

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My name is Jeanne O'Neil and you probably remember me well. I was very glad that Mr. Barker published my story about you (in the October 1962 issue of the "Saucerian") I was in serious need of financial help at the time. Mr. Barker must be a very egotistical man, because he edited my story almost beyond recognition.

I thought his insinuation that I am your wife was very amusing, and it was so far-fetched that even my husband laughed.

In mid-September, my husband and I were driving to a friend's house in Ohio, and we decided to visit Mr. Barker in Clarksburg....After meeting him, I must say that despite his appealing manner, I feel that you are a more honest researcher and a much better writer. At least you are not commercial. I think Mr. Barker thinks he can buy or sell anything. Personally, I prefer facts to fiction.

By the way, I never sent Barker my picture.

My good wishes to you and your wife.

JEANNE O'NEIL
New York, N.Y.

Regarding NICAP, I agree that this organization does not live up to what we have been led to expect of it. Rumor has it that NICAP has no filing system whatsoever, but merely places their reports, correspondence, etc., in cardboard boxes. Whether this is true or not, I do not know...However, from personal experience I do know that NICAP cannot be trusted with information supplied by other UFO groups. In October, Richard Hall wrote me asking if I would send him information on three saucers that had landed in Florida towards the end of July. He stated that he wanted any original clippings, letters, or other sources from which I had learned of the sighting, which he said was very important to him. He promised that these items (which happened to be two letters) would all be returned in a short period of time along with NICAP's complete investigation. Well, I have waited and waited, and still have no reply to my last two or three letters. Just what is NICAP trying to pull?

TIMOTHY GREEN BECKLEY
Interplanetary News Service
3 Courtland St., New Brunswick, N. J.

The position that you have taken concerning the mystery of unidentified flying objects is both ludicrous and outrageous. Your defense of the official Air Force position on UFO's is inexcusable....

It is a fact that a great mass of truly inexplicable reports has been officially listed as "explained" or as "insufficient data" by the Air Force, in complete and total disregard of the facts. And it naturally follows that the touted figure of 2% "unknowns" is wholly false. The Air Force's contention that their investigation is "scientific and unbiased" is sheer nonsense. This is part of their anti-UFO propaganda. Their "fact sheets" and interviews with individuals are some of the methods by which they disseminate this phony propaganda. Yet you apparently have fallen for it, hook, line and sinker....

Your attacks on NICAP and Major Keyhoe are also preposterous. They, unlike you and SAUCER NEWS, are fully cognizant of the whole situation and act accordingly.

In short, you just constitute one more stumbling block, making the road to truth a difficult one.

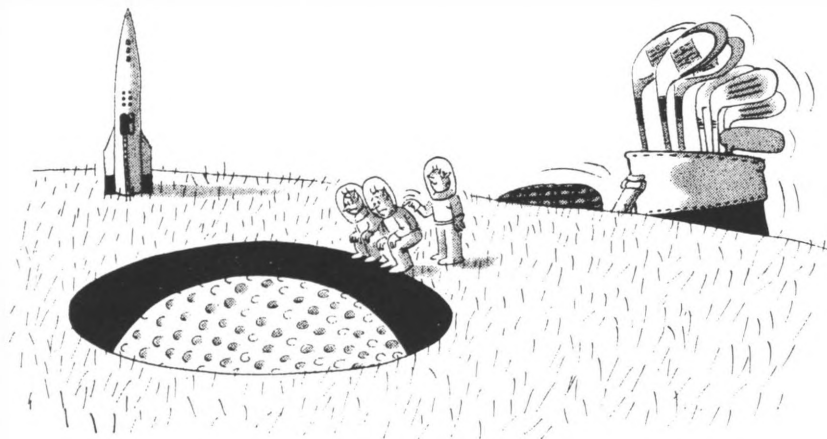
HERBERT TAYLOR, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ever since the beginning, NICAP has taken an extreme position, in not even giving the so-called contactees the right to be heard....I think that your publication is right in opposing Major Keyhoe's extreme position, and in presenting the Air Force's side of the picture....One can believe in the reality of flying saucers without having to endorse the policies of the "UFO Investigator." Keep up the good work. I'll be looking forward to your next issue....

IRVING SANFORD
Los Angeles, California

There has been a delay in the publication of my forthcoming book, "The Second Coming of Christ and Flying Saucers!" I had plans to have it printed instead of mimeographed. I took it to a printer and he obtained legal advice that didn't recommend its publication. I was told by the attorney that the book was too harshly critical of the U. S. Government, particularly the FBI, and that this might bring legal trouble; and that other parts of the manuscript are so controversial that they might cause libel suits. He felt that you might sue me. I tried others, but after reading the manuscript, they would not print it.

This meant I had to send out notices to purchasers of the book that I would have to put out a mimeographed edition, and this would not come out before March. "Flying Saucer Review" turned down my ad, but so far, other magazines plan to publish it in January and February. All will be given a



chance to order it, and all orders will be shipped the same day. The book will mean my arrest and so I plan to release all copies in one day. If I were to fill orders as they came in, then someone on the list might be a secret Government agent, or would turn it over to the authorities as a book that threatens the national security of the U.S.; and the rest of the cop-

ies would be confiscated. This is based on the advice of the attorney who read the manuscript. After getting that advice, I am keeping the contents of the book secret until its release in March. Thus, the Government has no idea just what I intend to release, until too late! After the orders are shipped in that one mailing, they can come and arrest me for all I care. My life's mission for Jesus Christ will have been fulfilled, and my goal accomplished. The truth, even if it should violate man-made law, will be sent out to seekers of truth.So I risk personal ruin to get this thing out; but one must make sacrifices in the name of Christ if one is worthy to enter the kingdom of Heaven. In the eyes of the Government, the book will be considered dangerous, but in the eyes of God, it will be considered Truth.

RICHARD OGDEN
P.O. Box 9005, Seattle, Washington

(Editor's Note: We will be looking forward to Mr. Ogden's book with interest and avid curiosity, though from the tone of this and other letters he has sent us on the subject, we doubt if it will ever be published.)

BOOK REVIEWS

- by James W. Moseley -

FLYING SAUCERS AND THE THREE MEN - by Albert K. Bender (Saucerian Books;\$3.95)

Here at last, after nearly ten years of waiting, Albert K. Bender tells "all" regarding the sudden closing down in 1953 of his International Flying Saucer Bureau. As might be expected, the book is published by Gray Barker, the very same researcher who, in 1956, wrote "They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers," a book which was based mainly on the Bender mystery and other similar "hush-ups." Throughout the years, Barker has done more than anyone else to keep the Bender mystery alive; and already, - overwhelmed by the financial success of "Flying Saucers and the Three Men," he has thrown together another volume entitled "The Bender Mystery Confirmed," which we will review in our next issue.

"Flying Saucers and the Three Men" begins with a rather routine but interesting account of the day-by-day operations of the International Flying Saucer Bureau, an organization established in 1952 by Bender and a few associates living in Bridgeport, Connecticut. This club, which was one of the earliest to conduct a serious saucer investigation, published a nicely-printed quarterly called "Space Review." The club and the magazine apparently flourished until the last issue (October, 1953), which carried strangely-worded announcements concerning the sudden and unexpected closing down of the I.F.S.B. (See "The Al Bender Story," February-March, 1956, SAUCER NEWS.)

In his book, Bender now tells us what was supposedly going on behind the scenes. The first weird event occurred on July 30th, 1952, only a few months after the I.F.S.B. was started, and more than a year before its closing. Says Bender, "I received a strange phone call while alone in my den....No voice answered when I spoke, but nevertheless I seemed to receive a message, as if telepathically. The message decreed that I should not delve into the saucer mystery any further..." Then, not long afterwards, Bender was walking home alone from a local movie when he developed a terrible headache suddenly, together with the sensation that his feet were being lifted off the ground, and the telepathic feeling that someone or something wanted him to give up saucer research. Later that night he saw a strange bluish glow in his room, and the odor of burning sulphur was noted. Barker has apparently seen to it that almost every chapter contains at least one weird experience. The third such event is in Chapter Four, where Bender (or Barker?) informs us that a strange person with glowing eyes annoyed the I.F.S.B. Director in a Bridgeport movie house (where a science-fiction picture was being shown!), and afterwards followed him as he walked home.

Other odd events plagued Bender, but things did not really get out of hand until March, 1953, when a plan was made whereby I.F.S.B. members all over the world would simultaneously try to contact saucers telepathically. While alone in his room doing this, Bender had what must be called an involuntary astral projection, in that he felt himself floating above his bed and transported to "a floating piece of ice in the Antarctic Ocean!" Once again a voice warned him to stop prying into the mysteries of the universe. The smell of sulphur lingered in Bender's room for two days thereafter. In July, the famous Three Men in Black made the first of several appearances. They floated about a foot off the floor of his room, and gave him a long telepathic message. They also gave him a small piece of metal, by means of which he could contact them again, simply by turning on his radio and holding the metal tightly in his palm while repeating the word KAZIK (pronounced "Kaik," as the "z" is silent, for some reason.) Two days later Bender tried this, and was

taken astrally to Antarctica, where the saucer people allegedly have their secret base. It was explained to Bender that our sea water contains a valuable chemical which is "vital to the existence" of these space people, so that they have found it necessary to construct a complex base and set up a long-drawn-out operation beneath the ice of our south polar region.

Bender was also told that, on their home planet, these people have three sexes - male, female, and "bisexual entities." These latter individuals are the "exalted ones" who become rulers. All people are born from eggs, which are stored away and hatched only when someone dies, so that the population remains constant. Sex seems to play an important part in this book, because, on a subsequent visit to Antarctica, Bender had an experience which he describes as follows: "Three beautiful women, dressed in tight white uniforms, emerged and approached me....I wondered what they were going to do, but I felt more at ease with them than with the other visitors. Frankly, to me they were physically attractive, even though they had the same glowing eyes which stared directly at me and seemed to pervade my entire person. As they approached, the pain increased above my eyes to an appalling point....but then my body suddenly became rigid and I could not move a single muscle...They touched me, though gently, and began stroking my body. As they did so, my body relaxed, though I still could not move....I became frightened (but)...my fright changed to embarrassment as I felt their hands beginning to remove my clothing. I objected to this, but could do nothing to stop them, for I was stiff as a board. With great efficiency they removed every stitch of my clothing, leaving me naked as the day I was born.....(They) returned with a metal vial containing a liquid which they poured over my body. Then the three massaged the liquid into my skin. As they did so my body became warm as if heat were being applied. They massaged every part of my body without exception..... (Italics ours.) (WOW! Kazik! Kazik!!)

By this time, Bender had already decided to throw in the towel on the I.F.S.B., as he now knew the solution to the saucer mystery, and this had been his purpose in forming the organization. His problem, however, was that not even the other Bridgeport members would believe him; so he stopped trying to tell them of his weird experiences, and decided to say nothing about them in the last issue of "Space Review." Also, the space people warned Bender against telling others. In late 1960, however, they completed their sea-water mission in Antarctica, and departed our planet, supposedly forever (though if this is true, it is hard to understand why saucers are still being seen as frequently as ever these days.) Thereafter, Bender was free at last to tell his story, without any fear of harm either from the Three Men or the Three Women; and thus his long-awaited volume was finally published in 1962.

We have omitted from this summary the greater part of Bender's astral adventures in Antarctica, because our main purpose in this review is to get to the central issue: Were these experiences objectively real? Were they "psychic" in nature? Were they the product of an unbalanced mind? Is the book merely a poor attempt at science-fiction and money making? Or is Bender covering up some less fantastic real experience, such as a "hush-up" by U. S. Government agents? Frankly, we have given this matter a great deal of thought and are unable to come up with any definite answer except that, in our opinion, the first possibility can be completely eliminated; i.e., the story is not true in any purely objective sense. All we can tell you is the following: Al Bender is an extremely likable fellow. He appeared on Long John's radio program last September 1st with your Editor and others, and told his story in a coherent and interesting manner. The following night he was guest of honor at a party in your Editor's apartment (See photo at bottom of next page, where he is shown, seated, together with Mary Robinson, wife of our new Assistant Edi-

tor, and Hans Santessen, Director of the New York Saucer Information Bureau.) Al Bender was also kind enough to come all the way down from Bridgeport on December 14th to speak to an open meeting of the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society; and again he told his story well. In brief, we believe that if there is a villain in this drama, it is Barker rather than Bender. To Al Bender we will give the benefit of the doubt, and credit for having written a book which, if nothing else, is a highly entertaining one, and in its own way a "classic" in the field of UFO literature.

FLYING SAUCERS AND SPACE MEN - by John H. Manas (Pythagorean Society, N.Y.C.)

This book, which we advertised in our September 1962 issue, is one of the most unusual yet published on the subject of flying saucers. The author uses after his name the titles Ph.D., N. D., Psy.D., Ms.D., D.T.D., B.Sc., D.Hum., and M.H. Without pretending to know what all these letters stand for, we can nevertheless observe that if "Ph.D." means a recognized, genuine degree of Doctor of Philosophy, then the other titles seem quite unnecessary.

"Flying Saucers and Space Men" is divided roughly into two parts. In the first, Dr. Manas is intent upon disproving the existence of physical spaceships from other planets. He almost completely ignores the hundreds of authentic close sightings, and proceeds to "prove" his case by quoting from whatever references fit best into his pre-conceived notion. His method seems to be one of destroying the weakest existing evidence for interplanetary UFO's, and ignoring all the remaining evidence. George Adamski is easily disposed of, mainly by quoting from our own SAUCER NEWS expose. He also makes quick work of Buck Nelson and George King, whom few people believe anyhow. He quotes at length from Air Force fact sheets, science-fiction movies, and from scientists whose views suit his purpose; but his scientific passages (though obviously copied or paraphrased from other sources) are filled with blunders and errors of various sorts, which are not worth the trouble of correcting here. As an example of Dr. Manas's ignorance or deliberate distortion of evi-

dence, we should mention that Dr. Clyde W. Tombaugh, one of the allegedly anti-saucer scientists quoted in the book, personally made one of the most important UFO sightings on record. This sighting, which Dr. Tombaugh made public several years ago, was written up in Life Magazine and in many saucer books. Yet, Dr. Manas seems to be blissfully unaware of it, and quotes Tombaugh only in regard to another topic. Further along, Manas discusses the famous 1897 airship scare, in which an unidentified object was seen in places as widely separated as New York, Chicago, and California. The good Doctor dismisses the incident on the strength of a short item that appeared in a New York newspaper at the time, in which the UFO was "identified" as a balloon sent up by two men living in Omaha, Nebraska!

Certainly, there is no proof yet available regarding the existence of interplanetary saucers, and Dr. Manas could be forgiven if, as a skeptic who has not



bothered to examine all the facts, he were to unmercifully beat down all evidence that does not suit his fancy. But alas, Dr. Manas is anything but a skeptic; He believes in reincarnation, astral planes of various sorts, spirits, telepathy, mediumship, astral projection, and a host of other assorted doctrines, which he expounds mainly in the second half of his book. Several diagrams, which purport to show the physical, etheric, astral, mental and spiritual planes of the Earth, are complete gibberish to our metaphysically untrained mind. Dr. Manas, who is Greek, pretends to be a philosopher in the tradition of the ancient Greeks. Whereas the ancient Greeks can be excused for their many errors, - not having modern scientific method to guide them, - Dr. Manas can hardly be excused for agreeing with modern science only when it suits him!



Worst of all, Dr. Manas does believe in life on other planets and in communication between the planets by various mystical non-physical means. His main argument appears to be with those who believe that saucers are physical 3-D interplanetary spaceships. Were he to apply the same rigorous criticisms to his own beliefs as he does to those whom he does not agree with, he would find himself much more hard-pressed than they in regard to demonstrable proof of any kind. But when it comes to metaphysical doctrines, Manas does not need proof. He states blandly, "The interplanetary space which fills our solar system....is a mysterious something, a spiritualized substance, which is permeated with the consciousness of the Creator of our solar system and the various Cosmic forces which work in and through this mysterious 'something,' this spiritualized substance, the interplanetary ether.....However, let it be known that each planet has its own invisible government with no interference from any other planetary government. The Exalted Planetary Intelligences in charge supervise the evolution of all beings living on our planet Earth according to certain immutable laws, which no mortal can violate because he cannot change them...." If any of our readers fully understand the above statements, they should let us know at once!

To top it all off, Dr. Manas does not even believe that mankind will ever get further out into space than the various nearby astral planes shown on his charts. Says he, "In spite of the optimism of our scientists that within a few years manned spaceships will go to the Moon and to our nearest planets, Venus and Mars, we are of the opinion that man will never be able to send out a ship to navigate the mysterious interplanetary space, of which modern science admits that it knows nothing, and reach our Moon and our nearest planets. Approximately above 400 miles in space the main region of the astral plane or zone begins. This astral region is formed of a very fine space substance and it vibrates at a high rate unknown to our scientists. (How does HE know? - Editor.) It is permeated with solar invisible radiations which are undetectable by any of our instruments. These high radiations will permeate the etheric and physical bodies of the crew and decompose their body's cells

and molecules, which will be fatal to them...."

Well, they laughed at Edison, they laughed at the Wright Brothers, and they laughed at Manas. We'll string along with modern science to the extent of believing that mankind will somehow lick the Etheric Barrier just as it did the sound barrier, the heat barrier, etc. In the meanwhile, if you'd like a saucer book which is novel, interesting, and reasonably well-written, buy "Flying Saucers and Space Men!" But if you feel that you're confused enough already by the saucer mystery, and you don't want to deliberately add further to your confusion, then avoid this book like the plague.

THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT (Henry Holt and Company; Published in 1941; \$6.00)
- Reviewed by Justin Case -

Charles Fort was born in Albany, New York, in 1874. He says that he studied all the arts and sciences for eight years, but he does not say how or where he did this, or if any university recognized his scholastic efforts. For 26 years he collected data from magazines, newspapers, books and other sources on all sorts of strange phenomena, like black or red rain, frogs and fishes falling from the sky, unidentified flying objects, lights in the sea, strange footprints, etc. These he compiled into four books. Fort died in 1932, a year after his admirers founded the Fortean Society in his honor. In 1941 this group combined his four books into one volume, with an introduction by Tiffany Thayer, Secretary of the Society (who has since died.) It is this volume that is under review here.

The book is a gold mine of information for all who are interested in unusual phenomena that cannot be explained by our present state of knowledge. It contains a large number of reports by competent observers who had favorable conditions of observation. But it also contains many reports from newspapers and other unreliable sources. Fort makes no distinction between the good reports and the poor ones. A great many of his items are very short, with no indication of where they come from or how reliable they are. Fort's collection of this unusual data is the largest and best of its kind in the world, and is very interesting. By reading this book we can now see that several flying saucer writers have included Fort's material in their own books without acknowledgment to him.

Unfortunately, most of this book is froth. Fort spends most of his time in "removing the halo from the head of Science." This is a halo that no reputable scientist ever claimed was there. Fort seeks to destroy the faith of the scientists (and the public) in their own work. He denounces the scientists because they ignore his data on strange events. He ridicules their explanations when they do recognize it. To Fort, any scientific explanation is obviously wrong, and any crackpot explanation is probably right. His own explanations often fall into the latter category. Thayer says that Fort's explanations are made with tongue in cheek. If so, this is evident to Thayer alone. Some of Fort's writing sounds like free verse. It is not intelligible and seems to have little connection with the subject.

If all this froth were omitted the book would be reduced from 1125 pages to about 250, and it would be greatly improved thereby. However, because Fort's followers venerate him more for his froth than for his facts, it is worth further discussion:

The Forteans say they have no faith in scientists and their work. The Forteans don't know it, but they express great faith in scientists every time they eat food, drink water, wear clothes, enter buildings, travel by auto, train or plane, communicate by mail or phone, listen to radio or watch television, ride in elevators or cross bridges. For scientists, together with

engineers, have helped bestow all these gifts on them. The Forteans don't have to accept or use these gifts. They can reject them and go back to the stone age. But so far, they have not rushed to do this. Thus, the Forteans do not practice what they preach.

A man saw a boy drowning in the water. He jumped in and saved the boy's life. That night, the boy's father came to the man. "Are you the person who pulled my son out of the water?" asked the father. "Yes," replied the man. "Well," demanded the father, accusingly, "Where's his hat?"

Fort and his followers exhibit somewhat the same ingratitude and distorted sense of values as the father in this story. They are not grateful to the scientists for electricity that has made their lives easier in countless ways. Instead, they accuse the scientists of not knowing what electricity is. Thayer calls this courageous thinking.

Thayer's introduction unwittingly reveals that Fort follows one of the ignoble principles of human behavior. That is - "If you can't push yourself up to the people above you, then pull them down to below your own level." Fort spends most of his time trying to lift himself up by pulling scientists down.

Fort says he studied all the arts and sciences for eight years, but there is no evidence that he ever did any scientific work himself. He proves once more that the most severe critics of the constructive work of others are those who never did any constructive work themselves. There is little that is constructive in Fort's book except his collection of data.

Yet, while Fort is wrong about the mountain, he is right about the molehill. There are indeed some scientists who are so sure of the absolute truth of their knowledge that they refuse to consider anything not in accord with it. But they are a very small minority.

Why is there so much faith in scientists? Scientists differ from many other people. They are intellectually honest. They get the facts first, and form their conclusions afterwards. They do not let their emotions guide their judgment. They make claims only when they can prove them, first to their associates, to give them a chance to question and criticize, and then when that is settled, to the public. The public has learned to have faith in scientists for that reason. What other groups have earned such public trust?

Science has never worn a halo of infallibility as the Forteans claim. Scientific research is long and laborious, and too often ends in failure. The failures make scientists realize how difficult it is to find truth. The successes reveal more problems than they solve. The more scientists learn, the more there is to learn. The greater the scientist, the more readily he will admit how little he really knows. Yet the Forteans consider themselves courageous thinkers when they jeer at the scientists who cannot explain red or black rain or frogs and fishes falling from the sky.

There have been times in the past when scientists have gone off on the wrong track. Undoubtedly mistakes will be made in the future. Scientific progress has never been along a direct, one-way street. There have been detours and back-tracking. But the progress continues. Eventually a logical explanation will be found, if one exists, for each strange phenomenon that actually takes place. The desire to know, which motivates scientists, will bring this about without any jeering from the Fortean Society.

Thayer says that Fort's book is one of the ten greatest and most important books in the history of mankind. To him, Fort is a "Savior of human mentality," and Thayer is his St. Paul. To carry this analogy further, the Fortean Society even counts time from the year of the founding of the Society instead of from the year of the birth of Christ. But Fort's own words and those of Thayer reveal Fort as only an idol of clay.

A NEW INQUIRY INTO THE FLYING SAUCER MYSTERY - (Part Two)
- by Thomas M. Comella -

This article is the sequel to the one I wrote for the December 1962 issue of SAUCER NEWS, in which I described the many facets of the saucer problem as they appear today. My conclusion was that a re-appraisal of the saucer mystery is long overdue, and is posited by the seldom-admitted fact that sixteen years of endeavor have produced no concrete results, - this despite the apparently extensive and concentrated saucer activity during that period. The present article is the beginning of such a re-appraisal in that it introduces an entirely new prospective to the saucer problem.

It was logical that investigators should attack each UFO sighting or contact claim on an individual basis and that an attempt to determine the validity of these cases should have been made. But it is only in retrospect that we can perceive the assumptions which were inherent in our method. The present crisis in saucer research requires that we uncover these assumptions in an effort to determine whether or not they have outlived their worth. They are not hard to find, as they form the foundation of almost every saucer theory. The three principal assumptions are: (1) The saucer phenomenon is physical in nature. (2) It exhibits intelligence. (3) It comprises a pattern of penetration by some sort of revolutionary craft capable of space flight.

At one time it would have been easy to "prove" that the phenomena themselves exhibited these characteristics. But the incredible elusiveness of such "physical ships," together with the increasing awareness of how one's selection of "good cases" pre-determines his conclusion, has made this "proof" highly suspect. We are therefore forced to admit the possibility that the three fundamental characteristics as outlined above are not inherent in the saucers themselves, but represent a priori constructs of our own minds; i.e., they are unconscious mental frameworks which we have imposed upon the phenomena in an effort to make them understandable to us. When one considers all the sightings except those few which are highly suspect on objective grounds, and when one subtracts from them all projective phraseology such as "disk-shaped craft," "intelligently controlled machine," etc., - one is forced to the realization that the saucers are not solely physical; that they are not intelligent by our standards of intelligence, nor have they really been shown to be vehicles of any sort.

In other words, the order and reasonableness we saw in the saucer phenomena were invented by our a priori assumptions and our selection of cases for study. In a new effort to make method out of the saucer "madness," we must conceive of the problem in a radically different perspective. We must see the many obviously related but contradictory experiences as the diverse expressions of a single underlying reality, as though the various saucer incidents represent subjective encounters with an objective quantity. This would explain why such occurrences seem to take on the psychology of the individual involved; why a spaceman who lands in France speaks French; why a scientifically minded person encounters an ingeniously-constructed flying machine; and why a preacher is overcome by the religious implications of his "sighting!" Confronted with an incredibly alien reality, the individual unconsciously invents a mental framework in terms of the contents of his own psyche, in an attempt to fathom and express that reality within his human modes of understanding. Because of this psychological "projection mechanism," strange experiences such as those which permeate the saucer mystery cannot be taken literally, as they are only symbolic of the truth, alluding to it through an individualized expression of some independent reality.

These considerations, as well as the various "visions," "voices,"

and other incredible occurrences, force us to re-define the nature of the saucer phenomena. That there is a physical aspect to these phenomena is evident. But it is equally evident that there is a psychic component which thereby forces the reality behind the saucers beyond the confines of our three-dimensional world. It would indeed be convenient to exclude this psychic component, but to do so is to give in to a prevalent and unjustifiable prejudice. For the plain fact is that there are many apparently sincere people who have had rather incredible saucer experiences. Sincerity is not restricted to airline pilots and astronomers. That the latter have not reported such fantastic encounters is not to say that such encounters have never occurred, or that those which have been revealed are obvious hoaxes, or that they are representative of deluded minds.

Indeed, the opposite might be the case. For it may be that the very nature of the highly-trained mind (being thoroughly regimented and orientated within a narrow confine) precludes those aspects of the saucers which do not fit in with its dominate thought patterns. If this is true, then it is understandable that a man highly respected because of some specialized technical training may observe the physical component of the saucer phenomenon without ever becoming conscious of encountering the psychic aspect of it. Those who do choose to ignore this psychic aspect of the saucer mystery are like the three blind men who, upon meeting an elephant along the path, described it in terms of the respective parts they experienced. The first blind man said it was a snake (the trunk), the second maintained it was a tree stump (the leg), and the other insisted that it was a hanging rope (the tail) which blocked the path. Each of the blind men used his reason, but by ignoring the experiences of each other, their faultless logic led them to completely false and divergent conclusions. It is the same with the saucer phenomenon. To deal exclusively with only one aspect of it is to attempt to explain the whole in terms of one of its parts.

One of the objections that will be made regarding my formulation of the saucer mystery comes from the idea that persons who have psychic encounters or other equally strange experiences are "sick" to begin with, and should be sent to a psychiatrist rather than be investigated by a ufologist. Only an undisciplined mind could make such an objection, for who can say beforehand that incredible experiences are synonymous with delusions or hallucinations? Are all minority experiences symptomatic of sick minds? Beyond this, however, the hypothetical objector assumes that psychology and psychiatry have explained every psychic phenomenon once and for all, - an assumption which betrays a complete lack of understanding concerning scientific theory and methodology. Experience is our most direct encounter with reality. A theory may make a certain set of experiences explainable to us or enable us to predict the behavior of same with reasonable accuracy.



"Not Loch Ness again this summer!"

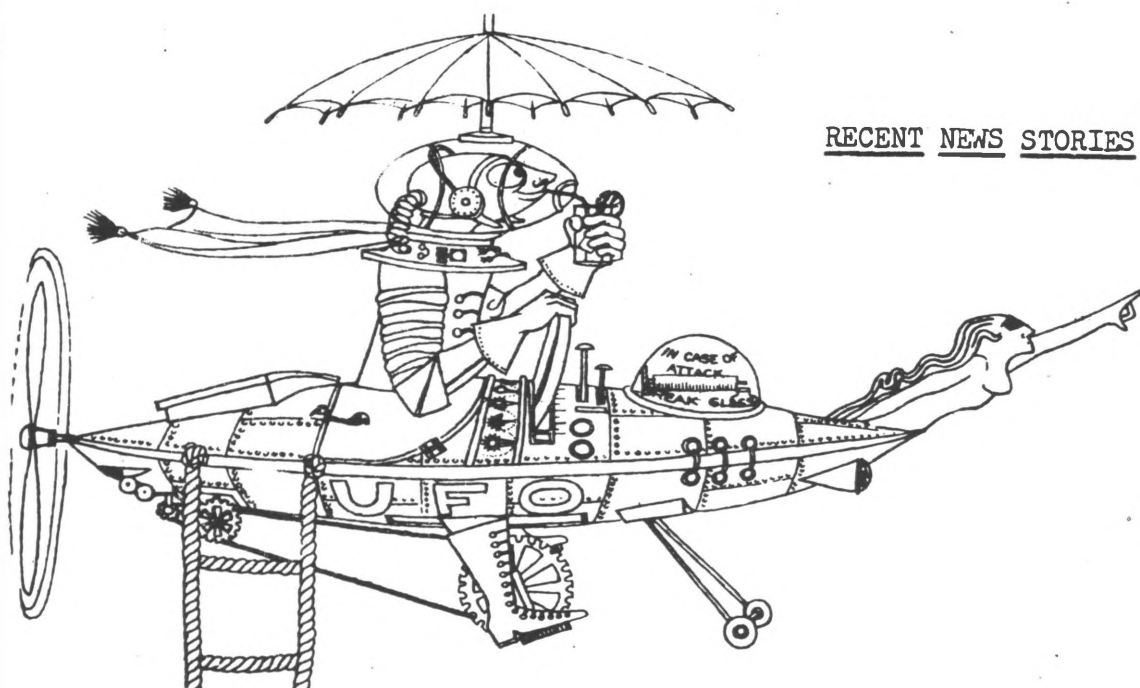
cy, but we should never confuse these invented frameworks with the experiences themselves. For all theories are necessarily incomplete, being abstractions based on the analysis of only those qualities and quantities which can be dealt with experimentally and mathematically. Basically, then, science seeks to understand something by excluding those aspects of it which do not avail themselves to scientific study. The lesson to be learned in all of this is that the saucer phenomena have a reality independent of our analyses of them. And the fact that saucers exhibit a psychic component cannot be rationalized away.

This is not an endorsement of the contact claims or of any specific type of Fortean phenomena as they are reported, but only a recognition of the fact that these types of occurrences are as much a part of the saucer mystery as are the conventional sightings of unidentified flying objects. Some contact claims are obvious frauds. But because Case "A" is a fake does not determine anything about Case "B." Although it is true that no contactee can prove his claim, it is equally true that no witness to an "intelligently controlled machine" can prove his story. The conservative and the radical are equally helpless on this score. In view of this, contact claims and Fortean incidents should be evaluated in a new light. We must strive to uncover the liar, but at the same time we must entertain the possibility that the particular contactee has told the truth as he knows it, and has been unable to differentiate between his unconsciously invented framework of expression and the objective reality which underlies it. We must also be alert to the possibility that certain people have encountered something very weird and have knowingly created a more conventional story for fear of ridicule if they told the truth.

One of the most important conclusions of my analysis is that we can expect no conventional solution to the saucer mystery. Those who are waiting for a physical saucer to land or for its occupants to contact the governments of the world will be sorely disappointed. This kind of once-and-for-all physical event cannot occur with the kind of reality involved, precisely because that reality transcends our physical world. Furthermore, the prevalent "human space man" is most probably an unconscious vehicle of expression which attempts to crystalize within human understanding a reality which essentially eludes it. If this is true, then encounters with such "supermen" need not all be hoaxes or actual meetings with extraterrestrials, but are the human experiences of something which is, itself, not human.

If this re-appraisal of the saucer problem seems "fantastic" or "unusual," it is because an attempt has been made to formulate all of the facts for the first time. What is revealed when all the facts are assembled is not a pattern of intelligently directed spaceships from other worlds, but a picture of an incredibly alien, almost ungraspable reality which men experience psychically as well as physically. Nor will putting our "space visitors" in some sort of "fourth dimension" solve the riddle. For the reality behind the saucers is not so "conventional." Indeed, any attempt to "visualize" it in human terms would be, at most, only symbolic of the truth. If this predicament is an affront to our reason, then so be it! It is better that we suffer a little hurt pride than to invent an escape from our dilemma which lacks the integrity demanded by an honest investigation.

It is as though the saucer mystery not only entails a phenomenal manifestation into our physical world, but an intervention upon our consciousness as well. Indeed, it is a legitimate question whether the so-called saucers have only recently appeared, or if we have only recently become conscious of what was always there. We are faced with a phenomenon the nature of which is very probably beyond the human order of things. While we saucer investigators thought we were explaining it, we were actually participating in it!



"LITTLE MEN" SIGHTED IN ITALY: A policeman in Milan, Italy, claims to have seen a saucer with two humanoids inside it, just before he went off duty on the night of December 20th. The policeman, named Francesco Rizzi, made the following statement: "I was in a patio when I heard a sharp whistling near me. It came from a flying saucer which had an aluminum-colored appearance. I saw two strange-looking creatures inside it. They were not more than three feet tall, and were dressed in luminous clothing, with strange black helmets on their heads. One of them came out of the saucer and gestured to his companion, who appeared in the hatchway. The first creature looked at me for a moment and then got back into the saucer, which then took off vertically."

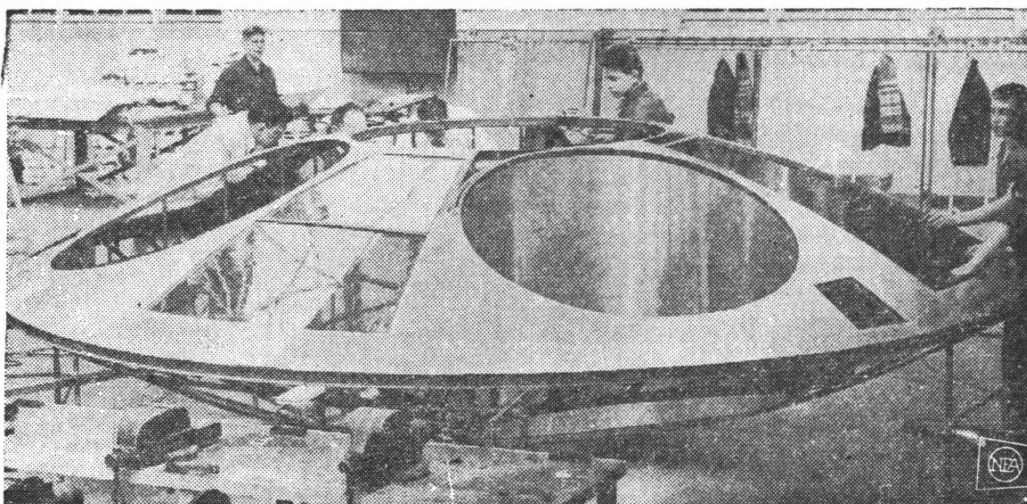
BIG SAUCER "FLAP" CONTINUES IN ARGENTINA: The sensational South American "flap" described in our December issue is still continuing in Argentina, according to the latest Spanish-language articles we have received from our clipping service.

Of the sightings pertaining to the month of December, the most interesting occurred at an airport near Buenos Aires on the 22nd of that month. At 3 a.m. a Panagra airliner approaching the International Airport of Ezeiza radioed the control tower to ask about a strange light near the runway. At almost exactly the same time, the UFO was noticed by the pilot of another plane that was about to take off. The control tower operator, named Horacio Alora, also saw the object, and described it as being "the color of fire, and of great brightness." It rose to about 10 yards above the ground, hovered there for a few seconds, and finally took off at great speed toward the northeast. The sighting was confirmed by a second control tower operator named Mario Pezzuto.

NEWS BRIEFS: On December 19th a mystery object, which exploded into a dark red ball of fire, landed in 40 feet of mud and water near a gravel pit in the vicinity of Seattle, Washington. A welder at the gravel pit reported the sighting to state police, and stated: "I saw all those sparks flying and the only thing I could think of was that a car was in trouble. Then it exploded into a big ball of fire and the area was covered with thick smoke." The

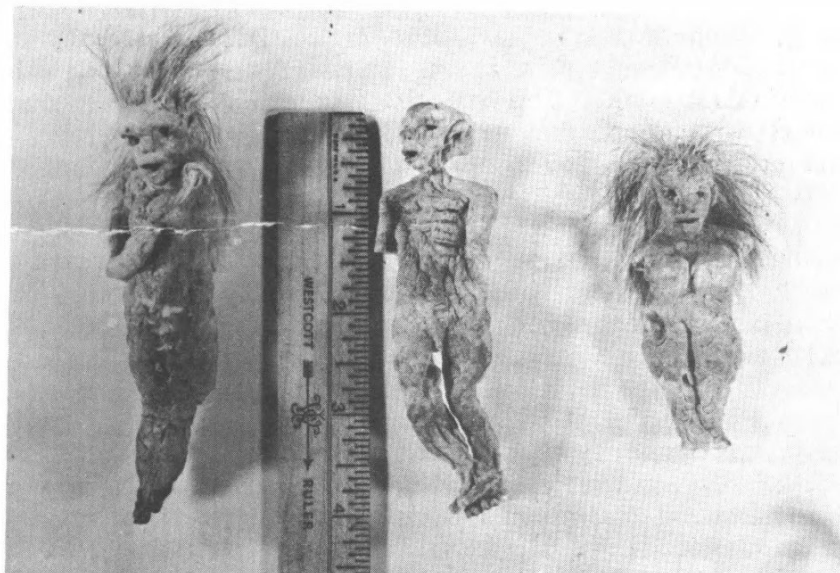
police said that they found a perfectly round hole, 15 feet in diameter, in the mud where the object landed.....This is hardly current news, but we wonder how many of our readers are aware of the fact that Jonathan Swift, in his fictional book "Gulliver's Travels," accurately describes the two satellites of Mars. This is rather startling in view of the fact that Swift's book was published in 1735, and the satellites were not "officially" discovered until 1877. We quote from Page 162 of the Doubleday Dolphin edition of "Gulliver's Travels": "....They have likewise discovered two lesser Stars, or Satellites, which revolve about Mars; whereof the innermost is distant from the Center of the primary Planet exactly three of his Diameters, and the outermost five; the former revolves in the Space of ten Hours, and the latter in Twenty-one and an Half; so that the Squares of their periodical Times, are very near in the same Proportion with the Cubes of their Distance from the Center of Mars; which evidently shows them to be governed by the same Law of Gravitation that influences the other heavenly Bodies!" We are told that Swift's information is very nearly correct, according to the latest scientific figures, and would be interested in hearing from any of our readers who know exactly what the current figures are.....

A flying saucer three times the apparent size of the full moon was seen moving very rapidly across the sky on the night of November 2nd by three whites and numerous African natives in northern Kenya, Africa. The local meteorological service was unable to give any explanation....Dr. Ralph Lapp, a nuclear physicist, stated recently that the state of North Carolina had a close call in 1960 from a jettisoned nuclear bomb that packed a potential wallop of twenty-four million tons of TNT. When Air Force experts rushed to the North Carolina farm to examine the weapon after its fall from a B52 bomber, they found that five of the six safety devices had been set off by the fall. Only a single switch prevented the bomb from going off! The Defense Department refused comment on this.....On the night of December 2nd, a mysterious flaming object fell from the skies onto the roof of a home in Riverside, California, touching off a small fire. Its descent was observed by a local couple who drove to the house and alerted the occupant. After the fire was put out, the object looked like a chunk of clear plastic. It was about the size of a basketball. The nature of the material was not identified.....According to a strange story in the December 31st issue of the Port Chester, N. Y. "Item," a Greenwich, Conn., man named John Hart claims to have seen flying saucers at close range during several expeditions to a remote mountain area in southern Mexico. - The first time



FLYING SAUCER — Technicians in Geel, Belgium, work on frame of the flying saucer invented by Alphonse De Joncker. Powered by two Porsche airplane engines, the aluminum saucer is expected to reach a speed of 180 miles an hour when it takes to the air.

was in 1946, when Mr. Hart made his first trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, in search of Mayan ruins. The saucers apparently have a base in the mountains near the ruins, and are seen so often by the natives that they have grown used to the presence of these weird objects. Hart's best sighting was on a very recent expedition, when he saw a brightly-lit spherical object hovering a few feet from the ground at the far edge of a small jungle clearing.



It left the area at great speed soon thereafter. Hart Says (quite reasonably) that the easiest way to prove his stories would be to fly over the area with a helicopter....

On November 1st, a close sighting was made in daylight in Woburn, Massachusetts, by a carpenter named Charles Kirk. He estimated that the UFO was 40 feet long, 30 feet wide and 15 feet in height. It was a golden orange in color, was flat on the bottom, and had a black band near its lower edge. It also had a projection or periscope hanging about 10 feet down from its bottom. Kirk described the object as looking like a streamlined egg cut through the middle. A civil defense official found a slightly abnormal amount of background radiation at the sighting site....The photo above shows strange figures which were supposedly found close to some meteorites on the Nevada desert about five years ago. They were sent to the Department of Anthropology at the University of Utah. The University's conclusion was that the figures are fakes, made out of plastic. However, the man who brought them in (who happens to be owner of a plastic firm), insisted they are real. (Photo courtesy of Interplanetary News Service, 3 Courtland St., New Brunswick, N. J.)....

An item dated December 5th informs us that a 400-pound glass fiber object, equipped with radios and cameras, has been recovered from a wooded area in the province of New Brunswick, Canada. The unmarked device, with a rotting parachute attached to it, was found by a lumberman in the Canadian Forest Reserve. It was estimated that the object had been lying in the woods for at least two years.....Another monster has been sighted off the west coast of Canada. On December 27th, Mrs. Robert Guy and Mrs. K. B. Holland of New Westminster, British Columbia, reported having seen a serpent-like creature near Nanaimo, B. C. They described it as having a head like a camel. It was "roughly the size of a horse," and dark brown in color. The mouth appeared to have "the exaggerated lips one sees in a minstrel show." A large hump came out of the water and followed behind the creature's head and neck. It appeared to swim with an undulating motion, giving the impression of a long body following behind the head.....On January 18th our New York Headquarters was the scene of the first 1963 open meeting of the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society, of which your Editor is President. The meeting featured a short treatise on astronomy, read by Mary Robinson, Secretary of the Committee, and a discussion of recent saucer sightings by John J. Robinson, the Committee's Chairman.

THE FOLLOWING BACK ISSUES OF SAUCER NEWS ARE STILL AVAILABLE: #1; 2; 3; 8 through 11; 13; 17 through 28; 30 through 47; 49; and 50. All are 3 for \$1.00 except #1 and #27 (the Special Adamski Expose Issue), which sell for one dollar each. The Special Adamski Expose Issue, published in 1957, is now becoming scarce, and we have only a few copies left in our files. Anyone who has not yet ordered a copy should do so as soon as possible.

SUBSCRIBERS LIVING IN THE NEW YORK AREA, and who are interested in attending meetings of our Discussion and Lecture Committee, should write directly to John J. Robinson, 209 New York Ave., Jersey City, N.J. They will then be placed on the Lecture Committee mailing list, and will be informed of each meeting a few days in advance.

ARE YOU ON OUR SPECIAL NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST? Since December, 1955, irregularly-issued Confidential Newsletters have been made available to SAUCER NEWS subscribers who want to be on the inside of the strange and baffling behind-the-scenes events in saucer research. Any SAUCER NEWS subscriber in good standing can be placed on the special Newsletter mailing list for an indefinite period of time, for the price of only one dollar. These Newsletters usually contain material that we consider "too hot to handle" in the regularly scheduled issues of our magazine.

It is not possible for us to know in advance when a "hot" story will come our way; and although no Newsletters have been published during the past several months, your dollar will entitle you to receive the three most recent ones immediately by first-class mail.

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