

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Vol. VI, No. 5

April - May 1979

## TENNESSEE, FLORIDA, CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS REPORT ENCOUNTERS

A multitude of UFO reports from around the world continue to pour into UFOR. The job of sorting the wheat from the chaff has become a significant and time-consuming task. UFOR will continue to bring its readers these reports. Following are three significant incidents from the first of the year.

Metro Policemen Mike Leech and James Evans observed a UFO "three football fields in length" over Nashville, Tenn., at about 11 p.m., January 15.

"It was huge and just hovering at treetop level -- about 75 feet off the ground," Leech remarked in the *Nashville Banner*, January 16, 1979. "It... made... just a low humming noise.... There were two long parts joined together in the middle. It had shortish wings coming out of the sides of the longer parts."

Evans added there were "fins" protruding from the back of the metallic object. Leech admitted that he shook from fright during the incident.

It was around 1:30 a.m., January 2. Joe Guerrero was sitting in his pickup truck in Ona, Fla., when he heard a "rushing of air," stated the Wauchula, Fla., *Herald Advocate*, January 4, 1979. Then he saw a UFO "about the size of a large jumbo jet." (See sketch, left).

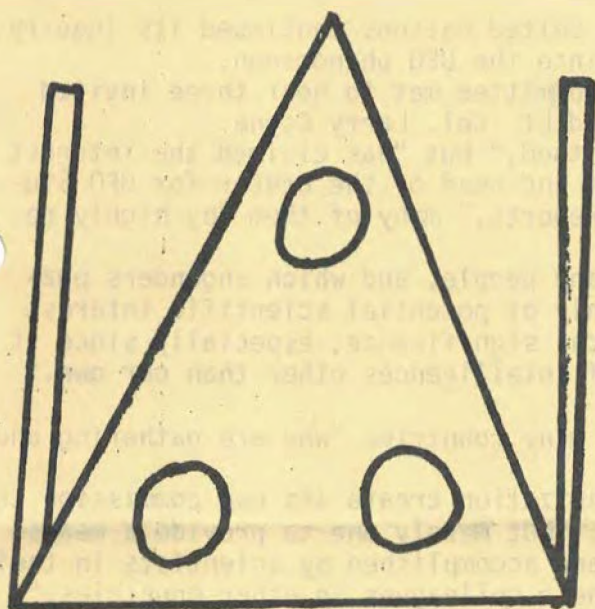
On the pointed end of the object was a large hole. There were two holes at the other end. A red blinking light shown from each hole. Antenna-like "structures about the size of telephone poles, which looked as if they were made of aluminum, were sticking out of either side of it."

Guerrero scrambled out of his truck to alert his wife and friends, but the UFO sped straight up and disappeared.

About 7:15 p.m., January 13, Ron Perry and two friends were driving in Antioch, Calif., when they observed a yellow light with a "rectangular object" in the center. At the same time, "the numbers on a digital clock in his friend's car began mysteriously turning wildly" while the object hovered over nearby homes. The light erratically moved across the sky for about 15 minutes.

"It started off very slowly and then took off at a very fast speed," Perry remarked in the January 16, 1979, edition of the *Antioch Ledger*.

Perry added his friend's car would not function for approximately an hour after the sighting.



UFO Sketch, Ona, Fla., January 2, 1979

(Courtesy: Herald Advocate)

## FRENCH RELEASE UFO STUDY; MAKES CONDON REPORT SEEM "VERY POOR"

A French government study of 11 detailed UFO sighting reports between 1966 and 1978 concludes that UFOs are real and comprise objects "whose modes of sustenance and propulsion are beyond our knowledge."

*UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. VI, No. 5. Published monthly or bi-monthly by UFO Research Associates (UFOR), 3122 N. Beachwood Dr., Los Angeles, Calif. 90068.  
 Editor: Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.  
 Business Manager: Marty D. Lore  
 Subscription rates (12 issues):  
 \$7.00 (U.S., Canada and Mexico);  
 \$8.00 (foreign, surface rate);  
 \$11.00 (foreign, air mail). Single copies: \$.60 (U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$.80 (foreign).

Of the 11 cases studied by scientists of varying disciplines, only one could be explained. The others "were material phenomenon that could not be explained as natural events or known devices."

The work was done by the Groupe d'Etudes Des Phenomenes Aerospatiaux Non-Identifiees (G.E.P.A.), the official UFO study group of the French government.

"In many cases, the investigations were textbook models of how such research should be carried out," stated a top scientist who wrote a summary of the 500-page report.

The scientist added the report was of "extremely high quality" and made the University of Colo-

rado UFO Project, led by the late Dr. Edward U. Condon, and its report released in 1969 seem "very poor" by comparison.

A French scientific board endorsed the report's conclusions. The board was comprised of such renowned institutions as the National Meteorology Administration, Lyon Astronomical Observatory, Paris University's Social Psychology Center, Astrophysical Laboratories and Geodynamic Research Center, the Polytechnic School's Theoretical Physics Laboratory, and Clermont-Ferrand University's Physical Meteorological Laboratory.

#### UNITED NATIONS CONTINUES UFO REACH

In late November and early December, the august United Nations continued its inquiry, initiated by Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy, into the UFO phenomenon.

On November 27, 1978, the UN Special Political Committee met to hear three invited speakers: Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Dr. Jacques Vallee, and Lt. Col. Larry Coyne.

Hynek said the UFO phenomenon "is not yet understood," but "has claimed the interest and attention of millions of people." The astronomer and head of the Center for UFO Studies added there are "many tens of thousands of UFO reports," many of them "by highly responsible persons."

"Any phenomenon which touches the lives of so many people, and which engenders puzzlement and even fear among them, is therefore not only of potential scientific interest and significance but also of sociological and political significance, especially since it carries with it many implications of the existence of intelligences other than our own," he remarked.

Hynek stated there are numerous scientists from many countries "who are gathering and analyzing" relevant UFO data.

"I am not... asking that the United Nations organization create its own commission to conduct researches into the UFO field," Hynek stated, "but merely one to provide a means whereby work and investigations already carried out and accomplished by scientists in their own countries can be expeditiously disseminated to their colleagues in other countries."

Vallee, astrophysicist, computer expert, and UFO author, said that, although "the UFO phenomenon is real..., I have so far failed to discover any evidence that it represented the arrival of visitors from outer space." The phenomenon, he believes, has three aspects: (1) "a physical manifestation that can and should be investigated through already-available scientific equipment"; (2) psycho-physiological; and (3) the generation of a "social belief system." He concluded "it is our choice to treat" UFOs "as a threat or as an opportunity for human knowledge."

Coyne described his classic sighting while piloting a U.S. Army helicopter over Mansfield, Ohio, on October 18, 1973.

"As a result of my experience, I am convinced this object was real and that these types of incidents should require a thorough investigation," he said. "It is my own personal opinion that worldwide procedures need to be established to effectively study this phenomena through an international cooperative effort."

Astronaut Gordon Cooper was also a scheduled speaker, but was unable to attend. He did, however, submit a statement.

"I believes that these extraterrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets...", he wrote. "We need to have a top level coordinated program to scientifically collect and analyze data from all over the earth concerning any type of encounter, and to determine how best to interface with these visitors in a friendly fashion.... It would seem that the United Nations has a vested interest in handling this subject properly and expeditiously."

On December 8, 1978, the committee met to resume consideration of establishing a UN agency or department to coordinate and disseminate UFO research data. A resolution, drafted by Grenada, would recommend that the world body "initiate, conduct and coordinate research into the nature and origin of unidentified flying objects and related phenomena."

Writing in the October-November, 1978, edition of *International UFO Reporter*, Hynek said he believes it will take constant prodding for the UN to really take concrete action. The delegates who attended the November 27 presentations, he said, "are reluctant to become involved in the UFO subject," but a decision may be made in about two months.

"The critical deadline is this coming June, when reports from member countries are due in the offices of the Outer Space Affairs Division," he wrote. "If the consensus of these reports is that the UFO phenomenon is of significant interest and potential value to the peoples of the world, then the United Nations will be obligated to take positive action."

#### PRELUDE TO A FLAP: 1978 SIGHTING REPORTS INCREASE

A UFO that lifted a car and carried it for seven kilometers; an object that executed 90-degree turns over an airport; another that nearly collided with a fishing boat; UFOs that may have caused the deaths of animals; objects that caused physiological and electromagnetic (E-M) effects, animal reactions, and left behind physical evidence; another that turned upside down; a UFO that landed; objects that circled a truck and paced a car; another that emitted a smaller object; a UFO that emitted a light beam; objects that illuminated a road, a field, and an automobile; another that was photographed; a UFO as "big as a house"; objects that emitted sounds and an odor; others that frightened witnesses; and possible occupants were characteristics of sighting reports from at least six states and four foreign countries during the period August-December, 1978. Witnesses included pilots, a meteorologist, a control tower operator, and police.

Residents in Great Britain observed the UFOs.

At 9:15 p.m., October 7, Martin Batley was driving between Finedon and Wellingborough when he saw a mysterious object.

"It was delta shaped -- like a 'V'," he stated in the October 10, 1978, edition of the Northamptonshire *Evening Telegraph*. "It was enormous and had two huge white searchlights at the front with a green light behind."

Batley and several motorists behind him got out of their automobiles for a clearer view.

"One woman was really panicking, and I was terrified," Batley continued. "The object was making a thin whining noise. It was stationary for about five minutes and then zoomed off."

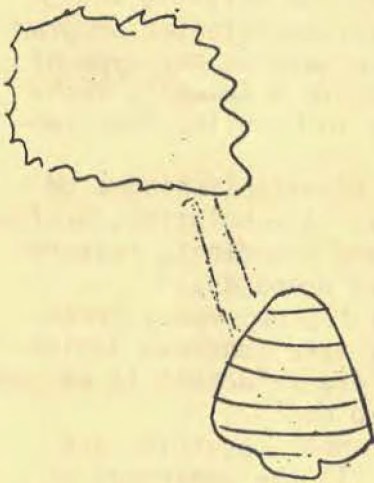
Meanwhile, Caroline Muncy and Mandy Dooley were walking home from a disco in Wellingborough when they spotted bright lights that vanished a few minutes later.

"We started talking about something else, then Mandy looked behind and started running," Caroline explained. "I looked back and saw the lights bathing the road, and ran. I tripped and fell. It was right behind me, gliding over the bridge. It was getting so near. I knocked on somebody's door, and the UFO turned away up into the sky.... I was terrified and crying. I came out in rash all over my hands and arms."

Caroline said the object "turned upside down, with the dome facing towards the ground, and the lights went out."

Less than two months later -- early on the morning of December 1 -- Sharon Badcock was drying her hair in her home in Urmston when she saw a brilliant light moving across the sky.

"Suddenly another object came out of the bottom of it and descended," she related in the Manchester, England, *Evening News*, December 1, 1978. "It was shaped like an ice cream cone, with the point upwards and appeared to be circled with what looked like big tires."



UFO Sketch by Sharon  
and Allan Badcock,  
Urmston, England,  
December 1, 1978.

(Courtesy: Evening  
News)

At dawn, Cesare and Martin inspected the area, "where we found dead goats and also birds and birds of prey, and saw that the earth had risen a few centimeters and formed big circles."

Three weeks later -- at 11:30 p.m., September 20 -- Juan Marchisio was driving between Santa Isabel and Maria Teresa, Santa Fe Province, when he observed a "reddish sphere" that seemed to be on or near the ground about 200 meters away. Approaching cautiously, the witness saw "a dark green object" behind the sphere.

Suddenly, there was an "explosion," and everything inside the car -- the dashboard, gauges, steering wheel, etc. -- appeared to grow larger and brighter. Marchisio felt drowsy, and there was pressure at the back of his neck and in his chest. Then the automobile was lifted from the road and quickly carried for seven kilometers.

The surrounding road and field were brightly illuminated. The badly shaken witness was taken to a hospital. His sight was affected, and there was "some temporary mental confusion."

(Sources: Rosario, Santa Fe Province, *Tribuna*, November 2, 1978; and *Cronica*, November 4, 1978).

At about 9:30 p.m., October 13, a UFO flew over Benjamin Matienzo Airport, Tucuman Province, the Buenos Aires *La Razon*, October 14, 1978, reported. Meteorologist Juan Carlos Teseira saw it and alerted Juan Bautista Villafane, the control tower operator, and Ernesto Rafael Mena, flight scheduler. A pilot, Abel Novillo, and Police Officer Juan Carlos Torres also observed it.

The UFO flew over a runway, then executed two quick 90-degree turns, headed south and disappeared.

Fausto Julca Aguirre and a friend were fishing off the coast of Peru early on the morning of November 4 when they observed a brilliant blue light "the size of a tank."

"It had a plastic or glass globe on its upper part, and inside we could see several black shapes that moved," Aguirre related in the *Cronica*, November 4, 1978.

The UFO headed straight for the boat, and Aguirre quickly maneuvered to avoid a collision. Emitting a buzz sound, the UFO passed only a few meters from the boat and disappeared inland.

For two hours -- 8:15-10:15 p.m., October 21 -- six saucers were seen "shooting back and forth" between Oshawa and Oakville, Ontario, Canada, by Tom Grey, of the Northeastern UFO Organization, and Malcolm Williams. They were also seen in Toronto.

Then the "cone" projected a bright light beam to the larger object "and seconds later another was returned." (See sketch, left).

"I was scared stiff," Sharon admitted.

Sharon's husband, Allan, watched the phenomenon through binoculars.

"It looked about the size of a 10p piece and seemed to be made up of several lights," he remarked. "Later, it appeared to resemble a web and kept rotating."

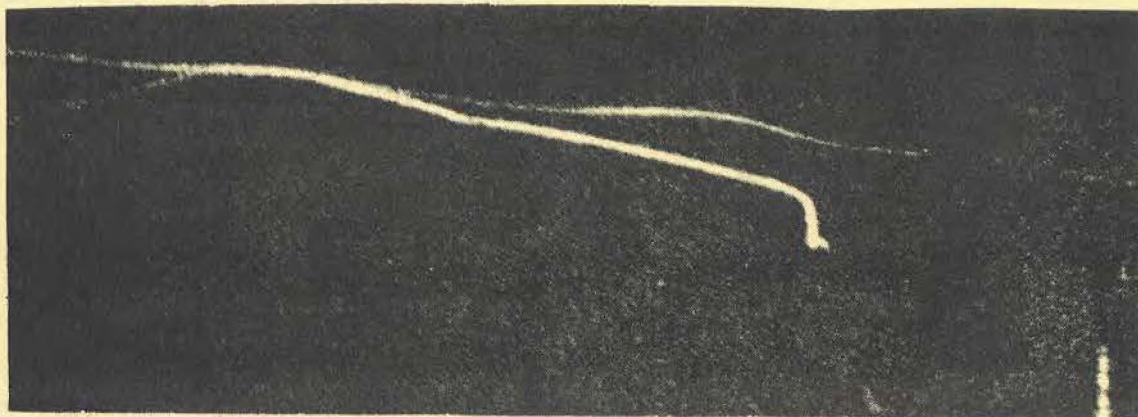
Badcock quickly phoned the police and searched for the UFO, which he said landed, but could not locate it because it had touched down on the other side of the River Mersey. Meanwhile, two policemen had arrived and were watching.

Witnesses in Argentina experienced strange effects from mysterious objects.

Nazareno de Cesare and Giglio Martin were riding in a truck between San Juan and San Luis Provinces at around 2 a.m., August 31. They observed a fleet of UFOs that circled the truck, discharging the battery and causing the engine to stop, stated the October 1, 1978, edition of the Buenos Aires, Argentina, *Cronica*.

The frightened men huddled in the cabin of the truck, then scrambled out and hid among some bushes. For four hours, they said, they watched the saucers perform erratic maneuvers.

The UFOs did "arrow acrobatics back and forth, up and down, popping up all over the sky," stated the *Oakville Journal Record*, October 25, 1978. Grey and Williams snapped eight 10-minute exposure photographs utilizing tri-x black and white film and a 135 mm lens. (See photo, below). The camera was set at F-2.8 at infinity.



UFO Photo by Tom Grey and Malcolm Williams, Lake Ontario, Canada, October 21, 1978.

(Courtesy: Oakville Journal Record)

At 1:30 a.m., October 10, Mrs. Kathy Moyer was letting her dog, Coco, out near Mahaffey, Pa., when she spotted a bright, oval UFO "as big as a picture window." The object shone a pulsating, blue light onto a hilltop.

"Coco was all right at first, but when the light came over the ridge, he started barking at it," the witness stated in the October 11, 1978, edition of the Clearfield, Pa., *Progress*.

Other dogs in the neighborhood also barked during the incident. Then the UFO changed direction and headed for Mrs. Moyer's house. She slammed the door and locked it. Coco was "frantically scratching at the door and whining."

Mrs. Moyer's husband, Craig, a part-time policeman, arrived home and saw three objects.

At 4 p.m., December 31, Mrs. Bobby Hines was awakened by the barking of dogs and the mooing of cows on her farm in Demopolis, Ala. Investigating, she saw a "very large and bright object hovering over the trees about 600 yards from the house."

"We were scared to death," Mrs. Hines remarked in the Demopolis *Times*, January 4, 1979. "We would not even turn on the lights for fear of letting it... see where the house was."

The triangular-shaped object was "about the size of a small house." It alternately dimmed and brightened, then headed for the house in a zig-zag pattern. It stopped over a small lake, then rose up and headed southeast.

Demopolis Policemen Wayne Mitchell and Mike Slocum also watched it. Other witnesses -- including a police radio operator, Fred Mayton, Troy Martin, Mike Oliver, and Douglas Wall -- also saw it.

Indiana residents were among the sighting witnesses.

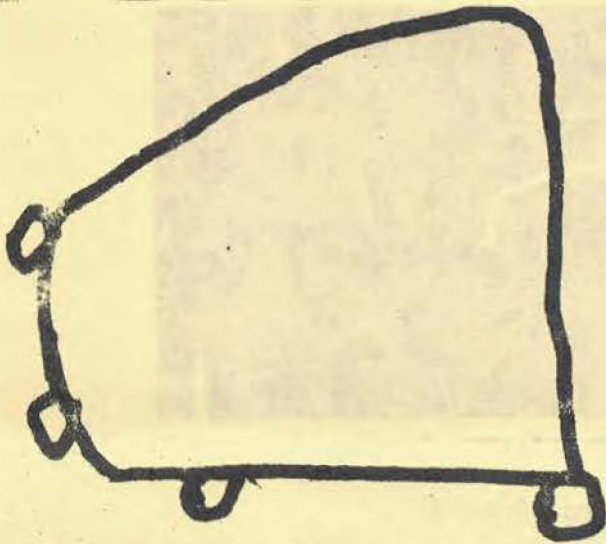
The trouble for Cathy Wilfong and Cindy Bridges, sisters, began at approximately 7 p.m., November 8, when "electricity went off" in Mrs. Wilfong's home near Greenfield. She reset the circuit breaker, but the lights went out again only minutes later. This occurred four or five times during the next half-hour.

Later, Mrs. Bridges went outside to collect some firewood, stated the November 15, 1978, edition of the Indianapolis, Ind., *News*. She observed "bright lights in a bean field near their barn." She yelled for her sister.

The UFO approached the frightened women, who retreated to the house. It circled the barn, then headed west. The object was about 140 feet long and was "like a saucer turned over, with lights on the corner and a circular feature in the center."

The object apparently left a 40-foot impression in the soybean field. The soybean stems were "intertwined and matted together."

Esther Drew, her daughter, Pam, George, Robin, and Bobby Nicholson, were driving near Abington on the evening of December 16 "when the car's motor kept stopping and coming on again." Then the vehicle stopped, and "its radio went dead."



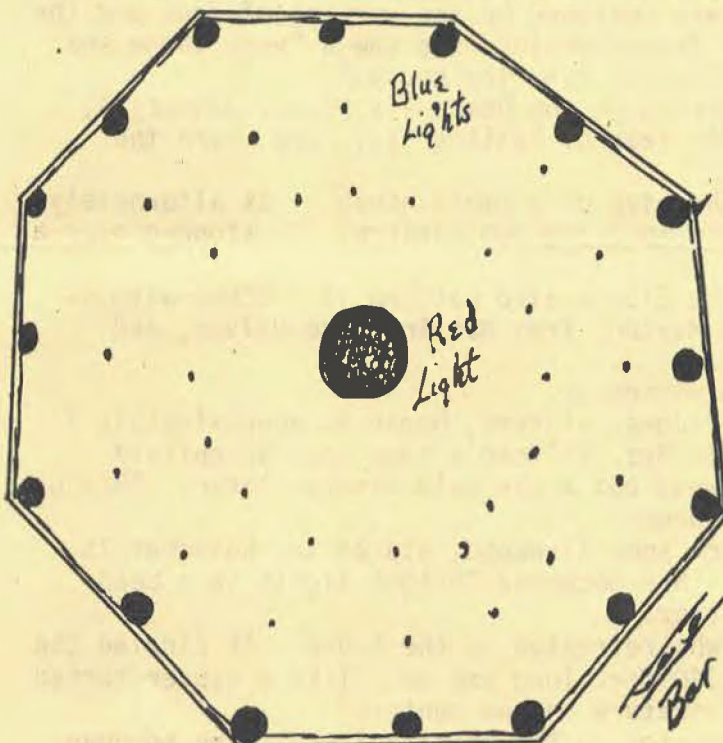
UFO Sketch by Pam Drew, Near Abington, Ind., December 16, 1978.

(Courtesy: Palladium-Item)

then orange-pink as it hovered." It was around 70 feet long. As it hovered, "the television was distorted, but did not go out completely."

The boys' dogs "became very excited and obviously scared." They ran, "yipping and crying," under a bed.

About five minutes later, the UFO "went straight up and disappeared." Jeff and Randy found the phone was working and called the sheriff's department.



UFO Sketch, Near Watford City, N.D., November 2, 1978.

(Courtesy: Farmer)

An "almost rectangular" UFO "with its front end slightly smaller than the back and its corners rounded" appeared with "two lights in front and two on the bottom." (See sketch, left). It flew slowly in front of the automobile, as if inspecting it. Then it moved to the left, flew over a corn field. It "took off with a whooshing sound."

The car's engine and radio started by themselves. Pam Drew said she "got hysterical" during the encounter, stated the January 7, 1979, edition of the Richmond, Ind., *Palladium-Item*.

Around 7:45 p.m., December 15, Randy Pion was watching television in his home at Duck Lake, Mich., when he heard "a loud noise outside." His brother, Jeff, was talking on the phone, which "suddenly went dead," according to the December 21, 1978, edition of the Allegan, Mich., *News and Gazette*.

Looking outside, they spotted a "triangle-shaped object" with "four white lights on the side that eventually turned orange and

then orange-pink as it hovered." It was around 70 feet long. As it hovered, "the television was distorted, but did not go out completely." Around 7 p.m., November 2, Mrs. Barb Johnsrud and her son, Kent, saw a UFO near Watford City, N.D. (Barb drew a sketch of the object, left).

"I saw a quite large light which appeared to be separated," Mrs. Johnsrud related in the *Watford City Farmer*, November 9, 1978. "It looked like an extra large star with a small divider which made it look like two lights beaming... Then, all of a sudden, that thing came down so quick it sounded like a storm coming. I was so scared I ran to the edge of the house... There it was going over us quite slowly -- I'd say about 25 m.p.h. and was only about 50-60 feet high. It was about 40 feet in diameter and looked like a huge stop sign with many, many blue lights and an extra red light in the middle. [There was] a metal bar which seemed to be full of holes or perforated. It took off... in a northeasterly direction."

A large disc "with glowing white lights" was seen over McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas, Nev., at about 5:30 a.m., December 16, stated the *Las Vegas Sun*, December 17, 1978. According

to reports, a commercial airliner pilot saw a "flash of light" streak past his plane and notified air traffic controllers.

Meanwhile, an unidentified couple saw the UFO "occasionally bank from side to side." It was covered "with a series of white lights."

### SOUTH CAROLINA MAN PARALYZED, ABDUCTED, EXAMINED, AND RELEASED



UFO Aliens Looked Like This, According to Abductee Bill Herrmann, Summerville, S.C.,

(Courtesy: Journal)

A man near Summerville, S.C., was apparently paralyzed by a UFO's light beam, abducted on board the craft by alien beings (see illustration, left), scrutinized, and released unharmed on the evening of March 18, 1978, stated the *Summerville Journal*, January 31, 1979.

It all started around 9:25 when Bill Herrmann spotted an orange-silver disc "with bell-shaped protrusions around the underside." He attempted to get a clearer view through his binoculars.

Suddenly, the UFO swooped down upon Herrmann and emitted "a beam of aquamarine light," which paralyzed him. He remembered nothing until, around midnight, he found himself standing in a plowed field near Summerville.

The Aerial Phenomena Research Organization investigated the incident and convinced the abductee to submit to hypnosis.

Under hypnosis, Herrmann apparently remembered being taken aboard the saucer. He saw "an examination table and a blinking 'X-ray' type of device."

According to Herrmann, the UFO's crew was comprised of several occupants 4.5 feet tall. They appeared to have marshmallow-type skin and "fetus-like" faces. The "aliens were also hairless and without pupils in their eyes."

After being released, Herrmann discovered he was standing in the middle of a glowing circle. Disoriented, he ran around for a few minutes, then "hysterically ran towards the road." A man and a woman stopped their car and rolled down a window, but refused to help. Finally, a policeman picked him up and telephoned his family.

### FAMED EDITOR, NORMAN COUSINS, JOINS UFO BELIEVERS

"Ever since speculation about UFOs began..., I have been a profound skeptic," wrote syndicated columnist Norman Cousins recently. "I believed the official explanations... But no more."

No small concession for someone of Cousins' stature. He is adjunct professor of the School of Medicine at the University of California at Los Angeles and advisory editor of *Man and Medicine*, published by the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University. Cousins is also chairman of the editorial board of *Saturday Review* and was editor of the magazine for about 35 years. He has been involved in many humanitarian projects, including negotiating for the release of cardinals imprisoned behind the Iron Curtain and playing a lead role in breaking the nuclear test ban negotiations impasse. He has represented the U.S. at numerous international conferences and was chairman of the Pulitzer Prize literature jury. Cousins is the author and editor of 14 books and is currently exploring laughter as a form of therapy.

Cousins said the recent UFO reports from around the world "are much too authoritative, much too detailed, much too consistent to minimize or ignore."

"In view of the accumulating and overwhelming evidence, it is no longer possible to believe the official U.S. reports," he stated. "It is inconceivable that the U.S. investigators have not known what the photographs have clearly revealed. Namely, that these objects are not the products of a delusion but are real, have a certain shape and possess specific flying characteristics."

Though Cousins believes the extraterrestrial (ET) explanation is less likely than a terrestrial one, he thinks the U.S. "has no justification for making it appear that the sighting reports are mainly the aberrations of feverish minds." If UFOs are ET, he proffered, "the human race might have reason to forget its terrestrial antagonisms and close its ranks against an agency from outer space."

"Military security is one thing," Cousins concluded. "Deliberate concealment is something else. The American people have a right to all available information -- and it appears likely that this is not what they have been getting."

#### HISTORICAL REPORTS ADD PERSPECTIVE

While the vast majority of reliable UFO reports date from the beginning of the so-called "modern era" -- when Kenneth Arnold sighted nine discs over Mt. Rainier, Wash., on June 24, 1947 -- there are a number of documented incidents from the 19th Century. Following are a few of these reports.

According to a contemporary article in the Wilmington, Del., *Tribune*, residents of that city saw an object at 9:45 p.m., July 20, 1860. Witnesses said "the whole city was pervaded by a pale blue light." Then a strange object about 200 feet long flew overhead from west to east at "not more than 100 feet above the houses." In front of the object was a black, cloud-like formation.

The UFO moved in a straight line at first. Then it turned to the southeast and began "giving off sparkles." It passed over the Delaware River, where it turned east and disappeared after about a minute.

Lyman Clarke King, a storekeeper\* in Rockville, Conn., made the following entry in his diary for the evening of February 19, 1865: "I noticed what appeared to be a solid column of fire... that reached from the ground straight up to the sky... in the southwest." The object was "very bright" and was "about a foot in diameter at the base and tapering to a point at top."

About half-an-hour later, the UFO dimmed "from the top down till it disappeared." The object "was clearly and distinctly reflected by the water of the pond and appeared like a very bright log in the water."

Twenty-eight years later -- at 10 p.m., February 24, 1893 -- the British ship, H.M.S. *Caroline*, was sailing south of Quelpart Island, south of the Korean peninsula, when its captain and crew spotted "some unusual lights" between the ship and Mount Auckland.

"To the naked eye, they appeared sometimes as a mass; at others, spread out in an irregular line; and being globular in form, they resembled Chinese lanterns festooned between the masts of a lofty vessel," Capt. Charles H. Norcock reported in the May 25, 1893, edition of *Nature* magazine. "They bore north (magnetic), and remained on that bearing until lost sight of about midnight.... The background of high land... dispels all idea of these extraordinary lights being due to a distant volcano. The uniformity of their bearing renders the theory of their being fires on shore most improbable."

In a 1952 letter to a defunct UFO organization, Edwin Blue stated that, as a boy in Grand Forks, N.D., in 1895, he observed 8-10 bright lights, "all the same distance apart, flying in formation." They were traveling from the southeast to the northwest. He watched them with a friend for only 2-3 seconds.

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We regret that plans for a new monthly newsletter, *Other*, have not materialized, due to a number of factors, including the paper strike. We will continue publishing *UFO Research Newsletter* on a regular basis.

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The next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. VI, No. 6, will be ready for mailing on or about June 15, 1979.

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Please send us your change of address.