

THE U.F.O. Investigator

FACTS ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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RUMANIAN SIGHTINGS REVEALED

A fast-flying oval object "radiating an extremely strong greenish light" was seen by an airline pilot and crew of a large IL-18 aircraft over the Oradea Plain, Rumania, "very close to the Hungarian border," at 8:21 p.m. on an unspecified date (1967 or 1968).

Capt. Benjamin Gabrian was on a course for Dusseldorf, Germany, from Mihail Kogalniceanu Airport, at an altitude of about 25,000 feet. His crewmen, Alexander Niculescu and M. Constantinescu, also observed the UFO speeding in the opposite direction, about 1000 feet above the flight ceiling and half a mile to the right of the aircraft. The object was estimated to be eight to ten feet in diameter and emitted a "dazzling greenish light."

"I continued to watch the luminous object for several seconds until, with a sudden increase of speed, it disappeared to the west," the pilot stated, according to the August 18, 1968, edition of *Dobrogea Noua*.

Capt. Gabrian radioed the Vienna airport and was informed that there were no aircraft within a 250-mile radius.

Second Airplane Crew Spots Object

A few minutes later the Budapest, Hungary, airport called to report that another airplane crew saw a similar UFO moving rapidly west, about two and a half minutes after the Gabrian observation.

"By making note of the point where it was seen the second time," Capt. Gabrian stated, "one can establish that the object was travelling at 7500 to 8500 miles per hour, speed impossible for present means of aerial travel with known sources of propulsive energy."

This and the following reports were sent to us by NICAP's Rumanian correspondent, Ion Hobana, a science writer for *Ziarul Scuntea* magazine. Hobana has unearthed Rumanian sighting reports dating back more than 40 years. Articles by Hobana in the French magazine, *Panorama*, detail impressive sightings by well-qualified witnesses. (Staff member Diana Knop translated the *Panorama* articles for NICAP.)

Meteorological Station Chief Observes UFO

At 4 p.m., March 29, 1967, Batsa Stefan, Chief of the meteorological station at Muntele Semic, was watching a group of skiers when he saw a brilliant object hovering in the sky. Looking through binoculars, he observed a conical form with the side facing the sun shining brightly. He watched until dusk.

At 7:30 the following morning he saw the UFO again. At 9:00 it started zigzagging slowly to the southwest. At 10:00 Stefan alerted personnel at the neighboring meteorological stations at Caransebes, Virful, Tsarca and Munte Curtu, who also saw the object.

"It continued to move slowly and make zigzags in the direction of the southwest until noon, when it disappeared from my view," Stefan said.

At 1 p.m., the UFO was reportedly seen by personnel at the Berzeasco station. At 4 p.m., Stefan saw the object for a third time.

"My colleague Vasile Cotschi and I were again able to observe it until just after the sun went down," Stefan said. "The next day the object reappeared . . . The object was observed from five meteorological stations for about 62 hours."

Independent Witness Reports

Corroborating witnesses stated that the object was tracked by theodolite while observers watched through binoculars. The UFO "had the appearance of a geometric cone, the top part facing downwards, slightly tilted" and was also seen at Resita, about 15 miles away.

Another witness, alerted by Stefan, watched with personnel from the Munte Cuntu and Caransebes stations.

"The object . . . at first resembled a sonde balloon," the witness told Hobana. "It had a flat cone shape with rounded angles, shaped rather like an egg. The object was a flat white color . . . The idea that it was a sonde balloon was given up as the reflection of the sun was rather weak, the vertical movements were irregular, and the horizontal movements were against the wind. These were certainly not the characteristic movements of a sonde balloon...Its movements were alternately slow and fast, then occasionally it stopped completely. I have never seen anything like it in the course of my meteorological career."

Chickens React

A sighting involving chickens reacting occurred at 2 p.m., November 22, 1967, at Petrila.

"I suddenly saw all the chickens in my farmyard running toward me cackling like lunatics and visibly terrified," reported Ladislau Schmit. "They were all flying . . . I raised my head and clearly saw a very brilliant object . . . silver or aluminum, in the shape of a disc. The object bulged slightly and the upper part was dome-like and decorated with small spikes which made me think of antennae. I called my wife . . . The machine was at an altitude of about 16,000 feet.

"[At] first . . . it was completely motionless in the sky, but after about a moment it began to move slowly. It soon took off at a bewildering speed toward the northwest and disappeared . . . Many persons to whom we pointed out the disc saw it, as well as some workers who were fixing the roof of the house in front of us."

After publishing several UFO articles in Rumanian newspapers, Hobana received reports from all over the country.

"I conducted investigations . . . of the most interesting cases and have compiled a file . . . of serious and irrefutable reports," the journalist wrote. "It soon appeared that, as elsewhere in the world, the phenomena had occurred in Rumania over the last 40 years, and especially these last two years [1967-8]. The observations were not only becoming more numerous, but they were made in a more serious manner."

Farmer Sees UFO in 1926

At 1:00 a.m. one morning during the summer of 1926 farmer Ion Bunescu saw a fiery light hovering for about 10 minutes over Cirtsa. Then it headed toward him and was so bright that it illuminated the Olt River.

The UFO emitted a whistling sound, and as it passed overhead the frightened farmer dove into the tall grass and remained hidden.

"It seemed to be a ship, ten feet long," Bunescu related, three to six feet wide, dark in the middle and as bright as the full moon at its edges.

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THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

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Membership Rates

Domestic membership and renewal rate for all NICAP members is now \$8 per year (6 bi-monthly issues of the UFO Investigator), \$15 for two years. Membership and renewal rate for Canada and Mexico is \$9 per year, \$17 for two years. Other countries, \$10 per year, \$19 for two years.

STRUCTURED OBJECT REPORTS CONTINUE

Structured object sightings since the beginning of the year have been reported to NICAP from at least 10 states and two foreign countries. Characteristics include a plane, train and car pacing; a light that "blinded" witnesses; frightened observers; E-M effects; animal reactions; physical evidence; near-landings; and UFOs that emitted light beams and sounds. Witnesses include an airline pilot, FAA personnel, policemen, a forest ranger, a NASA mechanic and an airport employee.

A UFO that caused an animal reaction, paced a train, and shot off light beams was observed at 2:30 a.m., May 24, near Vina, Calif.

Tom Kitchen, ranch hand, was working the night shift when he observed an object "as big as a small bus illuminating a plum orchard about 150 yards away." The UFO hovered just over some trees and maneuvered above the orchard.

The witness left to awaken his foreman, John Sharp, who said his "quite upset" dog had already roused him. For about the next hour, Kitchen, Sharp and his wife watched the alternatively blinking and dimming UFO.

UFO Paces Train

During this time, according to William M. Murphy, who investigated the incident for NICAP, the object left the area to pace a nearby freight train. It returned at a higher altitude.

At 3:45 the witnesses called the sheriff, who arrived with two California highway patrolmen and a Corning policeman. All saw the UFO emit orange light beams to the southeast "at regular five-second intervals."

The sheriff left for a forest service fire station. Both he and a ranger on duty saw the box-shaped craft through binoculars. At 6:30, the UFO,

which "always got brighter whenever it moved," ascended fast toward the southeast, still emitting the orange beam.

Murphy asked the sheriff if the UFO could have been the planet Venus.

"Definitely not," the lawman responded. "It was much too large . . . and was not in the direction of Venus. And it moved around."

The sheriff said he was well familiar with Venus from his extensive night duty patrols.

Dog Alerts Witnesses

Mr. and Mrs. Leo P. Chaput, of Allumette Island, Quebec, Canada, were alerted by the barking of their dog to a stationary bright light shining in their window at 2 a.m., May 11. The light was close to the ground, illuminated the field, and was so bright that Mr. Chaput was forced to avert his gaze. The UFO then suddenly disappeared.

"A soft purring similar to an outboard motor was heard," said H.H. McKay in his report to NICAP after interviewing the witnesses. "This sound gradually faded . . . and all appeared normal."

The May 23 edition of the Montreal Gazette reported that three large circles of singed grass, each measuring 27 feet in diameter, were found. Inside one of the circles were two small burned trees, which were sent to the Ontario Lands and Forests Department for analysis.

Members are aware that NICAP has numerous physical evidence reports from all over the world (see special publication story). Objects which have left burned areas, holes, scorched roads, indentations, broken tree branches, etc., have been sighted with regularity for many years. Even the 1896-7 airship era contained all the outstanding elements of reports in our forthcoming special publication—physical evidence, physiological effects, and animal reactions.

Airline Pilot Sees Object Over Yard

At 10:52 a.m., May 5, Capt. William Marquardt, a Menlo Park, Calif., airline pilot, saw a thin UFO with a center nucleus from his Sharon Heights home. The object was reflecting the rays of the sun and was just over the tops of the redwood trees in his yard.

"[It] was coming from the east," the pilot told a local newspaper reporter, "and it wavered up and down and then suddenly peeled off toward the west." Capt. Marquardt's wife was also a witness.

Discs Pace Plane

Passenger David Garfinkle was flying in an Eastern Airlines plane somewhere over Connecticut between one and 1:15 p.m., April 27, when he observed a brilliant disc reflecting the sun's rays "like a mirror" off the port wing of the plane.

Only a few seconds later several more coin-shaped objects "snapped up" to the first. The UFOs paced the plane, independently tilting back and forth, then sped upward and disappeared.

NICAP adviser Walter Webb submitted the report.

In Tennessee, a brilliant orange UFO as big as a house "blinded" and frightened witnesses on May 31. At 1:30 a.m., Jimmy Baird and Martha Lenox were returning home from a movie in Memphis when a pill-shaped object "shot toward their car."

"It . . . gave off a blistering bright light," Miss Lenox stated, according to the June 1 edition of the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "It kept moving toward us so Jimmy drove away as fast as we could go."

Baird said the object disappeared as they left the scene. Changing their minds, however, they decided to go back, and when they did so the UFO "turned on" again. The yellowish-gold object, with a "ring blazing around it and some dark sections just inside that ring" seemed to be pacing the automobile.

The couple then drove to the home of Baird's aunt, Mrs. Milton Ballard. Mrs. Ballard, her daughter Linday, and Baird's mother, Mrs. Sam Baird, accompanied the teen-agers to the scene of the sighting.

Twenty minutes later the object returned, giving off a light that "suddenly blinded" the witnesses. The UFO "rolled and bounced" toward the car and disappeared as the frightened observers sped away from the scene.

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HAVE UFOs TRIED TO SIGNAL US?

A Suggested Plan That Could Lead To Communication

Meeting or communicating with space beings would be deeply upsetting for earthmen, in the opinion of Dr. William O. Davis, former Air Force physicist. During his AF service, Dr. Davis was involved in preparing public statements on UFOs.

Assuming higher-level beings, Dr. Davis said, they would realize that earthmen's contact with them would pose serious psychological problems for us. Therefore they would try not to frighten us, but would first get us accustomed to their presence so we could become prepared for communication.

The following article, based on reported signaling incidents, includes opinions and suggestions of engineers, scientists and others who have seriously studied the problems of communicating with other civilizations. It does not mean any change in NICAP's factual investigation of UFO reports.

* * * * *

For over a year, reports have been increasing of UFOs answering light signals flashed by motorists, pilots and persons on foot. This has been accompanied by a similar increase in reports of powerful light beams, directed from UFOs at buildings, cars, boats, aircraft and people on the ground.

Wasted Chances

From this impressive evidence, it appears that UFO operations are moving into a new, significant phase. We may be not too far from actual communication, with a chance of learning what motives lie behind the continued surveillance of this planet.

If so, we should not go on totally unprepared, as now. It should be possible to work out a practical plan for speeding up any intended communication.

The most obvious method would be to attempt signaling during close-range UFO approaches, but most witnesses in such cases have been too frightened. Even when the UFO was not extremely close, and no danger was indicated, many witnesses have simply frozen. Recently a police chief watched a hovering UFO, about 700 feet above his patrol-car, for over 10 minutes. Many other American—and foreign—observers have likewise wasted the chance to try flashing a signal.

There still is no proof, or even strong evidence, of UFO hostility. The increased close approaches and spotlighting of motorists and pedestrians in isolated areas may be only to see our reactions, to learn if we have lost some of our fear, or if we still panic—and in a few cases start shooting.

A UFO Answers

Fortunately, enough witnesses have attempted signaling to give us some valuable evidence. In one case, a bank treasurer named Forrest Kerstetter, driving with his wife, saw a large round object outlined by an enormous row of lights. Approaching their car from the west, the UFO hovered near a mountain treeline. Kerstetter drove up the mountain, got out and flashed signals with a spotlight—three shorts and a long. The row of lights instantly went out, then a huge lower light flashed back the same signal, five or six times.

In another case checked by NICAP, witnesses saw five centered UFO lights flash on and off in sequence—as in the famous Exeter sighting. One witness, a former AF radar operator, used a flashlight for three one-second signals. The UFO quickly retraced its path and used its two end lights to send the same signal, repeatedly.

If practical signaling plans were widely known, many hundreds of signaling cases probably would be reported. There would be some false claims, but most could be weeded out.

The actual signaling steps are fairly simple. The big obstacle is the fear, even panic, which close approaches often cause. But enough witnesses have kept their heads to show that a signaling plan could work. In one case, a Flying Tiger Airlines representative encountered a large UFO hovering just above a Massachusetts highway. Though admittedly he was "a little afraid," he slowed his car, drove cautiously under the strange object. Although he did not think of attempting to signal, other cool-headed close-encounter witnesses have done so.

Following are suggestions you might follow if you should have the opportunity.

Suppose you should see the lights or glow of an unknown flying object as it hovers or slowly maneuvers several hundred feet above your car. Instead of racing off, pull to one side and stop, with the engine running. You can try flashing your headlights, and even though they can't be aimed, this has occasionally brought a response. If you have a spotlight or flashlight, aim the beam to one side of the object first—some UFOs have sped away when suddenly caught in a bright light.

Make your first signal simple—a short, a long, and a short, for example. If the UFO answers, switch to a different signal, such as two shorts and two longs. Keep on until the UFO either departs or starts to descend.

Sometimes, an unknown flying object will come down toward a stopped car. More than one signaler has lost his nerve, doused the light and made a quick getaway. We are not advising anyone to take risks, but several times descending UFOs have stopped and hovered a hundred to two hundred feet away, affording a good opportunity to continue the signals. If you can stick it out, keep on trying to get answers.

In case you are paced at close range, alarm probably will blot out any thought of signaling. In many recorded cases, people of ordinarily high courage have panicked and tried to outrace the strange objects. But sometimes cars have been blocked by UFOs landing on highways, or hovering close to the ground. In other cases, cars have been stopped by EM (electromagnetic) interference with ignition.

If your car should be blocked or stalled, tension may prevent any signaling efforts. But since you are unable to drive off, you might as well try a signal—with a flashlight if your car lights are cut off.

Possible Risks

Whatever you do, don't get out of your car at this stage. Although no serious radiation effects have been proved, UFO radiation has been recorded in a few cases. Also, several witnesses who left their cars have reported temporary numbness, excessive warmth, eye irritation, and other effects—presumably caused automatically by the UFO, and not by deliberate intent. Some reputable witnesses have reported closely approaching hovering or landed UFOs, with no after effects, but there still may be a risk—and such close approaches are not necessary to signaling attempts.

Signaling efforts need not be confined to night time. Even in daytime, a powerful spotlight can attract attention if beamed toward a UFO several hundred feet away.

In general, the same signaling plan can be used by persons in open areas, such as a farm or a camp, on a ship or a boat—in almost any location where a UFO is relatively close and not swiftly moving. There is less opportunity aboard aircraft, because of the speeds and maneuvers, though pilots have reported UFO answers to flashing aircraft lights.

From Signals to Messages

Obviously, this is only the first step in any signaling plan. To be adopted seriously, on a wide scale, with organized collection, evaluation and deciphering of apparently genuine messages it would almost inevitably require full official support if not control. NICAP hopes to seek suggestions from communication experts, linguists and others with practical ideas for establishing such a system. We shall also try to increase our records of authentic signaling incidents, to show the need for a full-scale program.

By now, enough UFO responses to signals are on record to suggest a vital conclusion: An apparent willingness to exchange communications with us. If so, this could be of incalculable value. With enough varying signals, cryptologists using computers might be able to decipher an actual message—the first indisputable proof of intelligence linked with UFOs.

From this, it might seem natural to expect eventual verbal communications, but this may take time and according to some scientists it might

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EVIDENCE OF GRAVITY WAVES DISCOVERED

By John B. Carlson, Department of Astronomy, University of Maryland
NICAP Capital Area Subcommittee member.

A method of detecting massive significant cosmic events that also tends to support Einstein's Theory of Relativity has been developed by a University of Maryland physicist.

Dr. Joseph Weber announced that he finally has obtained convincing evidence for the existence of *gravitational radiation*—or *gravity waves*—an effect predicted by Einstein's General Relativity Theory. This announcement, in the June 16 *Physical Review Letters*, was the result of years of painstaking work and technical improvement of Dr. Weber's gravitational radiation detectors. There is every indication now that many fascinating discoveries will be made in the future with larger and improved detectors.

The theory postulates that certain massive objects in space occasionally emit "gravity waves"—somewhat as stars emit light waves—and we should be able to see these objects with a "gravity wave telescope." Essentially, Dr. Weber has constructed history's first "telescope" for this purpose and has been looking for things imagined and perhaps unimagined in the heavens, much as Galileo must have looked at celestial objects with his first telescope.

Dr. Weber's telescopes bear little resemblance to such optical astronomical or even radio instruments. They are large aluminum cylinders, the size of automobiles, with equipment to measure vibrations or shocks, and strain in the metal. The idea behind the detector relies on a gravitational wave from some source in space hitting this cylinder and starting it ringing like a bell. The effect would be many times less than if someone tapped the detector with a pencil.

The significant discovery is that several detectors (as many as four), widely spaced, are yielding significant coincidences. For example, something has excited vibrations in Chicago and Maryland at the same time. It has been shown that the probability of these coincidences being accidental or random is incredibly small. By careful tests and shielding, it has been demonstrated that the signals detected are not seismic (due to earthquakes) or electromagnetic in origin. Hence, by a process of elimination of all other known physical effects, Dr. Weber concludes that there is very good evidence that he has indeed observed gravitational radiation. Future detectors will be more directional and more powerful and will involve the whole earth, the moon, and even the planets.

Origin Theories

Where might be the origin of gravity waves in space? There are several very intriguing possibilities. Any body in motion produces gravity waves; only massive bodies in motion could produce even minutely detectible amounts of gravitational radiation. Some possibilities are two massive stars rotating around each other; a massive star rotating or pulsing; a collapsing or exploding star or galaxy; or even the speculative phenomena known as "Schwarzschild Singularities"—strange gaps in space and time.

Another possibility involves the recently discovered pulsars. The source of pulsars is now believed to be rotating neutron stars. These are massive stars that have collapsed to a diameter of a few miles, the product of a "supernova" explosion in an advanced stage. Such a star is like a giant atomic nucleus and a thimblefull would weigh tens of tons. As it rotates, it releases pulses of radiation—a pulsar. It also should theoretically be broadcasting gravity waves as well as light and radio pulses.

Dr. Weber believes he could build a detector to observe pulsars unequivocally. He may now be observing pulsars, or perhaps the supernova of exploding stars themselves. One final speculation involves "star quakes." Some strange stars may be solid or crystalline in nature and may actually undergo structural changes which might produce strong enough gravity waves to be detected.

In any event, Dr. Weber's coincident events will provide a better test for Einstein's theory and has already opened a new "sense"—a window through which we may observe the universe more clearly than ever before.

SIGHTINGS (Continued from Page 2)

FAA Personnel See Object Over Airport

Ray L. Hupp, employee at the McGhee Tyson Airport, Knoxville, Tenn., was returning to a hangar on a ramp scooter with his helper, young Gary L. Gardner, at 12:50 a.m., May 10, when they saw a light in the sky.

"I turned the scooter around and drove to Cherokee Aviation's hangar," Hupp, a Piedmont Airlines senior mechanic, said in his report to David Kammer, Chairman of NICAP's Tennessee Subcommittee, "I pointed the object out to two Cherokee employees who said they'd never seen anything like it before."

Rushing to the FAA flight service station, the witness watched the cylinder with "an orange ball of fire on the bottom" for about a minute. The upper part of the UFO seemed to be constructed of bright metal.

"When it got halfway across the airfield it started zig-zagging and then it sped up real fast and then it started climbing," Gardner said.

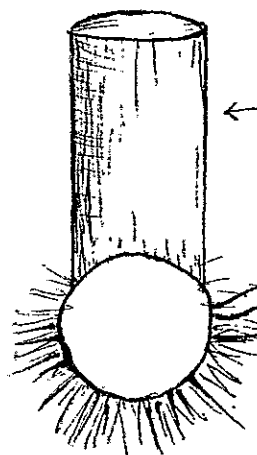
One of the FAA employees remarked that the object was probably a reentering satellite. "If so, Hupp countered, "it's the first one I've seen that was ascending and accelerating."

Returning to the Cherokee hangar, the mechanic saw another orange light, which flew directly overhead, "ascending very rapidly." Hupp and three of his assistants saw the object, identical to the first one, through binoculars. "We all agreed it wasn't any known aircraft, balloon or helicopter," Hupp stated.

The FAA man said, however, that the witnesses had seen "high flying military aircraft" (even though the tower operator told Hupp that the FAA radar had not picked up the objects).

"I firmly believe that they [the UFOs] were not anything he said they were," Hupp argued, "as they made no sound and travelled at a speed greater than any aircraft I have ever seen, including the F-104. All four of us agreed that the FAA explanation was ridiculous."

Both objects were identical in size and shape



Appeared to be highly polished cylinder shaped. Color appeared to be silver.

Ball of fire at bottom of each cylinder.

SKETCH OF UFOs SEEN AT MCGHEE TYSON AIRPORT

Buzzing Low-Altitude UFO Frightens Dogs and Humans

On July 30, 1968, in Claremont, N.H., a "hidden" sighting took place; details came to light through NICAP's New Hampshire Subcommittee.

The couple involved were in the process of moving into a new home and had worked late, retiring about 1:30 a.m. Their children were asleep in a separate bedroom; a pet poodle was in their bedroom and a German shepherd was in the garage. Lights outside the window attracted the couple's attention. Thinking there was a display of Northern Lights, they looked out but saw nothing. From another window, however, they saw lights in the field behind the house, which they took to be people walking around with flashlights; but closer inspection made them realize that something stranger than that was present.

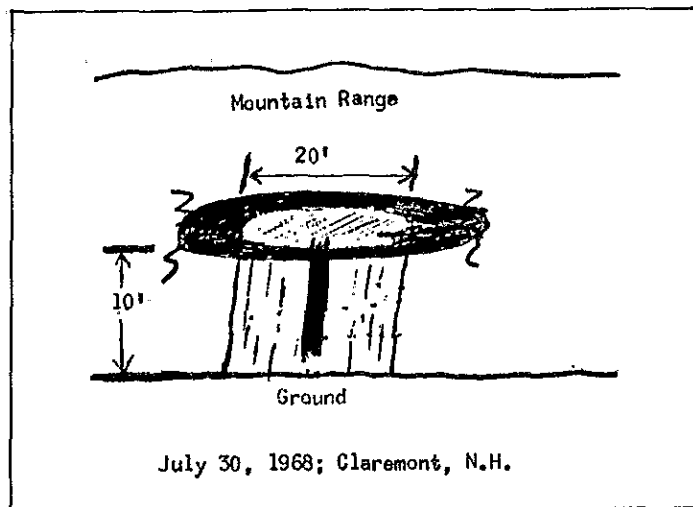
A round object with an "arm-like" projection downward was moving slowly over the field, about ten feet above the ground. It emitted a wide beam of light which illuminated the ground below it, and made a buzzing sound like a transformer. The pet poodle was shaking and nervous; the dog in the garage whined and whimpered. Having no telephone, the witnesses were badly frightened.

For about two hours the object remained over the field, at a distance of about 230 feet from the house. Then it began to glow brightly and took off at an angle just over the tree-tops. As it left it made a loud humming noise; the dog in the garage whined loudly.

In the morning the two badly frightened witnesses reported the incident to the police, who referred them to the Subcommittee.

Inspection of the field the next day revealed no markings, and a geiger counter indicated no unusual radioactivity. The couple were reluctant witnesses; they wished to remain anonymous. A separate report from a totally independent witness supported their story.

This case also illustrates what Dr. Hynek has termed the "escalation of hypotheses," by which UFO witnesses try to rationalize their experiences in conventional terms, but are unable to do so.



Irish Witnesses Frightened

It was 9:50 p.m., February 9, 1969, when agricultural adviser John J. Shelley and his wife Catherine saw a UFO 30 to 40 feet in diameter that "dropped approximately 30,000 feet in four minutes." The couple were driving near Mullinahone, County Tipperary, Ireland, when they observed the "orange and crimson light diffusing through a very small cloud."

The object was surrounded by a blue smoke-like vapor that "completely obscured it." It hovered about 100 feet off the ground and to the right of the automobile. Shelley stopped the car and got out for a better look. The object's glow was "dazzling." The UFO dropped slowly and moved slightly to the left and right.

"My wife got quite frantic and frightened and implored me to drive away at once, which I did," the witness reported to NICAP.

As the couple left, the UFO was either on or just above the ground.

Other reports from the month of May include the following: May 11, Hampton, Va.; huge structured object hovered over woods. May 15, Sarasota, Fla.; greenish-white object that flared brightly and moved with a "bobbing motion." May 17, Cecilia, Ky.; long UFO seen flying at an estimated altitude of 450 feet. About 20 minutes later possibly the same object was seen near Kings Mountain, N.C. May 31, near Kanawha City, West Virginia; witness sees cigar descend behind some trees.

Although reports are still coming into NICAP headquarters with regularity, we need all the high-quality reports members can send us. The lack of publicity and the influence of the Condon report have obviously deterred many witnesses from reporting their sightings.

RUMANIA (Continued from Page 1)

After staying suspended two or three minutes over my head, it left . . . stopped for an instant, returned just over the national highway and passed over a small wood. After this the light weakened."

World War II "Foo-Fighter"

On a summer day in 1944, engineer Gregore Zmeuranu was near the Vage refinery, Ploiesti, immediately following a bomb raid and "one of the oil tanks was burning . . ."

"Then I noticed a pointed object coming from the north," Zmeuranu reported. "It was yellow . . . but with a whitish tail which, when it met the clouds of smoke, seemed to shorten and vibrate in a strange way."

The witness said the UFO traveled at a high rate of speed. Over the burning refinery it turned, stopped momentarily, then zigzagged toward the north and disappeared.

"During a conversation with Gregore Zmeuranu," Hobana wrote, "he specified that the object made a sharp turn of 180 degrees, and he gave me names and addresses of a number of other witnesses."

NICAP has numerous reports, some of them from airline and military pilots, of UFOs executing 90- and 180-degree turns, and many outstanding World War II "foo-fighter" sightings are on file at NICAP and elsewhere. (The book by NICAP Assistant Director Gordon Lore and Harold Deneault, *Mysteries of the Skies*, details many of these reports.)

Between 12 and 12:30 a.m. during the summer of 1955, Mr. and Mrs. Dumitru Coca were near Faragas when they saw a blue saucer with "whitish beams" about five feet in diameter.

"It turned very quickly in the direction of the mountain . . ." Coca recalled. "It moved . . . to the right with slight oscillations and did not turn on its axis. It projected a bluish light with silver-white rays which turned to blue."

UFO Emits Sparks Near Boat

On the afternoon of September 18, 1967, Valeriu Bitu, a Bucharest engineer, was standing on the bridge of a boat heading toward Sfintu Gheorge from Tulcea.

"I saw a very bright object in the shape of a disc which had a tail, and which moved to the east," Bitu stated. "Suddenly the disc stopped suspended in the air at 650 to 1000 feet altitude . . . and about 1500 to 1000 feet from me. The diameter of the object was 20 to 25 feet and the tail was almost the same length. The sides of the disc were red—almost crimson—while the tail was the color of a butane flame."

After hovering for four minutes, the UFO turned left, stopped again, then ascended and disappeared into the clouds.

At 7:30 a.m., December 10, 1967, psychologist Adina Paun saw a bluish-green object with "luminous prickles" resembling "a lighted sea urchin" over Bucharest. The witness said the UFO was between high and low altitude cloud covers. The report appeared in the May 23, 1968, edition of *Cutezatorii*.

Another sighting from the same paper occurred shortly before midnight on an August evening in 1963 in the Giulesti district.

Virgil Gheorghiu was visiting a friend, Vasile Storia, when he saw two large, luminous, round UFOs "with sharp contours" from his vantage point outside Storia's home. The objects stopped and hovered between the two chimneys of a nearby building. Storia's niece, Cornelia, responded to Gheorghiu's call.

"The one on the right began to move . . . toward the north very slowly, and disappeared to the right of the building," Cornelia Storia stated. "The other, on the left, stayed still. After 10 to 15 seconds it suddenly went out like an electric bulb. The night was very clear."

Tanker Captain Spots UFO

The January 4, 1969, edition of *Magazin* contained a report by Nicolae Stefanescu, commander of the oil tanker *Arges Romania Libera* correspondent V. Popescu revealed the sighting, which occurred at approximately 3:47 p.m. GMT, October 24, 1968.

"We were sailing on a calm sea in the Canal of Mozambique between Madagascar and the east coast of Africa," Capt. Stefanescu stated. "Suddenly I heard an astonished cry from the third officer, St. Anton, who . . . showed me something in the sky. I saw, coming from the southeast, a lighted white object which was flying . . . at very great speed. As it came nearer it became a disc, half the diameter of the moon. It was a very vivid yellow-orange color . . . emitting bluish-green rays from the center.

"After some seconds, the object suddenly stopped, rested . . . for several moments, and then suddenly changed direction toward the east, almost perpendicular to our course, and disappeared in space."

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

UFOs and Related Subjects: An Annotated Bibliography. Lynn E. Catoe. Prepared by the Library of Congress, Science and Technology Division. For the AF Office of Scientific Research, Office of Aerospace Research, USAF. 412 pp. \$3.50. Order from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

This book constitutes the most comprehensive listing of UFO literature, and books and magazine articles on related subjects, ever made publicly available. There are over 2500 items gleaned from NICAP and other organizations, and individuals from all over the world. Merely to make these entries would have been a remarkable achievement, but the document's major contribution lies in the brief factual descriptions added by Miss Catoe to every item. This makes it possible for the student interested in a specific aspect of the UFO problem, or a specific approach to it, to concentrate on his particular interest and omit material outside the scope of his work. The material is grouped by classifications, and an author index is included. Miss Catoe is to be congratulated upon a monumental accomplishment.

VIOLENT UNIVERSE

Constant, violent explosions of stars and even whole galaxies in the universe on a scale unimaginable to the layman should shatter any existing notions that those night stars are calm and changeless.

"The Violent Universe," a fascinating 2½-hour program produced by the Public Broadcast Laboratory of New York City and first shown over National Educational Television (NET) stations on April 13, 1969, was an eye-opener.

From observatories all over the world astronomers described their current work and discussed the extraordinary series of astronomical discoveries that have been made in the last few years. Special attention was given to the strange pulsars, whose existence was first recognized less than two years ago, and to the even more baffling quasars. Of the latter the commentator, Robert McNeil, said: "The quasars are such a puzzling phenomenon that they may really lead us to revise our notion of the laws of nature." The various theories that have been suggested to explain these new objects were also discussed.

But regardless of theories, there was no disagreement about the violence of the universe. Stars explode in novae and supernovae, entire galaxies explode, or collide with each other. If the "Big Bang" cosmological theory is correct, the entire universe itself may have begun with the most colossal explosion of all.

Endless battles are going on out there among the nuclear, magnetic, and gravitational forces in the stars, and the resulting radiations pour out along the entire electromagnetic spectrum, not only in the form of visible light and radio waves, but as infrared and ultraviolet radiation, X-rays, gamma rays, and the particles made and destroyed by these processes, crossing galactic and intergalactic space in unimaginable quantities and power.

What Does It Mean?

What is the significance of these discoveries to the UFO problem? Obviously, they do not of themselves prove that intelligent extraterrestrial intelligence has been reconnoitering earth. What they underline is the extreme youth of man's scientific knowledge, and the implied certainty that other discoveries, still more revolutionary, lie ahead. As for our technology, its dizzying escalation in this century gives no sign of slowing down. As Dr. McDonald pointed out in his talk, it is less than 50 years since Robert H. Goddard sent the first liquid-fuel rocket to an altitude of 184 feet; today's Saturn stands twice that high on the ground, 365 feet.

At the moment we are as far from harnessing the energies that boil through space as the savage is from making use of lightning. If we assume, however, as most astronomers now say they do, that many races now exist out there whose technological development began earlier than ours and has progressed as rapidly, then it is not illogical to think that some of them may be able to use the energies that boil through the violent universe as easily as we use electricity to power a toothbrush.

QUARTERLY SIGHTING REPORT

NICAP has received references to 205 UFO sighting reports for the period January–March, 1969. Sources include newspaper references, letters describing sightings, and special reports from NICAP Subcommittees and special investigators.

The detail and quality of these primary references varies, and additional data are sought only for those sightings for which sufficiently significant and informative data are indicated.

From 205 sighting references for the period, 98 sightings were considered promising enough to make further inquiries. From the 97 followups sent out, 55 produced positive returns. On the basis of the information it receives, NICAP classifies its sighting reports in the following manner:

E Cases: Sightings for which an explanation is readily apparent in the original information, or for which an explanation is apparent upon receipt of additional information. E Cases include both foreign and domestic reports. (Domestic reports include sightings from the United States, its possessions, and Canada.)

F Cases: General foreign sightings of either low-grade content or for which additional information has not been forthcoming.

D Cases: General domestic sightings, again of either low-grade interest, or for which additional data are lacking.

C Cases: Pending reports for which additional information has been requested, but not received. (Three months are allowed for receipt of such information; if it is not received in that period, the sighting is filed in either the general domestic or general foreign files.)

BX Cases: Sightings of either potential interest but lacking adequate conclusive data, or of routine interest for which sufficient first-hand information cannot justify an unequivocal "unexplained" classification (as in A and B Cases).

B Cases: Sightings for which reasonably complete first-hand data were received and for which no explanation is readily apparent.

A Cases: Sightings of an exceptionally high degree of strangeness for which extensive first-hand information indicates no explanation.

It should be pointed out that a number of potentially "unexplained" sightings are assigned to the general domestic (D) and general foreign (F) files because additional information has not been forthcoming. In the same manner, additional information on A, B, or BX Cases may justify a reclassification of these sightings into another category.

MONTHLY STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN

Classification	Total	Followups	Returns	Special Reports
Explained (E)	12	2	2	—
General Foreign (F)	15	3	1	1
General Domestic (D)	44	22	13	3
Pending (C)	2	2	—	—
BX Cases	3	3	3	1
B Cases	3	3	3	2
A Cases	—	—	—	—
January Totals	79	35	22	7
Explained	3	1	1	1
General Foreign (F)	10	1	1	1
General Domestic (D)	44	22	7	2
Pending (C)	1	1	—	—
BX Cases	3	3	3	—
B Cases	2	2	2	—
A Cases	—	—	—	—
February Totals	63	30	14	4
Explained	5	2	2	2
General Foreign (F)	5	1	—	1
General Domestic (D)	41	21	9	1
Pending (C)	1	—	—	1
BX Cases	5	4	4	3
B Cases	6	5	4	3
A Cases	—	—	—	—
March Totals	63	33	19	11
First Quarter Totals	205	98	55	22

SIGNALS (Continued from Page 3)

not be possible. According to Dr. J. Allen Hynek, AF UFO consultant, advanced civilizations may employ unusual communication methods such as telepathy. Dr. Paul Garvin, linguist for the Bunker-Ramo Corporation, says that space beings may be so different physically from us that communication would be very difficult—but if they had vocal cords and other human-like characteristics it would be more likely. Dr. William O. Davis (already quoted) believes the space beings would probably learn the Earth's languages before attempting verbal communications. Even for a super-civilization, learning just the commonly used earth languages could take considerable time.

However, a race able to achieve space travel, perhaps thousands of years ago, should be able to develop methods of full communication—even if not by the spoken word.

The first absolute proof of intelligent UFO signals would undoubtedly force an official attempt—even a crash program—to gain, as quickly as possible, all the tremendously valuable information a super-civilization could impart. If such a race wished, we could bridge a gigantic time-gap and learn technologies, control of disease, and the keys to great advances now beyond our imagination. And long before this we would learn the reasons for the UFO surveillance of Earth.

The Big Question

After a period of communication, the next step could be an actual confrontation with the alien beings involved. There could be some block—such as a physical inability to exist on our planet. But the increasing close approaches may mean that such meetings are possible, with all the questions and serious decisions this would involve.

Here we come into the most controversial phase of the entire UFO problem—ACTUAL CONTACTS WITH SPACE BEINGS.

As the record will show, NICAP has never denied this possibility. Considering our own planned space explorations, it would be ridiculous to deny that other races could have landed on Earth. To date, we have not found any absolutely proven claims of "contacts"—face-to-face meetings and discussions with alien beings. We have found numerous hoaxes and have exposed some. But there are certain "encounter" reports (with no communication claimed) by apparently reputable witnesses, which should not be disregarded.

In the NICAP Special Publication, *UFOs: A New Look*, we presented several encounter cases and some contactee claims, and also discussed the question, "Are There UFO Occupants?" Before then, and since, some of our members have asked what to do in case an alien space-being should be encountered.

A feature-length discussion of this question is being prepared. We hope to include it in a forthcoming issue. Also, a number of contact and encounter reports will be discussed. The article will naturally be speculation, since we have no definite evidence as to any space beings possibly involved in UFO operations.

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The preceding material was written by the NICAP Director. While a good number of our officials and members share the views expressed, the article should not be construed as reflecting the ideas of the entire staff and membership.

Netherlands Group Asks Hearings

On June 30 NOBOVO (International Unidentified Flying Object Bureau of the Netherlands) sent a letter to the Dutch Secretary of Science and Education to ask him (1) to help arrange for a hearing on the subject of UFOs before the Committee of Science and Education of the Dutch House of Representatives, and (2) to consider the possibility of creating an official, unbiased, scientific investigation of UFOs in Holland.

NOBOVO, a serious UFO organization, would be glad to receive copies of any news stories published in the U.S. about their request. Their address is: Moleneid Z.z. 69, Drachten, The Netherlands, Att. G. J. Kok.

FAA OPERATORS TRACK UFO

An oval UFO that circled low over an Air Force base and made an instant 180-degree turn was tracked on radar and seen by two CAA (now FAA) control tower operators over Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, N.M., on November 4, 1957.

At 10:45 p.m., the FAA men on duty, Richard M. Kaser and Eugene G. Brinks, saw a light approaching the end of the main east-west runway at a steep angle. Thinking at first it was an expected C-46, the witnesses watched as it left the normal runway flight line and cut across runways, taxiways, and unpaved areas, heading toward the control tower at no more than a few tens of feet altitude.

Grabbing binoculars, Kaser and Brinks saw that the object was elongated in the vertical direction, with a diffused white light at its base. It was estimated to be 20 feet high, like "an automobile on end." It had no wings, no tail and no fuselage. The FAA men were convinced the object was no conventional aircraft.

"There was no doubt in my mind that no aircraft I knew of then, or ever operating since then, would compare with it," Brinks told Dr. James E. McDonald, who interviewed the witnesses 12 years later.

The UFO reached a B-58 service pad in a restricted area about 3,000 feet from the control tower. It stopped and hovered over an abandoned machine-gun calibration bunker for 20 to 60 seconds. Then it moved to the airfield's eastern boundary, executed a 180-degree turn, and disappeared into the overcast. According to Project Blue Book, the UFO ascended at the incredible rate of 45,000 feet per minute.

For 20 minutes the object was tracked on radar as it circled near the Albuquerque Low Frequency Range Station. It reapproached Kirtland Field, and trailed a C-46 bomber to the north, off the radar scope.

The incident was first made public in the Condon report, which accepted Project Blue Book's conclusion that the object was a "small, powerful private aircraft." An Air Force Base intelligence officer, who interviewed the witnesses two days after the sighting, had a different conclusion. He said that "the sighting and descriptions conform to no known criteria for identification of UFOs." Kaser and Brinks were reportedly "quite amused" by Blue Book's explanation.

The sighting occurred during the height of the big November 1957 UFO "flap."

AIRLINE SIGHTINGS EXPECTED

The Air Line Pilots Association, the largest such organization in the world, has agreed to help NICAP in its search for verified UFO reports. Member pilots not already aware of NICAP's standing and our factual investigations will be informed of our reliability. In relaying our request for reports, ALPA will also repeat our promise to keep pilots' or company names confidential, if so requested.

We expect, however, that a sizable number of airline pilots will permit the use of their names. Even when names cannot be used, the reports will be of great importance since the main facts can be made public. Often, such reports indicate other witnesses who are willing to be quoted and who sometimes add valuable details.

We already know a number of airline pilots who have never publicly reported their sightings. At a conservative estimate, there must be at least a thousand who have had impressive UFO encounters. In addition, the head of another large aviation organization will probably agree to similar aid to NICAP, and still other aviation groups will be queried.

The result could be a large amount of impressive new evidence. If this should happen, it would deal a serious blow to the skeptics and debunkers.

USAF "Unknowns"

NICAP is compiling a list, from 1947 to date, of UFO sightings which the Air Force has classified as "unknown" or unexplained. If you have queried the Air Force about individual sightings and have received letters describing a given case as "unknown," please send us photocopies or let us borrow the letters.

STRANGE EFFECTS FROM UFOs

The first of NICAP's special publications—*Strange Effects From UFOs*—is now being prepared for the printer. In exploring various puzzling aspects of the UFO problem, the publication presents detailed reports of unusual physical effects, many of them occurring during close-range encounters with unknown flying objects.

Three general areas will be covered—physiological effects, physical evidence, and animal reactions. There are also frequent E-M interference characteristics. NICAP hopes to publish a future E-M effect publication.

The physiological effect cases include witnesses feeling heat; being burned; numbness; temporary blindness; and unconsciousness. (We wish to stress, however, that none of the observers suffered serious permanent injuries, and these effects should not be construed as evidence of UFO hostility).

The physical evidence cases include reports of damaged and scorched trees and bushes; crushed foliage; burned ground and road areas; and holes and impressions in ground and road areas. There were also reports of solid objects, such as yard utensils, rocks, and logs, being disturbed.

Effects on such animals as cattle, horses, dogs, cats, birds and even chickens will also be discussed.

Other characteristics include a few reports of excess radioactivity (again, there have been no severe effects to humans); an overturned horse and wagon; a truck that was displaced; and cars rocked by UFO blasts.

Cases range from 1969 cases back to earlier reports of unusual interest, some not previously published, others with new significant details. Most of the more "classic" cases (e.g., Socorro, N.M., 4/24/64) will not be covered in detail because of their wide exposure elsewhere. Instead, newly-revealed, highly interesting reports will receive top coverage.

A comprehensive chronology of reports from approximately 30 states and 10 foreign countries will also be included. There will be discussions as to how effects might be caused and individual case reactions from scientists. Numerous witness sketches and possible photographs will also be used.

Order blanks for the new publication, which will compare in makeup with *UFOs: A New Look*, are enclosed. The price in the U.S. is \$3.00; Canada and Mexico, \$3.50; foreign, \$4.00.

We expect enough orders from members in July to cover the cost of the first printing. However, checks will not be deposited until this amount is received. We are aiming at an approximate mailing date of September 1.

Please inform interested friends of this new, important publication.

Other NICAP Publications

NICAP's previous publications, *UFOs: A New Look* and *The UFO Evidence*, remain important reference works.

UFOs: A New Look includes: I. The UFO Revolution. II. Extraterrestrials—Suggested Motives and Origins. III. Vehicle Pacings and Encounters. IV. Close-range Sightings; Structural Details. V. Scientific Support; Congressional Hearings. VI. Landings; Physical Traces. VII. Are There UFO Occupants? VIII. The Colorado Project. Price: U.S. \$3.00; Canada and Mexico \$3.50; Foreign \$4.00.

The UFO Evidence covers sightings from all over the world by military and airline pilots, radar and control tower operators, scientists, and many other reliable citizens. Besides first-hand details of such sightings, it contains special sections on Problems and Dangers, and a Chronology. It has been widely acclaimed by aviation editors, members of Congress, pilots, press media, and the general public. Price: U.S. \$5.00, Canada and Mexico \$5.50, Foreign \$7.00.

If you already have these publications, please recommend them to friends interested in the UFO subject.

On The Condon Report

Articles and stories in *Science*, Feb. 14, 1969; *Popular Science*, April 1969; *Book World*, Feb. 28 and May 4, 1969; *Science Digest*, March 1969; *The Nation*, Jan. 27, 1969; *Electronic Design*, Feb. 1, 1969.

McDONALD TALK STRESSES REPORTS

Highly interesting case histories that leave little doubt of UFO reality, and restrained speculation on why UFOs have not contacted us, were among the highlights of a speech by Dr. James E. McDonald, University of Arizona atmospheric physicist, in Washington, D.C., on June 10, 1969.

Dr. McDonald was in Washington on other business and kindly gave our local members this opportunity to hear a most stimulating talk by one of the few real experts in the field of UFO research. The NICAP-sponsored talk was entitled: "UFOs—Unsolved: A Scientific Challenge."

Dr. McDonald first cited examples from "scientific history's catalog of unconscionably closed minds," such as Lord Kelvin's opinion that the discovery of X-rays was an elaborate hoax, astronomer Simon Newcomb's mathematical "proof" that heavier-than-air machines could never fly, and other dogmatic assertions about "impossible" achievements and "nonexistent" phenomena.

The latest example of such closed-mindedness: scientists have been trying for 22 years to convince the Air Force that the UFO problem is a trivial matter; the Condon Report, unequivocally endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences, is the net result.

Dr. McDonald then discussed a number of cases in the Condon Report which he himself had checked, interviewing witnesses, examining Blue Book files, and analyzing the Report's "explanations" from the scientific viewpoint. Dissenting vigorously from the conclusions in the Report, he stressed the importance of the UFO problem as an on-going challenge to the scientific community.

As an example of the strong cases that continue to be reported by reliable witnesses, Dr. McDonald gave further details of the Havasu Lake report of March 17, 1969 (see *Investigator*, May 1969, p. 4) of the air-to-air sighting of a formation of objects seen below an airplane. (His personal investigation also revealed that the alleged "confirmation" of the story by two commercial pilots near Phoenix had no basis in fact.)

Questions and Answers

Audience questions brought interesting comments from the speaker. Asked about the Russian attitude toward UFOs, he said that he had sent practically all of his material to the private Moscow group, but had received little or nothing in return. A number of Russian astronomers, he said, seem to accept the explanations put forth by Dr. Menzel.

Answering the question, "Why don't these extraterrestrials make contact with us, especially with some scientific group?" Dr. McDonald stressed that idle speculation is unfruitful. He pointed out, however, that cases have been reported where lights have been flashed at UFOs by witnesses, with apparent response. But human beings never think of communicating with the population of an anthill. Or suppose that an Australian aborigine saw big silver birds in the sky; when he learned that there were men inside the objects, he might wonder why the men didn't come down to trade nose-bones with his tribe.

Another interesting possibility was suggested by a NASA official: an expert anthropologist might be able to carry out all his study of a newly-discovered primitive culture in such a way that the tribe would not even realize they were being studied. By analogy, the UFOs may be using techniques of this kind to study us, and would accordingly avoid a formal declaration of their purpose.

In reply to questions about UFO propulsion, Dr. McDonald said that most of the theories so far submitted are "utterly unreasonable." The range of propulsion phenomenology is so wide that it compels one to think that there must be many modes of propulsion. UFOs are sometimes silent, sometimes noisy; they may create strong air disturbance, as in the Flynn case, or no disturbance at all, as in the sighting by two hunters in a duck blind, who watched a UFO maneuver for 30 minutes around a dam structure. The men told Dr. McDonald that the most striking feature of the event, to them, was that although the object was close to the water most of the time, there was not the slightest ripple on the surface.

Dr. McDonald said he is not in personal touch with any work on antigravity. He does know a group of hard-headed scientists, however, who work for a major aerospace firm and have been studying UFOs for some time, in hopes of figuring out the propulsion methods. "But I don't think," he added, "that they are very close to the answer."