earlier during the following month. This position relative to the surrounding houses and trees can be noticed then, which will help to find the moon and Venus on November 16.

The other phenomenon is an eclipse of the moon. Not a total one, though only about one-eighth of the moon's disk will be eclipsed. Fig. 3 shows the motion of the moon during the evening of November 29 relative to the earth's shadow, which is then situated in the constellation Taurus. On that day, the moon rises at about 4 p.m., and twenty minutes later she makes her first contact with the shadow. The maximum phase of the eclipse occurs at 5 p.m., and the moon finally leaves the earth's shadow at twenty to six.

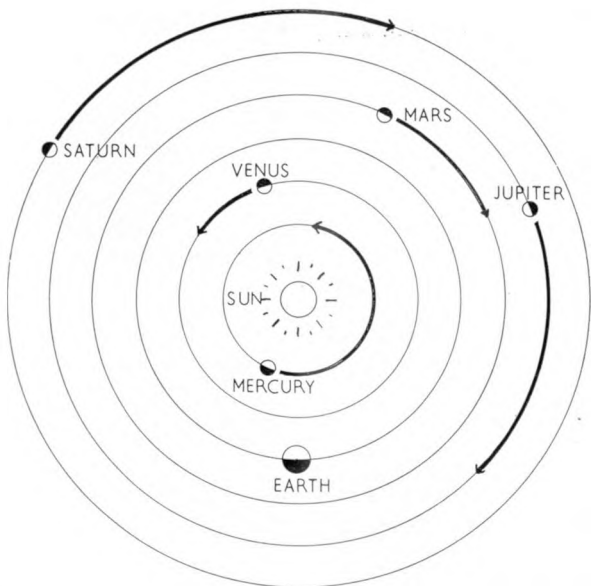


Fig. 4. Positions of the planets relative to the earth and the sun on October 1 and their apparent movements during the following two months.

At the beginning of October, Mercury passes between the earth and the sun, and reaches his greatest western elongation at the end of the month, when he can be observed about one hour before sunrise, in the eastern sky in the constellation Virgo. But he soon becomes invisible again as he approaches the sun to pass behind him, as seen from the earth, during the early part of December.

Venus now approaches the earth and becomes visible in the evening sky, but she does not attain a really spectacular brightness during the next two months.

Both Mars and Jupiter also approach the earth, and they are visible in the mornings, while Saturn is on the far side of its orbit, passing behind the sun during the latter part of November.

Venus, Mars and Jupiter are all at points of their orbits which need watching now, as they reach positions which are the most likely ones in which space-ships destined for the earth would leave them. As space-ships, once they are removed from the influence of the parent planet, have to obey the same laws which apply to the planets, their paths will not be straight lines connecting two planets, but must resemble the orbit of a comet, which is part of an ellipse, in this particular case part of such a curve which connects the two planets. Only thus would it be possible to economise in the power requirements of space-ships.

There have already been several occasions when flashes were observed on Venus which, several weeks later, tied up with flying saucer sightings on earth, and so it should be well

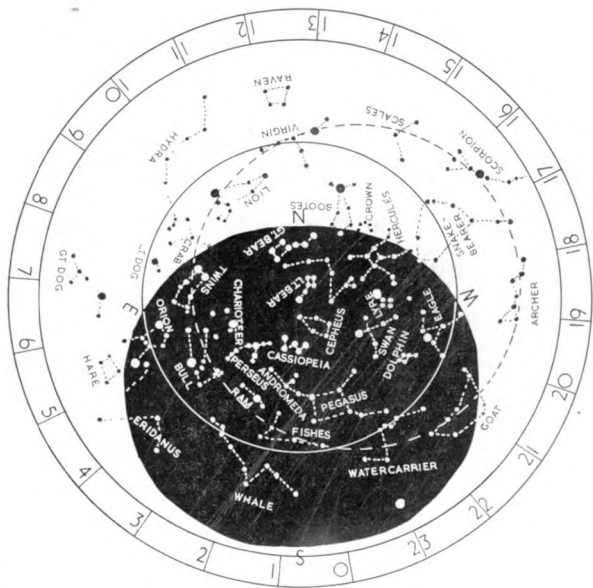


Fig. 5. The stars within the black oval are those visible at midnight on October 1. The aspect of the night sky is the same at 10 p.m. on October 31 or 8 p.m. on November 30.

worth while to train a few telescopes or even binoculars on this planet during the coming months.

The next few weeks again provide several occasions when meteors are likely to give rise to false flying saucer reports. During the period from October 12 to 23, a radiant in the constellation Ram is the origin of a number of very slow-moving meteors, and in many cases these are large enough to reach the lower parts of the earth's atmosphere. Meteors of this kind are usually termed "Fireballs," and often an explosion can be heard a little while after they have been observed to explode.

From October 18 to 20 the Orionids will appear, and they are very swift meteors which leave streaks behind which persist for several seconds.

Another shower which frequently provides

fireballs makes its appearance between October 30 and November 17 and the members of this radiate from a point in the constellation Taurus, while a different shower originating in the same constellation puts up a performance of very slow and bright meteors between November 3 and 15.

The fixed stars visible during October and November indicate the parting of the summer. In the west, the "Summer Triangle" consisting of brightest stars of the constellations Swan, Eagle and Lyre, prepares to set, while the constellations of the winter sky make their appearance over the eastern horizon. In the north-west are Castor and Pollux, the "Heavenly Twins," and the most spectacular constellation of the sky, Orion, has risen, too, while a little higher up in the sky, Aldebaran, the bright reddish star in the Bull, almost completes the assembly of the Winter Stars.

Meade Layne, President of the BORDERLAND SCIENCES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION of San Diego, California, has, for many years, made extensive studies of the origin of U.F.O.s and has reached the conclusion that these do not exist in three-dimensional form, but in four. In the following article he tells, of necessity in synopsis form for the sake of brevity, of factors involved in the 4-D interpretation of aeroforms.

# "MAT AND DEMAT"

## ETHERIC ASPECTS OF THE U.F.O.

by Meade Layne, M.A.

**A**EROFORMS are flying discs, "saucers," mutants or indescripts, and best understood with respect to their origin and nature as being EMERGENTS: that is, they emerge on to our plane of perception from a space-time frame of reference which is different from ours. This process may also be described as a conversion of energy and a change of vibratory rates.

That this is so is obviously suggested by the phenomena themselves; since physical matter as we know it could not withstand the speed, temperature and strain imposed by the observed operations of the discs and other forms. This does *not* conflict with the apparent composition of the "landed" discs.

When the energy conversion takes place, the aeroform becomes visible and tangible. It appears to be and definitely *is* what we call solid substance, and so remains until the vibratory rate is again converted. The "steel" of a landed disc is an etheric steel and its copper is etheric copper—since the prototypes of all our metals exist in etheric matter; nevertheless, chemical analysis has shown certain radical differences. The conversion process amounts to materialisation and dematerialisation ("mat and demat"). "Demat," on our plane of perception, would be "mat" for any consciousness functioning on the etheric level, and vice versa.

Just as there is a spectrum of sound and of colour (ending in sounds we cannot hear and colours we cannot see), so there is also a spectrum of tangibility, ending in forms of matter which are too dense to be touched. The ordinary matter of our plane is a rarefaction, and the interspaces between the nucleus and the elec-

trons are relatively enormous. The extremely dense matter of the ethers passes through earth substance freely and almost without friction. But if the vibratory rate of an etheric object is slowed down, it becomes less dense and enters our field of perception.

With reference to our use of the word *density*; this word is used in different senses by physicists and demands definition, for which we cannot here afford space.

Etheric matter, on account of its density, is subject to the play of many subtle forces, including the energetic activity of thought. Any form or object of which the mind can conceive can be brought into existence by mental action, and controlled by the same means. Etheric objects are in every way as "real" as those of our own world. And there is abundant experimental evidence for the control of "mind over matter" on our own plane of perception.

The foregoing paragraph applies also to the bodies of Etherian people. Our own bodies are truly made by our minds; we identify ourselves with them and control them. The Etherian makes his own body in a somewhat similar way, but quickly and easily, and makes it in any size and form he chooses. By the same principle he can produce the form of a sphere, a cylinder, a cube, a disc or "saucer"—and any desired vibrations of colour and sound.

Whether the Etherian people are "human" or not depends entirely on one's definition of the word *human*. So far as we know, they are not incarnate humans and have not lived on our planet, though often visiting it. It is a cardinal mistake to assume that their bodies, and the

other ships created by them, are necessarily the same as we have seen them, when they withdraw to their own planes of existence. It is a cardinal mistake to assume that they are all of the same kind and "race," or of the same moral character and evolutionary development.

The "vehicle" of an Etherian (whether his body or his "ship") is thus essentially a thought-form (as our bodies are also)—and a thought-form can be positioned anywhere. The problems of space travel as we conceive them do not exist for him—as implied by the opening paragraph. By altering his vibratory rates the Disc Etherian penetrates our seas and the substance of our globe as easily as he does our atmosphere. All the aeroforms pass through each other—on occasion—and through our dwellings at will, and are (and always have been) invisibly present in great numbers.

The Etherians themselves—or entities purporting to be such—have given the following account: That the first step in constructing the huge space craft ("mother ships" and others) is to isolate a cube of space, or ether, to a very low vibration frequency. This etheric substance is then given the desired form, and the proper equipment is placed within it, according to its proposed station and operation. . . . This work is done mainly by mental means: the Etherians make use of machines and apparatus, but these also are etheric constructions.

### Teleportation

When the "ship" is completed, it is positioned by mental means—"teleportation"—in any desired location, as, say, in the vicinity of our earth. So far, neither the ship nor any of these operations would be visible to us. But if the frequency of the etheric matter is then converted to other specific rates, the ship will, or may, become visible and tangible to our senses. But there is NO "crossing of space" involved at any time. There is simply a change of location—and this is equivalent to a change of frequency or a conversion of vibratory rates.

This last principle cannot be reiterated too often. It is basic to any understanding of the whole mass of the aeroform phenomena.

These huge craft may be miles in dimension, or even of planetary size—hence the feasibility of an "evacuation of the planet," if necessary.

Under what conditions these huge objects, hanging hundreds of miles overhead, are converted to a frequency rate perceptible to us is, of course, unknown. But discs and other forms discharged by the mother ships are obviously so converted, in order to operate under gravitational and magnetic conditions peculiar to our planet. Or it may be a part of the overall plan that those objects be made visible and tangible to us, as part of the education of earth people.

### Interpretation

Reverting to the concept of "emergence," it may be helpful to quote the following illustration:

Suppose we have a series of concentric balls, one within another like the "Chinese eggs." Call the central ball No. 1 and the others Nos. 2, 3, 4, etc. For any given point on, say, the sixth ball, there will be a corresponding spot on both the inside and the outside of ball No. 5 and of ball No. 7—and so on all the other balls. Consider that each ball has its own vibration rate. Then, if you wish to move any object on, say, ball 6 and place it on ball 5 or 7, you simply change its vibration rate accordingly. The object will then be located in a *new place*. It will not have to "pass over" any intervening space—it simply comes into existence in a new location. A *change of frequency* is equivalent to a *change of location*.

Such a statement as "I am here" means simply that I am "tuned in" to objects, sounds and colours of my surroundings. If this receptivity were altered so that I "tuned out," the environment would disappear, but would be replaced by a different one unless the change destroyed me. This would be a space-time operation and a change of location without transit of space.

Contemporary distrust of the concept of the ether is unjustified and must be left to physicists who, apparently, do not read the literature of their own subject.

So far the whole mass of material on the aeroforms, with some tentative exceptions, has not produced an over-all interpretation which is at once intelligible science and sound metaphysics. Yet the interpretation reported by us and here summarised is steadily gaining ground, and we bespeak its thoughtful consideration on its own merits. It will be expanded and altered in details but it is basically correct.

# A RUSSIAN SCIENTIST TALKS ABOUT U.F.O.s . . .

by *Georges Gauthier*

SINCE he chose freedom, Gregory Bessedovsky has lived a quiet and studious life in Paris. His only companions are two Siamese cats and his books.

A sprightly man of 60 with clean-shaven head, and sparkling, intelligent and humorous eyes, he is always well informed about the strange things that happen in this world; the right man to put forward some interesting views on flying saucers.

"It's a strange business, this flying saucer one," he told me when I called on him. "To start with, one must make a distinction between the kinds of testimony put forward, and since flying saucers made their appearance about eight years ago, two kinds of people have said they have seen them.

"The first kind must be ignored. They are like the lunatics of the Middle Ages who had frequent meetings with ghosts, witches, the disembodied soul of Cleopatra, fascinating amphibious eel-like young women, and so on.

"The second kind of witness, on the other hand, cannot be ignored. Their testimony is precious. They include technicians and airmen; and they see two kinds of flying objects: flying discs and cigars travelling at high speeds that vanish on the spot, split into thousands of scintillating pieces and tear asunder with violence.

"Now, every time these objects come into contact with aircraft they volatilise immediately; a phenomena due to 'currents of convection' which have been studied by Henry Augustus Rowland, the American scientist. These currents are composed of an electric load moving through the air in a rectilinear and uniform movement which produces a magnetic field, or rather, a sphere of action plus an electric field.

"The sun, like all incandescent surfaces, emits some negatively-charged electrons which give birth to a magnetic field and an electrical field

in the atmosphere. The flux of the magnetic and electrical forces are very intense at high altitude and when the air is slightly moist, simple ionisation results.

"When an aircraft flies through an atmosphere in this condition and scatters hydrocarbide exhaust fumes, the impurities in the fumes charge themselves with electricity and take the shape of the lines of electric force—they are circular and perpendicular to the direction of the electrical force movement—or the magnetic lines of force—they are circular and their trajectory moves backward with reference to the electrical charge in motion. The electrification lasts only a short time.

"Some of the flying saucers seen are spheroids, if I'm not mistaken. Like balls of fire which I think can be explained by the well-known spherical thunderbolt phenomenon. And this is how it is explained.

"The air is incandescent for 0.00001 of a second and remains incandescent for 0.01 of a second. It is called lightning's remainder. This lightning's remainder is white, of linear shape and composed of nitrogen oxide enclosed in a kind of elastic skin. It cools in the air and recants to a minimum surface and then becomes a sphere."

Regarding flying saucers of different shapes that have buzzed aircraft in flight and flown away without vanishing suddenly, Mr. Bessedovsky was somewhat puzzled.

"You know," he said, "the United States Navy works hard and in great secret on several types of new rocket. German scientists and technicians from what used to be the 'Kaiser Wilhelm Institute' are co-operating with them. It is not impossible that a few of these rockets have been used in experiments and have been seen by people at large. The 'mystery' then

would be only in the fact that nothing could be unveiled.

"The Russians have a number of remote-controlled aircraft," he added. "Serious experiments are being made in Russia and miniature prototypes have been in existence since 1948. As a matter of fact, *Komssomolskaia Pravda* announced as early as August last year that several of these miniature aircraft capable of reaching a height of 255 miles had been tried

out to study interplanetary flight. The newspaper said modestly that contact with the planets in this solar system would not be possible before 1965."

"Would it be possible that some of these miniature prototypes have fallen on the other side of the Atlantic?" I asked.

Smiling, Gregory Bessedovsky said: "With the Russians you never know. Don't forget that they consider the moon to be satellite number one."

## . . . . . AND DESMOND LESLIE SLAMS HIM

IT seems that, whatever side of the "Iron Curtain" you are on, one thing does not change, and that is the ability of the scientist, or comrade-scientist, to confuse atmospheric electric phenomena with interplanetary space-ships to which, on certain rare occasions, they have a passing resemblance.

M. Gregory Bessedovsky gives an interesting description of spheres of electric energy, said to exist in the atmosphere, thereby adding slightly to our knowledge of what flying saucers are not. I do not dispute his theories, even though no records exist of any scientist being able to examine these phenomena in the laboratory, nor of making spectroscopic analyses of them while they are occurring. Maybe these are spheres of electrical energy or maybe they are not. Perhaps they are actually something quite outside ordinary atmospheric phenomena or space-ships.

However, M. Bessedovsky's statements require a little analyses. He is of the opinion that "every time those discs or cigars come into contact with an aircraft, they volatilise immediately." In the few cases of such contacts it is usually the aircraft that "volatilises" immediately. *Vide* Mantell, Regan, etc., and the "sphere of electric force" (reported by Mantell to be metallic, enormous and equipped with windows) that sails on quite unaffected.

M. Bessedovsky, in common with his Western counterparts, ignores completely the *dark* cigars, spindles and discs, so frequently reported, also the dozen or more authentic photographs which show these as dark black or dark grey objects of obvious solidity.

I should like him to make orthographic projections of the Coniston saucer and the Adamski saucer and, having found them to be identical,

offer us a suitable theory as to how a "sphere of electric energy" of rather curious shape (dome, portholes, ball-undercarriage, etc.) that formed in California could re-form itself exactly, in Lancashire over a year later.

I should also like him to explain telescopic sightings such as that made by W. Oliver on May 15, 1954, from 12.27½ a.m. till 12.35 a.m. using first a 45× and later a 200× eyepiece on his three-inch reflector. Oliver witnessed a squadron of eighteen saucers with lighted portholes, domes and flashing lights across the moon. Before and after transit the saucers glowed a bright blue. Against the relative brightness of the moon they were solid silhouettes with brightly-lit windows.

The technique of so many scientists is to explain away the easy cases and ignore the difficult ones. Not until they have successfully explained away every authentic case on record can any one of them claim to have disproved anything. And while we're on the subject of so-called "Ball lightning" etc., I should like to ask, has anyone ever actually got close enough up to it to determine what it really is?

M. Bessedovsky then suggests the remainder of sightings can be related to guided missile and robot-aircraft experiments. Splendid! But really the experimenters should get a move on. In September, 1883, Astronomer Bonilla photographed one of these crossing the sun, far out in the stratosphere. It was one of a formation of 200, a straggler which paused obligingly to be photographed, then hurried on to join its companions. I wonder who was experimenting with these, the Tzar, or Queen Victoria? One would think that, after seventy years or so, some progress would be announced.

# REVIEWS

*Mysteries Of Science*, by John Rowland.  
(Werner Laurie, 12s. 6d.)

HERE is a book that should make an instant appeal to all those who are interested in the subject of flying saucers. Mr. Rowland, indeed, includes the unidentified flying objects in his chapter on the unclassifiable, but the book is by no means confined to a discussion of aerial phenomena. Mr. Rowland surveys a much wider scene, and his work is a valuable study of a number of subjects which the orthodox scientist simply refuses to acknowledge.

Mr. Rowland, it should be explained, is already known for his books on atoms, electrons and rays, and he can be claimed as a notable convert to the science of the open mind. Among the unclassifiable subjects Mr. Rowland considers are dowsing, extra-sensory perception and spiritualism, but he also challenges the scientific method where it seems to him to fail in the study of physics, biology, psychology and sociology.

This book is by no means an attack on science, but it will undoubtedly provoke thought and comment, for it makes one over-riding point. Science, says Mr. Rowland, has conferred many great benefits upon the human race, but when it seeks to solve the mystery of the universe the scientific method has either lamentably failed, or has approached the problems with a lack of true humility.

D. D. D.

*The Case for the U.F.O.* (Citadel Press, \$3.50) and, in England, *U.F.O.* (Arco Publications Ltd., 15s.), by M. K. Jessup.

THE author is Instructor in Astronomy at the University of Michigan and was responsible for erecting and operating the largest refracting telescope in the Southern Hemisphere. His work with this telescope in South Africa resulted in the discovery of thousands of physical double-stars, which are recognised by the Royal Astronomical Society in London.

Mr. Jessup, then, is an authority in the astronomical profession. He has had the temerity to write a book demonstrating that flying saucers are not "all bunk," but that they do exist. Indeed, the author produces evidence that they have been around in our skies for eons.

An interesting feature of his thesis is that our visitors do not necessarily come from any planet, but are actually inhabiting space itself on vast floating constructions. He goes on to explain how these space nomads live off debris in space. Some of his accounts of fish, ice, blood, dead animals and other interesting items dropping from the skies are a little galling. It is humiliating to find our planet being used as a large spatial dustbin.

Other chapters deal with disappearing ships and crews, teleportation or kidnapping, fireballs and lights. He has plenty to say about levitation.

When he has presented his case, Mr. Jessup writes: "In all these discussions, one thing seems to be outstanding as a common denominator. All the aerial or spatial contrivances which we have postulated appear to have one feature in common; they have their natural habitat in space, or at very least in the atmosphere. Everything leads to the assumption that the U.F.O.s live naturally and easily in space; that they do not necessarily come from other stellar systems, or even from other planets."

That is, I think, the *talking point* of this controversial book.

B. le P. T.

*The Imprisoned Splendour*, by Raynor C. Johnson. (Hodder and Stoughton, 25s.)

HERE is a remarkable work in which a competent scientist hints at an interpretation of the nature of man which is in harmony with the Christian faith, Eastern philosophy and Psychical Research.

In four parts, it deals with Natural Science, Psychical Research, Mystical Experience and their significance.

The scientific part is clearly and soundly written. The rest is, quite naturally, controversial, but, nevertheless, sound sense. What the author, Raynor C. Johnson, tries to do is show that the scientific attitude points beyond rationalism to the direct apprehension of spiritual reality. The book is particularly valuable for its thorough presentation and discussion of every kind of paranormal phenomena and would be of particular interest to those who believe that flying saucers are from another dimension.

D. D. D.

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# WORLD ROUNDUP

A formation of bright spherical balls of light flew over Leicester on July 22. The time was 11 p.m. They travelled in a north-easterly direction.

As they flew over, the objects changed formation although maintaining close stations. Witnesses said their height and speed were difficult to assess, "but they were moving along pretty smartly." They made no sound as they sped away into the darkness.

★ ★ ★

A silver-grey metallic object, clearly rounded on one side and covered with a white haze on the other, appeared over Shoebury, Essex, on July 25.

For ten minutes people watched it flying quite slowly towards the north-east before it vanished suddenly in the cloudless sky.

★ ★ ★

As Philip Wills, Britain's gliding champion, circled beneath a thermal cloud over Lasham airfield, Hampshire, during the National Gliding Championships, a boomerang-shaped object was spotted hovering over him by officials of the meeting.

Dark, and thought to be about 3,000 ft. up, it was reported to the Air Ministry as being on a bearing of 290 degrees from Lasham airfield at an elevation of about 60 degrees. It hovered for about 30 seconds and then made off in a north-westerly direction at high speed. The Air Ministry later asked for further details.

This incident is pretty well known now. It appeared in the Press of most Commonwealth countries; but for the record, the object was estimated at measuring about 40 ft. from tip to tip.

★ ★ ★

Miss Mary Greenacre, who lives at Dedham, Suffolk, reported to the Air Ministry an extremely large, round, convex object of a slightly variegated and metallic line hovering on the edge of

a cloudbank above her home towards the end of July.

She watched the object for about two minutes before it started to move. It then raced westwards across the sky for some distance, rising as it went. It then turned due north and very soon was lost to sight. Not a sound was heard. "It was an amazing sight," she said, and notified the Air Ministry of the phenomenon with a comprehensive description of the object.

★ ★ ★

A flying saucer was seen over Brighton on August 16. Two office girls reported spotting it. It was 11.49 a.m. And the object looked round and silvery.

It was first seen by 19-year-old Miss June Binns from the window of her office in the Old Steine, Brighton. She called another clerk, 23-year-old Rosemary Gladwell, to the window.

They watched it move slowly across the sky for a few seconds. They are certain it wasn't an aircraft because it made no noise. Nor did it leave a vapour trail.

They called other members of the staff, but by the time they got to the window the saucer had vanished. Rosemary Gladwell said: "It was most weird. But no one will believe us."

★ ★ ★

If all the objects seen in the sky over Dunedin, New Zealand, are from space, then the city must rank as the number one celestial tourist resort. That is the opinion of the *Dunedin Evening Star*. For countless things have been seen there in the last few months.

On April 18, a thing shaped like a sting-ray and white in colour appeared over the city moving in quick darting motions. It was seen by a young woman who, as soon as she realised it was something out of the ordinary, rushed to fetch her father and younger sister, both of whom were in time to have a good look at the object.

The object made its farewell with a darting swoop across the sky showing a reddish brown light and, according to the father, moving faster than any jet aircraft.

★ ★ ★

A Long Beach, California, motor-boat owner radioed the coastguard on July 11 that he had sighted a flying saucer over the Santa Catalina Channel.

The radio message said that when the motor-boat was nine miles off Newport Beach a saucer-like object swooped down, hovered for minutes over the boat, and then disappeared in a cloud-bank.

It was grey-white in colour and was spinning rapidly on its own axis with fumes trailing from each side.

\*   \*   \*

A flying saucer flew over El Mazboura, Syria, on June 27, it is reported. The gendarmerie commandant there, who declares he saw it, said it appeared for two minutes and then disappeared, leaving a long red trail behind it.

\*   \*   \*

Several people, including the District Commissioner's wife, Mrs. W. B. Davis, saw a flat, silver, balloon-shaped object which approached Kigoma, Tanganyika, from the south on June 12 and hovered over the bay. After five minutes it moved away in a westerly direction and disappeared into cloud. The Meteorological Department had no balloons in the area at the time.

\*   \*   \*

As Mr. A. G. Rose, who lives at Fazakerley, was motoring home with his family on August 4 his daughter pointed to a disc in the sky.

Mr. Rose, who holds a private pilot's licence, estimated it to be at about 25,000 ft. and to be travelling at approximately 400 m.p.h. The diameter of the object he compared to the wingspan of a Douglas DC3 Dakota—about 70 ft. No engine could be heard, nor was a vapour trail visible, although one could have expected one in the prevailing atmospheric conditions.

Suddenly, without any apparent reason, the object veered upwards and increased speed until it was out of sight.

\*   \*   \*

Another disc was seen by Mr Clive Waud, a senior officer of the National Coal Board, in the same area at 8.50 p.m. on July 30.

Mr. Waud is quoted as having said the disc came from a southerly direction and stopped for 20 minutes until an aircraft came on to the scene. Then it disappeared. As with the others, it made no noise and did not trail, although it reflected the rays of the setting sun.

Reports of an unidentified object falling earthwards near the Rolls-Royce aircraft engine establishment at Derby have baffled police in the district. For there have been no reports of damage to property to support the theory that it had fallen from an aircraft. Rolls-Royce officials had no explanation to offer.

\*   \*   \*

Some inhabitants of the Materdei area, near Naples, reported seeing a strange globe flying above Capodimonte at an estimated altitude of 9,000 ft. on August 3.

\*   \*   \*

A large elliptical flying object was observed over various parts of Natal, South Africa, around the middle of July. A number of observers reported it as travelling forwards, backwards, circling and stopping before disappearing at great speed.

\*   \*   \*

One night in the middle of August, Mrs. Edith M. Knowles, who lives at Caistor, Lincolnshire, noticed red flashes outside her bedroom window. Rising from her bed, she went to the window, looked out and saw an object which looked like the moon, only it had a deep red ring round it.

She soon realised that it was not the moon, for suddenly it began to descend at speed and rise again. The odd thing about this U.F.O. is that it let down a "red loop affair." There was a humming like a spinning top and then it shot upwards out of sight.

\*   \*   \*

*Flying Discs that were Pelicans.* CRIFO tells a story of the latest American official explanation of U.F.O. reports.

In Los Angeles there were dozens of reports of three silvery disc-shaped objects that "changed formation as if playing tag in the sky," and appeared to be "leaping over each other." A squadron of jets went up to search for the objects, but returned, unsuccessful.

It was suggested at first that they were weather balloons, but the Weather Bureau reported that no balloons were aloft. Then came the final explanation—the objects were inland pelicans!

*Joannis Balayamis*, a hotel manager, and *Nikolaos Kakomas*, a truck driver, reported seeing a flying saucer while driving over a mountain road near Agrinion, Central Greece, early this month.

The object was luminous and as it flew over, the truck's engine stopped. Telling the story after they had reached Agrinion, the men said that when the engine died on them they felt faint.

\*   \*   \*

A young couple from *Clubmoor*, Lancashire, were walking home one night early this month when they were startled by a huge cylindrical object that seemed strangely phosphorescent.

Seventeen-year-old Peter Wilson said: "I was scared stiff. My girl friend was so startled she ran home."

He added that he thought the object was about 45 ft. in diameter and was spinning 700 ft. above the ground. "It seemed to be looking at something and at 10.45 p.m. raced away in the direction of Pier Head."

A Birkenhead man, Mr. Eilton Fishgold, was also reported to have seen the flying saucer at about 11 p.m. hovering over Liverpool Pier Head.

\*   \*   \*

An unusual object was reported recently by Miss M. G. Howard, of Cuddington, near Northwich, shortly after she had reached home after a day's work in the Welfare Department of Imperial Chemical Industries.

"At first I thought this brilliant light was a plane glistening in the sun," she said. "But almost instantly I noticed its shape.

"It had a pronounced snout, rather like the head of a swordfish. The brilliant light came from the rear.

"There was no trail of smoke and it simply melted from my view after about five seconds. It was flying on a true horizontal course roughly from the direction of Chester towards Manchester and it was very high in the sky."

\*   \*   \*

Unusual objects were reported in the sky on September 7 by passengers on the *Colintraive-Dunoon*, Argyll, Scotland, bus, which carries pupils to the local Grammar School.

One of the passengers, Mr. John Ferguson, a science master at the school, said that when the

bus was travelling through Glenlean, about seven miles from Dunoon, he saw five of these objects in the west. He added that while he hesitated to use the word "saucer," each consisted of two flat half circles. They were bright, as though made of aluminium, and reflected the sun's rays. As the bus was travelling in the opposite direction he could not see if they were hovering or moving.

The objects were also seen by the driver, Mr. John Black, and 10 children in the bus.

\*   \*   \*

*Rene Couzinet*, the French aircraft designer, has designed and built a "flying saucer." The machine, which is called an *Aerodyne*, looks like two giant soup plates, one reversed on top of the other.

Three 135-h.p. motors revolve the two discs in opposite directions to lift the aircraft off the ground. A fourth motor, a small turbo-jet slung beneath the centre section, provides the propulsive power.

\*   \*   \*

Early in August Mrs. W. Ward spotted an object from her bedroom window at Clapton, South London. It was high in the sky when she first saw it and appeared pear shaped. "It kept fading and then coming very bright again and moved from side to side," she said. "It glowed bright orange." She added: "I watched it for some time and eventually it faded out."

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(Continued from page 17)

appearing in retrospect as being as much out of date as the bow-and-arrow became when the rifle arrived.

No one can predict in detail what the new scientific, industrial, or political set-ups would be, except that (either on the hypothesis of friendliness or hostility from our invaders) they would have to be planetary in scope.

We cannot exclude the possibility, however, that having taken a good look at us with our social, religious, personal, political and international conflicts, our visitors might conclude that human beings were too incorrigible to do any good with, and return at great speed to where they came from!

# MAIL BAG

Sir,

The rival claims of the Misses Sweden, Germany and England to the title of Miss Universe reported in the national press with pictorial gusto has an oddly pre-Copernican ring.

Isn't it presumptuous in these days of interplanetary travel and flying saucers to award a title even as minor as Miss Solar System in the absence of contestants from the other planets—particularly Venus? As for Miss Universe, if we don't look out we'll soon find ourselves the laughing stock of the galactic system. Surely you can bring your influence to bear and bring us down to Miss Earth.

J. BARNES,  
Framlington.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

Your magazine is creating very favourable comment here. Personally I am more than willing to say that it is by far the highest type of publication in the field, and lends timely dignity to a phase of research which can well use a little dignity and balance.

M. K. JESSUP,  
New York.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

After reading the interesting and challenging article "Towards New Conceptions of the Cosmos" by Arthur Constance in the July-August issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, I submit some notions which I believe at least parallel his viewpoint.

Physical science is committed to description of the Cosmos in terms of the fundamental elementary human concepts of space of three arbitrarily chosen independent directions, time and inertia. Phenomena are manifestations of energy transformations, and energy is a concept derived from fundamental elementary concepts. To limit the concept of ultimate reality to those inborn human concepts is a type of provincialism in thinking. It may be as difficult for the human consciousness to advance to a more profound view of the world and life as it would be for a worm, insect or any lower animal to advance to modes of behaviour distinctly human.

There may be such a thing as open-mindedness or flexibility of attitude which allows for progress in comprehension of reality. This open-mindedness need not and should not confine itself to the rigid limitations of the scientific approach. It should be willing to permit the unconventional and the unfamiliar manifestations of nature filter through the channels of mind and thereby possibly awaken the human consciousness to new paths of progress leading to higher spheres of experience.

As human beings we are but one form of life endowed with limited avenues of comprehension. Is there any reason to believe that our present avenues of contact with the Cosmos are adequate to comprehend it in its

entirety? We are confined, we are imprisoned, by our inherited attitudes. Let us endeavour to look beyond, and, by virtue of our willingness to look, it may be that we will eventually learn to see more clearly and perchance to advance to a higher plane of existence.

Charles A. Maney,  
Ohio, U.S.A.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

Several of those writing about the ships visiting us from outer space have expressed regret, even disgust, because the name "Flying Saucers" was given to them—and stuck. I did not feel this way. I was glad they were called flying saucers because they looked like them, before the Pro's had time to come up with something like—say "Geriatrics" or "Siblings" which ordinary people could not by any chance connect with the subject referred to. As it is, the subject really belongs to all of us. My first thought was—how delightful to have this wholesome idea! A saucer is associated with a teacup, with porridge and ice cream, apple sauce and many other nice things.

Later it occurred to me that the "flying saucer" is the direct descendant of the "flying carpet" of the Arabian Nights. It seemed that this wholesome term would in itself help to ward off panic. It is difficult to take seriously the idea of a flying saucer manned by guns. Let them make all the jokes they like. More recently, when I saw the word "saucers" I noted that we had here a much higher turn of the spiral—the sorcerers (wizards and witches) of ancient times—the "saucers" of the modern day. I am glad to be a saucerer and associated with saucers no matter how saucy and highly-seasoned they may be.

This most transcendent subject has brought us the first great extra-planetary expansion in human consciousness which is represented by a concrete, directed object that can be seen by our eyes in our earth atmosphere and is more invocative of inextinguishable spirit of adventure than anything else in modern thinking. It intrigues me that attached to it there is a picture of this homey thing, known in everyday life of practically every human being on the planet. I do not think the name would have caught on so quickly or stuck so firmly had it not been right. And I hope those who have regretted the choice will come to feel much better about it.

Harriet Richards,  
New York.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

You are to be congratulated on the excellent publication you are putting out. I have enjoyed reading it immensely and can hardly wait for the next issue to arrive.

JOHN McCOY,  
Corpus Christi, Texas.

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Published every other month by Flying Saucer Service Ltd., 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, England.

The Annual Subscription includes the use of the magazine's Research Service.  
Price in U.K. and Eire £1 1s. 0d. Other countries :

Argentina, 50 Pesos  
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