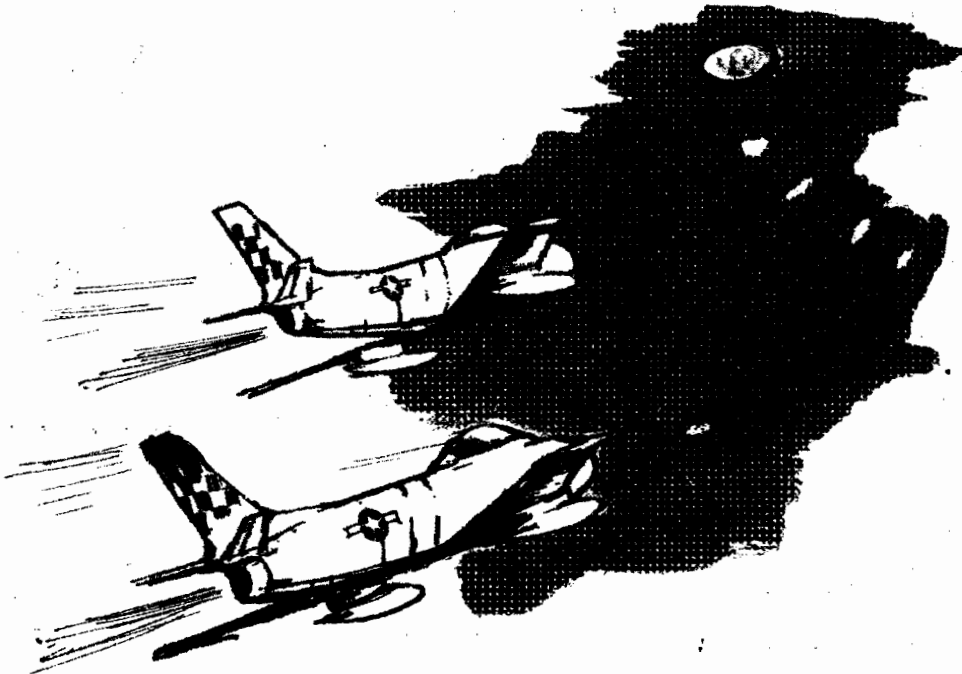


LUFORO BULLETIN



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VOL. III No. 1

JAN. - FEB. 1962

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LONDON MEETINGS: See page 22 for details of future programme & 17 MARCH.

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L U F O R O B U L L E T I N

VOL.III No.1 JAN-FEB. 1962

(Issued 12th March)

Editor: G.N.P. Stephenson

12, Dorset Road, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, England.

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Features expected to appear in future issues of LUFORO BULLETIN:

Selected reports from overseas;
Fireballs - and what are they?;
Report on unidentified missile recovered from Reading;
Defence implications of Unidentified Flying Objects;
Official policy;
Latest news reports;
Letters to the Editor (PLEASE WRITE!);
Periodical progress report on research;
Review of "Flying Saucers and the Three Men," in which
Albert K. Bender explains his long awaited solution to the saucer mystery!

EDITORIAL

Do you believe in Flying Saucers?

This question is usually posed when one begins a discussion on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects, and it underlies a fundamental misconception that one must be either a "believer" or a total sceptic.

It is possible for one to be both believer and sceptic at the same time, and this is the soundest course for the UFO researcher to take! One would need an extremely high degree of naïve self-deception to believe that every report of an unidentified object in the sky relates to an object of unknown nature and origin. On the other hand, it would require an unwarranted degree of scepticism, after a genuine study of the UFO problem, to dismiss as deception every report of an airborne object whose description does not correspond to any known object or phenomenon.

Opinions vary, however, as to what percentage of reports do in fact relate to "unknowns." It is fair to say that the figures given by the majority of sane UFO researchers vary from 5% to 30% "unknown" out of a representative cross-section of reports. The percentage will probably be smaller if one takes into account every report of the same object, as one bright meteor may bring in hundreds of reports from widely separated witnesses.

What we are really concerned with, of course, are not percentages, but the actual numbers of reports considered to relate to "unknowns," and percentages are only used in this context as a convenient way of comparing the opinions of different researchers as to the numbers of reports relating to "unknowns." A fall in the percentage figure for "unknowns" from one year to the next, does not necessarily mean a reduction in the real number of "unknowns" per year, for example. 30% of 200 reports is 60, while 10% of 1,400 reports is 140.

Technically, the term "Unidentified Flying Object" (UFO) itself implies an unknown object, and we have only referred to UFOs above as "unknowns" to avoid confusion. "Flying Saucer" is the popular name.

Let us now consider how one decides whether or not a particular report relates to an unknown phenomenon. The investigator might attempt to answer the following questions.

1. Does the witness's description correspond to any known object or phenomenon?

The investigator needs a wide general knowledge to be able to answer this question adequately.

2. If the basic features reported correspond to those of some known object or phenomenon, but some details do not, can the discrepancies reasonably be accounted for by:

(a) witness's unfamiliarity with the object or phenomenon;

(b) shortness of duration of observation;

(c) unusual conditions of light;

(d) bad sight or other perception disabilities;

(e) average imperfect perception or imagination;

(f) emotional state of witness at time;

or (g) distortion in memory?

This question cannot easily be answered without considerable experience in UFO investigation.

3. Were there any unusual atmospheric or artificial conditions that could reasonably account for the observation?

4. Has, or had, the witness any psychological instability or peculiarity that could cause an hallucination or delusion (arising in the mind either at the time reported or at a later date) which would adequately account for the inexplicable features of the report?

5. Has the witness any motive for perpetrating a hoax or purposely exaggerating, and could this adequately account for the inexplicable features of the report? - If we answer "NO" to all five questions,

we may justifiably say that a "UFO" was seen.

While attempting to answer the above questions, the investigator will be building up as accurate a picture as possible of what in fact was seen, the object's dimensions, proportions, surface features, colour, behaviour and so on. The reliability of the investigator's result can be tested to a certain extent in the case where a photograph or film was taken by the witness and developed and produced after the investigator has completed his or her report, or by comparing the results of different investigators who have each interviewed a different witness to the same sighting.

Unfortunately it is not possible for us to carry out such a thorough investigation except in a small minority of cases. To make judgement on a report without strict investigation involving critical interview with the witness or witnesses, the researcher can only give an

opinion based upon his knowledge and experience. It is possible to test the reliability of the researcher's judgements, theoretically at least, by selecting, in a proper statistical manner, samples of reports upon which he has made judgement, investigating them thoroughly and observing whether the additional information obtained tends to confirm or to deny the researcher's original judgements. In many cases where an investigation has not been carried out, it will only be possible to suggest the degree of probability of the report relating to a UFO or not.

Having selected the more reliable reports, we must compare and analyse them in search for any significant common factors or pattern. However, it is possible to detect, among these UFO reports, patterns which have no useful significance at all, and it is necessary to refer to an analysis of reports of "knowns" which act as our "control." The following over-simplified mathematical illustration may serve to explain the concept underlying this problem.

Let U = our collection of reports of UFOs ("unknowns")

and let K = our collection of reports of "knowns".

Upon analysis it is found that

$$U = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + o + p + q$$

$$\text{while } K = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + l + m + n + v + w$$

The pattern $b + c + d$, for example, is detected in U. It has no significance, however, as it is also to be found in K.

Factors o, p and q, though, which are found in U, do not occur in K, while l, m, n, v and w are common to K but absent in U.

Thus, what we are looking for is: $U - K$.

$$U - K = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + o + p + q - a - b - c - d - e - f - g - l - m - n - v - w$$

$$\text{Therefore } U - K = o + p + q - l - m - n - v - w$$

Readers who have already grasped the application of this concept may consider the above to be an unnecessary complicated way of stating the obvious. A concept may seem obvious once it is understood, but this one does not seem to be appreciated by many researchers, not only among those who study UFOs, who are limited by fixation on a certain arrangement of factors in one context, instead of comparing its basic pattern with

similar patterns in other contexts, a process which is the essence of scholarship.

In searching among our UFO reports for any new phenomenon or phenomena, the following question might be put,

Have UFOs, or certain UFOs, any common factors, and are these factors, or a certain combination of these factors, peculiar to UFOs only? (i.e. have UFOs any relationship with one another that is peculiar to themselves?)

It is tentatively suggested that a combination of at least any four of the following factors are peculiar to a proportion of the more reliable UFO reports:

- (a) fantastic acceleration
- (b) silence
- (c) formation of mist or cloud in neighbouring air
- (d) main body portion symmetrical about an axis
- (e) object appearing solid

and, if observed at close range, a combination of at least any two of the following factors:

- (a) surface appearing metallic or glowing
- (b) row of equidistant identical features parallel to object's longest dimension
- (c) small appendages
- (d) electro-magnetic or electro-gravitic effects

It is results like these that research will discover, prove or disprove.

Having now amassed a considerable number of reports and investigated a small sample of them, pooled the experience of individual investigators, weighed up the situation in ufology, found a research headquarters and assembled sufficient brains, LUFORO is now in a position to begin proper research, on a level higher than has ever before been attempted as far as we are aware.

UFO SLOWS CAR IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - 9TH FEBRUARY 1962; 3.30a.m.

Report of visit to Mr. Ronald Wildman (aged 34) of St. Margarets Road, Luton, on February 11th, 1962 (Sunday).

A party - Dr. B.E. Finch, Mr. R.R. Russell and Dr. G.G. Doel - interviewed Mr. Wildman at this address concerning the flying object he claimed to have seen early Friday morning the 9th February when driving a Vauxhall Victor car which he was to deliver in Swansea.

He stated that when driving on the Ivinghoe - Tring road at 3.30 that morning he rounded a bend and "almost ran into" a large object hovering above the road. It was 30-40 feet across with a curved or domed upper surface and a straight lower margin. There were dark squarish portholes (or vents), about 8 or 10 - placed at equal intervals across the lower part of the object close to the lower rim.

Mr. Wildman's car came as close to the object as an estimated 20ft! and was then slowed down considerably, the engine nearly stalling so that he was obliged to change to a lower gear. The UFO moved straight ahead of him at about 20 m.p.h. so that he was restricted to this speed. After 50 yards the object passed just above the trees (about 20ft high) close to left side of the road, the frost on these trees was forced downwards onto the roof of his car "like rain or hail" and immediately afterwards a ring of vapour appeared along the lower margin of the object - separated a little from the main structure.

The UFO then accelerated forwards, upwards and to the right at a fantastic speed and disappeared. (The road bore a few degrees to the left at point where the UFO left it so it may have continued in approx. a straight line).

Mr. Wildman's car picked up speed immediately and ran normally. He was very perturbed by the occurrence and felt that someone should know what he had seen. He decided to go to the Aylesbury Police and make a statement - this he did. He was much shaken and the police gave him coffee.

After this he was able to continue his journey which was accomplished without further incident.

Up to this time Mr. Wildman had not been interested in UFOs and was sceptical of their existence. He has read no literature on the subject beyond the occasional reports appearing in the press, and these he was inclined to disbelieve. He kindly consented to guide the party to the spot and go over the occurrence in detail.

He said that he was considerably frightened as the object was very strange and he felt it might come back at him at any moment.

We covered the stretch of road concerned and returned with Mr. W. to his house. Later we returned and made a thorough search of the area for any tell tale signs on ground or in trees. Measurements of the magnetic fields in the area were made and metal objects tested for induced magnetism and also for possible radio-activity.

These tests proved negative.

We interviewed persons living in the vicinity and did not find anyone who had seen the object.

Assuming that the object had been on some sort of mission, it is difficult to suggest what could have been the object of interest in this area.

- (a) There is a large cement works which is lit up at night.
- (b) We understand there is a rocket research station a few miles away.
- (c) A Meteorological Station is in the vicinity.
- (d) A few yards from the point at which the object was first seen is a small drinking water reservoir, the top being about 20ft above road level. This is in direct line of the object's progress and it could have just taken off from the surface of the water.

Other points. The night, Mr. W. states, was very clear and you could count the stars.

In his opinion it could not have been:

- (a) A cloud.
- (b) A balloon.
- (c) A glider.
- (d) A hallucination.
- (e) It is not a hoax.

He had not been drinking, is not subject to fits or hallucinations and is of the steady reliable type chosen by car manufacturers for delivering their new cars.

He had no subjective sensations, and heard no sound above noise of his car.

The investigating party agrees that as far as they can judge Mr. Wildman is entirely truthful and did indeed see a flying object of unknown type and origin.

Geoffrey Doel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R.E.

From our Northern Ireland Representative, Mr. T. Thompson, comes a report of a sighting on the same day that Mr. Wildman had his shattering experience in Buckinghamshire.

BELFAST SIGHTING - FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 1962

On the above date, Mr. W. Page, an electronics engineer, was returning to his home at Hills Avenue, Belfast, 4. in the evening using the Connswater River Walk.

It was a clear frosty night with only a few clouds in the sky. The moon, first quarter, was in the South-Eastern sky. Mr. Page's attention was attracted to a most unusual sight in the sky approx. due West.

The object resembled nothing he had ever seen before and he ought to be sure on this point as he is familiar with many types of aircraft and other airborne objects, having worked on several airbases and radar installations, etc.

The object now seen was not quite as large as the full moon. There was a circular centre part which emitted a soft luminous glow. Around this inner part, i.e. on the circumference, was a very bright white light that revolved around the inner blue "core" in a clockwise direction. The movement of this light was a slow one and during the time the object was in view it executed several complete revolutions.

The object traversed the sky from WEST to EAST at an elevation between 70° --- 80° and then slowly disappeared from view apparently ascending as it went.

There was no noise apparent. The time:- approximately 8.15 p.m. The incident also had another eye-witness--a girl--who briefly discussed the incident with Mr. Page. Mr. Page admits he was staggered by the sight as he considered the performance of the object was not consistent with that of any known conventional type of aircraft.

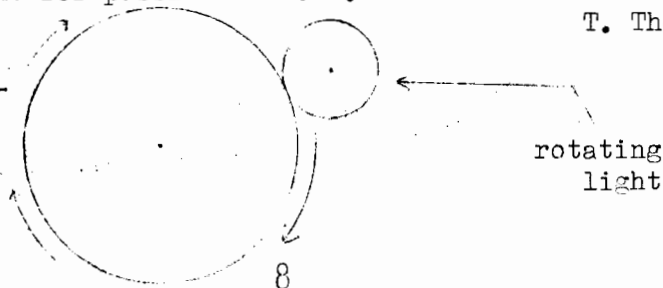
Incidentally this witness, who is well informed on scientific matters in general, outside his own particular field, and a confirmed sceptic on the subject of U.F.Os., now considers there may be some substance in the many alleged sightings of inexplicable aerial phenomena, though he is loath to subscribe to the interplanetary space-ship hypothesis which is often offered as a possible explanation for the incidents.

Enclosed is a sketch of the object (by Mr. Page) and drawn roughly to scale.

The above information was obtained from the witness who also checked this account for possible errors.

T. Thompson.

Mr. Page's sketch:-



LONDON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ORGANISATION

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT - 1961

(Adopted at the Second Annual General Meeting on December 2nd, 1961.)

During the past year LUFORO has risen from a small struggling organisation to one that is now well-known and well-respected throughout the British Isles.

We have been given some very wide publicity and appreciate the encouraging remarks that have been written about us in articles in The West London Press, The Guardian and other British newspapers. All have stressed, and obviously been impressed by, our objective approach; and J. Cleary-Baker's classification of detailed reports, published by us in August, undoubtedly proved to be of considerable interest.

The B.B.C. broadcast a good report on our September Brains Trust and appealed to their listeners to supply us with more and more accurate reports of "objective" sightings. Also in September, Mr. T. Thompson, our Northern Ireland Representative, answered questions about LUFORO in an interview on Ulster Television.

Since our First Annual General Meeting on September 10th, 1960, we have enrolled one hundred and thirty three new members and twenty new associate members, bringing our total membership to the present number of three hundred and fifteen. We have members resident in many different parts of the British Isles, as well as in a dozen countries throughout the world, and we hope to make new links with many other countries during the coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have given the Committee and myself their support and encouragement in these early years of LUFORO's existence. As in any other voluntary organisation, it is essential that those upon whom the burden of the work falls retain unlimited enthusiasm, and I am happy to say that this is possible in LUFORO as a result of the keen support given by the members.

As Mr. Stemman stressed at last year's A.G.M., the organisation is still in great need of a headquarters. I am sure you all realise the great difficulty of running a large organisation without a permanent central office. Although this is not at present financially possible, I am very pleased to announce that we will be able to open an office in Hampstead every Saturday in the New Year. This will provide an opportunity for any member, who is willing to help, to assist with the clerical work or with the research. It will also be possible for a Library to be established at this office and I hope that members in the London area will visit it as frequently as they can.

P.T.O.

The appearance of such facilities in the immediate future is made possible by those who have so generously donated towards the organisation's funds. As our finances improve and our activities increase, I am confident that we will rapidly expand until eventually we are in a position to open a central office six days in the week.

Those who have been able to attend our London Meetings regularly will know what a fine selection of speakers we have heard and of the wide variety of interesting ideas that have been put forward. The subject of Ufology is one which can be viewed from many different angles, but in particular we look to those with a logical or scientific mind to give the subject their attention and provide us with fresh and effective ideas and suggestions.

During the last few months I have been in touch with the leaders of the other large UFO societies throughout the British Isles and they are all in agreement that a National Federation should be formed without delay. We are privileged to be able to play a leading part in the formation of this Federation, which, I am sure, will be able to secure the support of the peoples of these Islands and eventually bring into existence an International Federation meriting the patronage and assistance of UNESCO.

UFOs are a subject of interest and concern to all peoples, and the establishment of a world-wide organisation capable of discovering once and for all the nature, origin and purpose of these mysterious objects consistently appearing in our skies will constitute an invaluable contribution to man's knowledge of the Universe.

Meanwhile LUFORO must continue to investigate all reliable reports and study the research problems with the care and logic necessary for the achievement of positive results.

It is a pity that the public as a whole is so ill-informed as to the continuity of UFO activity. This summer we have received an increasing number of reports, especially from the British Isles, and the total now numbers approximately one hundred per month, though there is only room for publication of a small proportion in "LUFORO Bulletin."

Although many reports are very vague and uninformative, and many more explicable as familiar objects, such as aircraft, balloons or meteors, there remains a hard core of reports which cannot be attributed to any known objects. In order to classify with authority any given report, we must make ourselves familiar with the characteristics of all airborne objects, including the latest developments in missile and aircraft construction.

There is no need for us to underestimate the problems we have to face; but persistent scientific study should provide us with the means

of obtaining all the answers we require. While we are without the opportunity to examine UFOs directly, our object must be to build up a picture of what is seen from the verbal and written descriptions of eyewitnesses.

Early this year a carefully worded questionnaire was prepared in order to obtain from witnesses the maximum details that they could give on a single foolscap sheet. Already eighty five of these forms have been returned by eyewitnesses and some of their answers enable us rapidly to identify known objects with which the witness was unfamiliar, while in the cases of those classifiable as UFOs valuable information can be obtained.

These forms, however, should not be considered to obliterate the need for a personal interview by an experienced investigator. While a standard form facilitates the correlation of reports by widely different persons, every report should be treated on its own merits and the task of relating what is described to what was seen is an exacting one which demands careful consideration of the individual human factors involved. We have learnt that descriptions of the same object given by different witnesses may vary considerably and from such discrepancies we can measure the errors that arise in perception and memory.

This report would be incomplete without some reference to photographs, for we learn, from month to month, of an ever increasing number, as well as the occasional motion film, showing what are reported to be UFOs. Here we have something concrete to analyse, and I sincerely hope that it will be possible for us to establish some reliable method of assessing such photographs in order to ascertain whether or not they represent true photographic pictures of UFOs.

The formation of a specialized Section to deal with photograph investigation has been considered and I hope that more people with specialized photographic knowledge will come forward to assist. While UFOs remain so illusive and unpredictable, photographs and motion films should provide the most accurate data.

Several months ago it was felt that we should investigate the claims of those who affirm that they have, at one time or another, seen occupants immerge from UFOs or met human beings who had come to earth from other planets in what are more appropriately referred to in this connection as "flying saucers." We have knowledge of two dozen such cases in the British Isles alone, and, while the authenticity of many of these is extremely doubtful, it was decided that they merited serious investigation, so a separate Section of LUFORO, known as the "Contact Investigation Section," was formed under the leadership of Mr. R. Shephard.

I do not have to remind members that there is a considerable quantity of evidence to indicate that UFOs are intelligently /P.T.O.

controlled craft of unknown origin. However, until this can be demonstrated undisputably, UFOs must be regarded individually as well as collectively. Of such divergence are descriptions of UFOs reported that prominence has been given to four quite separate possible explanations: an unknown natural phenomenon; secret devices made on earth; craft from another world; or, for those with a wider imagination, a paranormal phenomenon akin to ghosts.

If there is not only one explanation applying to all UFOs, the problem becomes complicated. Nevertheless, it may be possible for statistical analysis to separate different types and to provide data from which we shall be able to predict when and where a certain type of UFO will appear, so that we will at last be able to examine one directly.

Before we can make a valid statistical analysis, however, we must collect a considerable quantity of detailed reports from different parts of the world, covering, as far as possible, widely different circumstances, conditions and witnesses. It is easy for statistics to create misleading impressions and I wish to mention one example which has become increasingly obvious.

As the majority of UFO reports come to our notice as a result of publicity in the press, usually local press, it is necessary to consider whether any factors influence witnesses in their decision to report a sighting at a particular time. We have seen, time and time again, that a single report given prominence in a newspaper, or the publication of a letter from a witness, may prompt many other people to report similar sightings which they have experienced.

On the other hand, some jocular comment inserted by an editor may deter other witnesses, who do not wish to be ridiculed, from coming forward. The apparent implications of statistics may thus be affected by such obscure factors as editorial comments. In reaching any conclusions, therefore, or in forming any hypothesis, we must always be on the lookout for hidden factors which may invalidate our results.

Though LUFORO was given the aim of "unbiased scientific investigation," one may dispute that a scientific investigation is in fact unbiased. We can, however, ensure that our studies are biased by knowledge and logic rather than by emotion or wishful thinking, and I believe the result will be one that brings satisfaction and achievement.

With your continued support, I am quite sure that LUFORO will advance to a state of prosperity and success.

G.N.P. Stephenson

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Chairman.

Organisation at 12, Dorset Road, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, England.

ACTIVITIES OVER ESSEX : JUNE 30TH - JULY 1ST 1961

Report from A.J. Watts, B.Sc., F.R.Met.S.

General synopsis

The following report has been prepared following the sifting of reports and eye-witness accounts of the UFO activities which were centred over a position northwest of Halstead. With the exception of the letter from Mr. Ranson of Tiptree, which has not been further investigated, all the reports etc. fit the following pattern which is offered as a possible explanation.

It is assumed that at least during the period 2130-2140 a craft, whose length was the order of 250 feet, was largely stationary over a position estimated to have been 2-3 miles N.W. of Halstead. During the hovering period it exhibited two lights of extreme brilliance. By my own observation at 19 miles distance their apparent brightness was 2-4 times as bright as Jupiter which was particularly bright at that time. The estimated height was of the order of 13,000 feet. At the end of the period of hovering the craft turned north, suddenly made a noise akin to a turbo-prop and flew away in a climbing arc towards the north. One witness described it as having portholes which in fact fits the same type of object as depicted in Flying Saucers Have Landed Plate 11. The background sky was light with cirrus cloud still illuminated by the sun and thus these portholes must have been self-luminous patches to have been visible against the sky. The general impression was of a blue-grey body when seen without the aid of binoculars. One witness was emphatic that the object had a wing which seems feasible. The lights faded as the object accelerated away. None of the witnesses saw it again.

There were, subsequent to this, pairs of lights seen over a wide area but not so far away as to preclude the contention that the large cigar-shaped object was a parent craft which evolved smaller craft. These were observed in the interval 2130-2210 as a pair somewhere over the area of Grays; as another pair in the approximate area that the carrier had occupied but probably more nearly at 40,000 feet and singly over Grays. A further pair were observed at 2140 travelling east probably over Dedham and also at great height. The objects seen over Hertfordshire could have originated from the same source but due to lack of precise information on timing one cannot be sure of this.

Between 2210 and 2225 a ring of 6-9 (precise number unknown) lights 'roosted' in the approximate area that the carrier had occupied and again were probably at around 40,000 feet or higher. The impression one gets is of a fan-out from this centre in the period following 2130 to perform some set of tasks unknown and a return to rendezvous in the same spot.

Some 'saucers' were about until at least 0320 next morning. Two hovering lights 'the size of tea-plates' were observed at this time from Kelvedon in the direction of Mersea Island. Something similar was observed from the same position.

Useful speculations are that 'saucers' have limited range probably due to physiology rather than mechanics and the appearance of a crop of saucers demands a carrier craft to have launched them and presumably to re-embark them.

The lights were described as red or orange generally during accelerated motion and yellow-white during hovering. Thus one is led to think that the light is essential to the hovering process. It is significant that red-orange-yellow-white stem from photons of increasing energy or put another way from bodies of increasing temperature. The light is an outward manifestation of the energy being evolved in the physical act of hovering.

List of witnesses etc. and verbatim reports of observations

As a result of writing to the Essex County Standard upwards of 15 different accounts of several sightings were received. The initial letter is printed verbatim in F.S.R. for Sept-Oct 1961 Pg. 28. There was nothing in that report which needed subsequent revision although a duplicated report prepared and circulated to those who wrote or phoned has needed some revision in the light of further investigation.

Letters were received from

1. D.J. Burton, The Frith, Dedham (Questioned over 'phone)
2. E.J. Hunt, Frame Farm, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.
3. R.H. Callan, Kimber, Recreation Way, Brightlingsea.
4. A lady who prefers to remain anonymous, Colchester.
5. R. Tyler, Aldeby Lodge, West Bergholt. (Also interviewed)
6. H.K. Ranson, 2 Chapel Rd., Tiptree.
7. Miss C.A. Lewis, 65 John Kent Avenue, Colchester.
8. Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Boreham, Linden, Brook Rd., Tiptree. (Also interviewed)
9. Mrs. S. Mayhew, Douia, Orchard Rd., Kelvedon. (viewed)
10. As 9. in reply to request for further information.
11. Mark Hughes, The Bards, Ardleigh (Questioned over 'phone)
12. Mrs. S. Wilby, 9 The Crescent, Marks Tey. (Also interviewed)

Phone calls were received from

13. Mr and Mrs. W.F. Smith, Leylands, Rectory Rd., Rowhedge. (Also interviewed)
14. V.M. Nice, 44 Heath Rd., Lexden, Colchester. (viewed)

Other witnesses

15. Brother to Mr. Smith (13) and reported through the latter.

16. Peter Willimott, Student at N.E. Essex Technical College.
17. Mr and Mrs A.J. Watts, Ryelands, Elmstead Market.

Other references

18. Letter printed verbatim in Essex County Standard for 7th July 1961 and reprinted in Flying Saucer Review for Sept-Oct Pg 28.
19. R.V. Pigneys report in F.S.R. Sept-Oct Pg 28.
20. Mrs. J. Plumtree's observation from Ware: F.S.R. Sept-Oct Pg 28.

References 1-7 and 13-18 refer to the period 2130-2145; 12 to 2200; 11 to 2140 exactly; 8 to period 2210-2225; 9 to 0320 the following morning; 10 refers to and clarifies 9. but also includes a report of a sighting at midnight.

Verbatim quotes from letters received.

1. -driving along the Thorrington Street Rd between Higham and Stoke by Nayland towards Stoke. I noticed two bright orange-yellow lights close together in the sky, moving towards the north for a period of 3-4 seconds. The lights then disappeared behind trees and when I again had a clear view the lights had gone but I could see a dark object moving away on a similar course. I could not identify the aircraft but it seemed to be of conventional outline (i.e. it did not have swept-back wings) and was of bomber or airliner size. The time of observation approx 9.30-9.45 p.m.

2. -saw the unusual lights low in the western sky over Tiptree. To me the lights appeared to be much larger than you say. Two oval bright lights close together bright enough to make one turn to look at them. As I positioned myself for a better view the lights faded. I did not wait to see if they would appear again. There was no sound.

3. My wife and I saw the twin lights as you did on that Friday evening but we saw them for some minutes before they disappeared and reappeared. We also saw what we took to be an aeroplane flying away from the spot.

4. I too saw it as you described.- The intensity of the lights and so close together made me feel that it wasn't a plane. Then it faded within seconds and reappeared to reveal a blue-grey body.

5. - the suspected flying saucer was a large personnel transporter from Wethersfield. My father seeing it at about 9.30 p.m. in the western sky pointed it out to me. As I stood watching the lights they suddenly disappeared. But in a few seconds reappeared and disappeared again.- As the plane turned back the lights went on and off.

On being further questioned Tyler and his father gave some more useful and conclusive information. Tyler said that he saw no wing but it appeared that the object went up at the end and he took this to be a tail. He and his father were sure that if there was any movement when

they first saw the lights then it was very slight. When the lights faded the appearance was of a turn to the north (when the tail detail was seen) and then a noise like a turbo-prop was heard, as the object moved away. This noise observation is of considerable interest. We were fortunate to have this large object at a relatively low height (Tyler independently confirmed the angle in the sky from West Bergholt as that which would have led to a height of around 13,000 feet) and the noise level on acceleration must have been very high to have been so noticeable at over 10 miles range. It had not occurred to him that he would have heard an aircraft for most if not all of the time and not all at once when it showed some real movement. He confirmed the length on a ruler at arms length as $\frac{1}{8}$ inch' and as West Bergholt is roughly half way between Elmstead and Halstead this confirms my own measurement of $\frac{1}{16}$ inch. Thus the 250 feet length is confirmed. His father who admitted to reading several books on flying saucers said he was quite sure it was not an aeroplane.

6. -It was in fact a piston engined aircraft flying at about 8-10?000 feet in the triangle formed by Braintree/Halstead/Coggeshall on an easterly course. The twin lights appeared to come one from each wing and would be landing lights probably, they each had a beam similar to a car headlamp. After a short period on this course the A/C made a left banked turn to the north. I cannot agree on the enormous size that you mention as it appeared no larger than the wartime D.H. Mosquito and in fact reminded me of the experimental version of that type which was for examining the possibilities of airborne searchlights and carried a Leigh Light in its nose. I can only suggest that this occasion arose over an aircraft making a left-handed circuit prior to landing at Wethersfield and the pilot was trying his landing lights as a safety measure.

This letter has been quoted at length but has not been further investigated as there seemed little point. The details and conclusions are convincingly glib until one asks i. what would have been the apparent size of a Mosquito at 12 miles range and at 13,000 feet and how would one see four engines or any engines at that range. ii. airborne searchlights as mounted in say the Douglas Havoc and based for a time at Tangmere wan candles compared to this efflux of light which was not directional but visible all the horizon. These are just two of the points that could shoot down this aircraft (in flames).

7. - as this object approached Colchester from the northwest there appeared to be two very bright lights, then it turned towards the north-east and I could see a green and a red light. - I did say to a friend who was with me at the time 'Look a flying saucer.'

Letters etc referring to observations of 'saucers' subsequent to the above

8. We were coming home from Tolleshunt Knights Village Hall, and walking

down the lane it looked like a cluster of lights and as you say stationary, it seemed to disappear now and again as if a cloud obscured it, but when it reappeared it appeared to be in the same position and by the time we reached home, a matter of 10-15 minutes later it had disappeared.

On being interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Boreham said that the observations were of a ring of lights between 6 and 9 in number and quite stationary. They were convinced that they were above the clouds and that the observation occurred between 2210 and 2225. The cloud that night was dense cirrus with tops estimated at 40,000 feet but much falstreifen to as low as perhaps 20,000 feet. Being summer the cirrus tops could not have been much lower than this. Thus it would appear that these craft were roosting at something over 40,000 feet. Careful timing of other observations might show that this was a roost of saucers that had been over other parts of the area in the preceding half an hour.

13. The Smith family's report was at first thought to be of the carrier craft but on subsequent investigation turned out to be in the direction of Grays. They were just through Rayleigh driving home from Southend when they first saw the two lights. They were orange-red at first but changed to brilliant yellow-white. The time of observation was between 2130 and 2145 as far as they could judge. They were described as on the left of the car and later behind it. They were stationary all the time they were looking at them as far as they could judge.

11. I was walking along a cart track sometime after half past nine looked up and saw two brilliant lights in the northern sky. They were high and travelling in an easterly direction. One of the lights faded and shortly after the other did too. When I first saw them I thought of the group of American satellites just sent up. After one of them faded the other still being brilliant that theory rather fell through. Of one thing I am certain it was not an aircraft. I listened intently and did not hear any sound let alone the drone of a Globemaster which would have been plain enough even at that height. The lights though very close together were too bright for any aircraft.

Hughes said that the lights were at 50 plus degrees above the northern horizon. He also recalled that the exact time was 2140 as he happened to look at his watch. One gets the impression from the description that this was not one object but two together and it was therefore probably not the carrier craft as thought earlier. This is not conclusive however.

9. - there were two and quite a little distance apart from one another. It was 3.20 in the morning and I woke my husband as it seemed so strange to see them. They were stationary all the time we were looking at them which was about 10-15 minutes.

10. It was a light about the size of a tea-plate and due east over Mersea and from my bedroom window looking across the fields it was just above the trees, and the other one was half way between north and east. My neighbour was coming home last Friday night near midnight and saw the same as I did and in the same direction.

12. -my friends and I are pretty sure we saw the same object only not so clearly as only the twin lights were visible and it was approx. 10 p.m. They were suspended in the sky over the Earls Colne area. After a few minutes it disappeared and came visible again a minute later and after a second or two moved off gathering speed very quickly. I watched it quite a while, the lights going fainter as it disappeared into the western sky.

Further investigation served to confirm the letter and to tie down the direction as practically perpendicular to the Marks Tey by-pass in the position indicated on map. The lights were described as orange red, but whether they were this colour throughout the observation or only during motion is not clear.

14. Mr. Nice rang me up and said that he had seen the twin lights during the period 9.30 - 9.45 and from Harlow where he was staying at the time. He said they were quite stationary and as far as he could judge over Braintree. He was struck by their extreme brilliance. This observation shows that the lights we saw from Elmstead were visible not only to the south but also to the west and disposes of the searchlight idea. He spent at least ten minutes watching and was emphatic about the lack of movement. This and the observation from Tolleshunt D'Arcy disposes of the theory that the lights we saw from Elmstead were only apparently stationary being those of an aircraft flying towards us (sic).

The one conclusion that one comes to is that one must never assume that what one person has seen another has seen. People who say that they have seen the same as you have may not have done so and only further investigation leads to the truth. This report contains the truth as recorded by ordinary folk who have no interest in proving or disproving that flying saucers exist. It also contains speculations of my own which are not categorical and are put forward to be shot down if possible by reasoned argument.

A.J. Watts 3rd November 1961

Other observations were made from Hertford, Ware and Hoddesdon, in the neighbouring county of Hertfordshire (and readers should refer to the October 1961 issue of "LUFORO Bulletin" - pages 2 & 3).

We hope to publish an even more detailed report, together with map, at a later date, when we have considered the validity of Mr. Watts's assumptions and have ascertained who were looking at the same objects.

As a result of appearing on Anglia Television, on "About Anglia" December 12th, 1961, Mr. Watts was contacted by Mr. S.P.O.D. Tipping, of Church Farm, Cransford, Woodbridge, Suffolk, who has since sent us the following report:

CRANSFORD - LATE (?) JANUARY 1960 (?)

"About 3.20 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. My poultryman called my attention to a bright object in the sky, and asked me what I made of it, as he had been looking at it for 10 minutes. He thought it was a parachute but it hadn't moved in that time. I saw a bright round object at what appeared a great height. I went indoors and got my binoculars and we both looked at it for some 15/20 mins. We could not make out what it was. We could see it flashing as the sunlight caught the outside ring, which might have been revolving or shaking. The centre portion remained continuously bright. Object eventually moved N and disappeared behind clouds. I reported appearance to E.A.D.T., Carr St., Ipswich, but they couldn't see it for clouds". ("E.A.D.T. said they had a big file full of these observations")

Mr. Tipping's first impression was that it was a Flying Saucer, but thinks that it must have been a balloon with a very large gondola suspended - except that the balloon fabric must have been "quite flexible and constantly distorted producing flashing lights".

There was thin high cloud moving fast S, there being a strong N wind, says Mr. Tipping, and the object was visible through cloud. He estimated, at the time, that the object, which was stationary overhead and as bright as Venus, was about the size of a V bomber at about 50,000 ft. He was using x8 binoculars.

AUGUST 28th 1961 ...continued from foot of next page (20).....
vertically/from the sky, rose vertically, descended yet again, split into two, ascended again and then disappeared. Its antics were like that of a Yo-Yo and it was visible for approximately 1 minute."- G.Williams.

Tuesday, 29th August: Report from Mrs. C. Fereday, of 35, Westbourne St., Walsall: "About 4 a.m....duration of observation: 5 minutes....unable to sleep I got out of bed and stood by the bedroom window. Although a great distance away it looked like a brilliant light with one long flame and many more shorter ones. It was still in view when I moved from the window and I thought no more about it until I saw the report in the paper." Sky clear in these reports:

Thursday, August 31st: Report from a doctor at West Suffolk General Hospital: Witness: Mr. J. Gossington, of "Wishcumtru", Lambs Lane, Lawshall, Suffolk, - telephone operator at the hospital. Time: 8.35 p.m. Observed through open window, spectacles worn. Physical condition of observer: 100%. Alcohol nil....continued on page 22.....

BRITISH ISLES SIGHTINGS DURING LAST FEW DAYS OF AUGUST 1961

✓ Sunday, 27th August: At about 8 p.m. Mrs. E. Lea and her husband of 85, Prestwood Road West, Wolverhampton, watched a long rectangular strip of brilliant light with what she says was a kind of ring at one end. The phenomenon remained in the North-west completely motionless for about half an hour and then faded from sight...according to the Express & Star.

Monday, 28th August: Letter to the Editor, "Northern Whig" - 30/8/61 (from our Northern Ireland Representative): Object in the Sky.

"Dear Sir,

On observing the sky at 5.17 a.m. on Monday 28th. August, my interest was in the planet Venus, and also the Moon, the visibility being very clear, my attention was suddenly drawn to three fast moving objects preceeding in a SOUTH-EASTERLY direction. Their luminosity was greater than the planet Venus.

"Two of the objects were preceding close together some distance behind the first object. The two objects which were close together proceeded to increase their velocity of motion and rapidly reduced the distance in relation to the foremost object, seemingly to me as if they were being directed and controlled.

"I have already decided they were not sputniks for the reason of the behaviour of their motion through space.

"The objects were circular in shape and they disappeared behind the CASTLEREACH HILLS.

"If possible I would like to make contact with the gentleman who lives at Knock and who observed an object through a telescope."

Yours, etc.,

Amateur Astronomer, (Name & Address enclosed)

Returning to Warwickshire in England, at about 5.18 a.m. Mr. George Parr of 13, Highgate Road, Walsall, saw an object with a large incandescent flame at the rear travel swiftly from north to south. He saw what looked like fins along the side of the object, which seemed to fall off. Mr. Banks Fearon, of Corporation Street West, Walsall, who also saw the object, said it carried three lights and flames were shooting from the back. Having disappeared for a few seconds it came into his view again and appeared to blow up. The three lights broke away; two of them went out and one seemed to drift towards the ground.

We are indebted to Mr. D. St. John Howell for these reports. We also have a report from Mrs. M. Whitehouse of 25, Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay, who put the time at 5.20 and who saw two smaller pieces fall off the larger brilliant object.

✓ Monday evening, at 10.30p.m., - report from Mr. George Williams of 17, Railway Street, Bridgnorth: "Standing outside front door smoking. The object which was a brilliant white light like a ball descended verticallycontinued at foot of previous page (19)....."

BOOK REVIEW

book: Planetenmenschen besuchen unsere Erde
(transl: People from the planets visit the earth)

author: Karl L. Veit

publisher: Ventla-Verlag, Wiesbaden-Schierstein

For several years now the German 'UFO-Studiengemeinschaft' has provided a valuable help to the study of 'flying saucer' in the form of its monthly "UFO-Nachrichten". Now its President, Herr Karl L. Veit, has produced the above book (in German) which may well become a recognised handbook on the subject.

In the 224 pages Herr Veit looks at the early reports of unidentified flying objects including, of course, the ubiquitous English friar who, in 1290, interrupted grace in the monastery by rushing in to tell of the silver disc he had seen. After this 13th century there follows a very brief historical survey of reports.

To give some idea of the range of subjects dealt with I feel we could do worse than to give a list of some of the chapters included:

Historical UFO reports,
Short history of flight,
Modern Lunar research,
Speech and food of space visitors,
Life exists in space,
Lists of contacts, researchers and publications,

and many others, over thirty-five sections in all.

Near the end of the book comes a collection of 350 photographs from 19 countries covering various topics from 'flying saucers' and space research to a chart of 289 UFO shapes, astronomy and atom bomb tests.

There follows a bibliography and finally lists of UFO publications.

The obvious disadvantage of this book, which is sold at DM 14.70 (about 23/-), lies in the fact that it is written in German. To those who can read German it offers most interesting reading and may well become a standard work. To those who cannot read German I am afraid there is little to be done except await an English translation, which I hope may soon be forthcoming.

F. Malcolm Bull

Secretary Foreign Department.

29th August 1961, Lawshall...continued from page 19.....Description:
About to shut window noticed object above trees S.W. travels 20° - 30°
above horizon till due south, then abrupt rt. angle turn, moved upwards
to 40° then disappeared. Speed: Faster than any aeroplane seen (approx.
1300 mph) Size: 4 mm at arms length. Shape: Tadpole - reminded of com-
mon key end on. Tail always at rear. Colour: As match when first fired.
Brighter than stars. Sound - nil, countryside dead quiet. No other phen-
omena. Lakenheath and Mildenhall (Weather Bureau control) contacted -
no radar contact made, no balloons out at the time. Duration of observa-
tion: 15 secs. - Just time to tell wife passing door. Previous exper-
ience of observing: R.A.F. - signals; Aircraft recognition - Course at
preliminary school (2 year course). None previously seen like this.
"Completely beyond me." Sceptical re. saucers.

November 20th - Swansea - "Western Mail" 22/11/61: "...Alan Williams,
aged 14, of Hazel Road, Uplands, Swansea, said he was in bed at 6.15 on
Monday night looking out through the window. He saw a strange object
flash across the sky from the direction of Mumbles and travelling to-
wards Port Talbot. He said, 'Looking at it side-on, it was oval-shaped,
and had two windows in front - one fully in view and the other partly
in view. On top of the object was a dome, and behind were a number of
long red flames which illuminated the whole thing. It was travelling
very fast and was out of sight in five to seven seconds. It was not an
ordinary aircraft, for it did not have wings or tailfin."
Mrs. B.S. Blundell, who sent us this report, also obtained a report and
sketch from the boy himself.

16th January 1962 - Bolton - Bolton Evening News 5/2/62 - Credit to
Direct Investigation Group for Aerial Phenomena - NO DOUBT ABOUT IT:

"There can be no doubt about the validity of the statement made by
Mr. James Gee in "readers' Views" recently that he saw a "Flying Saucer"
while on his morning round.

"We wish to inform you that we, the undersigned, also saw this
strange object on the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 16, 1962, from a window
facing south at approximately 8.45 a.m."

Department of Pathology, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

J. Dawson
S. Livasidge

BRAINS TRUST - CAXTON HALL - SATURDAY, 17TH MARCH, AT 7.30 P.M.

Readers in the London area are reminded of the above Meeting. Members of
the panel will include the Editor of "Flying Saucer Review", Waveney
Girvan, Desmond Leslie and Gordon Creighton. Admission-Members: 2/6; ors: 3/6.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Saturday, 14th April, 7.30p.m.: Lecture by J. Cleary-Baker
Saturday, 9th June at 7.30p.m.: Lecture by J.A.D. Wedd
Both will be held at Kensington Central Library, Phillimore Walk, W.8.,
(opposite Kensington High Street Underground). Details of May Meeting later.

A CROSS IN THE BOX INDICATES THAT YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS OVERDUE