

Boston American (Eve)
Nov 4 1957 Pg 4

Blazing Sky Ball Frightens Texans

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today. Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide West Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Peace officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand here, didn't think much about it at first.

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing

passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean War veteran,

said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger. Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a similar occurrence also east of Levelland.

Policeman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who

called in reports of the object sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolman Leo Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area and at the same time as Clem. All were riding in separate cars.

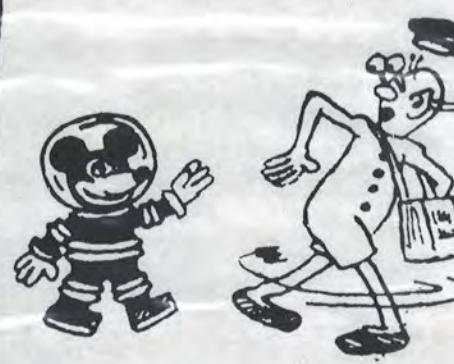
Boston Herald

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OTHER SPACE TRAVELERS

By Dahl

RUSSIANS MAY ALSO SEND UP APES, RODENTS, MOLLUSKS AND INSECTS. (NEWS ITEM)



OVAL SHAPED "SPACE SHIP" SIGHTED IN SOUTHWEST. (NEWS ITEM)

Hum and a Beep-Beep...

N. E. Hears Mystery Signals

By JOHN HICKEY

Hundreds of radio sets in New England were tuned today to catch a mysterious signal that may be coming from a speeding object in outer space.

Radio "hams," communications experts of the armed forces, and monitoring stations of the U. S. Federal Communications Commission were alerted to pick up the strange transmission and track it.

The FCC monitoring station in Millis, which has direct communication to Washington, was maintaining a close watch. For several days, reports on the transmission have been made to the Millis listening post, but its sets have yet to receive the signal.

The mysterious transmission is not coming from Muttnick, the second Soviet satellite now whirling through space and sending out regular broadcasts. It was learned.

ON HAM WAVELENGTH

The Millis receivers pick up Muttnick on each of its passes over this area, it was stated, and its signal comes in on schedule consistently. But, because of ionospheric difficulties, the dog-carrying rocket is only heard during less than 2000 miles of its orbit—for not more than

seven minutes on each of its passages over New England.

While the Muttnik transmissions remain predictable and brief, the mystery signals continue to elude identification.

They are sent on 14.286 megacycles, which in this country is within the band used by amateurs. But these frequencies are used for other purposes in other countries, and a satellite could use this wave length very well, a government expert said.

The transmissions have been picked up by the Radio Corpora-

tion of America's station in Washington, which reported that it is apparently coming from a moving source. It came in as a hum, interrupted by two short beeps.

It was also picked up by the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington.

ROCKET TO MOON?

One amateur reported its loudest tone was heard in Chicago 45 minutes after the greatest volume was heard in Long Island, Ind.

Turn to Page 63, Col. 4.

Mystery

Continued From Page 2

that the transmitter was moving westward at roughly the speed of the earth's rotation.

A "ham" in New Jersey discovered what may be a connection between the signal and the moon's passage. He found the signals faded about the time the moon set.

This was interpreted as a possible indication the transmission came from a rocket moving toward the moon, presumably a Russian project to reach the moon during the 40th anniversary celebration of their 1917 revolution.

Others speculated it might be an American satellite, to be dramatically revealed by President Eisenhower in his speech tonight.

The signal has been heard in many parts of this country, in South America, and at such far-flung outposts as the American station on the South Pole, and the drifting ice island in the Arctic Ocean, T-3.

Some listeners described it as a steady hum, others as similar to a radio teletype circuit, and still others as resembling the sound of radio jamming.

Boston American

EVENING

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Nov 7 1957² Final

Boston Traveler, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 1957

D 19

Lady Has Answer To Flying Objects

PORTLAND, Me. (AP)—There's nothing mysterious to Ead Brady about that egg-shaped object reported flying over various parts of the country. She says it's a space ship from Venus.

Miss Brady is minister of the First Spiritualist Church in Daytona Beach, Fla. She predicted a visit by Venusians while in Portland three weeks ago for the convention of the National Assn. of Spiritualist Churches.

As if Two Sputniks Weren't Enough!

'Space Ship' Shivers N.E.

Buck Rogers and Captain Midnight last night were relegated to the nursery along with Black Beauty and Mother Goose by New Englanders who developed a fine case of the jitters pondering the wanderings of Spudnik II and a strange luminous object reported variously at Levelland, Tex., White Sands, New Mexico and Chicago.

While Russia's flying doghouse went whirling around the earth at a safe (?) 1,000 miles overhead, reports started coming in of a mysterious oval shaped object which made several landings and knocked out automobile batteries and electrical systems while it was on the ground.

FLOOD OF CALLS

The reports broadcast in New England brought a flood of telephone calls to newspapers and radio stations from uneasy citizens who wanted a fuller explanation of the reported space ships.

The Herald's Washington correspondent contacted a Defense Department spokesman and was told: "No comment."

A call to Air Force headquarters in the Pentagon brought the reply: "We have received dozens of calls about these objects in the last few days. As yet we have not determined what the objects are."

First report of the amazing object came from Newell A. Wright of Abilene, Tex., a student at Texas Tech, who was driving to the Levelland area, said that when

Wright, one of 15 witnesses in the Levelland area, said that when he got out to investigate the cause he saw the object on the road ahead of him. He said it was about 125 feet long and oval shaped. He also described it as giving off a luminous light.

HUMMING NOISE

The student said he got back in his car and the object took off at a 45 degree angle with a humming noise.

Two Army patrols at the White Sands Proving Grounds in New Mexico also reported sighting a similar object yesterday. One patrol said it saw the object hovering over the abandoned bunkers used by technicians to observe the world's first atomic explosion on July 16, 1945.

Earlier another patrol reported an oval shaped object in the same area. They told officials the object landed three miles from them but that on investigation they found nothing.

Whether the large oval shaped luminous object came from outer space or is an experimental machine of one of the government agencies could not be determined.

NATURAL PHENOMENA

Dr. W. R. Donnberger, German rocket missile expert who worked on development of the V-2 and

is now head of the experimental rocket motor division of Bell Aircraft at Buffalo, N. Y., said that in his opinion it was a natural phenomena.

Donnberger said that what the people in Texas and New Mexico had seen was probably whirling air turning at seven machs (that is seven times the speed of sound).

Such an action would set up magnetic and luminous fields capable of blotting out any electric power within the area of the he said.

Whatever it was it had a reaction stretched to all parts of the country while olderster called the hair-raising adventure of Tom Swift and the young element thought about the adventures of Flash Gordon and school of adventure—all aware that the day is not far off the mysteries of outer space

be now to man. It's the my of it all that is giving John Public the jitters.

Sputnik II Overhead Tomorrow A.M.

Harvard Authority Scoffs At 'Space-Ship' Sightings

By CRAIG FLEMING

The current rash of "flying saucer" reports is largely due to the "sensitization of people to Sputnik," a Harvard scientist who doesn't believe in them one whit, said last night.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College Observatory

and author of the book, "Flying Saucers," has no doubt people are seeing things—but not what they think they see.

To Pass Over City

Meanwhile, officials at the Smithsonian Observatory in Cambridge predicted Sputnik II and its little dog passenger will pass

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(Continued on Page Four)

Harvard Authority Scoffs at Sighting 'Space-Ships'

(Continued from First Page)

almost directly over Boston about 5:09 a.m. tomorrow.

Early-risers should have excellent opportunity to see it if the skies are clear. The bureau is optimistic. Tomorrow will be the last opportunity to sight the half-ton rocket in this area for about a month, astronomers estimate.

There was a chance that Sputnik II would be seen as it passes east of Boston at 5 this morning, but weather experts said it wasn't much of a chance.

Dr. Menzel, who describes himself as a "flying-saucer chaser," told reporters "I can find them almost any night I want to go out and look."

As for the report from Texas of a 200-foot egg-shaped object that glowed reddish and caused auto motors to stop, Dr. Menzel thinks it may very likely have been a "tavern sign" or some other common object.

He called the Texas flying saucer a "nice example of a variety caused by a layer of heated air close to the ground which acts as a lens and can form images of objects 50 to 100 miles away."

JUST "MIRAGE"

This type of mirage, the professor said, is particularly prevalent after nightfall on a hot day as the air close to the ground begins to cool. It is particularly frequent in the western United States.

Such a mirage can "turn an auto upside down or multiply it two or three times. It can take a distant tavern sign and blow it up and surround it, with electric

Mystery Object Seen By Danvers Woman

Sighting of a mystery object was reported here yesterday but it was on the ground and not in the sky.

Mrs. Antoinette Dirubio, 34, of 133 Elliott St., Danvers, said that while driving in Beverly she saw in the road a small object "reflecting light like the eye of a cat."

As she passed it she saw a flash of orange light in her rear-view mirror and "smoke from one side of the road to the other."

lights. That's a dead-ringer for this report from Texas."

And how about those stalled motors?

"It would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Nor was Dr. Menzel impressed that a Coast Guard craft spotted a brilliant flying object on its radar.

"Everyone knows you can get false images on radar, and you can get simultaneous radar and visual sightings when there is nothing there."

"Probably," he said, "that flying saucer was 'bubbles of hot air in upper levels of the atmosphere.'"

NOT SURPRISED

The astronomer professed "no great surprise at another flying saucer scare. There are just as many around now as in 1947 and '48 when the scare started."

He said many natural phenom-

ena can produce mirages that lead to flying saucer reports," including ice crystals in the upper atmosphere which can produce most beautiful flying saucers. "I've chased them in airplanes."

But Dr. Menzel admitted that even the author of "Flying Saucers" can be convinced that they really exist—almost.

And he cited as "pure truth" the story of a "flying saucer with red and green lights and a little propeller twirling on top" that he saw one night two years ago while he was returning from the North Pole on an Air Force plane.

"The object," he said, "zoomed toward the plane so fast that I instinctively ducked. It stopped about 300 feet away and I tried to remind myself that I didn't believe in such things."

Dr. Menzel said it took him a minute to realize that it was really the distorted image of a bright star (Sirius) setting in the west, a star mirage.

As for the little propeller, he said, it was comparable to the "little lines shaped like a pagoda that you sometimes see over the setting sun."

Had not this mirage been seen by an astronomer, he said, "it would have been another of those unsolved reports."

Boston American (Sports)
Nov. 5, 1957 Pg 2

C. G. Tracks Fiery Planet

Here's Their Course

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Coast Guard cutter Sebago sighted an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 5:21 a.m. (CST) today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans received a radio message about the sighting. The message did not say exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

But the message said the object had been tracked on the Sebago's radar screen for 11 minutes before the visual contact and for 16 minutes afterward. During these periods, the object darted off the screen every few minutes but soon returned.

Com. James Schrader, head of search and rescue operations in the Gulf, said the object had been seen at latitude 25.47 north longitude 89.24 west or about 200 miles directly south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Com. Schrader said the radio message gave this log of the morning incident:

5:10 A. M.—The object was seen on the radar screen, moving north to south, about 14 miles from the cutter. The object continued to move closer, shifting toward the port side.

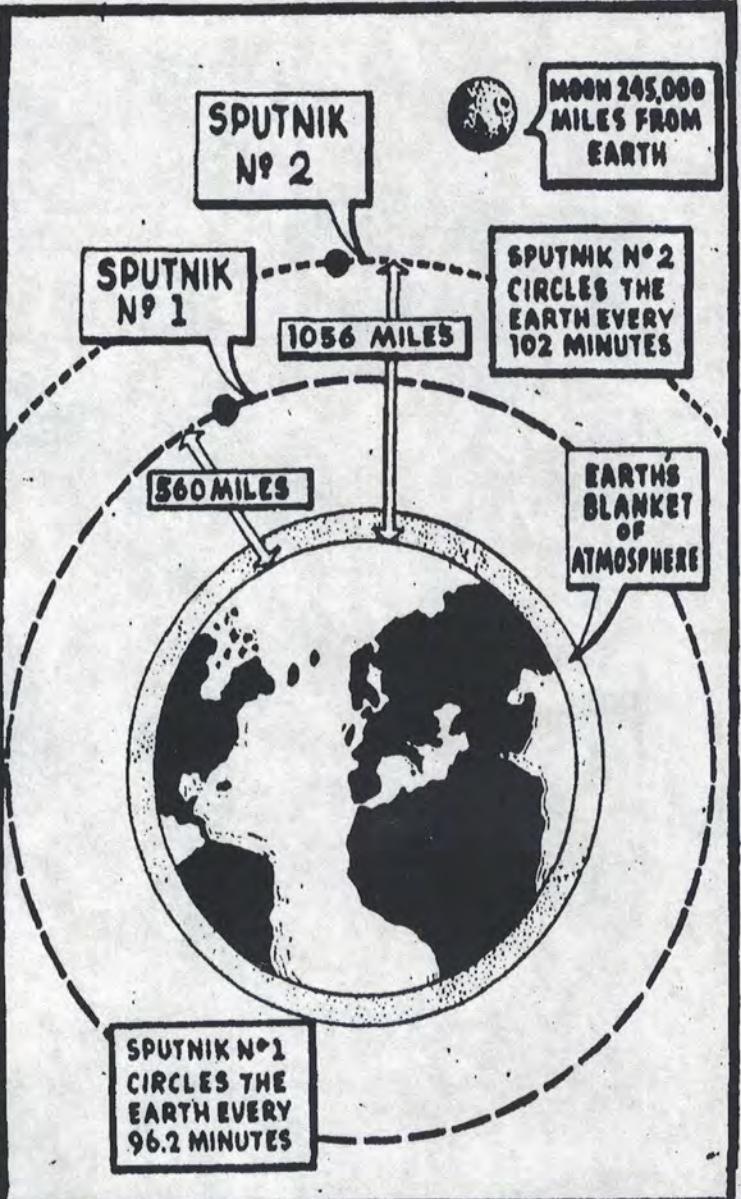
5:14—Contact was lost.

5:16—Contact was regained with the object about 22 miles north of the cutter.

5:18—The object, about 55 miles from the Sebago, faded off the screen.

5:20—Contact was regained. The object appeared stationary, seven miles due north.

5:21—The object was seen, moving horizontally south to north. It was seen for about three seconds and resembled a brilliant



SPUTNIKS I AND II TRAVELING THE SKIES
Chart Shows Relative Positions of Red "Moons"

Turn to Page 32, Col. 2

Other News of Red
Satellite Pages 6, 7, 32

Gulf CG Ship Tracks Fiery Planet

Continued From Page 2
planet with a high rate of speed.
5:21—Radar contact was re-sumed.

5:37—The cutter reported its last radar contact with the object about 175 miles north of the ship.

The Seabago is expected to report back to its home base in Mobile by Thursday.

Missile Engineer Spots Blazing Ball

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which he said stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday.

The Air Force started an investigation into similar reports in this and other areas.

Witnesses say a mystery object

skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N. M., told news director Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on isolated desert highway, U. S. 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo.

His description was similar to ones reporting a blg ball of fire flitting about much of this West Texas area over the weekend. A huge oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Ground Sunday.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him occupants of cars saw a strange, unidentified object flying toward them from the northeast. He said his auto radio faded and died, then his engine stopped.

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest.

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of the sighting," he said.

U. S. Military Seeks Auto, Radio Killer

WASHINGTON (AP)—A device capable of disrupting the operation of motor vehicles or other mechanical equipment is one of the things the armed forces would like to see developed.

But Leonard Hardland, chief engineer of the National Inventors Council, said today in response to an inquiry that he does not know of any research in this country aimed at producing a device that could stall automobiles or cause radios to fade.

Such happenings have been reported in the last several days in the southwest in connection with

the reported sighting of a mysterious object in the skies.

Hardland said he knows of no such research by civilian inventors and scientists and that if the Armed Forces are working in that direction "I believe it would be classified (secret)."

However, he said that four or five years ago the military asked the inventors council to put a "destructive or death ray" on its list of wanted inventions. The council circulates such a list among civilian inventors, engineers and scientists. So far, he said, no-one has come up with any death or destructive ray.

Hardland said he once heard an unverified rumor that the Germans had developed late in World War II a destructive ray device designed as an antiaircraft weapon.

Asked how a "mystery object"—if it exists—could conceivably cause autos to stall and radios to fade, Hardland said his guess would be that it would involve some form of electromagnetic radiation.

As for radio fading, Hardland said this, too, might involve electromagnetic radiation. "You can block a radio by putting in a high intensity signal that will block the receiver completely," he said.

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Nov. 4, 1957
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Buzz Heard Over Hub

The Russian "dog star" passed directly over Boston at 6:22 a. m. today and emitted a "very strong radio signal," Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, reported this noon.

Whipple said the radio signal was picked up by Andrew B. Ledwith, electronic technician at the observatory.

However, both Whipple and Dr. Allen Hynek, associate director of the observatory, said they do not yet have enough data on the new Sputnik to establish its orbit or to determine whether or not it will be visible in the Boston area this evening.

Commenting on a report the Soviets already have launched a rocket to reach the moon and that they have planned and powered it so that it will reach the moon on Nov. 7, the anniversary of the Russian revolution, Dr. Whipple said:

"If we knew this to be a fact and had information on where to look, we would have a chance of spotting the rocket en route to the moon. The rocket would leave a trail which could be picked up on a large-sized telescope."

Missiles Engineer Says 10 Autos

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1957

Three

Stalled by Strange Object in Sky

Huge 'Egg' Swooped Low Over N. M. Road, He Claims

LUBBOCK, Tex., Nov. 5 (AP)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant-colored, egg-shaped object" which he said stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday.

The Air Force started an investigation yesterday into similar reports in this and other areas.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend. The reported sightings startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force missile development center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N.M., told news director Terry Clark of Kalg, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U.S. 54, between White Sands proving grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this west Texas area over the weekend. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands proving ground Sunday, hovering near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

Witnesses said other strange lights were seen over other parts of Texas, near Chicago and in Virginia.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him oc-

He said several other cars were also stalled.

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands proving grounds to the southwest.

"As it passed... I could feel a kind of heat wave, like radiation from a giant sun lamp. But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail.

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of the sighting," he said.

He said the object moved very rapidly and its surface looked like "glowing mother of pearl."

He said an Allan D. Baker of Las Cruces, N.M., shot some pictures of the object.

Not Tracked by Radar

Saturday, Pedro Saucedo, 30, and other witnesses in this area reported a similar object. Saucedo said it looked something like a rocket and flew "with a great sound and rush of wind. It sounded like thunder." He and others said the object stalled their auto engines and caused the lights to go out.

Col. Barney Oldfield of The North American Air Defense said "the object... was not picked up by radar. It did not seem to be traceable."

At White Sands, a glowing object was sighted by two different military patrols on the missile testing range 17 hours apart Sunday.

Bill Haggard, information officer, said: "The object, if it was an object sighted, has absolutely

no connection with White Sands proving grounds."

London Times

Nov. 4, 1957

200FT. "PHANTOM" ON ROAD

TEXAS DRIVERS' ALARM

LEVELLAND, TEXAS, Nov. 3.—Texans by the dozen to-day reported having spotted a huge phantom object which swept down from the sky and automatically immobilized cars which approached it. Mr. James Long, a Negro lorry driver, claimed that he approached the object as it was "sitting" in the road about four miles west of Levelland.

He said it was about 200ft. long and shaped like an egg. "When I approached it my engine went dead and my headlights went out," he reported. "When it took off again, the engine and lights came back on." Mr. Long then became unconscious from shock.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he had two such reports of cars being immobilized. He said that the "phantom" was first reported at 10.50 p.m. on a road about four miles from Levelland. Then it was spotted a couple of hours later on a road eight miles from the town. It was seen a third time on a farm track three miles from the town.—Associated Press.

OBJECT IN FRONT OF SATELLITE

THEORY ON RELEASE OF DOG

FROM OUR SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

The possibility that the dog carried in the second Russian satellite may already have been released from it has been suggested by an American scientist, Mr. William Doe, of the Argonne National Observatory, Chicago. The basis of his suggestion was that a small object had been seen by two trained observers, members of the observatory staff, apparently travelling about three minutes in front of the satellite.

While the conclusion suggested must clearly be regarded as speculative unless confirmed by the Russians, it is consistent with an earlier report from Tokyo observatory that an object had been seen about one and a half minutes in front of the satellite. If it were losing height more rapidly than the satellite, it would gain on it in the same way that the rocket which launched the first satellite later gained on it. In the case of the second satellite it has been generally supposed that the satellite is itself the last-stage rocket. If this were not so, it might be expected that the last-stage rocket would have been seen earlier, moving in front of the satellite. But, in fact, there were no such reports.

DIFFICULT OPERATION

A point against Mr. Doe's suggestion is that the Russians said at the beginning that the departure of the dog from the satellite would be announced by radio, and that there would be an interval of two or three hours before its expected landing. This interval, however, sounds surprisingly short, and it might have been the intention to delay the announcement of what must be the most difficult operation in the whole programme until it was known to be proceeding as intended.

It has been said also that the dog's container was provided with "braking equipment." If the container is to come safely through the region, 50 to 60 miles above the earth, where meteors burn out, it must be supposed that braking would be applied at a higher level, possibly by small rockets.

Moscow, Nov. 7.—The Tass agency said to-night that scientists are continuing to register the movements of the second satellite, but the report made no mention of the dog which is inside it. Previous nightly statements have reported the dog's condition as satisfactory.—Associated Press.

London Times

Nov. 8, 1957

London Times

Nov. 7, 1957

SPUTNIK PLANET

VENUS CAUSES FLURRY IN AUSTRALIA

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SYDNEY, Nov. 6

A man set the town of Bathurst buzzing with excitement this afternoon when he reported seeing "a metallic object glittering thousands of feet above the town hall." Bathurst council officials came out to scan the sky and hundreds of people flocked out of offices and shops armed with telescopes and binoculars.

Police, Press, and radio were deluged with reports of a flying saucer. Some observers reported that the object had two decks; others that it had a red top and a lighted section underneath; that it had swept-back wings; and that it was cigar shaped. Two R.A.A.F. Sabre jets, sent from Williamstown, circled Bathurst for an hour without sighting anything.

Then the crew of a Quantas airliner solved the mystery—it was the planet Venus. Sydney observatory explained later that it was common for Venus to be visible during daylight at this time of year.

CIGAR-SHAPED MYSTERY

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, Nov. 6

Reports of the sighting of mysterious objects in the air, on land, and at sea continue to come in, but none of these objects has yet been identified. At Colorado Springs to-day the North American Air Defence Command reported that from different parts of the United States last night it had received 46 reports of unidentified objects, but only three of these were worth further study and only one of the three was being immediately investigated. This was at Kearney, Nebraska, where a Californian named Schmidt said he had sighted a cigar-shaped object on a prairie and had talked with four men and two women in it.

Air Force Official Discounts Report of Flying Saucers

DAYTON, Ohio, Nov. 6 (AP)—The Dayton Journal Herald quoted a top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center tonight as discounting all reports of so-called flying saucers.

The official, who declined to be named, told the newspaper the Air Force has found no evidence of

flying saucers in the last 10 years. He said the Air Force investigated 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947-57. And he said not one single landing impression or footprint of any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found.

The official also said, in all seriousness, that the Air Force has never, and is not now, holding any little men from space as some flying saucer writers have hinted.

Recent sightings of unknown objects in North Texas and Springfield, Ohio, will almost certainly be explainable when investigators have concluded inquiries now being conducted, the officials said.

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Nov. 7 1957 Pg 11

Boston Record Nov 4 1957

Phantom 'Fireball' Stalls Cars in Texas

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—Dozens of persons in the west Texas area told of spotting a big, brightly lighted phantom object squat in roadways and take to the air Saturday night and early yesterday.

Sheriff Weir Clem, who said he observed the phenomenon personally, reported one witness fainted from fright.

He said this individual was James D. Long, Negro truck driver from Waco, Tex.

Clem said Long drove upon the object while it appeared to halt in a road about four miles west of Levelland, which is 10 miles west of Lubbock on the Texas south plains.

Long reported the object, 20 feet long and shaped like an egg, "cut off the engine and lights" of his truck. When the object took off again, Long told the sheriff his engine and light came back on.

Sheriff Clem said he had two such reports of car lights and engines failing temporarily.

According to the sheriff, the object was first reported at 10:30 p.m. on Highway 116 about four miles west of here; the second time, at 12:15 a.m., on Highway 51 about eight miles north of here; the third time it was on a farm road three miles northwest of town.

A. J. Fowler, night patrolman, said the police station was flooded with calls from residents and motorists in the area.

Sheriff Clem said:

"I just can't figure what it was. We had three eyewitnesses who saw it come right down the road. On two separate occasions this object—whatever it was—killed engines of motor vehicles, but when it took off the engine would start up again."

Big Object Aloft, On Highways, Too

MYSTERY LIGHT IN SKY ALARMS WEST TEXAS

LEVELLAND, Tex., Nov. 3 (AP)—West Texans puzzled today over accounts of a mystery object, big and ablaze with light, which dozens told of seeing in the sky, and several said they found squatting in roadways.

Observers told newsmen of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the phantom object last night and early today were unaccountably stalled but restarted as the phenomenon rose into the air.

Sheriff Weir Clem, who said he observed the brilliant light but didn't get a close view, reported one witness fainted from fright.

Officers inspected the reported landing sites today and found no marks to indicate anything had set down there, the sheriff said.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler, on duty in Levelland as reports poured in from startled residents, said at least 15 persons told of getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be flashes of light.

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Boston Herald Nov 2 1957

CRATIC GOV. MEYER'S REELECTION IN NEW JERSEY. IT WAS MORE THAN 200,000 VOTES.

Strange Signals Confuse; Sputnik II Comes--Went

Red Satellite In 5 Crossings Of U.S. Today

By ROGER GRIFFITH

Sputnik II, the Russians' flying doghouse, was due to flash over Boston at 5:13 a.m. today, up 140 miles and hitting a pace close to five miles a second.

Five Crossings

And last night thousands of New Englanders set their alarm clocks, laid out warm clothing and prepared to get up more than an hour before the sun, to see a flash in the sky, the signal of Laika the dog, "Here I come--went."

At the Smithsonian Astrophys-

(Continued on Page Eleven)

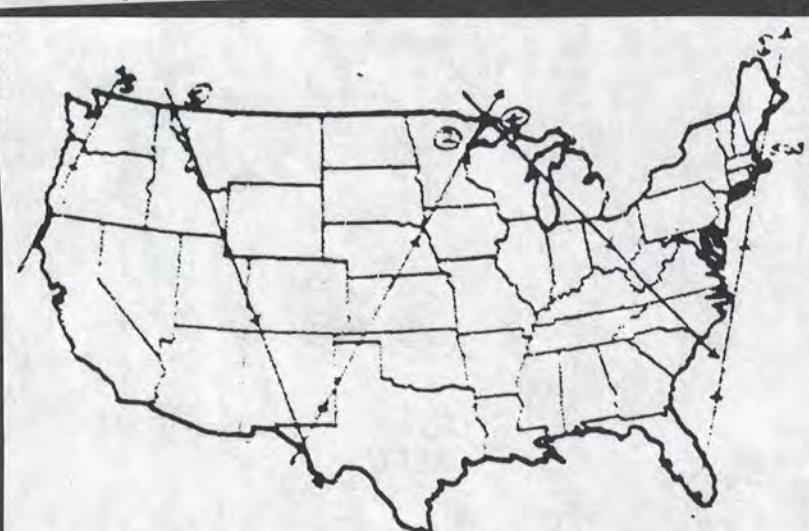
Red Satellite In 5 Crossings

(Continued from First Page)

cal Observatory in Cambridge yesterday, Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director, and his staff estimated the satellite would race across American skies five times during daylight hours today. But the missile will be visible only on the pre-dawn flight, he said.

The first crossing was charted with Sputnik II passing over southern Florida at 5:08 a.m., tearing along the Atlantic Coast past Cape Hatteras, crossing Massachusetts near the Cape Cod Canal, then out over eastern Maine at 5:15.

Other crossings: At 6:54 a.m. EST, sailing across western Texas, leaving eastern Minnesota six minutes later. At 8:42 a.m., making a two-minute trip across western Oregon and Washington. At 2:15 p.m., crossing eastern



CROSSINGS of the United States by Sputnik II.

Minnesota, zooming down across western Montana at 3:59, leaving western Texas at 4:05.

Continued reports that the satellite is sometimes bright, sometimes dim, led Whipple to conclude it may be tumbling through the skies, or possibly yawning, so that various surfaces of it reflect light to the earth.

MOON BLAST

Meanwhile Whipple said that an atomic blast on the moon would be seen by few if any Americans, should this be the treat the Russians have in store for the world today to mark the 140th anniversary of the Russian revolution.

He emphasized that he had no information that Russia planned an event. His statement came as more and more persons reported seeing everything from "explosions" on the moon to a worried look on the face of the man in the moon.

At the observatory, however, the astronomers, mathematicians and radio experts will keep a

round-the-clock watch for any possibility, Dr. Whipple said. He and the other top scientists were on the job much later than usual last night.

There have been reports the Russians were planning something special for the anniversary. The reports added this might be the firing of a missile at the moon, with the missile carrying an

atomic bomb which would explode on contact, confirming the missile had reached the moon.

Whipple said such a blast could be seen only with "better" telescopes and that the chance of spotting it with the naked eye or with binoculars would be "remote."

Whipple noted one group is taking the possibility "seriously" that such a blast may be in the offing. Walter Haas of Las Cruces, N. M., president of the

Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, asked members, serious amateur astronomers, to watch the moon. They went on duty yesterday and will continue watching today and tomorrow.

PICTURES OF MOON

Whipple said he hoped one of the first contacts with the moon would be to put a satellite spinning around it. "and I hope the USA will put it up there," he added.

It could take pictures of the 42 per cent. of the moon never seen from the earth, and either bring them back, or send them via TV, he said. Such a satellite would be "invaluable," he pointed out, in measuring the density and mass of the moon. He said he believed such a satellite could be sent up "in a very few years, less than five."

Flying Cigar Newest National

Haunt

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (INS)—A mystery object, fast supplanting the flying saucer of old, captured the imagination of the nation today, prompted hundreds of reports, and disrupted U. S. Air Force intraservice liaison.

Hovering over it all was an object variously described as glowing, cigar-shaped, egg-shaped, motionless, fast-moving, and otherwise having all the qualities of a phantom from outer space.

It was reported generally in the western United States—mostly in the New Mexico-Texas-Gulf Coast area—but also as far east as Cairo, Egypt, where it shrank to a small object and finally was thought to be part of a man-made satellite.

The pentagon and the U. S. division of the Northern American Air Defense Command, the latter based at Colorado Springs, were unable to agree on where collected information was to be funneled to the public.

Pentagon spokesmen said Norad was doing the job but Col. Barney Oldfield, public information

officer at Norad, said all information secured from Air Force investigations would be channeled to the Air Defense Command in Washington.

One Air Force spokesman noted that since the first flying saucer report years ago, some 6000 investigations have been made, as Capt. Andy Peasley at Norad said:

"We're now getting a rash of

By JAY HICKS

unidentified object reports and we intend to investigate as many as possible."

The captain said an official mouthful. Among problems facing the investigators are these:

The latest report was by a grain buyer traveling through Nebraska, R. O. Schmidt, 48, of Baker-

field, Cal., who said he visited aboard a strange flying machine near Kearney, Neb., yesterday.

Schmidt said he talked with a four-man, two-woman German-speaking crew and when the craft took off (after repairs) it "just blended into the sky and disappeared."

The Air Force appeared more genuinely interested in the case reported by James Stokes, 45,

an engineer from the Air Force missiles development center at Holloman Air Force base near Alamogordo, N. M.

Stokes said he saw an object yesterday near Alamogordo. He said it was "light-colored and egg-shaped."

The Coast Guard cutter Sebago, patrolling some 200 miles south of New Orleans yesterday, radioed its headquarters that a brilliant white mystery object was spotted visually and also picked up on the ship's radar screen.

Cmdr. C. H. Waring, the cutter's skipper, said the object traveled at an estimated 1000 miles an hour and first appeared on the ship's radar screen as a "good, strong pip."

The mystery object, described as large as the size of a barn, also "appeared" in Kansas City and Oklahoma.

Still unexplained in the huge object reported near the north end of the White Sands proving ground in New Mexico Sunday about the same time a similar report popped up in Lovelland, Tex., where Air Force investigators now are at work.

Boston American
Nov 6 1957 A (Race Ch)

THE BOSTON HERALD, FRIDAY, NOV. 8, 1957

A 28

MYSTERIOUS RADIO SIGNALS HELD NOT FROM SATELLITES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 (UPI)—Federal radio engineers checked on radio signals on the 108-megacycle band.

Long Island, New York, picked up reports of mysterious signals to-day but found none they could connect with an earth satellite—American or Russian.

One report came from RCA Communications, Inc. which said its receiving center at Riverhead,

That wavelength is assigned to the U.S. satellite, which hasn't been launched yet. A test U.S. baby moon with radio transmitter is slated to go up next month.

RCA Communications described York area.

the mystery signal as a continuous, tone-modulated hum at a low pitch of 200 cycles per second. It was first heard at 9:35 a.m. EST and grew weaker until it died out at 10:50 a.m.

Radio engineers for Project Vanguard, the U.S. earth satellite program, guessed that the signal came from a radio amateur or other local source in the New

Boston American

Nov 6 1957 P.4 Final

Sky 'Cigar' Mirage, Says Expert

Mysterious objects in the sky, reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico, and ballyhooed by some radio and TV stations as possible flying castles from other planets, are nothing more than mirages stemming from natural causes, a Harvard astronomer explained today.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College Observatory, eliminated the sinister implications which were being given wide circulation, by stating that the whole thing amounts to "another flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an investigation of reported sightings of the strange sky objects, but a spokesman said the Air Force is inclined to agree with Menzel's opinion that current sightings have explanations in nature, or that the reported objects actually are aircraft or similar man-made things.

A rash of such reports has developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military in-

stallations in the Southwest. Some of the persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Yesterday the Coast Guard cutter Sobago radioed from the Gulf of Mexico that an object resembling a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed was seen for about three seconds, and that it was tracked by radar.

Menzel said it is probable the cutter's crewmen got a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

As for reports of the auto engines stalling, Menzel said "it would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Menzel, author of a book about

flying saucers, said he has been studying them for about 10 years and has yet to hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air . . . acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground, and they are common in the West where they have clear air."

The Air Force said that during the first half of this year only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other strange objects in the air have been classed as "unknown." And the Air Force wasn't ready to believe that even this small percentage has sinister implications.

Retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, head of a private group set up to investigate unidentified flying object reports, said he could not now evaluate the present claimed sightings. But Key-

hoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said the reported objects may come from another planet.

In Colorado Springs, Colo., harassed Air Force officers reported 46 unconfirmed reports of unidentified flying objects streamed into the North American Air Defense Combar Operation Center. The public information officer there said flatly:

"There has been no evidence to support credence of flying saucers. Every time such a report is played up, it always brings a rash of new unidentified flying object reports."

Sky Shenanigans Nothing Sinister, Astronomers Say

There were many reports about unusual activity in the sky last night and chances are they all were authentic.

But trained astronomers agreed that the reason for the reports was not some new object launched into space by the Russians, but the simple fact that many more people than usual were looking skyward.

"There's always a lot going on in the sky," said one of them.

"That's the main reason why we are astronomers."

Strange light flashes across the moon, sudden changes in the color in the sky all are part of star gazing, the astronomer said. Many of these sights are real—that is, there is a sound scientific explanation for them.

But many more are tricks played by the untrained human eye as it looks for a long time on a subject with which it is not familiar.

"Not many people really study the stars," said the astronomer. "They look and perhaps comment that it's a lovely night or that thousands of stars are out, but they seldom look long enough to see what is really going on."

He agreed with Dr. Donald Menzel, director of Harvard Observatory, that many people really do see flying saucers, but that "they don't see what they think they see."

Dr. Menzel said every flying saucer report without exception can be explained in terms of visual phenomena, which occur regularly in the sky and which almost anyone can see if he really goes looking for them.

Last night's reports ranged from seeing "explosions" on the bright surface of the nearly full moon to sightings of strange lighted craft, which seem to dart, hover and disappear.

The Globe and the Smithsonian Observatory received scores of calls of such sightings. But most of the callers admitted they were outdoors looking on the chance of seeing something Russian land on the moon.

Boston Globe
Nov 7 1957 ¹³

Boston Globe
Nov 2 1957 P3

Mystery Metal Falls From Sky Over Dorchester

Something fell on Mrs. Ann Vinea of 27 Doris st., Dorchester, at 1:30 p.m. last Thursday, and she wonders if it might be a piece of Sputnik.

Mrs. Vinea was sitting in her back yard with her husband,



Boston Globe
Nov 7 1957 P3 (Eve)

Moonwatchers on Job

Sputnik, Balloons, Jets Crowd Skies Over Hub

Bostonians who reported a white, the detailed facts about the ball-object high in the sky this morning loons are classified information. Many Bostonians telephoned the

It was neither a new Sputnik, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, the international center for the "moonwatch" ethylene balloon.

Tuesday, the Cambridge chemical firm of Dewey & Almy announced that it was releasing 100 st. such balloons from its plant in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

According to a Dewey & Almy spokesman, the balloons are of a sky size and shape which, when they expand in the rarified upper air, will explode at a pre-determined altitude. Henry Chaney, 40 Fairmont st., Dorchester, told the Globe that he expected to rise into the swiftly moving upper air stream and leap and Planets.

Leaflet Balloons

The balloons contain leaflets which are dropped when the balloon explodes. On the leaflets are printed a brief questionnaire, asking the finder to identify himself. Furthermore, Venus and Sagittarius were in close conjunction, jet if and where he had seen a representative said, producing an balloon, and whether he had seen unusually brilliant radiance in any others. The leaflet then is to Venus.

he returned to Dewey & Almy. The aurora borealis with glowing red streaks, added to the officer at Dewey & Almy, said confusion.

STRUCK BY SPUTNIK?—Mrs. Ann Vinca of Dorchester shows metal fragment on wrist, that fell on her.

Joseph, reading a magazine, when a fragment of odd-looking metal dropped from the sky and landed on her left forearm.

This piece of metal, she discovered later, is magnetic. It looks like aluminum, but is heavier. It appears to have been subjected to intense heat, though it was cool when it landed on her.

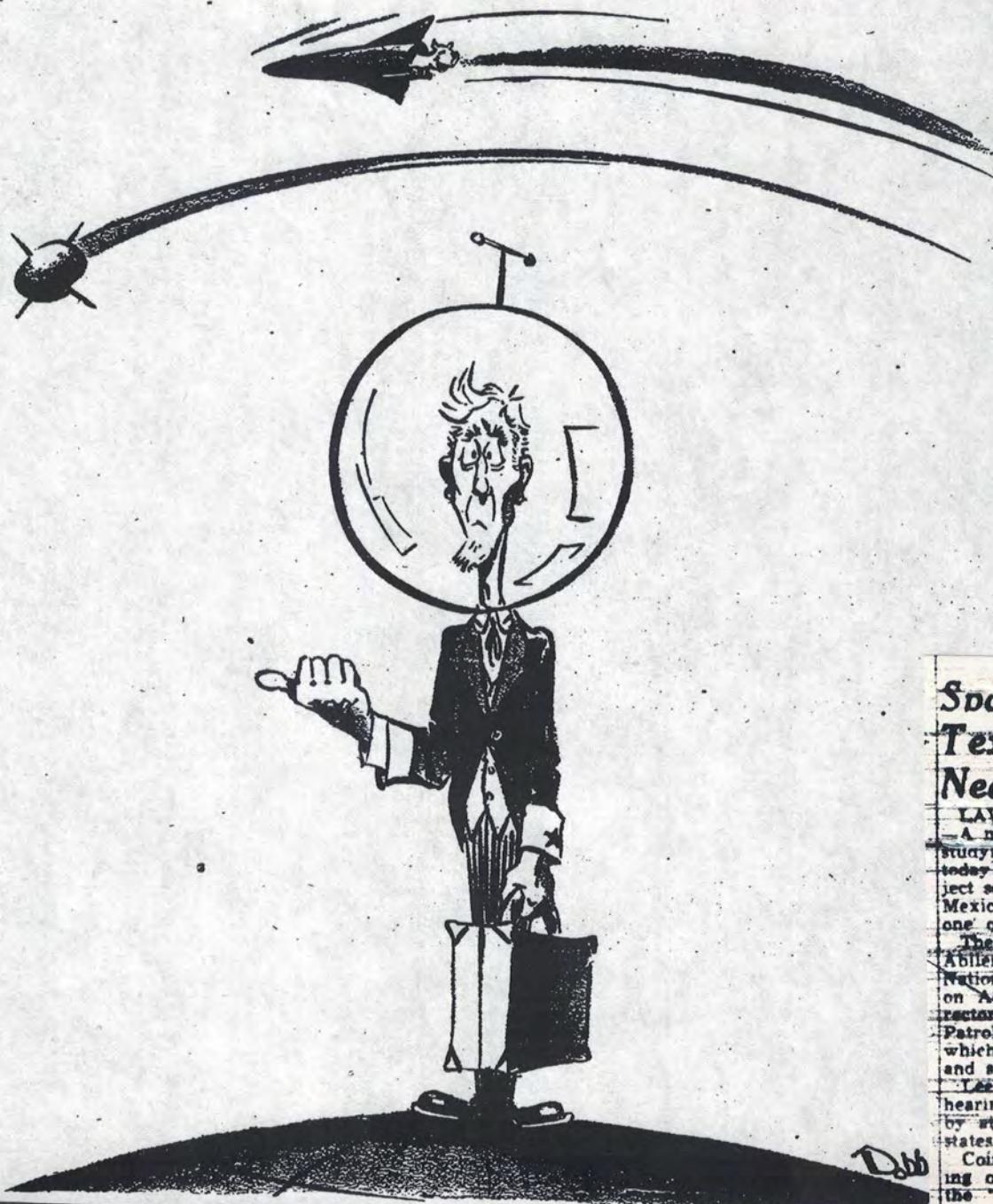
The Vincis think it is some kind of alloy. The fragment is about three-quarters of an inch long and roughly rectangular in shape.

There was nothing visible in the sky over the Vincas' back yard when the mysterious fragment fell.

Was it from Sputnik? If not, where did it come from? Mrs. Vining wishes she knew.

Boston Traveler Nov 7 1957⁵⁸

HAVE SPACE SUIT - WILL TRAVEL!



Space Ace Says Tex. 'Thing' From Nearby Planet

LAWELLAND, Tex., Nov. 7 (UPI)

A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said today he believes a mysterious object seen in West Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, Tex., a member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena and a director of the Abilene Space Patrol, a West Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee rushed here yesterday upon hearing of the latest object, seen by at least nine persons in two states.

Coinciding with Russia's launching of its second earth satellite, the "thing" would have caused little more alarm if small green men had jumped out of it.

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and a brilliant red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Lovelland area, including the sheriff, three persons at Midland and another at Clovis, N. M.

Lee said machines inside the object "disturbed the magnetic field of balance" and will cause car engines to stall and compasses to veer crazily.

"I think it's a space craft from one of the Neighboring planets," he declared.

He said he will make a report of his investigation to Washington.

Boston Globe

Nov 4 1957 (E)

Boston Globe
Nov 6 1957

Boston Herald
Nov. 2, 1957 Pg. 1

Sky Sights Prompt Calls of 'Whazzat'

Bostonians, watching the skies as closely as the Russians these days, had a lot to see last night, and misinterpreted much of it.

The planet Venus was brighter than usual, and that brought a flood of "What's that?" calls to police, astronomers and newspaper offices.

Then came the aurora borealis, or northern lights—and more calls.

Then the moon was shining bright as a silver dollar—and some were seeing odd things on the face of it.

U.S. Radar Net Trying to Spot Mystery Objects

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (UP) The Air Force said today its radar network was watching for strange flying objects reported in various sections of the country. But it recalled that a 10-year search produced no evidence that "flying saucers" exist.

SIGHTINGS

Page Eight

SIGHTINGS

Continued from the First Page

Reports of "sightings" during the past 24 hours continued to pour in from the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, the United States missile test center in New Mexico and other areas. The reports told of auto motors stalled and headlights dimmed as objects passed.

The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Seabago reported it kept one unidentified flying object (U.F.O.) on its radar screen while the "brilliant planet" circled the vessel about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Team Sent to Investigate

The Air Force sent a special investigating team to New Mexico where military police at the White Sands proving grounds reported seeing a "very bright" object about 200 feet long. An electronics engineer reported a similar sighting.

During the past 10 years the Air Force has investigated 5700 reports of strange objects, 250 of them between January and June of this year. It said all but a small fraction have been explained as aircraft, astronomical phenomena, hoaxes, or hallucinations.

In a statement apparently aimed at calming any apprehensions stemming from reports of the past two days, it said there has been "no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment" that a "so-called flying saucer was ever found."

Of the 250 U.F.O.'s reported in the first six months of this year, the Air Force said, balloons accounted for 26.4 percent; planes 28.8 percent, natural phenomena 24.4 percent, hoaxes, searchlights or birds, 6.14 percent, insufficient information 12.1 percent and unknown 1.0 percent.

Cops Spot 'Object' In Sky

URBANA, Ill. (INS)—Two experienced Illinois state troopers reported seeing a "brilliant flying object" near Danville and following it about 15 miles.

The troopers, Calvin Showers and John Matulis, said they were unable to notify headquarters during the chase because their radio went mysteriously dead.

The radio was in good working order before and after they sighted the object.

Lt. John Henry, Urbana state police district, said the troopers described the object as brilliant white when they first saw it. It then changed during the chase to an amber color and then to bright orange.

The object, brighter and larger than a star, was described as "traveling at a terrific rate of speed."

The troopers were unable to say how high it was in the air or how large it actually was.

The state police car sighted the object while responding to reports of its appearance by citizens in the sector north of Danville.

Henry said he had not believed flying object reports before but added: "These are two experienced, trusted policemen and their reports are very reliable."

Earlier, Lt. Henry said, a farmer near Longview reported a "flying saucer" had landed in his field. The only thing found by state police investigators was a grapefruit-sized ball of twisted metal.

Boston Globe

Nov 6 1957 Pg 1

White-Hot Object Lands Near London

LONDON, Nov. 6 (Reuters)—A white-hot object the size of a tennis ball and believed to be a meteorite crashed near a nursery school outside London today, making a crater two feet deep.

When it cooled it was taken to the local police station to be examined by experts.

It was about four inches by three inches by two inches in size and weighed 1½ pounds.

The object was heard whistling through the air and landed with "a terrific thump," narrowly missing a father taking his child to school.

Only 12 meteorites have been recorded as falling in Britain since 1785. The last landed in Wales in 1952.

Boston Globe

Nov 6 1957 P1 (A)

Don't Discount Flying Saucers, Engineers Say

The sightings of unidentified objects in several sections of the country and especially the sightings made by the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Seabago, have raised again the question of interplanetary visitors.

Twenty-five-year-old Fred Warren of Billerica, an engineering standards coordinator in a Lawrence plant, believes there's something to it.

Warren, who has studied this UFO business (sightings of unidentified flying objects) said last night it cannot be discounted.

"These objects are defying all laws of gravity and physics," he said. "They have no visible means of propulsion and their speed appears to be terrific."

"It's funny too," he added, "why they should be sighted close to our atomic projects. Could they not be making radiation counts?"

"Has the arrival of satellites in space caused them to make an investigation. Then there are these strange radio signals coming in which don't appear to be from Sputnik."

Warren said there has been an awful lot of nonsense written about flying saucers but there also are reliable men who are suspicious.

"Objects like these," he said, "have been sighted since 22 A. D."

Warren said he did not think these objects were either American or Russian.

"If they were American," he said, "we've been wasting a lot of time and money building missiles."

Joseph Ryan of Lawrence, an engineering supervisor, said he didn't think there was too much information to go on yet but added, "I believe in flying saucers as such and that there is some intelligence higher than ours."

Nov 6, 1957

BOSTON DAILY GLOBE

'It's All Hot Air'

Space Ship? Hogwash, Says Harvard Astronomer

Cool off, everybody, it's nothing but hot air.

Literally and figuratively.

Space saucer? There still ain't no such critter, according to Dr. Donald H. Menzel of Harvard Observatory.

He debunked flying saucers 10 years ago in a book and he debunked them again yesterday in a special interview at the Smithsonian Observatory in Cambridge.

All these space saucers that folks see are nothing more than hot air bubbles, he said.

That business about the automobile lights dimming and the radios dying out and the motors stalling and the batteries steaming and minutes later everything starting up again—that's just persiflage, hogwash, bunk, coincidence, imagination, with a wedge of hokum added, he said.

"It is no surprise," the doctor added, "that we are having such a scare again. There are just as many flying saucers now as there were in 1947 and 1948."

Reflections on Hot Air

There is no question that the observers see something but what they see are reflections of light, in brief—mirages.

"I have seen them," he said, "all kinds. I can see them any time I want to go out and look for them. I saw the daddy of them all—one with flashing red and green lights and a little propeller on top."

The brightly gleaming flying saucers reported all around are mirages, he said. They can be very, very vivid, making the same impact on the eye as the object itself.

"The illusion in Texas is a nice example of a variety of flying saucer caused by a layer of heated air close to the ground which acts as a lens."

"This lens can form the image of an object 50 to 100 miles away very vividly. Such conditions are very prevalent throughout the West."

"Such a hot-air lens can make an automobile appear right-side up, upside down, double. It can take a tavern sign, reproduce it, and ring it with flashing lights. It remains a mirage."

In discussing the Coast Guard ship's radar report, Dr. Menzel said that such an air bubble can cause a visible and radar impression at the same time.

"The Daddy of them all," he said, was a "flying saucer" he observed while returning from the North Pole in an Army bomber. The saucer had red and green flashing lights and a propeller on top. He was finally able to identify it as an image—created by a hot-air lens—of the star Sirius twinkling millions of miles away.

"If I hadn't been a trained astronomer," he said, "and had not written a book on such phenomenon, I might have been fooled—so vivid was it."

Boston

DAILY GLOBE—FRIDAY.

NOVEMBER 22, 1957

'Sputnik,' Low Down, Just Balloon From Weather Bureau

A weather balloon sent aloft after dusk last night caused anxious moments for several Greater Bostonians who spotted its trailing light and believed it to be a flying saucer or one of the sputniks.

Many followed the progress of the object as it was carried high into the sky by the northeast wind out over the Atlantic Ocean.

The enigma was soon cleared up by weather bureau officials, who said that balloons carrying weather recording instruments have been mistaken for mysterious objects on many occasions.

As for the sputniks, scientists at Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge last night said the rocket of Sputnik I may be visible to New England next week.

They said that the rocket, resembling a fast moving star, will pass about 6:30 p.m. Monday in the far western horizon and pass over the far eastern horizon Tuesday about 5:30 p.m.

Tells Stirring Tale Of Visit To Space Ship

KEARNY, Neb. (UP)—Authorities today held a "heart to heart" talk with a salesman who claimed he chatted with four men and two women in a transparent "space ship."

The report by Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Bakersfield, Calif., was the most dramatic of a host of unidentified flying object sightings reported around the country.

POLICE ROPE OFF LANDING SPOT

Schmidt's tale, as strange as any science-fiction story, stirred considerable excitement in the Kearny area for a time. Police roped off the spot where the "Whatnik" allegedly landed and examined various impressions and oil stains on the ground.

But curiosity turned to skepticism when Scottsbluff County Sheriff Steve Warrick revealed

Schmidt had served time in the Nebraska Penitentiary for embezzlement.

However, Schmidt stuck by his story. Police said they held a "heart to heart" talk with Schmidt last night and planned further questioning today.

Schmidt, a grain buyer for a California firm, appeared in Kearny late yesterday, white-faced and shaken, and asked to see a minister.

SEES OBJECT LIKE NAVY BLIMP

He said he was driving near Kearny on a grain-buying expedition when he spotted an object that looked like a Navy blimp.

He said the four men and two women in the object spoke English and German, wore conven-

tional clothes and appeared to be in their 40s.

The salesman said his car engine died when he approached the object, which stood on four posts..

"I got out and walked closer—about 25 or 30 feet from it," Schmidt said. "Two men came out and came toward me. One waved what looked like a flashlight which glowed for a second.

"I couldn't move. I don't know whether I was just afraid or what, but it was like being paralyzed."

Schmidt said the walls of the shop were transparent and contained a "maze of dials, instruments and wiring inside."

"I was in the ship 20 or 30

minutes," Schmidt said. He quoted the "spacemen" as saying, "We'll have to be here a little while—you may as well come inside."

They appeared to be working on the wiring, the salesman said, and did not offer to explain any of the equipment.

They spoke among themselves in German, Schmidt said.

Finally, he said, they told him to get out and the ship, propellers whirring, took off like a helicopter.

Police hurried to the scene and the FBI was notified. Investigating officers said they found impressions where the four posts allegedly touched down in the sand. Also, footprints and a greasy fluid similar to castor oil.

Boston Globe
Nov 22, 1957

What People Talk About

That Blast No Mystery?

To the Editor—Who's "spoofnicking" who?

The "blast" of Tuesday at 2:45 p.m. is no mystery. We work in Everett, a few feet from the front door of the Acme Printing Co. Within seconds of the sound (which we believed to be an explosion at first thought) we were out on the street looking skyward for signs of smoke.

We observed not one but two jet vapor trails close together almost directly above.

The Army and Navy deny there were aircraft in the vicinity? What about the National Guard planes from Logan Airport? PAUL R. LOMBARD FRED MESHNA

AF Trying To Pin

Down Mystery

By TOM W. GERBER
(Traveler Washington Correspondent)

WASHINGTON—The Air Force is trying frantically to pin down a new outbreak of unidentified-object sightings throughout the nation—except New England.

An official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Dayton, Ohio, told the Traveler today "a sort of mass hysteria" seemed to be connected with these reports.

"Everyone is looking up and seeing one," said Theodore J. Hieatt by telephone from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

He said the recent outbreak—more than 30 reports—of strange-object sightings has not been evaluated.

He said some came from "credible" sources.

But others have come from "crackpots or cranks" who "have been getting in our hair and costing the taxpayers plenty of money."

Despite the reliability of some of the new sightings, Hieatt said the reports appeared to be following "the same pattern" as previous rashes of flying saucer sightings.

"Most can be attributed, after investigation, to some identifiable object—such as an airplane, a balloon, lights, reflections or even birds sometimes," Hieatt said.

But he added about three per cent of the sightings never have been explained. And he anticipated this percentage would hold in the current series of reports.

He said about one per cent either are hoaxes or come from demented persons.

He cited the man in the Mid-West who claimed he talked with four men and two women in a shiny object.

Investigators found that oil spots the man claimed came from the

object were curiously similar to the oil found in the back of the man's car.

The man also had a criminal record.

Then there was a boy in Tennessee who reported that a shiny object landed in his back yard and tried to steal his dog.

Despite the screwiness of any report, Hieatt said, each one is checked fully by investigators from the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

Each of these investigations consume three or four days, following techniques developed carefully by more than 10 years of experience in probing flying saucers.

WEATHER CONDITIONS CHECKED ON REPORTS

Hieatt said weather conditions are checked for the time listed for a sighting.

Air line and Air Force flying activities for the area are studied. The position of the sun is analyzed for possible shadows or reflections that might have been created.

"I think it significant that most of the sightings have come from the Southwest, where objects can be seen greater distances because of the clear skies," he said.

Boston Traveler, Thursday, Nov. 7, 1957 D 17

Sightings

Boston Globe
Nov. 10 1957 P19 (Eve)

New Sky Object Stirs Wonder in Western Europe

LONDON, Nov. 9 (Reuters)—Russia's space satellites are heading back to earth but a mysterious new object has been seen hurtling through the sky over western Europe.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said today the two artificial moons are beginning to spiral in toward the earth. Sputnik I, launched at a height of 630 miles, now is only a little more than 500 miles away at its highest point and still dropping.

Tass also said the larger Sputnik II is decreasing its circuit time by 2.3 seconds a day, but because of its longer orbit, the effect on its height of 1025 miles is less noticeable.

Sputnik watchers in Norway and the Netherlands reported seeing a mysterious bright object flash overhead.

Norwegian spotters said it could not have been Sputnik II, which was not due there for several hours. An observatory near the Hague also reported seeing an "unidentified object" and said that when the second satellite was seen this morning, there were radio signals "different from the normal signals of the artificial satellite."

Astronomers in Australia said a mysterious point of light preceded the second satellite when it passed over Sydney today.

The sightings came following speculation that Russia may be attempting to hit or reach the orbit of the moon.

2 • ROUNDUP • November 10, 1957

THE SUNDAY DENVER POST

editorial pages

So the people may know

Denver Post

Nov 9, 1957³

White-Light Sky Object Observed at Georgetown

An unidentified flying object was seen flying over Georgetown, Colo., Friday afternoon by Clear Creek County Sheriff James Sacra,

his wife, Myrtle, and seven prisoners in the county jail.

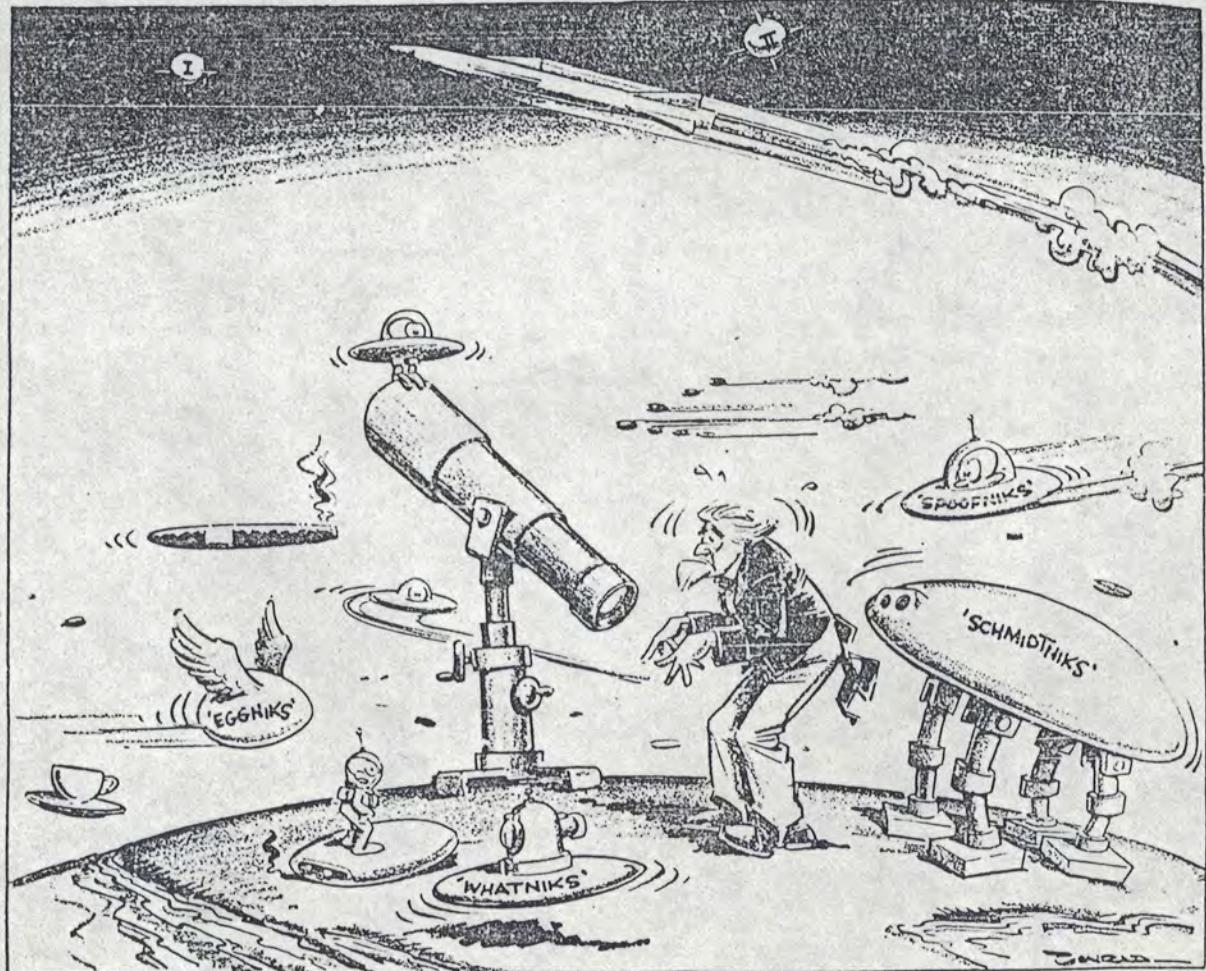
Mrs. Sacra said she noticed the object about 5:20 p. m. moving slowly from west to east. She said she was certain it was not an airplane.

"At first I thought it was a huge star, but then it was moving slowly and was brilliant, as large as a moon but shaped something like a star," she said.

She called Sheriff Sacra, who looked at the object through binoculars. Prisoners also witnessed the phenomenon.

All of them confirmed the sighting.

Mrs. Sacra said the light was steady, white as it turned south and slowly disappeared beyond the mountains.



MEANWHILE, BACK ON THE EARTH . . .

Some See Things, Others Invent Mysteries

Thousands of Saucerites on Earth

By DON MOORE

Thousands of "saucerians" walk the earth today. They are not blond telepathic Palomar Observatory; they live down the mountain at Palomar, or hairy bipeds scaring peasants. They are ordinary humans who tronomy, observing and lecturing believe or strongly suspect our saucers skies are being crowded by interplanetary visitors.

Their enthusiasm ranges from a half-believed hobby to a full-time career of publishing, lecturing, investigating, or inventing gadgets. They watch the sky, devour a score of fan magazines called saucerzines of Ufozines, buy saucer books, and form clubs.

Saucer clubs cover the globe. from the Argentine Comision Observadora de Objectos Voladores No Identificados to the Detroit Flying Saucer Club, from the Swiss Association Mondiale Interplanetaria to New Zealand's Civilian Saucer Investigation.

They meet to debate mystery sightings, attend lectures by visiting Ufologist experts on Unidentified Flying Objects. Some take a scientific, investigative attitude. Others are mystics devoutly attending the latest message from the etherian guardians.

The first famous claim of physical contact with current spacemen was Frank Scully's kidding Variety columns in 1949 and his headpan best-seller in 1950. His authority was a "leading oil geophysicist" who said one of his employees, a "magnetic engineer," had seen crashed saucers studied by the Air Force—one saucer contained 18 little men burned black.

The oil man lectured on saucers before a Denver university class. Two years later he was wanted by the Denver district attorney in an alleged \$50,000 oil swindle.

As proof that the moon had breathable atmosphere, Scully quoted a 1949 telepathic-travel writer Cedric Allingham's account

book, "Pioneers in Space," by Prof. of a Lossiemouth, Scot. landing George Adamski of Palomar. An Arizona mechanic wrote and Adamski was not connected with lectured about riding with a beautiful Venusian lady captain in her "scow," a California plastic worker reported rides and telepathic talks, an auto mechanic and prospector wrote of his "Round Trip to Hell in a Flying Saucer."

An unskeptical Missourian sold souvenir tufts of hair from his Venusian dog. New Jersey sign painter Howard Menger described TV-like screenings of Venus by courtesy of a 500-year-old beauty: one interplanetary visitor stayed for ham and eggs.

Another saucer-seer shied away from a landed space ship when the pilot warned: "Don't touch that, pal, it's hot."

MARTIAN FOOTPRINT IN DESERT SAND

In 1952 Adamski took six witnesses on a desert picnic near the Arizona border to look for saucers. The subsequent best-seller told how he approached and photographed a landed scout ship. Its slight, long-haired Martian pilot in ski suit and flexible shoes warned him and the world, largely in gestures, against atom-bombing.

The Martian left behind a footprint in the desert sand. Witness George Williamson poured handy plaster of paris in the small footprint, preserving for publication a surprisingly detailed design of swastikas, dots representing planets and moons, and intricate lines and hieroglyphics.

By the time Adamski published his next book sightseers from Venus, Mars and Saturn were reported walking city streets, conversing in fluent English, and taking him aloft in their ships for philosophical lectures reminiscent of his earlier beliefs.

VISITOR STAYED FOR HAM AND EGGS

Other books about personal contact with spacemen quickly followed, such as English thriller writer Cedric Allingham's account

SAUCER PEOPLE'S CANDIDATE IN 1960

George Van Tassel, who recalls being lifted into a hovering saucer by a gravity-nullifying beam, conducts the annual Interplanetary Spacecraft Convention at his California desert airport (1500 attended last May).

He announced he was running for President in 1960 at the request of the saucer people (from other planets).

Many who write and lecture about their "contacts" seem sincerely self-convinced as they relay cosmic advice from the "guardians" and "celestials" to the troubled atomic earth.

Scientific information vouchsafed for by the superhuman space travelers, however, is strangely full of elementary errors like self-luminous planets, lunar air-magnetic and gravitational "lines" of force. Similar science fiction double talk marks the methods of communication—telepathy, "radiesthesia," "conoscope" crystal balls, "telonic" telescopic-electronic devices, and strange magnetic machines.

Messages were supposedly re-

corded on a sealed magnetic tape by one Mon-Ka, head of Mars, giving the Space Confederation's advice to earth and promising to broadcast from his ship over Los Angeles, Nov. 7, 1956. Radio stations and skywatchers stood by on that date, but Mon-Ka didn't show.

Two boatloads of Chicago saucer fans cruised Lake Michigan last April, flashing light-beam mes-

sages to the night sky and lighting flares. An ordinary shooting star was observed.

The saucer groups have a growing schism between the cultist "contact" believers, and the investigators. Many clubs and magazines carefully record and check up on more credible U.F.O. sightings and try to expose hoaxes and fantastic claims which bring ridicule on a real scientific problem.

New York Daily News

Nov. 7, 1957

Saucers Bunk, AF Declares

Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 6 (AP).—The Air Force tonight pulled the rug out from under the so-called flying saucers with the announcement from the air technical intelligence center at nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base that the service has found no evidence of flying saucers in the last 10 years. The Air Force said it investigated 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947-'57, and not one single landing impression or footprint or any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found.

Just Skies Showing Off

More than 150 persons phoned THE NEWS between 8 and 9:30 P. M. yesterday from all parts of the metropolitan area to report sighting unusual objects of startlingly bright color in the sky, and to request an explanation.

A call by THE NEWS to the Hayden Planetarium established the answer.

Nothing unusual, nothing to be alarmed about. Just aurora borealis—northern lights seen to best advantage in the Arctic, but occasionally visible here.

November 6, 1957

DAILY NEWS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1957

Air Force Radar on Watch For Flying Eggs, Et Cetera

By MICHAEL O'NEILL

Washington, Nov. 5 (NEWS Bureau).—The Air Force ordered a nationwide radar alert today for giant "flying eggs" reportedly seen racing high over secret missile testing sites and many other places in the South and Southwest.

The reports came from Mutt-nik-conscious citizens in New Mexico, Texas, Alabama, and Louisiana and from a Coast Guard cutter in the Gulf of Mexico. Two Texas motorists said the thing temporarily killed their car engines and radios.

The object was variously described as a "great flash of light," a "huge glowing egg" and "something resembling a brilliant planet." Everyone agreed it was traveling at high speed when spotted yesterday and early today.

Not Saucers, Says Menzel

The Air Force was sufficiently aroused to order its veteran saucer sleuths at Dayton, Ohio, to make a "slow, methodical investigation." It said it was "withholding judgment until all the facts are in," but confided that the alerted radar pickets in this country and Canada had failed to detect "the so-called objects."

Privately, Air Force scientists said their expert guess is that the saucers were, like so many others investigated before, either glowing lights caused by peculiar atmospheric conditions or possibly one or more meteors.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, head of the Harvard University Observatory, said the new saucers undoubtedly were "physical phenomena and definitely are not flying saucers from outer space."

A Navy spokesman, commenting on round-the-world reports of a mysterious radio signal picked up by amateurs, said it was not coming from either Soviet satellite. He said it was being sent by a powerful transmitter and seemed to contain a great variety of information.

Claims Space Folk Invited Him Aboard

Kearney, Neb., Nov. 5 (UPI).—A Californian said tonight he came



(Associated Press Wirephoto)
This foto, made by J. G. Kirby of Dallas in August, 1956, near Amarillo, has just been released by government officials. Air Force theorizes glow was radiation vapor.

Rejected AF Moon in '55

Washington, Nov. 5 (UPI).—The Defense Department in 1955 rejected two Air Force proposals to launch earth satellites weighing up to 5,000 pounds, the authoritative American Aviation Daily reported tonight.

"The USAF proposal was apparently rejected because it would have conflicted with the Air Force's all-out program to develop the intercontinental ballistic missile," the daily said.

Instead, the Pentagon gave the nod to the Navy, and the current Vanguard project to launch a 21-pound satellite was adopted.

Upon a cigar-shaped "space ship" on the Nebraska prairie and chatted with four men and two women inside it.

Reinhold Schmidt, 48, a grain dealer from Bakersfield, Calif., said the occupants spoke in English and German and told him: "In time you will find out what we are doing."

After 20 minutes of conversation, Schmidt said, he got out and the machine rose silently upward "like a helicopter."

An FBI agent from Grand Island, Neb., was sent here to investigate the story.

Schmidt said he was driving near Kearney on a grain-buying expedition when he spotted the object and was invited inside by its crew.

New Orleans, Nov. 5 (UPI).—The U. S. Coast Guard cutter Seabago today reported seeing a brilliant flying object 200 miles south of the Mississippi estuary.



Boston American

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1957

SPORTS STAR

VOL. 64 NO. 177 56 PAGES

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5c

EVERWHERE

'EGG-IN-SKY' SIGHTED BY C. G. VESSEL

STORY ON PAGE 2

Flying Disc Investigated By Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Nov. 25 (UPI)—A report by a Swedish officer of a shining object traveling on a spiral course toward the moon was under examination at Sweden's defense headquarters today. **OCT 12 1965**

"The best guess so far seems to be it might have something to do with Russian satellite or missile experiments," a staff spokesman said.

"We know that it was no airplane, nor any meteorological balloon," he said, "and the Stockholm observatory has told us it was no meteor."

He said the observation was made yesterday by a Swedish army captain at Kortedala near Goteborg, on the Swedish west coast.

"The captain reported he watched the object through his field glass for 20 minutes," the spokesman said.

"We are taking this report seriously since it came from a competent observer. All details are being forwarded today to the F.O.A. (the scientific research institute of Sweden's armed forces.)

"The captain described the object as a flattened sphere circling moonwards. Its sides were somewhat elongated and there was a flickering glow as from burning exhaust gases from one side."

The defense staff spokesman said the captain had not been able to estimate the altitude but had reported that the object "moved one degree a second on the scale of his field glass."

From his position at Kortedala the captain saw the object in a south-southwesterly direction.

"The object was certainly outside all Sputnik schedules," the spokesman added.

'Flying Disks' Pure Fantasy to USAF

Ex-Chief of 'Saucer' Survey Urges Inquiry

BY BOB WELLS

Southland sky gazers reported more unidentified flying objects Wednesday night as the former chief of the Air Force flying saucer sleuths urged the Air Force to conduct the all-out investigation of UFOs recommended by a special committee of distinguished scientists four years ago.

Edward J. Ruppelt, 1911 Josie Ave., who as an Air Technical Intelligence captain commanded the Project Blue Book investigation from 1951 to 1953, said he was "intrigued and fascinated" by reports of missile engineers and others in the southwestern states that their car motors were stopped and lights dimmed by the approach of a mysterious, glowing egg-shaped object.

"DURING MY tenure with Project Blue Book we had reports of radiation and induction fields in connection with UFOs," said Ruppelt, now a research engineer working on weapons systems for a large aircraft manufacturing concern. "However, the information was sketchy and we were never able to pin it down. These detailed reports by seemingly skilled observers should add a whole new dimension to the UFO investigation."

In Los Angeles, Col. Dean Hess, Air Force information officer, said he had been assured by the Pentagon that intelligence officers will look into all

reports of legitimate sightings in Southern California.

RUPPELT SAID his staff had presented its evidence of unexplained sightings to visitors from space. However, a group of seven top American scientists gathered in 1953 by

(Continued on Page A-2, Col. 6)

Long Beach (Ca)
Independent

Nov. 7, 1957

Material Evidence Unfound

No 'Little Men' off Spaceships Being Held, Officers Vow

(Combined Wire Services)

WASHINGTON — Air Force spokesmen at the Pentagon and the Air Technical Intelligence Center Wednesday night said there is no evidence that there are such things as flying saucers.

The spokesmen said the Air Force has investigated 5,700 reported sightings in the last 10 years and not one single landing impression or footprint of any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found.

POINT BY POINT, this is the Air Force position:

1. There is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer ever was found.

2. There is no evidence that these unknown objects are interplanetary space ships.

3. There is no evidence that they represent technological developments outside the range of our everyday scientific knowledge.

4. There is no evidence of unknown hostile objects or of any threat to the security of the country because of them.

5. The Air Force has never and is not now holding any "little men" from outer space, as some flying saucer writers have hinted.

6. The death of Capt. Thomas Mantell, near Louisville, Ky., during the late 1940's while he was chasing an unidentified flying object, resulted from anoxia, or lack of oxygen. The object he was chasing was concluded to be a Navy meteorological balloon.

Mantell's death resulted, as determined by a medical board and an aircraft accident investigating board, after he flew his P-51 too high without oxygen.

7. Conclusions regarding the validity of saucer sightings were reached by independent scientists under contract by the

AF Denies Evidence of Saucers

(Continued from Page A-1)

Air Force and not by Air Force personnel, the ATIC official said.

8. It is true that about three per cent of the sightings are filed under "unknown," but all of these would also be identifiable if complete reports and data could be secured.

9. Sputniks I and II have done much to stimulate sightings where nothing might otherwise have been seen.

10. Recent sightings of unknown objects in north Texas and Springfield, Ohio, will almost certainly be explainable when investigators have concluded inquiries now being conducted.

The Air Intelligence spokesman at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base at Dayton, Ohio, said the Air Force does not question that persons reportedly seeing saucers have seen something.

Of 768 flying saucer or unidentified flying objects (UFO) reports received and checked by the Air Force in 1956, the official gave this breakdown of what he said they really were:

Balloons, 26.1 per cent; aircraft, 24.6 per cent; astronomical (clouds or meteors), 26.3 per cent; lights or in some cases outright hoaxes, 6.7 per cent; objects that couldn't be checked out because of insufficient data, 14.1 per cent; unknown, 2.2 per cent.

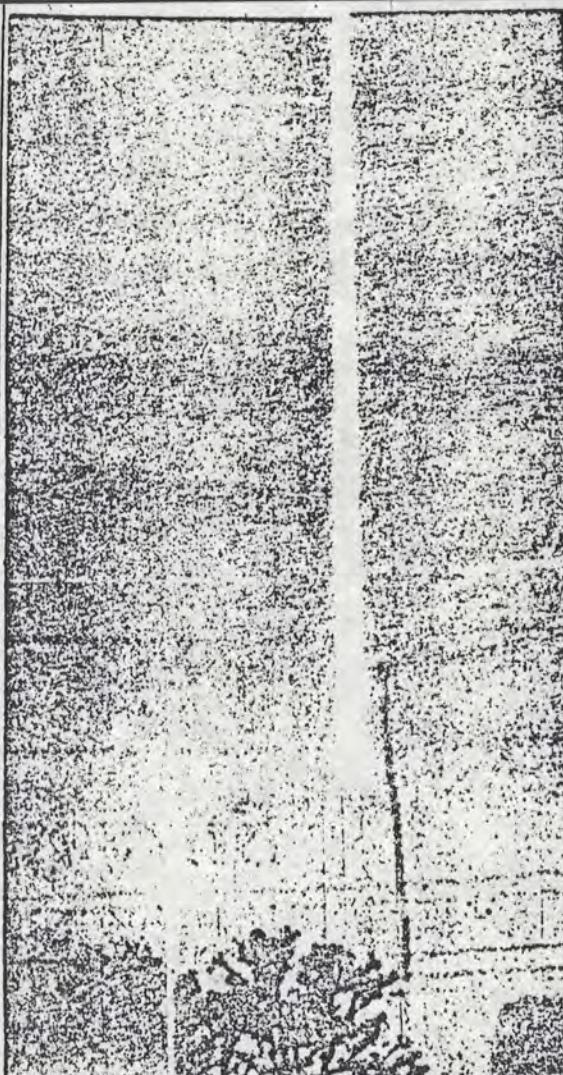
THE STORIES still come in despite the Air Force statement.

An ex-convict stuck to his story of a chat with spacemen and a Tennessee schoolboy insisted an interplanetary flying machine landed outside his window.

Schmidt, a Bakersfield, Calif., native, came driving into Kearney late Tuesday with a story that he had come upon a silvery, cigar-shaped "space ship" outside of town.

Two men invited him inside the contraption, he said, where he met two more men and two women. They spoke English and German, dressed in conventional clothes, and told him not to be afraid, Schmidt said. Then, he said, their ship swooshed off into the sky.

AT KNOXVILLE, Everett Clark went Schmidt one better. He said he saw "a long round spaceship" settle down in a cow pasture right outside his window, Wednesday. Two men and two women, "talking like German soldiers in war movies."



SATELLITE II IS A STREAK

Russia's satellite, Sputnik II or Mutnuk I, appears as a streak (upper right) in the early morning sky as it was photographed at Argonne National Laboratory southwest of Chicago. The satellite is coming from the southwest horizon traveling in a northeast direction. This photograph was made by Chicago Daily News Photographer Joe Marino using a Speed Graphic camera at a one second exposure.—(AP Wirephoto.)

CWS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1957

Find Saucers All Applesauce

Washington, Nov. 15 (P).—The Air Force said today that it had looked into five recent reports of mysterious lights and strange objects from the sky—and there isn't a flying saucer in the lot.

The report gave the severe description—"hoax"—to the most

More 'Saucers' Seen Over L.B.

(Continued from Page A-1)

they did urge greatly increased probably could be explained if expenditures for an intensified UFO investigation.

"That recommendation ran head-on into a governmental economy drive," Ruppelt said.

"The investigation was never made. The Air Force adopted the position that UFOs do not exist."

POLICE AND newspapers were deluged with calls of mysterious objects and lights in the sky again Wednesday night. Los Alamitos Naval Air Station personnel reported they saw UFOs almost continuously between 6:05 and 7:25 Tuesday night.

The air over military installations apparently was quiet Wednesday. Sighting reports all came from civilians.

Col. Hess pointed out that "this follows the usual pattern where press stories carry information relative to a sighting and there are then numerous sightings reported thereafter."

He said the Air Force has explained 98 per cent of previous reports as due to natural phenomena or explainable objects. He said the other two per cent

RUPPELT AGREED that sightings seem to "occur in cycles."

"With each cycle the number of sightings increase," he said. "We're starting out on a very high level this time, and it looks like we're in for a good one."

He chided the Air Force for going from one extreme to another in its handling of UFO reports.

"Either they go into a flap, or they ignore them," he said. Currently, he said, because of the sightings by engineers in the southwest and the one by Coast Guard radar in the Gulf of Mexico, the Air Force may be reconsidering its current policy of "playing down" UFOs.

HE HAS AN open mind on the objects, Ruppelt said. Some of his associates in Project Blue Book "firmly believed" that the objects were from space, but he does not believe there is enough evidence to conclude that, if anything, UFOs really are.

One thing they aren't, he said, is a layer of heated air acting as a lens. This air-lens theory was advanced by Harvard astronomer Dr. Donald H. Menzel to explain the mystery objects as a form of mirage.

"Project Blue Book spent a good many thousands of dollars checking out Menzel's theory," Ruppelt said. "It just doesn't hold up."

Ruppelt has written a book, "Report on the Unidentified Flying Objects," about his Project Blue Book experiences.

vivid of the stories that circulated after Soviet satellites turned attentions skyward. This was a Kearney, Neb., man's account of being shown around the interior of a spaceship by its German-speaking crew.

Air Force technical investigators also dismissed as exaggerations or misunderstood natural phenomena stories of a huge glowing object touching ground near Levelland, Tex., causing automobiles to stall; similar reports near Alamogordo, N. M.; bright lights seen from a Coast

Guard cutter in the Gulf of Mexico and by planes patrolling near White Sands, N. M.

As for reports of automobile engines stalling near mysterious objects, the report suggested that the cause likely was thunderstorms soaking ignition systems and, in one case, an automobile mechanic's mistake.

**MYSTERY
AIR OBJECTS**

**SEEN IN SKY
OVER L.A.**

Los Angeles

LIBERTY UNDER THE LAW



OUR PARTS

9

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 6, 1957

Times

INDUSTRIAL FREEDOM

9 A.M.
FINAL

72 PAGES

DAILY 10c

Wide Area Covered by Reports

Those unidentified flying objects first reported over Texas and the Gulf of Mexico arrived over Southern California late yesterday.

Reports of unidentified flying objects cluttered police switchboards in the west and southwest portions of the city. There were two sightings in Orange County and a belated report of an early sighting Monday at Borrego Springs, San Diego County.

None could identify the objects, neither could they agree on what they looked like.

People living in the Hollywood Hills told of a "ball of fire" in the sky. In San Fernando Valley people saw "a great green light."

A housewife in Corona del Mar saw what looked like "an orange jack-o'-lantern."

Hovers Over Ocean

Mrs. Charles Weitzel, 242 Driftwood Drive, Corona del Mar, said the object hovered just above the horizon, out over the ocean in the south-southwest quadrant. She had the exact time of her sighting—6:04 p.m.—because that was the time she put the corn-on-the-cob in the pressure cooker, then stepped to her picture window to look out.

The object vanished in the several seconds it took Mrs. Weitzel to summon her husband, a Marine Corps flier, to the window.

Although most persons reported just fleeting glimpses of the extraterrestrial phe-

Turn to Page 16, Column 1

SKY MYSTERY

Continued from First Page

nomena, other observers claimed to have the objects in view for more than an hour.

Personnel at Los Alamitos Naval Air Station reported unidentified objects in sight almost continuously between 6:05 and 7:25 p.m.

Lt. Richard Spencer, a flying officer, saw the object from the ground.

"It was not a star and it was not an airplane," he said. He admitted, however, that it appeared to be "star-like," and added that it glowed in varying colors, changing from bright to dim and back again.

Airport Tower Operator Louis D. Mitchell and a sentry on duty, Hospitalman Charles Krieger, also observed the object.

Almost all observers were agreed that the object moved slowly — almost imperceptibly, across the sky. Most were agreed that the direction of travel was north or northwest.

Lending credence to the reports was the fact that three Air Force weather observers, including the commanding officer of the unit, acknowledged sighting unidentified phenomena over Long Beach Municipal Airport.

They spotted six "saucer-shaped flying objects" at an altitude of about 7000 feet at the base of a cloud bank about 3:50 p.m.

Larger Than C-16

Maj. Louis F. Baker, commanding officer of the weather observation post, who sighted the objects with his assistants, Airmen Joseph Abramavage and William Nieland, said:

"They were circular and shiny like spun aluminum, changing course instantaneously without loss of speed like planes in a dogfight," Maj. Baker said. He said the objects were larger than a twin engine C-46 aircraft and were in sight for about a minute and a half.

The objects also were observed by 10 military personnel waiting to board an airplane at the airport, the spotters reported.

Maj. Baker said he rejected a theory that the objects were sheet ice in a cumulonimbus cloud because of their regular circular shape.

Winked Slowly

An electronics executive, Merlin G. Perkins, 1102 N Wright St., Santa Ana, said he observed an object through binoculars for almost a half hour as it moved slowly overhead, finally fading away into the reflected light above the Santa Ana business district.

It appeared to be round and it winked slowly from dim to bright, with a reddish glow, Perkins said.

Two residents of Borrego Springs, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burnand Jr., belatedly reported "a powerful, mysterious light" in the desert about 6 p.m. Monday.

"It appeared to be about twice the size of the moon," Burnand said, "and it flashed about eight times, each flash being about two seconds duration."

Reddish in Color

"When it flashed the rays shot out in all directions and it made you think of an explosion without sound," he added.

It was reddish in color, the couple said.

U.S. Weather Bureau officials here said last night they knew of no atmospheric conditions which could account for the rash of reports. One weather analyst did observe, however, that the objects sighted in Texas last week end appeared to be considerably larger than those seen here.

Mystery Object, Like Planet, Seen Over Gulf

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5 (AP)—The Coast Guard cutter Sebago sighted an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 5:21 a.m. today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans received a radio message about the sighting. The message did not say exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

Air Force Alerts Its Radar Network

BY THE UNITED PRESS

The Air Force yesterday alerted its radar network to watch for strange flying objects which might approach the ring of stations surrounding the United States and Canada.

The alert followed a flurry of reports of unidentified objects, some as long as 500 feet, mainly in the South and Southwest.

Sputnik II Observed across Nation

Years to Be Tumbling End
8,000-Mile-an-Hour Flight

Part I
Nov. 6 (AP)
Sputnik II has been sighted all day today, the information is accurate around the world.

Satellite appearing endwise during flight at 8 miles an hour, renewed the fate of the dog.

These changes, Whipple explained, would be caused by seeing the satellite broadside and then endwise as it tumbles through space.

Inquiry Slated

Preparations were underway for a Senate investigation of this country's lagging pace in the field of satellites and missiles, and Chairman Dawson (D) Ill., of the House Government Operations Committee said he is considering a similar investigation by his group.

Today was the first time U.S. observers were able to get a good look at the satellite. They will get another glimpse tomorrow during predawn passes, when optimal conditions are best.

Sputnik II and Smaller Object Sighted

George Sputnik II, which appeared brilliantly at about 5:26 a.m.

Tomorrow morning Sputnik II is not expected to be visible in the Southland, and Saturday it will come over at 4:20 a.m. However, it is doubtful that it will be in a position to be seen here Saturday because the sun probably won't shine on it at the right angle.

In all instances, it will be moving from the southwest to the northeast.

Los Angeles
Times

Nov 6
1957

Camera Captures Mystery Lights



ERIE LIGHT—This photo, taken by a motorist at Amarillo, Tex., in August, 1956, has just been released by government after intensive study. The Air Force theorized that glow was radiation vapor.

(AP Wirephoto)

THEY'RE SEEING THINGS

Skies Over L.A. Appear Crowded

LOS ANGELES—(UPI)—Either there's been a profusion of illusions or something mighty queer has been going on over the City of Angels and its satellite communities.

No—nobody has spotted an angel yet, but that's one of the few flying objects that hasn't been mentioned.

Some that have:

Six "saucer-shaped" things. A "ball of fire."

An "orange jack-o'-lantern."

A "powerful, mysterious light."

A "great, green light."

And a lot of less colorfully described, ordinary, unidentified flying objects.

The report about the six saucers came from three Air Force weather observers. They said they spotted the phenomena moving at the base of a cloud bank about 7,000 feet over Long Beach Municipal Airport yesterday. Maj. Louis F. Baker, head of the unit, gave this description:

"They were circular and shiny like spun aluminum, changing course instantaneously (sic) without loss of speed like planes in a dogfight."

Baker said the objects were bigger than twin-engine C46 planes. He said they stayed in sight about a minute and a half.

They also were seen by 10 persons waiting to get on a plane at the Long Beach Airport, he said.

The "ball of fire" report came from people in the Hollywood

Hills. And the "orange jack-o'-lantern" turned up in a report from Mrs. Charles Weitzel of Corona del Mar. She said she spotted it hovering over the ocean while she was looking out a window of her seaside home. The object vanished in a few seconds, she said.

The "great, green light" was reported seen by residents of the San Fernando Valley.

The report of the "powerful mysterious light" was a late one. Two residents of the desert community of Borrego Springs, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burnand Jr., said yesterday that they observed the light Monday.

"It appeared to be about twice the size of the moon," Burnand said, "and it flashed about eight times—each flash being about two seconds' duration.

"When it flashed, the rays shot out in all directions, and it made you think of an explosion without sound."

The weather bureau here said it knew of no atmospheric conditions that might provoke such a flood of reports.

Los Angeles (Ca)

Times

Nov 7, 1957

Saucer Yarns Fly Again as Space Sputniks Spin

Edwards Air Force Base Adds Its Report of Sighting Glowing Mystery Object

BY GRAHAM BERRY, Times Science Editor.

The flying saucer set is airborne again. Reports last night had unidentified flying objects snooping in air space above the super-secret rocket engine test area at Edwards Air Force Base.

Pilots aloft in the area after the sighting at about 7:30 p.m. were asked to take a routine look around.

No pilots reported sighting the mystery object, originally observed from the ground by air police on the base, an Air Force spokesman said.

Six air policemen in three locations on the sprawling base told of seeing the object, which they variously described as "an orange ball" and "an alternating red and white light."

Reports Pour In

Observers put the object about 200 feet above the closely guarded rocket test facility.

Officers at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's substations at Lancaster and Palmdale said AFB officers asked them to watch for the object, believed traveling in a southwesterly direction, but they saw nothing.

Scores of reports of sighting such objects poured into Southland police stations Tuesday night.

"Sputnik has revived the hysteria of flying saucers,"

Turn to Page 10, Column 5

Saucer Talk

Just That

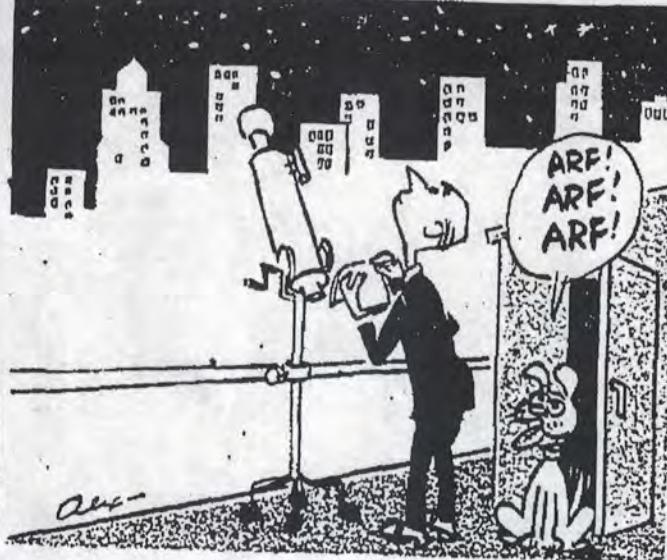
to Air Force

DAYTON, O., Nov. 6 (UPI)—The Dayton Journal Herald tonight quoted a top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center as discounting all reports of so-called flying saucers.

The official, who declined to be named, told the newspaper the Air Force has found no evidence of flying saucers in the last 10 years.

He said the Air Force investigated 5700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947-57, and he said not one single landing impression or footprint of any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found.

The officials also said, in all seriousness, that the Air Force has never, and is not now, holding any little men from space, as some flying saucer writers have hinted.



CELESTIAL HOWLS

Reporter on Roof-- Sputnik II or Spoof?

Dear Boss:

What happened to me up on the roof last night is downright unfunny. It gave me a terrible fright, boss.

This Times reader phones up, see. He said he has been reading the Times for 30 years or more and would somebody kindly tell him if that is a genuine unidentified flying object hovering over his house out in Westchester.

Well, boss, the UFO traffic around L.A. has been pretty heavy these last few nights so I borrowed a big telescope from the photo department.

Squints at Sky

It took me a while to get the scope focused on Westchester because there were so many other fascinating things to look at around the town.

I tell you, boss, the things I saw . . . but that is another story.

Anyhow, I squinted at the sky above Westchester and

there was nothing, boss, nothing.

I was just about to give up when it happened, boss.

A dog barked.

It sounded like this dog was barking a long way off. This celestial yapping carried a definite foreign accent, too, boss. No American dog ever barked like that.

Cold Shudders

It was eerie, boss. Gave me the cold shudders. That barking kept up for some time, finally trailing off in the night.

Nobody will believe this story, anyway, boss. So why don't we just keep it dark for awhile? Maybe somebody else will hear it.

At least promise me you won't tell my wife.

- Mortenson.

SPACE YARNS

Continued from First Page
observed Dr. Dinsmore Alter, director of Griffith Observatory.

Other scientists who declined to be identified yesterday described the nationwide outburst of optical pyrotechnics as an expression of anxiety over Russia's satelliting prowess.

And they pointed out that every time a news story publicizes that somebody has seen something like a strange light, a chain reaction starts which results in a rash of similar reports.

No Reports

Trained Air Defense Command observers in every major Southland city "did not report sighting a single unidentified flying object or unusual aerial activity" Tuesday night, reported Capt. Joe Fry, commander of the Air Defense Filter Center in Pasadena. The chain of observation posts reaches from Paso Robles to the Mexican border.

However, three Air Force weather observers did report sighting what appeared to be six unidentified flying objects over Long Beach Air Force Base. Late yesterday though, Air Force officials said that after preliminary investigation it was not certain just what had been seen.

Col. Dean Hess, chief Air Force public information officer here, said he had forwarded this report and others to the Air Defense Command headquarters at Colorado Springs.

Suggests Mirage

"We don't question the integrity of the observers," the colonel said. He said he is convinced there is some natural explanation for the displays of lights and added, "The American people would be receptive to information as to whether these are of terrestrial or extraterrestrial origin."

"I don't close my mind to the possibility of interplanetary travel, but the probability is negligible."

Dr. Alter said inversion layers of air can produce certain mirage effects by acting as lenses.

lights for distances of 40 to 50 miles.

The Southland atmosphere was especially unstable last night, he said, probably because of a wide range in temperature between day and night.

Meteorologists at the Air Pollution Control District said there probably was a shallow, weak inversion over the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys last night, but said it probably was not intense enough to refract light.

Meanwhile, the Air Defense Command in Colorado announced it has received 46 reports from throughout the nation of strange lights being sighted and has selected three for further investigation.

One of them is the strange tale of Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Brawley, who told authorities at Kearney, Neb., he talked with six people from a transparent spaceship. Police continued to question the loquacious talker.

The Air Defense Command reported that in the last 10 years it has investigated more than 6000 supposed sightings of strange lights and flying saucers.

Only a few remained unexplained and this was due to a lack of any evidence on how to classify them, the command said.

Object Observed In Tucson Skies May Have Been Bright 'Meteor'

Los Angeles (a)
Times

Nov. 5, 1957

Bright Mystery Object Reported Seen at Site of First A-Bomb Test

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (UPI)—Reports of a huge, strangely lighted mystery object spotted over West Texas were being investigated by the Air Force tonight. A bright, oval object was also reported over Southern New Mexico, near bunkers used in the first atomic-bomb explosion.

Several witnesses, including a Sheriff and one of his deputies, reported seeing the object over Texas.

Sightings of the object over the White Sands proving ground in New Mexico were made 17 hours apart by two different military-police patrols.

One of the two-man patrols said the bright object spot-

ted last night was about 200 or 300 feet long and disappeared into the sky after blinking on and off. Another patrol said a bright object spotted early yesterday morning descended until it was about 50 yards above

THE WEATHER

No eye-irritating smog today.

U.S. Weather Bureau forecast: Mostly sunny today and tomorrow but partly cloudy at times today. Slightly warmer days. High today about 68. Rain probability 30% today; 20% tonight and tomorrow.

the A-bomb bunkers, then faded.

Officials of the proving ground said the phenomena had nothing to do with any activity at the base. A Pentagon spokesman said no official report was received on the reported New Mexico sightings and no investigation was being made on those.

Witnesses who reported seeing the object over Texas said their car engines stopped and their lights went out when they drove near it. The military police who reported the object over the proving grounds said they had no trouble with their jeeps.

Other Tucsonans, among them a woman motorist and her son, reported being "disturbed and speechless" at sight of the bright-tailed fireball.

Mrs. Mary Cahill, 1801 E. Lee St., said she saw the object just before 7 p.m. while she and her son were driving toward Tucson on the Benson Highway. Another observer, the wife of University of Arizona Vice President David L. Patrick, said she saw the object at about 9:30 p.m.

Dr. Carpenter offered no explanation last night for the differences

in time of the two accounts. Most of the telephone reports, however, came in about 9:30 p.m., he said.

Mrs. Cahill said the fireball resembled a "large, inverted ice cream cone, glowing with fire." According to Mrs. Cahill, the object rose from the horizon, moving in a westerly direction. It then hung motionless for a short time and then moved off in an erratic manner and disappeared in a few seconds.

Dr. Carpenter, who lives in the Catalina Foothills Estates, described the object's shape as a "sort of arrow. It was very high and traveled at a steady speed. When it disappeared, it just went out of sight in the manner that a plane fades in the distance. It didn't seem to burn out."

Dr. Carpenter said that a meteor of the brilliance described would be "most unusual." When asked if the object might in some way be connected with the fireballs sighted in Levelland, Tex., and at the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico, Carpenter said that it is unlikely that the objects could be part of a "meteor stream"—that is, a flock of meteors through which the earth passes periodically from time to time.

Connecticut was the first state to pass a law affecting working children. In 1813, it required mill owners to have the children in their factories taught arithmetic, reading and writing.

Arizona
Star

Nov 5, 1957

Arizona Star

Nov 6, 1957

Strange Affair In Nebraska Grain Field

Californian Steps Aboard Space Ship

KEARNEY, Neb., Nov. 5 (UPI)—R. O. Schmidt, 48, of Brawley, Calif., Tuesday night told police officials and newspapermen that he had been an invited visitor inside what appeared to be a space ship manned by four men and two women who spoke broken English and perfect German.

Schmidt is a grain buyer who has been in Nebraska for some time buying grains for his California firm (Valu-Pak, Inc.).

He told his story to Deputy Sheriff Dave Drage, Police Chief Thurston Nelson, City Manager Ray Lundy and Kearney Hub Editor Ed Chittenden.

He entered a field of milo about two miles south and a mile east of Kearney to inspect the grain. When ready to leave, he drove down the side road seeking a place to turn around.

As he neared the bank of the Platte River he saw what appeared to be a wrecked balloon resting on the sandy bank. About 60 to 70 feet away his car suddenly stopped. He got out and started walking toward the object which now appeared to be about 100 feet long, 30 feet wide and about 14 feet high.

About 30 feet away from it he was stopped short by a beam of light that shot from the object and "sort of froze me. I couldn't move."

"Then two men came down a set of steps from the machine and asked if I had any weapons."

Schmidt replied he didn't. Then, after he was searched, the men said that as long as they were not here to do any harm. But they told me they could not say going to be there for a time "you

might as well come in and see things for a few minutes."

Schmidt entered the silvery looking machine, the windows of which permitted one to see out but not see into.

Inside, the two women and the other men were busy working on wires and instruments.

"I was pretty scared but I noticed when they wanted to go from one place to another they would just step on certain places on the floor and they would be pulled to the new location without so far as I could see the floor moving. Like magnetic power."

"The men who greeted me told me to tell my people they were not here to do any harm. But they told me they could not say anything about the machine or

tell where they came from. They did say there might be an announcement in the near future."

The occupants talked among themselves in high German which I understand to an extent."

Then he was told to leave but not to try to start his car because it wouldn't start anyway.

He left and walked a short distance away. There was flash, the machine arose to a height of about 100 feet and then disappeared, blending into the grey skies and appearing to be headed southwest.

Schmidt got his car started, went to the sheriff's office to tell his story, then to police headquarters to tell it again.

Drake, Nelson, Lundy and Chittenden returned with Schmidt to the river bank site.

There they found no imprints left by the machine which Schmidt said appeared to stand on four legs that seemed hydraulically operated. They did find some greenish looking substance with the appearance of oil and it was gathered up and taken to Kearney College for study.

Associates of Schmidt in Brawley said he is a quiet man, reliable and a non-drinker.

His boss, Donald Woodill, said Schmidt had worked for Val-U-Pack about six weeks as a grain buyer. "He's not the type to fabricate something," Woodill told newsmen.

Schmidt formerly lived in Bakersfield, Calif., and had been employed by a major fertilizer firm in Los Angeles. He previously lived in Wilcox, Ariz.

Arizona Star

TUCSON, ARIZONA, THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 7, 1957

Schmidt's "Schmidnik" Stirs Placid Platte

KEARNEY, Neb., Nov. 6 (UPI)—Local law officers and Air Force investigators attempted Wednesday to unravel the mystery of the "Schmidnik."

The "Schmidnik" name was coined after R. O. Schmidt told a story that he visited a space ship on the banks of the Platte River near Kearney Tuesday and chatted amiably with its crew of four men and two women.

Schmidt, 54-year-old Brawley, Calif., grain buyer who once served a term in the Nebraska penitentiary for embezzlement, steadfastly tells the same story although officers are filled with skepticism. Police Chief Thurston Nelson said "not a soul" could be found in the area who

heard or saw anything out of the ordinary.

Schmidt—who spends a few months in Wilcox each year, Wednesday was described as "quite a talker" by acquaintances in the eastern Arizona town. He was in Wilcox on business about 10 days ago, they said.

One of Schmidt's principal bits of evidence was an oil spot at the site where he said the huge cigar-shaped space ship was parked. But a few feet away officials found a partly-filled oil can and in the back of Schmidt's car they found more of the same type of green motor oil.

Schmidt's inability to explain this and his unwillingness to take a lie-detector test caused further skepticism.

Air Force Report Rejects Saucers

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (UPI)—The Air Force said Wednesday night it has found no evidence of flying saucers of any type in the past 10 years although it has investigated 5,700 reported sightings.

Point by point, the Air Force rejected any idea that there are flying saucers. It said:

1. There is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer was ever found.

2. There is no evidence that these unknown objects are interplanetary space ships.

3. There is no evidence that they represent technological developments outside the range of our everyday scientific knowledge.

4. There is no evidence of unknown hostile objects or of any threat to the security of the country because of them.

Flying saucer sightings have been reported at various times over the last ten years. The job of looking into them was handed over to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Reports issued at various times have been similar to the one issued Wednesday night.

The Pentagon issued the new report as a result of a new flood of reports of unknown objects, including strange lights which reportedly made auto engines stop or put out the lights of the cars.

Tucson Citizen

Nov 7, 1957

5,700 DUDS

A.F. Debunks Flying Objects

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Air Force says its investigations of 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers in the past 10 years have produced "no physical or material evidence" that such things exist.

The Pentagon issued this report last night after sightings of mysterious flying objects were reported this week from various parts of the country. Some of the reported objects were said to glow with a strange light and to have caused auto engines to stall.

Sightings of flying saucers have been reported from time to time over the past decade. Investigation of them has been handled by the air technical intelligence center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Previous Air Force reports on saucers have been along the lines of the one put out last night.

There have been suggestions that the new rash of sightings was inspired by Russia's launching of earth satellites.

In its report last night, the Air Force said "there is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer was ever found."

It also said there is no evidence that the alleged objects are interplanetary space ships, that they indicate developments beyond the range of current scientific knowledge, or that they pose any threat to the nation's security.

Arizona Star

Nov 6, 1957

'Flying Whatzit' Seen By U. S. Coast Guard

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (UPI)—A brilliant mystery object was reported sighted Tuesday in southern skies by a Coast Guard cutter, even as Air Force specialists investigated a flurry of earlier, similar reports.

The Coast Guard cutter Seabago, cruising in the Gulf of Mexico about 200 miles south of Louisiana, radioed that an object resembling "a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed" was seen for about three seconds at 5:21 a.m.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans said the message did not report exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

The Seabago's message said the object was tracked on the

vessel's radar screen for 27 minutes and that, during that period, the object flitted on and off the screen several times.

Sightings of strange objects have been reported from widely scattered sections of the United States since Sunday, most of them near secret military installations in the southwest.

The Air Force said the radar network of the Air Defense Command is keeping watch—so far with no results—and that specially qualified investigators have been assigned to look into the reports.

For several years the Air Force has checked all reports of unidentified flying objects. Investigators work under the

Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., and report to the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

Judging from past findings, the chances are the Air Force will attribute the current sightings to natural phenomena or such man-made objects as aircraft.

During the first half of this year, the Air Force said, only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other fantastic aerial objects have wound up in the "unknown" category.

And the Air Force said firmly—though not all flying saucer buffs may agree—that it doesn't believe even the 1.9 per cent residue is made up of the things you read about in science fiction magazines.

20 Agosto 1.957 Ref. ALERTA.

"Un objeto raro en el cielo de Florencia."

Florencia (ITALIA) 19) Un objeto luminoso que parecía como dos veces el tamaño de la Luna, fue visto por cientos de italianos atravesando el espacio en la parte central del Norte de Italia. Según los periódicos italianos, pudieron contemplar el espectáculo por espacio de un minuto y medio. Al parecer también fue visto desde Rímini, en la costa adriática. Autoridades aeronáuticas han informado que a la hora en que fue visto el misterioso objeto no volaba ningún aparato conocido por el cielo italiano. Efe.-

Tucson (Az) Citizen

Nov 5, 1957

A.F. Radar On U.F.O. Alert

By United Press

The Air Force today alerted its radar network to watch for strange flying objects which might approach the ring of stations surrounding the United States and Canada.

The alert followed a flurry of reports of unidentified objects, some as long as 500 feet, mainly in the South and Southwest.

The reports began coming in Sunday and continued through yesterday and today. In several instances the proximity of the objects were said to stop car motors and darken auto headlights.

The Air Force unidentified fly-

ing objects section has sent a team of field men to investigate the reports. But so far, there has been no official explanation of the sightings.

Here are various reports of unidentified objects:

A report from Levelland, Tex., that several persons had sighted an egg-shaped object about 200 feet long which glowed with a reddish color. It caused motors to stop and headlights to dim.

White Sands, N. Mex. Proving Grounds officials also reported seeing the object.

An electronics engineer reported seeing an object near Alamogordo, N. Mex., which caused

his car radio to fade and his engine to die. Other New Mexico residents also reported seeing the object. The engineer reported he had a severe sunburn after watching the object.

In Honolulu, there was a report that circular, white objects were seen descending from the sky by Fiji Island natives. A white clergyman reported seeing similar objects in the Pacific last month.

The Coast Guard cutter Sabago reported that the object observed by members of its crew for 27 minutes resembled "a brilliant planet." Three Air Force pilots at Selma, Ala., said they saw a similar brilliant object flash through the sky yesterday morning.

Arizona Star
Nov 5, 1957

Object Stopped Cars

A. F. Probes Texas Air Mystery

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (AP)—The Air Force undertook an investigation Monday of a huge and strangely lighted mystery object reported to have flashed over the West Texas town of Levelland.

Reports of strange flying objects have been popping up for years, but this one had the sup-

It was variously described as a burning mass, a big light, and an egg-shaped object 200 feet long.

E. M. Brewer of Dallas, president of the Texas Astronomical Society, said reports he received indicated the object could not have been a meteor. He said

meteors go in only one direction—down, while some witnesses said the object hovered on the ground, then took off again.

That was the story of Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver. He said his engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball

of fire dropped on the highway" east of Levelland Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the roadway, then changed to fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part-time barber, said his motor died and his lights went out when the object "passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind." It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. I watched it go out of sight toward Levelland."

Among those seeing unusual flashes in the sky about the time others reported seeing the object were Sheriff Weir Clem, State Policemen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavlin, and Calvin Harris and Sandy McKean, CAA control tower workers at Amarillo Airport.

Sun-Bright 'Object' Sighted

WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUND, N.M., Nov. 4 (AP)—Military police at this desert proving ground Monday reported sighting a huge, oval object, "nearly as bright as the sun" near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

The commanding officer of the MPs said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of other similar sightings in other areas of the country.

part of a variety of witnesses, including a sheriff and one of his deputies.

It impressed the Air Force sufficiently to call for at least a preliminary investigation.

A most unusual thing about the object reported over west Texas Saturday and Sunday was that witnesses said their car engines stopped and their lights went out when they drove near it.

Los Angeles
Times
Nov 10 1957

2ND PHANTOM SKY OBJECT REPORTED

ALAMOGORDO, N.M., Nov. 8 (AP)—A second report of a daytime sighting of an unidentified flying object in the White Sands Proving Ground area of Southern New Mexico came today from an Alamogordo man.

Trent Lindsey told the Alamogordo Daily News that he saw the object yesterday morning. He said he and his family were traveling along the highway when the speedometer started jumping back and forth.

Lindsey said he then spotted a silvery object at about 10,000 feet altitude.

Los Angeles
Times

Nov 10 1957

Flash, Glow Near Moon Reported

ABILENE, Tex., Nov. 9 (AP) James Morrow, observer at the U.S. Weather Bureau here, said he saw a reddish-orange flash followed by a glow lasting 45 seconds "in line with the moon at 7:50 p.m. (5:50 p.m. PST) tonight."

Morrow said he was unable to tell whether the flash was on the moon because of some cloud cover. The Washington Weather Bureau had not received such a report.

Arizona Star
(Tuc)
Nov 4, 1957

Fiery 'Egg' Frightens Texans

Huge Aerial Object 'Stops Car Motors'

LEVELLAND, Tex., Nov. 3 (AP)—West Texans puzzled Sunday over accounts of a mystery object, big and ablaze with light, which dozens told of seeing in the sky and several said they found squatting in roadways.

Observers told newsmen of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the egg-shaped object Saturday night and early Sunday were unaccountably stalled but restarted as the phenomenon rose into the air.

Sheriff Weir Clem, who said he observed the brilliant light but didn't get a close view, reported one witness fainted from fright.

Officers inspected the leading sites Sunday and found no marks to indicate anything had set down there, the sheriff said.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler, on duty in Levelland as reports poured in from startled residents, said at least 15 persons told of getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be flashes of light.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg, and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," Fowler reported.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited."

Clem said James D. Long, truck driver from Waco, fainted after driving upon the mystery object in a road about four miles west of here.

Long later told the sheriff his truck stalled and the lights went out as he neared what appeared to be a brilliant, egg-shaped mass about 200 feet long. The trucker said his truck started running and the lights came back on after the object rose into the air.

Authorities at Reese Air Force Base outside Lubbock said they had checked and could offer no explanation.

STRANGE LIGHT

This photograph has just been released by federal officials after intensive study. J. G. Kirby of Dallas said he took the picture in August, 1956, near Amarillo, Tex. Air Force theorized the glow is radiation vapor.

Old Photo Of Odd Light Over Texas Made Public

DALLAS (UPI)—A picture of a strange light a former bomber pilot said he took over west Texas a year ago was released by the FBI today.

J. G. Kirby, a Dallas rare rocks and gem expert, said he took the picture near Amarillo at 4 a.m. Aug. 2, 1956.

He said the picture and story were held up by the FBI and Air Force authorities until a few days ago.

Kirby, a B17 pilot in World War II, said he and his wife and two children spotted the light while on a rock-hunting expedition.

He said he snapped the picture with a small camera and called the FBI on his return to Dallas.

He said he had a visit from an agent who studied the picture and conferred with authorities at nearby Hensley Field.

He said authorities told him only recently he no longer had to keep the photo and story quiet. Kirby said the Air Force theorized the glow was radiation vapor.

Kirby, who said he shot a whole roll of film, asserted the object was about 15,000 feet high and weaving through and around a frontal cloud. He said the object emitted an emerald green glowing trail which apparently hit the ground.

The lapidist said he has seen similar objects twice since, both in west Texas, where a number of glowing, flying objects have been reported recently.

The FBI and Hensley officials

Tucson (Az)
Citizen

Nov. 5, 1957

Fiery Flying Object Stops Texas Trucks

LEVELLAND, Tex. — Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide west Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Peace officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part-time barber here, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community (west of here) Saturday night with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing. We first saw a flash of light in a field to our right, and we didn't think much about it at first.

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean War veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish-green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a

similar occurrence also east of Levelland.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who called in reports of the object sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolmen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area and at the same time as Clem. All were riding in separate cars.

• • •

Glowing Sky Object Seen Here

Several Tucsonians reported seeing a bright mysterious object over the city last night at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Wencie E. Higuera, a city fireman, was on duty at Fire Station No. 3, when he spotted the object in the general vicinity of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. The station is at E. Broadway and Norris Ave.

"I was at the kitchen window in the station getting a drink of water when I saw it," Higuera said. He summoned other firemen and they watched it until it disappeared.

"It looked like a ball and had a little tail something like a rocket," Higuera continued. "It was high and there wasn't any noise at all. It disappeared in the northwest in about 10 seconds."

He said it didn't look like a shooting star or a meteor.

Another observer, Mrs. David L. Patrick, wife of the University of Arizona vice president, also reported that the object did not appear to be a meteor since it was traveling too slow. She said it looked as if it had a pointed nose and glowing slender body.

One of the firemen called by Higuera, Dominick Cammarano, described the phenomenon as "like a white ball with a streak behind it."

Another witness to the light was Citizen Photographer Harry Zabower. He said it took about four seconds to go from horizon to horizon. The tail was approximately six times as long as the object itself, Zabower said.

The fireball was possibly "a very bright meteor," according to Dr. Edwin F. Carpenter, head of the Steward Observatory at the University. Carpenter said, however, that he did not see it himself but had about four calls about the object.

Reports that the object had distinct shape "is very unusual," Carpenter commented.

All observers who watched the object here said it did not make any noise and had distinct shape. It was also agreed that the object was high in the southeast and was traveling northwest.

The Davis-Monthan public information office said today there were no reports turned in at the base on the object.

Tucson(Az)

Citizen

Nov. 4,
1957

AFRadar Hunts Mystery Objects

By the United Press.

The Air Force said today its radar network has been alerted to watch for whatever has sparked a flurry of "space ship" reports from the Gulf of Mexico, Texas and New Mexico.

The latest report came today from a Coast Guard craft which relayed word it had kept a brilliant flying object in its radarscope as it circled the ship at high speed.

The Coast Guard cutter Sebago reported that the object observed by members of its crew for 27 minutes resembled "a brilliant planet." Three Air Force pilots at Selma, Ala., said they saw a similar brilliant object flash through the sky yesterday morning.

Here are various other reports of unidentified objects:

• A report from Levelland,

Tex., that several persons had sighted an egg-shaped object about 200 feet long which glowed with a reddish color. It caused motors to stop and headlights to dim:

• White Sands, N. Mex., missile proving grounds officials also reported seeing the object.

• An electronics engineer reported seeing an object near Alamogordo, N. Mex., which caused his car radio to fade and his engine to die. Other New Mexico residents also reported seeing the object.

In Gulf of Mexico 720 5-1957

Coast Guard Sights Dvo. Fast-Flying 'Planet'

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Coast Guard cutter Sebago reported sighting an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 5:21 a. m. CST today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed, the report said.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans received a radio message about the sighting.

The message said the object had been tracked on the Sebago's radar screen for 11 minutes before the visual contact and for 16 minutes afterward. During these periods, the object darted off the screen every few minutes but soon returned.

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which he said stalled cars in New Mexico yesterday.

The Air Force has started an investigation into similar reports in this and other areas.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend. The reported sightings startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, forty-five, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N. M., told news director Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo, that 10 cars were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U. S. 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this west Texas area over the weekend. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Ground Sunday, hovering near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

U.S. Cutter Sees Whirling 'Planet'

457-11-522 1957

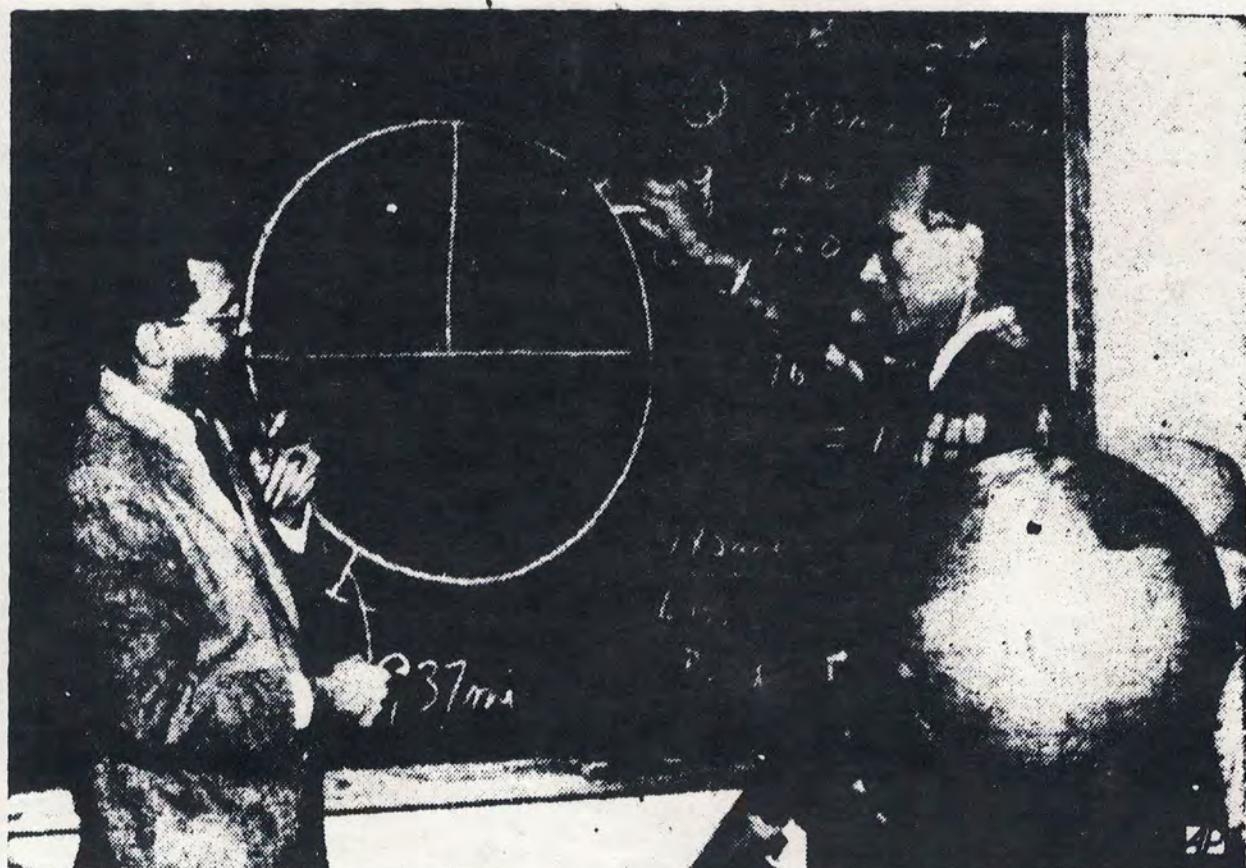
By the United Press. Dvo.
NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5.—The U. S. Coast Guard cutter Sebago reported it spotted a brilliant flying object in the sky this morning about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

The unidentified object was first sighted at 5:10 a.m., the Coast Guard said. Radar contact with the object was retained intermittently from 5:10 a.m. to 5:37 a.m., with the object visible to the eye for three seconds beginning at 5:21 a.m.

A radio report from the Sebago, on duty in the Gulf of Mexico, said the object resembled a brilliant planet and was traveling at a high rate of speed.

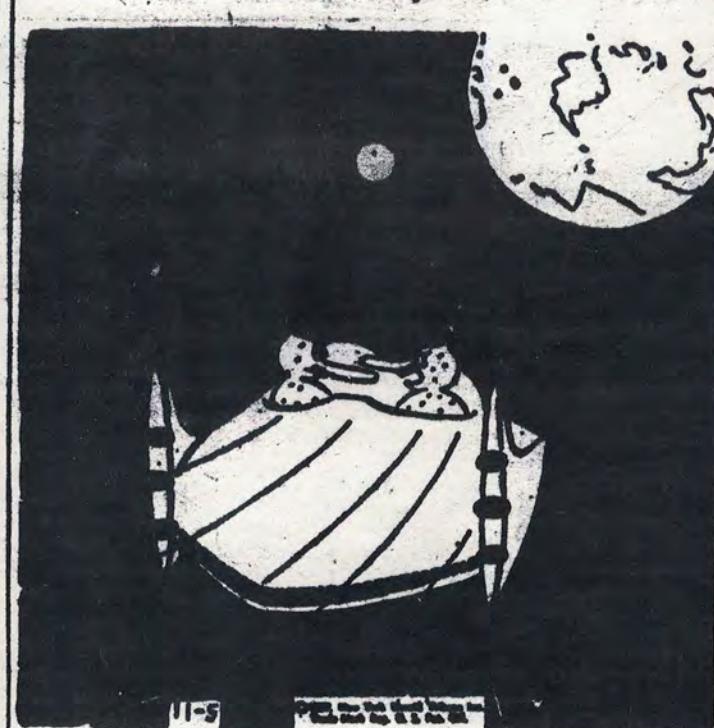
The "planet" traveled in concentric circles around the ship, according to the report, and

Discuss New Satellite



Dr. J. Allen Hynek, left, and Dr. Fred C. Whipple, head of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, discuss Russia's new satellite in Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 3. Dr. Hynek said the satellite presumably would pass in a northwest to southeast direction. (AP Wirephoto)

BROCKTON DAILY ENTERPRISE—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1957



Worcester (Ma) Gazette
Nov 14, 1957

SONIC BOOMS FAIL TO STIR WEBSTER FOLK

WEBSTER—Jet planes crashing through the sound barrier above the town about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon shook the area, but apparently not the people.

Police and newspaper offices here reported not one call came in to inquire about the series of blasts which caused windows to rattle in most sections of town.

Patrolman Harold Sellig on desk duty said, "I guess the people are pretty well accustomed to the noise by now."

North Attleboro (Ma)
Eve. Chronicle
Nov. 6, 1957

It's Round, It's Oval, It's Moving...It's A Mystery

Mysterious Object Captures Imaginations From Coast To Coast

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (INS) — A mystery object, fast supplanting the flying saucers of old, captured the imagination of the nation today, prompted hundreds of reports, and disrupted U. S. Air Force intraservice liaison.

Hovering over it all was an object variously described as glowing, cigar-shaped, egg-shaped, motionless, fast-moving, and otherwise having all the qualities of a phantom from outer space.

It was reported generally in the western United States — mostly in the New Mexico-Texas-Gulf Coast area — but also as far east as Cairo, Egypt where it shrank

to a small object and finally was thought to be part of a man-made satellite.

The Pentagon and the U. S. Division of the Northern American Air Defense Command, the latter based at Colorado Springs, were unable to agree on where collected information was to be funneled to the public.

Pentagon spokesmen said NORAD was doing the job but Col. Barney Oldfield, public information officer at NORAD, said all information secured from Air Force investigations would be channeled to the Air Defense Command in Washington.

One Air Force spokesman noted that since the first flying saucer report years ago, some 6,000 investigations have been made. As Capt. Andy Peasley at NORAD said:

"We're now getting a rash of unidentified object reports and we intend to investigate as many as possible."

The captain said an official "mouthful." Among the problems facing the investigators are these:

The latest report was by a grain buyer traveling through Nebraska who said he visited aboard a strange flying machine near Kearney, Neb., yesterday.

Schmidt said he talked with a four-man, two-woman German-speaking crew and when the craft took off (after repairs) it "just burst into the sky and disappeared."

The Air Force appeared more seriously interested in the case reported by James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Test Center on Page 8.

FLYING SAUCERS ARE REPORTED IN FITCHBURG

FITCHBURG—Flying saucers are back again.

Reports of flying objects flooded police headquarters early today. Police said the reports came from the vicinity of Routes 2 and 31.

The first object, sighted at 12:35 a. m., was observed crossing from the southeast to the northwest, parallel with the horizon at a 30-degree angle, a police report said. The single "saucer" was later joined by another which came from the north.

Witnesses said they hovered together, going up and down and interchanging positions.

Prior to their disappearance, the objects reportedly changed color—turning from green to red, to white and then to yellow.

It's Round:

(Continued from page 1)

siles Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, N. M.

Stokes said he saw an object yesterday near Alamogordo. He said it was "light-colored and egg-shaped."

The Coast Guard cutter "Seabago" patrolling 200 miles south of New Orleans yesterday radioed that a "brilliant white" mystery object was spotted visually and also picked up on the ship's radar screen.

Cmdr. C. H. Waring, the cutter's skipper, said the object traveled at an estimated 1,000 miles an hour and first appeared on the ship's radar screen as a "good, strong pip."

The mystery object, described as large as the size of a barn, also "appeared in Kansas City and Oklahoma.

Many of the reports were crossed off quickly as the result of weather balloons hoisted regularly by the various Air Force bases across the land, but some were not easy to ignore.

For example, engineer Stokes told how the engine of his car stopped and the car's radio signal died out.

Still unexplained is the huge object reported near the north end of the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico Sunday about the same time a similar report popped up in Levelland, Tex. where Air Force investigators now are at work.

Military police, patrolling separately, said an object as "bright as the sun" shone above them but did not light the night sky around it.

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov. 4, 1957

Says Object Over Texas Came From Another Planet

LEVELLAND, Tex. — (UP) — A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said today he believes a mysterious object seen in West Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, Tex., a member of the national investigations committee of aerial phenomena and a director of interplanetary space patrol, a west Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee rushed here yesterday upon hearing of the latest object, seen by a least nine persons in two States.

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and a brilliant red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Levelland area, including the sheriff, three persons at Midland and another at Clovis, N. M.

Worcester (Ma)
Gazette
Nov. 13, 1957

Lab Rules Out Second Sighting

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (INS) — A second probable sighting of the Soviet launched satellite train by a New Haven astronomer was ruled out by the Cambridge Astrophysical Lab today.

Professor Robert Brown, of New Haven State Teachers College and head of "operation moonwatch" in that city said a report from Dr. Armand Spitz in Cambridge, Mass., indicated the reported time of their sighting today was "incompatible" with the plotted course of the satellite "Sputnik" and the third stage of the rocket launched by Russia on Oct. 4.

Earlier today Professor Brown sighted two bright objects passing through the sky, and tentatively identified them as the rocket casing and a fragment.

On Thursday James Plato, an amateur astronomer, and Brown made the historic first U. S. sighting of the third stage rocket which carried the Russian "moon" into outer space.

More Report Mystery Object In Southwest

LUBBOCK, Tex. AP—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday at about the same time the Air Force started an investigation into similar reports.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend. The reported sightings startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N.M., told news director Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U.S. 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this west Texas area over the weekend. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Ground Sunday, hovering near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

Witnesses said other strange lights were seen over other parts of Texas, near Chicago and in Virginia.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him occupants of cars saw a strange, unidentified object flying toward them from the northeast. He said his auto radio faded and died, then his engine stopped. He said several other cars were also stalled.

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest. As it passed . . . I could feel a kind of heat wave, like radiation from a giant sun lamp. But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail.

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of the sighting," he said.

Northampton (Ma)
Daily Hampshire
Gazette
Nov. 5, 1957

Those Mysterious Objects Mirages, Says Astronomer

WASHINGTON AP—A Harvard astronomer says mysterious objects reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico are mirages stemming from natural causes.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College of Observatory, said yesterday in Cambridge, Mass., that the whole thing amounts to "another flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an investigation of the reported sightings of the strange glowing objects in the sky. The Air Force for years has had the responsibility of checking reports of unidentified flying objects.

A rash of such reports had developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military installations in the Southwest. Some of the persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Yesterday the Coast Guard cutter Seabago radioed from the Gulf of Mexico that an object resembling a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed was seen to

about three seconds, and that it was tracked by radar.

Menzel said it is probable the cutter's crewmen got a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

As for reports of auto engines stalling, Menzel said "it would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Menzel, author of a book about flying saucers, said he has been studying them for 10 years and has yet to hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air . . . acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground, and they are common in the West where they have clear air."

The Air Force said that during the first half of this year only 1.9

Those—

(Continued from Page 1)

per cent of 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other strange objects in the air have been classed as "unknown." And the Air Force wasn't ready to believe that even this small percentage has sinister implications.

Retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, head of a private group set up to investigate unidentified flying object reports, said he could not now evaluate the present claimed sightings. But Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said the reported objects may come from another planet.

Northampton (Ma)
Daily Hampshire
Gazette
Nov. 6, 1957

DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE, NORTHAMPTON, MASS., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1957.

Our Own Non-Fly Doghouse



Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield, Mass.
Nov 6, 1957

'Saucer' Reports Increase; Astronomer Says 'Mirages'

KEARNEY, Neb. (UPI)—Authorities today held a "heart to heart" talk with a salesman, later discovered to be an ex-convict, who claimed he chatted with four men and two women in a transparent "space ship."

The report by Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Bakersfield, Calif., Tuesday night was the most dramatic of a host of unidentified flying object sightings reported around the country.

Schmidt's tale, as strange as any science-fiction story, stirred considerable excitement in the Kearney area for a time. Police roped off the spot where the "Whatnik" allegedly landed and examined various impressions and oil stains on the ground.

Turns to Skepticism

But curiosity turned to skepticism when Scottsbluff County Sheriff Steve Warrick revealed that Schmidt, a former potato buyer in Scottsbluff, Neb., was a former convict who served time in the Nebraska Penitentiary for embezzlement.

Schmidt, a grain buyer for Val-U-Pak Co. of Brawley, Calif., appeared in Kearney late Tuesday, white-faced and shaken, and asked to see a minister. He said he was driving near Kearney on a grain-buying expedition when he spotted an object that looked like a Navy blimp.

He said the four men and two women in the object spoke English and German, wore conventional clothes and appeared to be in their 40s.

The salesman said his car engine died when he approached the object, which stood on four posts.

"I got out and walked closer—about 25 or 30 feet from it," Schmidt said. "Two men came out and came toward me. One waved

what looked like a flashlight which glowed for a second. I couldn't move. I don't know whether I was just afraid or what, but it was like being paralyzed."

Schmidt said the walls of the ship were transparent from the inside and contained a "maze of dials, instruments and wiring inside."

Spoke in German

"I was in the ship 20 or 30 minutes," Schmidt said. He quoted the "spacemen" as saying "we'll have to be here a little while—you may as well come inside." They appeared to be working on the wiring, the salesman said, and did not offer to explain any of the equipment.

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Beverly (Ma)Times

Nov. 7, 1957

MYSTERY SIGNAL HEARD FROM SPACE

NEW YORK (INS) — A new signal — possibly from an earth satellite whose existence has not yet been reported — was heard for an hour and 15 minutes today by the RCA receiving station at Riverhead, Long Island, as well as by various "ham" radio operators in New England.

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But the RCA engineers said they were unable to determine immediately whether the signal at 108 megacycles — described as a continuous tone with a modulation of 200 cycles — came from outer space or from a land transmitter.

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Hundreds of space-conscious Greater Beverly residents last night witnessed a brilliant display of Aurora Borealis, or Northern Lights, which streaked the evening sky with red, while only a few stalwart "moonwatchers" were out-of-doors at dawn this morning to view the passing of Sputnik II.

Although there were no phone calls to local police headquarters seeking an explanation for the unusual Aurora display, International News Service reports that New York news office, police stations and Army installations were kept busy for hours last night answering queries about the "strange bright lights"

Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield (Ma)

Nov. 8, 1957

'Visitor' to UFO Put in Hospital For Mental Case

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The action was taken on recommendation of two examining psychiatrists who advised that Schmidt was "in immediate need of psychiatric treatment."

Schmidt, an ex-convict who once served a term for embezzlement, was ordered confined to the hospital for "an indefinite period for observation, diagnosis and treatment."

Reports From Family

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He said the occupants of the ship, four men and two women, were friendly enough and invited him to have a look around inside the cigar-shaped craft. The spacemen and women spoke German and English, he said.

6 JUN 1957 Sky 'Objects' Called Mirages

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Northampton (Ma) Daily Hampshire Gazette

Nov 4, 1957

Mystery Object In Texas Puzzles Public, Officials

LEVELLAND, Tex. AP—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "go sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide west Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Peace officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part time barber, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community (west of here Saturday night) with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing.

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go

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Saucedo, a Korean War veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a similar occurrence east of Levelland.

Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who called in reports of the object sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

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Mystery

(Continued on Page 16)

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Beverly (Ma) Times

Nov. 6, 1957

Danvers Mother Terrified By Mysterious Brilliant Flash On Darkened Beverly Street



MRS. ANTONIO DIRUBIO, shown above, with children, left to right. Gina, 2, Nancy, 1, Paula, 7, and Anthony, 10, in living room of home at 133 Elliott street, related yesterday how she encountered phenomenon of "explosion" as she drove her automobile along darkened street on Monday night.

(Beverly Times Staff Photo)

A Danvers mother of four children, fearing for 24 hours to disclose a terrifying encounter with a mysterious phenomenon, yesterday related how on Monday night she and the occupant of another automobile witnessed a blinding flash of light which enveloped the roadway as she proceeded along Elliott street in Beverly.

Mrs. Antonio DiRubio, of 133 Elliott street, Danvers, wife of a United Shoe Corp. employee, said that shortly after 8 o'clock as she was driving along Elliott street between Giles avenue and Green street she witnessed the strange sight which later seemed so completely fantastic that she told none but the members of her immediate family.

"There was another car following along behind mine, about two car lengths away, I think," she said. "Suddenly I saw an object in front of the car. It seemed to glow, the way a cat's eye glows in the darkness. I swerved to the side. I'm sure I didn't hit it, whatever it was. Then there was a huge blinding flash of light, off to the side, somewhat in back of the car."

The flash was accompanied by a cloud of smoke, extending completely across the roadway, she disclosed.

"What made it seem so terrifying was that even though it appeared to be an explosion, there was absolutely no sound."

Mrs. DiRubio said that her only thought was to leave the scene as

—Danvers Woman—
(Continued on Page Six)

Mystery Object Prompts Hundreds Of Reports In U. S.

By JAY HICKS

COLORADO SPRINGS (INS) — A mystery object, fast supplanting the flying saucer of old, captured the imagination of the nation today, prompted hundreds of reports, and disrupted U. S. Air Force intraservice liaison.

Hanging over it all was an object variously described as glowing, cigar-shaped, egg-shaped, motionless, fast-moving, and otherwise having all the qualities of a phantom from outer space.

It was reported generally in the western United States — mostly in the New Mexico-Texas-Gulf Coast area — but also as far east as Cairo, Egypt where it shrunk to a

—Mystery Object—
(Continued on Page Six)

Mystery Object

(Continued from Page One)

small object and finally was thought to be part of a man-made satellite.

The Pentagon and the U.S. Division of the Northern American Air Defense Command, the latter based at Colorado Springs, were unable to agree on where collected information was to be funneled to the public.

Pentagon spokesmen said Norad was doing the job but Col. Barney Oldfield, public information officer at Norad, said all information secured from Air Force investigations would be channeled to the Air Defense Command in Washington.

One Air Force spokesman noted that since the first flying saucer reports years ago, some 6,000 investigations have been made. As Capt. Andy Peasley at Norad said:

"We're now getting a rash of unidentified object reports and we intend to investigate as many as possible."

The captain said an official "mouthful." Among the problems facing the investigators are these:

The latest report was by a grain buyer traveling through Nebraska, 48-year-old R. O. Schmidt of Bakersfield, Calif., who said he visited aboard a strange flying machine near Kearney, Neb., yesterday.

Schmidt said he talked with a four-man, two-woman German-speaking crew and when the craft took off (after repairs) it "just blended into the sky and disappeared."

The Air Force appeared more genuinely interested in the case reported by James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missiles Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, N.M.

Stokes said he saw an object yesterday near Alamogordo. He said it was "light-colored and egg-shaped."

The Coast Guard cutter "Seabago" patrolling some 200 miles south of New Orleans yesterday radioed its headquarters that a "brilliant white" mystery object was spotted visually and also picked up on the ship's radar screen.

Cmdr. C. H. Waring, the cutter's skipper, said the object traveled at an estimated 1,000 miles an hour and first appeared on the ship's radar screen as a "good, strong pip."

The mystery object, described as large as the size of a barn, also "appeared" in Kansas City and Oklahoma.

Many of the reports were crossed off quickly as the result of weather balloons hoisted regularly by the various Air Force bases across the land, but some were not so easy to ignore.

For example, Engineer Stokes told how the engine of his car stopped and the car's radio signal died out. Schmidt's story was similar.

Still unexplained is the huge object reported near the north end of the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico Sunday about the same time a similar report popped up in Levelland, Tex., where Air Force investigators now are at work.

Military police, patrolling separately, said an object as "bright as the sun" shone above them but did not light the night sky around it.

Danvers Woman

(Continued from Page One)

quickly as possible. Then she heard the motorist, following behind, sound his horn several times, but she would not heed the signal.

Finally, he drove alongside her car and motioned for her to pull over. Mrs. DiRubio complied, at the same time noticing that the occupant was a middle-aged man accompanied by two children.

"Something fell from your car and exploded," he said, obviously shaken by the blinding flash which must have occurred directly in front of his automobile.

Mrs. DiRubio denied that anything had fallen to the street, and related her own experience with the strange, glowing object in the road and the subsequent brilliant flash.

The incredulous motorist returned to his automobile and drove away.

Mrs. DiRubio said that she continued to the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Aucone, and related her experience. After about a half-hour she returned to her own home, re-passing the scene of her encounter with the unknown, but the trip was without incident. There were no signs of a fire, an explosion or any other phenomenon along the darkened street.

Her husband, she said, listened with amazement to her story, then taking a flashlight drove along Elliott Street in the area where the flash had been seen by his frightened wife.

Searching the roadway, DiRubio saw no signs of the residue which would inevitably result from an explosion or fire of natural causes.

Mystified, he returned to the cottage over the Danvers line where the couple's four children, Anthony, 10, Paula, 7, Gina, 2, and one year old Nancy were sleeping unaware of their mother's terrifying experience.

"After reading about all these things that have been happening across the country today," he said, "we decided we'd better tell somebody about it."

DiRubio said that he had carefully examined the car, finding everything ship-shape. Nothing was missing from the vehicle, either from a mechanical or structural standpoint.

Why didn't they notify the police? "Who would have believed such a story," Mrs. DiRubio said. "All I know is that it happened to me. If other people witness something like this, I hope they don't keep it to themselves as I did for a whole day, just thinking about it . . . and worrying . . . and wondering."

Beverly (Ma)Times

Nov. 6, 1957

Sputnik II Sighted From Air Force Plane Over N. H.

CAMBRIDGE (INS)—Russia's dog-carrying Sputnik II was sighted at 5 a.m. EST today from a Bedford Air Force plane flying at an altitude of 19,000 feet over New Hampshire.

Air Force Capt. Laval Tremblay, assistant operations officer at the Bedford A. F. base, said he was flying 25 miles south of the North Conway, N. H., radio beacon, when he spotted an object in the south-southeast.

"It began as a faint star and reached a brightness magnitude of Jupiter," Capt. Tremblay said in a report to the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, headquarters of the American "moonwatch program".

The report was received by Dr. Fred L. Whipple, the observatory director, who said the Soviet satellite is due to make its debut to ground observers in New England tomorrow at 5:09 a.m. EST.

Scientists believe it will be brightly lighted, close to the ground and directly overhead. Dr. Whipple, however, said he could not encourage people to get up in the hope of seeing the dog-carrying Russian satellite because:

"It will be visible in its overhead passage for less than a minute. Since it also may be speeding up appreciably, we can't locate so precisely as to guarantee that anyone will see it."

Mirages, Not Flying Saucers Says Debunker

Harvard Scientist Calls "Flying Objects" Hot Air Bubbles

CAMBRIDGE (INS) — "Hot air bubbles" was the answer today of Dr. Donald H. Menzel of Harvard Observatory to reports space saucers have been sighted in various sections of the country and by the Coast Guard Cutler Seabago in the Gulf of Mexico.

Dr. Menzel 10 years ago debunked flying saucers in a book and he still contends they are reflections of light — mirages.

Reports from Texas of automobile lights dimming, radios dying out and engines stalling, he said, were merely coincidences.

He admitted that observers see something, but that what they see are mirages. He added:

"I have seen them — all kinds. I can see them any time I want to go out and look for them. I saw the daddy of them all — one with flashing red and green lights and a little propeller on top."

He said he saw one while returning from the North Pole in an Army bomber and was able to identify it as an image of the star Sirius, millions of miles away.

Dr. Menzel related:

"The illusion in Texas is a nice example of a flying saucer caused by a layer of heated air close to the ground which acts as a lens. This lens can form the image of an object 50 to 100 miles away very vividly. Such conditions are very prevalent throughout the west."

Such an air bubble, he said, can cause a visible and radar impression at the same time.

Two engineers, however, said flying objects cannot be discounted. Fred Waring, of Billerica, engineering standards coordinator at a Lawrence plant, declared:

"These objects are defying all laws of gravity and physics. They have no visible means of propulsion and their speed appears to be terrific.

"It's funny, too, why they should be sighted close to our atomic projects. Could they not be taking radiation counts?"

Nov. 13, 1957

Mystery Blast Rocks Greater Boston Area

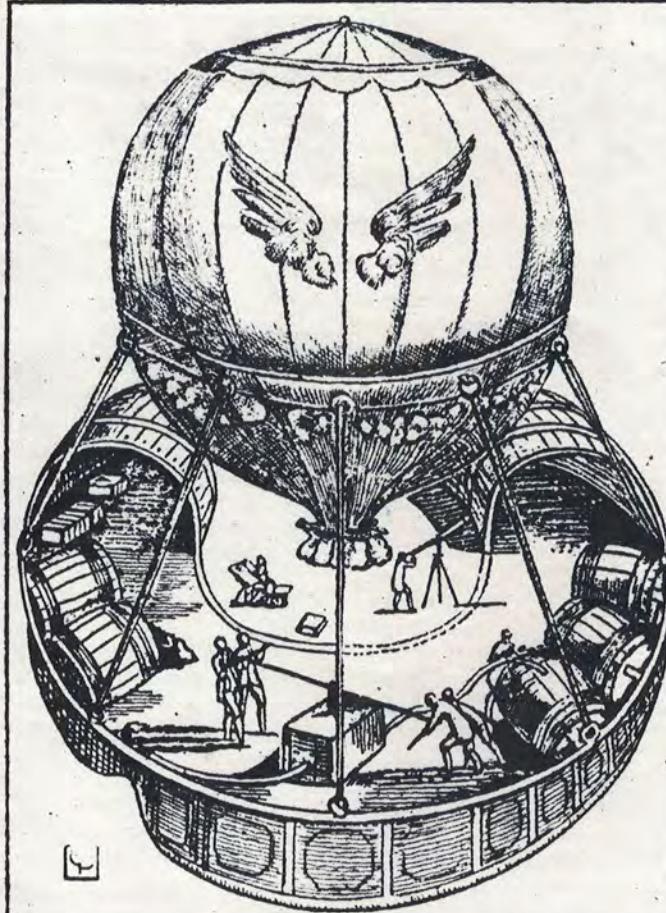
BOSTON, Nov. 13 (AP) — Authorities in five communities today were trying to determine what caused the mysterious blast yesterday which caused some damage to residences but no injuries.

The blast was felt in Everett, Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop and the Charlestown district of Boston.

A check of airfields in the immediate vicinity of Boston brought from officials the comment that even a jet plane breaking the sound barrier could not knock over dishes and other articles as was reported.

Beverly (Ma) Times

Nov. 4, 1957



SPACE RAFT—In 1783, a Frenchman, M. de Lettre, envisioned in his book on travel to the moon this space raft. A cross section of the enclosed vessel, which was lifted and propelled by the expulsion of air or liquid enclosed in barrels, shows that the author had no conception of atmospheric pressure changes. (Photo from the New York Public Library Files, Central Press)

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov. 5, 1957

Cutter Spots Flying Object Over Ocean

NEW ORLEANS. — (UP) — The U. S. Coast Guard Cutter, Sebago reported it spotted a brilliant flying object in the sky this morning about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi river.

The unidentified object was first sighted at 5:10 A. M., the coast guard said. Radar contact with the object was retained intermittently from 5:10 A. M. to 5:37 A. M., with the object visible to the naked eye for three seconds beginning at 5:21 A. M.

A radio report from the Sebago, on duty in the Gulf of Mexico, said the object "resembled a brilliant planet" and was traveling at a high rate of speed.

The "planet" travelled in concentric circles around the ship, according to the report, and was last tracked 175 miles from the vessel. At that time, it was headed northward toward the Louisiana coast.

The coast guard in New Orleans said it is alerting ships

CUTTER—See Page 2.

Cutter...

(Continued From Page One.)

to keep a watch for the object, whose whirling flight covered at least 175 miles during the 27 minutes it was tracked by the Sebago.

In North Louisiana, four persons told State police they sighted a bright object about half the size of an automobile rising from the ground last night near Monroe.

Worcester Ma Gazette Nov. 13, 1957

Washington Wire . . .

By BULKLEY GRIFFIN

Gazette Washington Correspondent



DONALD H. MENZEL
Flying Saucer Skeptic

Gazette Washington Correspondent

The statement last week of Director Donald H. Menzel of the Harvard Observatory that recent so-called flying saucer sightings are, in effect, nothing but "mirages," caused by "layers of heated air," is no new contribution to the mystery. Menzel has said this before and, in fact, wrote a book along this general line a few years ago. To this the opposite side replies that fast-moving objects sighted visually and at the same time tracked on radar are something more than air.

For the last decade Air Force of

ficials have been much less than frank in dealing with the public on the matter of flying saucers. Investigation of flying saucers was early made an Air Force assignment. It still is. The persistent lack of frankness, to employ a rather mild phrase, still puzzles many pilots and others who have had some experience with these unknown objects.

New York Times

Nov. 16, 1957

AIR FORCE REFUTES FLYING SAUCER TALES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15 (AP)—The Air Force said today that it had looked into five recent reports of mysterious lights and strange objects from the sky—and there was not a flying saucer in the lot.

The Air Force report gave the most severe description—"hoax"—to the most vivid of the stories that began circulating after Soviet satellites had turned the attention of Americans skyward. This was an account from a man in Kearney, Neb., of having been shown around the interior of a spaceship by its German-speaking crew.

The Air Force's technical investigators also dismissed as exaggerations or misunderstood natural phenomena other recent saucer reports. These included stories of a huge glowing object touching ground near Levelland, Tex., and causing automobiles to stall, somewhat similar reports from near Alamogordo, N. M.; bright lights seen from a Coast Guard cutter in the Gulf of Mexico and by planes patrolling near White Sands, N. M.

Claims He Talked With Six Persons Aboard 'Space Ship'

4 Men, 2 Women Spoke English, German, Ex-Convict Tells Policemen in Nebraska

KEARNY, Neb. — (UP) — Authorities today held a "heart to heart" talk with a salesman, later discovered to be an ex-convict, who claimed he chatted with four men and two women in a transparent "space ship." The report by Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Bakersfield, Cal., last night was the most dramatic of a host of unidentified flying

object sightings reported around the country.

Schmidt's tale, as strange as any science-fiction story, stirred considerable excitement in the Kearny area for a time. Police roped off the spot where the "whatnik" allegedly landed and examined various impressions and oil stains on the ground.

But curiosity turned to skepticism when Scottsbluff County Sheriff Steve Warrick revealed that Schmidt, a former potato buyer in Scottsbluff, Neb., was a former convict who served time in the Nebraska Penitentiary for embezzlement.

However, Schmidt stuck by his story. Police said they held a "heart to heart" talk with Schmidt last night and planned further questioning.

Schmidt, a grain buyer, appeared in Kearny late yesterday, white-faced and shaken, and asked to see a minister. He said he was driving near Kearny on a grain-buying expedition when



Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov 7, 1957

he spotted an object that looked what, but it was like being paralyzed.

He said the four men and two women in the object spoke English and German, wore conventional clothes and appeared to be in their 40's.

The salesman said his car engine died when he approached the object, which stood on four posts.

"I Couldn't Move"

"I got out and walked closer — about 25 or 30 feet from it," Schmidt said. "Two men came out and came toward me. One waved what looked like a flashlight which glowed for a second. I couldn't move. I don't know whether I was just afraid or

Schmidt said the walls of the ship were transparent from the inside and contained a "maze of dials, instruments and wiring inside."

"I was in the ship 20 or 30 minutes," Schmidt said. He quoted the "spacemen" as saying "We'll have to be here a little while — you may as well come inside." They appeared to be working on the wiring, the salesman said; and did not offer to explain any of the equipment.

They spoke among themselves in German, Schmidt said.

Finally, he said, they told him to get out and the ship, propell-

Faint Object Spotted Ahead Of Satellite

By DON GUY

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. AP — A Smithsonian scientist reported sighting a faint object about 10 to 15 seconds ahead of Sputnik II this morning.

Dr. John S. Rinehart, assistant director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, said he saw an object resembling a faint star moving in advance of the much-more brilliant satellite-rocket.

Dr. Rinehart said he saw both objects low in the Western sky disappearing to the north.

Sputnik II was sighted by a Moonwatch team on the roof of the Harvard Observatory as well as by other viewers in the East. It appeared low in the West due to its distance from the eastern seaboard.

No speculation was immediately available on the question — whether

Northampton (Ma)
Daily Hampshire Gazette
Nov. 8, 1957

Faint-

(Continued from Page 1)

a mechanism set to return a chamber carrying the dog, Laika, back to earth might have gone wrong.

Such a mechanism might have been designed to eject the dog's chamber in a direction opposite to satellite's flight and thus slow it down for a return to earth. On the other hand, if tumbling motion of the rocket caused such a portion of the rocket to be thrust forward, it would become a satellite itself — traveling even faster than Sputnik II.

It was estimated here that the faint object sighted ahead of Sputnik II this morning might be 50 to 75 miles ahead of the rocket satellite, on the basis of translation of the distance in seconds into miles.

Yesterday, speculation included the possibility the rocket might be breaking up but scientists described this probably was not so.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, associate director of the Smithsonian Observatory, said he saw the satellite as it passed near Boston but noted no sign of a separation.

Dr. Hynek and Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the observatory, agreed that getting the satellite's canine cargo safely down to earth would be an outstanding feat.

To accomplish it, the satellite would have to be given a reverse push equal to 1,000 m.p.h., Dr. Whipple said.

Faint
(Continued On Page 13)

They're Thinking of How To Talk to Martians, If Any

WASHINGTON. — (UP) — How do you say in Martian, "Where are all the canals?" How do you ask a Venutian to tea?

Director Leon E. Dostert of Georgetown University's Institute of Language and Linguistics said today language experts landing on Mars and Venus should be able to solve both problems on three conditions: That there are any Martians and Venutians on those planets;

that they are what passes for intelligent beings and that they communicate in some ways perceptible to earthmen.

Dostert — organizer of the simultaneous translation system at the Nuremberg war crimes trial and at the United Nations — said earthmen would learn Martian the same way they do the language of a newly-discovered African tribe.

"We observe the noises they make or the signs of the ear

wiggles and over a period of time we catch on what they indicate," he said.

"After awhile we build up a vocabulary of a few hundred words and we're talking basic Martian."

A Dutch mathematician last week proposed a cosmic language based on mathematics for conversing with Martians or anyone else earthmen bump into in outer space.

Dostert said mathematics might be a good approach if the language spoken by Martians turned out to have been deliberately made instead of "growing like Topsy" in the manner of earth languages.

"Who knows?" he chuckled. "All ideas are welcome."

Dostert said the first expedition to Mars "definitely should include both a language expert and a mathematician."

He said he had no plans to sign up.

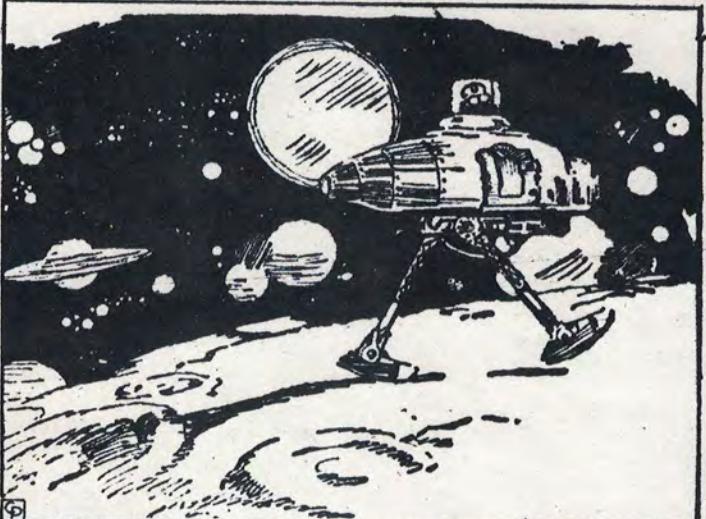
"Of course," he said, "if the Martians talked by mental telepathy that would pose even harder problems." But he said even mental telepathy might not be a permanent obstacle.

"Who would have said 30 years ago that this year we would see the Rose Bowl game in our living rooms, eh?" he said.

Several of his listeners made a practice wiggle of their ears.

Beverly (Ma) Times

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1957



ANTI-GRAVITY BLIMP — In 1923, Homer Eon Flint's novel "Out of the Moon" showed the space ship at top traveling from the moon to earth on an anti-gravity ray projected from Ecuador. The dirigible-like device had gondola and wings. On the moon, inventive earthmen (bottom) explored the airless satellite in a walking machine. (New York Public Library Files, Central Press)

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise

Nov. 7, 1957

BRILLIANT VENUS DRAWS INQUIRIES

Mysterious Object Identified as Planet—Aurora Borealis Also Stumps Watchers

Satellite-conscious sky watchers on the East Coast witnessed last night an unusually bright display of the Aurora Borealis, or northern lights.

The aurora appeared in the northern sky soon after newspapers and astronomical institutions in New York and other cities had received numerous telephone inquiries about a bright light on the southwest horizon. The astronomers agreed unanimously that this light was the planet Venus, now approaching its greatest brilliance.

Reports also came from other parts of the country of mysterious or weird objects sighted in the skies.

A flurry of telephone calls here to newspapers and the Hayden Planetarium regarding Venus had barely subsided when calls about "red clouds in the sky" began to come in.

Observers here said they saw the northern lights between 8:15 and a few minutes after 9 P. M.

James S. Pickering, assistant astronomer at the Hayden Planetarium, saw the aurora from his home in suburban Maplewood, N. J. He described it as one of the most brilliant displays seen in this vicinity for a long time.

The brilliance of the aurora was associated by Mr. Pickering with the recent sunspot activity that has disrupted radio and television waves. It was partly because these solar flare-ups were expected that this period was chosen by scientists for the International Geophysical Year, which began in July and will end on Dec. 31, 1958.

Freak short wave radio activity has been reported for the last week. Mr. Pickering said it was normal for northern

lights to appear from two to four days after sunspot effect on radio has been noted.

Venus will reach its greatest brilliance Dec. 23.

5,700 Studies Negative

Special to The New York Times.

DAYTON, Ohio, Nov. 6.—The Air Technical Intelligence Center said that first-hand investigations had been made of 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers and other unidentified subjects in the ten-year period between 1947-57, but that no physical evidence had been found of anything not identifiable.

A spokesman for the intelligence center said that all reports had been given the "most thorough" analysis, involving the services also of top-level scientists in many fields, to be sure that the findings were impartial and "above all, informed." The intelligence center said that it had added about 250 cases of new "sightings" to the report it made on the same subject about a year ago.

Brockton Ma
Enterprise
Nov. 7, 1957

Odd Signals Not From Moon Rocket

WASHINGTON. — (UP) — The federal communications commission today scotched suggestions that strange radio signals picked up in the past few days were coming from a soviet rocket en route to the moon.

A commission spokesman said it probably was just a Russian "jamming" signal poorly aimed at free world radio broadcasts.

Ham operators across the nation had reported picking up the strange signals on 14.286 megacycles. They described the sound variously as a series of dots, a low moan, and "some kind of code group."

Their reports touched off speculation in some quarters that the soviets had fired a rocket to the moon which was radioing information back to earth.

The FCC spokesman said powerful FCC monitoring radio receivers had picked up no unusual signal on any frequency in the 14.286 megacycle range.

"The signals we heard were normal to that portion of the frequency spectrum," he said. "I'm assuming that the reported (mystery) signals were legitimate."

The frequencies in the 14.286 megacycle range, he noted, were set aside for worldwide amateur use and the Russians ordinarily would not set up interference in that range.

For this reason, he said, the signals picked up by amateurs may have been "spurious" ones sent by a Russian jammer who got on the wrong frequency.

Bulletins

RIVERHEAD, N. Y. — (UP) — The Radio Corp. of America receiving station at Riverhead said today it picked up a continuous radio signal of undetermined origin at 9:35 A. M. on a wavelength assigned to International Geophysical Year scientists engaged in space satellite work. The signals faded at 10:30 A. M.

Mystery Objects In Air Described As 'Mirages'

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — A Harvard astronomer says mysterious objects reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico are mirages stemming from natural causes.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard college of observatory, said yesterday in Cambridge, Mass., that the whole thing amounts to "another flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an investigation of the reported sightings of the strange glowing objects in the sky. The Air Force for years has had the responsibility of checking reports of unidentified flying objects.

A rash of such reports had developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military installations in the Southwest. Some of the persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Yesterday the Coast Guard cutter Sebago radioed from the Gulf of Mexico that an object resembling a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed was seen for about three seconds, and that it was tracked by radar.

Menzel said it is probable the cutter's crewmen got a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

As for reports of auto engines stalling, Menzel said "it would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Menzel, author of a book about flying saucers, said he has been studying them for 10 years and has yet to hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

Only a Mirage

"They are caused by a layer of heated air . . . acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off in the West where they have clear air."

The air force said that during the first half of this year only 1.9 per cent. of 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other strange objects in the air have been classed as "unknown." And the air force wasn't ready to believe that even this small percentage had sinister implications.

Retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, head of a private group set up to investigate unidentified flying object reports, said he could not now evaluate the present claimed sighting. But Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said the reported objects may come from

Nov. 11, 1957.

BROCKTON DAILY ENTERPRISE

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov 6, 1957

Salem (Ma)
News
Nov. ?, 1957

AF Report Discounts Space Ships

No Physical or Material Evidence, Not Even A Minute Fragment, That Flying Saucer Was Ever Found

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 (AP) — The Air Force says its investigations of 5700 reported sightings of flying saucers in 10 years have produced "no physical or material evidence" that such things exist.

The Pentagon issued this report last night after sightings of mysterious flying objects were reported this week from various parts of the country. Some of the reported objects were said to glow with a strange light and to have caused auto engines to stall.

Sightings of flying saucers have been reported from time to time over the past decade. Investigation has been handled by the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Previous Air Force reports on saucers have been along the lines of the one put out last night.

There have been suggestions that the new rash of sightings was inspired by Russia's launching of earth satellites.

POSE NO THREAT

In its report last night, the Air Force said "there is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer was ever found."

It also said there is no evidence that the alleged objects are interplanetary space ships, that they indicate developments beyond the range of current scientific knowledge, or that pose any threat to the nation's security.

Celestial Show

Last night New England sky-watchers were treated to a scintillating celestial show.

First came Venus, the planet nearest the earth, which glittered with an unusual radiance in the twilight sky and touched off a rash of phone calls to observatories, newspapers and police stations.

As Venus died in the southwest sky, the Aurora Borealis came to life in the northern horizon.

Another spate of phone calls was caused by the red streaks of the Aurora Borealis, a common phenomenon popularly known as the northern lights.

When the northern lights faded, there was still a lustrous full moon to attract the attention of the sky-conscious earthlings.

Meanwhile Sputnik II, the only inhabited satellite in the solar system, made a pre-dawn sweep today up the east coast.

The Smithsonian observatory said the canine-carrying satellite crossed southern Florida, skirted Cape Hatteras, traversed Massachusetts near the Cape Cod Canal and faded out over eastern Maine.

'Doghouse' in Sky Seen by N.E. Viewers

CAMBRIDGE, — (AP) — Russia's flying doghouse made a spectacular sweep across the United States before sunrise today.

The Smithsonian astrophysical observatory received calls from amateurs and Moonwatch teams throughout New England, New York State and as far south as Washington, D. C., and west to Ohio.

The Moonwatch team on the roof of the Harvard observatory timed the satellite at 5:11:12 A. M.

Sputnik II's plotted route listed two other passes across the U. S. this morning, one across the mid-west and the other across the extreme northwest, approximately an hour and 40 minutes later in each instance.

Dr. Armand Spitz, Smithsonian's co-ordinator of visual sighting in the U. S., said the rocket appeared to be almost as bright as the planet Jupiter, or nearly minus 2 magnitude.

Observers noted the brightness changed until it was almost as dim as a faint star approximately every few seconds. This was because the rocket-shaped object was tumbling in space. It appeared brightest to the observer when its broadside reflected the light of the sun.

The satellite was estimated to be only a little more than 150 miles high.

Over Cambridge

In the Cambridge area, where there were a few scattered clouds, it appeared to pass just slightly east of overhead.

Observers in Ohio saw it on the eastern horizon.

U. S. weather bureau observers in Hartford, Conn., Binghamton, N. Y.; Washington and New York City all reported sightings. The full moon also attracted attention in the western sky. A lunar eclipse was scheduled to start at 9:30 A. M., visible in the far west, Hawaii and Japan. There has been speculation that Russia might attempt to fire a rocket timed to explode an atomic bomb on the moon when its face was darkened by the shadow of the earth.

That Sputnik II was sighted by thousands in eastern United States was indicated by the many calls made to news services, newspapers and radio stations by early morning risers who reported it.

Unidentified Flying Object Reported Over New Mexico.

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. (UP) — An electronics engineer reported seeing an unidentified flying object on an isolated desert highway near Alamogordo in southern New Mexico Monday.

James Stokes, 42, an engineer in an upper air research project at the Air Force Missile Development Center near Alamogordo, said 10 automobiles stopped or were stopped when the object appeared Monday afternoon on U.S. Highway 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and the Air Force Center.

Seen by Army Patrols

Earlier in the day, officials at White Sands Proving Grounds said two Army patrols reported seeing a similar object or objects on Sunday.

Similar reports came Sunday from Levelland, Tex.

Stokes reported that the object approached from the northeast over the Sacramento Mountains. He said the first indication that something was out of the ordinary was a gradual fading of the radio in his automobile.

Then, he said, the car engine died, and he noticed that several other cars on the highway had stopped. Stokes said he noticed that the occupants were getting

out of their cars and pointing to the sky.

"Looking up," Stokes said, "I saw a light-colored, egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast.

"Then it wheeled and made a pass at the highway, across the road not more than two miles ahead.

"It then moved away toward the Organ Mountains near White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest.

'Kind of Heat Wave'

"As it passed at its closest point I could feel a kind of heat wave, but there was no sound.

"It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail, smoke or flame visible."

Stokes said the object appeared to be about 500 feet in length, with a shiny surface like mother of pearl.

Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield, Ma
Nov. 5, 1957

Strange Radio Signals Mystify Experts at Listening Posts Here

A strange new radio signal, greatest strength from about 50 degrees east of due North, unlike the recognizable electronic voices of Soviet earth satellites, has been picked up here during the last few days by both Government and private monitors.

The Defense Department confirmed last night that the mysterious signal had been received at Army listening posts on a frequency of 14.286 megacycles. Signals definitely identified as having come from the Russian satellites have been on frequencies of 20.005 and 40.002 megacycles.

The phenomenon has excited the curiosity of commercial radio companies and amateur "hams" as well as the Defense Department.

Even more baffling was the fact that the source of the unidentified signal apparently was moving.

The Radio Corporation of America, which operates sensitive receivers at Riverhead, L. I., for picking up transatlantic messages, was alerted yesterday by a telephone call from an amateur operator. A receiver was immediately tuned to 14.286 megacycles.

An RCA spokesman said "a sort of wobbly" signal was picked up at 5:10 P.M. It increased in strength, and by 5:15 was "quite good." Directional antennas then indicated the

signal was at its peak intensity, but by this time its source had moved 15 degrees to the east.

The best reception coincided with the strongest signal from the second Russian satellite, which RCA heard for the second time during the afternoon between 5:18 and 5:26 P.M.

RCA had also picked up the earth satellite's signal between 3:31 and 3:49 P.M.

Clear signals from the satellite were also received yesterday by the Navy Research Laboratory in Washington, headquarters in this country for satellite radio study. The Laboratory's Minitrack system, an intricate receiving and electronic computing network designed specifically for tracking artificial satellites, recorded "grand slugs of data."

The signals identified as coming from the satellite were received on the 40 megacycle band. None was received from the satellite's other transmitter, which broadcasts at 20 megacycles. These two frequencies were also used by the first Russian satellite, whose radios have died.

The 40 megacycle transmitter broadcasts a continuous, steady tone. The 20 megacycle radio reportedly sends a continuous series of "beeps."

New York Times

Nov. 6, 1957

Salem (Ma) News

Nov. 6, 1957

Motorists Scared By Mystery Light On Beverly Road

DANVERS, Nov. 6 — A "roadnik" object seen by Mrs. Antonio DiRubio, 34, of 133 Elliott street was sufficiently mysterious to frighten her as she drove along Elliott street in Beverly at 8 last night.

Noting it shining "like a cat's eye," she swerved the car to avoid it. A man driving behind blinked his car lights, signalling her to stop. He said he too had been frightened by the object, which seemed to have dropped from her car and explode, leaving smoke which both motorists observed. They did not investigate further.

Mystery Objects Only Mirages, Says Scientist

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (AP)—A Harvard astronomer says mysterious objects reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico are mirages stemming from natural causes, reZ the

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College of Observatory, said yesterday in Cambridge that the whole thing amounts to "another" flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an sightings of the strange glowing objects in the sky. The Air Force for years has had the responsibility of checking reports of unidentified flying objects.

A rash of such reports had developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military installations in the Southwest. Some of the persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Enterprise BROCKTON, MASS., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1957

Watchers Report Objects in Sky

Brocktonians looking toward the skies Wednesday night saw neither Sputnick or Mutnick but added another chapter to the sighting of unidentified flying objects department. Two separate reports were received at the Enterprise-Times newsroom of sightings of a large flaming object in the skies about 9:30 P. M. One saw the object from Route 123 near the bridge over the expressway and the other from the expressway both stating it was in the east.

One report described it as flaming and disappearing very rapidly while the other described it as being bright yellow in color with a tail behind it.

Earlier, a brilliant display of Northern Lights resulted in a number of calls between 8:30 and 9 P. M. as to the red glow in the north, later shifting to the east and west. Some callers were apprehensive that the Russians had something to do with it.

A report shortly after 11 P. M. from a resident near the Brockton Hospital reported a bright object hovering over Montello. The caller stated that the object was very bright, had been nearly motionless for some time but on occasions moved very rapidly and returned. She placed its location as about over Howard and North Montello streets.

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov 8, 1957 (orig poor)

Hear Many Reports Of 'Things' in Sky

A report on a "big and glowing object" landing at Brockton Fairgrounds was among the accounts received at 10:30 Thursday night in the Enterprise newsroom.

Others included the sighting of an unidentified object in the sky late Thursday afternoon, and a further report on an object sighted Wednesday night, as well as several reports of sightings of the Russian's Mutnick.

There was no corroborating evidence of the landing of a space ship or anything of that order at the fairgrounds.

James Griswold, 104 Court street, reported an unidentified bright object in the sky to the east about 4:45 Thursday afternoon. He said that the white object was very bright and appeared to be about over Avon.

Roy Sosa, 522 Main street, called to report also seeing a bright red object about 9:30 Wednesday night on Belmont street near the expressway. He said the object was red, with a brighter red tail and was headed westward. He said that he also saw Mutnick Thursday morning and marvelled at the high speed of the new satellite. The new artificial moon was also seen by Fireman Frederick Pitt, patrolling a beat in the Centerville section, and by a gasline station attendant with whom he was talking.

NOVEMBER 7, 1957

F. C. C. Denies Reception by Its Stations**Mystery Radio Signals Continue**

By Robert C. Toth

The Federal Communications Commission denied yesterday that its stations have tuned in on the "mystery beep," first heard Sunday on 14.295 megacycles. But the Naval Research Laboratories, also in Washington, said they continued to receive the unidentified transmission.

A commission spokesman acknowledged that it had received complaints of "swishing sounds" and "interference" on the frequency. But "our monitoring stations in the United States and possessions have never heard it," he said.

Radio hams around the world first picked up the signal on Sunday, shortly after the launching of Sputnik II. The hams often use that frequency.

The Naval Research Laboratories have heard the signal frequently since Monday, they said. The National Broadcasting Co. recorded the sound, described as a hum followed by two beeps, and played it on the air Tuesday.

The Radio Corp. of America's sensitive receivers at Riverhead,

I. L. yesterday reported nothing unusual on the frequency. Tuesday, operators of these receivers picked up the signal and reported that its source was moving swiftly. NBC also placed the source at rapidly varying positions.

The FCC was reported to have heard the signal on Tuesday. The commission spokesman categorically denied this yesterday. The commission maintains a continuous watch over broadcast bands under a Congressional mandate.

Flying Saucer Reports

The naval facility, which is the American collection center for radio tracking of the satellites, said its receivers continued to get a strong, intermittent buzzing on the frequency yesterday. No correlation between the signal and the passage of Sputnik II was found, he added.

Sputnik II broadcasts on 20 and 40 megacycle frequencies.

The naval facility initially refused to speculate on possible sources of the strange signal. Individuals attempted to call to this newspaper to draw a connection between the baffling signal and flying saucer reports and possible Russian moon rockets.

Radiomen Record Sounds Like Dog's Heartbeat

Milwaukee, Wis. —(AP)— Radio engineers of Stations WTMJ and WTMJ-TV yesterday recorded a sound which they believe could be the heartbeat of the Russian space dog.

The engineers of the stations said they had listened to the radio beep signal of Sputnik II on each passage of the Soviet earth satellite over this hemisphere since 5 a.m. (CST) Sunday. The signal came in on 20 and 40 megacycle frequencies as the Russians had promised.

The WTMJ engineers picked up a third signal on 36.95 megacycles. They compared it to the beat of a metronome clicking off about 113 counts per minute, but thought it was too irregular to be mechanically keyed. The beat was audible only while the other satellite signals were heard.

Flying Object

Continued From Page One

Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

A private "flying saucer" investigator, Donald E. Keyhoe, said that "from all we've heard" the mysterious object said to have been sighted by at least nine West Texas persons was a space ship.

Mr. Keyhoe said he was impressed by reports that engines of automobiles died and their headlights went out when the object passed.

"That's just the way an electro-magnetic force field would operate," he said.

The Fiji government, in a report received in Honolulu yesterday, said a clergyman and four natives reported sighting a dazzling object in the South Pacific skies which generally matched the description of the unidentified object reported in Texas.

The report came from Suva, capital of the island group. It said three separate sightings of the strange object were reported in October.

Providence (R.I.) Journal

Nov. 5, 1957

Patrols See Mystery Object Over Site of First A-Blast

White Sands Proving Grounds, N.M. — (UP) — Two separate military patrols reported yesterday that they had seen an unidentified flying object near the spot where the first atomic bomb was exploded in 1945.

The description offered by the two patrols fit the one offered by persons who said they saw a flying object near Leaveland, Tex., Sunday.

The patrols, of two soldiers each, reported they had seen the "very bright" object Sunday near Trinity Site, the spot in an isolated area of White Sands Proving Grounds where the first test atomic bomb was exploded. They said they saw it at different times Sunday.

One patrol reported the object touched down briefly at the

Trinity Site. The other group said it only hovered over the spot.

Lt. H. F. Tenny, company commander at the Army's Stallion Site on the grounds, made an inspection trip to the scene yesterday. He found no markings. He said his investigation was completed, and that the report would stand.

Meanwhile, the Air Force announced in Washington that it has sent an investigating team to question persons in Texas and New Mexico about the phenomena.

An Air Force spokesman could not identify the base from which the investigators were sent. Normally, such reports are checked by the Air Technical Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Continued on Page 8, Col. 4

By Army Patrols

Huge Object Is Spotted In Air Near A-Test Site

WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUND, N. M., Nov. 4 (AP).—An Army lieutenant reported today the sighting by two patrols of a huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

The accounts were reported by the soldiers' commanding officer and the White Sands public information office. The object was seen twice Sunday.

The sightings were made seventeen hours apart by two different military police patrols on this southern New Mexico missile testing range. The first atomic bomb was touched off on the northern edge of the area July 16, 1945.

First Lt. Miles F. Penney, commanding officer of the M. P.'s, said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of similar sightings in Texas yesterday.

Both sightings were in the area of abandoned bunkers used by technicians who observed the world's first atomic explosion.

Lt. Penney said one sighting was made by a two-man patrol at around 8 p. m. Sunday.

Sp. 3/c Forest R. Oakes and Sp. 3/c Barlow reported that about that time their patrol saw a bright light. Specialist Oakes thought hanging about fifty feet above the old atom bomb bunker. He said the "large bright light" took off at a 45 degree angle into the sky and started blinking. Then it disappeared.

This patrol estimated the object's size as "200 or 300 feet long." "It was very bright," Specialist Oakes said. He said his patrol was two or three miles west of the light.

The earlier sighting came at 3 a. m. Another two-man jeep patrol consisting of Cpl. Glenn

H. Toy and a Pfc. Wilbanks made the report.

Lt. Penney quoted them as saying they noticed a "very bright object" high in the sky. The object descended until it was about fifty yards above the atom bomb bunkers when it went out.

A few minutes later, Cpl. Toy said, "the object became real bright like the sun, then fell in an angle to the ground and went out."

He described the object as about 75 to 100 yards in diameter and shaped like an egg. He said it landed near the old bunkers about three miles from where the M. P. jeep was parked.

Study Texas Reports

In Washington the Air Force, on the basis of reports from Texas, undertook an investigation.

An unusual aspect of the object reported sighted in West Texas Saturday and Sunday was that witnesses said their auto engines stopped and headlights went out when they drove near it. The object was variously described as a burning mass, as a big light, egg-shaped and 200 feet long.

Meanwhile, there were reports of strange doings in the skies over Chicago and the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Three policemen and a fireman in Chicago's Elmwood Park said they saw a peculiar, round, glowing thing in the sky early today. The police said their car lights appeared to dim as they kept the prowler's spotlight focused on the object.

At Martinsville, Va., Mrs. Ruby Hairston said she and her family saw a strange red glare last night while driving to Bassett, Va., from Philpott Lake, on the North Carolina border.

"It faded from bright red to a pale amber pink, then brightened again," she said.

New York Herald Tribune

Mysterious Signal On Radio Dies Out

Another One Is Picked Up Here And F. C. C. Speculates About Both

By Robert C. Toth

The mysterious radio signal heard since Sunday died out yesterday. But another transmission—this one on the frequency to be used by American earth satellites—was picked up in New York.

Plausible, earthly explanations—though frankly speculative—were advanced for both signals yesterday by an electronics expert for the Federal Communications Commission in Washington.

Carl T. Nuhn, head of the monitoring and control branch of the F. C. C., told the New York Herald Tribune that his personnel had picked up "complex emissions" on 14.286 megacycles throughout the week. Wednesday, George O. Gillingham, F. C. C. press officer, denied such reception.

"The signals could be spurious emissions by Russians attempting to jam (Voice of America) radio broadcasts on 15 megacycles," Mr. Nuhn said. "There was nothing strange or unusual about the signals on the 14.286 frequency," he added.

The rapid movement of the signal's source earlier reported could be explained by atmospheric variations, he said.

As for the new signal, R. C. A. Communications reported that its receiving station at Riverhead, L. I., had picked up a signal "of undetermined origin" at 9:35 a. m. and at 3:15 p. m. yesterday on the 108 megacycle frequency.

Scientists participating in the International Geophysical Year, one program of which is the earth satellite launching, have agreed to use that frequency for transmissions from satellites. The Russians did not comply with the agreement with their Sputniks.

R. C. A. said the signal, a continuous tone, was strong at first, then diminished gradually until it disappeared. The F. C. C. in Washington did not pick it up at all, Mr. Nuhn said.

Radio manufacturers in the New York area may have been testing equipment they are making for use in the American satellite transmitters, Mr. Nuhn said. Efforts to determine if there are such manufacturers in the area were unsuccessful.

It was determined, however, that no American satellite vehicle was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on Wednesday or yesterday. A public information officer at Patrick Air Force Base, the launching site for all large missiles, said no missile had been fired there.

None of the official satellite tracking stations specially designed to receive the 108 megacycle transmission heard the signal, government officials said in Washington. They attributed the transmission to hoaxsters in this area.

It was noted, however, that "radio hams" would need equipment much different from that ordinarily used to send out such a signal.

, NOVEMBER 8, 1957

Hartford (Ct)
Courant
Nov. 7, 1952

News Briefs

No 'Saucer' Evidence Found by Air Force

DAYTON, Ohio, Nov. 6 (AP)—The Air Force tonight pulled the rug out from under the so-called flying saucers.

A top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center at nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base said the service has found no evidence of flying saucers in the last 10 years.

The official, who declined to be identified, told the Dayton Journal Herald that the Air Force investigated 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947-57.

And he said not one single landing impression or footprint or any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found by the Air Force.

Portland (Me)
Press-Herald
Nov. 7, 1957

U.S. Air Defense Studies 3 Reports Of Sky Objects

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Nov. 6 (AP)—The North American Air Defense Command reported today it received 46 reports of unidentified objects from throughout the nation last night but only three, including one from Kearney, Neb., deserved further study.

Capt. Andy Beasley, NORAD public information officer, said two Air Force investigators were sent to Kearney after a Californian, R. O. Schmidt, told of sighting a cigar-shaped object on a Nebraska prairie and chatting with four men and two women in it.

Beasley said the command had

not yet decided whether to assign inspectors to the two other reported sightings. He did not say where these reports came from.

Whenever such a story is carried by major news networks, Beasley added, "We get a rash of reports" on unidentified objects.

NORAD said Monday it had sent an investigator to Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Tex., to probe reports that a brilliant colored, egg-shaped object had stalled automobiles in West Texas and New Mexico.

"The accumulated data from our investigations are forwarded through the air technical intelligence center at Wright-Patterson AFB at Dayton, Ohio, to the Pentagon, and this information is digested and brought up in statistical form from there," Beasley said.

He disclosed that the Air Force has checked out more than 5,500 unidentified flying objects in the past.

"There is no evidence to support the credibility of the flying saucer reports and beliefs," the NORAD spokesman said.

Firedog

LINCOLN, Neb., (AP) — A Lincoln woman awoke from a nap to find her boxer puppy running around the house with a flaming rug in its mouth.

Mrs. J. R. Ashleman said she had put the rug on the kitchen stove to dry.

She vainly tried to catch the dog, then telephoned the fire department. Service was fast because a fire truck happened to be right across the street on an inspection mission. Rug and floor were damaged by the flames.

Mrs. Ashleman wasn't sure whether the dog was trying to be a hero or an arsonist.

Mysterious Flying Object Reported Swooping Down Over Town In Texas

LEVELAND, Tex., Nov. 3—(UPI)—A mysterious egg-shaped object looking like a blinding red sunset flashed over Levelland early today, causing three motorists to report it killed their engines and put out their headlights when they got near it.

In each case, the motorists said their engines and headlights were all right after the object suddenly took off and disappeared.

Seen by Sheriff

Sheriff Weir Clem and a deputy also saw the object when they went out to look for it after getting earlier reports. The sheriff said it streaked noiselessly across the road some 200 yards in front of him, but didn't affect his car.

"It lit up the whole pavement in front of us for about two seconds," said Clem. He called it oval-shaped and said it looked like a brilliant red sunset.

One motorist told the sheriff he drove up on the object sitting in the road about 200 feet from him. He was James Long of Waco, Tex., who provided the best description.

Long told the sheriff he drove up with his lights on the object,

which glowed intermittently like a blinding neon light. He said it appeared to be about 200 feet long and egg shaped. He said it caused his engine to die and his headlights to go out when he happened on it on a farm-to-market road west of Levelland. When Long started to get out of his car to investigate, the object suddenly rose some 200 feet straight up and disappeared in a flash of light, he told the sheriff.

Sheriff Clem said authorities could find no burn marks or other indications at the spot

where Long said the object had landed.

Clem said Reese Air Force Base officials at Lubbock, about 30 miles east of Levelland, checked for a possible plane crash in the area, but reported nothing.

Pedro Sacido, a Levelland motorist, was the first to report sighting the thing. He said he was driving west of Levelland on state highway 116 about 11:15 p.m. yesterday, when it flashed over him with a terrific noise.

"It sounded like an ear-splitting clap of thunder—as if something had exploded," Sacido told the sheriff.

He said it killed his engine and knocked out his headlights until after it passed over.

A Kermit, Tex., motorist, whose name the sheriff didn't get, also reported spotting the object while driving on state highway 31 about eight miles north of Levelland. He told the sheriff it had the same effect on his car engine and lights as the others reported.

Sheriff Clem said he couldn't even offer a guess as to what the object might have been.

Hartford (Ct)
Courant
Nov. 4, 1957

Nov. 7, 1957

N.H. Sky Watchers Observe Strange Space Phenomenon

A rash of reports from persons — including five Ground Observer Corps spotters—who say they witnessed an unidentified flying object in the sky about dusk, poured into the offices of the MANCHESTER UNION LEADER and the Manchester Air Defense Filter Center last night.

Descriptions of the object varied but all who claim to have seen it maintained that they had spotted a definite object in the sky.

A number of the reports

from persons who reported seeing a strange red glow in the sky were attributed to a spectacular display of the aurora borealis, by officials.

Spotted at 4:51

T/Sgt. Martin Kuhlman, NCO in charge of the Manchester Air Defense Filter Center reported that Ground Observer Corps spotters from Haverhill, Georgetown, Rockport, Methuen, Beverly, Mass., reported spotting the object at 4:51 p.m. Two Manchester residents also made similar observations

at that time which they later reported to the center.

A complete report of the phenomenon was forwarded by the local center to the Air Defense Direction Center at North Truro, Mass., and from there sent through Washington, D. C., to the North American Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo.

The descriptions ranged from "the size and shape of a baseball" to "long and wide" and colors were de-

SIGHTINGS

Page 32

Envision New Rocket With Speed of Light

MOSCOW — (UP) — Soviet scientists are working to develop "photonic" rockets intended to approach the speed of light — 186,000 miles per second, a Russian satellite expert said yesterday.

"Scientific successes will eventually enable realization of this bold dream," Prof. Cyril Stanyukovich said in the newspaper Pravda.

He also reported that Russia used a liquid super fuel rather than nuclear energy in launching its second satellite.

SIGHTINGS

(Continued from Page One)

scribed as greenish-white, blue and yellow.

The North American Air Defense Command was reported in an Associated Press dispatch from Colorado Springs last night to have received 46 reports of unidentified objects from throughout the nation last night but only three, including one from Kearney, Neb., deserved further study. They did not reveal origin of the other two reports.

Capt. Andy Beasley, NORAD public information officer, disclosed that the Air Force has checked out more than 5,500 unidentified flying object reports in the past.

He added that "there is no evidence to support the credibility of the flying saucer reports and beliefs."

Meanwhile, the Associated Press also reported that a number of calls were made to the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., from observers who spotted the planet Venus which was brighter than usual yesterday. The planet came into view right after sundown and shone brightly in the

southwest sky until it set at 8:30 p.m.

The observatory also reported sighting what apparently was a meteor streaking across the southwest sky at 9:23 p.m.

This was followed by aurora borealis with red streaks glowing in the sky from the southwest to the northeast.

Fred L. Whipple, director of the observatory, said last night that sky-conscious New Englanders may get a

glimpse of Sputnic II this morning if they arise early enough. The dog-carrying satellite is scheduled to pass over the New York-Boston area at about 5:13 a.m. The satellite should be viewable in the early morning hours until Sunday.

THE HARTFORD COURANT: Wednesday, November 6, 1957

Mystery Objects Called Mirage By Astronomer

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 5 (UPI) — Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of Harvard College Observatory, said today the Texas bright lights which reportedly halted cars and caused other oddities were nothing more than "another flying saucer scare."

The Harvard astronomer, author of a book about flying saucers, says he has been studying them for about 10 years, but has yet to see or hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air, close to the ground acting as a lens and forming an

image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground and they are common in the west where they have clear air," he said.

As for the reports that the headlights of automobiles were shut off and auto engines stopped by the mystery lights, Dr. Menzel said:

"Well, they are quite spectacular and it would not be surprising that a nervous fool could stall an engine."

Dr. Menzel said that is quite likely the Coast Guard cutter which reported both visual and radar sightings of a blob of light in the atmosphere were getting a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

New York (Herald)
Tribune
Nov 7, 1957

The Lights In Sky Seen In N.Y., Too

Hundreds Phone; Just the Aurora

By Martin G. Berck

Sputnik-conscious sky-watchers from here to South Africa gazed into the heavens last night and attributed what they saw to earth satellites, flying saucers or almost anything else in the realm of science fiction.

In most cases, what they saw, at least in the Northern Hemisphere, was an exceptionally brilliant display of the Aurora Borealis—the shimmering arcs of Northern Lights rather rare in this latitude—or the planet Venus glowing brightly in the southwest sky.

Jittery sky viewers in the metropolitan area kept telephone lines buzzing at newspaper offices, police stations and Army installations for hours after the Northern Lights became visible at about 8 p.m. The display was seen as far south as Georgia.

Hundreds of calls poured into the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium, where a spokesman said most queries concerned the Aurora Borealis in the northern sky, but some had to do with a "luminous object flying in the southwestern sky," which he said, undoubtedly was Venus.

James S. Pickering, assistant astronomer at the planetarium, described the Northern Lights as a "curtain aurora," a shimmering red band extending fifty degrees up from the horizon in a ninety-degree sweep from northeast to northwest.

Auroras are caused by subatomic particles driven out of

Lights in the Sky Seen in N. Y., Too

(Continued from page one)

the sun in tremendous bursts of energy and striking the earth's atmosphere, causing gases in it to glow, somewhat as the neon does in an advertising sign.

Last night's aurora was especially bright at its eastern end. In this area it appeared to last about forty-five minutes and looked not much different than the distant flickering glow from a large fire.

Excitement Widespread

Mystery objects, weird lights and strange phenomena stirred excitement in such widely scattered places as Niagara Falls, N. Y., Nebraska, Texas, England, South Africa and Italy.

At Niagara Falls, after a ground observer corps station reported a "pear-shaped object" glowing brightly from 30,000 to 60,000 feet above the earth and scores of Western New Yorkers flooded police switchboards, the Air Force sent a jet interceptor to investigate. What caused the commotion, the Air Force said, was the planet Venus.

In England, something smashed into a nursery school playground at Sunbury-on-Thames, gouging a two-foot-deep hole that an Air Ministry investigator said was caused by an object "not of this earth." But traces of a red and black substance were recovered and a British Museum expert hinted it might be connected with the recent celebration of Guy Fawkes Day, when Britons shoot off fireworks.

In Italy and Egypt

Something whistled out of the sky and thumped to the earth at Tromello, Italy, and disappeared in a column of white smoke. Its origin was not determined.

Thousands of persons at Johannesburg, South Africa, told of a "cylindrical object" flying low over the city in the glare of Air Force searchlights. The Air Force had no comment.

Egyptian Army engineers unearthed an object in a school yard at Alexandria and identi-

fied it as a highway reflector. Russian experts in Egypt tentatively had identified the white rubber and glass object as part of an "American missile."

Alarms and excursions developed at the Air Force missile development center at Alamogordo, N. M., where it was said a special scientific team had "broken" the radio code transmissions from Sputnik II.

"There's nobody out there supposed to be breaking any codes," an Air Force man said, and the telephone lines started burning between Alamogordo and the Pentagon in Washington.

What was learned was that some Air Force scientists had, in fact, been checking transmissions of Sputnik II against those the Air Force had collected months ago when it fired mice and monkeys into lower space aboard research rockets.

One officer in Washington ventured that the scientists might have been trying to determine whether Sputnik II's dog was acting like the rocket-borne mice and monkeys.

Air Force and Army investigators in America's Southwest were busy looking into an avalanche of curious reports.

Strange lights supposedly were seen at the White Sands Missile Proving Grounds in New Mexico, and "brilliant, colored, egg-shaped things" whizzing around Texas stalled automobile engines.

Then there was a man near Kearney, Neb., who told of seeing a cigar-shaped vehicle arrive from outer space. He said he talked with the people aboard—two women and four men.

For many of the strange reports—though not all of them, and especially not the ones that involve interplanetary visitors—Mr. Pickering had an explanation.

"The Sputniks," he said, "induce people to look over their heads, and what they see—the Aurora, bright planets, shooting meteors—could have been seen all the time, but they are noticing them for the first time."

Mr. Pickering said that by going out on any clear night, one may see a dozen meteors in all colors, whizzing along at various speeds in different patterns.

"It's a darn shame they haven't been watching these things all their lives," he said.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.,
THE SPRINGFIELD UNION,
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1957

Schmidt to Have Mentality Test

Kearney, Neb., Nov. 7 (UPI)—Authorities today ordered Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, who claims he chatted with spacemen outside Kearney, to appear before the county mental health board for an examination.

Schmidt, a Bakersfield, Cal., grain buyer, stuck to his story that he came upon a space ship Tuesday night and visited with the four men and two women inside it.

It was reported that psychiatrists who examined Schmidt concluded that he had committed no hoax in his mind, since he thinks he really saw the spacemen. Authorities said Schmidt will be freed if he passes the mental test. If he is ruled insane, he will be committed until cured.

Continued on page 22, column 4

Streaking 'Planet' on Cutter's Radar

Coast Guard Ship in Gulf Sees Strange Light

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (AP)—A brilliant mystery object was reported sighted today in Southern skies by a Coast Guard cutter, even as the Air Force investigated a flurry of earlier similar reports.

The Coast Guard cutter Seabago, cruising in the Gulf of Mexico 200 miles south of Louisiana, radioed that an object resembling "a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed" was seen for three seconds at 5:21 a. m.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans said the message did not report exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

The Seabago's message said the object was tracked on the vessel's radar screen for twenty-seven minutes and that, during that period, the object

flitted on and off the screen several times.

Sightings of strange objects have been reported from widely scattered sections of the United States since Sunday, most of them near secret military installations in the Southwest.

The Air Force said the radar network of the Air Defense Command is keeping watch—so far with no results—and that specially qualified investigators have been assigned to look into the reports.

For several years the Air Force has checked all reports of unidentified flying objects. Investigators work under the Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs and report to the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

As to Flying Saucers

During the first half of this year, the Air Force said, only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other fantastic aerial objects have wound up in the "unknown" category.

An the Air Force said firmly—though not all flying saucer buffs may agree—that it doesn't believe even the 1.9 per cent residue is made up of the things you read about in science fiction magazines.

Balloons, aircraft and such astronomical sights as meteorites and bright stars account, at least to the Air Force's official satisfaction, for almost four-fifths of the sightings.

The director of a private organization set up to investigate flying saucers and such said he couldn't evaluate at this point the current rash of reported sightings. But retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, added that the re-

ported objects may be something from another planet.

"Assuming they are real," he said, "they would be secret weapons made on earth or are interplanetary." Any nation with the secret, he added, would by now have abandoned conventional aircraft or missiles. It looks as though they are interplanetary."

He said one source of power for such reported objects could be cosmic-ray energy.

Some of the citizens, peace officers and service men who reported sighting mystery objects since the week end said the objects stalled auto engines and caused radios to fade.

James Stokes, an engineer at the Air Force Missile Development Center at Alamogordo,

N. M., reported ten autos were stalled yesterday on a desert highway between Alamogordo and the White Sands Proving Grounds.

He reported seeing a soundless, "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which flitted erratically across the countryside and left a sort of heat wave, "like radiation from a giant sun lamp," in its wake.

Leonard Hardlund, chief engineer for the National Inventors Council here, said a device that could stall autos or other mechanical equipment is one of the things the armed forces would like to see developed. But Mr. Hardlund said he knows of no research in this country aimed at producing such a device.

Object Called Part of Missile Lands in Egypt

CAIRO, Egypt, Nov. 5 (AP)—A mysterious flaming object bounced into the yard of Alexandria University today. Russian scientists who rushed to the scene from the atoms-for-peace exhibit here identified it as part of a short-range missile.

The object, three inches long, two inches wide and less than an inch thick, was made of white rubber and had three lenses.

Flames from the object were extinguished by police.

No planes were flying over Alexandria at the time the object bounced into the school yard and no one saw where it came from.

Taunton (Ma) Gazette

Nov. 13, 1957

Mysterious Explosion Checked in Hub

BOSTON (UPI)—Authorities in five communities today were trying to determine what caused the mysterious blast yesterday which caused some damage to residences but no injuries.

The blast was felt in Everett, Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop and the Charlestown district of Boston.

A check of airfields in the immediate vicinity of Boston brought from officials the comment that even a jet plane breaking the sound barrier could not knock over dishes and other articles as was reported.

New 'Beeps' From Space Are Mystery

By Robert C. Toth

A strange new signal has been picked up by radio receivers around the world since the launching of Sputnik II. Government and commercial radio stations reported yesterday. Indications were that it was not coming from the second earth satellite, however.

Heard intermittently but powerfully on 14.2 megacycles, the signal apparently emanates from a moving source, the Radio Corp. of America said. Its listening post in Washington recorded the signal, a hum followed by two short beeps.

However, the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington said it received "a steady buzz." "There is no correlation between the buzz and passage of the satellite," a spokesman added.

The Federal Communications Commission, after listening to the signal for two days, admitted "We just don't know yet what it is."

R. C. A. said the mysterious signal's source had not yet been identified, although it was moving. Movement would discount the possibility that the Russians

Continued on page 12, column 3

New Beep

(Continued from page one)

are transmitting the signal to the satellite, triggering some reaction in the dog it carries.

NBC News, which broadcast a recording of the signal, said that although "hams" operate often on that frequency, the movement of the source and its power would rule out this possibility.

While the baffling transmission has not been picked up simultaneously with the two signals known to be originating in the satellite, R. C. A. spokesmen would not rule out the inhabited cylindrical satellite as the source. If it is coming from Sputnik II, it undoubtedly carries coded data on the dog's condition.

One of the strangest aspects of the signal is its receipt at roughly three places in the world at one time. Alaska, Australia and Antarctica were one set of points at which the signal was heard at the same time yesterday.

R. C. A. said there were indications that the moving source changes direction, but further data were necessary to confirm this as a fact. Sputnik II's orbit is practically stationary in space and constant in direction.

New York Herald Tribune
Nov. 5, 1957

GLOWING MASS

(Continued From Page 1)

by Richard LaVigne of Feeding Hills, a radio newsman who also notified Westover. LaVigne described the object as a "glowing mass of red-tinted vapor," that moved across the sky over his home. It was egg-shaped.

The phenomenon, he said, resembled a huge cotton ball in texture and glowed in the center. It was estimated to be at an altitude usually flown by small planes.

LaVigne said the glowing center was surrounded by a red mist, and that the whole mass hovered for about one minute near his home as it traveled from east to west.

A spokesman at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory said numerous sightings of a similar nature had been reported to the observatory.

"Most of these things can be seen on any night, if you look

for them," the source said. "Some of them are high-flying planes, some are meteors, and some are optical illusions."

The spokesman added, "There is no evidence of anything unduly ominous in the heavens."

The Russian-fired Sputniks have turned thousands of ordinary citizens into amateur astronomers who scan the skies nightly in search of the man-made satellite. Eye fatigue and imagination are believed to be two major factors in the sudden wave of reports on the mysterious heavenly bodies.

Sputnik II fans were out before breakfast today looking for the second Russian-made satellite with its dog passenger. The Daily News editorial office began receiving reports of Sputnik sightings shortly after 5 a. m. The satellite was spotted on time, at approximately 5.12.

Among those getting a brief look at the dog-carrying rocket was Patrolman Carlo Lovotti of the West Springfield Police Department. Patrolman Lovotti was standing in the doorway of the police station on Park St. when the satellite appeared in the sky from the direction of Memorial Ave. It moved toward the North End Bridge, which is in a north-east direction from where it appeared.

Lovotti said he was able to keep the satellite in sight for about 30 seconds. It did not appear to be brighter than the stars, he said, and it gave off a steady light.

Other observers in scattered parts of New England reported seeing unidentified flying objects, the size of a baseball and larger, and colored "greenish-white," "blue and yellow" and "red."

Observers in Manchester, N. H., Haverhill, Georgetown, Methuen, Rockport and Beverly, Mass. reported seeing an object at 4.51 p. m. yesterday.

Descriptions of the object ranged from the "size and shape of a baseball" to "long and wide," according to reports received at the Manchester Air Defense Filter Center.

In Cambridge, Mass., scientists at Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory said they were deluged with calls about a strange object over Boston skies today, seen before and after Sputnik II passed over.

The scientists said they believed spotters saw a weather balloon.

The current flurry of unidentified flying object sightings in the U. S. began during the week end and has been picking up steam since.

Sky gazers described the objects as appearing in many colors and in shapes ranging from a "meat platter" to "the open end of a bucket." Some of the objects zoom about, others hover overhead and kill automobile engines and lights.

Two persons, one an ex-miner in Nebraska and the other a Tennessee schoolboy, insist they have seen space ships manned by German-speaking men and

of the spacemen tried to kidnap his dog.

Scientists, however, were cool to most of the reports. They said many of them stemmed from sightings of bright stars and planets, cloud and weather mirages, the aurora borealis, tricks of vision and, perhaps, a touch of hysteria brought on by Russia's Sputniks.

A spokesman at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, O., observed that of the thousands of flying saucer reports checked out in the past 10 years, only about 3 per cent of them still are in the "unknown file."

And those 3 per cent probably could be identified, the spokesman said, if more information about them could be learned.

Worcester (Ma) Gazette

Nov. 15, 1957

Sky Watchers To Be Relieved By New Radar

WASHINGTON (AP) — Because of advances in radar warning systems, the Air Force is relieving its volunteer civilian ground observers of their skywatch for unidentified planes.

The Air Force will put the entire Ground Observer Corps on a ready reserve basis Jan. 1.

Col. Owen F. Clarke, GOC project officer at Air Force headquarters announced the move at a meeting of the National Assn. of State and Territorial Civil Defense Directors. Civil defense officials have recruited volunteers for the observer corps.

The Air Force stressed it is not disbanding the GOC. It wants the observers to stand prepared for emergency duty and to remain in a trained and ready reserve status.

Many GOC observation posts and 29 filter centers, will be closed.

CITY'S UNIT LISTED AMONG AFFECTED POSTS

Worcester Post of GOC will be among posts to be placed on a ready reserve basis, according to Capt. Sidney Smith, commander of the Manchester Filter Center, which holds jurisdiction over the Worcester corps.

Communication facilities at the post, located over the fire station at Worcester Airport, will be maintained, Smith said.

Training sessions will be held at least once a month for GOC members, the captain said.

'Glowing Mass' in Sky Reported as Seen Here

At Least Two Tell of Strange Object Last Night;
Westover Told of Incident

Sightings of a mysterious celestial object that "glowed in the center" as it passed through the heavens in this area last night failed to excite officials at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory today.

The strange object, sighted by two persons within a half hour of each other, did not bring any startling reaction from the control tower at Westover Air Force Base either.

The first sighting was made at 7.30 p. m. in the Van Horn Park area by an unidentified woman, who reported it to Westover officials.

The second sighting was made

(Continued on Page 10)

Springfield (Ma)
News

Nov. 7, 1957

Springfield (Ma)
News
Nov. 8, 1957

Who Are UFO?

SPOTTER'S INSIST THOSE THINGS IN SKY ARE SAUCERS, BUT AIR FORCE SAYS NIX

As strange unidentified objects continued to be sighted in the Western Massachusetts skies and throughout the country, by amateur Sputnik spotters, the Air Force issued an official report on its 10-year study of the mysterious flying objects and announced that it had discovered no evidence to confirm the existence of flying saucers.

Since the Soviet Union launched its first Sputnik, thousands of Massachusetts residents have become amateur astronomers, scanning the skies at dawn and at dusk in search of the man-made moons.

The Air Force report substantiates the theory of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, that the sightings of unidentified objects are due largely to eye fatigue and imagination.

The report states that the "attempted identification of phenomenon observed is generally derived from human impressions and interpretations and not from scientific devices and measurements. The data in the sightings reported are almost invariably subjective in nature."

There are other possible explanations, however, which the Air Force has listed as "balloons, aircraft, astronomical, other insufficient data and unknowns."

The latest sighting in this area was made at 5:22 a. m. today by David Rubin of 42 Concourse St. Rubin said he was up at that hour because his wife is ill. He said he looked out of his window

and saw a "silver ball object, the same color as the moon," moving across the heavens in a north-northwest direction. His first thought was of Sputnik II, which is now circling the globe with a dog passenger. The Russian rocket was not supposed to be visible today, however.

Rubin said he watched the mysterious object for about 18 seconds, before it disappeared behind a cloud. It appeared to be the size of a pin head, he said, and it looked brighter than Sputnik I.

"I've worked at Westover Air Force Base," Rubin said, "and I think I can identify a plane when I see one. This thing had no identifying lights."

Similar sightings of a strange flying object were made in the Feeding Hills and Van Horn Park areas Wednesday night. One of the reports described the object as an "egg-shaped, glowing mass of red-tinted vapor, resembling a 'huge cotton ball in texture.'

In its investigations of such reports, the Air Force points out that it uses "selected, qualified scientists, engineers and other personnel" who are "completely objective and open minded on the subject of flying saucers."

Since the Air Force received its first report of a strange celestial object, or flying saucer, on June 27, 1947, it has investigated approximately 8700 such reports.

Its conclusions are as follows:

"First, there is no evidence that the unknowns were inimical or hostile; second, there is no evidence that these unknowns were interplanetary space ships; third, there is no evidence that these unknowns represented technological developments or principles outside the range of our present day scientific knowledge; fourth, there is no evidence that these unknowns were a threat to the security of the country; and finally there was no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, of a so-called flying saucer was ever found."

In listing the possible explanations for the sightings, the Air Force offered further explanations for each category. It pointed out that approximately 4000 balloons are released in the country every day, varying from four feet in diameter to 200 feet in diameter. The majority are released at night, carrying running lights. If caught in jet streams, the balloons assume a near horizontal position and move at speeds of more than 200 miles per hour. The large size balloons become flattened on top. The running lights, rays from the sun, and the odd shapes of the balloons contribute to "weird or unusual" appearances when observed at night.

High-flying planes are often mistaken for unusual objects or flying saucers, the report states, because of their shapes, reflecting sunlight or jet exhausts, which are visible at night. Such planes

can have appearances ranging from disc to rocket in shape.

The astronomical category includes bright stars, planets, meteors, comets and other celestial bodies. The planets Venus, Mars and Jupiter, according to the report, have been reported as unconventional moving objects when sighted through haze, light fog or moving clouds.

The category of "other" includes reflections, searchlights, birds, kites, blimps, clouds, sun-dogs, spurious radar indications, hoaxes, firework displays, flares, fireballs, ice crystals, bolides, and others. The report cites an example of Canadian geese flying over a city at night with street lights reflecting off their bodies.

The insufficient data category includes all sightings where essential or pertinent items of information are missing, making it impossible to form a valid conclusion. A sighting is considered an "unknown" when a report contains all pertinent data to normally suggest at least one valid theory, but when the description of the object and its maneuvers cannot be correlated with any known object or phenomenon.

The percentage of "unknown" sightings was as high as 20 per cent in previous years, but these have since been reduced to as low as 2 per cent. The categories of balloons, aircraft and astronomical account for the majority of the mysterious sightings, amounting to 26, 25 and 24 per cent respectively.

Strange Things Are Seen In Sky Over Los Angeles

Six Saucers, Ball of Fire, Great Green Light and 'Jack-o'-Lantern' Reported

Los Angeles, Nov. 6 (UPI)—Either there's been a profusion of illusions or something mighty queer has been going on over the City of Angels and its satellite communities.

No—nobody has spotted an angel yet, but that's one of the few flying objects that hasn't been mentioned.

Some that have:

Six "saucer-shaped" thingniks.

A "ball of fire."

An "orange jack-o'-lantern."

A "powerful, mysterious light."

A "great, green light."

And a lot of less colorfully described, ordinary, unidentified flying objects.

The report about the six saucers came from three Air Force weather observers. They said they spotted the phenomena moving at the base of a cloud bank about 7000 feet over Long Beach Municipal Airport yesterday. Maj. Louis F. Baker, head of the unit, gave this description:

"They were circular and shiny like spun aluminum, changing course instantaneously without loss of speed like planes in a dog fight."

Baker said the objects were bigger than twin-engine C-46 planes. He said they stayed in sight about a minute and a half.

They also were seen by 10 people waiting to get on a plane at the Long Beach Airport, he said.

The "ball of fire" report came from people in the Hollywood Hills, and the "orange jack-o'-lantern" turned up in a report from Mrs. Charles Weitzel of Corona Del Mar. She said she spotted it hovering over the ocean while she was looking out a window of her seaside home. The object vanished in a few seconds, she said.

The "great, green light" was reported seen by residents of the San Fernando Valley.

The report of the "powerful, mysterious light" was a late one. Two residents of the desert community of Borrego Springs, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Burnand, Jr., said yesterday that they observed the light Monday.

"It appeared to be about twice the size of the moon," Burnand said, "and it flashed about eight times—each flash being about two seconds' duration."

"When it flashed, the rays shot out in all directions, and it made you think of an explosion without sound."

The weather bureau here said it knew of no atmospheric conditions that might provoke such a flood of reports.

Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield, Ma

Nov. 7, 1957

Sky Show Keeps Phones A-Ringing

The heavens, although concealing Sputnik II, with its lone dog passenger, staged a colorful show last night, using its own arch and props.

Venus began the spectacle by shining brightly in view just after sundown. The planet, which is illuminated by reflected light from the sun, touched off a rash of phone calls to the radio stations. Venus shone in the southwest sky until it set at 8:30 p.m.

The aurora borealis followed. The sky from southwest to the northeast was streaked with the blazing colors of the northern lights.

As an added attraction there was a full moon.

Springfield (Ma)
News

Nov. 6, 1952

Manchester NH
Union Leader

Nov. 5, 1957

Air Force Combs Sky For Mystery Object

WASHINGTON — (AP)—The Air Force yesterday undertook an investigation of a huge and strangely lighted mystery object reported to have flashed over western Texas.

Reports of strange flying objects have been popping up for years, but this one had the support of a variety of witnesses, including a sheriff and one of his deputies.

It impressed the Air Force sufficiently to call for at least a preliminary investigation.

"We don't investigate all of them, after all," an Air Force spokesman said.

Car Engines Stall

A most unusual thing about the object reported over Texas Saturday and Sunday was that witnesses said their car engines stopped and their lights went out when they drove near it.

It was variously described as a burning mass, a big light, and an egg-shaped object 200 feet long.

Meanwhile, there were reports on strange things happening in the skies over Chicago and over the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Three policemen and a fireman in Chicago's suburban Elmwood Park said they saw a peculiar round glowing thing in the early morning sky yesterday. They said their car lights appeared to dim as they kept the prowler's spotlight focused on the thing.

At Martinsville, Va., Mrs. Ruby Halston said she and her family saw a strange red glare last night while driving to Bassett, Va., from Philpott lake on the Carolina border.

"It faded from bright red to a pale amber pink, then brightened again," she said.

Patrols See Flying Object 200 Feet Long

WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUNDS, N. M.—(UPI)—Two separate military patrols reported yesterday they had seen an unidentified flying object early yesterday over an isolated area of the White Sands Proving Grounds.

The description offered by the military patrols fit the one reported by persons who said they saw a flying object near Leveland, Tex., Sunday.

William Haggart, public information officer for this missile-testing center, reported officially last night that a "very bright" object was sighted by the two patrols.

The reports from the patrols said the object was shaped like a cigar, 200 feet long and 75 feet in diameter. The patrols said the object was about 50 yards above the ground.

NANCY

by Ernie Bushmiller



Manchester (NH) Union Leader

Page 4.

Nov. 4, 1957

MANCHESTER

Roaring, Flashing Object Stops Autos, Baffles Texas Officials

LEVELLAND, Tex. — (UPI) — A mysterious egg-shaped object looking like a blinding-red sunset flashed over Levelland early yesterday, causing three motorists to report it killed their engines and put out their headlights when they got near it.

In each case, the motorists said their engines and headlights were all right after the object suddenly took off and disappeared.

Sheriff Weir Clem and a deputy also saw the object when they went out to look for it after getting earlier reports. The sheriff said it streaked noiselessly across the road some 200 yards in front of him, but didn't affect his car.

"It lit up the whole pavement in front of us for about two seconds," said Clem. He called it oval shaped and said it looked like a brilliant

red sunset.

One motorist told the sheriff he drove up on the object sitting in the road about 200 feet from him. He was James Long of Waco, Tex., who provided the best description.

Long told the sheriff he drove up with his lights on the object, which glowed intermittently like a blinding neon light. He said it appeared to be about 200 feet long and egg shaped. He said it caused his engine to die and his headlights to go out when he happened on it on a farm-to-market road west of Levelland.

When Long started to get out of his car to investigate, the object suddenly rose some 200 feet straight up and disappeared in a flash of light, he told the sheriff.

Sheriff Clem said authorities could find no burn marks or other indications at the spot where Long said the object had landed.

Clem said Reese Air Force Base officials at Lubbock, about 30 miles east of Level-

land, checked for a possible plane crash in the area, but reported nothing.

Pedro Sacido, a Levelland motorist, was the first to report sighting The Thing. He said he was driving west of Levelland on State Highway 116 about 11:15 p. m. (CST) Saturday, when it flashed over him with a terrific noise.

"It sounded like an ear-splitting clap of thunder—as if something had exploded," Sacido told the sheriff.

He said it killed his engine and knocked out his headlights until after it passed over.

A Kermit, Tex., motorist, whose name the sheriff didn't get, also reported spotting the object while driving on State Highway 51 about eight miles north of Levelland. He told the sheriff it had the same effect on his car engine and lights as the others reported.

Sheriff Clem said he couldn't even offer a guess as to what the object might have been.

Worcester (Ma) Telegram
Nov. 8, 1957

Reporter of 'Saucer' May Be Committed

KEARNEY, Neb. (UPI)—A mental illness complaint has been filed against R. O. Schmidt, 58-year-old Brawley, Cal., grain buyer who told a bizarre tale of visiting a space ship near Kearney, Buffalo County Attorney Kenneth Gotobed announced yesterday.

The county attorney filed the complaint after examination of Schmidt by two psychiatrists. A mental board hearing will be held promptly as possible, Gotobed said.

He added that Defense Department representatives have completed their on-the-scene investigations of Schmidt's strange tale.

The county attorney said Schmidt "uses almost the exact words each time he tells his story, indicating the story is frozen in his memory." He added that after talking to the doctors he believes Schmidt "greatly desires recognition and publicity."

Schmidt got both when he told his strange tale of visiting a space ship parked on the banks of the Platte River and chatted with its crew for about a half hour before the ship rose into the air and vanished.

Portland (Me) Press Herald Nov. 7, 1957

Object From Sky No Part Of Sputnik

CAIRO, Nov. 6. (AP) — A reflective device used to guide drivers along dark roads, the Middle East News Agency reported today.

The agency said an Egyptian Army expert of rockets and radar made the examination. This put an end to excited speculation that the object was part of Russia's first Sputnik with the conclusion that the Sputnik was disintegrating.

SPACE CRAFT

(Continued from Page 1)

elite, the "thing" would have caused little more alarm if small green men had jumped out of it.

The egg-shaped object, described as about 200 feet long and a brilliant red, was glimpsed by at least five persons in the Levelland area, including the sheriff, three persons at Midland and another at Clovis, N. M.

Lee said machines inside the object "disturb the magnetic field of balance" and will cause car engines to stall and compasses to veer crazily.

"I think it's a space craft from one of the neighboring planets," he declared.

Noisy Flight Reported

Levelland, Tex., Nov. 4 (UPI)—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide West Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Police officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part-time barber here, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing. We first saw a flash of light in a field to our right, and we didn't think much about it at first.

Truck Motor Died

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean War veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck en-

gine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who called in reports of the object sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Brilliant Light

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolmen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area and at the same time as Clem. All were riding in separate cars.

There also were reports of an unexplained light in the sky far across the state between Sherman and McKinney. Other sightings were reported around Amarillo, far to the north.

Calvin Harris and Sandy McLean, CAA control tower workers at the Amarillo Airport, said they saw a "blue gaseous object which moved swiftly and left an amber trail southeast of the city" Saturday night.

Springfield (Mo)
News

Nov 4, 1957

'Space Craft' in Far West Frightens Many Observers

'Thing' Sighted in Texas Reported Able to Kill Auto Motors and Lights

Levelland, Tex., Nov. 4 (UPI)—A man who has spent 20 years studying aerial phenomena said today he believes a mysterious object seen in West Texas and New Mexico "was a space craft from one of the neighboring planets."

The expert is James A. Lee of Abilene, Tex., a member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena and a

director of Interplanetary Space Patrol, a West Texas organization which investigates "flying saucers" and similar objects.

Lee rushed here yesterday upon hearing of the latest object, seen by at least nine persons in two states.

Coinciding with Russia's launching of its second earth sat-

(Continued on Page 6)

*Springfield (Ma) News
Nov 5, 1957*

Flying Egg in Far West Still Is Baffling Mystery

Air Force Starts Investigation of Shining Object That Doesn't Show Up on Radar

Lubbock, Tex., Nov. 5 (UPI)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which he said stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday.

The Air Force started an investigation yesterday into similar reports in this and other areas.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the week end. The reported sightings

startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N. M., told news director Terry Clark of Kalg, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U. S. 54, between

(Continued on Page 5)

FLYING EGG

(Continued From Page 1)

White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

Near A-Bomb Site

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this West Texas area over the week end. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Grounds Sunday, hovering near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

Witnesses said other strange lights were seen over other parts of Texas, near Chicago and in Virginia.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him occupants of cars saw a strange, unidentified object flying toward them from the northeast. He said his auto radio faded and died, then his engine stopped. He said several other cars were also stalled.

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest. As it passed . . . I could feel a kind of heat wave, like radiation from a giant sun lamp. But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail."

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. The engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of the sighting."

He said the object moved very rapidly and its surface looked like "glowing mother of pearl."

He said an Allan D. Baker of Las Cruces, N. M., shot some pictures of the object.

Seen by 2 Patrols

Lt. Miles Penney of White Sands said the glowing object was sighted by two different military patrols on the missile testing range 17 hours apart Sunday.

Bill Haggard, information officer, said one patrol described it as "about 200 feet long and about 75 feet in diameter."

"The object, if it was an object sighted," Haggard said, "has absolutely no connection with White Sands Proving Grounds."

Saturday, Pedro Saucedo, 30, and other witnesses in this area reported a similar object. Saucedo said it looked something like a rocket and flew "with a great sound and rush of wind. It sounded like thunder." He and others said the object stalled their auto engines and caused the lights to go out.

Col. Barney Oldfield of the North American Air Defense said "the object . . . was not picked up by radar. It did not seem to be traceable."

He said the provost marshal at Reese had investigated but found nothing. Other peace officers in this area made a ground search but found no signs.

*N. Attleboro (Ma)
Eve. Chronicle*

Nov. 7, 1957

Seek To Solve Radio Puzzle

BOSTON (UPI)—Hundreds of radio sets in New England were tuned today to catch a mysterious signal that may be coming from a speeding object in outer space.

Radio "hams," communications experts of the armed forces, and monitoring stations of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission were alerted to pick up the strong transmission and track it.

The F.C.C. monitoring station in Millis, which has direct communications to Washington, was maintaining a close watch. For several days, reports on the transmission have been made to the Millis listening post, but its sets have yet to receive the signal.

The mysterious transmission is not coming from Sputnik, the second Soviet satellite now whirling through space and sending out regular broadcasts, it was learned.

The Millis receivers pick up Sputnik on each of its passes over this area, it was stated, and its signal comes in on schedule consistently. But, because of ionospheric difficulties, the dog-carrying rocket is only heard during less than 2000 miles of its orbit — for not more than seven minutes on each of its passages over New England.

Sputnik Silly Stories

LONDON (UPI)—A schoolmarm of the early Sputnik era told the British Air Ministry that a red-hot egg-shaped object crashed down from the skies yesterday into her suburban school playground.

It was the size of a tennis ball, she said, and made a hole in the ground where it fell.

A ministry man rushed down to investigate, and reported: "It is not of this earth. Probably a meteorite."

But Dr. G. F. Claringbull, meteorite expert at London's Natural History Museum, also went down to examine the object, and disagreed.

"It's a lump of quartz, which is definitely terrestrial," he said. "I think this might be a hoax."

Schoolmistress Miss Marie

Brown sniffed: "The children here are far too young to organize a hoax of this kind."

And a villager added: "I'll say. A hoax like this would need an airplane."

*Worcester Ma
Telegram
Nov 7, 1957*

Rocket Dive Set Dec. 11, May Be Visible in U. S.

Flaming Crash Predicted by Scientists; Sputnik II
Sighting Is Expected Tomorrow

Cambridge, Nov. 5 (UPI)—The third-stage rocket of Russia's first space satellite will crash to earth Dec. 11, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory predicted today.

At the same time, the director of the observatory said Sputnik II, the dog-carrying satellite, may be visible in parts of the United States tomorrow and Thursday mornings.

The prediction of the first rocket's fall came in a telegram to Smithsonian from Dr. Leland E. Cunningham, director of the computation division at the University of California.

Smithsonian officials said it confirmed a prediction made by Smithsonian Director Dr. Fred Whipple several weeks ago.

Whipple added that he thought it is impossible to say exactly where the third-stage rocket will fall. "I expect it would have a greater probability of falling in the low latitudes of the northern hemisphere."

Whipple also said "indications are that the new satellite

ROCKET DIVE

(Continued From Page 1)

may be visible in the morning for a few days beginning tomorrow or Thursday."

Sputnik II will be located roughly 100 miles over Boston at 5.15 a. m. tomorrow, he said. "There is some chance we will be able to see it," Whipple said.

Sputnik II, making a pass along the entire east coast of the United States Nov. 7, the 40th anniversary of Russia's "October revolution," is expected to be visible over Boston at approximately 5.15 a. m. (EST).

The new satellite would enter the United States over Florida about 5.10 a. m. (EST) Nov. 7 and leave the United States at the eastern corner of Maine at 5.16 a. m., according to today's admittedly rough computations.

On its second sweep, the same day, it would enter the northwest corner of Mexico at approximately 6.53 a. m. (EST) and in the next five or six minutes speed across the United States to leave American view at the western end of the Great Lakes.

The third Nov. 7 sweep would cut the northwest corner of the country at approximately 8.40 a. m. EST.

Dr. Whipple explained that the low altitude of Sputnik would mean that it would not be visible from as broad a path on the earth as the first rocket, due to the poorer sighting and also to the fact that it is more likely to be

Springfield (Ma)
News

Nov. 5, 1957

Tentative data indicate successive passages of Sputnik II across the United States each morning with it moving westward approximately 350 miles each day, or seven degrees.

Although Russia's first satellite rocket was visible in the United States first in the morning coming from a northwest direction, Sputnik II will be visible first in the southwest. But this does not mean that Russia had launched the second rocket in a different direction. The change is explained by the fact that it was fired at a different time of day so that, although it went in the same direction, the earth had rotated farther in space.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an associate director, said a Tucson (Ariz.) moonwatch team may have spotted Sputnik II today with the naked eye. He said the five-man team sighted something for 30 seconds beginning at 6.17 a. m. (EST).

"There is a chance they saw a low-flying meteor," Hynek said, "but the time checks with the predicted passing over the area."

Asked to comment on the Russians' statement they powered Sputnik II with a revolutionary new fuel, Whipple replied, "it's highly interesting."

However, said Whipple, a rocket could be sent to the moon in 10 hours using "ordinary chemical fuel, though such an attempt would be so wasteful that most scientists wouldn't consider it."

"If you go at that rate (25,000 MPH) you're going to hit the moon at that speed and there wouldn't be much left of the rocket. If they (the Russians) planned to hit the moon with an atomic warhead going at that speed, it would add to the explosion but this is not very economical."

Whipple predicted an "amazing show" of flashing Soviet satellites over the United States next month. He said Sputnik I was scheduled to reappear during the first two weeks of December while at the same time Sputnik II would be seen.

Whipple said the rocket of the first satellite would probably plunge to earth in a streak of flame sometime in that period to add to the man-made spectacle.

Activity at moonwatch headquarters was necessarily slow

yesterday because of the lack of visual sightings which prevents scientists from calculating the second satellite's orbit.

However, the experts made any number of speculations on Sputnik II's significance from both a peaceful and military viewpoint.

Whipple said the Soviet satellites crammed 200 years of astronomy into the space of a month. He said that never before had experts been able to study a satellite which traveled so far.

Dr. H. Guyford Stever, former chief scientist for the Air Force, said last night he believed the Russians "technologically can do almost anything they want."

Pentagon briefing, said "the importance of what the Russians have done should not be downgraded.

"But we have got the capacity to exceed them," he continued. "We've got to get into this with both feet. I think we'll not only catch up with them but move back into the lead row."

Sen. Symington (D-Mo.), a subcommittee member, said in a speech in Hannibal, Mo., that "the truth is we are at least two years behind" the Russians. He added that "under present policies and programs, (we) can only fall further behind every day."

Beverly (Ma) Times

Nov. 7, 1957

III. Troopers See 'Brilliant Object'

URBANA, Ill. (INS) — Two "experienced, trusted and very reliable" Illinois state troopers reported seeing and following for 15 miles a "brilliant flying object" near Danville last night.

The officers, Calvin Showers of Danville and John Matulis of Westville described the object as brilliant white when they first spotted it and said it changed to an amber color and then to a bright orange during the chase.

They related that it was "traveling at a terrific rate of speed."

The troopers were unable to say how high the object was in the sky or how large it actually was.

They said they were unable to notify headquarters during the chase because their radio went mysteriously dead.

The radio was in good working order before and after they sighted the object.

The officers spotted the object while responding to reports of its appearance by citizens in the area north of Danville.

Lt. John Henry, Urbana state police district chief, said he had not believed flying object reports before but added:

"These are two experienced, trusted policemen and their report

SPACE SHIP YARN GETS HARD LOOK

**Ex-Convict Doesn't Convince
Everybody With Story
Of His Visit**

Kearny, Neb., Nov. 6 (UPI)—Authorities today held a "heart to heart" talk with a salesman, later discovered to be an ex-convict, who claimed he chatted with four men and two women in a transparent "space ship."

The report by Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Bakersfield, Cal., last night was the most dramatic of a host of unidentified flying object sightings reported around the country.

Schmidt's tale, as strange as any science fiction story, stirred considerable excitement in the Kearny area for a time. Police roped off the spot where the "whatnik" allegedly landed and examined various impressions and oil stains on the ground.

But curiosity turned to skepticism when Scottsbluff County Sheriff Steve Warrick revealed that Schmidt, a former potato buyer in Scottsbluff, Neb., was a former convict who served time in the Nebraska Penitentiary for embezzlement.

However, Schmidt stuck by his story. Police said they held a "heart to heart" talk with Schmidt last night and planned further questioning today.

Schmidt, a grain buyer for Val-U-Pak Co. of Brawley, Cal., appeared in Kearny late yesterday, white-faced and shaken, and asked to see a minister. He said he was driving near Kearny on a grain-buying expedition when he spotted an object that looked like a Navy blimp.

He said the four men and two women in the object spoke English and German, wore conventional clothes and appeared to be in their 40's.

The salesman said his car engine died when he approached the object, which stood on four posts.

"I got out and walked closer—about 25 or 30 feet from it," Schmidt said. "Two men came out and came toward me. One waved what looked like a flashlight which glowed for a second. I couldn't move. I don't know whether I was just afraid or what, but it was like being paralyzed."

Schmidt said the walls of the ship were transparent from the inside and contained a "maze of dials, instruments and wiring inside."

"I was in the ship 20 or 30 minutes," Schmidt said. He quoted the "spacemen" as saying "we'll have to be here a little while—you may as well come inside." They appeared to be working on the wiring, the salesman said, and did not offer to explain any of the equipment.

They spoke among themselves in German, Schmidt said.

Finally, he said, they told him to get out and the ship, propellers whirring, took off like a helicopter.

Police hurried to the scene and the FBI was notified. Investigating officers said they found impressions where the four posts allegedly touched down in the sand, along with footprints and a greasy fluid similar to castor oil.

Providence (RI)
Journal

Nov. 4, 1957

W. Texans Awed by Mystery Phantom Object From Sky

Levalland, Tex.—(AP)—feet in the air, and when it got West Texans puzzled yesterday over accounts of a mystery object, big and ablaze with light, which dozens told of seeing in the sky and several said they found squatting in roadways.

Observers told newsmen of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the phantom object Saturday night and early yesterday were unaccountably stalled but restarted as the phenomenon rose into the air.

Sheriff Weir Clem, who said he observed the brilliant light but didn't get a close view, reported one witness fainted from fright.

Officers inspected the reported landing sites yesterday and found no marks to indicate anything had set down there, the sheriff said.

Police Patrolman A. J. Fowler, on duty in Levalland as reports poured in from startled residents, said at least 15 persons told of getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be flashes of light.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," Patrolman Fowler related.

"They said it was about 200

close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited."

Sheriff Clem said James D. Long, truck driver from Waco, Tex., fainted after coming upon the mystery object in a road about four miles west of here. Mr. Long later told the sheriff his truck stalled and the lights went out as he neared the object. The trucker said his truck started running and the lights came back on after the object rose into the air.

Sheriff Clem said Mr. Long and other witnesses told of hearing what sounded like "a big clap of thunder" as the blazing light settled to the ground and again as it seemed to take off.

The sheriff said his office had found no evidence that any plane might have been in trouble. Authorities at Reese Air Force Base outside Lubbock said they had checked and could offer no explanation.

Rep. J. T. Rutherford (D-Tex.), at his Odessa home, called for a statement from the Pentagon on this and other sightings. He said he was dispatching a telegram asking an explanation from Air Force officials in Washington.

Portland (Me)
Press-Herald
Nov. 4, 1957

Fiery Mystery Object Halts Cars In Texas

LEVELLAND, Tex., Nov. 3 (AP)—West Texans puzzled today over accounts of a mystery object, big and ablaze with light, which dozens told of seeing in the sky and several said they found squatting in roadways.

Observers told newsmen of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the phantom object last night and early today were unaccountably stalled but restarted as the phenomenon rose into the air.

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"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited."

The sheriff said his office had found no evidence that any plane might have been in trouble. Authorities at Reese Air Force Base outside Lubbock said they had checked and could offer no explanation.

Reports to peace officers covered sightings in this vicinity from 8:15 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., when Clem said he was one of those observing the object.

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Portland (Me)
Press-Herald
Nov. 5, 1957

Mysterious Object Sighted At White Sands Test Site

WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUND, N. M., Nov. 4 (AP)—The Army today reported that a huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was spotted Sunday hovering near bunkers used in the first atomic bomb explosion.

The sightings were made 17 hours apart by two different military police patrols on this southern New Mexico missile testing range. The first atomic bomb was touched off on the northern edge of the area July 16, 1945.

The commanding officer of the MP's said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of similar sightings in Texas.

BOTH SIGHTINGS were in the area of abandoned bunkers used by technicians who observed the world's first atomic explosion. The bunkers are of reinforced concrete and dirt and contain no equipment or personnel. The explosion site, levelled and filled in, is several miles away.

First Lt. Miles F. Penney of Port Jervis, N. Y., commanding officer of the stallion site camp about 90 miles north of WSPG Headquarters said one sighting was made by a two man patrol at around 8 p.m. (MST) Sunday.

S.P.3 Forest R. Oakes and an S.P.3. Barlow reported that about that time their patrol saw a bright light, Oakes

thought hanging about 50 feet above the old a-bomb bunker. Oakes said the "large bright light" took off at a 45 degree angle and went up into the sky and started blinking on and off. Then it disappeared.

THIS PATROL estimated the object's size as "200 or 300 feet long." "It was very bright," Oakes said. He said his patrol was about two or three miles west of the light.

The earlier sighting came at 3 a.m. Sunday. Another two-man jeep patrol consisting of Cpl. Glenn H. Toy and a PFC. Wilbanks made the report.

Lt. Penney quoted them as saying they noticed a "very bright object" high in the sky. The object descended until it was about 50 yards above the a-bomb bunkers when it went out.

A FEW MINUTES later, Toy said, "the object became real bright, like the sun, then fell in an angle to the ground and went out."

He described the object as about 75 to 100 yards in diameter and shaped like an egg. He said it landed near the old bunkers about three miles from where the MP jeep was parked.

Lt. Penney said he had accompanied some of the MP's to the site today in an effort to find some physical evidence of the object's visit, but found nothing.

Neither patrol had much trouble with their jeeps. Some drivers who saw similar phenomena in Texas reported engine trouble.

Officials at White Sands Proving Ground said the phenomenon had nothing to do with any activity of the base.

Portland Me
Press-Herald
Nov. 6, 1957

Identifies Strange Objects

Prediction Of Venusian Space Ship Visit Fulfilled, Says Spiritualist

To a woman in Daytona, Fla., the unidentified egg shaped object reported flying at great speed over many areas of the United States comes as no surprise. She predicted its arrival.

When the Rev. Enid Brady, pastor of the First Spiritualist Church of Daytona, was in Portland three weeks ago attending the National Spiritualist Church convention, she told a WGAN-TV audience to expect a visit of a space ship from Venus this month.

She told Samuel Henderson, station manager of WGAN-TV, yesterday afternoon in a tape recorded telephone conversation the object is a Venusian space ship. She added quickly that Americans have nothing to fear by the Venusians' presence. They are here to help the earth.

MISS BRADY related she has been in contact with outer space since 1954. She explained she is the mouthpiece of Johann and Cymatrali, inhabitants of Venus. She is in contact with one of them twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

During her conversations with them she is in a trance and she insists she can't remember what she has said later. Johann and Cymatrali use her voice as a transmitting instrument. All her talks with them are recorded.

She claims the Venusians have been making plans to land on earth since the first atom bomb was exploded. The Venusians, a very peaceful people, are now disturbed with missile launchings and the cold war. They will attempt to spread peace through the world.

In her latest chat with Cymatrali, she was told the Venusian plan has almost been completed. They will make their landing somewhere in Texas or New Mexico. They couldn't land at an airport because space ship motors would cause electrical instruments and equipment to stop functioning.

IN HER telephone conversation with Henderson yesterday she said the space ship is right on schedule, and America can look for more ships in the future. She admitted she hadn't been told the names of the men in the ship, but that they were definitely Venusians.

Miss Brady said Venus had advised Americans not to worry about the Russian Sputniks. Compared to Venusian scientific advancements they are worthless. The Venusians had even considered confiscating Sputnik II from its orbit, she noted.

The conversation between Miss Brady and Henderson will be broadcast over WGAN as a special events feature later in the week.

Flaming Object Believed Part Of Sputnik I

CAIRO, Nov. 5 (INS) — Egypt's Middle-East news agency reported tonight that a small flaming object equipped with tiny lenses landed in a school playground in Alexandria.

Police in the port city promptly called in scientists and engineers, who were unable to identify the mysterious object immediately.

The object — described as three inches long and three inches wide — was said to have been made of white rubber. There were two lenses on one side and a third on the opposite end with all three protected by brass wire, the report added.

The agency said there was quartz inside it and two lamps of 3,000 candle-power.

Egyptian Professor Mahmoud Bindary, who examined the object with two Russian professors, expressed belief it is part of a guided missile.

An Egyptian newsmen who attended the meeting reported the Russians definitely believed it was part of a Soviet rocket or Sputnik I.

Man Claims He Visited Strange Flying Craft

Kearney, Neb., Nov. 5 (INS)—A California grain buyer touring Nebraska ranches told authorities today he visited aboard a strange flying machine with four men and two women after they landed near a river about a mile south of Kearney.

Spoke "High German"

The grain buyer, 48-year-old R. O. Schmidt of Bakersfield, said all the persons aboard what he described as a cigar-shaped machine spoke "high German" and that one man acted as an interpreter. Schmidt said the man spoke perfect English.

Schmidt said he was driving along Highway 81 when he noted the object in the river bed. He said he first thought it was a balloon and that he started to drive to the river bank to investigate. However, he reported his car motor went dead. He said when he tried to start the engine he found that there was no life in the battery.

Schmidt reported he stepped out of his car and approached the machine but was enveloped in a light

See MAN CLAIMS
Page Five

Man Claims

Continued From Page 1

which paralyzed him so that he was unable to move but able to speak and think.

Apologize for Inconvenience

He said two men approached him from the machine. He described them as being dressed in business suits, and said one of them spoke to him in English.

According to Schmidt, they apologized for causing him any inconvenience and invited him aboard the craft.

Inside, Schmidt told Kearney Police Chief Thurston Nelson, he saw four men and two women busily at work on wires and equipment.

He said the craft was about 100 feet long, 30 feet wide and 14 feet tall. He said it stood on four legs and had a "fan" at each end.

He related that the device was translucent. According to Schmidt, as the workers stepped on a certain section of the floor they apparently slid from one end to the other without walking or without the floor moving.

Nothing to Fear

He said the interpreter told him repeatedly that he had nothing to fear and that no harm would come to him.

Schmidt reported that the visitors refused to answer any questions, but told him he would "find out all about it in about a couple of weeks."

When repairs to the craft apparently had been completed, Schmidt said he was asked to leave but was told he would be unable to start his car until the flying machine had disappeared.

Outside the machine, Schmidt said he turned to watch as the "fans" started into motion without a sound. He said the machine lifted about 100 or 200 feet into the air and then disappeared. He said it was a silvery color.

"It just blended into the sky—like it changed color—or disappeared into thin air," he told authorities.

Springfield (Mo)
Union

Nov. 6, 1957

Air Force Radar Continues Search Of Sky for UFO

Washington, Nov. 5 (UP)—The Air Force said today its radar network was watching for strange flying objects reported in various sections of the country. But it recalled that a 10-year search produced no evidence that "flying saucers" exist.

Reports of "sightings" during the past 24 hours continued to pour in from the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, the U. S. missile test center in New Mexico and other areas. The reports told of auto motors stalled and headlights dimmed as objects passed. The U. S. Coast Guard cutter

See AIR FORCE RADAR
Page Seven

Air Force Radar

Continued From Page 1

Sebago reported it kept one unidentified flying object (UFO) on its radar screen while the "brilliant planet" circled the vessel about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Special Investigation

The Air Force sent a special investigating team to New Mexico where military police at the White Sands Proving Grounds reported seeing a "very bright" object about 200 feet long. An electronics engineer reported a similar sighting.

During the past 10 years the Air Force has investigated 5700 reports of strange objects, 250 of them between January and June of this year. It said all but a small fraction have been explained as aircraft, astronomical phenomena, hoaxes, or hallucinations.

In a statement apparently aimed at calming any apprehensions stemming from reports of the past two days, it said there has been "no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment" that a "so-called flying saucer was ever found."

Only 1.9 P. C. Unknown

Of the 250 UFO's reported in the first six months of this year, the Air Force said, balloons accounted for 26.4 per cent; planes 28.8 per cent, natural phenomena 24.4 per cent, hoaxes, searchlights or birds, 6.14 per cent; insufficient information 12.1 per cent and unknown 1.9 per cent.

At Cambridge, Mass., the director of the Harvard University Observatory, Dr. Donald H. Menzel, said he had seen and "chased" objects similar to those reported recently and was convinced he knew what they were.

Menzel, one of the chief debunkers of "flying saucers," said the objects were "physical phenomena and definitely not flying saucers from outer space." He did not say what he believed they were.

Sugot of Planet Tiers Not Found at Westover

But Holyoke Woman Insists Air Force Has Been
Entertaining Saucer Passenger

A strange chapter in the book on satellites, unidentified flying objects and other celestial phenomena was added today by a Holyoke woman who reported that a space visitor has been in this area for several months and that he was given free rein to study American aviation methods.

The Holyoke woman, who wished to remain anonymous, said the space visitor was located at Westover and that he was

serving with one of the components at that Air Force base.

He told the woman his name was Sugot and that he had come here from a planet in outer space. He identified the planet as Tiers, "still undiscovered by earthlings."

Sugot, who said his first name is a conglomeration of letters, XZPYRZX, came here about a year ago when he was discharged

(Continued on Page 6)

Portland (Me)
Press-Herald

Nov. 6, 1957

The National Broadcasting Co. said in New York that a mysterious radio signal not coming from Sputnik II is baffling shortwave listeners and government monitors.

An NBC newscast said the signal is being heard near the satellite's frequency and that the Federal Communications Commission can't say yet what it is.

As reproduced from a recording, the signal was a long note of low pitch, followed in a few seconds by two short notes.

There was still talk about a Russian attempt to reach the moon, but a spokesman for Radio Moscow asserted, "We have no knowledge of any Russian rocket headed for the moon."

SUGOT OF

(Continued From Page 1)

from a flying saucer near an air base in Geneva, N. Y. He said his friends said they would return for him but the flying saucer, according to Sugot, never returned.

Sugot told the woman that he was picked up by Air Force personnel near the base and was recruited for Air Force duty.

The woman said that the spaceman was very well spoken in the English language and that he had a highly scientific mind. She said that after enlisting in the Air Force, the spaceman was assigned to a station in Europe and later to duty in the Pentagon where he studied unidentified flying objects. He told the woman he came to Westover about a month ago.

She described the man as being of normal height, dark complexioned with coarse skin and wiry hair. He resembled a Caucasian, she said.

An attempt to check the story with Air Force officials was unsuccessful.

The spaceman told the Holyoke woman that the reason that his existence has been kept secret was because he was considered "classified" information by the Air Force.

An attempt to contact the celestial creature also proved unsuccessful. It was felt by the Holyoke woman that Sugot has since left this area, probably aboard one of the flying saucers which has been observed in many localities throughout the country.

Portland (Me)
Press-Herald

Nov. 6, 1957

Boston Astronomer Says 'Saucers' Only Mirages

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 8 (AP)—Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of Harvard College Observatory, said today the Texas bright lights which reportedly halted cars and caused other oddities were nothing more than "another flying saucer scare."

The Harvard astronomer, author of a book about flying saucers, says he has been studying them for about 10 years, but has yet to see or hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air close to the ground, acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground and they are common in the West where they have clear air," he said.

As for the reports that the headlights of automobiles were shut off and auto engines stopped by the mystery lights, Dr. Menzel said:

"Well, they are quite spectacular and it would not be mirage."

surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

He said that psychology is a big factor in "sightings" of flying saucers, "especially after people get inoculated by hearing about one or reading all these reports about the Sputniks."

Dr. Menzel said that it is quite likely the Coast Guard cutter which reported both visual and radar sightings of a blob of light in the atmosphere were getting a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

Dr. Menzel said that "one of the best" flying saucers he'd ever seen was during an Air Force flight from the North Pole some time ago.

He said he sighted the "saucer" as it approached the plane at 20,000 feet and then veered off to disappear over the horizon several hundred miles away within 2 seconds.

"Perhaps only an astronomer could have figured that one out," he said. "It was the star Sirius which was just setting over the horizon and which appeared close because of a

Springfield (Ma)
News

Nov. 8, 1957

though not all flying saucer buffs may agree—that it doesn't believe even the 1.9 per cent residue is made up of the things you read about in science fiction magazines.

Balloons, aircraft and such astronomical sights as meteorites and bright stars account—at least to the Air Force's official satisfaction—for almost four-fifths of the sightings.

The director of a private organization set up to investigate flying saucers and such said he couldn't evaluate at this point the current rash of reported sightings.

But retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, added that the reported objects may be something from another planet.

MAY BE REAL

"Assuming they are real," he said, "they would be secret weapons made on earth or are interplanetary." Any nation with the secret, he added, would by now have abandoned conventional aircraft or missiles.

"It looks as though they are interplanetary," Keyhoe said.

He said one source of power for such reported objects could be cosmic ray energy.

Some of the citizens, peace officers and servicemen who reported sighting mystery objects in the Southwest since the weekend said the objects stalled auto engines and caused radios to fade.

James Stokes, an engineer at the Air Force Missile Development Center at Alamogordo, N.M., reported 10 autos were stalled yesterday on a desert highway between Alamogordo and the White Sands (N.M.) Proving Grounds.

BRILLIANT OBJECT

He reported seeing a soundless, "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which flitted erratically across the countryside and left a sort of heat wave, "like radiation from a giant sun lamp," in its wake.

Leonard Hardlund, chief engineer for the National Inventors Council here, said a device that could stall autos or other mechanical equipment is one of the things the armed forces would like to see developed.

But Hardlund said he knows of no research in this country aimed at producing such a device.

He said that four or five years ago the military asked the Inventors Council to put a "destructive or death ray" on its list of wanted inventions.

Portland (Me) Press
Herald

Nov. 6, 1957

Cutter Adds To Report Of Mysterious Objects

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (AP) — A brilliant mystery object was reported sighted today in southern skies by a Coast Guard cutter, even as the Air Force investigated a flurry of earlier, similar reports.

The Coast Guard cutter Sebago, cruising in the Gulf of Mexico about 200 miles south of Louisiana radioed that an object resembling "a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed" was seen for about three seconds at 5:21 a.m. CST. Coast Guard headquarters in

The cutter Sebago was apparently named for Sebago Lake in Maine. A spokesman at the Boston Coast Guard Base said its cutters were named after lakes. The only Sebago Lake (or Lake Sebago) listed in Webster's Gazetteer is the one in Maine. Other reference works also list only one Sebago Lake—Maine's.

New Orleans said the message did not report exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

The Sebago's message said the object was tracked on the vessel's radar screen for 27 minutes and that, during that period, the object flitted on and off the screen several times.

Sightings of strange objects have been reported from widely scattered sections of the United

States since Sunday, most of them near secret military installations in the Southwest.

RADAR CHECKING

The Air Force said the radar network of the Air Defense Command is keeping watch—so far with no results—and that specially qualified investigators have been assigned to look into the reports.

For several years the Air Force has checked all reports of unidentified flying objects. Investigators work under the Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., and report to the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

Judging from past findings, the chances are the Air Force will attribute the current sightings to natural phenomena or such ordinary man-made objects as aircraft.

During the first half of this year, the Air Force said, only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other fantastic aerial objects have wound up in the "unknown" category.

And the Air Force said firmly—
Continued on Page 2; 3rd Col.

Springfield (Mo)
Union
Nov. 5, 1957

Martians Here First?

UFO Visits Bomb Test Site

White Sands Proving Ground, N. M., Nov. 4 (UPI)—The Army today reported that a huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was spotted Sunday hovering near bunkers used in the first atomic bomb explosion.

The sightings were made 17 hours apart by two different military police patrols on this southern New Mexico missile testing range. The first atomic bomb was touched off on

the northern edge of the area July 16, 1945.

The commanding officer of the MPs said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of similar sightings in Texas.

Both sightings were in the area of abandoned bunkers used by technicians who observed the world's first atomic explosion. The bunkers are of reinforced concrete and dirt and contain no equipment or personnel. The explosion

site, leveled and filled in, is several miles away.

First Lt. Miles F. Penney of Port Jervis, N. Y., commanding officer of the Stallion site camp about 90 miles north of WSPG headquarters said one sighting was made by a two-man patrol at around 8 p. m. (MST) Sunday.

The earlier sighting came

See UFO VISITS
Page Seven

UFO Visits

Continued From Page 1

at 3 a. m. Sunday. Another two-man jeep patrol consisting of Cpl. Glenn H. Toy and a Pfc. Wilbanks made the report.

Lt. Penney said he had accompanied some of the MPs to the site today in an effort to find some physical evidence of the object's visit, but found nothing.

Air Force Interested

Meanwhile in Washington, the Air Force undertook an investigation of a huge and strangely lighted mystery object reported to have flashed over West Texas.

Reports of strange flying objects have been popping up for years, but this one had the support of a variety of witnesses, including a sheriff and one of his deputies.

It impressed the Air Force sufficiently to call for at least a preliminary investigation.

Meanwhile, there were reports on strange things happening in the skies over Chicago and over the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Three policemen and a fireman in Chicago's suburban Elmwood Park said they saw a peculiar round glowing thing in the early morning sky today. They said their car lights appeared to dim as they kept the prowling car spot-light focused on the thing.

At Martinsville, Va., Mrs. Ruby Hairston said she and her family saw a strange red glare last night while driving to Bassett, Va., from Philpott Lake on the Carolina border.

So far, both the Air Force and civilian scientists have refrained from speculating on what may have caused autos to act up.

Nor would they guess whether there was any connection between the phenomena reported from such widely separated localities and recent big scale power failures like the one that hit the Grand Central area in New York City last week.

Fiji Islanders See Dazzling Object

Honolulu, Nov. 4 (UPI)—The Fiji government, in a report received here today, said a white clergyman and four natives reported sighting a dazzling object in the South Pacific skies which generally matched the description of an unidentified object reported in Texas.

The report issued from Suva, capital of the island group, said three separate sightings of the strange flying object were reported last week.

First, the report said, four Fijian fishermen from the Nabougalu village in Bua Province on the island of Vanua Levu said they saw a "strange object white in color and circular in shape descending from the sky."

The official government report said a Seventh Day Adventist church official, R. O. Aveling, reported seeing the same thing the same night at a different location.

The report said the third sighting was made by a lone Fijian fishing off Suva who told of seeing a "jelly fish shaped object" which glowed bright red intermittently, then faded to a white speck.

Portland (Me)
Press-Herald

Nov. 11, 1957

Moon 'Flash' Natural, Says Harvard Expert

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 10 (INS) — A reddish-orange flash "in line with the moon" which was seen by a Texas weather observer today was described as a "natural phenomenon" by a scientist at the Harvard Observatory.

The flash was seen by James Morrow at the Abilene, Texas, weather bureau.

Morrow said the flash was followed by a glow lasting 45 seconds in line with the moon. The report gave rise to speculation that a rocket had landed on the moon.

However, Dr. Donald H. Menzel, head of the Harvard Observatory, said many reports would be available if anything significant occurred on or near the moon.

A spokesman at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Institute said that "in line with the moon" indicated the flash was a good distance away from it."

No Satellite Sightings Reported

By DON GUY

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — For the fourth successive day the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory received no reports on visual observations of the Russian satellites today.

Observatory officials said the lack of reports was no cause to feel anything had gone amiss with the Soviet moons.

The satellites are orbiting the world at the present time in such a way that favorable twilight zones of observation occur only in the far North. The observatory has no moonwatch teams in these latitudes.

Last week the observatory staff appealed for visual observations from any one including possible military installations in the far north, such as the distant early warning (dew) line.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, associate director, said today no visual reports had been received from the North.

Favorable opportunities to see the satellites in Australia will occur shortly and in the United States about the end of November.

Dr. Charles Whitney, Smithsonian astrophysicist, said the giant electronic brain at Massachusetts Institute of Technology was now able to predict locations for Sputnik I and II and the final stage rocket of Sputnik I for approximately 350 points on earth for weeks in advance.

The International Business Machines calculator prints data cards which are airmailed to approximately 200 moonwatch stations throughout the world.

The Russian satellites have posed a problem for the Smithsonian. The cost of cabling data to distant stations has already consumed much of the budget that has been set aside for sending out orbits on the American satellite program.

The Smithsonian Observatory's hour.

primary role is visual tracking for the United States' satellite project vanguard.

The computer takes the place of literally thousands of human brains, Dr. Whitney estimated. At the present time Sputnik I's rocket is circling the world in 93 minutes and is speeding up a total of eight seconds per day.

The 184-pound sphere is gaining about three seconds per day and Sputnik II—the dog-carrying satellite—is gaining about 1½ seconds per day.

The satellites' gain in speed is a measure of their life span, astronomers explain. As the satellites are pulled lower by atmospheric drag and gravity the distance they must travel around the world diminishes, so a round trip is completed in less time. Likewise, as the satellite is pulled lower by gravity its speed increases over its original launching velocity of approximately 18,000 miles per hour.

Mysterious Object Puzzling Texans

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—Reports day. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide west Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Police officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part time barber, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community west of here Saturday night with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing."

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean War veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger."

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday night.

Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a similar occurrence east of Levelland.

Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who sounded upset—and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolman Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area. All were riding in separate cars.

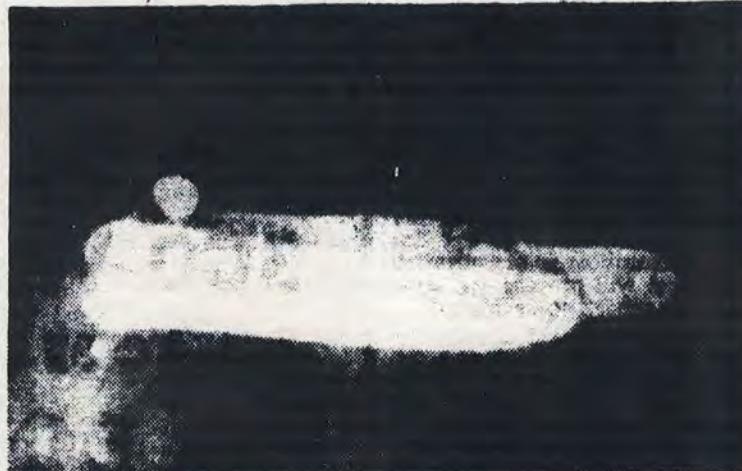
There were reports of an unexplained light in the sky far across the state between Sherman and McKinney. Other sightings were reported around Amarillo far to the north.

Calvin Harris and Sandy McKeon, CAA control tower workers at the Amarillo Airport, said they saw a "blue gaseous object which moved swiftly and left an amber trail southeast of the city" Saturday night.

Nov. 9, 1952

THE SPRINGFIELD UNION, SPRINGFIELD

It's a Plane, It's a Bird, It's, It's?



The object shown here reportedly was sighted in Anaheim, Calif., by Edwin G. Leadford from his car at about midnight Wednesday and photographed with a camera he was carrying. He described the object as cigar shaped and said it flickered with a reddish cast light. The exposure was made on 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 Tri-X film with a 103mm focal length lens. The exposure was 1-10 of a second at f4.5.

Leadford, an amateur camera man, reported today he had turned the picture over to Air Force investigators.

Like Railroad Flare

"It was a weird, strange object, with vivid pinkish red light—just like a railroad flare. It was like a gaseous mass," Leadford reported.

Leadford's camera was a Graphic.

The object for a time seemed to hover over Disneyland park Leadford said. But officials there said they had no balloons or other airborne objects over the park at any time this week.

The Garden Grove, Calif., Daily News reported that on the night Leadford took his picture the paper received about a dozen calls from persons who said they observed flying objects in the same area.

Quincy Ma Path
Ledger
Nov. 6, 1957

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT: With numerous reports of saucers and other puzzling phenomena seen in the southwest, this picture taken by J. G. Kirby in August 1956, has been released. According to Kirby the photograph was made on a highway outside of Amarillo, Texas. He said the object was about 15,000 feet high and was moving in, out and around a frontal cloud, emitting an incandescent vapor trail which seemed to touch the ground. Near the head of the object was a perfectly formed, glowing diamond. At the time the Air Force theorized that the glow was radiation vapor.

(UP Facsimile Photo)

Springfield (Ma)
Union
Nov. 7, 1957

Spaceman Dognappers New UFO Hallucination Twist

(By the United Press)

A former convict stuck to his story of a chat with spacemen Wednesday and a Tennessee schoolboy insisted an interplanetary flying machine landed outside his window.

Many UFO Reports

Reports of more strange, unidentified flying objects zooming about the skies came from many other sections of the country and across the seas.

Some reports were taken seriously and Air Force officials were investigating them.

But scientists wrote off most of the alleged sightings as tricks of vision, mirages and such. They said the excited "spaceship spotters" may have actually seen something, but the apparitions were likely to be the bright planet Venus; other stars, or mirages caused by natural weather phenomena.

While scientists kept cool, however, skywatchers said they had seen "whatchiks" shaped like cigars, fishtails, saucers, a "big meat platter," and "the open end of a bucket."

The most dramatic and eye-

brow-raising stories came from Reinhold O. Schmidt, a grain dealer and former convict who insisted he talked to spacemen near Kearney, Neb., and Everett Clark, 12, who said spacemen tried to kidnap his dog at Knoxville, Tenn.

Leaks in Story

Schmidt, 48, appeared to be weakening in his story after intensive questioning by two Army intelligence officers and two investigators from the Continental Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs. Police also turned up discrepancies in his story. But Schmidt refused to back down entirely.

At Knoxville, Everett Clark went Schmidt one better. He said he saw "a long round spaceship" settle down in a cow pasture right outside his window Wednesday. Two men and two women, "talking like German soldiers in war movies," got out, he said.

The "spacemen" were either nasty or dog-loving, Everett said. They grabbed at his dog, Frisky, he said and then tried to kidnap another dog before they flew away.

Moonwatchers Alerted For 2nd Red Satellite

By DON GUY

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (UPI)—Moonwatch teams throughout the world were alerted today to start morning and evening search for a new Russian satellite Nov. 5.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, said persistent "reports and rumors" that Russia might launch a new satellite on the Nov. 7 anniversary of the October revolution prompted his message to Moonwatch stations.

Dr. Hynek said he thought it best to get the teams into action a couple of days early. In order to announce a successful launching Nov. 7, the Russians presumably might fire the satellite into space early to make certain it had attained a successful orbit around the world.

The Smithsonian has about 200 Moonwatch stations in various parts of the world. There are 105 in the United States, 30 in Japan, and others in Australia, South America, Africa and Great Britain.

The Jodrell Bank Observatory in Great Britain reported sighting the rocket of satellite Sputnik with its giant radar telescope yesterday. The Smithsonian also received a sighting report from its Moonwatch station at Bloemfontein, South Africa.

At the present time the rocket

and Sputnik are orbiting so they do not cross the United States at favorable times for observation.

The observatory has asked ships, airplanes and radar stations in the far north to try to make sightings, however.

The satellites can be spotted over Alaska, Canada and the North Atlantic for the next few days.

However, there are no organized Moonwatch stations in high northern latitudes because the planned U.S. satellite will take an equatorial orbit.

Several shipping companies have indicated to the observatory that they will instruct their vessels to be on the lookout for the Russian "moons."

The observatory said that airlines on transatlantic runs would also be able to spot the satellites.

Taunton (Ma)
Gazette

Nov. 1, 1957

Springfield (Ma)
News
Nov. 5, 1957

NEW SIGNAL REPORTED IN OUTER SPACE

U. S. Says Mystery Code Is
'Classified'; May Be Ours
And Not Sputnik's

New York, Nov. 5 (UPI)—Ham radio operators across the United States reported hearing a new signal from space today.

Listeners who inquired at the Federal Communications Commission monitoring service at Laurel, Md., were told information about the new space message was "classified."

The signal was said to have been heard at 14.286 megacycles by operators searching for Sputnik II soundings at 20 megacycles. The 14.286 range is within that of most amateur radio operators.

The sound was variously described as a series of dots, a low moan, and "some kind of code group."

Arthur Stockellburg, of Lincoln, Mass., said he had been hearing the signal since 11 p. m. yesterday.

"It's higher than the Sputnik II tone," Stockellburg said. "It comes on and off in some kind of code group."

Stockellburg said it sounded like "another version of a code

NEW SIGNAL

(Continued From Page 1)

something like Morse code."

"I think the Russians have got some new satellite or maybe their Sputnik has a third radio receiver they didn't tell us about."

Last month, shortly after Sputnik I went aloft, several radio hams at Phoenix, Ariz., reported hearing a series of strange signals adjacent to the 20.005 frequency used by the Russian satellite.

At that time government officials in Washington who declined to be identified even as to agency said they were unable to discuss the matter except to say the signals were not connected with Sputnik in any way.

The implication was that a hush-hush project, probably military, was involved.

Worcester (Ma)
Telegram
Nov. 6, 1957

Coast Guard Cutter Sights Sky Mystery

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A brilliant mystery object was reported sighted yesterday in southern skies by a Coast Guard cutter, even as the Air Force investigated a flurry of earlier, similar reports.

The Coast Guard cutter Seabago, cruising in the Gulf of Mexico about 200 miles south of Louisiana radioed that an object resembling "a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed" was seen for about three seconds at 5:21 a.m. CST.

Tracked on Radar

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans said the message did not report exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

The Seabago's message said the object was tracked on the vessel's radar screen for 27 minutes and that, during that period, the object flitted on and off the screen several times.

Several Reports

Sightings of strange objects have been reported from widely scattered sections of the United States since Sunday, most of them near secret military installations in the southwest.

The Air Force said the radar network of the Air Defense Command is keeping watch—so far with no results—and that specially qualified investigators have been assigned to look into the reports.

Checked for Years

For several years the Air Force has checked all reports of unidentified flying objects. Investigators work under the Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., and report to the Air Technical Intelligence Center.

Judging from past findings, the chances are the Air Force will attribute the current sightings to natural phenomena or such ordinary man-made objects as aircraft.

Unknown Category

During the first half of this year, the Air Force said, only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other fantastic aerial objects have wound up in the "unknown" category.

And the Air Force said firmly—that though not all flying saucer buffs may agree—that it doesn't believe even the 1.9 per cent residue is made up of the things you read about in science fiction magazines.

Causes

Balloons, aircraft and such astronomical sights as meteorites and bright stars account—at least to the Air Force's official satisfaction—for almost four-fifths of the sightings.

The director of a private organization set up to investigate flying saucers and such said he couldn't evaluate at this point the current rash of reported sightings.

From Another Planet

But retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, added that the reported objects may be something from another planet.

"Assuming they are real," he said, "they would be secret weapons made on earth or are interplanetary." Any nation with the secret, he added, would by now have abandoned conventional aircraft or missiles.

"It looks as though they are interplanetary," Keyhoe said.

He said one source of power for such reported objects could be cosmic ray energy.

Nov. 9, 1957

MANCHESTER (N. H.) UNION LEADER

Meteor Shower May Be 'Whatnik' Answer

CONWAY — Broughton Shackford, local amateur astronomer, may have the answer to what many people took to be a "whatnik" Wednesday evening.

Shackford observed a big fire ball from the Taurid meteor shower. The shower came from the northeast with a train about five degrees long and covered an arc of 25 to 30 degrees. Shackford reports that the shower appeared about three times as big as the evening star, Venus, which appeared as a reverse half moon.

Springfield (Mo.)
News
Nov. 5, 1957

COAST GUARD CUTTER SEES SKY MYSTERY

Brilliant UFO Spotted on Radar and by Eye Over Gulf of Mexico

New Orleans, Nov. 5 (UPI)—The U. S. Coast Guard cutter Seabago reported it spotted a brilliant flying object in the sky this morning about 200 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

The unidentified object was first sighted at 5:10 a. m., the Coast Guard said. Radar contact with the object was retained intermittently from 5:10 a. m. to 5:37 a. m., with the object visible to the naked eye for three seconds beginning at 5:21 a. m.

A radio report from Seabago, on duty in the Gulf of Mexico, said the object "resembled a brilliant planet" and was traveling at a high rate of speed.

The "planet" traveled in concentric circles around the ship, according to the report, and was last tracked 175 miles from the vessel. At that time, it was headed northward toward the Louisiana coast.

The Coast Guard in New Or-

COAST GUARD

(Continued From Page 1)

leans said it is alerting ships to keep a watch for the object, whose whirling flight covered at least 175 miles during the 27 minutes it was tracked by the Seabago.

In North Louisiana, four persons told state police they sighted a bright object about half the size of an automobile rising from the ground last night near Monroe.

Strange Light in Texas Sky



Dallas, Tex.—This photograph of a mystery light was taken more than a year ago by a geologist and just now released by the FBI and the Air Force, which theorized the strange glow was "radiation vapor." J. C. Kirby, who took the picture, says he has seen the light this year too.

Dallas, Nov. 5 (UPI)—The Dallas Morning News carried a picture today of a strange light a former bomber pilot said he took over West Texas a year ago.

J. G. Kirby, a Dallas rare rocks and gem expert, said he took the picture near Amarillo at 4 a. m. Aug. 2, 1956. He said the picture and story were held up by the FBI and Air Force authorities until a few days ago.

Kirby, a B-17 pilot in World War II, told the News he and his wife and two children spotted the light while on a rock hunting expedition.

He said he snapped the picture with a small camera and called the FBI on his return to Dallas.

He said he had a visit from an agent who studied the picture

and conferred with authorities at nearby Hensley Field.

He said authorities told him only recently he no longer had to keep the photo and story quiet. Kirby said the Air Force theorized the glow was "radiation vapor."

Kirby, who said he shot a whole roll of film, asserted the object was about 15,000 feet high and weaving through and around a frontal cloud. He said the object emitted an emerald green glowing trail which apparently hit the ground.

The lapidist said he has seen similar objects twice since, both in West Texas, where a number of glowing flying objects have been reported recently.

The FBI and Hensley officials were unavailable for comment.

Heated Air Called Cause of Seeing Flying Saucers

Compiled From Press Dispatches

Cambridge, Mass.—Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of Harvard College Observatory, said yesterday the Texas bright lights which reportedly halted cars and caused other oddities were nothing more than "another flying saucer scare."

The Harvard astronomer, author of a book about flying saucers, says he has been studying them for about 10 years, but has yet to see or hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer

of heated air close to the ground, acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground and they are common in the West where they have clear air," he said.

In Washington yesterday the Air Force said its radar network was watching for strange flying objects reported in vari-

ous sections of the country. But the mouth of the Mississippi River.

The Air Force sent a special investigating team to New Mexico where military police at the White Sands proving grounds reported seeing a "very

flying saucers" exist.

Reports of sightings during the past 24 hours continued to pour in from the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, the U.S. missile test center in New Mexico and other areas.

The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Seabago reported it kept one Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) on its radar screen while the "brilliant planet" circled the vessel about 200 miles south of

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Springfield (Ma) News Nov. 6, 1957

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AIR BUBBLE THEORY HELD ON THE UFO'S

Menzel of Harvard Is Very Doubtful of Ships From Other Planets

Washington, Nov. 6 (AP)—A Harvard astronomer says mysterious objects reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico are mirages stemming from natural causes.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College Observatory, said yesterday in Cambridge, Mass., that the whole thing amounts to "another flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an investigation of the reported sightings of the strange glowing objects in the sky. The Air Force for years has had the responsibility of checking reports of unidentified flying objects, but as one officer put it, "We don't investigate all of them."

A rash of reports has developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military installations in the Southwest. Some of the

persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Yesterday the Coast Guard cutter Seabago radioed from the Gulf of Mexico that an object resembling a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed was seen for about three seconds, and that it was tracked by radar.

Menzel said it is probable the cutter's crewmen got a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

As for reports of the auto engines stalling, Menzel said "it would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Menzel, author of a book about flying saucers, said he has been studying them for about 10 years and has yet to hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air...acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground, and they are common in the West where they have clear air."

The Air Force said that during the first half of this year only 1.9 per cent of the 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other strange objects in the air have been classed as "unknown." And the Air Force wasn't ready to believe that even this small percentage has sinister implications.

It seemed a good bet the Air Force will agree with Menzel's opinion that the current sightings have explanations in nature, or that the reported objects are actually aircraft or similar man-made things.

Retired Marine Maj. Donald E.

The Providence Journal 5
Wednesday, November 6, 1957

bright" object about 200 feet long. An electronics engineer reported a similar sighting.

Manchester (NH)
Union Leader

Nov. 8, 1957

Spacemen "Witness" To Get Mental Check

KEARNEY, Neb.—(UPI)—Authorities yesterday ordered Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, who claims he chatted with spacemen outside Kearney, to appear before the county mental health board for an examination.

Schmidt, a Bakersfield, Cal., grain buyer, stuck to his story that he came upon a space ship Tuesday night and visited with the four men and two women inside it.

It was reported that psychiatrists who examined Schmidt concluded that he had committed no hoax in his mind, since he thinks he really saw the spacemen. Authorities said Schmidt will be freed if he passes the mental test.

Keyhoe, head of a private group set up to investigate unidentified flying object reports, said he could not now evaluate the present claimed sightings. But Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said the reported objects may come from another planet.

PAINT 'TIL 9

NOWAK'S

231 Columbus Ave., Springfield.
218 Meadow St., Willimantic.

Local Astronomer Says Life Possible on Venus

Frank Korkosz Thinks Objects Sighted in West Could Be Craft From Space

The flying objects reported over the site of the first atom bomb tests in New Mexico, over points in the Carolinas and in Texas, where observers said some sort of an object approached to within 200 yards of earth, could be those from outer space according to Frank Korkosz, astronomer at the Springfield Museum of Science.

The local celestial observer, who has been studying the skies here for several years in his capacity as director of the museum planetarium, said he believed "there is a possibility of life on Venus."

That planet, he said, approaches earth more closely than any other planet. It follows the same orbit as the earth around the sun and every 400 days comes to within 26,000,000 miles of earth.

He described Venus as a planet with many clouds with temperatures of about 120 degrees. In size, he said, Venus is nearly the same as earth.

Mr. Korkosz said it is his theory that when the two planets near each other in their circumnavigation of the sun, there is a possi-

LOCAL ASTRONOMER

(Continued From Page 1)

Springfield (Ma)
News
Nov. 5, 1957

Probe Claim Man Met 'Spacemen'

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—The North American Air Defense Command reported yesterday it received 46 reports of unidentified objects from throughout the nation Friday night but only three, including one from Kearney, Neb., deserved further study.

Capt. Andy Beasley, NORAD public information officer, said two Air Force investigators were sent to Kearney after a Californian, R. O. Schmidt, told of sighting a cigar-shaped object on a Nebraska prairie and chatting with four men and two women in it.

Still Undecided

Beasley said the command had not yet decided whether to assign inspectors to the two other reported sightings. He did not say where these reports came from.

Whenever such a story is carried by major news networks, Beasley added, "We get a rash of reports" on unidentified objects.

NORAD said Monday it had sent an investigator to Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Tex., to probe reports that a brilliant colored, egg-shaped object had stalled automobiles in West Texas and New Mexico.

Data to Pentagon

"The accumulated data from our investigations are forwarded through the air technical intelligence center at Wright-Patterson AFB at Dayton, Ohio, to the Pentagon, and this information is digested and brought up in statistical form from there," Beasley said.

He disclosed that the Air Force has checked out more than 5,500 unidentified flying objects in the past.

"There is no evidence to support the credibility of the flying saucer reports and beliefs," the NORAD spokesman said.

No Evidence Of Saucers Found

DAYTON (AP)—The Air Force last night pulled the rug out from under the so-called flying saucers.

A top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center at nearby Wright-Patterson Air Force Base said the service has found no evidence of flying saucers in the last 10 years.

The official, who declined to be identified, told the Dayton Journal Herald that the Air Force investigated 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947-57.

And he said not one single landing impression or footprint or any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found by the Air Force.

bility that creatures on that planet may get a good view of Earth. There is another possibility that these creatures have developed some sort of an engine which is capable of making trips near the Earth's surface for observation purposes.

"Also," he said, "it has become apparent that whenever Venus comes closest to Earth there are reports of unidentified flying objects. Such a condition exists today as the planet Venus nears Earth," the astronomer said.

Mr. Korkosz said that it is also possible that life may exist on Mars, which he said is nearly similar to Earth in many respects. He said, however, that to have Martians making the trips to Earth would require greater distances as Mars at its closest proximity to Earth is about 32,000,000 miles away.

Mr. Korkosz said he has been making observations almost nightly scanning the sky for the Russian Sputniks and other phenomena. He said, however, he failed to notice the objects reported from Texas or New Mexico.

DOUBTS SPACE SHIPS

Cambridge, Nov. 5 (UPI)—The director of the Harvard University Observatory said today he has "observed and chased" brilliant objects similar to those reported from various parts of the country the past few days.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, one of the chief debunkers of "flying saucers," said the objects could be identified as "physical phenomena and definitely are not flying saucers from outer space."

"I'm quite convinced I know what they are," he said. "I've observed them and even chased them as they bob about. I have conducted experiments concerning them and have actually observed these lights when I was in Colorado."

Menzel declined to elaborate.

Strange Radio Signals Stir Rocket-to-Moon Speculation

© N.Y. Times News Service

New York—Strange radio signals continued to be heard yesterday at stations scattered from the North to the South Pole. Their westward movement and disappearance before moonset led some to suspect they might originate in a rocket en route to the moon.

Broad streaks of red light illuminated the sky from the northeast to the southwest during the brilliant display between 8:30 and 8:45 p.m.

Bureau at Hillsboro which said the sight is not unusual at this time of year.

Observers familiar with aurora borealis called it one of the best they had ever seen.

The red color was described as very unusual and the display was considered all the more

Continued on Page 21, Col. 1

7:43 a.m. EST. The eclipse will not be visible in eastern U.S. It will be seen in its early stages on the West Coast.

The explosion of a nuclear warhead on the moon would be a spectacular salute to the 40th anniversary of the Russian Revolution today.

The radio signals, which are heard on 14.286 megacycles, were meager evidence that a rocket actually is en route to the moon, but they were not otherwise explained.

Venus, Aurora Put on Show

Sputnik gazers in Rhode Island didn't get to see the Russian satellite last night, but a display of northern lights and the planet Venus put on quite a show anyway.

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., reported that Venus, brighter than usual, came into view right after sunset and glowed brightly in the southwest until it set about 8:30 p.m.

The northern lights display giving off a red glow, was confirmed by the U.S. Weather

Continued on Page 21, Col. 1

Providence (RI)
Journal
Nov 7, 1957

Venus Aurora

Continued From Page One noteworthy because of its brightness while a full moon lighted the sky.

At the Smithsonian Observatory, scientists said the aurora borealis is caused by electric energy which in turn is caused by sun spots.

"These pass through the earth's magnetic field and the electric currents excite the gases in the upper atmosphere and these gases then glow," one of the scientists explained. Newspaper offices, police stations and weather stations in New England received many telephone calls about the sky objects.

In Rhode Island, observers described them as flares, meteorites, shooting stars and frightening sky riders with long tails. All kinds of colors were reported.

Expert Discounts All Reports of Flying Saucers

Dayton, Ohio—(AP)—The Dayton Journal Herald last night quoted a top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC) as discounting all reports of so-called flying saucers.

The official, who declined to be named, told the newspaper that the Air Force has found no evidence of flying saucers in the last 10 years.

He said the Air Force investigated 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers between 1947 and 1957. And he said not one single landing impression or footprint of any so-called flying saucer or crew member has ever been found.

Brockton (Ma)
Enterprise
Nov. 7, 1957

Flying Objects Reported Seen In Mass. and N.H.

United Press

Observers in scattered parts of New England today reported seeing unidentified flying objects, the size of a baseball and larger, and colored "greenish-white," "blue and yellow" and "red."

Radio newsman Richard LaVigne of Station WREG in Springfield, Mass., said he saw an egg-shaped, glowing mass of red-tinted vapor move by his home last night.

He said it was about as high as a small plane's altitude and that the mist hovered for about a minute near his home in Springfield's Feeding Hills section.

Westover Air Force Base told LaVigne that similar reports had been received there.

Observers in Manchester, N. H., Haverhill, Georgetown, Methuen, Rockport and Beverly, Mass., reported seeing an object at 4:51 P. M. yesterday.

Descriptions of the object ranged from the "size and shape of a baseball" to "long and wide," according to reports received at the Manchester air defense filter centre.

In Cambridge, scientists at Smithsonian astrophysical observatory said they were deluged with calls about a strange object over Boston skies today, seen before and after Sputnik II passed over.

The scientists said they believed spotters saw a weather balloon.

Hartford (Ct.)
Courant

Nov. 7, 1957

Dazzling Northern Lights Eclipse Satellite Show

Nature once more took the spotlight from the Soviet satellites Wednesday night by producing a breathtaking display of Northern Lights that was seen throughout the northeast, as far south as Richmond, Va., and as far west as Michigan.

The same thing happened shortly after Sputnik I went into orbit, when a brilliant exhibition of the lights stole the show from the first satellite.

At several points, the red, green and yellow lights stretched fan-shaped clear across the northern skies. Telephone calls about Aurora Borealis poured in to The Courant and the U. S. Weather Bureau at Bradley Field, Windsor Locks.

Rare Exhibit
Meteorologist Vincent J. Valli said that the red pulsating glow is a rare Northern Lights exhibit.

The Aurora, he said, is thought to be caused by positively charged atoms — mostly hydrogen — entering the outer atmos-

phere. The atoms activate gases in the atmosphere to cause the lights, similar to the principle of the neon tube.

Nature made another play Tuesday night, when what is believed to be high sunspot activity wreaked havoc with radio waves.

Reports came in that Radio Moscow was being clearly received in the Hartford area on the standard broadcast band. There were also reports that the audio portion of a NBC television show was being picked up in the U. S. From New York came reports that a New Jersey "ham," previously able to transmit no farther than Brooklyn, N. Y., was suddenly able to talk with another "ham" in Ire-

See DAZZLING Page 2

Dazzling

(Continued from Page 1)

land. Radio police cars in the State of New Mexico were received in the Empire State.

Watch For Sputnik

Sputnik II, with its space-pup, Laika, will probably be clearly seen in Connecticut early this morning.

Professor Robert L. Brown, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory's Moonwatch Station 87 at New Haven, said that Mutnik will come into view towards the south a few minutes after 5 a.m.

Brown said the satellite, which is said to be of first-magnitude brilliance, will first appear in this area about 5:03 a.m. (EST). Due to its elongated shape, the satellite will grow brighter and dimmer as it turns end over end as it speeds around the earth. It will travel from south-southwest to north-northeast, he said.

Brown said two of his staff observers spotted Mutnik Wednesday morning. The "next few mornings" should present good views of the large satellite, barring unfavorable weather conditions, he said.

Springfield (Ma)
Union

Nov. 6, 1957

MPs Tell Startling Tale Of Seeing Mystery Device

White Sands Proving Ground, N. M., Nov. 5 (INS)—White Sand proving Ground headquarters reported tonight three military police who spotted a mysterious object agreed what they saw looked like the landing and take-off of some controlled object from outer space.

In Open Session

In an open session with Public Information Officer William Haggard and intelligence officers, the trio pieced together a startling tale of what appeared to be the movements of a "controlled device," as the men called it.

The soldiers emphasized that although the object looked as "bright as the sun" it did not light up the sky around it.

Cpl. Glenn H. Toy of Kippenn, Pa., who with Pfc. James Wilbanks of Alabama saw the object first about 3 a. m. (MST) Sunday, told of noticing the mys-

Toy said: "Then the object came down very slowly to about 50 yards from the ground. It stayed there about three minutes just giving off a brilliant reddish-orange light."

"Then it came to the ground fairly fast at about a 45-degree angle and the light went out quickly. This was about three miles away from me. It looked like a completely controlled landing."

Wilbanks, on a three-day pass granted before Sunday, was not present at the meeting.

Hovering Near Ground

The other two GI's said they first noticed the object hovering motionless about 50 yards from the ground, then saw it rise slowly into the sky and stop again. Oakes added:

"But it finally got so far up it looked like a big star. Then all of a sudden the light went out

Sees 'Ageless' Space Travel

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (UPI)—travel near the speed of light, 186,324 miles a second.
Prof. Auguste Piccard, famed stratosphere and deep-sea explorer, believes space travelers of the future will go on trips lasting several thousand years and return to earth without aging.

The 73-year-old Swiss told a lecture audience here last night that round trips to distant solar systems will eventually become possible in space ships driven by the force of light. He said they would

feel no trace of the passage of time.

"Only on landing would they perceive that the earth's calendar meanwhile advanced by 2,000 years," he declared. "Everything in the space ship will have been suspended and preserved in time."

Not Fiction

"This is no longer science fiction, but strict reality, established by Einstein's theory of relativity and now provable in the laboratory."

Piccard said immense technical problems remain to be solved. He said the fuel problem is the main difficulty in future space travel even within our own solar system.

Worcester (Ma)
Telegram

Nov. 10, 1957

Worcester (Ma) Gazette

Nov. 4, 1957

Weird Flying Lights Stop Truck Motors

LEVELLAND, Tex. (AP)—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide west Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Peace officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part time barber, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community (west of here Saturday night) with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing."

"Lights Go Out"

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Saucedo, a Korean war veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket," but much larger.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a similar occurrence east of Levelland.

Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who called in reports of the object

sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

200 Feet Up

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolman Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area. All were riding in separate cars.

There were reports of an unexplained light in the sky far across the state between Sherman and McKinney. Other sightings were reported around Amarillo, far to the north.

Calvin Harris and Sandy McLean, CAA control tower workers at the Amarillo Airport, said they saw a "blue gaseous object which moved swiftly and left an amber trail southeast of the city" Saturday night.

The sightings were made 17 hours apart by two different military police patrols on this southern New Mexico missile testing range. The first atomic bomb was touched off on the northern edge of the area July 16, 1945.

Worcester (Ma)
Telegram

Nov. 5, 1957

MPs and Police Tell Of 'Strange Objects'

WHITE SANDS PROVING S.P. 3. Barlow reported that about GROUND, N. M. (P)—The Army that time their patrol saw a bright yesterday reported that a huge, light, Oakes thought hanging oval object "nearly as bright as about 50 feet above the old A-the sun" was spotted Sunday bomb bunker. Oakes said the hovering near bunkers used in the first atomic bomb explosion.

The sightings were made 17 hours apart by two different military police patrols on this southern New Mexico missile testing range. The first atomic bomb was touched off on the northern edge of the area July 16, 1945.

Reports Not Heard

The commanding officer of the MPs said none of the men had heard radio reports or seen newspaper accounts of similar sightings in Texas.

Both sightings were in the area of abandoned bunkers used by technicians who observed the world's first atomic explosion. The bunkers are of reinforced concrete and dirt and contain no equipment or personnel. The explosion site, leveled and filled in, is several miles away.

Lt. Miles F. Penney of Port Jervis, N. Y., commanding officer of the Stallion Site camp about 90 miles north of WSPG headquarters said one sighting was made by a two-man patrol at around 8 p. m. MST Sunday.

S.P. 3 Forest R. Oakes and an

This patrol estimated the object's size as "200 or 300 feet long." "It was very bright," Oakes said. He said his patrol was about two or three miles west of the light.

Earlier Sighting

The earlier sighting came at 3 a. m. Sunday. Another two-man jeep patrol consisting of Cpl. Glenn H. Toy and a Pfc. Wilbariks made the report.

Lt. Penney quoted them as saying they noticed a "very bright object" high in the sky. The object descended until it was about 50 yards above the A-bomb bunkers when it went out.

A few minutes later, Toy said, "the object became real bright, like the sun, then fell in an angle to the ground and went out."

Shaped Like Egg

He described the object as about 75 to 100 yards in diameter and shaped like an egg. He said it landed near the old bunkers about

Turn to OBJECTS Page 8

MPs and Police Tell of Strange Objects

Continued from Page One round glowing thing in the early morning sky yesterday. They said their car lights appeared to out if they already possessed the "objects" are true, they could not be natural phenomena. He said that on the basis of reports from witnesses the Texas object was controlled, operating in the atmosphere above the earth.

Lt. Penney said he had accompanied some of the MPs to the site yesterday in an effort to find some physical evidence of the object's visit, but found nothing.

Neither patrol had motor trouble with their jeeps. Some drivers who saw similar phenomena in Texas reported engine trouble.

Officials at White Sands Proving Ground said the phenomena had nothing to do with any activity at the base.

Air Force Checks

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Air Force yesterday undertook an investigation of a huge and strangely lighted mystery object reported to have flashed over western Texas.

Reports of strange flying objects have been popping up for years, but this one had the support of a variety of witnesses, including a sheriff and one of his deputies.

It impressed the Air Force sufficiently to call for at least a preliminary investigation.

"We don't investigate all of them, after all," an Air Force spokesman said.

A most unusual thing about the object reported over Texas Saturday and Sunday was that witnesses said their car engines stopped and their lights went out when they drove near it.

It was variously described as a burning mass, a big light, and an egg-shaped object 200 feet long.

Meanwhile, there were reports on strange things happening in the skies over Chicago and over the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Three policemen and a fireman in Chicago's suburban Elmwood Park said they saw a peculiar

Report 'Red Glare'

At Martinsville, Va., Mrs. Ruby Hairston said she and her family saw a strange red glare Sunday night while driving to Bassett, Va., from Philpott Lake on the Carolina border.

"It faded from bright red to a pale amber pink, then brightened again," she said.

Mrs. Robert Moudy of Covington, Ind., told newsmen her husband had seen "a thing" in the sky Oct. 15. She said her husband only told her about it and they did not mention it to anyone else because they feared ridicule.

Quotes Husband

Mrs. Moudy said her husband related the engine of his combine went dead when the object — flat, oval shaped, about 200 feet long with what appeared to be a large ball of fire in the center — zoomed over a farm near Foster, Ind. Her husband said the object made a screaming noise "like an auto tire squealing on a fast take-off," she said.

So far, both the Air Force and civilian scientists have refrained from speculating on what may have caused autos to act up.

From Another Planet?

Maj. Donald E. Kehoe, director of the National Investigation Committee for Aerial Phenomena, said last night the strange mystery objects seen in Texas and near Chicago are probably from another planet.

He also said their increased activity must stem from the projection into space of the two Russian Sputniks.

'Perfect Weapon'

Interviewed in Washington by telephone, the retired United States Marine Corps officer told Radio Station WTAG's news director James G. Little that the "saucers," if built by any country of the world, would be "the perfect weapon."

"If these saucers had been made by some one on earth during these last 10 or 12 years, it would be strange that there have been no failures and no attacks.

"The major countries have been spending billions in the development of aircraft and missiles, something they wouldn't do

"If we are under observation by beings from another planet," he continued, "they would certainly be interested in any new objects circling the earth."

Sees Increase

Asked his opinion of future landings, Kehoe said "the Tex-

as and Chicago incidents would field."

seem to be an increase in operations brought on by Sputniks in recent years when objects Satellites would cause interest similar to the Texas "saucer" or and intervention — not necessarily hostile — and I think there may be a continued increase in evidence from persons in this 'saucers' as (the earth's) activity goes on."

Kehoe said that if reports of air.

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Kehoe said that if reports of air.

Worcester (Ma)
Telegram

Nov. 4, 1957

Enormous Lighted 'Egg'

Mystery Object in Texas Reported to Stall Cars

LEVELLAND, Tex. (UPI) — West set down there, the sheriff said. Texans puzzled yesterday over accounts of a mystery object, big on duty in Levelland as reports and ablaze with light, which dozens poured in from startled residents. told of seeing in the sky and several said they found squatting in getting a good look and dozens sighted what appeared to be roadways.

Observers told newsmen of at least five instances in which the engines of cars approaching the phantom object Saturday night and early yesterday were unaccountably stalled but restarted as the phenomenon rose into the air.

One Witness Faints

Sheriff Weir Clem, who said he observed the brilliant light but didn't get a close view, reported one witness fainted from fright. Officers inspected the reported landing sites and found no marks to indicate anything had

200 Feet Long

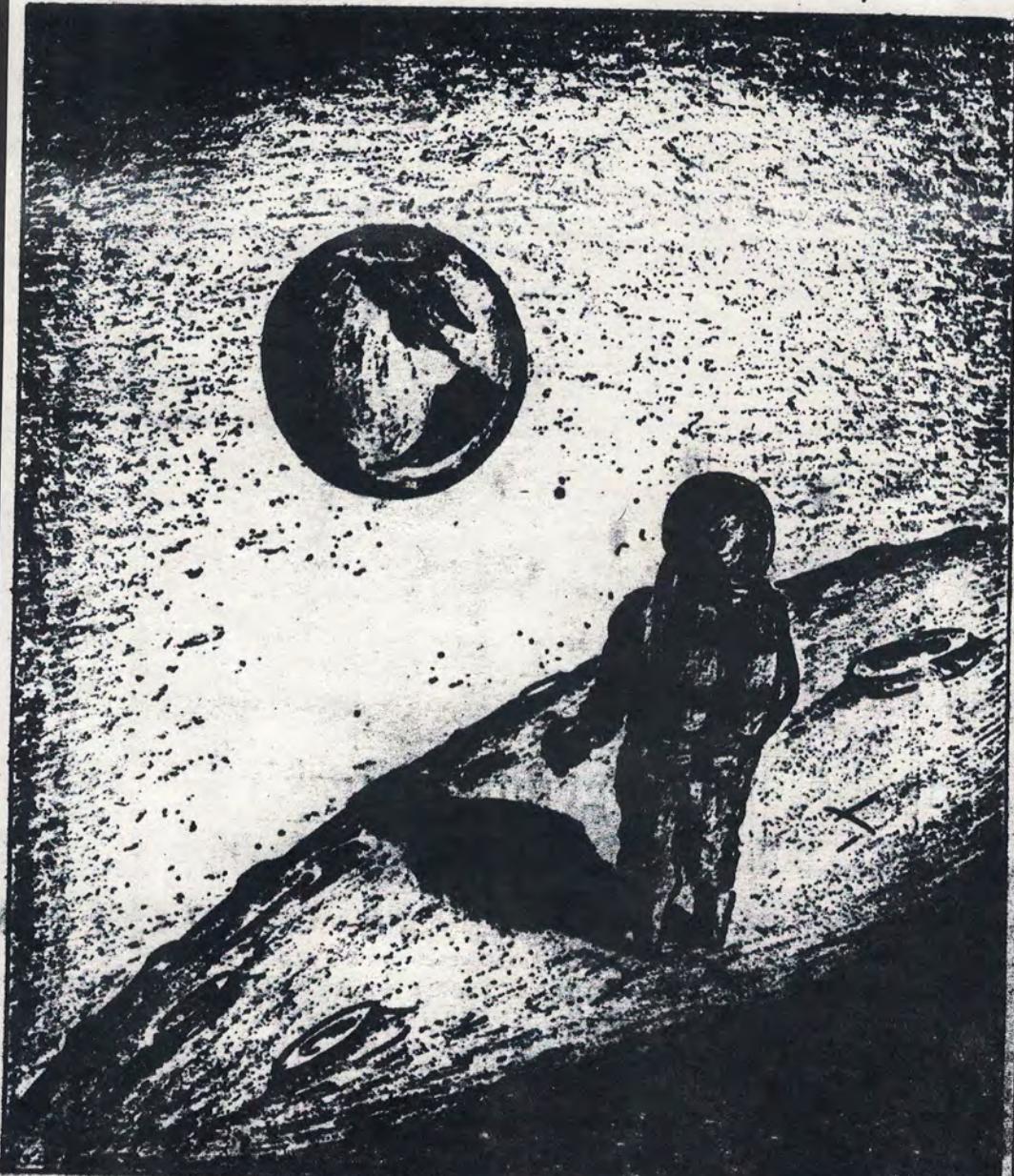
"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," Fowler related.

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited."

The sheriff said his office had found no evidence that any plane might have been in trouble.

Worcester (Ma)
Gazette
Nov. 6, 1957

Next—Operation Earthwatch?



Mysterious Objects Seen 'Just Mirages'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A Harvard astronomer says mysterious objects reported from various parts of the country and the Gulf of Mexico are mirages stemming from natural causes.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College of Observatory, said yesterday in Cambridge, Mass., that the whole thing amounts to "another flying saucer scare."

The Air Force has started an investigation of the reported sightings of the strange glowing objects in the sky. The Air Force for years has had the responsibility of checking reports of unidentified flying objects.

A rash of such reports had developed since Sunday, with some of the sightings said to have been made near secret military installations in the Southwest. Some of the persons making the reports said the objects caused their auto engines to stall and their radios to fade.

Yesterday the Coast Guard cutter Seabago radioed from the Gulf of Mexico that an object resembling a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed was seen for about three seconds, and that it was tracked by radar.

Menzel said it is probable the cutter's crewmen got a false image "quite likely from bubbles of hot air in the atmosphere which would give a radar reflection."

As for reports of auto engines stalling, Menzel said, "it would not be surprising that a nervous foot could stall an engine."

Menzel, author of a book about flying saucers, said he has been studying them for 10 years and has yet to hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

"They are caused by a layer of heated air . . . acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a mirage. They are prevalent just after nightfall as the heated air begins to cool off at the ground, and they are common in the West where they have clear air."

The Air Force said that during the first half of this year only 1.9 per cent of 250 reported sightings of flying saucers and other

strange objects in the air have been classed as "unknown." And the Air Force wasn't ready to believe that even this small percentage has sinister implications.

Retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, head of a private group set up to investigate unidentified flying object reports, said he could not now evaluate the present claimed sightings. But Keyhoe, director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, said the reported objects may come from another planet.

City Ham Hears Mystery Signal Thinks It May Be Code From Reds to Sputnik II

By EDWARD McHUGH
Telegram Staff Reporter

A ham radio operator at 6 Plantation St. thinks he has discovered code messages being beamed by Russians at their dog-carrying satellite, Sputnik II.

John Gagen, operator of amateur station WIENX, said last night that Soviet scientists may be trying to trigger radio activated relays which will parachute the space-traveling spitz, Limonchik, back to earth.

Gagen discovered mysterious radio messages Tuesday night on 20,000 to 20,010 kilocycles on his extra sensitive receiver.

At that frequency he heard "dah-dah-dah" (the letter "O" in Morse code) interrupted at infrequent intervals by double letter combinations such as "dit-dit-dah-dit" "dit-dit-dah-dit" (two letter "F's" in code).

Weak Signals

Extreme weakness of the signal and the fact that the sender failed to identify himself as required by international law led Gagen to believe the signals were Russian.

At about 11 last night, the signal pattern suddenly changed, Gagen said, and the Russian transmitter began sending double "F's".

Alan D. McKerrow of Stafford St., Rochdale, a licensed commercial radio operator since 1912 and owner of amateur station WISPF, agreed with his friend, Gagen.

McKerrow said he could not receive the message on his less

sensitive equipment, but that he has monitored the transmissions on Gagen's receiver and believes they are coming from a fixed station somewhere in Russia.

"We know they want that dog back so they can study it," he said, "And the only way they can reach 1,000 miles out into space is by radio."

McKerrow said the irregular messages may be designed to trip radio relay switches and parachute the dog back to earth.

To Fire Rockets

Local experts said the satellite would have to be slowed by reversing it and firing its rockets in the opposite direction.

Other relays would then be activated to separate the section containing the dog from the falling rocket and open its parachute.

Information channels out of Russia indicate that similar speculation is being aired in Moscow, and earlier reports indicated that Sputnik II may be breaking into two separate parts.

McKerrow said he may be able to explain a mysterious roaring buzz on four frequencies between 19,350 and 20,600 kilocycles, reported by amateur radio operators all over the United States.

The four frequencies carry high speed radio-telegraph messages such as are used by the Pentagon to contact its overseas bases, he said.

"I believe the roar comes from four very powerful radio transmitters, two relatively close — maybe in East Germany — and two a great distance away — perhaps somewhere in Siberia."

Jam Messages

"I think somebody is trying very hard to jam those high speed telegraph messages," he said, "And I think it's the Russians."

McKerrow said whoever is sending out the jamming signal also fails to identify himself as required by international law.

"And the Communists were never great believers in law, international or otherwise," he said.

Ham radio operators only are now reporting the strange interference signals because before Sputnik I was launched, they never bothered to monitor that area of the radio band.

McKerrow is emergency coordinator of the American Radio Relay League, an association of 60,000 amateur radio operators in the United States and Canada.

Worcester Ma
Telegram

November 8, 1957

Worcester (Ma)
Gazette
Nov 5, 1957

Mystery "Fireball" Is Sighted by Many

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which he said stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday.

The Air Force has started an investigation into similar reports in this and other areas.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend. The reported sightings startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N.M., told news director Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U.S. 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

Bright As the Sun

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this west Texas area over the weekend. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Ground Sunday, hovering near

bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

Witnesses said other strange lights were seen over other parts of Texas, near Chicago and in Virginia.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him occupants of cars saw a strange, unidentified object flying toward them from the northeast. He said his auto radio faded and died, then his engine stopped. He said several other cars were also stalled.

Felt Heat Wave

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest. As it passed . . . I could feel a kind of heat wave, like radiation from a giant sun

Turn to FIREBALL, Page Two

FIREBALL

Continued from Page One

lamp. But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail.

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of the sighting," he said.

He said the object moved very rapidly and its surface looked like "glowing mother of pearl."

He said Allan D. Baker of Las Cruces, N.M., shot some pictures of the object.

Clark said he was unable to get a statement from Holloman officials and was unable to reach Baker.

Sighted by Patrols

A spokesman at Reese Air Force Base here said yesterday a representative of the Air Defense Command had flown in from the Colorado Springs, Colo., headquarters.

Lt. Miles Penney of White Sands said the glowing object was sighted by two military patrols on the missile testing range 17 hours apart Sunday.

Bill Haggard, information officer, said one patrol described it as "about 200 feet long and about 75 feet in diameter."

"The object if it was an object sighted," Haggard said, "has absolutely no connection with White Sands Proving Grounds."

Saturday, Pedro Saucedo, 30, and other witnesses in this area reported a similar object. Saucedo said it looked something like a rocket and flew "with a great sound and rush of wind. It sounded like thunder." He and others said the object stalled their auto engines and caused the lights to go out.

Make Ground Search

Col. Barney Oldfield of the North American Air Defense said "the object . . . was not picked up by radar. It did not seem to be traceable."

He said the provost marshal at Reese had investigated but found nothing. Other peace officers in this area made a ground search but found no signs.

Among those reporting unusual flashes in the Texas sky were Sheriff Weir Clem of Levelland, State Patrolmen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin, and Calvin Harris and Sandy McKean, CAA control tower workers at Amarillo Airport.

Quincy (Ma) Patriot
Ledges
Nov. 7, 1957

Air Force Pours Cold Water On Saucer Reports

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force says its investigations of 5,700 reported sightings of flying saucers in 10 years have produced "no physical or material evidence" that such things exist.

CAR ENGINES STALL

The Pentagon issued this report last night after sightings of mysterious flying objects were reported this week from various parts of the country. Some of the reported objects were said to glow with a strange light and to have caused auto engines to stall.

Sightings of flying saucers have been reported from time to time over the past decade. Investigation has been handled by the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Previous Air Force reports on saucers have been along the lines of the one put out last night.

There have been suggestions that the new rash of sightings was inspired by Russia's launching of earth satellites.

Not A Fragment

In its report last night, the Air Force said "there is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer was ever found."

It also said there is no evidence that the alleged objects are interplanetary space ships, that they indicate developments beyond the range of current scientific knowledge, or that they pose any threat to the nation's security.

Southwest Is Perplexed By Flying Object

ALAMOGORDO, N. M. (UP)—An electronics engineer reported seeing an unidentified flying object on an isolated desert highway near Alamogordo in southern New Mexico yesterday.

Cars Stopped

James Stokes, 42, an engineer in an upper air research project at the Air Force Missile Development Center near Alamogordo, said 10 automobiles stopped or were stopped when the object appeared yesterday afternoon on U.S. Highway 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and the Air Force Center.

Earlier in the day, officials at White Sands Proving Grounds said two Army patrols reported seeing a similar object or objects on Sunday.

Similar reports came Sunday from Levelland, Tex.

Flying Object Seen Over Gulf Of Mexico By Coast Guard Ship

NEW ORLEANS, (AP) — The Coast Guard cutter Seabago sighted an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 5:21 a.m. (CST) today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans received a radio message about the sighting. The message did not say exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

But the message said the object had been tracked on the Seabago's radar screen for 11 minutes before the visual contact and for 16 minutes afterward. During these periods, the object darted off the screen every few minutes but soon returned.

A dispatch from Honolulu said a number of Fiji Island natives and a white clesyman reported seeing a similar object in the South Pacific skies last month. The strange object was sighted four times the week of Oct. 13-19, according to an official government report issued in Suva, capital of the island group.

Stokes reported that the object approached from the northeast over the Sacramento Mountains. He said the first indication that something was out of the ordinary was a gradual fading of the radio in his automobile.

Then, he said, the car engine died, and he noticed that several other cars on the highway had stopped. Stokes said he noticed that the occupants were getting out of their cars and pointing to the sky.

Flying Objects Not Saucers, Harvard Official Asserts

CAMBRIDGE (UP) — The director of the Harvard University Observatory said today he has "observed and chased" brilliant objects similar to those reported from various parts of the country the past few days.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, one of the chief debunkers of "Flying Saucers," said the objects could be identified as "physical phenomena and definitely are not flying saucers from outer space."

"I'm quite convinced I know what they are," he said. "I've observed them and even chased them as they bob about. I have conducted experiments concerning them and have actually observed these lights when I was in Colorado."

Menzel declined to elaborate.

"Looking up," Stokes said, "I saw a light-colored, egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast.

"Then it wheeled and made a pass at the highway, across the road not more than two miles ahead.

"It then moved away toward the Organ Mountains near White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest.

"As it passed at its closest point, I could feel a kind of heat wave, but there was no sound.

"It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail, smoke or flame visible."

Stokes said the object appeared to be about 500 feet in length, with a shiny surface like mother of pearl.

New York Times
Nov 6, 1957

NEW OBJECT IN SKY REPORTED BY TOKYO

TOKYO, Wednesday, Nov. 6 (AP)—The director of the Tokyo Astronomical Observatory said today an object appeared to be preceding the second Soviet earth satellite in its orbit.

Prof. Masashi Miyagi said it might be part of the rocket that launched the Soviet Union's second satellite.

"It was observed over both Tokyo and Sendai today two minutes before the satellite appeared," he said.

Soviet scientists said previously that the second satellite was the final stage of the carrier rocket, and it had been assumed it had no companion in its globe-girdling flight. The first satellite was accompanied and subsequently passed, by the final stage of the rocket that hoisted it.

"All we can say today is that an object flying approximately at the same altitude and in the same orbit as the artificial moon was observed at two places in Japan," Professor Miyagi said.

"Our observatories will watch for it tomorrow and then we will be able to determine what it is," he said. "The brightness of this second object is of the fourth magnitude."

The satellite was observed at seventeen different sites in Japan between 5:10 A. M. and 5:13 A. M. It was moving in a southwest to northeast direction, the observatory reported.

Quincy (Ma) Patriot
Ledger

Nov. 6, 1957

Sky Saucers Are Mirages, Expert Says

CAMBRIDGE (UP) — Dr. Donald H. Menzel says Russia's Sputniks have "inoculated people with flying saucer-itis."

Menzel, director of the Harvard University Observatory, says many persons are imagining mysterious objects in the sky and others are seeing actual "mirages."

No Great Surprise

This phenomenal mirage-type image Menzel calls a flying saucer.

"It's no great surprise to me that there has been another flying saucer scare," he said, "because there are just as many now as there were in 1947 and 1948 when the first scare started."

Menzel said the present rash of reports indicate the images being seen are "of the same general type as those seen 10 years ago."

They are often caused by "heated air close to the ground which can act as a lens and from an image of objects 50 to 100 miles away."

Sometimes Menzel said, the little bubbles of hot air or ice crystals in the atmosphere.

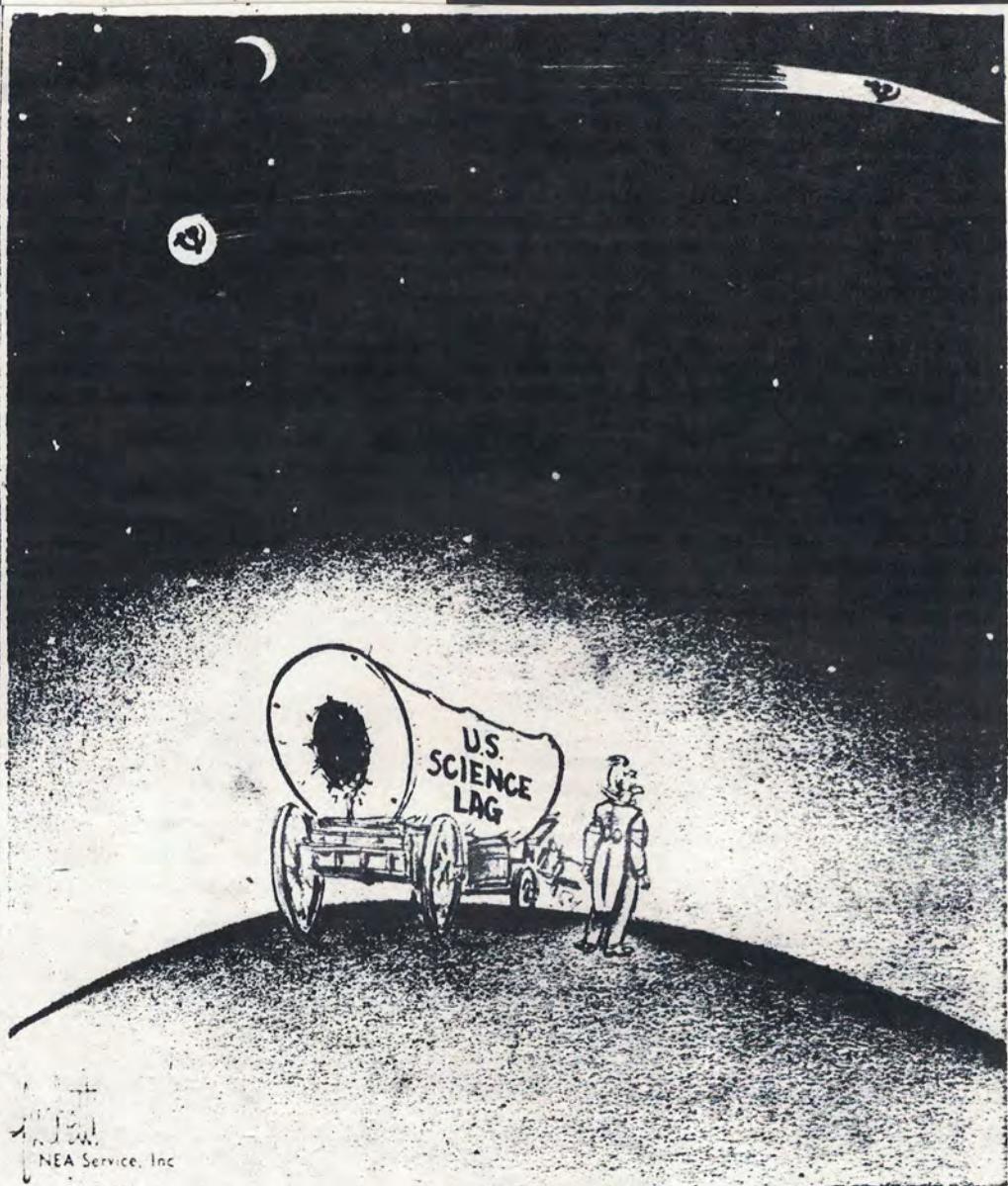
"Flying saucers are particularly prevalent immediately after nightfall on a hot day when the air begins to cool off near the ground," he said.

Menzel said "psychology is a factor in the sighting of these objects." He said talk about Sputniks has people "jumpy."

"Flying saucers are found most generally in the western part of the United States," he said, explaining that the climate there is ideal for producing such mirages.

Taunton (Ma) Gazette

Nov. 15, 1957



An Old Pioneer and a New Frontier

Scientists Strange, Puzzling People

Rediscovering Science:

1. What is a scientist?

By ALTON L. BLAKESLEE

AP Science Reporter

NEW YORK (AP)—Scientists are strange and puzzling people for one simple reason—they are human.

They are ordinary people with specialized knowledge in one or more sciences.

As people they are no different from lawyers, housewives, auto mechanics, actors, musicians, teachers, bricklayers, economists. All of us have specialized knowledge and a jargon of our own—some more than others.

Scientists are peculiar only to the degree all humans are puzzling to other humans.

But they are bearing a cross of considerable public opinion which thinks scientists are oddballs, very evil or very dedicated to good, impractical, superhuman, absent-minded, self-centered, godless, or dull.

Surveys show 25 to nearly 50 per cent of teen-agers and adults hold such opinions.

This doesn't make scientists happy naturally. They say these attitudes don't hurt them personally so much as science generally, and the decisions of youngsters whether to become scientists. Russia encourage no such views about science and scientists.

Worcester (Ma)
Telegram

Nov. 6, 1957

'Another Saucer Scare,' Says Harvard Expert

CAMBRIDGE (AP) — Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of Harvard College Observatory, said yesterday the Texas bright lights which reportedly halted cars and caused other oddities were nothing more than "another flying saucer scare."

The Harvard astronomer, author of a book about flying saucers, says he has been studying them for about 10 years, but has yet to see or hear of one which could not be explained by natural phenomena.

Heated Air

"They are caused by a layer of heated air close to the earth, acting as a lens and forming an image of objects as much as 40 or 50 miles away," he said.

"They are nothing more than a

Movies about "mad scientists" played a part in creating prejudices against scientists, says anthropologist Margaret Mead.

So have concepts drawn from TV, newspapers, radio, teachers, gossip, and behavior of some scientists themselves.

How much did Einstein, needing a haircut, heedless of accepted conventions in clothes, come to exemplify the average scientist? How much do a few doctors, lawyers, bankers, or bus drivers create public opinion about those occupations?

Meet many scientists and their common denominator of humanity becomes clearly apparent.

Some are avid football or baseball fans, or love music, books, poker, or playing tennis or pool. Others like bridge, growing roses, seeing plays, travel, swimming.

Many are gay and witty, some quit, some shy, or all these things at different times. Only a very few are stuffed shirts or shoes who believe you ought to know a lot about their subject or speak their language in order to be intelligent.

gent—though they know precious little about other people's specialties.

Like other people, they marry, have children, work in parent teacher associations or Boy Scouts vote and argue politics, worry about bills, fix up the house on week ends.

They love their work, especially the good ones, and are wrapped up in it as is anyone who likes his job. They find their work fun and exciting—that's why they choose it.

"One impression is that science means a hermit life of introspection" comments Dr. Julian Sturtevant, professor of chemistry at Yale University.

"A contractor can sit home at night and be withdrawn because he's mentally calculating what bid to make on a job. That's okay because it's for his economic benefit. But if a scientist musses over a research problem, it means he's odd, though solving that problem could be advancing his own career."

Dr. Ernest Pollard, chairman

tells a story illustrating how easy it is to absorb popular concept about scientists in general.

A high school girl worked one summer in his laboratory as a dishwasher and assistant to a technician. Among eggs being used for research, one hatched a baby chick, which became her pet.

One day it tried to follow her into an elevator and fell four floors into the well below.

"She was terribly impressed that scientists in our lab solved the not easy problem of rescue in a few minutes through intelligence, brawn and kindness," Dr. Pollard says. "She says it was an eye opener how human and nice scientists are, no like the popular pictures of them."

Ernie Pollard doesn't say so, but it's also a tribute that at home he's regarded as a human being, father and husband rather than a scientist.

For the young girl was his own daughter, Carol.

Faint Object Sighted Ahead of Sputnik II

By DON GUY

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — A Smithsonian scientist reported sighting a faint object about 10 to 15 seconds ahead of Sputnik II this morning.

Dr. John S. Rinehart, assistant director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, said he saw an object resembling a faint star moving in advance of the much-more brilliant satellite-rocket.

Dr. Rinehart said he saw both objects low in the Western sky disappearing to the north.

Sputnik II was sighted by a Moonwatch team on the roof of the Harvard Observatory as well as by other viewers in the East. It appeared low in the West due to its distance from the eastern seaboard.

No speculation was immediately available on the question—whether a mechanism set to return a chamber carrying the dog, Laika, back to earth might have gone wrong.

Such a mechanism might have been designed to eject the dog's chamber in a direction opposite to satellite's flight and thus slow it down for a return to earth. On the other hand, if tumbling motion of the rocket caused such a portion of the rocket to be thrust forward, it would become a satellite itself—traveling even faster than Sputnik II.

It was estimated here that the

faint object sighted ahead of Sputnik II this morning might be 50 to 75 miles ahead of the rocket satellite, on the basis of translation of the distance in seconds into miles.

Yesterday, speculation included the possibility the rocket might be breaking up but scientists described this probably was not so.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, associate director of the Smithsonian Observatory, said he saw the satellite as it passed near Boston but noted no sign of a separation.

Dr. Hynek and Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the observatory, agreed that getting the satellite's canine cargo safely down to earth would be an outstanding feat.

To accomplish it, the satellite would have to be given a reverse push equal to 1,000 m.p.h., Dr. Whipple said.

Taunton (Ma) Gazette

Nov 8, 1957

TOP



(AP Wirephoto)

DIAMOND SHAPED

DALLAS, Tex. — J. G. Kirby's photograph showed diamond-shaped object he claims was spotted weaving around cloud. Air Force theorized glow was radiation vapor.

Strange Light Photo Released to Press

DALLAS (AP)—The Dallas Morning News carried a picture today of glowing, flying objects have been reported recently. A former bomb-throwing pilot said he took over West Texas a year ago.

J. G. Kirby, a Dallas rare rocks and gem expert, said he took the picture near Amarillo at 4 a. m. Aug. 2, 1956. He said the picture and story was held up by the FBI and Air Force authorities until a few days ago.

Kirby, a B-17 pilot in World War II, told the News he and his wife and two children spotted the light while on a rock hunting expedition.

He said he snapped the picture with a small camera and called the FBI on his return to Dallas.

He said he had a visit from an agent who studied the picture and conferred with authorities at nearby Hensley Field.

He said authorities told him only recently he no longer had to keep the photo and story quiet.

Kirby, who said he shot a whole roll of film, asserted the object was about 15,000 feet and weaving through and around a frontal cloud. He said the object emitted an emerald green glowing trail which apparently hit the ground.

The lapidist said he has seen similar objects twice since, both

in West Texas, where a number of strange lights have been reported recently. The FBI and Hensley officials were unavailable for comment immediately.

28 Worcester Daily Telegram, Friday, Nov. 8, 1957

Mysterious Radio Signal Not Linked to Any Satellite

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal radio engineers checked on reports of mysterious signals yesterday, but found none they could connect with an earth satellite—American or Russian.

One report came from RCA Communications Inc., which said its receiving center at Riverhead, Long Island, New York, picked up radio signals on the 108-megacycle band.

The wave length is assigned to the U. S. satellite, which hasn't been launched yet. A test U. S. baby moon with radio transmitter is slated to go up next month.

Continuous Hum

RCA Communications described the mystery signal as a continuous, tone-modulated hum at a low pitch of 200 cycles per second. It was first heard at 9:35 a.m. (EST) and grew weaker until it died out at 10:50 a.m.

Radio engineers for Project Vanguard, the U. S. earth satellite program, guessed that the signal came from a radio amateur or other local source in the New York area.

NBC quoted the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as saying the signal probably

came from testing of some equipment in New York. George Mengel, head of Vanguard's tracking and guidance branch, said none of the project's radio minitrack stations had heard the signal and no Vanguard broadcasts had been made on that frequency.

Another Report

Another report was that Vanguard and FCC radio watchers picked up mysterious signals on 14.286 megacycles, possibly connected with Sputnik II or another space rocket.

Both Mengel and George Gillingham, FCC information officer, denied this. Gillingham said FCC monitors had kept a sharp lookout for a 14.286 megacycle signal since it was first reported early this week but had not heard it for a couple of days.

This wave length is in the 20-meter amateur band. It was also described as a frequency assigned to the Soviet Union. Gillingham said it is quite possible for a ham signal to be on this frequency, or for a Russian signal to bounce over here when radio conditions are right.

The Evening Gazette

George F. Booth, Editor and Publisher, 1899-1955

Worcester Evening Post acquired Oct. 1, 1938

H. G. Stoddard, President; Howard M. Booth, Publisher; Forrest W. Seymour, Editor

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Second class mail privileges authorized at Worcester, Mass.

Page 6 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1957

Those Flying Things Down in Texas

THE STRANGE reports from Texas and the Gulf of Mexico about "brilliant colored flying objects" have stirred the imaginations of flying saucer enthusiasts everywhere. Maj. Donald E. Kehoe, director of the National Investigation Committee for Aerial Phenomena, a private organization, thinks that they very likely are space ships from another planet.

Whatever they are, it does not seem that they can be dismissed as figments of fevered imaginations. Even the most hide-bound skeptics will have to admit that the rash of reports from various parts of Texas, coming from responsible people and agreeing in important details, is very striking. One of the most authentic reports came from the commander of a Coast Guard ship in the Gulf of Mexico.

But it is one thing to say that something odd has been sighted in the Southwest and quite another to claim that it is a space ship from another planet.

If our authorities can claim convincingly that they know nothing about it, we might turn to Moscow for an explanation. There is no use in worrying about little green men from Mars until we have exhausted more likely hypotheses.

Quincy (Ma)
Patriot-Ledger

Nov 4, 1957

Fiery, Flying Object Seen By Many Over West Texas

LEVELAND, Tex. (UPI)—Reports of a mystery object which one witness said flew around with a "great sound and rush of wind" had officials and the public puzzled today.

Police Check

Newsmen and authorities had reports of sightings over a wide west Texas area Saturday and yesterday.

Police officers checking areas where landings were reported were unable to find any trace. Reese Air Force Base officials here declined to say whether an investigation was being made.

Pedro Saucedo, 30, a farm hand and part time barber, told officers and newsmen, "I was driving out to a farm near the Pettit community (west of here Saturday night) with a friend, Joe Salaz, when we first saw the thing.

"When it got near, the lights of my truck went out and the motor died. I jumped out of the truck and hit the dirt because I was afraid. I called to Joe but he didn't get out. The thing passed directly over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind. It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat. Then I got up and watched it go out of sight toward Levelland," he said.

Torpedo Shape

Saucedo, a Korean war veteran, said it was "torpedo shaped" or like "a rocket" but much larger.

Ronald Martin, 18, a Levelland truck driver, said his truck engine died and the lights went out "when a big ball of fire dropped on the highway" east of here early Sunday. Martin said the object

changed to a bluish green color when it settled on the highway, then changed to a fireball again when it rose straight up and disappeared.

Newell Wright, a Texas Tech student from here, reported a similar occurrence east of Levelland.

Patrolman A. J. Fowler said Saucedo and about 14 others who called in reports of the object sounded upset and in some cases terrified.

"They seemed to agree that this something was 200 feet long, shaped like an egg and was lit up like it was on fire—but looked more like neon lights," he said.

Sheriff Also Saw It

"They said it was about 200 feet in the air, and when it got close car motors and lights would go off. Everybody that called was very excited," he asserted.

Sheriff Weir Clem said he saw a brilliant light in the distance but didn't get close enough for a good look. Highway Patrolmen Lee Hargrove and Floyd Cavin reported seeing similar flashes in the sky in about the same area. All were riding in separate cars.

There were reports of an unexplained light in the sky far across the state between Sherman and McKinney. Other sightings were reported around Amarillo, far to the north.

Calvin Harris and Sandy McLean, CAA control tower workers at the Amarillo Airport, said they saw a "blue gaseous object which moved swiftly and left an amber trail southeast of the city" Saturday night.

Worcester (Ma)

Gazette

November 5, 1957

Cutter Reports Seeing Strange Flying Object

NEW ORLEANS, La. (UPI) — The Coast Guard cutter Sebago reported sighting an unidentified flying object over the Gulf of Mexico at 5:21 a. m. CST (6:21 a. m. EST) today. The object, seen for about three seconds, resembled a brilliant planet moving at tremendous speed, the report said.

Coast Guard headquarters in New Orleans received a radio message about the sighting. The message did not say exactly who on board the cutter had seen the object.

The message said the object had been tracked on the Sebago's radar screen for 11 minutes before the visual contact and for 16 minutes afterward. During these periods, the object darted off the screen every few minutes but soon returned.

Radio Log Given

Cmdr. James Schrader, head of search and rescue operations in the Gulf, said the object had been seen about 200 miles directly south of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Cmdr. Schrader said the radio message gave this log of the morning incident:

5:10 a.m.—The object was seen

Turn to CUTTER, Page Two

CUTTER

Continued from Page One

on the radar screen, moving north to south, about 14 miles from the cutter. The object continued to move closer, shifting toward the port side.

5:14—Contact was lost.

5:16—Contact was regained with the object about 22 miles north of the cutter.

5:18—The object, about 55 miles from the Sebago, faded off the screen.

5:20—Contact was regained. The object appeared stationary, seven miles due north.

5:21—The object was seen, moving horizontally south to north. It was seen for about three seconds and resembled a brilliant planet with a high rate of speed.

5:21—Radar contact was resumed.

5:37—The cutter reported its last radar contact with the object about 175 miles north of the ship.

The Sebago is expected to report back to its home base in Mobile by Thursday.

ASTRONOMER SAYS HE'S SEEN, CHASED LIGHTS

CAMBRIDGE (UPI) — The director of the Harvard University observatory said today he has "observed and chased" brilliant objects similar to those reported from various parts of the country the past few days.

Dr. Donald H. Menzel, one of the chief debunkers of "flying saucers," said the objects could be identified as "physical phenomena and definitely are not flying saucers from outer space."

"I'm quite convinced I know what they are," he said. "I've observed them and even chased them as they bob about. I have conducted experiments concerning them and have actually observed these lights when I was in Colorado.

Menzel declined to elaborate.

Providence Journal
y, November 8, 1957

**CAUTION
FLYING
SAUCERS
LANDING ON
HIGHWAYS**



Warning to Motorniks: Lubbock, Texas, traffic safety department erected this sign on road from Lubbock to Levelland, where motorists reported a big, cigar-shaped flying object landing and taking off earlier this week. The girl is a Texas Tech co-ed on way to class, and just posed to give it a human touch.

Associated Press Wirephoto

They're Back Again

Chicken Broth for Flying Saucer Buffs

By FREDERICK C. OTTMAN

WASHINGTON—All over this land again are flying saucers. Some of these look like large cigars. Some are clad in mother-of-pearl. Mostly they are incandescent and shower sparks.

No little green men have climbed out of these vehicles so far, but in another couple of days I wouldn't be surprised. As an old and embarrassed flying saucer expert myself, I take a dim view of the entire subject.

MY OWN FEELING at this point is that anybody who sights



such a conveyance needs a bowl of chicken broth and a couple of days in bed. That's what I tried after watching a flying saucer a while back, and it worked fine. Except under my coffee cup I haven't seen a saucer since.

I was coming home from Latin America and the plane was so late it missed connections in New Orleans. The flying machine from there hit winds and clouds and lightning flashes; it produced a ride such as nobody ever has seen pictured in an airline advertisement.

A bedraggled load of passengers eventually arrived at 3:30 a.m. at Washington National Airport; the crew looked bleary-eyed, too. All hands were so weary they were inclined to see things double.

SO WE STUMBLED down the stairs and there directly overhead were two flying saucers. I squinted and took a deep breath of fresh air and the twin saucers became one. This was the genuine article for sure. It was round and brilliantly lit and it flitted from cloud to cloud at amazing speed.

I was about to phone the overnight editor with news of the saucer circling the U.S. capital when it gave an extra bright flash and disappeared. A few minutes later another plane landed and that's when we saucer-viewers felt silly.

THIS SECOND ship, it turned out, had been circling the field, with its landing lights on, wait-

ing for the signal to come in. These lights had reflected on the clouds and it was this reflection that we stargazers had seen traveling almost at the speed of sound. So I tried the soup and sleep treatment and felt much better.

Some time later I found myself eavesdropping on a flying saucer expert make a speech. He looked impressive and he had a fine, deep voice, but it soon developed that he personally had made several trips to Mars.

This planet he described at some length. He told us about the extremely intelligent people who lived there and he even gave us a description of the interior of the saucer. Homelike, he said, in a modernistic way.

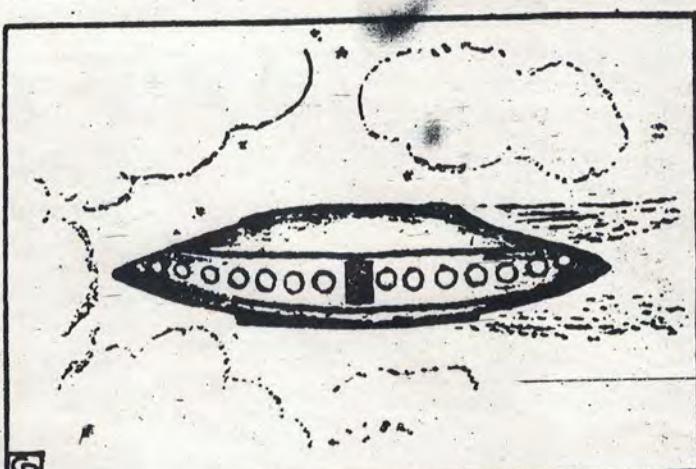
I SOON concluded that I was wasting an evening, listening to a nut.

Still later the papers carried brief items about this lecturer on cosmic travel being in jail for bamboozling a local widow out of \$8,000. He'd talked the poor female into investing her savings in the first interplanetary express line. He goes to trial this fall, and I doubt if the judge will be much impressed with news about how Martians get their food mostly from algae in their canals.

You get the idea. These flying saucers now lurking in the skies will grow thicker in the next couple of days and then they will go away. That's the way mass imagination works.

Beverly (Ma)Times

Nov. 2, 1957



FLYING SAUCER—In 1908, James Rock in his novel "Thro' Space," included this space ship, which looks like a flying saucer. It was capable of remaining suspended in air and moving in any direction. This was done by spilling a common type of salt upon a radium and helium mixture, producing a new substance he called helium. When treated electrically, the substance would travel away from the earth. (New York Public Library, Central Press)

Lincoln (Ne)
Journal Star

Nov 11, 1957

By the Associated Press

11-17-57

Ah, but these are exciting days for those who believe there are flying saucers!

In the past two weeks we've had a round, glowing thing in the sky above Illinois... a something that roared like thunder in Texas, shaking one truck and stalling another... a dazzling, fiery object that flashed treetop high across Georgia and Florida...

A grain buyer who said he stepped aboard a space ship near Kearney and chatted with its crew, in broken English and High German... a strange, red light over the nation's capital...

And above all this, glowing with scientific respectability, are those Russian Sputnik moons, evidence that in these times anything seems possible.

It has been 10 years since a Boise, Ida., business man, flying his private plane, saw mysterious objects playing around Mt. Rainier.

After Kenneth Arnold came down to earth on that now historic June 24, 1947, he made a report that was to reverberate around the world. He told investigators he had seen not one, but nine, of the things, and in his report he gave them a name that would stick: "... a chain of saucer-like things at least five miles long, swerving in and out of the high mountain peaks."

So the flying saucer was born, though scientists scoffed at it.

Fancy names have been used to explain the saucers, terms like *muscæ volitantes* or *scintillating scotoma*. Which, roughly translated mean spots before your eyes.

Only last week Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard Observatory, said saucers are caused by a layer of heated air that acts as a lens and forms an image as far as 40 or 50 miles away.

"They are nothing more than a mirage," Menzel said.

Both presidents in this flying saucer age, Truman and Eisenhower, have taken a dim view of it.

And the Air Force repeatedly has pooh-poohed the whole idea.

It even had a document made up, ready to go, for the next rash of flying saucers. So last week, at the height of the current epidemic, the Air Force was ready with a conclusion it had announced many times before:

"After 10 years of investigation and evaluation of UFO's"—Air Force talk for the 5,700 unidentified flying objects it has tried to check on—"no evidence has been discovered to confirm the existence of so-called 'flying saucers.'"

The Air Force said they could be many things—weather balloons, planes of unusual shape, fireworks or even a wild goose flying.

Air Force Table of Origin

The flyboys even worked out a table to show the true parentage of the flying saucer. In the first six months of this year 250 unidentified flying objects were spotted, and here's the percentage on what they turned out to be:

Balloons 26.4.

Aircraft 23.8.

Astromeical 24.4.

Other (birds, hoaxes) 6.4.

Insufficient information 12.1.

Unknown 1.9.



SAUCER CLOUDS — Unusual cloud formations, like this one photographed over Marseilles, France, often are mistaken for flying saucers, says the U.S. Air Force. (AP)

Still, there's always that unknown 1.9 per cent. It may be small, but it's plenty to make strange converts to flying saucery.

It attracts those like the man who dropped by the Associated Press office in Washington with the glad news he just returned from Mars. He had been plucked from his Ozark Mountain home, he said, and whisked there by space ship.

Did he have proof? Why, of course he had proof. And he pulled out a hank of hair he said came from a Martian dog.

A reporter with no experience in interplanetary touring has trouble asking questions after a beginning like that.

Then there are those who obviously are sincere and enthusiastic, but who after a brief discussion show they were born to believe the unusual. In another age, they would have been 100 per cent for elves, or witches, or evil spirits, long before, or after, such beliefs went out of style.

Yet it would be a mistake to decide, as many do, that everyone who believes in flying saucers is a boob or a crackpot.

Airplane pilots, for instance, have seen objects they think are real.

At least one private organization has been working hard to convince everyone that there is, indeed, a great deal to this. It's the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

It lists retired admirals, airline pilots, college professors and a former UFO Air Force investigator either on its board of governors or on its panel of special advisers.

Doubter Who Was Converted

NICAP's director is Donald E. Keyhoe, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, a one-time Marine pilot who retired as a major, and more recently the author of books and articles in which he says flying saucers are real.

A small balding, friendly man, Keyhoe looks younger than his 60 years. He says he went in the FS business a doubter and came out a believer. "I talked with too many pilots who had seen them," he said.

At first Keyhoe had the idea that the saucers were secret weapons. But those to whom he talked convinced him that the unidentified objects turned too sharply, and went straight up too quickly, for any known laws of aerodynamics.

His present conclusion: "I think they're interplanetary."

Yet even Keyhoe admits one puzzling aspect. How come those aboard, who have come from so far in outer space, haven't bothered to drop in and say howdy?

Many persons, of course, claim they have talked with spacemen. But Keyhoe has been unable to find an interplanetary conversationalist who is willing to answer all questions before a lie detector. Curiously, those who have complete faith in flying saucers often have no faith at all in lie detectors.

Like many another saucerer, Keyhoe thinks the Air Force is holding out a lot of material that would help NICAP's case.

But whatever this material may be, it obviously hasn't convinced top Air Force officials. They say their studies show:

1. There's no evidence that there are interplanetary space ships.
2. There's nothing to show that any of these unknown objects operated on principles outside the range of present scientific knowledge.
3. "No physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, of a so-called 'flying saucer' was ever found."

But if you see a flying saucer, both the Air Force and NICAP, at 1536 Connecticut Avenue Northwest, Washington, D.C., will be happy to hear about it.

And if you don't see a flying saucer, you can bet your last space helmet that in nervous times like these somebody else will.



Keyhoe . . . saucer believer. (AP).

11-17-57

Mystery Object Seen In Texas

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP)—A missile engineer reported seeing a "brilliant colored egg-shaped object" which stalled autos in New Mexico yesterday at about the same time the Air Force started an investigation into similar reports.

Witnesses say a mystery object skipped about the countryside here and near scientific military bases in New Mexico over the weekend. The reported sightings startled citizens, peace officers and servicemen but apparently left no concrete trace.

James Stokes, 45, an engineer from the Air Force Missile Development Center at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N. M., told news director Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo, 10 autos were stopped on an isolated desert highway, U.S. 54, between White Sands Proving Grounds and Alamogordo yesterday.

His description was similar to ones reporting a big ball of fire flitting about much of this west Texas area over the weekend. A huge, oval object "nearly as bright as the sun" was reported seen at White Sands Proving Ground Sunday, hovering near bunkers used in the first A-bomb explosion.

Witnesses said other strange sights were seen over other parts of Texas, near Chicago and in Virginia.

Clark said the Air Force at Holloman gave him permission to use Stokes' story.

He said Stokes told him occupants of cars saw a strange, unidentified object flying toward them from the northeast. He said his auto radio faded and died when his engine stopped. He said several other cars were also stalled.

Looking up, he told Clark, "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved away toward White Sands Proving Grounds to the southwest. As it passed . . . I could feel a kind of heat wave, like radiation from a giant sun lamp. But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail.

"When I got back to my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty. I called officials at the Air Force Development Center and notified them of

Ashol (Ma) News
Nov. 5, 1957

Ashol (Ma) News

Nov. 11, 1957

Stargazer Derides Space Projects

LONDON (AP)—Dr. Richard Van Der Reit Woolley, Britain's astronomer to the court, left today for a lecture tour in the Soviet Union convinced any future form of space travel would be "a frightful waste of public money."

The 51-year-old stargazer told reporters at London airport that as an astronomer he had nothing to do with space projects.

Of all Britons, Woolley seems to have taken the dimmest view of the Soviet Sputniks. Claiming they were "propaganda efforts" of limited scientific value, he expressed doubts about the possibilities of space travel.

Woolley would rather see funds for satellites go to build a giant telescope for his Greenwich Observatory, but he told newsmen he sees no prospect of his getting the money.

Asked if he still regarded space travel as "utter bilge," Woolley said with a thin smile, "It depends what you mean by bilge. I think it is a frightful waste of public money."

He also declined to predict whether the Russians would soon send a rocket to the moon, saying: "It is no use asking me. I am not an expert on rockets. It is not a matter for astronomy. I do not expect to have any direct connection with the satellite program while I am in Russia. I am an astronomer."

Woolley will lecture at the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow, the Pulkovo Observatory near Leningrad, and in the Crimea.

The supposition that Laika, the dog aboard Sputnik II, has died touched off an angry protest from Britain's League against Cruel Sports.

The executive committee of the organization, which usually campaigns against such things as fox hunting and bullfighting, issued a statement saying the "wretched dog incarcerated in the Russian satellite had been flown into outer space to die under circumstances more hideous than anything the barbarity of the medieval torturer could devise."

Nov. 6, 1957

FITCHBURG (MASS.) SENTINEL

Lions To Hear About Saucers

Members of the Fitchburg Lions Club will hear a firsthand report on the latest "flying saucer" developments at its regular meeting Monday, Nov. 11 at the King's Corner Restaurant.

Rev. Albert H. Baller of Greenfield, noted authority on the phenomena of flying saucers, will be the guest speaker at the meeting.

A native of Trenton, Neb., Rev. Mr. Haller is a member of several organizations which have studied the phenomena of the flying objects since they were first reported seen throughout the world more than a decade ago.

His lecture is complemented with photographs and slides of the flying objects in addition to tape-recorded eye-witness reports of the saucers. In addition to his research into the reports of others who have seen the "saucers," Rev. Mr. Haller has himself witnessed the mystery objects on two occasions.

He is a member of the board of governors of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena with headquarters in Washington, D. C., the London Flying Saucer Research Society, the Australian Flying Saucer Research Society, the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization at Alamogordo, N. M., and the Civilian Research Interplanetary Flying Objects.

Anyone wishing to attend the meeting at 6:45 p.m. are asked to make reservations before Monday by contacting Arthur J. Lanides or Norman H. Crawford, co-chairman of the program committee.

Astronomer Denies Flying Saucers Exist but Fails to Convince Some Other Scientists

CAMBRIDGE, (INS) — "Hot air bubbles" was the answer today of Dr. Donald H. Menzel of Harvard Observatory to reports space saucers have been sighted in various sections of the country and by the Coast Guard Cutter Seabago in the Gulf of Mexico.

Dr. Menzel 10 years ago denied the existence of flying saucers in a book and he still contends they are reflections of light — mirages.

Reports from Texas of automobile lights dimming, radios dying out and engines stalling, he said, were merely coincidences.

He admitted that observers see something, but that what they see are mirages. He added:

"I have seen them — all kinds. I can see them any time I want to go out and look for them. I saw the daddy of them all — one with flashing red and green lights and a little propeller on top."

Could Be

He said he saw that one while returning from the North Pole in an Army bomber and was able to identify it as an image of the

star Sirius, millions of miles away.

Dr. Menzel related:

"The illusion in Texas is a nice example of a flying saucer caused by a layer of heated air close to the ground which acts as a lens. This lens can form the image of an object 50 to 100 miles away very vividly. Such conditions are very prevalent throughout the West."

Such an air bubble, he said, can cause a visible and radar impression at the same time.

Others Unconvinced

Two engineers, however, said flying objects cannot be discounted. Fred Waring, of Billerica, engineering standards coordinator at a Lawrence plant, declared:

"These objects are defying all laws of gravity and physics. They have no visible means of propulsion and their speed appears to be terrific."

"It's funny, too, why they should be sighted close to our atomic projects. Could they not be taking radiation counts?"

"Has the arrival of satellites in

**GIVE
THE UNITED WAY**

space caused them to make an investigation? Then there are these strange radio signals coming in which don't appear to be from Sputnik."

He expressed doubt they were Russian or American, adding, "If they were American we've been wasting a lot of time and money building missiles."

Joseph Ryan, Lawrence, an engineering supervisor, said there is too little information to go on, but added:

"I believe in flying saucers as such and that there is some intelligence higher than ours."

Fall River (Ma)
Herald - News
Nov. 7, 1957

New Signal Is Puzzle

NEW YORK, (INS) — A new signal — possibly from an earth satellite whose existence has not yet been reported — was heard for an hour and 15 minutes today by the RCA receiving station at Riverhead, Long Island.

RCA Communications, Inc., said the sound was picked up on the wave length set aside by scientists for transmitting signals from man made moons, including the U.S. Vanguard.

But the RCA engineers said they were unable to determine immediately whether the signal — described as a continuous tone with a modulation of 200 cycles — came from outer space or from a land transmitter.

It was first picked up at 9:35 A.M. on a frequency of 108 megacycles, which RCA has been monitoring continuously for the past 48 hours and off-and-on for the past two weeks.

State Police Report UFO

URBANA, Ill., (INS) — Two "experienced, trusted and very reliable" Illinois State Troopers reported seeing and following for 15 miles a "brilliant flying object" near Danville last night.

The officers, Calvin Showers of Danville and John Matulis of Westville described the object as brilliant white when they first spotted it and said it changed to an amber color and then to a bright orange during the chase.

They related that it was "travelling at a terrific rate of speed."

The troopers were unable to say how high the object was in the sky or how large it was.

They said they were unable to notify headquarters during the chase because their radio went mysteriously dead.

The radio was in good working order before and after they sighted the object.

Aurora Borealis, Venus Put On Brilliant Show

With a full moon, aurora borealis and Venus — last night was a "Light Up The Sky" production.

Sputnik-conscious sky-watchers and other observers didn't see the Russian satellite last night, but they saw something far more wonderful and welcome in the celestial display put on by Mother Nature.

Skies Brilliant

Brighter than usual — and gleaming like a diamond — Venus appeared against a sunset sky-drop in the Southwest, her brilliance remaining until about 8:30.

The aurora borealis took on from there — its flashing red fire being termed unusual in view of the presence of November's full "Hunters' Moon."

George H. Perry, manager of the Fall River Airport, said today that while no large numbers of sky-watchers turned up at the airport to observe the spectacle, members of a ground instruction class there took time out from their studies to watch the display.

Seen from the Airport, he said, the aurora borealis covered the sky from the North directly overhead, like the "reflection of a

fire," and had streamers extending toward the Southern horizon.

Fall River (Ma)
Herald - News
Nov. 7, 1957

Holyoke (Ma) Transcript
Telegraph
Nov 7, 1957

Red, Glowing Mass Reported Over Agawam

Richard Lavigne, news director of radio station WREB, reported sighting an egg-shaped, glowing mass of red-tinted vapor move by his home in the Feeding Hills section of Agawam at approximately 8:30 Wednesday night.

Lavigne, who said the phenomenon was visible for a total of four or five minutes, said the thing, appeared in the east, at about the altitude of a light plane, looked like a "large puff of smoke from a factory chimney" and that it "glowed in the center," with the center portion "larger than any star."

The newsman said that after the object hovered over his home for a minute or so, it continued traveling west and melted into the night sky. He added that his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Oliver Lavigne, also saw the eerie mass.

A brilliant display of the Aurora Borealis was visible in the New England area Wednesday night, and Lavigne said that, unless some other explanation is offered, he feels that what he saw must have been the Northern Lights.

A Westover spokesman said today that only one B-52 was in area skies at the time Lavigne made his sighting. Lavigne also reported seeing the plane, but at a much higher altitude than the vapor mass.

As is customary in such cases, Westover referred the matter to Headquarters, Eighth Air Force as a case of the sighting of an unidentified flying object. The matter will be referred to the proper Air Force channels.

The Westover official added that one other report, closely resembling Lavigne's description, had come from a Springfield woman about an hour before the WREB representative called the base with his strange story.

Boston papers reported this morning that the Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory in Cambridge was flooded with calls from anxious sky-watchers who saw the Northern Lights in action between 8 and 9 Wednesday night.

Astronomer Quotes Cabbie: "We've Got To Wake Up"

By CHINA ALTMAN
United Press Staff Correspondent

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (UP)—A leading astronomer said today "taxi drivers are quicker to perceive the satellite situation than many of the nation's policy makers."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, said the cabbies "are quicker to grasp that this is war-war without bloodshed—but still more or less a war."

"We're engaged," Hynek said, "in a war of accomplishment and we can hope that the energies of the two countries (Russia and the

U.S.) will be put to work for creation rather than for needless, senseless destruction."

Hynek credited taxi drivers with having an intuitive grasp of what is important and he gave particular approval to one driver who said, "We were just asleep and we've got to catch up—nothing is more important than catching up."

In professional life, Hynek is an associate director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory but he emphasized today that he was speaking as a private citizen.

He compared the Russia-American satellite race to a football game. "It doesn't matter if the other team is ahead a few touchdowns at the end of the first quarter," he said. "The game's not over."

"But one thing is certain, the losing team has got to try some new plays."

Hynek, who formerly had suggested a new cabinet post—the secretary of science—suggested that the National Science Foundation should be strengthened and that the NSF directorship might well carry cabinet status. "The people who shape the nation's policy should have immediate access to scientific thinking available and it should be channelled into them at a high level," he said, "without being stopped or sidetracked in committees and subcommittees."

He also suggested that the government, in working on top scientific programs, "should tap the

best brains for the job—wherever they happen to exist—either in the army, navy, air force or private industry."

If America is to keep up or take the lead in scientific advances, Hynek said, the country must foster scientific curiosity and enthusiasm—beginning even on the kindergarten level.

"Goldilocks and science should be taught side by side to very young children," he said. "I'm positive that many basic principles could be charmingly told to youngsters when their minds are flexible and they could become friends with science."

A visiting professor at Harvard and former assistant dean of the Ohio State University graduate school, Hynek is on leave from Ohio where he teaches a course in the nature and development of science.

Haverhill (Ma)
Gazette

Nov. 8, 1957

Teller Of Space Ship Story Confined To Mental Hospital

KEARNEY, Neb. (UP)—A grain buyer who threw Kearney into an uproar when he claimed to have talked with spacemen was confined today to Hastings State Hospital for mental treatment.

Reinhold O. Schmidt, 48, of Bakerville, Calif., was committed Thursday night after a hearing by the Buffalo County Board of Mental Health.

The action was taken on recommendation of two examining psychiatrists who advised that persons and "crackpots."

Schmidt was "in immediate need of psychiatric treatment."

Schmidt, an ex-convict who once served a term for embezzlement, was ordered confined to the hospital for "an indefinite period for observation, diagnosis and treatment."

Authorities said they had received information from his family that Schmidt was suffering from seeming "instabilities," and demands on him from unidentified persons and "crackpots."

Schmidt stirred considerable excitement and touched off a major investigation Tuesday when he raced into Kearney to tell of seeing a space ship parked on a creek bottom southwest of the city.

He said the occupants of the ship, four men and two women, were friendly enough and invited him to have a look around inside the cigar-shaped craft. The space men and women spoke German and English, he said.

Portland (Me)
Press Herald
Nov 5, 1957

Holyoke (Ma) Transcript
Telegan
Nov. 7, 1957

Huge Mysterious Objects Spotted In Several Areas

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (AP)—Reports of a huge, strangely lighted mystery object spotted over western Texas were being investigated by the Air Force tonight. A bright, oval object was also reported over southern New Mexico.

Several witnesses, including a sheriff and one of his deputies, reported seeing the object over Texas. Although reports of strange flying objects have been popping up for years, the reported weekend sightings impressed the Air Force sufficiently to call for at least a preliminary investigation.

Sightings of the object over the White Sands Proving Ground in Mexico were made 17 hours apart by two different military police patrols. The sightings were near bunkers used in the first atomic bomb explosion.

NO ACTIVITY

Officials of the proving ground said the phenomena had nothing to do with any activity at the base. A Pentagon spokesman said no official report was received on the reported New Mexico sightings and no investigation was being made on those.

Witnesses who reported seeing the object over Texas said their car engines stopped and their lights went out when they drove near it. The military police who reported the object over the proving grounds said they had no trouble with their jeeps.

Air Force and civilian scientists have refrained so far from speculating on what may have caused the autos to act up. Nor would they guess whether there was any connection between the phenomena

reported from widely separated localities and recent large-scale power failures like the one which hit the Grand Central area in New York City last week.

OTHER LOCATIONS

Meanwhile, there were reports of strange things happening in the skies over Chicago and over the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Three policemen and a fireman in Chicago's suburban Elmwood Park said they saw a peculiar round glowing thing in the early morning sky today. They said their car lights appeared to dim as they kept the prowler's spotlight focused on the thing.

At Martinsville, Va., Mrs. Ruby Hairston said she and her family saw a strange red glare last night while driving to Bassett, Va., from Philpott Lake on the Carolina border.

"It faded from bright red to a pale amber pink, then brightened again," she said.

SAW 'THING'

Mrs. Robert Moudy of Covington, Ind., told newsmen her husband had seen "a thing" in the sky Oct. 15. She said her husband only told her about it and they did not mention it to anyone else because they feared ridicule.

Mrs. Moudy said her husband related the engine of his combine went dead when the object — flat, oval shaped, about 200 feet long with what appeared to be a large ball of fire in the center — zoomed over a farm near Foster, Ind. Her husband said the object made a screaming noise "like an auto tire squealing on a fast take-off," she said.

Last Night's Saucer's Viewers Could Have Seen Northern Lights

By UNITED PRESS

A virtual shower of flying object reports swamped authorities across the nation today, and official skepticism over the "whatniks" mounted in proportion.

A Naval astronomer said a rash of "whatnik" sightings along the Eastern Seaboard Wednesday night was the aurora borealis, or northern lights. The lights, described as "reddish objects" were seen as far south as Georgia. Astronomer Sylvan Bestul in Washington said it was "unusual" to have such a brilliant display that far south.

The current flurry of unidentified flying object sightings began during the weekend and has been picking up steam since.

Sky gazers described the objects as appearing in many colors and in shapes ranging from a "meat platter" to "the open end of a bucket." Some of the objects zoom about, other hover overhead and kill automobile engines and lights.

Two persons, one an ex-convict in Nebraska and the other a Tennessee schoolboy, insist they have seen space ships manned by German-speaking men and women land. The boy said one of the spacemen tried to kidnap his dog.

Scientists, however, were cool to most of the reports. They said many of them stemmed from sightings of bright stars and planets, cloud and weather mirages, the Aurora Borealis, tricks of vision and, perhaps, a touch of hysteria brought on by Russia's Sputniks.

Air Force officials investigated some of the stranger sightings.

But a spokesman at Wright Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, observed that of the thousands of flying saucer reports checked out in the past 12 years, only about three percent of them still are in the "unknown file."

The spokesman, a top official of the Air Technical Intelligence Center, also threw cold water on the reports by stating that no one bit of physical evidence of flying saucers has ever been found by the Air Force in checking out 5,700 sightings in the past 10 years.

He said preliminary studies of some of the current mystery sightings indicate the lights may have stemmed from "cloud ceiling light."