

PROJECT 1947

UFO REPORTS - 1952

Strasburg, VA . Northern Virginia Daily - Sept. 15, 1952

Flying Saucers Are Guided Missiles, Says Top Physicists, Military Experts

They're real....they're Red.....and they're American too!

This remarkable analysis, which sheds the first real light on the true nature of the so-called "flying saucers," is the joint work of three **People Today** editors who interviewed America's top physicists and military and civilian experts on ultrasonic flight. Their conclusions, which appear in the current issue of **People Today**, came independently.

Flying saucers are guided missiles, both American and Soviet. The inescapable conclusion from world-wide reports is that the Red saucers are launched from Atomgrad No. 3, a heavily-guarded missile center in a barren waste near the Finnish border. Swedish authorities have detected their passage as they hurtled across Scandinavia in a direct line for this hemisphere. Other Red launching sites are in Siberia.

The Soviet missiles are crewless, between 50 and 75 ft. in length, about 14 ft. deep. Rockets provide their main power source but they also carry auxiliary motors, possibly jets. Ovoid in shape, they reach altitudes of 80-100,000 ft., attain speeds in excess of 2,500 mph.

Loaded with cameras and electronic observation devices, the missiles seem to have but one mission at present -- to reconnoiter U.S. atomic and military installations. They could as easily carry atomic warheads.

The Soviet missiles are remote-controlled. Red submarines, posted strategically in a chain across the Atlantic, are equipped with electronic monitor boards to guide the missiles through each sub's "control area." Thus, a missile originally launched on a course that would place it over Washington, D.C., may be diverted by a sub off Nova Scotia (where unidentified subs have been reported) to a course aimed at the Brookhaven Laboratories on Long Island, close to Manhattan.

The Red saucers need not return to base to deliver their reconnaissance data. Their findings, including aerial photos, automatically beamed to a sub or other secret station, are reproduced and delivered to intelligence headquarters in Moscow. To prevent its falling into non-Red hands, each missile carries a high-explosive destructor charge which can blow it to bits the instant a button on the sub is pushed.

The Soviet long-range snorkel submarine program for guided missile work was reported by Allied intelligence as far back as '48. These subs, developments of the Germany type XXVI, which had a 1,160 ton displacement, can cruise under water at the phenomenal speed of 24 knots and remain submerged indefinitely.

For 36 months the U. S. has been working frantically to keep ahead of Russia in the guided missile field. Dr. Karl Compton, one of the nation's great scientists, has envisioned huge, crewless missiles screaming through the ionosphere 6,000 mph. Said Dr. Compton in 1949: "...the picture of smashing a vital electronic development on the outskirts of Moscow from a launching pad somewhere in the United States in not pure fantasy."

Today, U.S. rockets are being launched from the Joint-Services proving grounds on Cape Canaveral in Florida. These rockets carry electronic devices, can carry atomic warheads. Should one go out of control, a scientist at the base hits the "destructor button" on his control board and an explosive charge in the rocket blows it up. Military authorities will admit that flights of as long as 500 miles have been made by these

guided missiles over the Caribbean. Reports of saucers and other mysterious "objects" sighted in this area frequently refer to these missiles. Our officials aren't worried about these reports. They are jolted, however, by the 400-odd "unexplained" saucers and fireballs which have crisscrossed our skies, appearing in their biggest concentrations over vital atomic and defense centers.

"Of course flying saucers are real," declared a regular U.S. Air Force officer stationed in New Mexico. "They are not mass delusions. Don't be sucked in by denials in publicity used to cover up AF investigations. Flying saucers are regularly seen over Los Alamos."

During WW II, U.S. pilots in Europe and in the Pacific reported glowing globes, mostly green, which followed their planes at fixed distances, made no hostile moves. They just "seemed to watch," pilots reported. Intelligence took it seriously.

In 1945 following detailed reports by B-29 crew flying missions over Honshu, the 21st Bomber Command's intelligence officers decided that the fireballs were remote-controlled guided missiles. Recently, fireballs have been seen over Korea, Alaska and the southwest U.S. The Pentagon is particularly disturbed because they resemble American developments which were considered exclusive and top secret.

Attempts to pass the fireballs off as meteors were spiked by Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, head of the Institute of Meteorics at the University of New Mexico. "I have never seen a natural meteor with the characteristics of the yellow-green fireballs," he told **People Today**. "Meteors blow up with a loud explosion. These disintegrate with complete absence of sound. Sightings here and in Scandinavia lead me to believe that fireballs and the so-called saucers may be guided missiles -- some possibly ours, some possibly Russian. In any case, they are Earth-born.

"It is possible that the yellow-green fireball is not the missile itself but the remaining part of a missile in the final phase of self-destruction. It does not explode -- it simply evaporates in a flash of light."

Said Dr. LaPaz: "Compare the saucers with the atomic bomb. If someone had asked a Manhattan Project official for an explanation of the brilliant mushroom of light at Alamogordo, he would have received a blank stare and been told that no such thing ever happened."

Lawrence, Mass. EAGLE - Sept. 20, 1952

"Flying Saucer" Seen Over City

Two Young Men Make Startling Discovering (sic)---

Notify Air Force

A "Flying Saucer," the aerial phenomena which has authorities baffled in their attempt to determine its identity and makeup, was observed by two youths in the Concord street area shortly before 1:30 a. m. today.

The young men, Raymond Sharkey, 20 Birchwood road, Methuen, and Robert Sullivan, 61 Arlington street, hurriedly advised authorities at the Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee of their observation.

Sullivan said that the "saucer," which he described as elliptical in shape, made no noise in its flight which appeared to be sideways. "In fact," he said, "it looked like a little white cloud and was flying at a terrific rate of speed.

"It was flying very high and we were able to observe it for about ten seconds before it disappeared from our view over one of the tall buildings. It was heading north.

"We just can't believe it. I was skeptical once, and thought it was a reflection people saw but I've changed my mind now," Sullivan declared.

Albany, N.Y. KNICKERBOCKER NEWS - Sept. 20, 1952

'Mainbrace' Has File On 'Flying Saucers'

Topcliffe, England --(AP)-- "Operation Mainbrace" headquarters here opened a new signal file today:

"Flying saucer sightings and movements."

The Air Ministry said it was investigating a report of a silver-colored circular object moving through the sky about 15,000 feet up at a speed faster than a shooting star.

During the brief glimpse -- between 15 and 30 seconds -- the object was reported to have switched its course and then seemed to descend.

Syndicated Column - September 20, 1952

Robert S. Allen

Meteor Expert Discusses Green Fireballs

Robert S. Allen is on vacation. In his absence, his column today is written by Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, Director of the Institute of Meteoritics of the University of New Mexico, the only institute of its kind in the U. S. Dr. LaPaz is a world authority on meteoritics and other "flying objects."

* * *

By Lincoln LaPaz

(Director, Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico)



DR. LAPAZ TRACES A FIREBALL

ALBUQUERQUE, N. Mex.— Any discussion of the remarkable “green fireballs” so frequently observed in recent years in the Southwest must begin with an appraisal of the accuracy of eyewitness accounts of these objects. Admittedly, the majority of fireball reports relate to ordinary meteoric phenomena, although those reporting usually believe they have sighted something strange.

Meteoriticists, however, have little difficulty in screening out observations that merely describe exceptionally bright shooting stars.

The observations that remain differ in many important particulars from those relating to ordinary balls. Is one justified in accepting these non-conforming observations as dependable?

Perhaps it is well to be guided by analogy in answering this question. The writer's service as Technical Director, Operations Analysis Section, Headquarters Second Air Force, began while General U. G. Ent was Commanding Officer. I well recall that at one of my first conferences with General Ent, we discussed numerous bright stationary fireballs sighted in North American skies. During ordinary shooting stars showers stationary meteors are occasionally seen; but since such immobile luminous objects are

produced only by those few grains of cosmic debris headed directly at each particular observer, they are of such rare occurrence that few readers of this column will recall ever having seen one – especially a blindingly bright one.

* * *

IT is therefore understandable why meteoriticists discounted the reliability of frequent reports of bright stationary fireballs. However, they soon had cause to regret their skepticism, for recovery of Japanese balloon assemblies disclosed that the huge hydrogen-filled paper envelopes of these balloons had a half-pound charge of a magnesium flash powder mixture cemented to them.

The reader will recall that the founder of scientific rocketry, Dr. Robert H, Goddard of Clark College, while seeking a signaling device for announcing the arrival of a rocket on the moon, tested many such flash powder mixtures and showed that ignition of a few grains of magnesium flash powder would produce a flash “strikingly visible” more than two miles away. It is therefore not surprising that ignition of the half-pound powder charges which the Japanese attached to their balloons produced a brief flash of such enormous light intensity as to be visible as a “stationary fireball” at very great distances.

Stripped of some of our skepticism about strange fireball reports by the example just given, we can profitably scrutinize more closely some of the characteristics reported for the green fireballs. One of the peculiarities of these objects is that, unlike the ordinary meteors which flash across the sky at all angles to the horizon, with few exceptions, each green fireball is described by all who witness it (irrespective of the positions of the observers with respect to the real path of the fireball) either as falling vertically or as moving horizontally.

A self-destructive device functioning along the terminal arc of a missile-trajectory, such

as that traveled by the typical V-2 rocket of 1944 on its way from German bases to London, would give rise to a nearly vertical luminous path.

* * *

POSSIBLE explanation of the horizontally moving green fireballs is suggested by statements on satellite vehicles and their "circular orbits" and "approach ellipses" made by Dr. Heinz Haber and Dr. Wernher von Braun, two of the foremost experts in the space-flight field, in a handbook, *Physics and Medicine of the Upper Atmosphere*, published in August 1952 by the University of New Mexico Press. This handbook, which should be required reading for those who ridicule the possibility of intercontinental missiles and satellite vehicles, contains on page 576 the following comments by Dr. Haber:

"During the next phase, the development will be directed toward the establishment of a manned artificial satellite as the principal goal. In contrast to general belief, this project does not call for rockets energized by atomic power plants, which are still rather hypothetical. The manned artificial power plants exceeding 1,000 tons. No major objection can be advanced against the possibility of building rockets of this size."

A second curious characteristic, reported for the green fireballs is that they are observed to "gang up" those times when ordinary shooting stars occur in greatest numbers. For example, the greatest concentration of green fireballs so far observed occurred during late October, November, and early December 1951 – a period comprising the end of the annual Orionid meteor shower and the epochs of the Leonid, Bielid, and Geminid meteor shows which also put on a display each year. Furthermore, the visible paths of the green fireballs in question radiated from approximately the same position as the northernmost point in the sky from which the ordinary unimpressive Bielid meteors have been seen to emanate.

* * *

ONE interpretation is, of course, that the green fireballs are, after all, simply giant Bielid meteors of unusual composition. Another like the bacteriologist who can readily brew up the cultures he wishes to study in his own laboratory, the fireball investigator is ... [words missing] ..a less reassuring interpretation is suggested by Dr. Louis N. Ridenour's sombre play, "Pilot Lights of the Apocalypse."

On the theory that use of a water pistol will attract least attention in a shower of rain, it may be inferred that the testing of long range missiles (which for one reason or another become, or are purposely made luminous in the terminal portions of their trajectories) will take place during such meteor showers as the Perseids mentioned by Ridenour. Clearly, the identification problem would be still further fouled up if the luminous paths of such missiles were caused to appear to emanate from a known meteoric radiant.

Because of the puzzling nature of the green fireballs, they were the subject of a protracted round-table discussion held during the 15th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society (an international scientific organization affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science) at the Institute of Meteoritics of the University of New Mexico on September 2, 3 and 4, 1952. A single member of the Society flatly denied that any such objects as the green fireballs had ever appeared, but under questioning conceded that his remark applied only to the familiar skies of his home state, Texas. The consensus of all other members was well expressed by Professor Frederick C. Leonard, of the Department of Astronomy at the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Leonard, founder of the Meteoritical Society, stated that in view of the overwhelming observational evidence presented to the Society, he was forced to believe in the existence of the green fireballs which, in his opinion, were certainly not natural objects like the ordinary meteoric fireballs.

* * *

THE reader now will readily understand why meteoriticists heartily welcomed the publicity recently given the "green fireballs" by Columnist Robert S. Allen. Unsingularly dependent on the cooperation of the general public in his search for any fragments that may fall from these objects, descending as they do widely separated in space and time.

The present guest column has been written in the hope of sharpening the interest of laymen in observing and reporting to the Institute any unusual luminous phenomena seen in the skies, particularly during the meteor shower periods of autumn and winter just ahead. All such reports will be thoroughly appreciated and, if desired, will be kept in confidence; but, because of the volume of correspondence already carried by the staff of the Institute, acknowledgment will be made only in those cases where the phenomena reported merit intensive investigation.

West Palm Beach, FLA. PALM BEACH TIMES - Sept. 22, 1952

Scientists See Flying "Object" In Everglades

An object which became too animated to be the harvest moon it at first was believed to be became the focal point of several Everglades Experiment Station officials and their wives early today.

When sighted by one of the women about 4:20 am in the southeast sky, it was at first thought to be a "very bright harvest moon."

However, this person realized quickly that it was too bright, and also much out of place in the sky at that time of morning to be a "harvest moon."

It was about this time the viewer realized it was a round object, with blinking lights around its lower part.

Although there was a ground haze in the area, the person reported the lights flashed red, green and amber, blinking alternately.

The sphere moved up and down and from side to side, remaining in the southeast throughout, and being watched about 25 minutes before disappearing in the same direction. A few minutes after its disappearance, it reappeared again, but not as near, one observer saying it "looked four or five times larger than a star."

However, at the (sic) distance, the lights, still blinking alternately appeared red, green and white, the amber missing and the white an addition.

It moved from side to side, also up and down, staying in its southeast position about 15 minutes before finally disappearing for good. Five persons in all witnessed the "flying object," the others being called by the first to observe it, but none was informed of what was seen in the sky.

The group is well known at the Station, located on Six Mile Rd., three miles from Belle Glade. None wished use of his name.

Arlington, VA. DAILY - Sept. 22, 1952

'Bright Objects' Are Reported Over Fairfax

Mysterious objects in Fairfax skies were observed for three hours last night by Fairfax police officers and a woman near Centreville.

"It beats anything I ever saw," said Pvt. Julian Burke. "I don't know what they were. It wasn't my imagination because other officers saw them and we were all dead sober."

The "flying saucers" were reported by Mrs. F.L. Hazelwood, who lives on Route 645, about one mile South of Centreville. Pvt. Burke, investigating the report, said he watched the objects from Mrs. Hazelwood's house for an hour.

He said he saw four at one time. He described them as round, orange-colored objects, about as big as a three-gallon bucket. He said it was very foggy and the objects appeared to be darting in and out of clouds.

He said when he first arrived at the Centreville home the objects were closest and appeared to be about 2,000 feet away. In his description, the officer said the balls would appear first as a small light and then get big as they seemed to get closer. They disappeared in the same way, he said.

When the objects would disappear from sight, he said, they still made a white light for a while like a car light shining through the fog, except that they were "very bright."

He said Sgt. John Wahl also came out to investigate after he radioed back his observations. Burke said he and Wahl watched the objects together for about 20 minutes.

They returned to the police station about 2 a.m. There, he said, they saw another similar object. This time it also was watched by Pvt. Marvin Harrel, desk officer on duty at the time, and two other officers on the night shift, Pvts. Dunn and Lloyd.

Meanwhile, police had notified the control tower at National Airport of the objects shortly after 1 a.m. The tower reported that they could not pick up anything on the radar scopes, nor could they see anything. A Civil Aeronautics spokesman said an American Airline flight passed over Springfield in Fairfax County about the time the "saucers" were reported but the plane couldn't make the type light described.

The Naval Observatory in Washington this morning said it had no reports of any

unusual lights in the sky last night. A spokesman said a meteor would probably be an orange color but that meteors can be seen only for a few seconds and wouldn't act like those described by police.

Burke said the object seen at the police station disappeared in the direction of Washington. After the last one had disappeared police reported the objects to the Department of Defense on instructions from the airport control tower.

Mrs. Hazelwood says the saucer had a strange smell that made her husband think something was cooking in the backyard.

Washington, D.C. STAR - Sept. 22, 1952

Fairfax County Has Visitation From Mysterious Balls of Fire

Police Corroborate Resident's Report Of Strange Objects in Night Skies

Mysterious balls of fire "bright enough to light the ground" were viewed over Fairfax and Centreville, Va., early today.

Four Fairfax County policemen sighted the objects when they went to investigate a report of a resident of (sic) near Centreville that she had seen strange lights in the sky.

Police Pvt. Julian Burke described the sight this way:

"They came out of the clouds like headlights, then brightened up all at one time."

There appeared to be three or four bright objects, he said, "going in and out of the

clouds."

With him were Sergt. John Wahl and Pvts. Richard Lloyd and Douglas. They had gone to investigate "several big balls of fire" reported by Mrs. F. L. Hazelwood of Route 645, about a mile south of Centreville.

The objects were visible for more than three hours, the policeman said. They were viewed between 12:50 a.m. and 4 a.m.

Pvt. Burke said over the Centreville area the objects seemed fairly close to the earth and "bright enough to light the ground." Later, when the policemen returned to Fairfax, the objects appeared to be directly above the police station and high in the air.

Officials in the control tower at Washington National Airport, apprised of the report, scanned the skies and their radar screen. They said they saw nothing. An airplane was in the area at the time, they said. But, they added, this was for a short time only.

Andrews Air Force Base officials reported no unusual "blips", on the radar screen there.

Fort Belvoir, where Army physicists have created glowing rings in bell jars, said no experiments were being conducted early today. The engineer post also ruled out the searchlight possibility, asserting that its lights had not been in use since Friday night.

The Fairfax County police said that when the objects last were sighted about 4 a.m. they appeared to be headed toward the District.

The first of numerous calls to police was made by Mrs. Hazelwood, who complained her yard was filled with bright lights and a vile odor.

Mrs. Hazelwood's daughter Marie told Fairfax officers the odor made her mother ill and was bad enough to make her father get up and go out to see if anything nearby was burning.

Rockhampton, QLD (Australia), Central Queensland Herald - Sept
25, 1952

R.A.F. MEN SEE FLYING SAUCER

LONDON. September 20.—A "flying saucer" entered the Mainbrace manoeuvres today. It was seen by at least 10 officers and crew members of an aircraft operating from the RAF station at Topcliffe, Yorkshire.

The RAF men reported that a silver object, circular in shape, appeared five miles behind a Meteor fighter flying at 15,000 ft. The object maintained a slow forward speed before descending with a swinging, pendulum motion.

When the Meteor turned back towards the base, the object appeared to follow. The object then began a rotary motion about its own axis, then suddenly accelerated at an incredible speed in a westerly direction. It later turned to a south-easterly course.

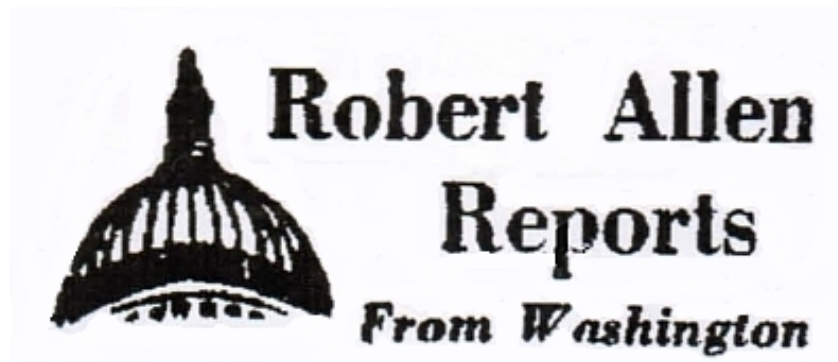
"NOT IDENTIFIABLE"

RAF officers and men said its movements were not identifiable with anything they had seen in the air. The acceleration was greater than that of a shooting star. The incident lasted between 15 and 30 seconds.

Some believe that the object might have been a parachute or cowling from a Meteor aircraft, but none have been reported to have landed in the vicinity. A signal reporting the object was sent from the air base yesterday.

An Air Ministry spokesman said later: "We have no comment to make on the report of the sighting of a "'flying saucer'."

Charleston, WV Daily Mail - 27 September, 1952



The air force has a breathtaking report on "flying saucers."

The study, prepared by noted scientists and air force experts, expresses the belief that some of the mysterious flying objects are genuine and that they originate from "sources outside of this planet."

That is, these devices are interplanetary aircraft of some kind.

The air force document contains two other sensational findings:

In some instances, flying objects that have been sighted were actually secret U. S. missiles undergoing tests.

Russia is profoundly mystified and worried by "flying saucers" and strongly suspects they are a new U. S. weapon.

The Kremlin now has four different investigations underway in an effort to discover the identity and source of the strange devices.

The air force study is based on more than 1,800 sightings in the past five years.

One important point stressed in the report is that the most authoritative and detailed sightings came from atomic plants and military bases and research centers.

These highly significant sightings number around 20 per cent of the total reported.

Following is a list of the location of the most important of these sightings:

New Mexico - Los Alamos and White Sands atomic plant and testing grounds, Albuquerque, and the Holloman, Kirtland and Walker airbases.

California - Muroc, Travis, Hamilton. George, Edward, Sacramento and Mint Canyon airfields.

Tennessee - Oak Ridge atomic plant, Knoxville and Dickson airbase.

Arizona - Williams, Davis-Monthan and Luke airbases.

Alabama - Maxwell airbase.

Illinois - Scott and O'Hara airbases.

New Hampshire - Grenier airbase.

New York - Mitchell airfield.

Mississippi - Airbases at Jackson, Keesler and Biloxi.

Michigan - Selfridge airfield.

Massachusetts - Westover airfield.

Nebraska - Offutt airbase.

North Carolina - Chapel Hill and Pope airfield.

South Carolina - Spartanburg and airbase at Greenville.

Texas - Kelley and Randolph airfields and other bases at Carswell and San Marcos.

Washington State - Mount Rainier, Mount Jefferson and McChord airbase.

Oklahoma - Tinker airbase, and Norman.

South Dakota - Airbase at Rapid City.

Ohio - Air Force research center at Dayton, and Lockbourne airbase.

The sensational study is the work of the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright Patterson air base, Dayton, O. A number of top scientists are devoting their full time there analyzing reports on flying objects. Their activities are so secret the air force will not permit the publication of their names.

In fact, no one connected with the project or the report would permit his name to be used.

However, air force authorities are considering publishing certain portions of the report. Chiefly deterring them is fear the sensational nature of the findings may cause undue public alarm.

These findings were described by a high air force official as "fantastic but true."

Note: Commenting on the recent flurry of "fireball" reports, Dr. Lincoln La Paz, noted head of New Mexico University's Institute of Meteoritics, said, "Sightings here and in Scandinavia lead me to believe that fireballs and so-called flying saucers may be guided missiles, possibly ours or possibly Russian. In any case, they are earth-born."

Perth, Western Australia, The Mirror - Sept 27, 1952.

MORE LIGHT ON THOSE SAUCERS

New York, Today: US Air Force has a "breathtaking" report expressing belief that some

mysterious flying objects seen on the earth originate from "sources outside this planet," Robert S. Allen, Washington correspondent of New York Post wrote today.

Allen said the report by noted scientists and Air Force officials was based on 1800 "flying saucer observations" in the past 5 years.

Air Force authorities were considering publication of certain portions of the report.

"Chiefly deterring them is the fear that the sensational findings may cause undue public alarm," Allen continued. "These findings were described by high Air Force officials as 'fantastic but true'."

Correspondent said the document contained two other findings:

- In some instances flying objects that have been sighted were actually secret US missiles undergoing test;
- Soviet Union was profoundly mystified and worried by "flying saucers" and strongly suspected they were a New American weapon.

Report said the Kremlin had 4 different investigations under way to discover the identity and source of the devices.

Allen said: One important point stressed in the report is that most authoritative and detailed sightings came from atomic plants, military bases, and research centres.

"The study is the work of Air Technical Intelligence Centre, Wright Patterson Airbase, Dayton, Ohio. A number of top scientists are devoting their full time there, analysing reports.

"Their activities are so secret, the Air Force will not permit publication of their names. In fact no-one connected with the project or the report will permit his name to be used."

Saranac Lake, N.Y. ADIRONDACK ENTERPRISE - Sept. 27, 1952

No Comment Issued On Reported 'Saucer'

CAPE DRUM (AP)-- The Air Force has no comment on an unidentified flying object that reportedly paid a half-hour visit to the Northern New York camp.

Military authorities said yesterday that the object hovered over the base last Monday night. The information at first had been classified as confidential.

Eight soldiers said the object was about 200 feet across and trailed red-orange sparks. It circled rapidly and sometimes hovered, they reported.

Buffalo, N.Y. Courier-Express - Sept. 27, 1952

Jet Plane Scares Off Flying Objects

Poughkeepsie, Sept 26 (AP) -- Civil Defense observers today reported seeing six colorful flying objects that disappeared when a jet plane arrived on the scene to investigate.

Mrs. Arthur D. Benson, supervisor of ground observers at Dover Plains, said ten ground observers saw the objects in the sky the night of September 11th near the Connecticut border.

She described the objects as "flashing on and off" -- a greenish color with red flash.

She said she called the civil defense information filter center at White Plains, which advised her to hold the line open to give a running report while a jet plane was sent to investigate.

Mrs. Benson said when the plane appeared the objects changed to a bluish color and disappeared.

Gloversville, N.Y. HERALD - Sept. 27, 1952

'STRANGE OBJECT' IN SKIES TAKES HALF-HOUR PEEK AT
CAMP DRUM INSTALLATION

CAMP DRUM (AP) -- Who or what took an uninterrupted 30-minute peek at this Northern New York Military installation from the heavens?

Military authorities said yesterday an unidentified object zoomed through a half hour of weird aerial gyrations over this base last Monday.

The incident was classified as confidential military information until yesterday.

The object was described by camp officials as 20 feet in diameter with an exhaust tail of reddist (sic) orange sparks.

Eight soldiers who saw the object reported it sounded like the whine of a generator or rotating disks. Griffis Air Base at Rome was notified of the incident immediately, officials stated.

The observers said the object hovered, circling rapidly, and occasionally stopped completely.

Noticed at Midnight

It was noticed by a soldier firing boilers about midnight. He notified the others who all claimed they saw it in a starless sky. A duty officer was among the witnesses.

Air Force officers from Griffis Base questioned the men about characteristics of the object the next day.

The Air Force would not comment.

Omaha, Nebraska, World-Herald - Oct. 18, 1952

Arctic Navy Pilot Reports Seeing Strange Phenomena

Chicago Tribune Press Service

Washington—A Navy pilot, chasing a cosmic ray research balloon last August over Greenland, saw some strange "phenomena," the Navy said Friday.

Cautiously refraining from using the words "flying saucers" and noting that it had little data on the "phenomena," the Navy released the following statement: "About 5 p. m. on 29 August, an 85-foot-diameter balloon carrying a neutron counter from New York University started floating at 90 thousand feet, and had settled to 74 thousand feet when the parachute carrying the instruments was released by a timing device.

"As the parachute floated away from the balloon on its way down, the pilot of the Navy tracking plane observed three phenomena, which appeared to come out of the balloon and moved toward the sun in the opposite direction to the parachute. The phenomena were observed for about 30 seconds.

"The pilot was Lieut. John Callahan, Patrol Squadron 23 of the Thule (Greenland) detachment. When the parachute was released, the balloon would have an excess free lift and should move vertically at an increased speed which would cause turbulence in the air.

"This may have resulted in the reflection of sunlight and caused the apparent phenomena."

The Air Force last August advanced the theory that some of the "flying saucers" being reported at the time were reflections of light rays, or other radiations, against layers of air of different temperatures.

The Navy report from Greenland suggested that the apparitions Lieutenant Callahan saw were caused by similar reflections of light against the turbulent air.

ATIC - The Air Technical Intelligence Center headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base - played a major part in various aspects of trying to research the "flying saucer" problem. As outlined in [General Garland's Memorandum of 3 January, 1952](#), ATIC was tasked to provide the means and personnel to enable the capture of photographic evidence of "UFOs", both visually and of radar scopes that might have detected them.

Currently there is no complete breakdown of all the programs ATIC might have initiated in the fulfilment of this mission. However, the following documents reveal various projects and research into advanced photographic techniques and the installation of gun cameras on F-86 jets in an effort to try to capture the "flying saucers" on film.

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HISTORY OF AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER

1 JULY 1952 - 31 DECEMBER 1952



AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

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Copy No. 1
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April 12'

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF 1

ORGANIZATION: The Office of the Chief, ATIC, is composed of the Commanding General, the Deputy Commander, the Executive Officer and the Assistant to the Chief. The staff consists of the Inspector General, the Scientific Advisor, the Air Intelligence Officer and the Policy and Management Officer. Subordinated to the Inspector General are the Internal Security Section and the Office of the Air Inspector. Similarly subordinated to the Policy and Management Office are the Personnel, Comptroller and Air Adjutant General Branches.

FUNCTIONS: The functions of the Office of the Chief, ATIC are to accomplish the air technical intelligence phases of the overall mission of D/I USAF, as follows:

To provide air technical and scientific intelligence services for USAF as required to prevent technological surprise from any source;

To produce air technical and scientific intelligence studies and estimates of alien capabilities to conduct aerial warfare;

To provide basic data on foreign air weapons and related materiel, necessary in the production of recognition manuals and performance handbooks;

To nominate, indoctrinate, train and provide technical guidance for ATLO's as

required for the Air Attache system, and as required for various overseas Commands;

2

To conduct technical orientation and specialized training of attache personnel prior to their departure for foreign duty;

To indoctrinate selected Air Force personnel in the techniques necessary to conduct air technical and scientific intelligence operations in the field;

To investigate and analyse reports of unidentified aerial objects or of phenomena of possible concern to the air defense of the US;

To provide administrative services for WADC and AMC for their foreign scientists' program;

To provide air intelligence for AMC, WADC and certain components of ARDC;

To disseminate intelligence information concerning foreign air technological and scientific developments required by USAF research and development program;

To provide, as required, D/I USAF representation on Air Force and Joint boards and committees concerned with technical and scientific intelligence;

To establish requirements for air technical intelligence information, data and

material and to provide technical guidance to collection agencies;

To participate in certain phases of the domestic exploitation program of other intelligence agencies as directed;

To provide limited translation services to D/I USAF, WADC, CADO and AMC upon request;

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**TECHNICAL
REQUIREMENTS
DIVISION
(ATIR)**

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A proposal was submitted to consider use of US exchange officers for ATLO duty in England. The exchange officers, because of their knowledge of specific fields, were believed to have superior experience for service in the ATLO field.

Through the efforts of ATIR-2, the installation of gun cameras in F-86's assigned to the Fighter Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was assured. The purpose of these installations is to provide suitable photographs during flights resulting from reports or sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Steps were taken to insure that complete and continuing information covering a wide field of subjects and sources would be automatically forwarded to ATLO's. The type of information to be furnished would include knowledge of new equipment useful in collection of technical information, references to

collected information from other sources, and information assisting ATLO's in the performance of their functions.

Arrangements were completed with the Air Information Division, Library of Congress, for the collection of Soviet biographical data and for the fullest utilization of the Library in support of the air technical intelligence information effort. Valuable contributions by the Library of Congress have already been made to the air technical intelligence collection effort.

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**TECHNICAL SERVICES
DIVISION
(ATIS)**

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specialized training in the fundamentals of photography and in the various photographic media applicable to the collection of technical intelligence. These included 15 officer Air Attaches, 10 airmen, 27 ATLO's and 37 investigators.

Photographic research was carried on to determine inexpensive equipment by which photographs of unidentified flying objects and possible radiant energy therefrom could be recorded in silver or dye densities in the form of a spectral image with a single exposure.

Also conducted was a survey of available film emulsions and sensitometric studies to determine the film and developer combination with characteristics most suitable for recording a usable spectral image of unidentified aerial objects.

An optical system for laboratory testing of replica diffraction gratings was fabricated under simulated practical usage for an infinite object.

Using this system, 100 replica diffraction gratings were tested to determine photographic effectiveness.

A technical report entitled "A Fine Grain 35-mm Low Contrast High Speed Film Emulsion Developer Combination", was prepared as a result of extensive research and experimentation. The report showed

that the effective emulsion speed of Kodak Super XX could be increased two to four times.

The Orientation and Indoctrination project continued to show progress. A part of this program is devoted to airman assigned to the Center who are given an "Information and Education" course. This function was delegated to the Center by the Base.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS DIVISION

FUNCTIONS:. The functions of this division are to produce finished air intelligence; to assemble and maintain working files of technical and scientific data essential to accurate continuing appraisal of foreign aeronautical equipment; to provide such basic data on foreign air weapons and related material as necessary to the preparation of recognition manuals and performance handbooks; and to produce technical reports of observations of unconventional aircraft, missiles or of such other airborne objects as might indicate an advance in technological knowledge by a foreign power.

The operations of the Division were more specifically defined in D/I USAF Office Memo, Number 22-5, dated 30 September 1952. The Memo stipulates that the functions of this division are to produce finished air technical

intelligence; specifically, to analyse research and development, design and construction, processes of manufacture and performance of ground and airborne weapons and material pertinent to air operations of foreign nations in order to meet ATIC mission objectives and satisfy all using agencies; to assemble and maintain working files of technical and scientific data essential for a continuing appraisal of the capabilities of foreign aeronautical equipment;

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to maintain liaison with other governmental agencies on air technical intelligence matters pertaining to the production of oral or written reports, briefs, estimates and studies necessary to fulfill Air Force Intelligence requirements; to provide basic data on foreign air weapons and related material necessary to the preparation of recognition manuals and performance handbooks; to prepare air technical intelligence publications as required; to compile data on certain aspects of atomic energy, and biological and chemical warfare.

BW, CW and AS will be limited to technical considerations related to weapons development such as atomic power plants and the incorporation of warheads with the vehicle. Excluded are BW and CW agents and nuclear material.

ORGANIZATION: The Special Studies Office (ATIA-4) was abolished during this reporting period. As of 31 December, three offices remained: the

Administrative, Plans and Operations, and Technical Advisor. The division, in addition to the offices, consists of three branches: Aircraft and Propulsion (ATIAA), Electronics (AT1AE), and Associated Equipment (ATIAS).

Pending at the conclusion of the reporting period was a proposal to reorganise this division to effect a more equitable distribution of the work load among the Division's three Branches. A Staff Study, dated 24 December, was prepared which recommended certain organisational changes and which was subsequently endorsed by the Commanding General.

Analysts are divided into three Branches: Aircraft and Propulsion (ATIAA);

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**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS
DIVISION
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The principal difficulty encountered was that of determining the radar echo area of selected US aircraft at 73 Mc. This was overcome by model measurement of echo area by a contractor, Ohio State Research Foundation, and was accomplished by coordination with the Aircraft Radiation Laboratory of ARDC, using an already existing ARDC contract, by addition of \$20,000 of ATIC funds.

Echo area measurements were made of models F-84, F-86, B-36, B-47, and B-50 aircraft, these being of most importance to SAC. A final report of the estimated performance of Soviet 73 Mc radars "PEGMATIT", "RUS-2," and "DUMBO" against the above mentioned aircraft was prepared. Distribution of this study, "Estimated Performance of Soviet Radar," was completed on 6 October.

At the request of ARDC, several echo area measurements of a model MX-1626 aircraft were made. The model aircraft echo area measurements made for this project are also useful to research and development projects, as no suitable measurements had previously been made in the 73 Mc band. The only work remaining to be accomplished by the contractor is that of preparation of final reports on the F-86, B-47, B-50 and MX-1626 aircraft.

Project Blue Book: The months of July and August brought an all-time high in the number of unidentified flying object reports received by ATIC through channels. More than 500 were received during this two-month period. Public curiosity necessitated a press conference and this was held on 20 July with Major General Sanford in charge. ATIC representatives were present to answer specific questions.

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During the last four months of 1952, the number of such reports fell from a high of 56 per day to an average of about one per day. This decline probably has been due to the cessation of interest in the subject by the press. The reports that came in, however, generally could be classed as "good" and required more time for analysis.

The Monthly Status Reports, discontinued during the summer of 1952, due to the heavy influx of reports, were resumed in the Fall. Reports for the months of October, November and December were written and are in the process of being coordinated.

A conference was held with [Major Fournet, D/I Liaison Officer for this Project](#). Trips were also made to Maine, New York and California to investigate flying object reports. To date, 100 Videon stereoscopic cameras, equipped with diffraction gratings over one lens, have been

procured and received at ATIC. The distribution of these cameras is awaiting coordination with AACS and Air Defense Command. It is proposed that they be placed in certain control towers and radar sites in the US.

THE SOVIET YAK-11 AIRPLANE: A technical report has been disseminated in accordance with the distribution list set up by ATIC, 14 November, and the project closed.

SOVIET SURFACE-TO SURFACE GUIDED MISSILES, 1000 NAUTICAL MILES MINIMUM RANGE: Study draft was revised to incorporate changes which were indicated by recent intelligence information and further analysis. Study is currently being re-reviewed with ATIA and ATI.

RAMEY Air Force Base, Puerto Rico – Dec, 1952

TACTICAL OPERATIONS AND TRAINING REPORT

CHAPTER III. TACTICAL OPERATIONS AND TRAINING. CONTINUED

On 27 December an RB-50 aircraft, number 6881, of Detachment Seven, 55th Strat Recon Wg, Ramey AFB, PR while on a mission pertaining to project 5OAFS-7, overflew the Dominican Republic. The aircraft was intercepted and fired upon by a Mosquito type fighter aircraft of the Dominican Air Force.

Radio Trujillo (Dominican Republic) requested that the aircraft land at Ciudad Trujillo; the aircraft commander refused because of the excessive weight of the aircraft and the short length of runway at the Ciudad Trujillo airport.

The Detachment commander had briefed the Dominican Air Force on proposed flights of this nature in November. It was agreed at that time that overflight could be made anywhere within the Dominican Republic with the exception of certain specified areas, namely, the city of Ciudad Trujillo, training areas located approximately five miles west of the city, and the navy yards. The aircraft did not violate any of these restricted areas.

Headquarters SAC is investigating the incident.

On 31 December at 0445Q RB-36, number 2007, 60th Strat Recon Sq, 72d

Strat Recon Wg, while flying a 73 degrees outward heading on the Ramey radio beacon, altitude 8,000 feet, visibility excellent (a clear moonlit night), observed an unidentified object in the sky. The object, which appeared to be a reddish-orange ball of flame, was

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CHAPTER III. TACTICAL OPERATIONS AND TRAINING. CONTINUED

seen on the horizon and approached the aircraft's left side, passed over the wing at a distance of approximately 300 feet, and then traveled away from the tail and climbed out of sight. The aircraft commander, first pilot, and left scanner all observed the "flying saucer."

Training administered and manhours utilized by the Air Base Training Flight, attached to the 72d Operations Sq, 72d Air Base Group, during the period 1 December thru 31 December were as follows:

<u>TRAINING</u>	<u>STUDENT HOURS</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR HOURS</u>
Judo Training	43	14
Physical Conditioning	1417	57
Physical Reconditioning	297	16
Link Trainer	130	130

Judo Training	43	14
Code	240	20
Film Library	2310	85
Range (skeet)	362	104
Range (carbine .30 cal)	82	8
Range (pistol .45 cal)	32	4
Range (sub-machine gun)	1	1
On-The-Job-Training	8119	312

Sixteen airmen attended the Base drivers School and upon completion of three day course fifteen of the airmen were awarded driver's permits.



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