

# UFO Lands at AIR FORCE BASE

The jet pilot reported a UFO "on the ground." Camera crews were told to stand by—then security clamped down.

*By Coral Lorenzen*

**T**HE LOUDSPEAKER at Main Control on the Holloman Air Force Base-White Sands Proving Ground Integrated Test Range suddenly blared these electrifying words: "I've got a UFO."

It was Thursday, April 30, 1964. A lone B-57 was flying a routine mission in the vicinity of Stallion Site, a few miles east of San Antonio, N. Mex., on the north range. The pilot had called Main Control and said: "I'm not alone up here."

Control called for an explanation and the pilot replied: "I've got a UFO."

The controller then asked: "What does it look like?"

The B-57 pilot replied: "It's egg-shaped and white."

"Any markings?" asked control.

"Same as Socorro," the pilot said and then added, "I'm going to make another pass."

Minutes later, after the big jet had made its turn and come in over the area where the UFO was

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Coral Lorenzen is one of the foremost investigators and writers on UFOs in the country. In 1952 she became the International director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and editor of its publication, "The APRO Bulletin." She is the author of a book published in 1962, "The Great Flying Saucer Men" (APRO, 4145 E. Desert Place, Tucson, Ariz.).

first seen, the pilot contacted Main Control again and reported: "It's on the ground."

Then radio communications ceased. Photo crews were asked to stand by.

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**M**AIN CONTROL is a huge building topped with automatic and manual tracking devices and radar antenna, completely removed from the main base at Holloman. Inside, the Mission Controller as well as a host of other per-

sonnel keep in constant contact with instrumentation installations throughout the whole range and co-ordinate the efforts of planes, missiles, radars, and theodolites in order to keep track of the progress of the various experimental tests being carried out at Holloman and White Sands.

Shortly after I received my first tip on the above information I called Terry Clarke of KALG Radio in Alamogordo, nine miles east of Holloman AFB. I asked him what he knew about the UFO landing on the Holloman Range in April. He said his information source had monitored the range radio communications that day and his information was almost exactly what I have stated. He also said he'd heard of another sighting and there was a rumor that a UFO was in a hangar at Holloman, under heavy guard.

I contacted Arlynn Bruer of the Alamogordo Daily News to find he had sketchy knowledge of the sighting but had heard the rumor about the purported hangared UFO.

Next I went through the files dealing with the New Mexico sightings of April and May. One contact informed me that unidentified lights had been sighted on the Range during April, prior to the historic Zamora incident; another bit of information involved a guard

who had come upon a UFO on the range at night. Hysterical with surprise and fright he emptied his side arm at the object, then fled, with the UFO seemingly in hot pursuit. When he finally reached Base Headquarters, our informant said, he had "flipped his lid" and required sedation and hospitalization.

I immediately made queries concerning the landing and any other incidents related to the Holloman Range landing. We learned of two other UFO incidents on the Range during the month of May. There is no doubt in my mind concerning the accuracy and reliability of the information we gathered. Separate informants who have been reliable in the past gave us the information we needed to verify the initial facts. I do not hesitate to relate it here for, at the time, there was no indication of classification and the incidents were discussed quite freely both in White Sands and Holloman.

The singular fact about the landing, which took place on the Range extension between Socorro and Albuquerque, was that a digital track recording was obtained during the presence of the object. A digital track recording is a tape recording automatically generated simultaneously with the tracking operation which contains the elevation, azimuth and range of the

## Do You Recognize This Symbol?



**H**AVE YOU ever seen it before? Does it strike a responsive chord anywhere in your mind?

It is an artist's drawing based on a sketch by Socorro, N.M., Police Officer Lonnie Zamora after he allegedly saw the symbol on the side of the UFO he reported from Socorro.

If you have not seen this symbol reprinted before it is because Air Force officers asked that it not be published. They were not placing it under a military security classification but wanted to see if other UFO reports from the New Mexico area would describe a similar sym-

bol. As far as we know, none did.

Now that the Air Force's reason for not releasing the drawing is over, FATE is pleased to reproduce it for you. The official Air Force release on the Zamora sighting paraphrased Zamora's description of the symbol as follows:

(As the UFO was taking off) . . . "he noted a design on the object which he described as markings in red about 1½ feet in height, shaped like a crescent with a vertical arrow and horizontal line underneath . . ."

The drawing above is what he saw.

target during the time it is tracked by radar.

On May 15, between 11:30 A.M. and 12:15 P.M., Surveillance Radar as well as FPS-16 radars at Stallion Site, tracked two objects in the area north of Stallion Site. The UFOs performed "perfect, precise flight maneuvers", including side-by-side flight, separating, then rejoining each other in formation and up and down (Pogo) maneuvers.

Visual confirmation was made by a trained radar operator who saw the two objects, described them as brown and football shaped. They were flying at low altitude and disappeared beyond buildings at the instrumentation side where the radar operator observed them.

Probably the most disturbing information relating to this sighting was that one or both of the objects were responding alternately with the standard FAA recognition signal (sometimes called IFF).

To avoid the necessity of having to depend entirely on radar "skin track", i.e., reflection of radar beam from the plane's surface, there is in use in most military and commercial aircraft a "transponder" system. An "interrogate" signal is transmitted periodically from the tracking ground station. This signal consists of a series of pulses arranged in a particular time sequence or "code". When the "trans-

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ponder" (a combination receiver and transmitter) receives the correct code it responds by transmitting a code of its own which is received at the ground station. This is called a "recognition signal." Either of two frequencies commonly are used, with a different code on each frequency. It was one of these codes that the two football-shaped objects were beaming alternately while in flight on the Range north of Stallion Site.

Exactly seven days later, on May 22, an automatic track was obtained of an unidentified flying object with an exceedingly low speed of up to 2000 feet per minute (a very slow 25 mph) which came within 3700 yards of one of the Range radar installations. The skies were clear and there was no indication that the objects tracked were any kind of atmospheric phenomenon, and certainly they were not conventional aircraft.

After collating all the information Mr. Lorenzen and I decided to give a press release. We had a special purpose in mind—to get further information on all sightings. Our release was given to the press wires on Saturday, May 24.

On Sunday, May 25, Holloman "answered" our release with an AP release, datelined Holloman. It said that the Air Force confirmed that "a radar unit" at Holloman twice had tracked UFOs in the area of

White Sands on the preceding Friday, and that the report was being investigated; it suggested that some natural phenomenon such as a dust storm probably was responsible; the spokesman could find no basis for a report from an "aerial phenomena research group" in Tucson of a visual sighting at Holloman or that an egg-shaped object was under guard in a Holloman hangar.

We did learn something—there had been two separate sightings on Friday, May 22, instead of one.

Unless there was another landing the "captured" UFO would be the one involved in the April 30 landing, which would mean a motorized ground patrol must have come upon the UFO while its occupants were some distance from it and prevented their re-entering the craft. I do not know of any UFO landing incident in which the occupants ever got very far away from their craft, and the Zamora landing demonstrates their amazing speed and ability to escape close observation. Also, the size and amount of noise of a B-57 make it impossible to believe the occupants of the April 30 UFO were unaware of its presence. It is difficult to put any credence in the rumor of the "captured" object in a hangar at Holloman and remain objective. All of my sources trace back to a single airman who spoke of the

object in a shop in Alamogordo. It does seem that inasmuch as our contacts could find no further corroboration, as they did find for the incidents of April 30 and May 15 and 20, that the fellow was either making a bid for attention and/or was mistakenly excited by a closely guarded hangar.

But, frankly, I believe the account of the frightened guard who stumbled upon the UFO at night.

And I do know that the civilian population in the vicinity of the Holloman-White Sands Proving Ground Range are apprehensive about the continuing sightings.

I also have information indicating that the military at Holloman and White Sands, one of the most thoroughly instrumented test bases in the United States, are concerned about unconventional aircraft which not only land under their noses but which know so much about aerial procedures and traffic that they can simulate coded FAA recognition signals.

These reports are of enormous importance if true. And there is strong evidence that they are true. But Holloman-White Sands Area is now under a blanket of military security. It was impossible for us to go in and interview the principals allegedly involved. What we have conducted here is a kind of intelligence operation. But we trust our sources and we have evaluated

our information to the best of our ability.

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**S**INCE THE August issue of **FATE** was printed there were three UFO landings in the state of Arizona in one night—all near highways or roads. Colorado, Wyoming and Montana have experienced similar visitations.

The thread of continuity which runs throughout the fabric of the Spring 1964 flap consists of these major features:

The objects which landed or hovered fell on straight lines on the map.

They landed in areas where eventually they would be seen, but where they would be inaccessible and, therefore, safe.

Of all the sightings gathered by **APRO** since April 22 there have been only three or four "orphans" not located on previously established straight lines.

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**R**EPORTS CURRENTLY are coming into **APRO's** office from around the United States as well as the Fiji Islands and Australia. It looks like they are just "openers" for what may be ahead.

The Spring 1964 flap impresses me as an intelligence operation carried out by the occupants of the UFOs, either to show themselves, preparatory to closer contact in the future or to find out the effect

such contact would have on humans or how much we already suspect.

The press wire services and network TV and radio have been, for the most part, silent about UFOs or adhering to the prescribed "there ain't no such thing" party-line of officialdom since 1952. Perhaps the UFO occupants have made a number of landings in places where they would be certain to be observed, then retired to a safe place to monitor local TV and radio in order to learn the effects of their visits on the natives.

A similar operation took place over a geographically similar area, with comparatively sparse population, in northeast Brazil on May 13, 1960, just a few months before Mars and Earth made a close pass in space.

Mars and Earth will be close again in March, 1965.

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**B**ECAUSE OF the establishment of a straight-line pattern in the civilian sightings of UFOs in the Southwest in April and early May (see August **FATE**) I decided to see whether the estimated location of the April 30 landing at Holloman fell on one of the lines. A straight line drawn from Socorro, where the Zamora sighting took place, to Round Mountain near Tularosa, N. Mex., where a motorist observed a bright object

coming down the next day, intersects the Holloman Range near Stallion Site, as well as Highway 380, north of the site, near San Antonio. Another line, from Round Mountain through Albuquerque, Rock Springs, Wyo., and Canyon Ferry, Mont., also intersects the North Range. The third possibility is the line running from Las Cruces through Edgewood, La Madera, Alamosa, Colo., to Cheyenne, Wyo., all of which are locations of sighted UFOs. However, we cannot assume the Holloman landing falls on one of the lines, but can only reiterate that three of the previously established orthotonic lines do intersect the north Holloman Range extension.

The interesting thing about these four military sightings (and there may be more, of course) is that the UFOs were seen on a military base during the time (from April 30 onward) that military representatives were busily labeling various civilian sightings of similar objects as misinterpretations of conventional objects or hoaxes. I believe this series of sightings, demonstrates that the Air Force program is merely an attempt to explain away the UFOs, and the really serious work of evaluation, correlation, etc., is being done elsewhere. The Air Force's official statement that it was "unfortunate that only one witness reported the Socorro

object, and that no photos were obtained" is clearly an attempt to discredit the Zamora sighting on the basis of the lack of corroborating witnesses. The Air Force immediately was put into an embarrassing position when Dr. Lincoln La Paz, a noted meteorologist who knows Zamora personally, endorsed his integrity and reliability.

It was during my investigation of the New Mexico flap that I learned of the existence of an agency called the "UFO Board", comprised of military and civilian scientists, to whom the reports go for evaluation and study.

AF Regulation 200-2, much quoted among UFO enthusiasts, instructs local UFO officers on how to investigate a UFO sighting, and serves as a guide for public information officers concerning what can or cannot be said about a given incident. If an object can be explained a public statement can be made; if it is unexplainable in conventional terms no public statement will be forthcoming.

The Navy and the Army, however, have no unclassified, public regulations about UFOs but do have classified regulations governing UFO investigations and these services do not make public statements about any UFO incidents. One of the people at the Wright Air Development Center UFO Project recently told an **APRO** mem-

ber that they don't have enough time and personnel to keep up with filing, let alone research and evaluation. It is only normal procedure that the Air Force would be relegated the task of publicly accounting for UFOs, just as it is only normal that the agency doing the actual research and evaluation would be operating behind closed doors, anonymously.

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**F**OR MANY YEARS researchers have urged that all the facts should be told and that possible resulting hysteria is not a legitimate reason for denying the existence of UFOs. I agree. But there may be an area we have not thoroughly explored.

If, early in the UFO game, certain responsible scientists and officials recognized the superior nature of the UFOs, accepted the

interplanetary thesis, and considered the possible hostility of the objects, they may have felt justified in exerting some influence on press wires, TV and radio networks to keep UFO information at a minimum. They may have realized as early as 1950, when UFOs jammed radio frequencies of planes over Korea, that the objects were capable of monitoring our electronic news transmissions. Possibly, they intended, by "stalling", to keep the occupants of the UFOs from realizing how much we knew or suspected about them, thus giving us time to prepare for our defense, if necessary. No matter how eager some of us are to have the UFOs publicly recognized we should be objective enough to admit that a counter-intelligence move as outlined above would be practical and necessary.



### WHEN THE RAIN GOD CAME

**O**N APRIL 17, 1964, a statue of Tlaloc, Teotihuacan Indian god of rain and water, was installed in the new Anthropological Museum in Chapultepec Park, in Mexico City. At least 12 centuries old, the statue is over 24 feet high and weighs 167 tons. It was carried into Mexico City on a specially built trailer, and streets in some sections had to be reinforced because of the weight

of the conveyance and cargo.

The idol, which had been carved from living rock about 750 A.D., had been found years before, near Cowlinchan, 31 miles east of the Mexican capital. It was at this town that its journey began.

Tlaloc's arrival in Mexico City, appropriately enough, was accompanied by a cloudburst that flooded the streets and rained out ball games.