

FOTOCAT Report # 1

THE YEAR 1954 IN PHOTOS (Expanded)

By
Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos
Apartado de Correos 12140, 46080 Valencia, Spain
fotocat@anomalia.org

INTRODUCTION

When the *Project 1954* e-List was started in the early 2000s, by the initiative of two noted Italian researchers, Roberto Labanti and Edoardo Russo from the CISU organization, I decided to use it as a means to report the photographic cases contained in FOTOCAT for year 1954, in order to stimulate discussion on this genre of cases and to collect additional information. FOTOCAT is a worldwide catalogue of UFO photographic records, a project developed within the Spanish Anomaly Foundation under my management: <http://fotocat.blogspot.com/>

During the next few months, all the cases I had on file were displayed in abstracted form to the List members, thus generating some interesting discussions, whereby local researchers from both Europe and America provided additional input. This process not only increased the number of reports, but over and above that it refined the catalogue content, several duplications were identified, references became richer, and proper explanations were entered for previously unexplained events. Preliminary versions of the present final publication also elicited responses and further documentations from new sources. As a net result, the coverage of cases for the year 1954 certainly improved, reaching the number of 101 sightings. In August 2004 an essay was published presenting and analyzing the collection of cases, but the photographs were not included then.

In the past four years (until this writing, April 2008), supplementary information has been added so that the number of known reports for the period rose to 115, an almost 14% increase with respect to the original catalogue.

The present publication is an expanded version of the original paper.

The intention of the present article is to share what we have accomplished to date. We will report a brief summary of all photographic events for the wave year of 1954 included in the FOTOCAT archives. Pictures are released, when known (in spite of a very bad printing quality of a number of them). This disclosure may assist other colleagues, I feel, to better analyze the scope, evolution and motifs of the alleged UFO observations during this peak year. *Another purpose of this report is to request both corrections and additions to the current list of cases.* The author is fully available for data exchange and discussion on any aspect of the cases below. Specially needed are images for a number of the cases where none is known.

For comparison purposes, this catalogue also contains the events with an explanation; the so-called IFOs (identified flying objects). This report also includes an appendix of *rarities* of the epoch, of interest to the historian. Finally, the paper closes with a general review, a look at the data of the period under study. Some basic statistics and graphs will better describe visually the magnitude of the UFO phenomenon during 1954, as far as photos and films are concerned.

The data structure for every case is very simple. It just includes the date, the time (local), the location and country, the photographer's name, the image's format, any available explanation, all known references and information sources, and finally any existing remarks. The intent is not to present summaries of tales but a list of events for any researcher to check, follow-up or re-investigate. I know this may be thought of as being too elemental, but *basically it is planned to be a source of sources*.

Cases coming from a period as old as this (54 years ago!) do pose a problem to the compiler. The existing information is poor in many instances and the role that local investigators can play in the documentation process is vital. We therefore request the assistance of ufologists from the regions where the cases occurred in order to improve the quantity and quality of the information. Even "counter-inquiries" (a term coined by Aimé Michel meaning to revisit the event to find fresh details) are desirable, as well as any contemporary analysis of the pictures or films with state-of-the-art technology. The challenge is there to be taken.

The development of a catalogue is a part of the scientific method. Naturalists and other scientists have been doing so for centuries, after collecting samples of new creatures, specimens processes, objects or phenomena. As far as ufology is concerned, catalogues can be *passive* (a mere sequence of reports without expressing any judgment) or *active* (in which the compiler indicates the possible nature of the phenomenon). Active catalogues involve the commitment of the author himself (and can therefore receive potential criticism) and have a higher complexity. To create a positioned catalogue may be an easy way to lose friends, in a field plagued with belief and radicalism, because when you support an evaluation by which a given event can be explained in conventional terms, you risk finding a hard opposition from those who think otherwise. I sincerely hope this does not happen with colleagues who disagree on the IFO evaluations. At the end of the day, we are only talking about UFO cases. In the present catalogue, when a report is considered explained it is because the compiler has weighted the pros and cons of the various proposals being aired, and both intellectually and honestly I support the plausibility of the potential explanation for the occurrence. Yet, as an ever-evolving body, a year catalogue (and FOTOCAT in general) is always ready to change a given position on one case, provided new data and evidence make this necessary. As a compiler, I have no sentiments on the entries.

A COLLECTION OF REPORTS

(1)

Date: 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Unknown

Location: South Africa

Photographer: Ken Rathyen

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs from Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986).

Remarks: Poor information

(2)

Date: 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Unknown

Location: Idaho (USA)

Photographer: Noall Bryce Cornwell *aka* Guy Kirkwood *aka* Mel Noel

Format: Movie, aircraft gun camera

Explanation: Non-event

References: Timothy Good, **Above Top Secret** (Sidgwick & Jackson, London, 1987), pages 266-269. "Whistleblowers. The Mel Noel Story," by Don Ecker. Jan Aldrich. Stan Friedman, UFO Updates List, October 27, 2004.

Remarks: The case of a pathological liar

(3)

Date: 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Daytime

Location: Salt Lake City, Utah (USA)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture, aircraft gun camera

Explanation: More than probably a fake

References: <http://hesemann.watchers.ca/ufo-photos/november2000.htm>

Remarks: Source is Guy Kirkwood *aka* Mel Noel (see case above).



(4)

Date: 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Unknown

Location: Fort Knox, Kentucky (USA)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: Gallery of UFO photos by Stéphane Bernard

<http://moumra.onzenet.com/moumraV12/soucoup/ddnbdate/19540101ddnbus902.jpg>

Remarks: Poor information



(5)

Date: 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Unknown

Location: Wilcannia, New South Wales (Australia)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), quoting *Australian Flying Saucer News* (undated).

Remarks: Poor information

(6)

Date: Summer 1954 (December to February down under, logged as January 1954, approximate date)

Time: 05:30

Location: Oyster Cave, Tasmania (Australia)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: Keith Basterfield's catalogue of photographic cases in Australia, <http://www.project1954.com/kbcat/kbphoto0405.htm>, quoting *Australasian UFOlogist*, Volume 7, Number 5, page 5. Poor information.

Remarks: Nil

(7)

Date: 4 January 1954

Time: Night

Location: Quantico Marine Base, Virginia (USA)

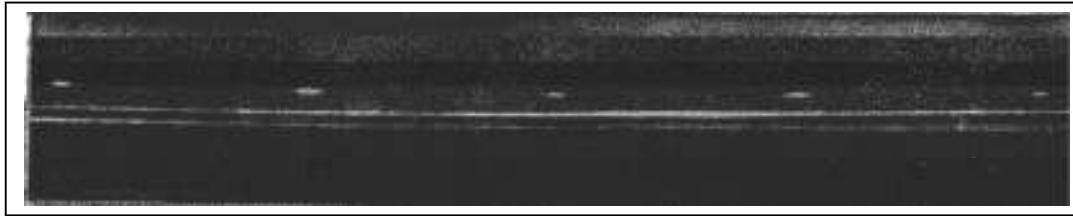
Photographer: *The Evening Star* staff photographer

Format: Picture

Explanation: Aircraft beacon light

References: *The Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.), January 5, 1954. *The Washington Daily News*, January 4 and 5, 1954. *The Washington Post*, January 4, 1954. Donald Keyhoe, **The Flying Saucer Conspiracy** (Henry Holt, New York, 1955), pages 89-91.

Remarks: Nil



(8)

Date: 15 January 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Mount Gillen, 80-100 Km East of Alice Springs, Northern Territory (Australia)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: *The APRO Bulletin*, May 15, 1954, page 12, quoting the *Centralian Advocate* (Alice Springs), February 5, 1954. Michael Hervey, **UFOs Over the Southern Hemisphere** (Horwitz, 1969), page 97, (Robert Hale, London, 1975), page 123. Loren Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: January-May** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 4. Keith Basterfield's catalogue, <http://www.project1947.com/kbcat/kbphoto0405.htm> There is a different version in Harold Wilkins, **Flying Saucers on the Attack** (Citadel, New York, 1954), page 312.

Remarks: Nil

(9)

Date: 17 January 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: Snoqualmie Falls, Washington (USA)

Photographer: Joseph Scayles (or Scaylea)

Format: Picture

Explanation: A cloud?

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing both "Verbal report" and "IRC Printout, Source 5N 66DS".

Remarks: Poor information

(10)

Date: 1 February 1954

Time: 14:00

Location: Tuscaloosa, Alabama (USA)

Photographer: Only known as Mr. Baumgartner

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 29, Number 4, 1984, pages 5-6. Dr. Richard F. Haines. Loren Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: January-May** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 24. Blue Book files.

Remarks: Nil

(11)

Date: 15 February 1954

Time: 11:00

Location: Coniston, Lancashire (UK)

Photographer: Stephen Darbishire

Format: Picture

Explanation: Fake (admitted)

References: *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 5, Number 3, 1959, page 3. Leonard G. Cramp, **Space, Gravity, and the Flying Saucer** (British Book Centre, New York, 1955), pages 13-18 (Desmond Leslie's introduction). Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 50 and 71. Richard Hall, **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), page 89. Max B. Miller (editor), **Flying Saucers Pictorial** (Arizill Realty and Publishing Company, Tucson, Arizona, 1967), page 15. Charles Bowen (editor), **The Humanoids** (Neville Spearman, London, 1969), page 14, quoting three sources: *Daily Mail* (London), February 18, 1954, *Lancashire Daily Post*, February 19, 1954, and Waveney Girvan, **Flying Saucers and Common Sense** (Citadel Press, New York, 1956), plate and pages 99 and 129. Ronald Story, **The Encyclopedia of UFOs** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1980), pages 85-86 and plate. Timothy Good, **Above Top Secret** (Sidgwick & Jackson, 1987), page 37. Loren Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: January-May** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 36. David Clarke and Andy Roberts, *Magonia*, July 2001, pages 3-12.

<http://www.flyingsaucery.com/brigantia/brigmain.htm>

<http://www.nwemail.co.uk/news/viewarticle.aspx?id=143262>

Remarks: Nil



(12)

Date: 18 February 1954

Time: 15:45

Location: Lossiemouth, Morayshire (Scotland, UK)

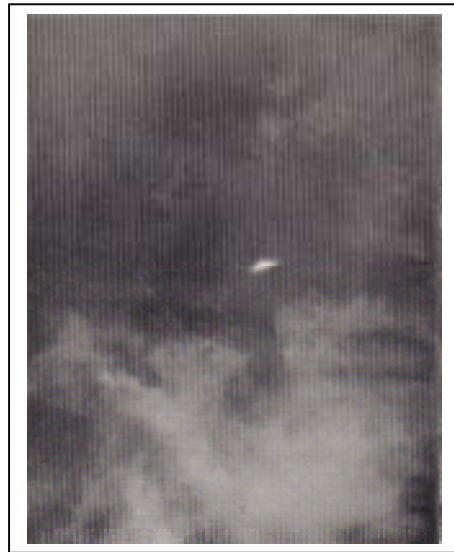
Photographer: Cedric Allingham (see Remarks)

Format: Picture

Explanation: Fake

References: Cedric Allingham, **Flying Saucers From Mars** (British Book Centre, New York, 1955). Waveney Girvan, **Flying Saucers and Common Sense** (Citadel Press, New York, 1956), pages 148-157. C.H. Gibbs-Smith, *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 2, Number 2, March-April 1956, page 7. *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 2, Number 5, September-October 1956, page 27. Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 50 and 71. James Holledge, **Flying Saucers Over Australia** (Horwitz, 1965), pages 112-117. Brinsley Le Poer Trench, **The Flying Saucer Story** (Ace Books, New York), pages 153-155. Charles Bowen (editor), **The Humanoids** (Neville Spearman, London, 1969), pages 14-15. Robert Chapman, **UFO. Flying Saucers over Britain?** (Mayflower, St. Albans, Herts, 1974), pages 127-137. Christopher Allan and Steuart Campbell, *Magonia*, July 1986. Peter Hough, *The Supernatural*, July 1987. Joe McGonagle. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: October** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 76-78 and 105. Klaus Webner, **Wesen aus dem Weltraum?** (Wiesbaden, Germany, 1993), pages 32-40. Luis Ruiz Noguez, http://www.perspectivas.com.mx/fotosets/marte_allingham.htm

Remarks: UFO, landing and humanoid photographs. The story actually fabricated by a Peter Davies under the pseudonym of Cedric Allingham, ghosted from a book manuscript written by astronomer Patrick Moore.



(13)

Date: 7 March 1954

Time: 17:30

Location: Mobile, Alabama

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing "IRC Printout, source H 40HC 09+"

Remarks: Poor information

(14)

Date: 14 March 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Puddingstone Reservoir, Pomona, California (USA)

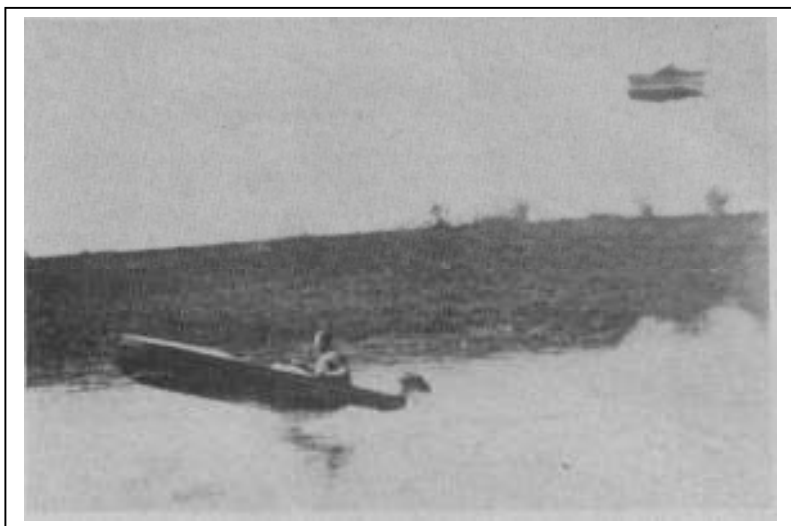
Format: Picture (object unseen by the photographer)

Photographer: John W. Wagner

Explanation: Rowboat on water beyond dam (as per Larry Robinson, who believes to have found the photography site, working on aerial views of the area, giving support to his conventional identification).

References: *The APRO Bulletin*, May 15, 1954, page 11, quoting the *Alhambra Post-Advocate*, March 20, 1954. *Herald-Express* (Los Angeles), June 5, 1954, in Loren Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 8. *Saucers*, Volume II, Number 3, September 1954, page 1. Max B. Miller, **Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction?** (Trend Books, Los Angeles, 1957), page 102. Max B. Miller (editor), **Flying Saucers Pictorial** (Arizill Realty and Publishing Company, Tucson, Arizona, 1967), page 13. Michael Hervey, **UFOs: The American Scene** (St Martin's Press, New York, 1976), plate. Larry Robinson.

Remarks: The catalogue by Bernard Delair *et al* (*The UFO Register* #6) includes the case from the *Saucers* source, but apparently due to a typo it is dated as 1953. On the other hand, author Michael Hervey mistakenly places it in "New Jersey, 1959". Poor information.



(15)

Date: 11 April 1954

Time: 14:00

Location: Tokai (South Africa)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Only known as Mr Villiers

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 2 Tucson, Arizona, 1985), page 230, quoting "IRC printout, source G 5N 54DK."

Remarks: Poor information

(16)

Date: Easter 1954 (Logged as 18 April, Easter Sunday, approximate day)

Time: Daytime

Location: 14 miles from Eucla, Western Australia (Australia)

Format: Pictures (5 cameras used, 92 exposures taken!)

Photographer: Max Clow, Alex Rose and Peter Johnson?

Explanation: Not available

References: Bill Chalker, <http://www.project1947.com/forum/bcoz2.htm>

The main source is the *Australian Saucer Record*, Volume 5, Number 3, 1959, page 13. The *Daily Telegraph* (Sydney) of August 2, 1955 provides the names of the witnesses of a weird story of an alleged UFO landing and photos taken to a humanoid-like figure in the same area and time period. Is it the same event? Stan Seers and William Lasich in *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 15, Number 3, May-June 1969, page 5, mention that "some 200 photographs, cine and stills" were taken. Keith Basterfield's catalogue,

<http://www.project1947.com/kbcat/kbphoto0405.htm>.

Remarks: In **UFO Photographs from Around the World** by Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, citing a "confidential report," a movie film case occurring in New Zealand in April 1954 is reported. Michael Hervey in **UFOs over the Southern Hemisphere** (Robert Hale, London, 1975), page 220, very briefly reports that "during April, 1954, the New Zealand Air Force received several movie films taken by civilians." No Australian/New Zealand source has ever documented this; therefore it can be believed to be a rumor related to the original Easter case above. Peter Hassall's **The NZ Files** (David Bateman, Albany, Auckland, New Zealand, 1998), page 78 refers to Hervey and only adds that "The authorities deny ever having had them."

(17)

Date: Spring 1954 (Logged as May)

Time: Unknown

Location: Kumla (Sweden)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Bengt Schöllin

Explanation: Lens flares by camera malfunctioning

References: Archives for UFO Research catalogue (Anders Liljegren and Clas Svahn)

Remarks: Defense Staff investigated

(18)

Date: 24 May 1954

Time: 12:25

Location: Richmond, Indiana (USA)

Format: Picture

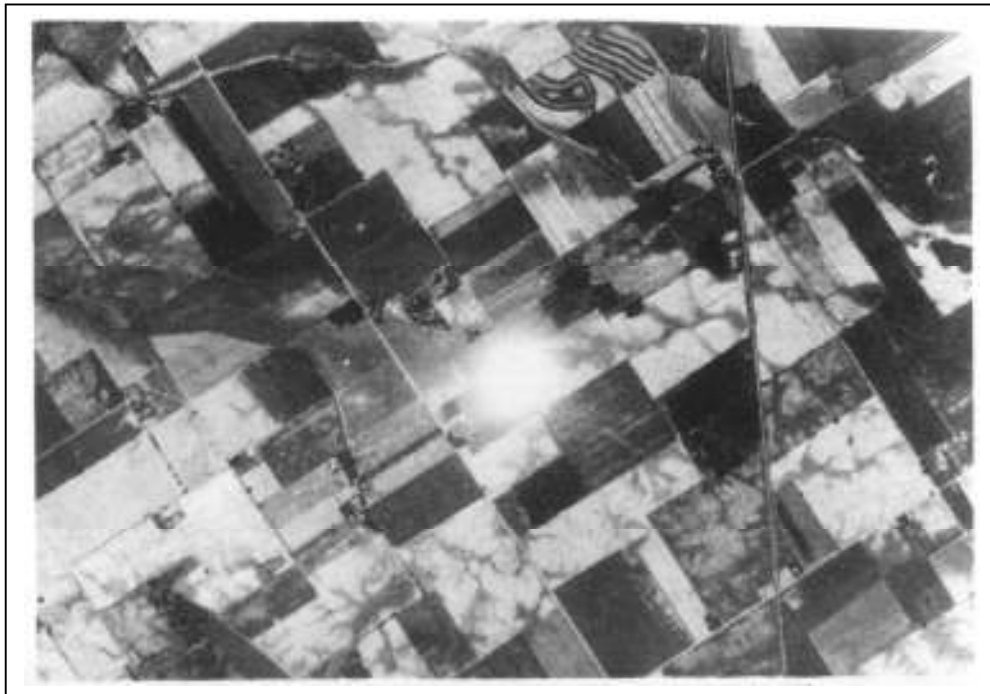
Photographer: Leo N. Brubaker

Explanation: A *sub-sun* (sun's reflection on ice-crystals) (as per USAF)

References: Edward J. Ruppelt, **The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1956), pages 239-240. *Herald Stateman* (Yonkers, New York), December 1, 1958. USAF, **Aids to Identification of Flying Objects** (U.S.Government Printing Office, 1968), page 15. Dr James

McDonald in **Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects** (U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1968), page 28. David Saunders and Roger R. Harkins, **UFOs? Yes! Where the Condon Committee Went Wrong** (World Publishing Company, New York), 1969, pages 69-71. Allan Hendry, **The UFO Handbook** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1979), page 67. Barry Greenwood. Larry Robinson. Ted Zachary (Todd Zechel), *UFO Report*, August 1977.

Remarks: Nil



(19)

Date: 26 May 1954

Time: 18:30

Location: Marseille, Bouches-du-Rhône (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Unknown (communicated by a Mr. Ates)

Explanation: Not available

References: *Le Provençal* (Marseille), June 8, 1954. Patrick Gross web site quoting the weekly *Semaine du Monde*, number 99, October 1-7, 1954.

<http://ufologie.net/1954/26mai1954marseille2.htm> and

<http://ufologie.net/1954/26mai1954marseille2f.htm>

Remarks: Poor information.



(20)

Date: 18 June 1954

Time: Day

Location: Waterbury, Connecticut (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: US Library of Congress photographic archives, reproduction number LC-USZ62-128396, digital ID <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3c28396>

Remarks: Poor information.



(21)

Date: 18 June 1954

Time: 11:42

Location: Olmstead Air Force Base, Pennsylvania (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), quoting "IRC printout, source 49HF 24+."

Remarks: The same source has another case at the same place, dated 29 October and yet in a different time (now 22:20 hours), also from an "IRC printout, source D 40HJ 46+." Are there two different events or only one? Poor information.

(22)

Date: 21 June 1954

Time: 15:10

Location: Buffalo, New York (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), quoting "IRC printout, source 3 5N."

Remarks: Poor information

(23)

Date: 26 June 1954

Time: 23:45

Location: Danville, Illinois (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), quoting "IRC printout, source 7 40HF 45+."

Remarks: Loren E. Gross in **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August, Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 7-8, includes a Danville (Vermont, not Illinois) sighting dated June 24, released in the *Independent Republican* (St. Johnsbury, VT), July 1, 1954, but no photos were mentioned. Poor information.

(24)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 12:20

Location: Keflavik (Iceland)

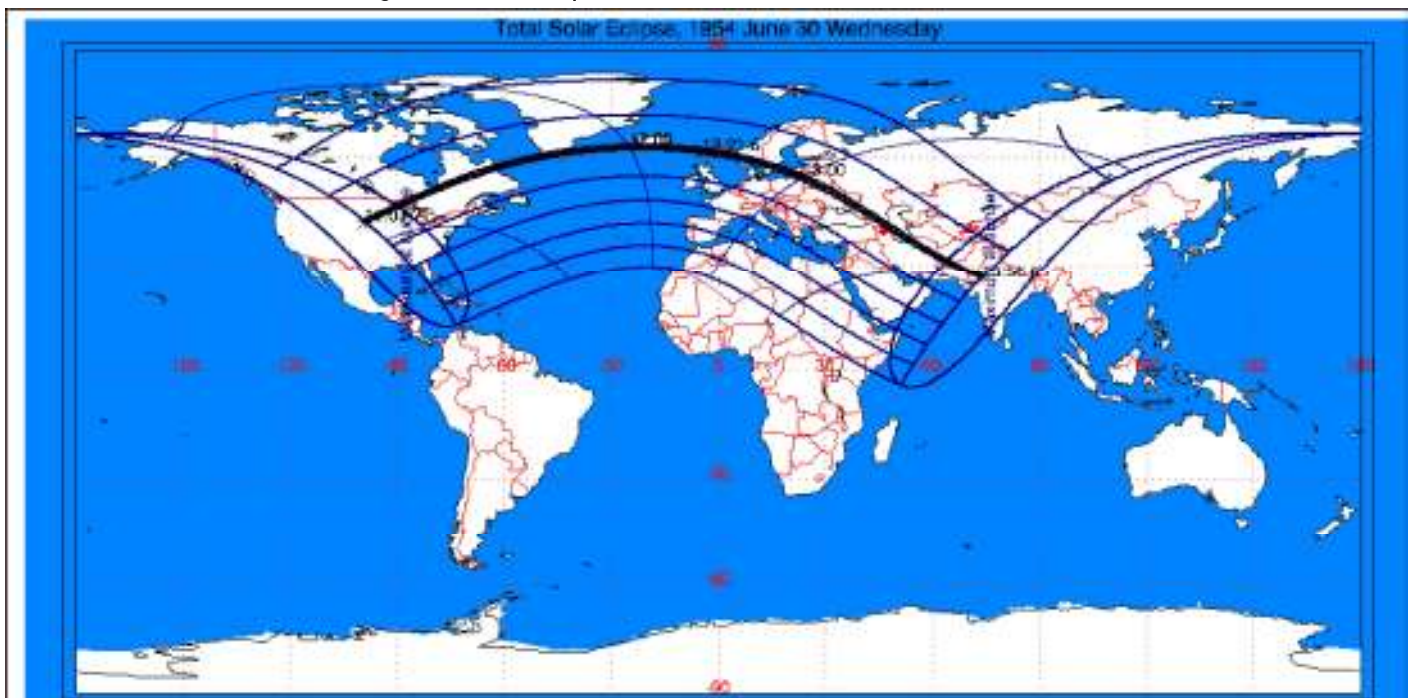
Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Dr Hallur Hallsson, Jr.

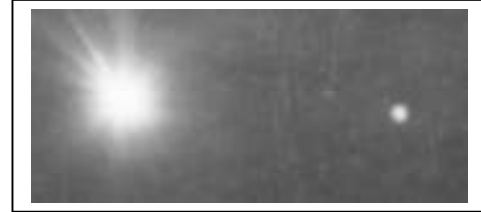
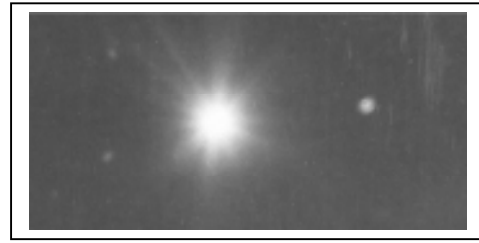
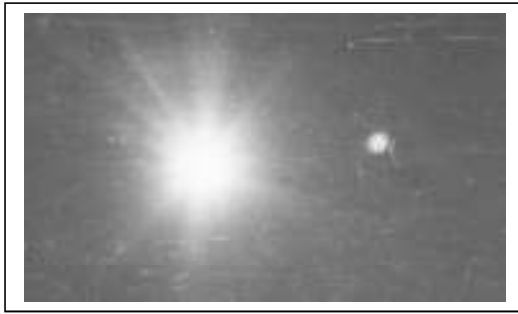
Explanation: Lens flare (as per Ole Henningsen, and Larry Robinson).

References: *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 4, Number 3, May-June 1958, page 7. Wendelle Stevens, *Official UFO*, April 1976, pages 29-30. Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 2 (Tucson, Arizona, 1985), pages 14 and 17-19. Ole Henningsen. Larry Robinson.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



The total eclipse of the Sun of June 30, 1954. The wide black line crosses the countries and the times where a total eclipse was sighted. The softer blue lines cover the area and the time where a partial eclipse could be observed. (Courtesy: Manuel Borraz Aymerich.)



(25)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: ~12:30

Location: Keflavik (Iceland)

Format: Picture (object unseen by the photographer)

Photographer: Karl Magnussen

Explanation: Lens flare

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 2 (Tucson, Arizona, 1985), pages 14-15. Wendelle Stevens. Ole Henningsen. Larry Robinson.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(26)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 13:30 (estimated, if during the eclipse period)

Location: Copenhagen (Denmark)

Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Holger Bidstrup Christiansen

Explanation: Not available (was it a lens flare?)

References: Swedish press, *Sydsvenska Dagbladet*, July 8, 1954. Anders Liljegren.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse

(27)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: ~13:30

Location: Heggedal, Asker (Norway)

Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Dorothy Huitfeldt

Explanation: Lens flare (press)

References: *Aftenposten* (Oslo), October 6, 1954. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Ole-Jonny Brænne, **Norway in UFO Photographs: The First Catalogue**, <http://www.box.net/shared/jz8mqdxuss>

Remarks: During the solar eclipse. Poor information.



(28)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: ~13:30

Location: Norway airspace

Format: Picture

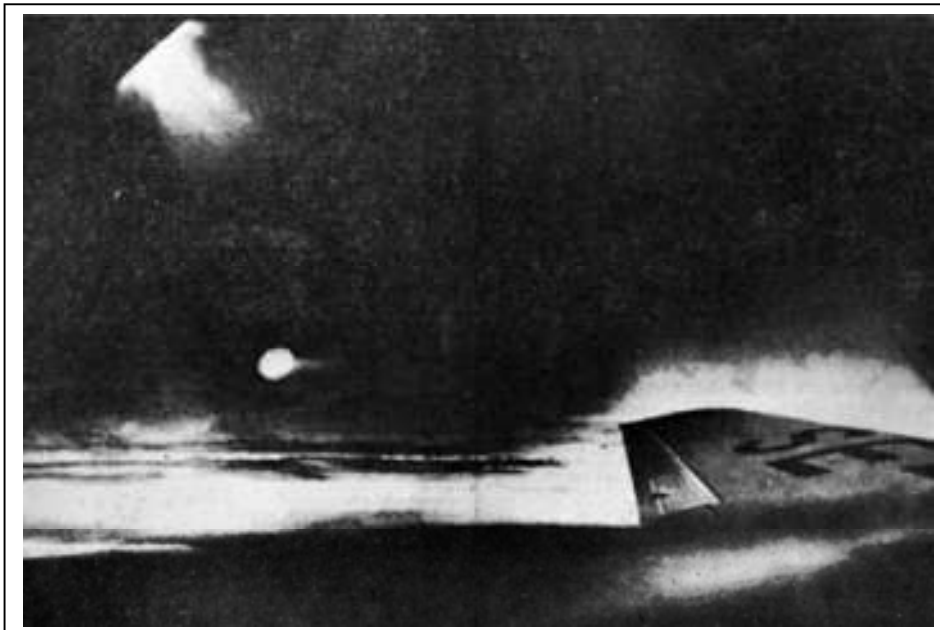
Photographer: Johnny Björnulf

Explanation: Lens flare (as per Clas Svahn)

References: <http://www.ufo.se/blogg/index.php?entry=entry061006-010324>

(Clas Svahn's blog), quoting the *Expressen* (Oslo), July 7, 1954. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Ole-Jonny Brænne, **Norway in UFO Photographs: The First Catalogue**, <http://www.box.net/shared/jz8mqdxuss>

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(29)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: ~13:30

Location: Stora Karlsö Island (Sweden)

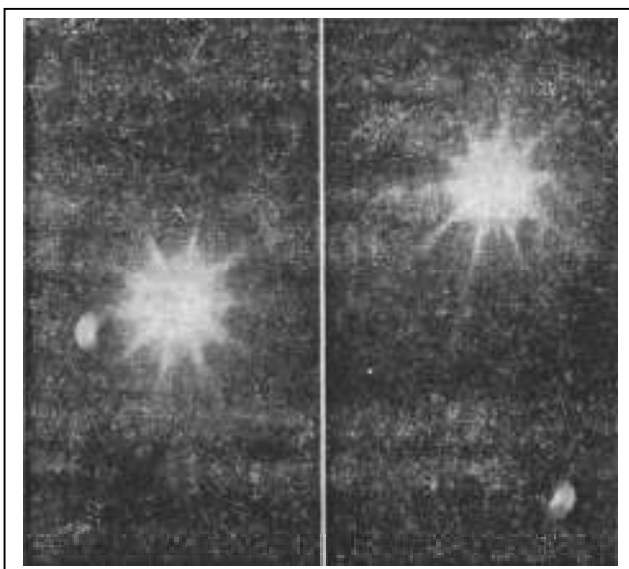
Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Lens flare (as per Torbjörn Koch, Stockholm High School of Technology)

References: *Svenska Dagbladet*, July 10, 1954. Archives for UFO Research, Anders Liljegren and Clas Svahn.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(30)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 13:35

Location: Gardermoen, Ullensaker (Norway)

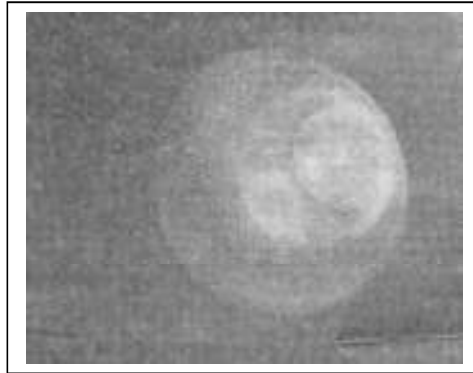
Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Hans Hauge (Norwegian Army Air Force)

Explanation: Lens flare (as per Ole Henningsen, and 1954 press)

References: *Fyns Tidende* (Denmark), April 19, 1959. Ole Henningsen. Norwegian magazine *Vi Flyr*, Number 2, 1961, pages 12-14. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Ole-Jonny Brønne, **Norway in UFO Photographs: The First Catalogue**, <http://www.box.net/shared/jz8mqdxuss>

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(31)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 13:47

Location: Skive (Denmark)

Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

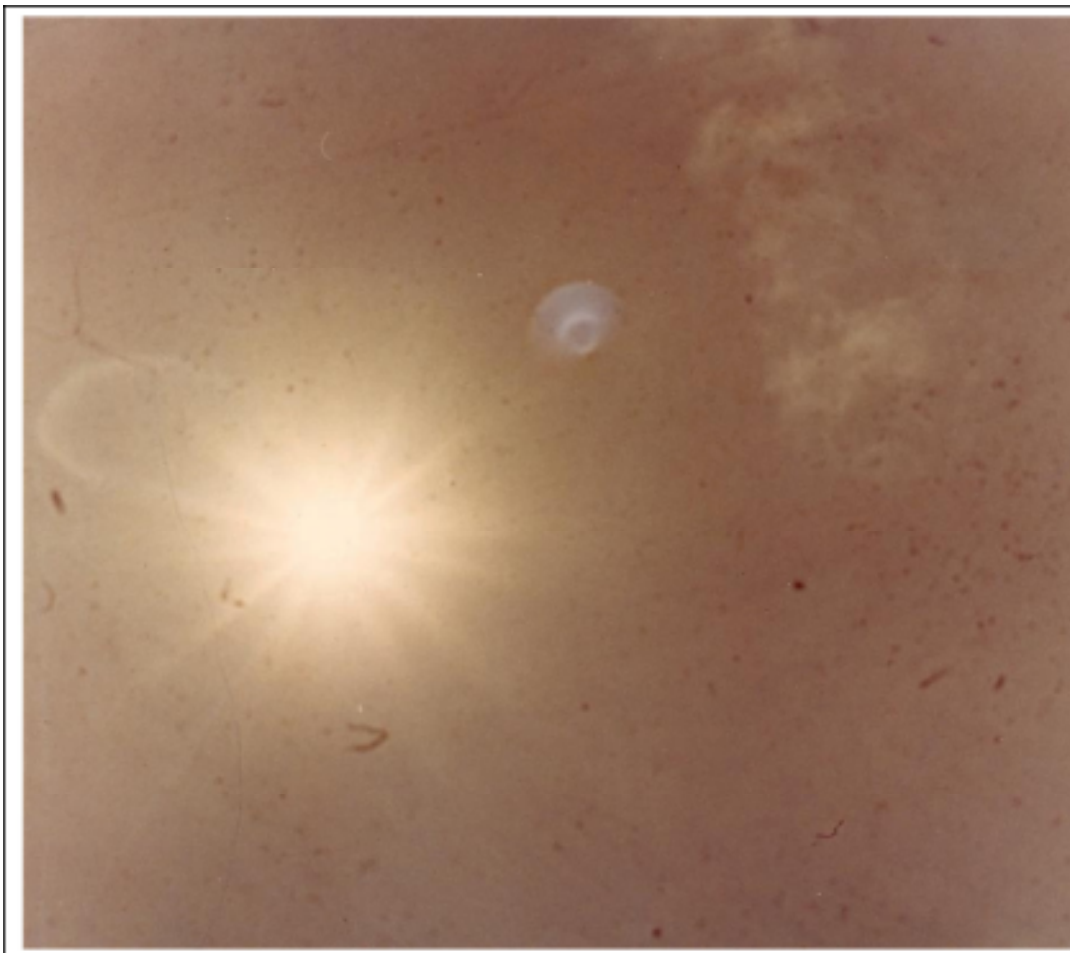
Photographer: K.G. Jensen

Explanation: Lens flare (as per Ole Henningsen and Larry Robinson)

References: *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 4, Number 3, May-June 1958, page 7 (not consulted). Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 2 (Tucson, Arizona, 1985), pages 12 and 20-21. Ole Henningsen found some errors in the book, like that the photo was taken in Iceland.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse





(32)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 14:17

Location: Lifjell (Norway)

Format: Movie (objects unseen by the cameraperson)

Photographer: Raun Conradi (an associate to Johnny Björnulf)

Explanation: Reflections in aircraft window (originally by Dr J.V. Garwick and Mr Rolf Brahde, then by Julian Hennessey, and by Clas Svahn).

References: *Expressen* (Oslo), July 7, 1954. *The Elkhart Truth*, July 8, 1954. *Dagens Nyheter*, August 26, 1954, in *UFO Forum*, April 1977, page 18. Ole Jonny Brænne. *The APRO Bulletin*, July 1954, page 5. *London Evening News*, December 21, 1955. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plate and pages 89 and 225. It quotes the Norwegian paper *Fremtiden Drammen* to say that the images appeared after film processing. *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 2, Number 1, January-February 1956, pages 6-7. *Saucers*, Autumn 1958, pages 5-6. *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 18, Number 1, January-February 1972, pages 22-23. *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 36, Number 2, summer 1991, pages 11-13. Richard Hall, **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), pages 5, 7 and 89 quoting the *RAF Flying Review*, July 1957. Robert Chapman, **UFO. Flying Saucers over Britain?** (Mayflower, St. Albans, Herts, 1974), plate and pp 54-57. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August** (Fremont, California, 1990), pages 44-45, quoting the Oslo newspaper *Aftenposten*, October 14, 1954; and page 68, quoting Blue Book files. Max B. Miller, **Flying Saucers: fact or**

Fiction? (Trend Books, Los Angeles, 1957), pages 84-85. Julian Hennessey. Dave Clarke. Gary Anthony. A definitive report is to be found in Clas Svahn's personal blog dated October 6, 2006:

<http://www.ufo.se/blogg/index.php?entry=entry061006-010324> USAF,

<http://www.bluebookarchive.org/page.aspx?PageCode=MISC-AFOSR4-109>

Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Ole-Jonny Brænne, **Norway in UFO**

Photographs: The First Catalogue, <http://www.box.net/shared/jz8mgdxuss>

Remarks: During the solar eclipse. The London *Daily Mail* of July 7, 1954, then summarized in *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 1, Number 3, May-June 1955, page 7, mentions this film as wrongly located in the Norway's Hardangervidde plateau on July 1, 1954. These references were, in turn, collected in the journal *Orbit* (CRIFO), Volume 1, Number 5, page 3, and in the book by Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Arco, London, 1956), page 89.



(33)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: 15:59

Location: Helsingfors, Helsinki (Finland)

Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Tauno Uusivirta

Explanation: Lens flare

References: *Helsingin Sanomat*, July 11, 1954. Swedish press *Sydsvenska Dagbladet*, July 13, 1954. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plate (mistakenly, it is dated September). Archives for UFO Research's catalogue by Anders Liljegren and Clas Svahn. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 68, quoting Blue Book files. Björn Borg. Björn Borg, **Outoja Kohteita Suomen Taivaalla** (Kirja Kerrallaan, Helsinki, 2007), pages 5-6.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse, some European newspapers like the *Sunday Dispatch* (London), July 11, 1954, published that a photograph had been taken during the eclipse. It created an error entry as "before July 11, 1954, Finland" in "A Provisional Catalogue of UFO Photographs," by J.B. Delair, E. Cox and R. Twine, *The UFO Register*, Volume 6, Part 2, November 1975.



(34)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: Mariehamn, Aland Islands (Finland)

Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Veli Tamminen

Explanation: Lens flare

References: *Helsingin Sanomat* ((Helsinki), July 12, 1954. Björn Borg, **Outoja Kohteita Suomen Taivaalla** (Kirja Kerrallaan, Helsinki, 2007), page 6.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(35)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: Leppävaara, Helsinki (Finland)

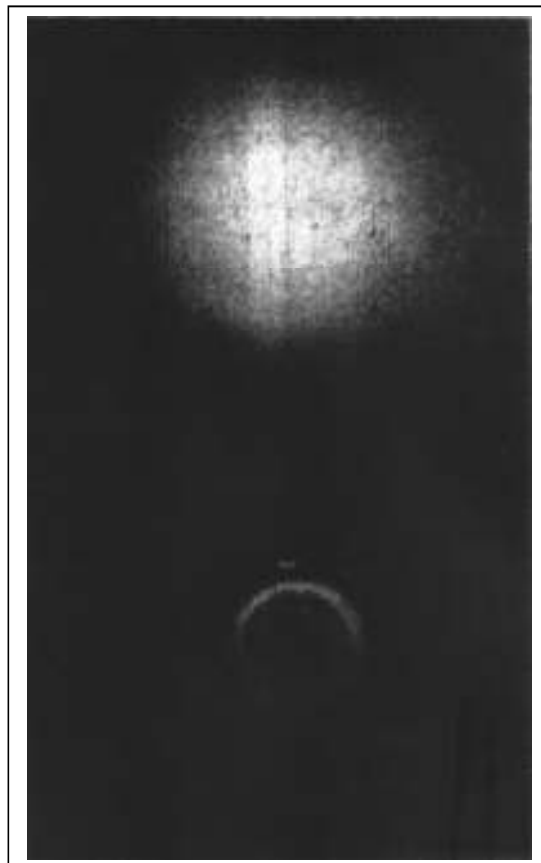
Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Olavi Janatuinen

Explanation: Lens flare

References: *Helsingin Sanomat* ((Helsinki), July 13, 1954. Björn Borg, **Outoja Kohteita Suomen Taivaalla** (Kirja Kerrallaan, Helsinki, 2007), pages 7-8.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse



(36)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: Afternoon

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota (USA)

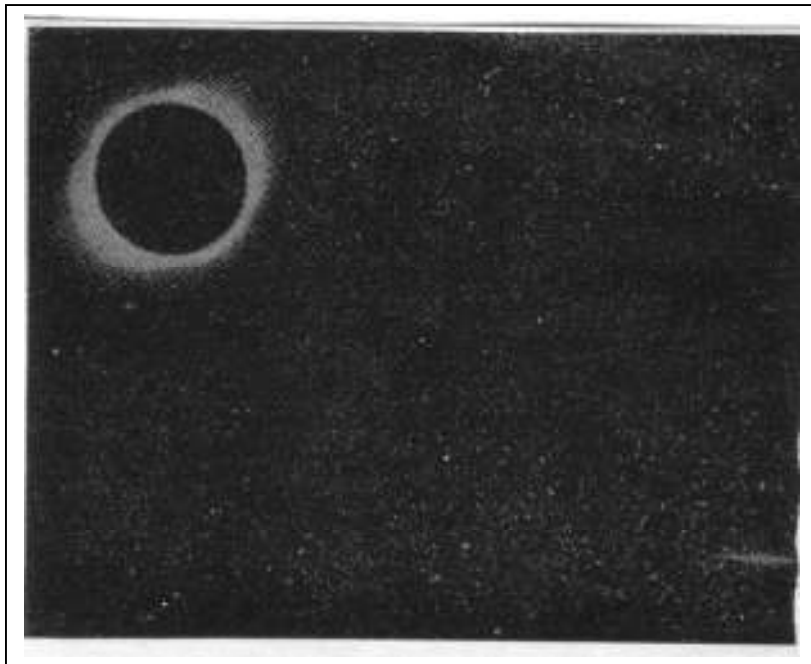
Format: Picture (object unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Marvin Tjornham

Explanation: Lens flare?

References: Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plate.

Remarks: Solar eclipse day. Poor information.



(37)

Date: 30 June 1954

Time: Afternoon

Location: Chicago, Illinois (USA)

Format: Picture (objects unseen by photographer)

Photographer: Mildred Maier

Explanation: Lens flares

References: *The APRO Bulletin*, Volume 3, Number 1 (not consulted). Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plate. Larry Robinson.

Remarks: During the solar eclipse. [(For other stories of sisters Mildred and Marie Maier's involvement with UFOs, see Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 37-38 and 81.)]



(38)

Date: 3 July 1954

Time: 21:40

Location: Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing "IRC printout, source 5 40HG 05+."

Remarks: Poor information

(39)

Date: 5 July 1954

Time: 13:00

Location: Marmolada Mount, Trento (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Luigi Petrosellini

Explanation: Not available

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 313-314 and 641. *Spazio & Vita*, May-June 1959, page 5.

Remarks: Nil



(40)

Date: 5 July 1954

Time: 22:30

Location: Chanctonbury Rings, Sussex (UK)

Format: Picture

Photographer: B.V. Simmons

Explanation: Not available

References: *Flying Saucer News*, 9, summer 1955. G. Gibbons, **The Coming of the Space Ships** (Neville Spearman, London, 1956), pages 125-126.

Remarks: Book reference not consulted. Poor information.



(41)

Date: circa 15 July 1954

Time: Afternoon

Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: *Telonic Research Bulletin*, Volume 2, Number 1, 1957, pages 4-5, as quoted in "A Provisional Catalogue of UFO Photographs," by J.B. Delair, E. Cox and R. Twine, *The UFO Register*, Volume 6, Part 2, November 1975.

Remarks: Primary source not consulted. Poor information.

(42)

Date: 15 July 1954

Time: 21:00

Location: Glen Lake, Michigan (USA)

Format: Slide

Photographer: Jerry Leimenstoll

Explanation: Not available

References: *Orbit* (CRIFO), Number 11, February 1955, page 5.

Remarks: Nil

(43)

Date: 16 July 1954

Time: Night

Location: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: *Flying Saucers: UFO Reports* (Dell), Number 1, 1967, page 47, as quoted in "A Provisional Catalogue of UFO Photographs," by J.B. Delair, E. Cox and R. Twine, *The UFO Register*, Volume 6, Part 2, November 1975.

Remarks: Primary source not consulted. Poor information.

(44)

Date: 30 July 1954

Time: 16:00

Location: Mountain View, Missouri (USA)

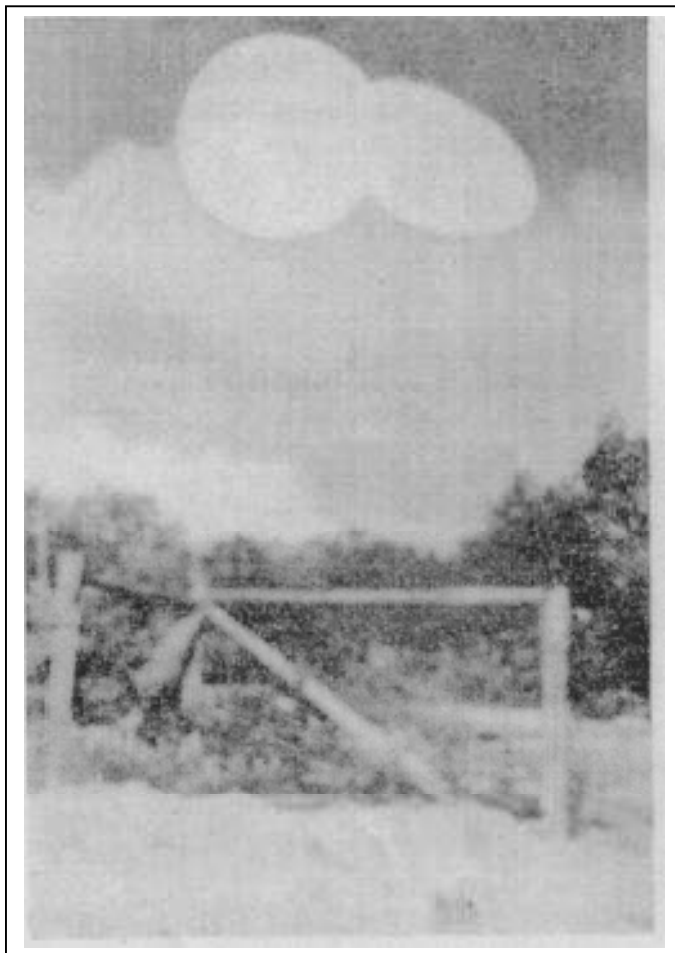
Format: Picture

Photographer: Buck Nelson

Explanation: Fake (double exposure, as per USAF)

References: *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 1, Number 1, March-April 1955, page 3; Number 2, May-June 1955, pages 4-5; Number 3, July-August 1955, page 32; and Number 5, November-December 1955, page 6. **The TRUE Report on Flying Saucers**, 1967. Larry Robinson. *Flying Saucer Review en Español*, 2, pages 9-10. Illobrand Von Ludwiger (editor), **Offizielle Untersuchungsberichte der Russen und der Amerikaner über unidentifizierbare Himmelserscheinungen**, MUFON-CES #8 (MUFON-CES, München, Germany, 1981), page 269. Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/htm/bluepics53.htm>

Remarks: Buck Nelson later published the book **My Trip to Mars, the Moon, and Venus**.



(45)

Date: 31 July 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Durban, Natal (South Africa)

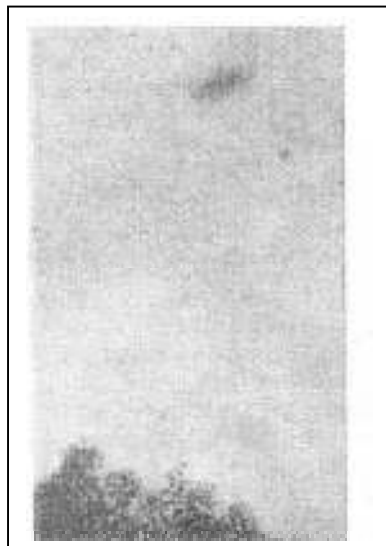
Format: Picture

Photographer: Eugene Meyer

Explanation: Not available

References: *Flying Saucer News*, spring 1955, page 16, quoting *Outspan*, December 3, 1954. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 44 and 86.

Remarks: Nil



(46)

Date: August 1954 (exact date not known)

Time: 17:30

Location: Boston, Massachusetts (USA)

Format: Picture (Kodak Company in Rochester, New York, allegedly reported that the film had been “confiscated”).

Photographer: Paul Carter

Explanation: Not available

References: Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August, Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 33-35, quoting a letter from Joseph Nymah to Coral Lorenzen (APRO), dated April 23, 1968.

Remarks: Nil

(47)

Date: 3 August 1954

Time: 13:00

Location: Reichestein Mountain, Trieben (Austria)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Erich Kaiser

Explanation: Fake? A unique image achieved by a photo amateur owning a processing lab. Larry Robinson has it as “lens flare, sun on diamond ring” and quotes Coral Lorenzen as reference. “Ghost images produced by internal reflections in lens systems,” according to Dr Donald Menzel. On the other hand, Daniel Guenther reports that a J. Heinrich Ragaz, from Switzerland, “investigated the original negative without finding signs of a hoax.”

References: Jan-H. Raabe, *Neue Zeit* (Grazer, Switzerland, newspaper), October 16, 1954. *Saucers*, Volume 5, Number 3, Autumn 1957, page 1. Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 48 and 70. Donald H. Menzel and Lyle G. Boyd, **The World of Flying Saucers** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1963), plate VIIIb. Gardner Soule, **UFOs and IFOs** (G.P. Putnam’s Sons, New York, 1967), plate in page 22. Max B. Miller (editor), **Flying Saucers Pictorial** (Arizill Realty and Publishing Company, Tucson, Arizona, 1967), page 15. Adolf Schneider, **Besucher aus dem All** (Hermann Bauer, Freiburg, Germany, 1974), pages 145, 250 and plate in page 20. Alice Ashton, *Inforespace*, April 1975, pages 20-22. Adolf Schneider and Hubert Malthaner, **Das Geheimnis der Unberkannten Flugobjekte** (Hermann Bauer, Freiburg, Germany, 1976), pages 82-83. Daniel Guenther in <http://www.ufodb.net/cgi-bin/singlres.cgi?Case=191>

Remarks: An extraordinary-looking photographic document (3 or 4 mushroom-shaped objects on edge in a row) with scarce follow-up.

Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts published that “Three UFOs were reportedly photographed over Central Australia” in this day also, no more details available. Consulted Australian researchers are not familiar with this case. Could Austria have been mistaken for Australia? (The three objects and the same date seem to confirm this.)



(48)

Date: 6 August 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: London (United Kingdom)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Research balloon released by Bristol University

References: Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 67; it includes the news clip from *The Times*, August 7, 1954. British sociologist and researcher Dr. Dave Clarke confirmed that a photograph was printed in the London *Daily Mail* of the same date.

Remarks: On July 7th there was another flying saucer scare over London, due to the apparition of another of these research balloons, but we have no evidence that any photographs were taken.

<http://www.bluebookarchive.org/page.aspx?PageCode=MISC-AFOSR4-186>

(49)

Date: 9 August 1954

Time: 19:30

Location: Marseille, Bouches-du-Rhône (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: L. Alyon

Explanation: Not available

References: *Le Provençal* (Marseille), August 27, 1954. Patrick Gross, <http://www.ufologie.net/1954/9aug1954marseille.htm>

Remarks: Poor information



(50)

Date: 28 August 1954

Time: 10:45

Location: Passo Falzarego, Belluno (Italy)

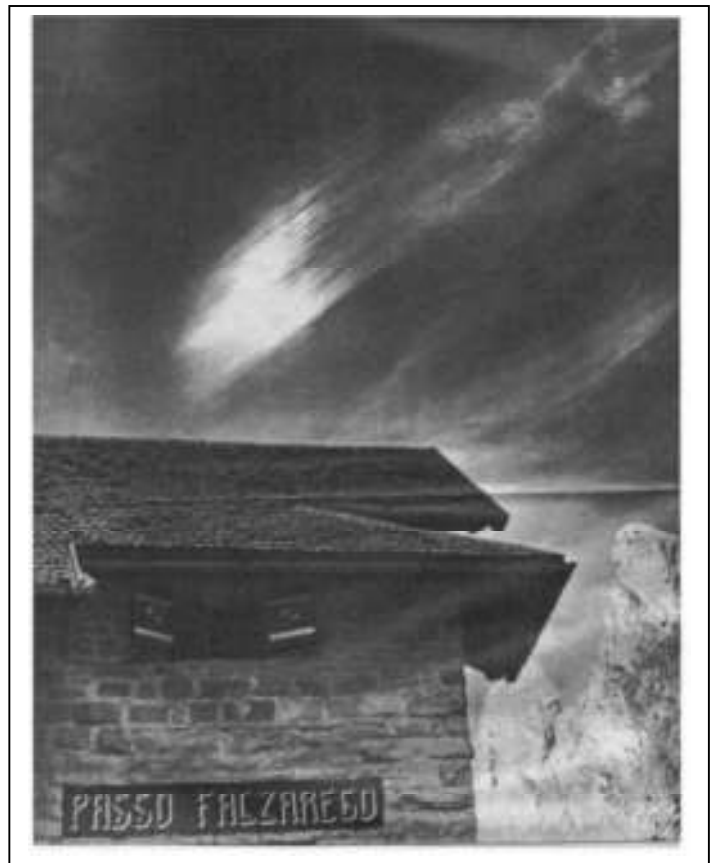
Format: Picture

Photographer: Angelo Cozzi

Explanation: Not available

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), pages 58-60, quoting Milano weekly *Le Ore*, October 23, 1954, and the RIGEL2001 organization. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, pages 91-93. Larry Hatch. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 328-329 and 642, plates 20-22. Maurizio Verga's PHOTOCAT cites the daily *Le Ore*, October 23, 1954.

Remarks: In 1974 the photographer reported that he had neither the negatives nor any prints left.



(51)

Date: September 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Edwards Air Force Base, California (USA)

Format: Picture (object unseen by the photographer)

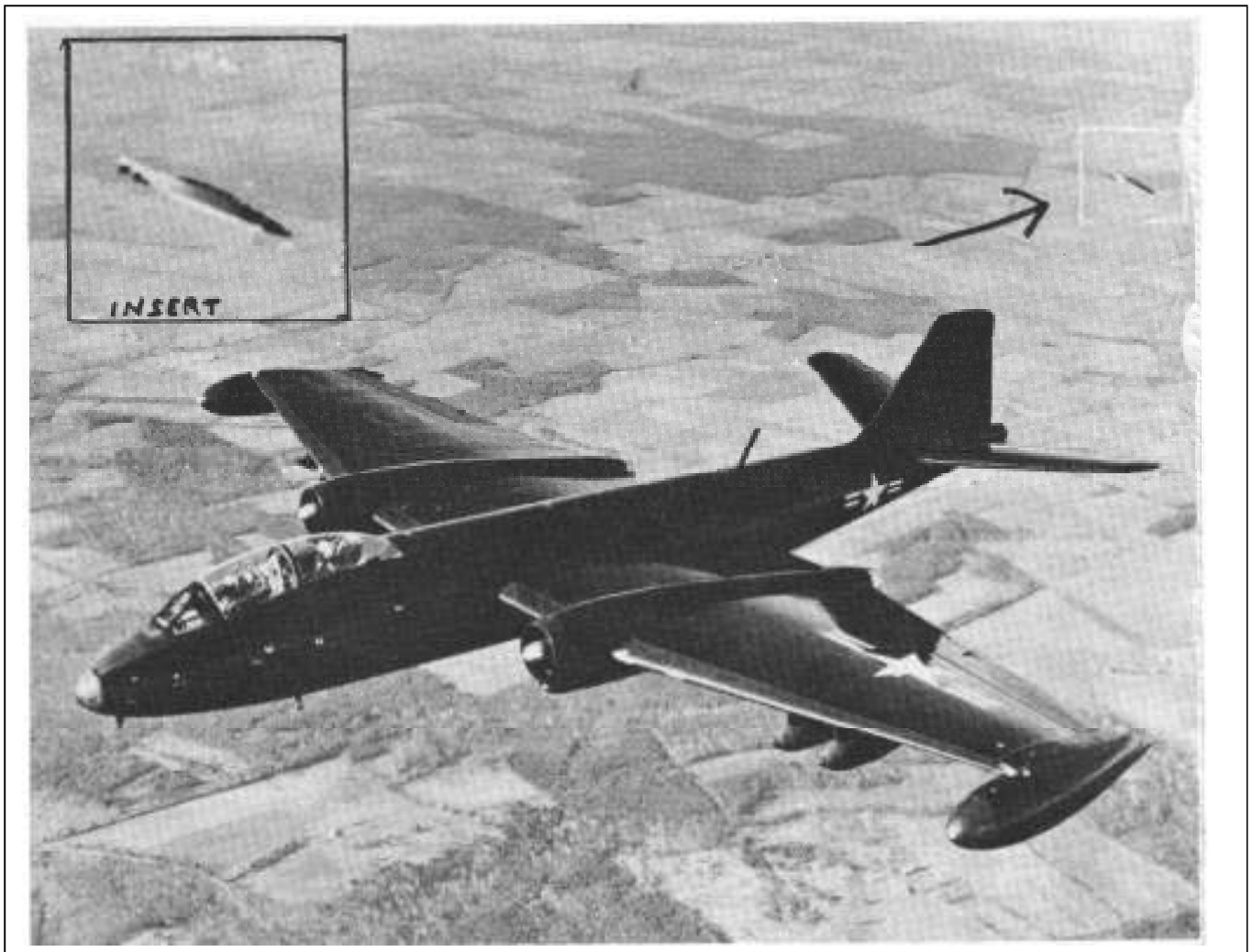
Photographer: Not known (manufacturer Martin Aircraft Company)

Explanation: Tear (abrasion mark) in the negative (as per the Martin Aircraft Company). Defect in the plane's window where the camera was placed (as per Larry Robinson).

References: *Fate*, November 1966, pages 36-45. *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, 6, August 1971, cover and pages 1-2. B. Ann Slate, *Saga*, April 1972, pages 25 and 68, and subsequent correspondence from Maj. Duncan Wilmore, responded to by Stanton Friedman, *Saga*, July 1972, page 2. *Inforespace*, 8, 1973. Ronald Story, **The Encyclopedia of UFOs** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1980), pages 36-37. Larry Robinson. Patrice Seray and Francine Cordier, *Les Mystères de L'Est*, 9, 2004, pages 83-86. <http://francine.cordier.club.fr/pages/B57B.htm>

Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/htm/b57canberra.htm> and <http://ufologie.net/htm/b57canberra.htm>

Remarks: Apparently, the original photograph was free of any defect when it was taken and released for the first time. It is as if any flaw in the negative appeared later.



(52)

Date: 2 September 1954

Time: 23:00

Location: Unknown (USA?)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Paula Brite

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986).

Remarks: The absolutely brief account says that at 23:00 hours in an unidentified location, a Miss Paula Brite "photographed a circular disc-shaped flying object hovering overhead." Poor information.

(53)

Date: 3 September 1954

Time: 16:30

Location: Dallas, Texas (USA)

Format: Film (32 frames)

Photographer: Robert J. Waste

Explanation: Not available

References: *International UFO Reporter*, Volume 8, Number 5, September-October 1983, pages 6-7. Paul Cerny.

Remarks: This episode, narrated by the widow of the alleged witness, is not in the Blue Book files. The opportunity for a FOIA request?

(54)

Date: 9 September 1954

Time: 14:20

Location: Nelson (New Zealand)

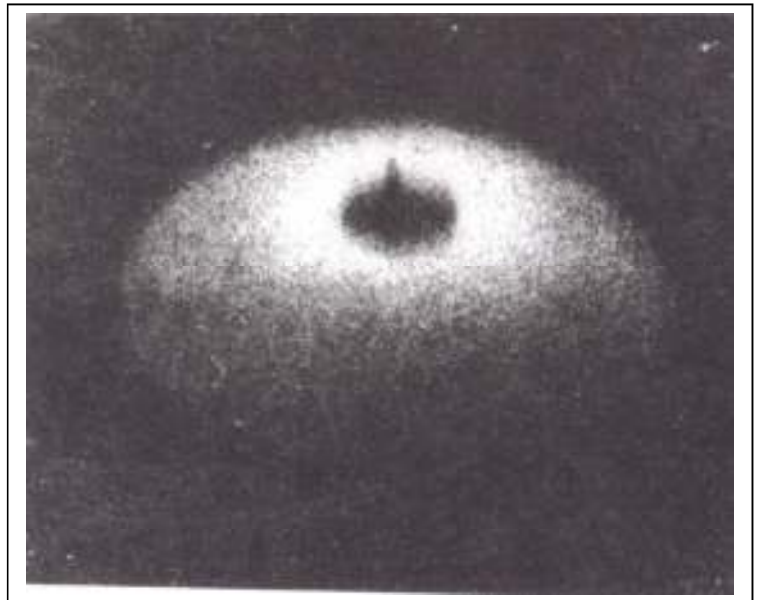
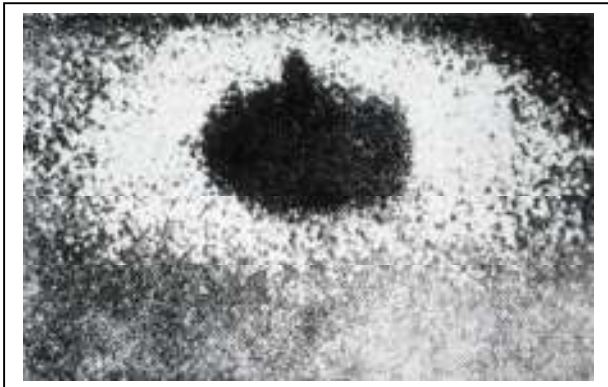
Format: Picture

Photographer: K.M. Gibbons

Explanation: Not available

References: *Orbit* (CRIFO), Volume 1, Number 8, November 5, 1954, pages 5-6, quoted in Richard Hall, **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), pages 89 and 92; Thomas Olsen, **The Reference for Outstanding UFO Reports** (UFOIRC, Riverwood, Maryland, 1966), pages 3-30; Dr. Richard F. Haines, **Project Delta: A Study of Multiple UFOs** (L.D.A. Press, Los Altos, California, 1994), page 95; and in Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: September** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 13 and 15. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plates. Gianfranco de Turris and Sebastiano Fusco, **Obiettivo sugli UFO. Fotostoria dei Dischi Volanti** (Edizioni Mediterranee, Roma, 1975), page 115, quoting NICAP. Peter Hassall, **The New Zealand Files** (David Bateman, Auckland, 1998), pages 69-70. **Actas do Simpósio Internacional Fronteiras da Ciência, Anomalia**, 5, 2001, page 135. Not consulted: *Flying Saucer News*, 7, 1954-1955, page 20. Otto Binder, **What We Really Know About Flying Saucers** (Fawcett, New York, 1967), pages 42-44 (not found in the Fawcett Gold Medal Book paperback edition). Harold Fulton/Murray Bott.

Remarks: Nil



(55)

Date: 18 September 1954

Time: 15:30

Location: Baldwin Park-Azusa, California (USA)

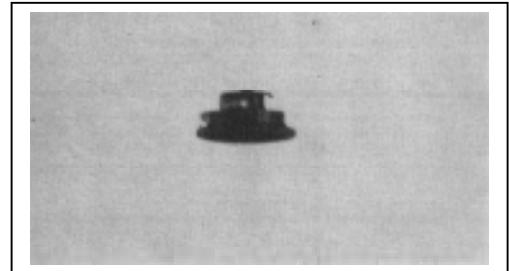
Format: Picture

Photographer: Daniel W. Fry

Explanation: Fake made by an infamous contactee. The object is a 12-channel knob off a Westinghouse TV set (as per Larry Robinson).

References: *Saucers*, Volume III, No 1, March 1955, page 1. Max B. Miller (editor), **Flying Saucers Pictorial** (Arizill Realty and Publishing Company, Tucson, Arizona, 1967), page 15. Max B. Miller, **Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction?** (Trend Books, Los Angeles, 1957), pages 92-94. Larry Robinson.

Remarks: Poor information



(56)

Date: 22 September 1954

Time : Unknown

Location: Paris, Ville de Paris (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Non-event

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986). An alleged weird case from a "writer living at the foot of the Eiffel Tower" who became "depressed about the insensibility of humanity" who did not notice the Saturn-shaped UFO he had photographed.

Remarks: French sources are not aware of any UFO photo being taken that date at the France capital. In Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: September** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 38, 43 and 49, some sightings in the area are included. Quoting from Paris journals *France-Soir*, September 24, 1954 and *Le Parisièn Liberè*, October 1, 1954, it is told that "near the Champ de Mars, a writer spotted a mysterious ball of light...the intellectual walked the streets to study the curiosity of the typical Parisian (to discover that) no one seemed to pay any heed to the motionless spot in the heavens". Further, the writer contacted Aimé Michel "marveling at the indifference of the crowds." It seems it refers to the individual above and the added photographic story is spurious.

(57)

Date: 24 September 1954

Time : 13:10

Location: Grenoble, Isère (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Jacques Baccard

Explanation: Not available

References: *Ouranos*, 12, 4th Quarter 1954, page 10. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), plate. Jimmy Guieu, **Black out sur les soucoupes volantes** (Editions Fleuve Noir, 1956), pages 128-130 and plate 12. Gianfranco de Turrís and Sebastiano Fusco, **Obiettivo sugli UFO. Fotostoria dei Dischi Volanti** (Edizioni Mediterranee, Rome, 1975), page 115.

Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/1954/24sep1954grenoblef.htm>.

Remarks: Nil



(58)

Date: 27 September 1954 (approximate date)

Time: Daytime

Location: Savigny, Rhône (France)

Format: Movie

Photographer: René Válerý

Explanation: Not available

References: *L'Ardennais*, September 30, 1954, page 1, in Renaud Leclét, *Les Mystères de L'Est*, 8, 2003, page 48. Italian newspaper *Corriere Lombardo* (Milano), October 9-10, 1954, page 6. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), pages 229-230. Loren Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: September** (Fremont, California, 1991), page 77. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Milano, 2006), page 111.

Remarks: Nil

(59)

Date: 28 September 1954

Time: 18:07

Location: Bjuv, Scania (Sweden)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Tord Olsson

Explanation: Jet plane and exhaust contrail

References: Anders Liljegren and Clas Svahn. *Le Figaro* (Paris), September 30, 1954 and October 2, 1954, (cited in "A Provisional Catalogue of UFO Photographs," by J.B. Delair and E. Cox, *The UFO Register*, Volume 10, Part 2, March 1980). *The New York Herald Tribune*, December 10, 1954, quoted in Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), page 53.

Remarks: Defense Staff investigated

(60)

Date: 1 October 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: Charleville, Ardennes (France)

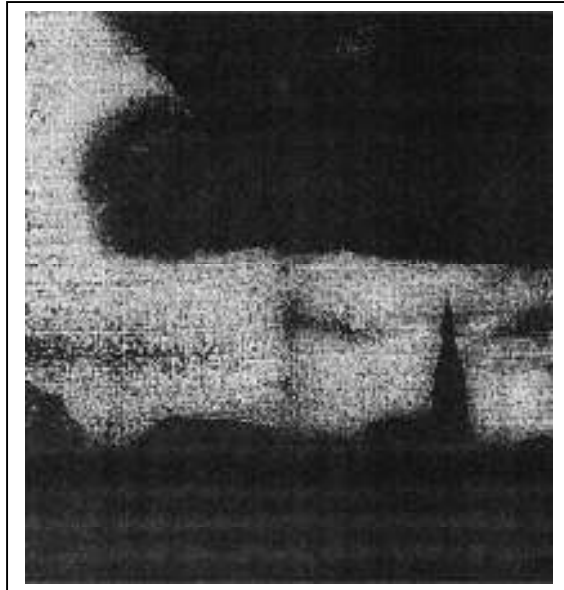
Format: Picture

Photographer: Staff photographer of *L'Ardennais*

Explanation: Photo montage made by the newspaper to illustrate the news of a UFO sighting.

References: *L'Ardennais*, October 1, 1954, in Renaud Leclot, *Mystères de L'Est*, 8, 2000, pages 49-50. Gilles Munsch.

Remarks: Nil



(61)

Date: 4 October 1954

Time: 04:00

Location: Lagny-Rigollet, Seine-Marne (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, 1986, citing "IRC Printout, source G 9V 1362M."

Remarks: Poor information

(62)

Date: 5 October 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: El Qantara (Egypt)

Format: Picture

Photographer: (Lieutenant) Tewrik

Explanation: Not available

References: Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucers Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), pages 231-232. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: October** (Fremont, California, 1991), page 12.

Remarks: Poor information

(63)

Date: 8 October 1954 (publication date)

Time: Daytime

Location: Sauvigny-le-Bois, Yonne (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Roland Brisset

Explanation: Non-event (family camping scene showing a cooking crêpe launched over children's heads)

References: *L'Yonne Républicaine*, October 8 and 9-10, 1954. *Les Mysteres de L'Est*, 10, 2005, pages 95-96. Raoul Robé.

Remarks: Nil



(64)

Date: 8 October 1954

Time: 17:00

Location: Lyon, Rhône (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Adrien Marguin

Explanation: Not available

References: Michel Figuet & Jean-Louis Ruchon, **OVNI: Le Premier Dossier Complet des Rencontres Rapprochées en France** (Alain Lefeuvre, Nice, 1979), page 135.

Remarks: Poor information

(65)

Date: 12 October 1954

Time: 14:30

Location: Arroyo de los Ángeles, Málaga (Spain)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Juan Coll and José Antonio Baena

Explanation: Most probably a fake

References: *Madrid* (Madrid), November 10, 1954. *Ya* (Madrid), November 11, 1954. French newspaper *L'Ardennais*, November 8, 1954, in Renaud Lecllet, *Les Mystères de L'Est*, 8, 2003, pages 69-70. Waveney Girvan, **Flying Saucers and Common Sense** (Citadel, New York, 1956), plate. *The APRO Bulletin*, November 15, 1954, page 7, quoted on the case card of the Civilian Saucer Intelligence (New York). Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 56 and 72. Brad Steiger and August C. Roberts, **The Flying Saucer Menace** (Award, New York, 1967), page 10, <http://www.rense.com/FSM/overseas5.htm>

Remarks: As usual with events from non-English-speaking countries, the case has appeared in the press under several different dates.



(66)

Date: 14 October 1954

Time: Morning

Location: Santhiá, Vercelli (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Balloon

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 132 and 643, quoting *Stampa Sera*, October 14-15, 1954.

Remarks: Nil

(67)

Date: 14 October 1954

Time: 11:00

Location: Torino, Torino (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Balloon, Bristol University program

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 129-136 and 643.

Remarks: Nil

(68)

Date: 15 October 1954

Time: 16:43

Location: Anchorage, Alaska (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Richard Beaulieu

Explanation: Not available

References: Max B. Miller (editor), **Flying Saucers Pictorial** (Arizill Realty and Publishing Company, Tucson, Arizona, 1967), page 35.

Remarks: Poor information. There are doubts as to the orientation the slide image is to be printed.



(69)

Date: 16 October 1954

Time: 18 :00

Location: Haute-Provence Observatory, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence (France)

Format: Picture

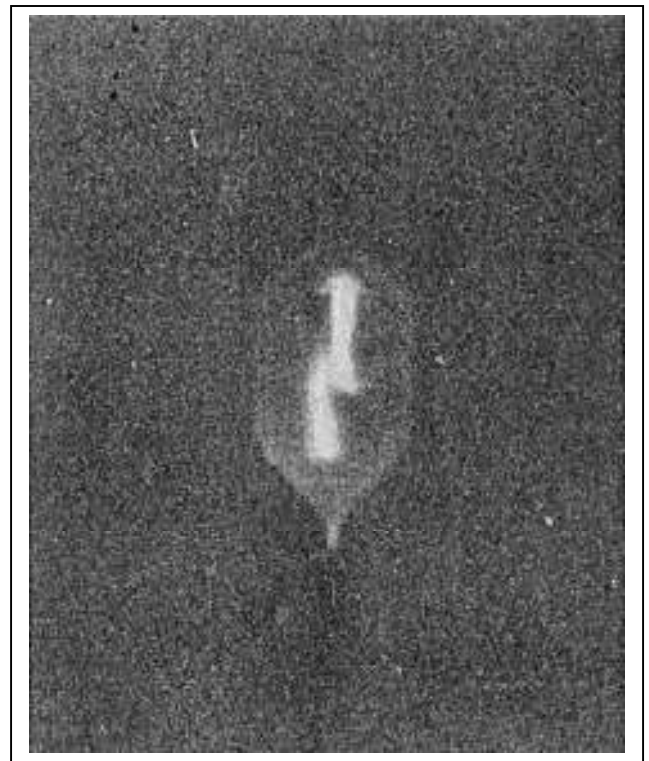
Photographer: P. Berthier and R. Mévolhon

Explanation: Balloon, launched by the Padua University (Italy) for the study of cosmic rays

References: P. Berthier and R. Mévolhon, *Revue de la Société Astronomique de France*, November 1954, page 416. Charles Garreau, **Alerte dans le Ciel!** (Grand Damier, 1956), plate. Aimé Michel, **Los misteriosos platillos volantes** (Pomaire, Barcelona, 1962), pages 261-266; **Mystérieux objets célestes** (Planète, Paris, 1966), pages 218-224; and **Flying Saucers and the Straight-Line Mystery** (S.G. Phillips, New York, 1958), pages 178-180. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: October Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), page 42. Giuseppe Stilo. Eric Maillot.

Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/1954/16oct1954hauteprovencef.htm>

Remarks: Nil



(70)

Date: 16 October 1954

Time: 22:00

Location: Sedan, Ardennes (France)

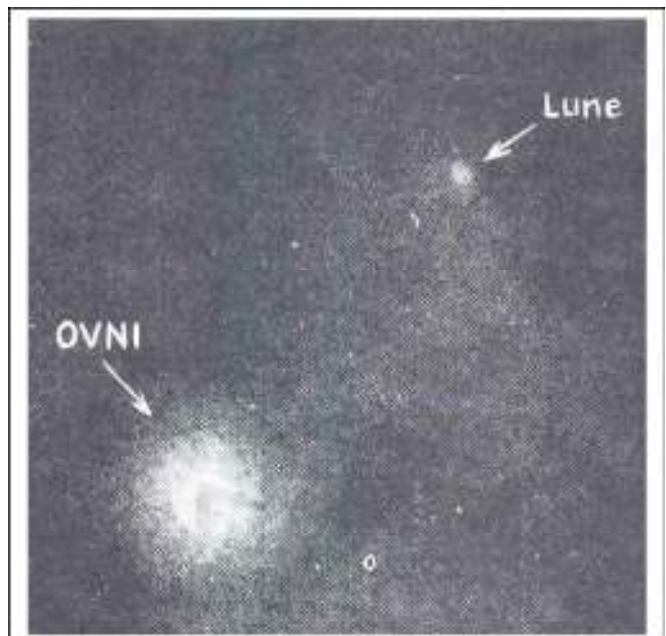
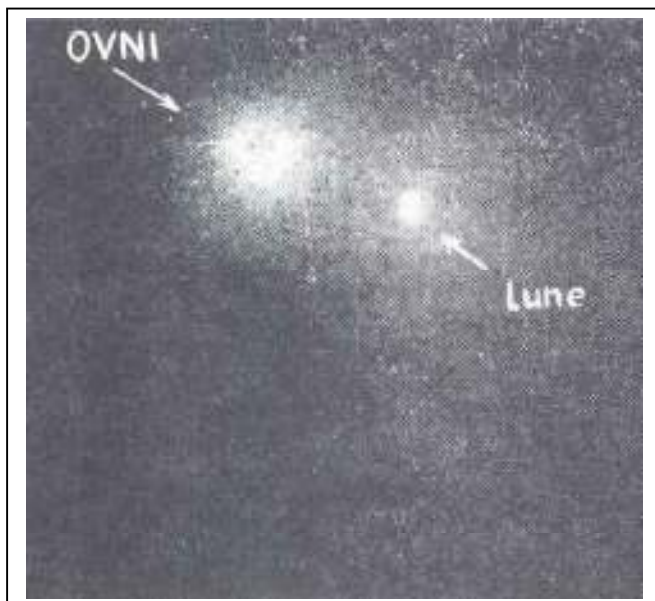
Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Lunar lens flare (as per Eric Maillot)

References: *L'Ardennais*, October 19, 1954, pages 1 and 4, in Jean-Michel Ligeron's **O.V.N.I. en Ardennes**, 1981, page 134 ; and in Renaud Lecllet, *Les Mystères de L'Est*, 8, 2003, pages 66-67. Eric Maillot. Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/1954/16oct1954sedanf.htm>.

Remarks: Nil



(71)

Date: 18 October 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Monte Mario, Rome, Rome (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Turi Mattarella

Explanation: Probable bird (as per Giuseppe Stilo). Graduation cap thrown to the air (as per Larry Robinson). Dubious (as per Solas Boncompagni *et al*).

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), pages 58-60, quoting daily newspapers *Il Messaggero* (Roma), October 20, 1954, *La Gazzetta Padana*, October 21, 1954, and *Il Corriere Lombardo*, October 20 and 21, 1954. **Flying Saucers**, Cowless and UPI editors (Cowless Education, New York, 1967), page 105. Gianfranco de Turrís and Sebastiano Fusco, **Obiettivo sugli UFO. Fotostoria dei Dischi Volanti** (Edizioni Mediterranee, Rome, 1975), page 116. Giuseppe Stilo. *UFO Forum*, July 1998, page 25. Maurizio Verga in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp quoting the newspapers *Gazzeta Padana*, *Gazzeta del Sud* and *Il Gazzettino* of October 20, 1954. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, page 91. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 242-244, 646 and 665 (plate 13).

Remarks: Given as November 6th by Cowless and UPI, an error. The Italian press revealed the photographer as being a member of a "Martian Club."



(72)

Date: 18 October 1954

Time: 10:50

Location: Salerno, Salerno (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Benito Silano

Explanation: Not available

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 146, quoting *Il Mattino*, *Il*

Resto del Carlino and *Il Lavoro*, dated October 19, 1954. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 226 and 646.
Remarks: Nil

(73)

Date: 20 October 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Borgo Panigale, Bologna, Bologna (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 273-274 and 647; the text includes *L'Avvenire d'Italia* (Bologna), October 22, 1954.

Remarks: Nil



(74)

Date: 20 October 1954 (approximate date, a day from October 17th to 24th)

Time :

Location: Grésigne, Tarn-et-Garonne (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: A Monsieur Couthure

Explanation: Fake

References: *Radar*, October 24, 1954, in Thierry Rocher, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, pages 66-67.

Remarks: In its issue of October 17th, 1954, *Radar* magazine had offered a one million francs prize for a genuine photograph of a UFO. This photo was submitted and several experts established it was done using simple children's toys that looked like a spacecraft and its pilots.



(75)

Date: 21 October 1954

Time: Daytime?

Location: Rome, Rome (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Zampa (son of movie director Luigi Zampa)

Explanation: Not available

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 558-559 and 647. *Il Resto del Carlino* (Rome), October 23, 1954.

Remarks: Poor information

(76)

Date: 22 October 1954

Time: 17:00

Location: Palermo, Palermo (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Giuseppe Marretta

Explanation: Not available

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 176, quoting newspaper *Il Giornale di Sicilia*, October 24, 1954. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 318 and 648; the text includes *Il Giornale di Sicilia*, October 23, 1954.

Remarks: Nil

(77)

Date: 24 October 1954 (approximate day)

Time: Daytime

Location: Marina di Massa, Massa (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Newspaper *La Nazione Italiana* (Firenze), October 28, 1954, in Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 231. Giuseppe Stilo.

Remarks: Poor information

(78)

Date: 24 October 1954

Time: 13:00

Location: Gravataí Air Force Base, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Brazilian Air Force

Explanation: Non-event

References: Antonio Ribera, **Platillos volantes en Iberoamérica y España** (Pomaire, 1968), pages 245-246, describes a UFO sighting over the base and he quotes journalist João Martins (of Barra da Tijuca fake case fame) who, writing in *O Cruzeiro* magazine of Rio de Janeiro, stated that "there circulated well-founded rumors that the Brazilian Air Force managed to obtain at least two photographs of the objects observed over the Gravataí Air Force Base." The sighting (without any mention to any photographs taken) is cited by Richard Hall in **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, 1964), page 119, as well as by Donald E. Keyhoe in his book **The Flying Saucer Conspiracy** (Henry Holt, New York, 1955), page 212. Ample information is reported by Loren E. Gross in **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 20 and 63-66. Again, the Brazilian Air Force gives no indication of photos, in spite of the full disclosure of details.

Remarks: An extensive report was published in the December 24, 1954, issue of *O Cruzeiro*. It was the account of a UFO conference held by Col. Adil de Oliveira, chief of the Brazilian Air Force's UFO investigation. There it was specifically stated that "No photos had been taken during the sighting. The Base photographic section was closed, it was Sunday. Nobody had a camera at hand..." (Olavo T. Fontes, the report's translator, comments that "I have the information that at least two pictures were taken, but I cannot swear it." This account is to be found in Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: October Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 79-89.

(79)

Date: 24 October 1954

Time: 17:00

Location: Boulogne-sur-Mer, Pas-de-Calais (France)

Format: Picture

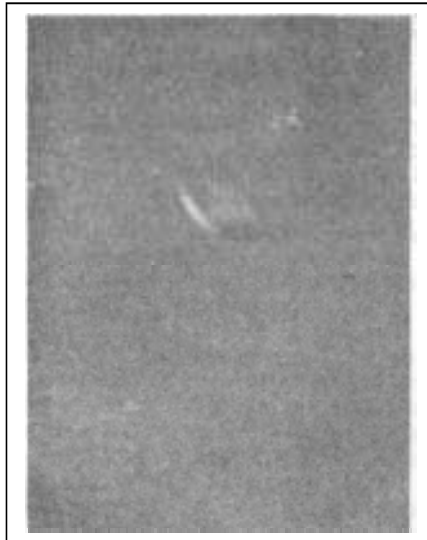
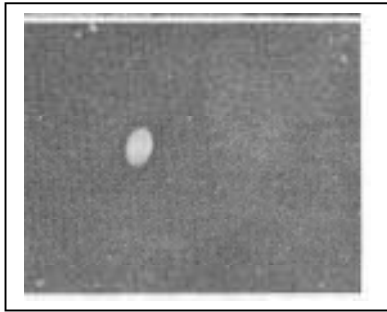
Photographer: Emile Turpin

Explanation: Not available

References: Donald H. Menzel and Lyle G. Boyd, **The World of Flying Saucers**, Doubleday (Garden City, New York, 1963), page 123 and plate IV(b). *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, 129, November 1973, pages 16-17.

Remarks: Several sources have misplaced or misdated this case. For instance, Menzel and Boyd have it as Arbleterre, October 2. The Larry

Robinson database has it as Ambleterre, October 10, 1954. The Stevens and Roberts 1986 book has it as both Ambleteuse October 1, Ambleterre October 2, and also as Boulogne Mer October 2. I believe it is the same case under several versions.



(80)

Date: 25 October 1954

Time: 06:15

Location: Und, Győr-Sopron Province (Hungary)

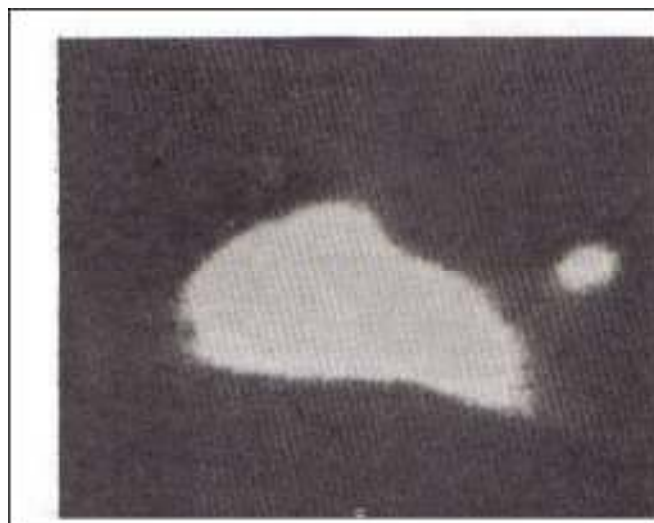
Format: Picture

Photographer: Janos Biro

Explanation: Bolide (fireball)

References: Ion Hobana and Julien Weverberg, **UFO's From Behind the Iron Curtain** (Souvenir Press, London, 1972), pages 193-194, quotes newspaper *Esti-Bud* of October 27, 1954 and AFP newswire that date, as well as *Tükör* magazine, September 10, 1968, which dates the incident as October 15th. Joe Brill, *Skylook*, April 1974, page 10. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: October** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 54 and 103 (and page 85, the meteor was also seen from Yugoslavia). *OVNI Presence*, 33-34, December 1985. Richard Hall's **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), page 123, reports on sightings that took place also in Austria and Italy.

Remarks: Nil



(81)

Date: 26 October 1954

Time: 09:15

Location: Pittu Longu, Olbia, Sassari (Italy)

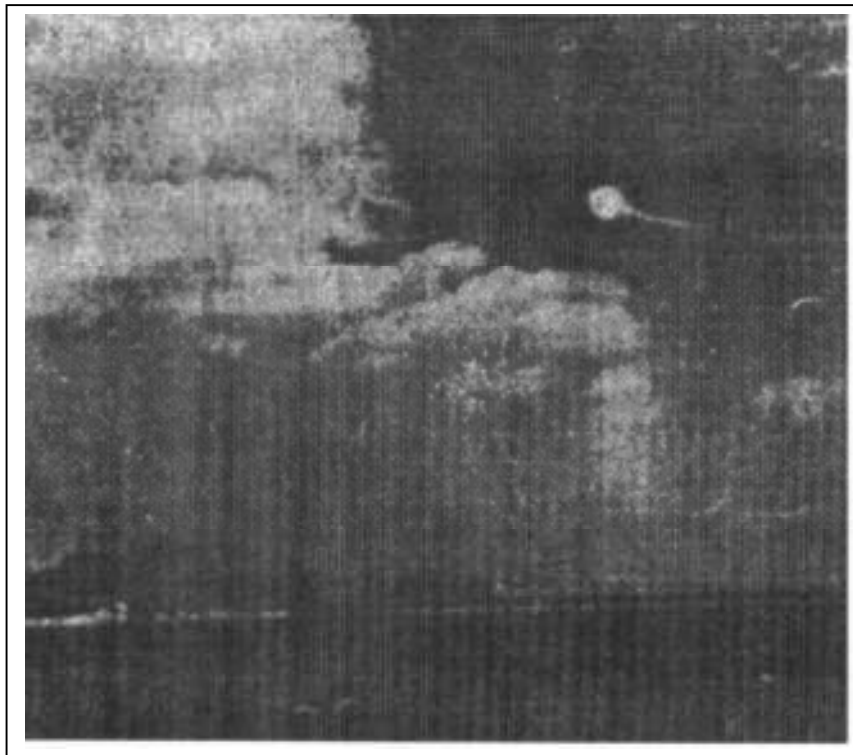
Format: Picture

Photographer: A Signore (Mr) Fancello

Explanation: Not available

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), pages 220-221, quoting daily press *L'Unione Sarda*, October 27, 1954, and *Nuova Sardegna* of both October 27 and 28, 1954. *L'Unione Sarda*, November 3, 1954 cited by Maurizio Verga in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 388, 651 and 671, and plate 24.

Remarks: Nil



(82)

Date: 27 October 1954

Time: Daytime

Location: Firenze, Firenze (Italy)

Format: Picture

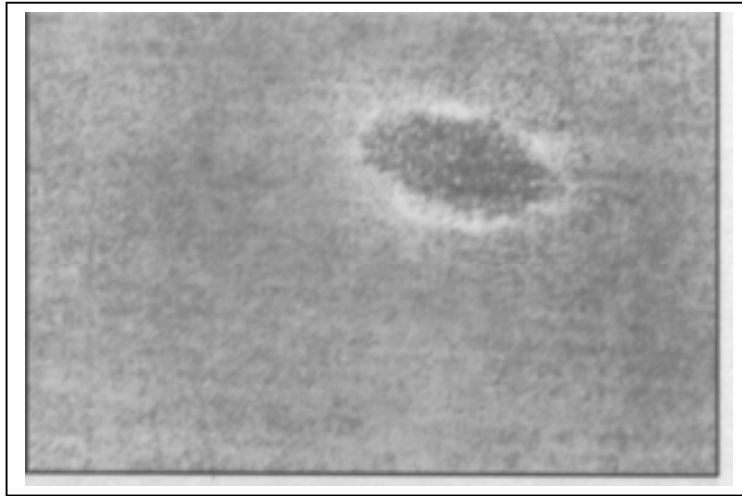
Photographer: Antonio Belluci

Explanation: Not available

References: In http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp, Maurizio Verga quotes the newspapers *La Nazione* and *Il Giornale del Mattino* of October 28 and *Tirreno* of November 6, 1954. **Dossier OVNI** (Orbis, Barcelona, 1997),

fascicle #2, pages 7-10. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 409-410 and 652.

Remarks: Anything to do with the famous case of “bambaglia silicea” (*angel hair*) over Firenze that day? Apparently no connection exists.



(83)

Date: 28 October 1954

Time: 16:40

Location: Montecatini, Pistoia (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Guido Rastelli

Explanation: Not available

References: Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 428 and 653; the text includes *Il Nuovo Corriere* (Firenze), October 29, 1954. Maurizio Verga's catalogue in the following link http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp.

Remarks: Nil

(84)

Date: 28 October 1954

Time: Evening

Location: Siena, Siena (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Fake

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), pages 244 and 247, quoting *La Nazione Italiana* (Florence), October 29, 1954. Giuseppe Stilo notes that the case was labeled a hoax (created by a professional photographer) by the newspapers *L'Unita* (the Communist Party's daily newspaper) of October 30th and *Il Nuovo Corriere* of October 31, 1954. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, page 91. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 420, 446-447 and 653.

Remarks: Nil



(85)

Date: 28 October 1954

Time: 22:00

Location: Tradate, Varese (Italy)

Format: Movie

Photographer: Incom (TV newsreel)

Explanation: False UFO landing with occupants, a prank organized by several customers of a bar.

References: Maurizio Verga, **When Saucers Came to Earth** (UPIAR, Torino, 2007), pages 90-93 and 161-164. *Notiziario UFO*, 1969, 4, pages 15-16. *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol.16, No 3, May-June 1970, pages 5-6. *Cielo e Terra*, 19 and 23. *OVNI Presence*, 33/34, page 17. Coral and Jim Lorenzen, **Flying Saucer Occupants** (Signet, New York, 1967), page 99. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 492-509.

Remarks: The case had widespread coverage in both local and national press (see references in the book by Maurizio Verga.)



(86)

Date: 29 October 1954

Time: 11:00

Location: Firenze, Firenze (Italy)

Format: Movie

Photographer: Marino Marchi

Explanation: Fake

References: Giuseppe Stilo, Project1954 (e-List), November 28, 2004. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, page 91. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 441-447, 654 and 674 (plate 29).

Remarks: Hoax confessed by author to Giuseppe Stilo.



(87)

Date: 29 October 1954

Time: 23:15

Location: Firenze, Firenze (Italy)

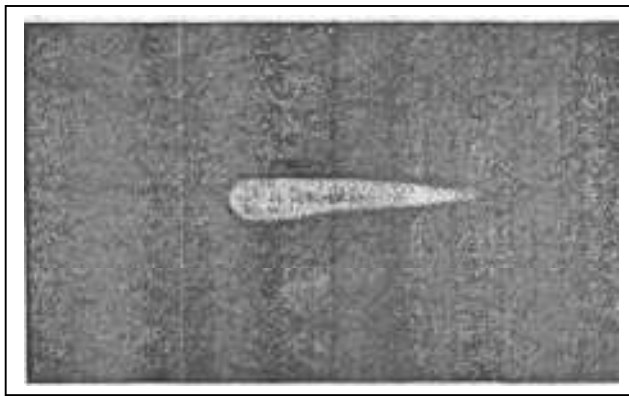
Format: Picture

Photographer: A Signore (Mr) Levi

Explanation: Fake

References: Maurizio Verga quotes *Nazione Sera*, November 4, 1954 in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, pages 90-91. *Il Tirreno*, November 6, 1954, in Maurizio Verga, **ITACAT, Volume I, 1912-1954** (UPIAR, Torino, 2005), page 82. Giuseppe Stilo, **Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse** (UPIAR, Torino, 2006), pages 447 and 655. Maurizio Verga, **When Saucers Came to Earth** (UPIAR, Torino, 2007), pages 113 and 177.

Remarks: Nil



(88)

Date: 30 October 1954

Time: 11:30

Location: Firenze, Firenze (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Possible airplanes

References: Giuseppe Stilo's "A Catalog of Alleged Italian UFO Photos 1900-1954," April 18, 2004.

Remarks: Nil

(89)

Date: 1 November 1954 (approximate day)

Time: Unknown

Location: Welferding, Moselle (France)

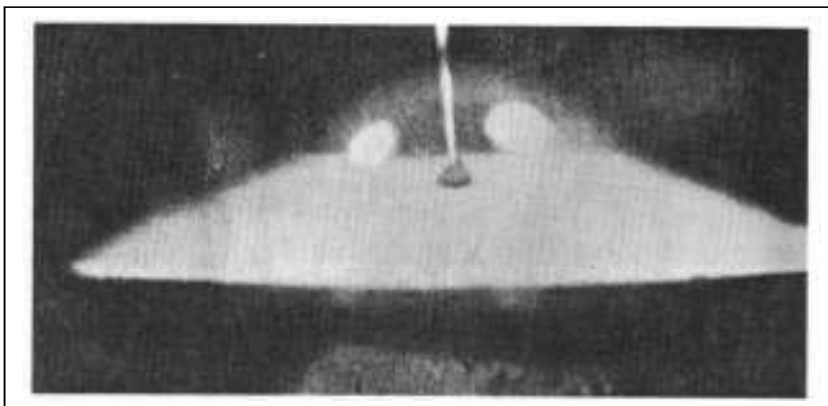
Format: Picture

Photographer: Jean Geraut

Explanation: Fake

References: Gérard Barthel and Jacques Brucker, **La Grande Peur Martienne** (Nouvelles Éditions Rationnalistes, Paris, 1979), pages 192-193 and plates. It quotes the original source, the journal *L'Aurore*, November 2, 1954, and the magazine *Radars*, November 14, 1954, which reveals the deceit.

Remarks: Nil



(90)

Date: Early November 1954

Time: Night

Location: Rome, Rome (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: *Paese Sera*, November 3, 1954, quoted in Giuseppe Stilo's "A Catalog of Alleged Italian UFO Photos 1900-1954," April 18, 2004. Maurizio Verga quotes *La Nazione Sera*, November 4, 1954.

Remarks: Nil

(91)

Date: 1 November 1954 or before

Time: Night

Location: Porta Pia, Rome, Rome (Italy)

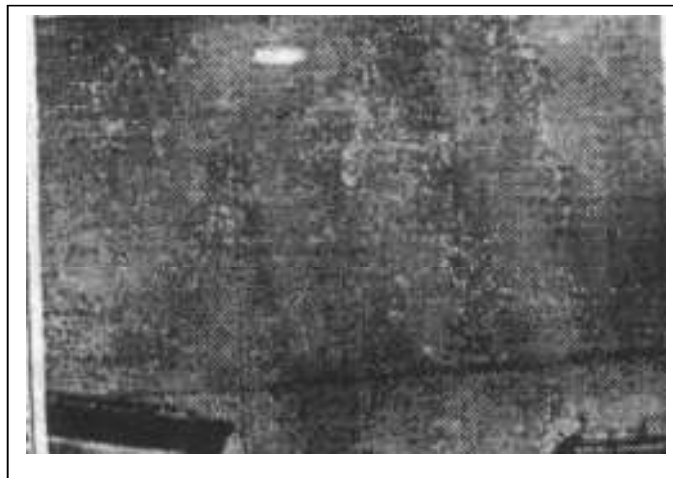
Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Newspaper *Nazione Sera*, November 2, 1954, in Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 298. Maurizio Verga, **ITACAT, Volume I, 1912-1954** (UPIAR, Torino, 2005), page 76.

Remarks: Poor information



(92)

Date: 2 November 1954

Time: 16:00

Location: Mena Murtee Station, Wilcannia, New South Wales (Australia)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Keith Weston

Explanation: Fake (confessed)

References: Keith Basterfield, personal communication, September 2005, quoting RAAF documents. Harold T. Wilkins, **Flying Saucer Uncensored** (Citadel, New York, 1955), page 238 (or page 251 in another edition of the book.) Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1981), page 19. *Journal of UFO History*, Volume III, Number. 6, January-February 2007, page 9, quoting *CRIFO Orbit*, January 7, 1955.

Remarks: Nil

(93)

Date: 4 November 1954

Time: Evening?

Location: Marseille, Bouches-du-Rhône (France)

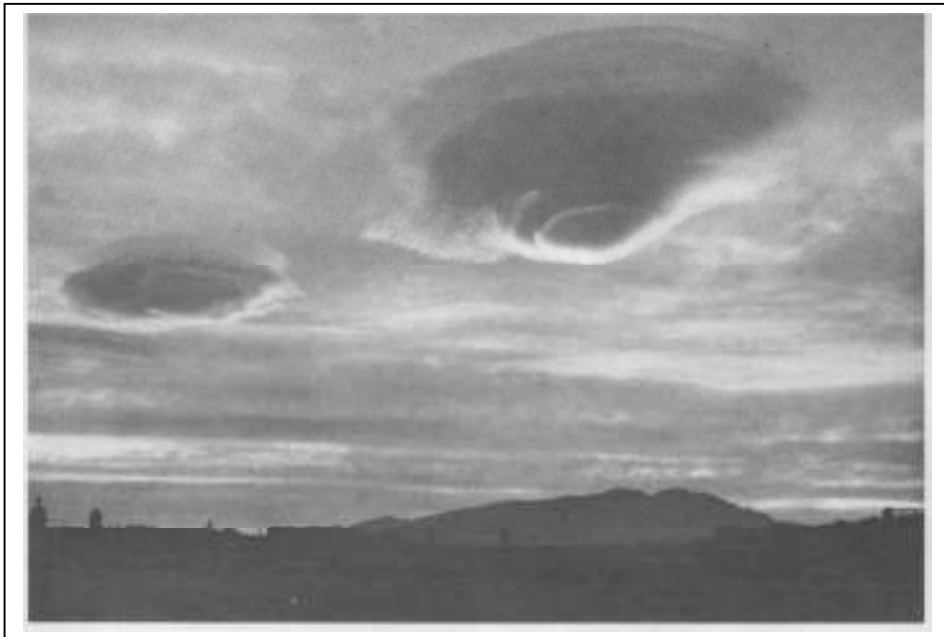
Format: Picture

Photographer: An unnamed US Navy marine

Explanation: Lenticular clouds

References: *The New York Times*, July 3, 1955. Donald Keyhoe, **The Flying Saucer Conspiracy** (Henry Holt, New York, 1955), pages 275-276. Morris K. Jessup, **The UFO Annual** (Citadel, New York, 1956), plate. *Look* (special issue on Flying Saucers), 1967, pages 28-29.

Remarks: There are sources placing the case as 3 July 1950 or 7 June 1954.



(94)

Date: 4 November 1954

Time: 18:00

Location: Santa Margherita a Montici, Firenze, Firenze (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Mario Romoli

Explanation: Possible aircraft according to Maurizio Verga

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 317, quoting *La Nazione Italiana*, November 11, 1954, and *Spazio e Vita*, January-February 1959. Ernesto Thayaht, *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 1, Number 3, July-August 1955, page 5. Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 54 and 71. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), page 9. *UFO Forum*, July 1998, page 28. Giuseppe Stilo. Maurizio Verga also quotes *La Nazione*, February 8, 1957, in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp.

Remarks: Nil



(95)

Date: 5 November 1954

Time: 10:10

Location: La Roche-en-Brenil, Côte-d'Or (France)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Raymond R.

Explanation: Non-event

References: Jacques Vallee, **Passport to Magonia** (Henry Regnery, Chicago, 1969), page 242, case #329. *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, 125, May 1973, pages 22-24. *Ouranos*, Number 9, 4th quarter 1973, page 8. G.A.B.R.I.E.L. UFO group. Charles Garreau and Raymond Lavier, **Face aux extra-terrestres** (Jean-Pierre Delarge, Paris, 1975), pages 47-52. Michel Figuet and Jean-Louis Ruchon, **OVNI: Le premier dossier complet des rencontres rapprochées en France** (Alain Lefeuvre, Nice, 1979), pages 207-210. Gérard Barthel and Jacques Brucker, **La Grande Peur Martienne** (Nouvelles Éditions Rationnalistes, Paris, 1979), pages 40-45 and plates. *VLJ*, April 1985, pages II-III. Jan Heering. Eric Maillot. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 10-11. For a complete account of this episode, see: Patrick Gross, <http://ufologie.net/1954/5nov1954larochef.htm>

Remarks: UFO landing and humanoid presence. The French UFO group G.A.B.R.I.E.L. qualified the case as “a doubtful affair”. Jan Heering found a discrepancy between the Vallee summary and the larger text by Garreau and Lavier regarding the source of the paralyzing beam of light. In a personal communication, Eric Maillot reports that the alleged witness Raymond R. “seems not to have ever existed” and that “(no one) has ever seen this photograph.”

(96)

Date: 6 November 1954

Time: 11:00

Location: St. Peter's Square, Vatican City, Rome (Italy)

Format: Picture

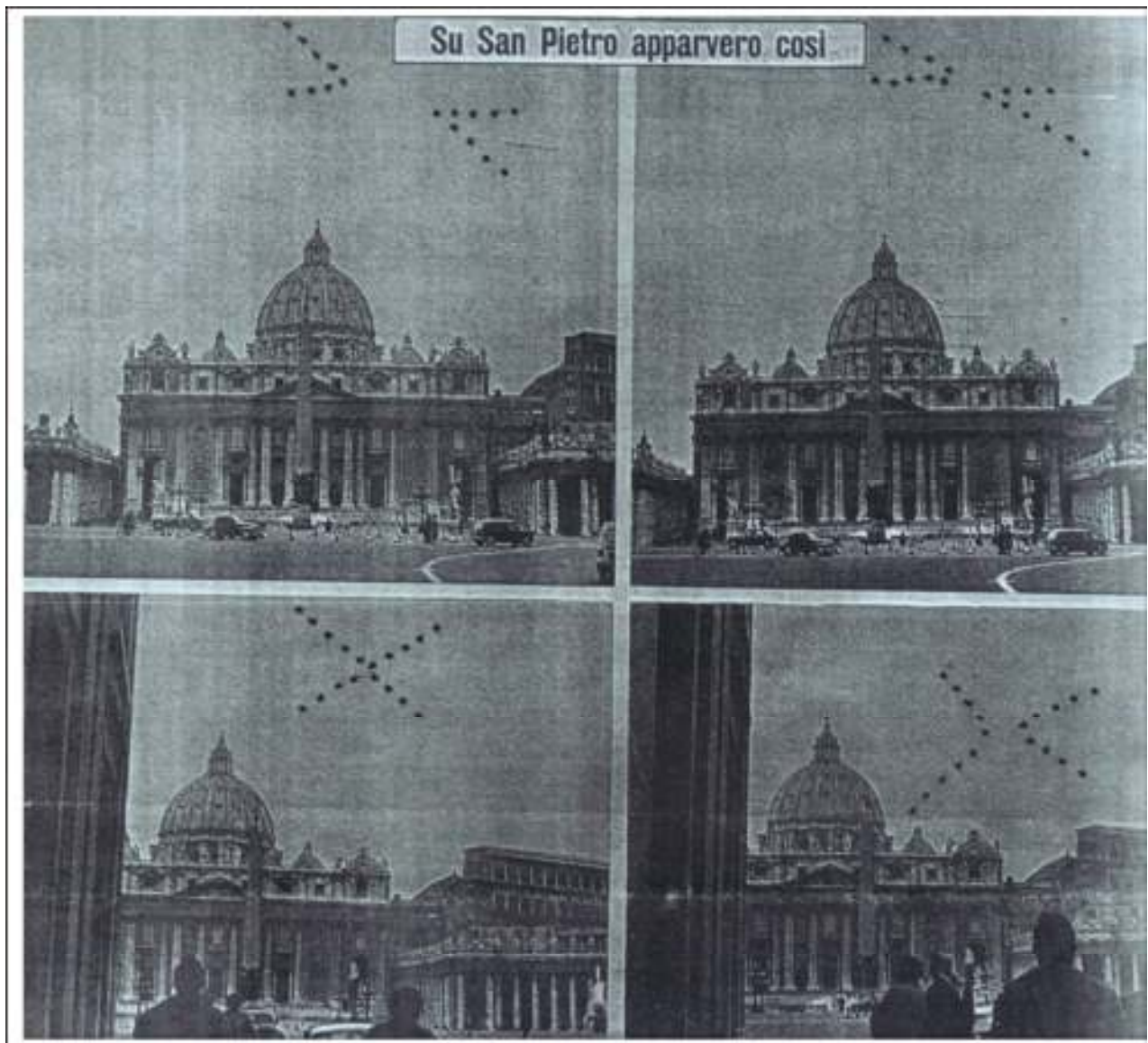
Photographer: Alberto Perego

Explanation: Non-event

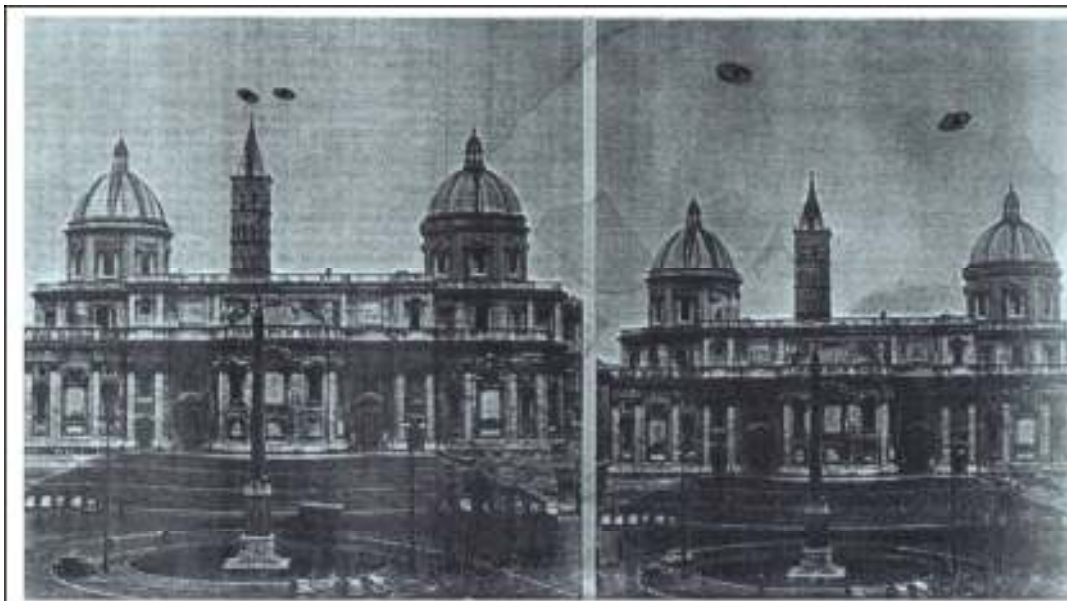
References: Alberto Perego, **Svelato il mistero dei dischi volanti** (Rome, 1957), pages 16-18, quoted in Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia**.

L'Ondata del 1954 (Corrado Tedeschi, Firenze, 1980), pages 326-329 and 331-333. Arthur Constance, **The Inexplicable Sky** (The Citadel Press, New York, 1956), pages 210-214. *Flying Saucer Review Case Histories*, 15, June 1973, pages 3-6. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December**, 1991, pages 12-14 (on the actual sighting), pages 16-20 (with related information on the peculiar adventures of Dr. Perego) and pages 83-84 (references). Dr. Richard F. Haines, **Project Delta: A Study of Multiple UFOs** (L.D.A. Press, Los Altos, California, 1994), pages 56-57. Giuseppe Stilo.

Remarks: Italian specialist Giuseppe Stilo explained that this alleged photo case was first known when the Italian weekly *L'Europeo* released on February 3, 1957, an interview with diplomat Alberto Perego, who had a non-photographic UFO sighting in the Vatican City. In order to better describe his visual observation he provided photomontages to this end (the magazine made it clear that that's what they were). This started a widely-reproduced mistake. (Personal communication from Giuseppe Stilo.)



In fact, the magazine also included a photomontage of a previous sighting by Perego over Santa Maria Maggiore's church (Rome) on October 30, 1954.



(97)

Date: 6 November 1954

Time: 23:25

Location: Padre Island, Texas (USA)

Format: Movie (blank)

Photographer: David Pillar

Explanation: Not available

References: Personal communication from Ray Stanford.

Remarks: David was a member of Ray and Rex Stanford's crew (see following case). The film turned out blank. Exactly so described by cameraman: "I took it out to view it, and when I arrived at the place where the picture of the saucer should have been, I noticed that the film has changed texture...it seems to be turning clear. This is only happening to this particular section of the film."

(98)

Date: 6 November 1954

Time: 23:30

Location: Padre Island, Texas (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Ray Stanford or John McCoy

Explanation: Not available

References: *Saucers*, March 1955, pages 2-8; and December 1955, pages 12-13. *Fate*, May 1956, pages 12-18. Max B. Miller, **Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction?** (Trend Books, Los Angeles, 1957), pages 105-107 and 111. *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 3, Number 6, November-December 1957, pages 30-31 (Brinsley le Poer Trench's book review). John McCoy, **They Shall Be Gathered Together**, 1957, pages 10-15. Ray and Rex Stanford, **Look Up**, 1958, pages 7-13, following one and page 52.

Remarks: Ray Stanford and several others took turns holding a camera steady atop a pointed fence post, while clicking the shutter. They cannot know for sure who took the successful photo, yet everything points to either Ray Stanford or McCoy. (Personal communication from Ray Stanford.)



(99)

Date: 8 November 1954

Time: 18:30

Location: Badia di Coltibuono, Siena (Italy)

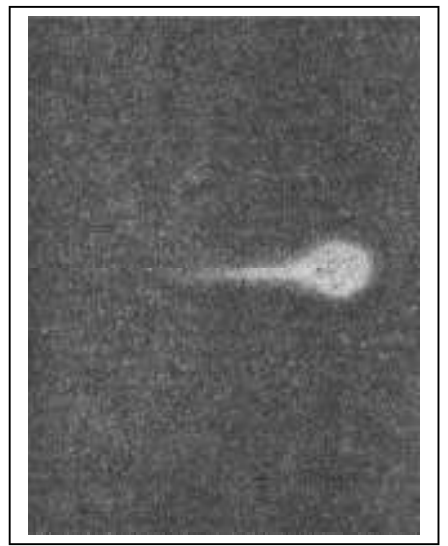
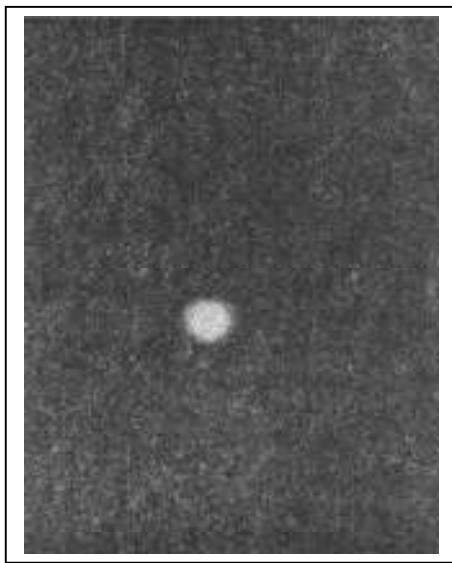
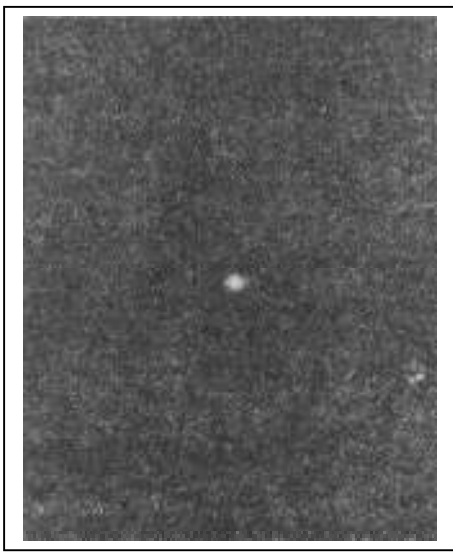
Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: *Giornale del Matino* (Firenze), November 24, 1954, quoted in Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi, Firenze, 1980), pages 330 and 335-336. Maurizio Verga's catalogue in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp

Remarks: Nil



(100)

Date: 10 November 1954

Time: Evening

Location: Milano, Milano (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Kite

References: *Il Messaggero*, November 12, 1954, quoted in the catalogue by Maurizio Verga, http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp

Remarks: Nil

(101)

Date: 11 November 1954

Time: 23:00

Location: Saint-François, Lausanne (Switzerland)

Format: Picture

Photographer: G. Lavanchy

Explanation: Hoax by a local student society involving the arrival of two "Martians" dressed with funny clothes and wearing antennae.

References: *Feuille d'Avis de Lausanne*, November 12, 1954, page 40. Bruno Mancusi. *Anuario Cuadernos de Ufología*, 31, 2005, page 154.

Remarks: Nil



(102)

Date: 14 November 1954

Time: Unknown

Location: Ponchartrain, York (UK)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing "IRC Printout, source 9V 1995M."

Remarks: Poor information

(103)

Date: 19 November 1954

Time: Late afternoon

Location: Taormina, Messina, Sicily (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Giuseppe Grasso

Explanation: Fake (initially as per Dr Donald Menzel, confirmed after recent reinvestigation by CISU's Antonio Blanco)

References: *Corriere di Sicilia* (Catania), November 20, 1954. Edward J. Ruppelt, **The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1956), page 237. Karl L. Veit, *Flying Saucers*, July 1962, pages 54 and 71-72. Donald H. Menzel and Lyle G. Boyd, **The World of Flying Saucers** (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1963), page 205 and plate VIb. *SUFOI Newsletter*, February 1974. Ole Henningsen. David C. Knight, **UFOs. A Pictorial History from Antiquity to the Present** (McGraw-Hill, 1979), page 68. Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), pages 370-371, quoting local newspapers dated November 21, 1954: *Giornale di Sicilia*, *Il Messaggero*, *Giornale del Matino* and *Voce Adriatica*. Margaret Sachs, **The UFO Encyclopedia** (Perigee Books, New York, 1980), pages 318-319. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 41 and 53, quoting *The New York Herald Tribune*, December 19, 1954. *UFO Forum*, July 1998, pages 22-28. Giuseppe Stilo. *UFO Forum*, March 1999, pages 39-43 and 47. Antonio Blanco. Edoardo Russo. Giuseppe Stilo, *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Volume 4, 2005, page 91. Daily Italian newspapers *Alto Adiege*, *Corriere di Sicilia* and *Voce Adriatica* dated December 11, 1954, quoted by Maurizio Verga in http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp. Antonio Blanco, <http://xoomer.alice.it/cisusicilia/Bollettino9/Taormina.htm>

Remarks: Nil



(104)

Date: 25 November 1954

Time: Morning

Location: Castelfranco Veneto, Treviso (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Giulio Lion

Explanation: Not available

References: Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi Editore, Firenze, 1980), page 375, quoting the *Gazzetta del Veneto*, November 26, 1954.

Remarks: Nil

(105)

Date: 26 November 1954

Time: Sunset

Location: Calamandrana-Canelli, Asti (Italy)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Publicity campaign photo in the Italian press, November 26 to 30, 1954, advertising the local wines.

References: Newspapers *Gazzetta del Popolo*, November 27, 1954 and *Nuova Sardegna*, November 28, 1954, quoted in Solas Boncompagni *et al*, **UFO in Italia. L'Ondata del 1954** (Corrado Tedeschi, Firenze, 1980), pages 476 and 478-479. *Corriere della Sera* (Milano), November 30, 1954, in Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), page 39. *Ufologia*, 5, September-October 1979, page 8. Giuseppe Stilo. Edoardo Russo. Maurizio Verga. Barry Greenwood. Maurizio Verga' s catalogue, http://www.ufo.it/photocat/photocat_list.asp, also citing *L'Unione Sarda*, November 28, 1954. Maurizio Verga, **When Saucers Came to Earth** (UPIAR, Torino, 2007), pages 122-123.

Remarks: Nil



(106)

Date: Late 1954 (undetermined date)

Time: Unknown

Location: (Argentina)

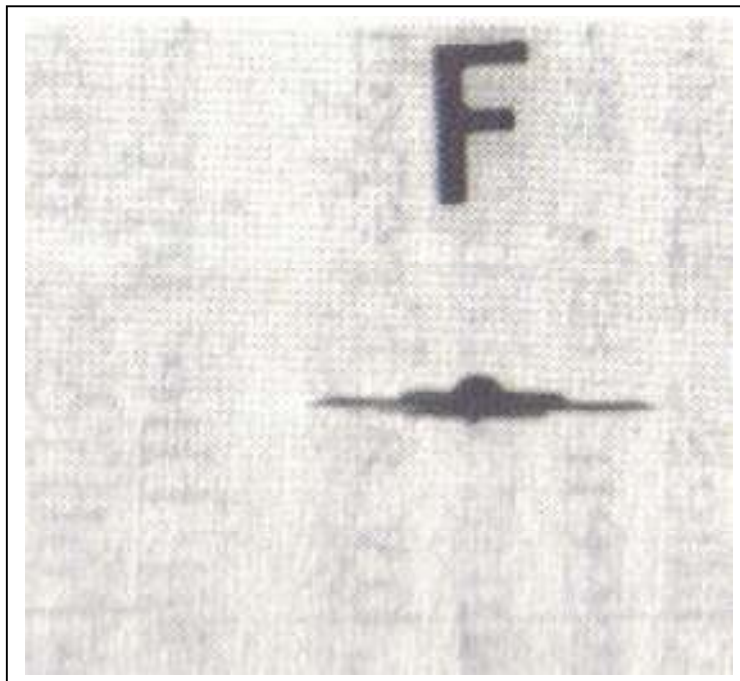
Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture (aircraft gun camera?)

Explanation: Fake (profile indistinguishable from the edge-on pose of one of the faked photos of the series by Ed Keffel (Barra da Tijuca, Brazil, May 7, 1952).

References: Dr Roger N. Shepard in **Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects** (U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1968), pages 229-230.

Remarks: Poor information. Potentially it is a non-event.



(107)

Date: Winter 1954

Time: Night

Location: West New York, New York

Format: Picture

Photographer: Bert Bula

Explanation: Fake ("Interior lamps reflected on window," as per Larry Robinson)

References: Otto Binder, **What We Really Know About Flying Saucers** (Fawcett Gold Medal Books, Greenwich, Connecticut, 1967), plate page 175. Not consulted: *Flying Saucers: UFO Reports* (Dell), 2, 1967, page 31 and rear cover. Brad Steiger and August C. Roberts, **The Flying Saucer Menace** (Award Books, New York, 1967), pages 50-51. *Flying Saucers Magazine*, page 50. *Flying Saucers* (Ray Palmer), Number 81, 1973, page 41.

See: <http://www.rense.com/FSM/they6.htm>.

Remarks: Nil



(108)

Date: 6 December 1954

Time: 21:57

Location: Madison, Wisconsin (USA)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Known only as Mr. Holliday

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing "IRC Printout, source G 40HL 08+."

Remarks: Poor information

(109)

Date: 9 December 1954

Time: 23:00

Location: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Format: Picture

Photographer: F.C.

Explanation: Not available

References: *The APRO Bulletin*, July 1958, pages 1 and 8; and September 1958, pages 1, 2 and 5. Coral E. Lorenzen, **Flying Saucers. The Startling Evidence of the Invasion From Outer Space** (Signet Books, New York, 1966), plate 4. *Flying Saucers: UFO Reports* (Dell, New York), 1, 1967, page 47. Gianfranco de Turriz and Sebastiano Fusco, **Obiettivo sugli UFO. Fotostoria dei Dischi Volanti** (Edizioni Mediterranee, Rome, 1975), page 116.

Remarks: Nil



(110)

Date: 10 December 1954

Time: Afternoon

Location: El Tigre (Venezuela)

Format: Picture

Photographer: An unnamed US engineer of a petroleum company

Explanation: Not available

References: *The APRO Bulletin*, Volume 3, No. 4, January 15, 1955, page 4.
Coral E. Lorenzen, **Flying Saucers. The Startling Evidence of the Invasion From Outer Space** (Signet Books, New York, 1966), page 50.

Remarks: Poor information

(111)

Date: 10 December 1954

Time: 10:15

Location: Curitiba, Paraná (Brazil)

Photographer: Not available

Format: Picture

Explanation: Not available

References: *O Estado do Paraná* (Curitiba newspaper), December 15, 1954. Information provided by Carlos Alberto Machado. See <http://www.alanmooresehordocaos.hpg.ig.com.br/entrevistas185.htm>.

Remarks: Olavo Fontes mistakenly dated the event as November 6, 1954. He also called the photographer "Romario." See: <http://www.project1947.com/articles/fontes1.htm>.



112)

Date: 16 December 1954

Time: 18:00

Location: Victorville, California

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Not available

References: *The Flying Saucer Review* (R.J. Gribble, editor), Volume I, Number 8, page 4, quoted in Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December Supplemental Notes** (Fremont, California, 2002), pages 58-59. Max B. Miller, **Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction?** (Trend Books, Los Angeles, 1957), pages 85-86.

Remarks: Nil

(113)

Date: 25 December 1954

Time: Daytime?

Location: Cape Province (South Africa)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Aircraft? (A cigar-shaped object producing a heavy vapor trail)

References: *Flying Saucer News*, spring 1955, page 16. Loren E. Gross, in **UFOs: A History. 1954: November-December** (Fremont, California, 1991), pages 74-75, quotes *(Australian) Flying Saucer Review*, edited by Richard Huges, Spring 1955, page 16 (probably a mistake with the F.S.N. above, in reality).

Remarks: Poor information.

(114)

Date: 28 December 1954 (April's Fool day in Latin-American countries is on December 28th; however the press references are dated "Wednesday, December 24th", yet this day was a Friday instead!)

Time: 06:00

Location: Havana (Cuba)

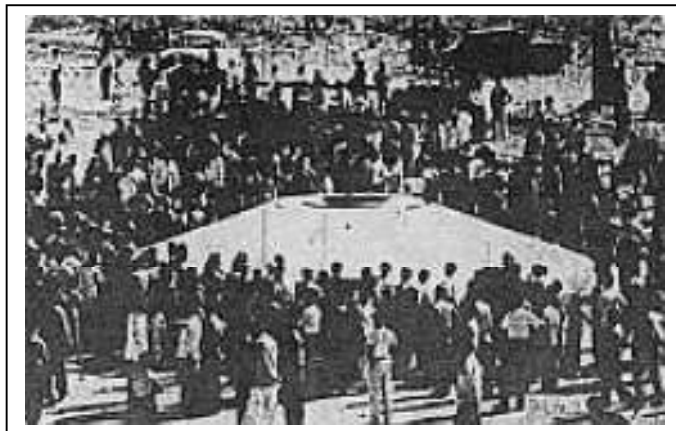
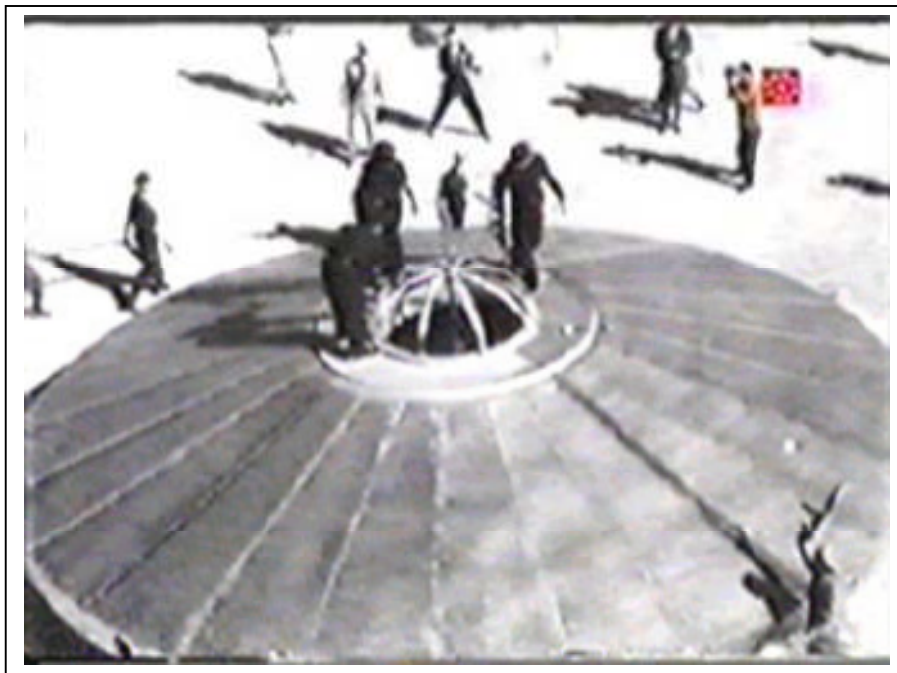
Format: Film (CMQ TV)

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: As publicity for a radio show and a bar, a manufactured flying saucer was planted and several artists came out from it when the police arrived.

References: <http://ourworld.cs.com/rosafornes/page71.html> and <http://www.angelfire.com/fl/ufomiami/CUBA/FALSO.html>. Sites quote magazine *Bohemia* and journal *Diario de la Marina* of December 24, 1954. The Cuban ufologist Carlos Alberto Heredero Gracia reports that images of this event are included in the TV documentary "OVNIs...¿en Cuba"? (UFOs...in Cuba?). A fan of Rosita Fornés (the artist dressed as a "Martian lady" inside the flying saucer), placed a video clip on *YouTube* dating the episode in 1955: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74EUvv99bIM&eurl=>

Remarks: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), citing "IRC Printout, source O 40HK 32+" refer to a photograph taken in Cuba on November 18, 1954. I feel this can be a bad reference to this event.



(115)

Date: 28 December 1954 (or 29)

Time: 15:55

Location: Wednesfield, Staffordshire (UK)

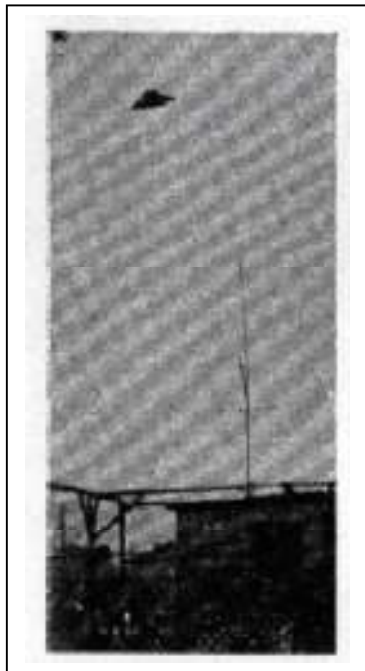
Format: Picture

Photographer: Harold J. Cummins

Explanation: Fake (four British investigators concluded that “the degree of definition around the edge of the object and the even intensity of light reflected from it...are consistent with what might be expected from an opaque silhouette adhering to the glass”)

References: *Daily Sketch* (London), March 1, 1955. *Flying Saucer News*, Spring 1955, pages 5-6; and Spring 1956, page 4. Morris K. Jessup, **The UFO Annual** (Citadel, New York, 1956), pages 102-103. *The APRO Bulletin*, January-March 1956, page 11.

Remarks: The APRO publication dated it 1955 and placed it in Canada!



APPENDIX TO THE CATALOGUE: SOME RARITIES FOR THIS PERIOD

*The following first entry is, actually, a **failed attempt** by a USMC jet aircraft to fix gun cameras on a UFO. It is included here merely as an anecdote.*

Date: 25 March 1954

Location: Fort Lauderdale, Florida (USA)

Format: Gun camera movie (unsuccessful shot)

Photographer: Dan Holland

Explanation: Not available

References: Donald E. Keyhoe, **The Flying Saucer Conspiracy** (Henry Holt, New York, 1955), pages 115-116. Richard Hall, **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), page 31 (it gives the date of March 24th). *The MUFON UFO Journal*, March 1989, page 18. Dominique Weinstein, **Aircraft UFO Encounters**, February 1999, page 23. Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: January-May** (Fremont, California, 1990), page 61. Brad Sparks, "Comprehensive Catalog of 1,500 Blue Book Unknowns: Work in Progress" (version December 31, 2003).

Remarks: Nil

*This is another **failed attempt** to photograph a UFO in 1954. In this case the witness was not familiar with his new camera's mechanism and although "he quickly centered the object in the viewfinder and pressed the button, nothing clicked in the camera." When he got it working, it was too late.*

Date: 19 July 1954

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana (USA)

Format: Picture (unsuccessful shot)

Photographer: Paul Sepas

Explanation: Not available

References: Loren E. Gross, **UFOs: A History. 1954: June-August** (Fremont, California, 1990), pages 55-56, quoting *Fate*, Volume 8, Number 3, Issue 60, pages 34-37.

Remarks: Nil

*The following is considered to be a famous case that **is not an actual 1954 case**, but it is reported here as well because it is frequently attributed to the year 1954.*

Date: 5 March 1954 (non-event) Actual date: 5 March 1957

Location: Rouen, Seine Maritime (France)

Format: Picture

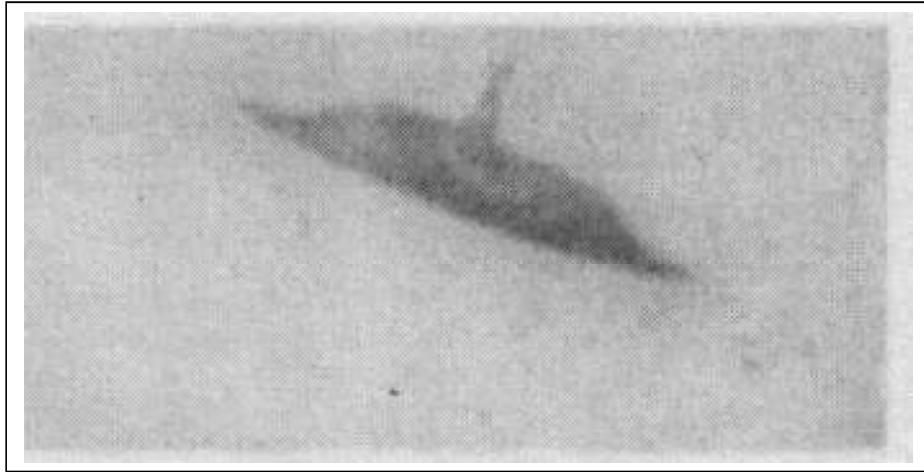
Photographer: Not known

Explanation: Probably a reproduction of the May 11, 1950 McMinnville, Oregon, UFO photographs.

References: The first source to this photo seems to be the British publication *Bolton Observer* of April 1957 (mentioned by J.B. Delair, E. Cox and R. Twine in their "Provisional Catalogue of UFO Photographs. Part One: 1883-1957," *The UFO Register*, Volume 6, Number 2, November 1975). No one else seems to have gained access to the primary source, which is probably the key to this issue. Second source is the *Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 3, Number 3, May-June 1957, page 2. Just an illustration to an article on RAF radar picking up a UFO, the photo appeared with the sole following caption "UFO photographed over Rouen, France, at 08:13 hours on March 5." The third initial source was a Geoffrey Norris article entitled "Something in the Sky" printed in the July 1957 issue of the *Royal Air Force Flying Review*, Volume 12, Number 11, page 15. The few words devoted to the photo follow: "UFO photographed over Rouen in March, this year. Photos of UFOs are rare, never very clear. This is one of the few which seems authentic." The next published reference to this photo was Richard Hall's important work **The UFO Evidence** (NICAP, Washington, D.C., 1964), where the year 1954 was first mistakenly introduced. From this onwards, the photo has been reproduced in hundreds of places, dated either 1957 or 1954. Deep historical and bibliographical research on the photo has been contemporarily made by investigators like Claude Maugé in France and Dr. David Clarke in the United Kingdom.

Remarks: Dr. Willy Smith, in a unreleased paper dated June 20, 1990, reviews part of the above and concludes that both the 1950 McMinnville and the 1957 Rouen photos "are one and the same, i.e., the Rouen photo (which lacks any background details) is only a copy, many generations removed, of the Trent photo." The paper's last sentence reads: "As it stands now, the Rouen incident is only a phantom." I support that as well. In a January 7, 2004, discussion in the SHG e-List, Dr Bruce Maccabee wrote that the "aspects (of the two photos) are different." Next, forum member Mary Castner replied that a comparison performed two years ago "concluded they were one and the same object." Similarly, Loren E. Gross, in **UFOs: A History. 1954: October** (Fremont, California, 1991), page 68, writes: "...the Rouen photograph which bears such a strikingly compatible profile with the famous 1950 McMinnville, Oregon, picture." In <http://www.nicap.org/france57.htm>, Francis Ridge provides a November 2004 consensus of facts known about the image, and it concludes

that the Rouen photo is but a “heavily retouched” McMinnville photograph (Brad Sparks).



*The following event generated six **radarscope photographs**, not actual UFO pictures. A book on UFO photos included this case (under the wrong date) in its collection.*

Date: 4 July 1954 (actually, 3 July 1954)

Location: BA (by the first source). Bermuda (by the second source)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Not known

Explanation: “Returns definitely identified as USS Mindora in company with six destroyers and one submarine en route Naples to Norfolk,” as per the USAF.

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), page 232, citing "IRC printout, source 9 40HG 04x." Dr Richard F. Haines, **Project Delta: A Study of Multiple UFOs** (L.D.A. Press, Los Altos, California, 1994), pages 171-175.

Remarks: The second source documents the real event in a detailed manner, and thanks to this the wrong entry was clarified.

*The following two cases from Australia are **dated 1953** but you can find them repeatedly in the literature as if they occurred in the year 1954. It is with educational intention that these cases are included in this monograph.*

Date: 1953

Location: Wilcannia, New South Wales (Australia)

Format: Picture

Photographer: John Gregory and Kevin Power

Explanation: Not available

References: Keith Basterfield quotes the *Australian Flying Saucer Review*, Volume 5, July 1966, page 15, taken from the *Barrier Truth* newspaper (Broken Hill), June 9, 1966.

Remarks: This case appears (even in the same sources) as dated both 1954 and 1956.

Date: October 1953

Location: North Queensland (Australia)

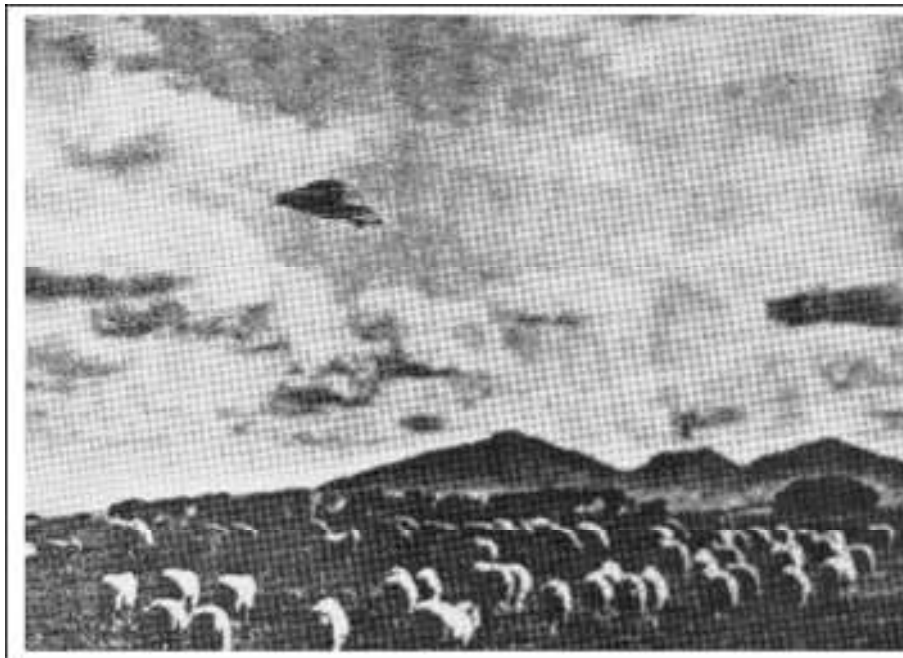
Format: Picture

Photographer: W.C. Hall

Explanation: Fake (as per *Flying Saucer News*, Bill Chalker, Luis Ruiz Noguez, and Larry Robinson)

References: According to Keith Basterfield, the initial source was *Sir Magazine* of February 1955, which is quoted in *Flying Saucer News*, spring 1955, page 17.

Remarks: This is a standard UFO photograph of the fifties and the sixties and it was dated innumerable times either as simply 1954 or as July 18, 1954 (even quoting the primary source as well, which in fact has the the correct date.)



*In the following case, the witness saw the UFO **through binoculars**, however the book source published that a photo had been taken.*

Date: 31 December 1954

Location: Peseux (Switzerland)

Format: Picture

Photographer: Only identified as "V"

Explanation: Not available

References: Wendelle Stevens and August Roberts, **UFO Photographs Around the World**, Volume 1 (Tucson, Arizona, 1986), page 238. *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol 1, No 2, May-June 1955, page 8.

Remarks: Poor information

*The entertainment TV industry also contributed added mythology to this magic year, as we knew from French ufologist Christian Macé. **The episode number 10 of the French fiction series “Interdit Documents” (Prohibited Documents) released in 2006 entitled “My Country is the Moon” includes an alleged trip to the Moon on a UFO, including a segment of 40 seconds of film with a scene of the Lunar surface.***

Date: 15 April 1954

Location: Woolworth (USA) (this town does not exist)

Format: Movie

Photographer: Tibor Nagy

Explanation: Fictional TV series (see Remarks)

References: <http://www.cri.ch/di/index.pl?lang=fr&action=show&episodes> and <http://www.cri.ch/di/index.pl?lang=fr&action=show&episode=10> are links where information on this fictional series (produced for French TV by Jean-Teddy Philippe Productions) can be obtained. The full video is online here:

<http://video.google.fr/videoplay?docid=3120516736839011912&q=histoire>

Remarks: Nil

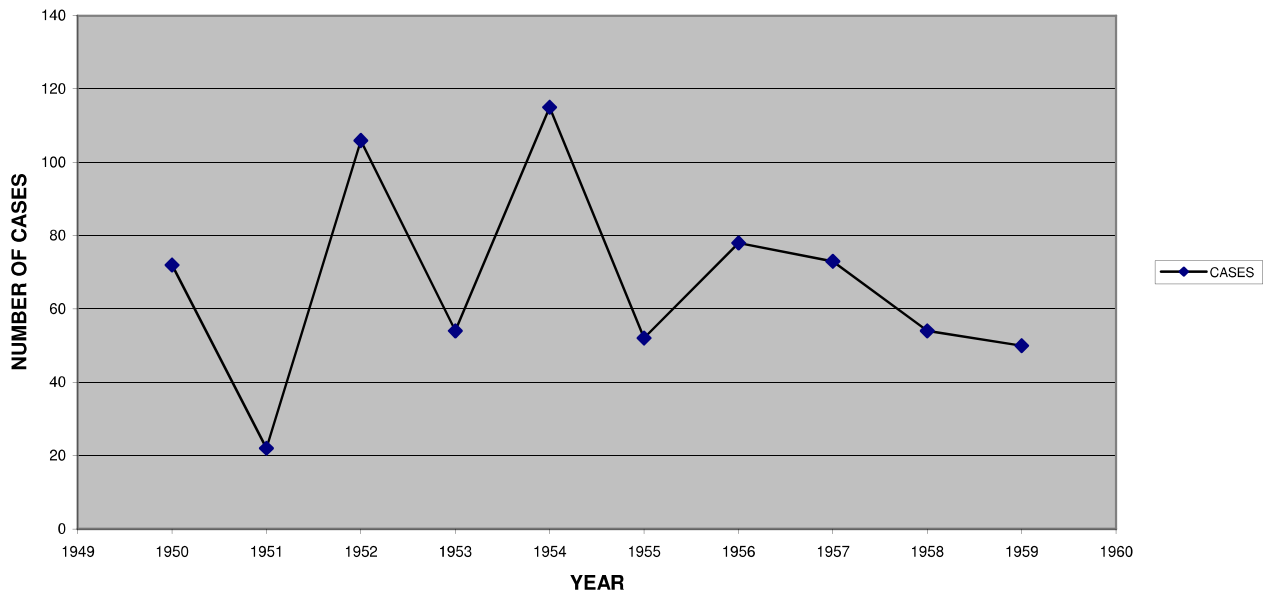


A STATISTICAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1954

The 1954 Year Cases and the Decade of the Fifties

1954 was a special year in the history of reports of UFO occurrences. This effect is well known by researchers, 1954 being one of the classic waves in the UFO worldwide history. As expected, FOTOCAT also records a significant increase in the magnitude of events for this period in the environment of the decade. **Figure 1** shows the cases I have in the catalogue for the decade of the fifties. Excluding 1954, the average number of reports collected by year is 62. Year 1954 contributed almost twice more or 115 cases. In intensity, it was loosely followed by (US wave) the year 1952 with 106 cases.

Figure 1. DECADE OF THE FIFTIES



Cases by Month: UFOs and IFOs

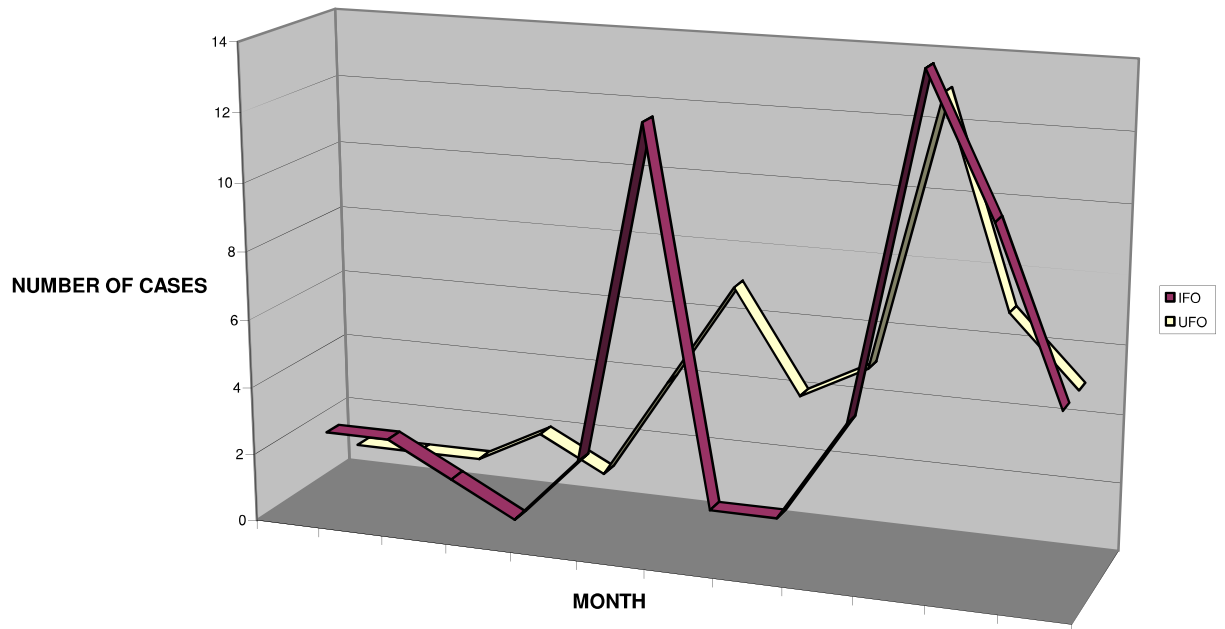
115 reports is a small universe of data. Yet in spite of its size it can convey some significant conclusions. **Figure 2** shows the monthly distribution of cases and the first observation to make is that the trend of 59 IFO cases is quite similar to that of the 50 UFO cases (for 109 cases where the month is known.)

IFOs show a marked peak in June (mostly centered on the 30th, the day of the total eclipse of the sun, where most photographs were due to lens flares or solar reflections by sunlight input on the camera lens).

In the month of July, there was an increase of the reports labeled UFO, whose major feature is the lack of a proper investigation for such claims.

Finally, during October and November both types of reports multiply in mirroring proportions.

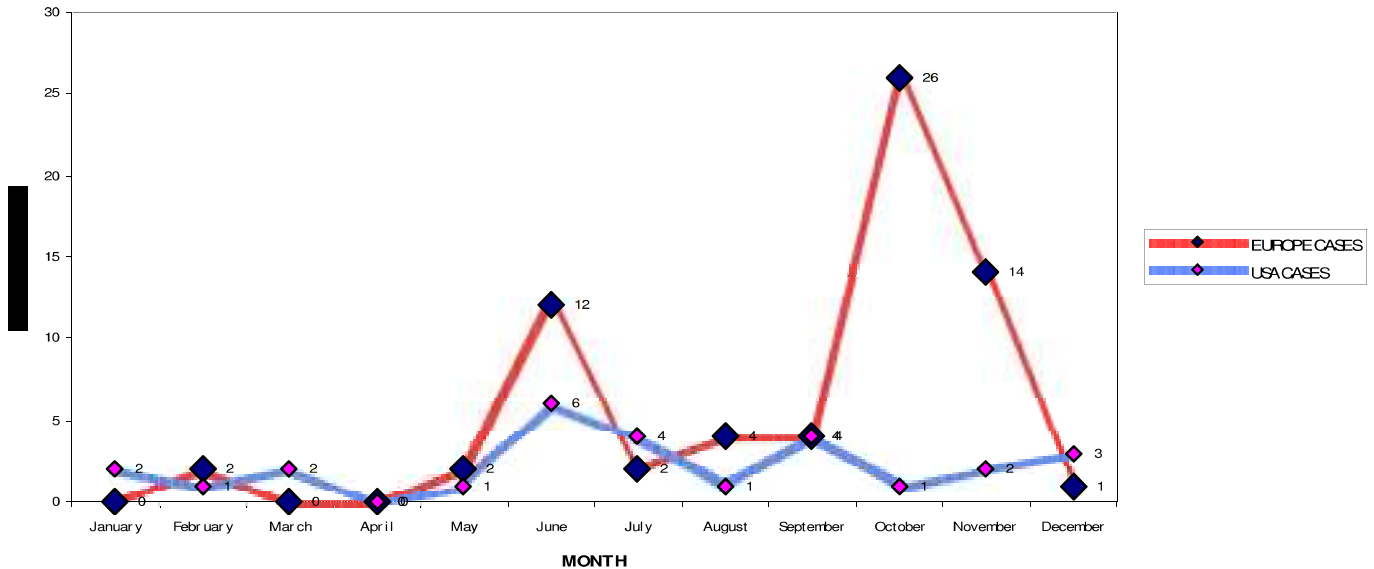
Figure 2. MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION



The October-November 1954 Wave

In order to better examine the October-November wave, **Figure 3** splits the cases by month and origin, with a tally of the two continents which contribute the most cases, Europe (67) and USA (27), excluding 15 residual cases from the rest of the world. Those 109 incidents with known date have been graphed, and we see that no notorious peak is evident in the USA data. Therefore, it is clear that the October-November wave is a European phenomenon exclusively. Specifically, out of 40 reports in Europe in this two-month period, 11 were provided by France and 25 by Italy.

Figure 3. EUROPE vs USA. MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION



Mainframe ufology clearly associates the 1954 wave to France, as far as general, landing and occupant events are concerned. This paper shows that Italy probably paralleled France in the magnitude of UFO reporting. I feel the thrust initially started in France but the UFO furor (either real or media-stimulated) continued to Italy through mid-September to late December. In the month of September the stories of appearances by flying saucers in France attracted considerable publicity in the old continent. There are grounds to affirm that the Italian media were especially sensitive to this type of news, by the wide coverage granted to the stories of flying saucers.

Be they real, figments of the people's imagination, or misperceptions of conventional stimuli, reports of French *soucoupes volantes* peaked in September and the media in other countries collected the news and expanded the knowledge of the phenomenon to a wider audience. Again, either flying saucers actually crossed frontiers or simply copycat effects were produced, because the next two months produced many UFO reports in other countries, yet at different levels of intensity.

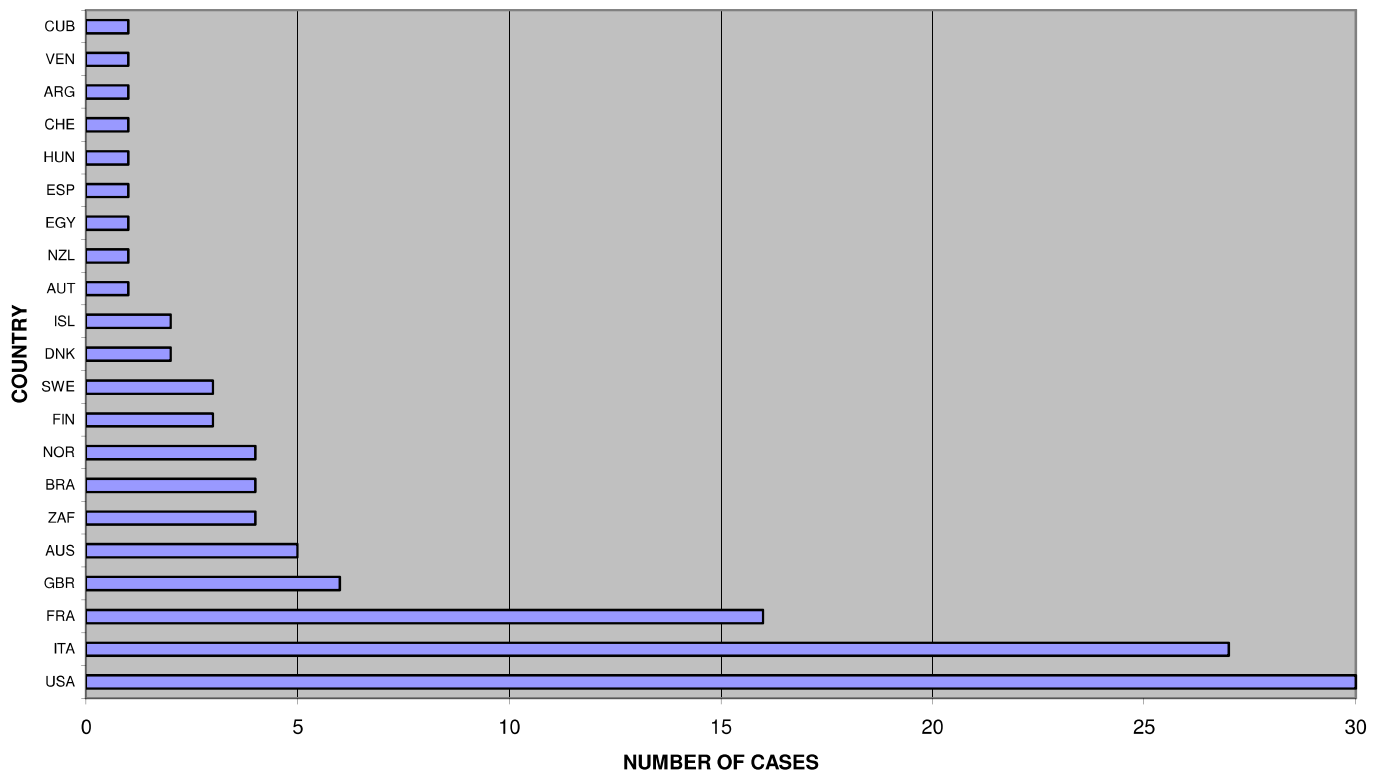
Giuseppe Stilo, one of the best experts in the world in the UFO wave of 1954, has linked the start of the wave in France to the publication a number of well-publicized books on flying saucers, such as the French translation of the Donald E. Keyhoe book **Flying Saucers from Outer Space** (*Le Dossier des soucoupes volantes*), the release of the Desmond Leslie and George Adamski book **Flying Saucers Have Landed** (*Les Soucoupes volantes ont atterri*), and the publication of the first book by the outstanding thinker Aimé Michel, **Lueurs sur les soucoupes volantes** (*The Truth About Flying Saucers*), as well as a heavy previous newspaper coverage of them. (Giuseppe Stilo, "Arrivano I dischi

volanti. La grande invasion italienne de 1954," *La Gazette Fortéenne*, Vol. 4, 2005, pages 73-93.)

Cases by Country

In terms of geographical distribution of the 115 photographic cases of year 1954, there are in total 21 different countries involved, with ten nations contributing three cases or more. As **Figure 4** depicts, the USA is the largest contributor, with 30 reports scattered throughout the whole year, followed by Italy (27 cases) and France (16 cases), basically centered on the September-November period.

Figure 4. DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY

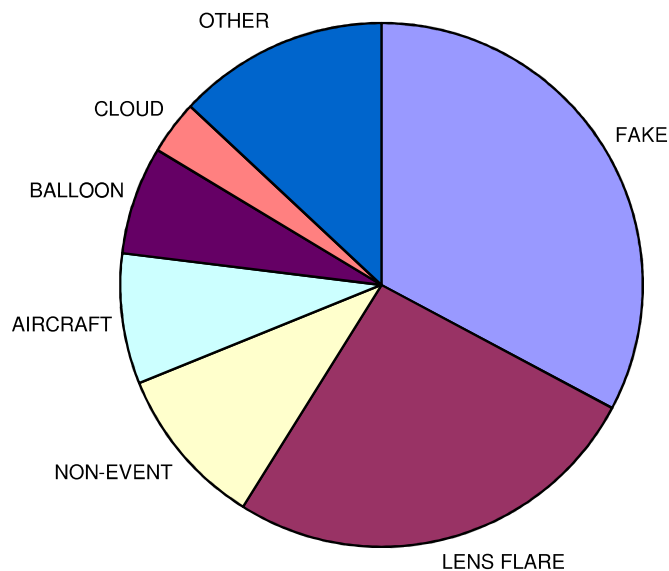


Types of Explanations

By reviewing the actual cases on record for this period, we find that there are not any photographs that are both outstanding (real occurrences beyond any reasonable doubt) and enigmatic (high strangeness, anomalistic images). *We just happen to have either important events with explained images or unimportant events with unexplained images.* If we add to this the lack of simultaneous sightings in some nearby countries (at the same wave level), it gives us an indication that the 1954 wave in Europe may have had a sociological nature, triggered and stimulated by press information and the release of books on flying saucers. Recent work developed by Giuseppe Stilo on the effect of this wave in Italy seems to back up this hypothesis (see his latest book, *Il quinto cavaliere dell'Apocalisse*, UPIAR, Torino, 2006.)

From the 115 reports collected for this year, 61 cases have been solved (i.e. potential explanations have been found) and the remaining 54 have the UFO brand on them (i.e. the available information does not indicate any possible solution to the event). **Figure 5** shows the diversity of explanations for IFO photographs.

Figure 5. DISTRIBUTION OF SOLUTIONS

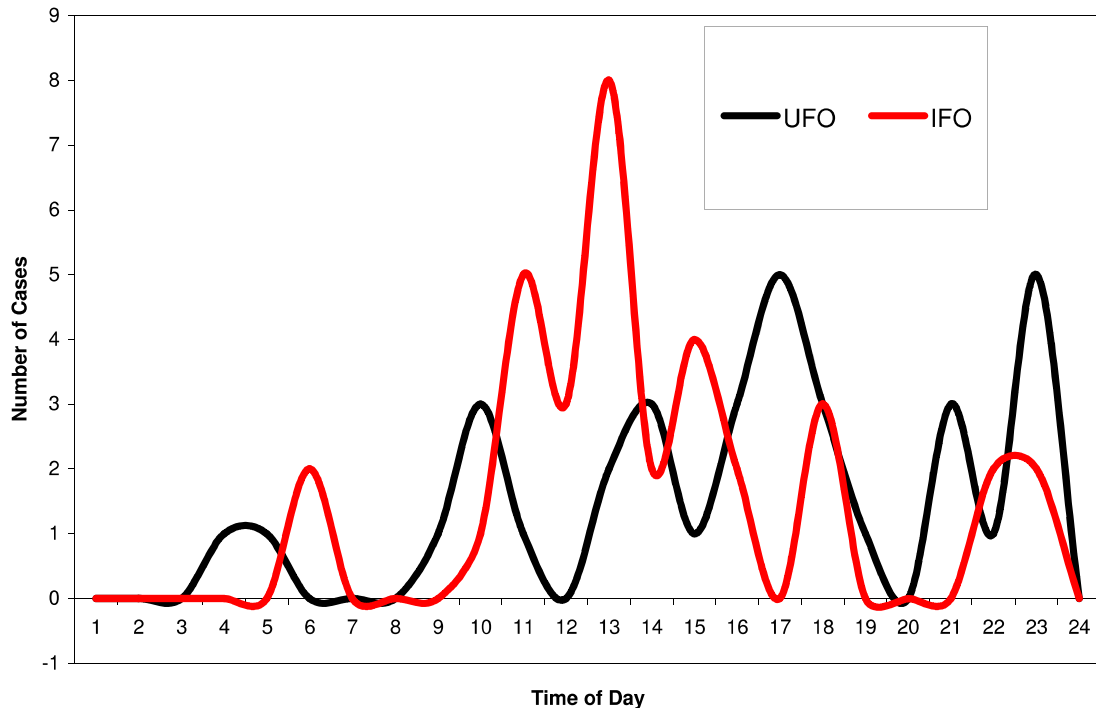


As expected, most explanations have to do with fakes and non-events (43%). This is probably a conservative estimate, to be better assessed when a full analysis of the wave is finally completed, this is, when and if all the reports can be thoroughly investigated. The rest of prosaic explanations represent camera artifacts (lens flares, 26%) and misidentifications of actual flying objects or phenomena (balloons, aircraft, clouds, 31%).

Cases by Time of Day

A graph showing the distribution of cases according to the time of the day appears in the **Figure 6**. Only in 59% of the 115 reports considered, is the exact time known for the event (another indication of the weakness of many of the accounts). There are two groups of the same size: 34 UFOs and 34 IFOs. We observe that IFO reports tend to group more around mid-day with secondary peaks in the night and in the dawn, while UFOs seem to be more night-oriented.

Figure 6. Cases per Hour



The distribution of reports by time-of-day is rather atypical. It is true that 44% of UFO cases occur in the evening-night (from 18 to 05 hours), while in the IFO case the rate is just 21%, but this is quite far from the Gaussian-type curve you observe in the split of landing reports, centered around 22 hours, for example. (Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, **OVNIS: El fenómeno aterrizaje**, Plaza & Janés, Barcelona, 1974. And J. Allen Hynek and Jacques Vallee, **The Edge of Reality**, Henry Regnery, Chicago, 1975.) We can think this is a side effect of the low number of events used in the statistics. Or rather that reports nowadays considered as UFO are badly classified.

On the Validity of UFO Reports

In the construction of the present compilation, the author has not done any screening or event evaluation of his own. Only when the source (press, UFO researchers) has justified that a certain sighting is solved (either as an invented tale, or as a misidentification), is the case classified as IFO.

It might explain the large number of UFO cases (i.e. unexplained) in the catalogue, which are not necessarily unexplainable. I hold doubts about many of the claimed flying saucer photographs in the sample that I have not disclosed because objective proof is not at hand. In fact, the signal-to-noise ratio in this census is 54/61 or 0.9. In a recent paper, Ballester Olmos and Brænne noted that "0.10 to 0.30 would appear to be a standard metric for signal-to-noise ratio," this is the measurement for an acceptable degree of case evaluation. The data in the 1954 catalogue show a S/N ratio much higher than this, unfortunately, showing the imperfection of the available input. (Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos

and Ole Jonny Brønne, "Norway in UFO Photographs: The First Catalogue," 2008, available online at <http://www.box.net/shared/jz8mqdxuss>, or at <http://www.ufo.no/files/norway.pdf>.)

There are 54 so-called UFO reports in this sample. At least 26 of them (48%) have "poor information" noted in the summary entries. It does not mean that there is adequate information for the rest, but there exists a bare minimum documentation, in many case low by the standards of today's ufology.

Certainly, poorly-documented events stand as UFOs, as they lack enough information to warrant an analysis. And experience shows that, with the required wealth of data, most phenomena reach a "natural" solution (Allan Hendry, **The UFO Handbook**, Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1979). It is the task of the impartial UFO investigator to clear the field and find the true causes of the visual misinterpretations so that the limited research resources are vectored to the important cases, leaving the others to rest in peace.

In the catalogue of year 1954, the rate of UFO reports is over-represented. I trust that the current release will prompt other colleagues, especially in the United States, to come forward with additional information on little-documented stories. It will allow a more accurate evaluation of many dark episodes.

Epilogue

A final word on the preparation of UFO catalogues. In my judgment, the failure of past catalogues has been that compilers have basically based their entries just on literature items (books or UFO journals). If the compiler cares to check cases with national and local researchers and get access to the original sources, he achieves what I call the *second-level catalogue*, and many surprises emerge. Normally, several important features are missing or distorted from the initial published accounts. As a result, you realize that conventional explanations can exist for most events. But this should not really surprise us; on the contrary, it is what we should have expected in the first place, as the consensus of experts is that most UFO photographs are hardly valid pieces of evidence to support the UFO reality because of their ambiguity and risk of hoax.

I understand that this is a difficult task, especially for those English-speaking ufologists who cannot manage any other language. In our case, we can handle, in addition to our maternal Spanish (which covers not only Spain but most Latin-American countries), Portuguese (Portugal and Brazil), Italian and French, which grants us a large potential for communication and access to foreign materials other than US, British, Canadian and Australian. It has allowed creating the largest photographic databank on the 1954 UFO wave to date. I hope to hear soon from other UFO researchers so that this sample is further enlarged and corrected. The ultimate goal is double: (a) to have a full picture of what really happened in 1954 regarding UFO photography, and (b) to discern if there was any UFO image and observation that year defying any conventional explanation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In addition to the many colleagues named in the text of summaries as source of information or comments, I want to specially highlight the valuable cooperation provided by the UFO researchers Larry Hatch, Larry Robinson (United States), Claude Maugé (France) and Giuseppe Stilo (Italy). I am indebted to Loren E. Gross for having contributed generously the full series of his outstanding collection of **UFOs: A History** monographs. Also, my thanks go to the members of the *Sign Historical Group* (SHG) and *Project 1954* lists for assistance and advice. I thank Heriberto Janosch, for helping with some of the pictures presented here.

This paper was originally written in English. The editing of the text for the current expanded version has been done by Richard F. Heiden, to whom expressive thanks are given.

PUBLICATION HISTORY

The first version of FOTOCAT Report #1, "The Year 1954 in Photos," was released online on the Internet in August 2004 at the following link:
<http://www.anomalia.org/fotocat1954.pdf>

A second version, in English as well, was published as an appendix to the book by Giuseppe Stilo, **Il Quinto Cavaliere dell'Apocalisse**, UPIAR publishers, Torino (Italy), 2006, pages 601-640. (Book orders: info@upiar.com.)

The third version was the Spanish translation of the paper: "El año 1954 en fotos", **@nomalía** (II), 5, May 2005, where reproductions of the known photographs were included.

Version number four was the French translation: "L'Année 1954 en Photos," in the journal **La Gazette Fortéenne**, Vol IV, 2005, pages 99-133, also including reproductions of the pictures.

The present is a corrected and expanded version of the monograph and it stands (probably) as the definitive version of this research by this author.

AUTHOR' S NOTE ON COPYRIGHT

Copyright of such old pictures is impossible to track. The author of the present compilation informs anyone who has the ownership of any of these photographs that the intention of this paper is educational, not commercial. If anyone disagrees with the publication of what could be his or her property, please let me know and I will immediately remove the picture from any next edition of the present research publication.

© Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, 2008.

APPENDIX: 1954 FOTOCAT SPREADSHEET

I present now the full catalogue spreadsheet for the year 1954. The FOTOCAT database consists of a basic Excel file with a total of 23 standard data columns, whose structure is described in the following lines. By default configuration, the listing prints in three pages.

Page #1

The 7 initial columns are the control and housekeeping codes of the catalogue, or they contain information only relevant to the Spanish section of the compilation, therefore these have been blanked in this version.

Date

8th column. The date is expressed as Day/Month/Year.

Approximate Date

9th column. A triple column denotes Y for approximate year, M for approximate month, and D for approximate day.

Time

10th column. The hour is indicated. When the time is not known, Day, Night, etc. are entered.

Description

11th column. Generally, the entry "UFO" here describes the situation where no reasonable explanation for the event has been indicated by the sources. In all other cases, the type of explanation is described.

Explanation

12th column. When the registered event is explained the entry OK appears.

Location (Country).

13th column. Town, province and country.

Page #2

Nation Code

14th column. It shows the nation's code according to an international alpha ISO code of three digits.

Local Geographical Codes

15th column. Official codes to note further geographical units in some countries.

Photo, Film and Video

16th column. It shows the original format of the image, whether a photograph, film (movie) or video recording (obviously the last not applicable in 1954).

Photographer/Cameraperson

17th column. It gives the full name of the photographer or cameraperson.

Media (for professionals)

18th column. When the author of the image is associated with a newspaper, TV channel or other medium, it notes the name of the media involved.

Duration

19th column. The extent or lifetime of the event is expressed in seconds. (Blanked in this listing as it is "under construction".)

Special Photo Features

20th column. It includes any singular data of the photograph or about the conditions where the pictures were made, like infrared or special sensibility film, stereo or 3D photo, automated web camera or station, gun camera,

photographs from airplane, object unseen by photographer, blank photos, spectra or magnetic recording, underwater, radar echo, night-vision system, pictures confiscated by authorities, etc.

Blue Book Files

21st column. An asterisk (*) here indicates that the event was recognized by the USAF Project Blue Book (closed 1969).

Airborne

22nd column. An asterisk (*) here indicates that photographs have been taken from the air.

Page #3

References and Sources

23rd column. It collects all references, sources and bibliography known by the author to document the events.

Please go now to the full 1954 catalogue spreadsheet:

<http://www.anomalia.org/fotocat/1954fotocat.xls>