

# THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — SEPTEMBER, 1962

## MAN KIDNAPPED BY GLOBES

### UFO Over Titan Site

On or about the 7th of August, 1962, a brilliantly glowing object descended over a Titan missile site near Tucson, Arizona, in the vicinity of Oracle. Because of fear of reprisal, the witness first contacted was not willing to give his name for publication and because of this APRO was in doubt as to the authenticity of the sighting. However, within five weeks after the initial report, two other reports reached us which indicated that indeed something strange had happened at the site on or about the 7th. The first report was that at about midnight on the 7th, one of the night crew while outside the complex spotted the brilliant light overhead which began to appear larger and larger. He realized the object was ascending directly over the site, went inside and notified another man who came out and watched with him. Shortly, the object appeared to be coming so close that the men were somewhat frightened and they took refuge. Davis-Monthan AFB had been notified, and two jets streaked in from the direction of Tucson. As the jets approached, the objects took off fast and was out of sight in seconds. The jets circled the area, then headed for Tucson. Minutes later the "visitor" was back again. Witnesses said the bottom of the object was similar to the color of the moon in the night sky. Shortly after the second ascension over the Silo, the object ascended vertically and moved off at high speed, disappearing in seconds.

Another witness' testimony indicated that the object or a similar one was seen either the night before or the night after the above-described sighting, with similar maneuvers taking place.

### Boy Snaps Photo Of UAO Covey

Alex Birch, a 14-year-old schoolboy of Moor Crescent, Mossborough, Sheffield, England, snapped a box-camera photo of a group of NAOs on or about 25 February 1962, in the presence of two other boys, Steward Dixon and David Brownlow. He and his friends were in the old

nursery garden in the back of his home when they spotted the five dark objects over the currant hedges and trees. The picture was taken with a simple Brownie camera, shows five dark fan-shaped objects, slightly out of focus above the trees.

Air Ministry experts examined the photos but would not comment on them. They questioned the boy for nearly two hours. Alex's father said he was told he would get an answer if he came to London with the photo and negative, but after the meeting, officials said they would have to make more inquiries.

The Yorkshire Post said the Ministry officials smiled when they saw the boy and his box camera but did not smile when they saw the photograph. They later referred to the objects as UFOs and Aerial Phenomena, and say the photo is not a hoax.

On the glossy pictures and the negative, there are several clusters of white or clear spots. One cluster is immediately above one of the objects.

### Landings In Italy

In addition to the Zuccala sighting (or experience), there was several other close-up sightings of UFOs—especially in the vicinity of Florence. On the evening of the 11th of April, Iller Benazzi, 28, accompanied by three friends, was driving along the Saronno-Legnana road. He stopped the car so that he and his company could watch a strange looking flying machine. He said it made no noise, dived on their car, then landed on the road some distance from their car. The Edinburgh Evening News for 14 April did not give a detailed description, but quoted Benazzi as saying the objects had "three smaller tail lights with a violet gleam." The four drove on. He told police that he and his friends decided not to talk about the object, as they feared no one would believe them. He changed his mind after reading of the Zuccala sighting which described a similar type of craft seen on the same night. No further details; see Zuccala sighting.

*Report by Olavo T. Fontes, M.D.*

The tragic case I am going to relate here was investigated to the limits that any investigation can reach when every piece of evidence is analysed and evaluated, when every clue is exhaustively followed, and when every conventional explanation is explored and dismissed for lack of proof. In a case of this kind, however, we could only establish a definite conclusion if that conclusion could be negative. We could be sure, in other words, if the body of the victim was found; if facts or motivations in the past life and personality of the victim or witness were demonstrated, showing that they couldn't be trusted, were psychotic, or had reasons to simulate the whole thing; or if additional evidence was not uncovered connecting the facts in the case with the sighting of unconventional aerial objects. As the body was not found, facts or motivations of such a kind were lacking and there was definite evidence concerning the sighting of UAOs—the case must be accepted as possible despite the lack of absolute proof. On the other hand, we must recognize the witness obviously cannot present more than was presented: his report about the mysterious disappearance of his father. You can believe it or not. The absolute truth, that only the witness himself can be sure about it.

The readers may not like this report. For one reason—it will show them that such things as UAOs from other planets could be interested in kidnapping humans, in order to become better acquainted with them. In fact, personal experiences such as the one related here will cause you to wonder about missing people—about how many of the individuals who are yearly reported as missing might have chanced to come upon a UAO in some lonely spot and were captured as specimens.

A noise of running steps, a shadow seeming to float into the dark room, two ball-shaped objects emitting light and discharging a strange yellow smoke, a human being disappearing into that yellow mist before the eyes of his terror-stricken son—such is the fantastic story

*(See Kidnapped, page 3)*

## The A. P. R. O. BULLETIN

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## Salisbury On "Life On Mars"

In "Popular Science" magazine for  
September 1962, APRO member Dr.  
Frank B. Salisbury tells "Why I believe  
in Life on Mars."

The reasons: 1. The color change fits  
nicely into a spring-summer vegetation  
cycle, and 2. When the yellow clouds  
do cover the planet they don't perma-  
nently tinge it. Whatever is there ap-  
pears to grow through it or shakes it off.  
This rules out lichens which also require  
a lot of water, algae and fungi for ex-  
istence.

He points also to the riddle of the  
Martian satellites—and the canals — in  
support of possible "higher forms of  
life."

## Moving Lights Over Philly

On the nights of April 25 and 26, 1962,  
objects were reported over Philadelphia  
which moved, stopped short, changed di-  
rection and faded from sight. Authorities  
suggested airplane landing lights or fire-  
balls. What'll you have?



PALO ALTO, Calif., Monday, Sept. 10, 1962—Research scientist Alvin E. Brown, of Lockheed Missile & Space Co., finds his way through a wooded area with a "bat radar" device which uses the principal of the bat hearing system in detecting objects in its path.

## Brown Plays "Batman"

With pardonable pride we wish to call  
attention to some recent accomplish-  
ments of Al Brown, our Research Direc-  
tor.

No. 1 is a portable electrocardiograph  
so small that the heart patient can wear  
it under his clothes while pursuing his  
normal daily activity. Heart activity is  
recorded on a tape capsule which is re-  
moved and interpreted later. Al design-  
ed and patented the device in the course  
of his work at Lockheed Missiles and  
Space Co. It is already on the market.

No. 2 is described briefly in the fol-  
lowing excerpts from a Lockheed Mis-  
siles and Space Co. news release:

"FOR RELEASE: Monday, Sept. 10,  
1962. BAT RADAR DEVICE ENABLES  
MAN TO 'HEAR' OBJECTS IN HIS  
PATH. PALO ALTO, CALIF.—A "bat  
radar" device which, when fully develop-  
ed, may allow a blind man to throw  
away his cane, has been produced by  
Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. scientists.

"In its present preliminary form, the  
instrument enables a blindfolded person  
to detect and make his way around such  
objects as filing cabinets, cars, trees, and  
other people.

"If scientists can learn more about the  
mental mechanism of bats—as well as  
other animals—they may convert this  
knowledge to great value for man. This  
is the real object of bionics research and

development at Lockheed and else-  
where.

"But Lockheed's "bat radar," built to  
enable a man to navigate sightless like  
a bat, is expected by its inventors to  
have broad applications. Studies connect-  
ed with the instrument, or with devcies  
based on the same principle, may teach  
scientists much about radar and sonar  
that is not now known.

"Experiments with bats are continu-  
ing, but research scientists in the Lock-  
heed Laboratories at Palo Alto decided  
to attempt to reproduce, at least in crude  
form, the bat's navigation system. The  
specific task was given to Lockheed  
electronics research scientist Alvin E.  
Brown, 36-year-old graduate of the Uni-  
versity of Washington." (See photo of  
Brown testing the device above).

## Red Ball Speeds Over Phoenix

Earl Vaughan, his wife and guests,  
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Beckman from Colo-  
rado Springs, Colorado, observed a huge  
glowing reddish-orange ball (about the  
size of tennis ball held at arm's length)  
on 11 August 1962 at 8:20 p.m. The ob-  
ject's course was from north to south,  
and was seen in the eastern sector of  
the sky. It proceeded swiftly south in a  
flat, horizontal trajectory, and was in  
sight about 5 seconds.



## Kidnapped . . .

(Continued from page 1)

told by a 12-year-old boy, Raimundo de Aleluia Mafra. His father, Rivalino Mafra da Silva, is missing. Raimundo states that he was kidnapped by two strange objects, on the morning of August 20, 1962, just in front of his house, in a place called Duas Pontes, district of Diamantina, State of Minas Gerais.

The sixteen thousand citizens of Diamantina are divided in their opinions about the happening: some believe there was merely a murder with a missing body; others think that Rivalino ran away for some unknown reason and his son is telling a tale to cover him; still others think the whole thing was "the work of the Devil"; many others are certain that the child is telling the truth. On the other hand, the situation is quite different in Biribiri, Mendanha and Rio Vermelho, small villages in the vicinity of the area where the strange events took place. The residents at those places—those who still remain there—are living with panic in their hearts. They do not dare to go outside at night. They do not risk walking alone through the fields. Their doors and windows are closed after 8 p.m. Their streets are empty and silent at night. Many families are leaving toward Diamantina.

You cannot laugh at them — they are too frightened, haunted by the pitiful cries of a child: "They've got my father! I want my father back! Help me! . . ." They are under the terror of the almost unreal, of something alien and unexplainable, something so different from common sense that your mind is repelled by it. This may sound to you like the science fiction stories you customarily read in Science Fiction magazines.

Perhaps this is best for your sanity—if you don't believe in UAOs from other planets.

### Raimundo Aleluia Mafra's Report

Rivalino disappeared on August 20. That same day the police was called and the investigation started. Rumors began to spread and reporters were alerted on August 24. The case hit the headlines on August 26. On the evening of August 25, the boy Raimundo was interviewed by the press about the circumstances related with the disappearance of his father.

In spite of his undernourished aspect and obvious anxiety, the youngster was able to give a clear and detailed account of the tragic event. He falters only when forced by direct questions about his

father: then he begins to cry. He is only a small boy, who has never attended school and doesn't even know the alphabet. He lives in a small house in a lonely spot, about 28 kilometers from Diamantina. He helps (or helped) his father as the oldest son, taking care of the two small brothers and doing all the house work. His mother died about one year ago. In his ignorance, living in a deserted place outside the civilized world, he has never heard about flying saucers, "space beings" from other planets, comics, or even radio and television. His report was given in the presence of Lieutenant Wilson Lisboa, Police chief at Diamantina. For the twentieth time — according to the information of that authority—he tells about the incredible drama lived by his father before his startled eyes. He says that things started in the night of August 19. The whole family was in bed—himself, his father and his two brothers (Fatimo, 6-year-old, and Dirceu, 2-year-old). He cannot tell the time, because there is no clock in the house, but he was awakened by the sound of steps and got the impression that people were walking hurriedly through the room. He called his father who lit a small candle. Then, under the flickering light, they saw a strange silhouette more like a shadow, floating in the room without touching the floor.

"It was a weird shadow, not looking like ours because it was half the size of a man and not shaped like a human being. We remained in the bed, quiet, and the shadow looked at us—then it moved to the place where my brothers were sleeping and looked at them for a long time, without touching their bodies. Afterwards, it left our room, crossed the other room and disappeared near the outer door. Again we heard steps of someone running and a voice said: 'This one looks like Rivalino.' My father then yelled: 'Who goes there?' There was no answer. Father left the bed and went to the other room, when the voice asked again if he really was Rivalino. My father answered it was right, that Rivalino was his name, and there was no answer. We came back to bed and heard clearly their talk outside, saying they were going to kill father. My father started to pray aloud and the voices outside said there was no help for him. They talked no more.

"We passed the night awake. In the morning, still afraid, I had the courage to go outside to get my father's horse in the field. But then I sighted two balls floating in mid-air side by side, about two meters from the ground, one meter from each other and a few meters away from our door. They were big. One of

them was all black, had a kind of irregular antenna-like protuberance and a small tail. The other was black and white, with the same outlines, with the antenna and everything. They both emitted a humming sound and appeared to give off fire through an opening that flickered like a fire fly, switching the light on and off rapidly. I was frozen by fear. I called father to see those strange flying objects. He came out of the house, still praying and asking about what those things could be, his eyes locked on them. He warned me to stay away and walked toward the objects. He stopped at a distance of two meters. At that moment the two big balls merged into each other. There was only one now, bigger in size, raising dust from the ground and discharging a yellow smoke which darkened the sky. With strange noises, that big ball crept slowly toward my father. I saw him enveloped by the yellow smoke and he disappeared inside it. I ran after him into the yellow cloud, which had an acrid smell. I saw nothing, only that yellow mist around me. I yelled for my father but there was no answer. Everything was silent again.

"Then the yellow smoke dissolved. The balls were gone. My father was gone. The ground below was clean as if the dust had been removed by a big broom. I was confused and desperate. I walked in circles around the house looking for father, but I found no tracks, footprints or marks. Was this the work of the Devil? My father had disappeared in mid-air. I have searched the plains, fields and thickets with no results. I have watched the flight of vultures, looking for clues to locate his body, but I saw nothing. Five days have passed and nothing was found. Is my father dead, taken by the globes? I want my father back . . ." (Unquote—Belo Horizonte DIARIO DE MINAS, August 26. Rio de Janeiro CORREIO DA MANHA, September 4. Lieutenant Lisboa's report, transcribed verbatim).

### The Police Investigation

Lieutenant Wilson Lisboa, Police chief at Diamantina, was called the same day of the strange disappearance. He put the Raimundo boy under cross-examination but failed to make him change his incredible story. He then decided to make a complete investigation. Policemen were ordered to look for Rivalino's body, to find him at any cost. The search was started inside Rivalino's house. No clue was found. The surrounding country was covered by trained men. At the spot Rivalino had been kidnapped by the ob-

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## Kidnapped . . .

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jects—according to the boy's report — the ground was clean of dust in an area about five meters in diameter, but no tracks or marks were visible. About fifty meters away, a few drops of blood were found. Lieutenant Lisboa collected samples and the analysis identified them as human blood. The search for the missing body spread through the whole district of Diamantina. It took ten days. Police dogs were sent from Belo Horizonte, bloodhounds trained by the military police to follow tracks and find missing people. They found nothing. A complete investigation of Rivalino's past life, possible love affairs, enemies, friends, relatives, etc., was undertaken. No clues were found.

Another investigation was made concerning the possible sighting of UAOs over the region by other witnesses. The following reports are of interest:

(1) The vicar at Diamantina's cathedral, priest Jose Avila Garcia, contacted Lieutenant Lisboa to inform him that, by a strange coincidence, a friend of his had reported an unusual fact the night before Rivalino's disappearance. That friend, Antonio Rocha, was fishing at the Manso river, close to Duas Pontes, when he sighted two ball-shaped objects hovering over Rivalino's house. Priest Garcia believed that the boy had dreamed and his father had been murdered, but it was his duty to report all facts to the police — even those opposed to his own opinion.

Mr. Antonio Rocha, who worked at the Mail Department in Diamantina, was called and confirmed his story. On the evening of August 19, he was fishing at a place near Rivalino's house. "At 4:00 p.m.," he said to Lieutenant Lisboa, "I sighted two strange ball-shaped objects in the sky. They were flying in circles over Rivalino's house. They came very low and were gone a few minutes later. I don't know anything about Rivalino's disappearance, but—from the report given by his son Raimundo—I have the impression he saw the same objects I sighted."

(2)—Rivalino Mafra da Silva was a diamond prospector. Lieutenant Lisboa interviewed other prospectors in the district who did their mining work with Rivalino. They told him a startling story. Rivalino had informed them that, on August 17, when going back home, he had seen two strange persons digging a hole in the earth at a spot near his house. When approached, the creatures ran away into the bushes. They were

approximately three feet tall. A few moments later, he sighted a strange object which took off from behind the bushes and disappeared into the sky at high speed. According to Rivalino, this object was shaped like a hat and surrounded by a red glow. They didn't believe him, of course.

(3)—Doctor Giovani Pereira, a physician living at Diamantina, went to the police to report the sighting of a disc-shaped object over his own house two months before. He had had a night call from a patient and was driving back in his car. When closing the car's door to go inside his home, he suddenly sighted a brilliant object, shaped like a disc, hovering low over his house. He stopped and watched it for several minutes. Then it moved away at high speed after crossing over the sleeping town. He said he had kept the sighting secret because he knew nobody would believe him.

(4)—On the morning of August 24, a UAO crossed over the town of Gouveia, about 42 kilometers to the south of Diamantina. The sighting was witnessed by more than fifty people, including the local Police chief, Lieutenant Walter Costa Coelho. According to the observers, the object was white colored, shaped like a soccer ball and encircled by a kind of fluorescent glow—remaining in sight for about two minutes. It was traveling to the north (toward Montes Claros), then changed course to the northwest.

A few minutes later, the same (or similar) object was spotted in the sky by more than one hundred citizens at Brasilia de Minas, a small town about 120 kilometers to the northwest of Montes Claros. Again it looked like a soccer ball and was surrounded by a white glow. According to the local priest, this UAO hovered for a long time over the town's church before disappearing to the west at high speed.

This sighting was printed in the papers on August 28. The news had a deleterious effect on the residents of small towns and villages in the same area of Duas Pontes. The coincidence was too much for them: a ball-shaped object, sighted over the same region, just four days after Rivalino's disappearance. The consequence was panic and hysteria.

The last step in Lieutenant Lisboa's investigation was to check and recheck the sanity of Raimundo and the reliability of his report. Raimundo was intensively questioned by the police and, at police request, a psychiatric examination was made by Dr. Joan Antunes de Oliveira. He was found to be sane. Dr. Oliveira then decided to make a last

experiment. It was a cruel test, but justified due to the circumstances in the case. In the presence of witnesses, the boy Raimundo Mafra was taken to a room where there was a human body covered by a cloth. "Raimundo," said Dr. Oliveira, "this is the body of your father. He is dead. You lied when you told us that he had been kidnapped. Tell now the whole truth (what really happened on the morning of August 20)." The boy began to cry, in a state of great emotion, but continued to affirm that his story was not a lie, that his father could be dead but had been taken by the two objects. "Perhaps they brought him back, dead," was his conclusion. This ended the experiment. Dr. Oliveira was interviewed by the press. He said: "I don't wish to discuss the facts in the case. They are beyond my competence. But I can tell you that the boy is normal and he is telling what he thinks to be the truth."

An attempt was also made to cross-examine the kid applying the technique known as hypo-analysis. The attempt failed because Raimundo was not receptive to hypnosis.

So Lieutenant Lisboa came to the end of his investigation and found himself in a very peculiar and difficult position. He was certain that Rivalino had been murdered, but the corpse had vanished. He had thought that the boy was lying or out of his mind, but failed to get proof showing he couldn't be trusted, was psychotic, or had reasons for simulation. He didn't believe in flying discs or balls—yet the evidence he had collected pointed in that direction. At this point, he decided to do two things: (1) to continue the search for Rivalino's body; (2) to make a written report to the Secretary of Public Security of the State and send Raimundo Mafra to Belo Horizonte, the State capital.

## Raimundo Mafra Goes To Belo Horizonte

On August 30 (the boy arrived at Belo Horizonte. He had a companion, Mr. Antonio de Carvalho Cruz, the Commissioner of the State Child's Department at Diamantina, who had the mission of taking the boy to the proper authorities in the capital. At that moment, general curiosity had been aroused about the kid, and he was interviewed by the whole press and even appeared on a television program. Then Colonel Mauro Gouveia, Secretary of Public Security in the State of Minas Gerais, took charge of the case. Raimundo was questioned, cross-examined, photographed and again

(See Kidnapped, next page)

## Kidnapped . . .

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submitted to medical and psychiatric examination. Three days later he was taken into custody by military authorities. An Air Force plane took him to Rio de Janeiro, where he disappeared behind the protection of a tight security ring. No one knows where he is now.

## Epilogue

A month after the mysterious disappearance of Rivalino Fafra da Silva, the police at Diamantina decided to stop their investigation and to close the case. The body is still missing and every effort to find new clues has met with complete failure. Lieutenant Lisboa and his policemen are depressed. One of them, policeman Clemente, said to the press: "Nobody expects to find a satisfactory explanation with respect to Mr. Rivalino's disappearance." (Belo Horizonte ULTIMA HORA, September 22, 1962).

At this point, it would be preferable merely to present the evidence and to allow the reader to draw his own conclusion; but I find it necessary to call attention to a very important thing: Reports indicate space creatures have been investigating the Earth closely for more than fifteen years. They appear to follow a very methodical plan, step by step. Available evidence indicates they have already taken specimens of terrestrial flora, water, rocks and soil. An investigation of the fauna was apparently lacking, as far as the collection of specimens is concerned. However, would it not be logical that they eventually turn their attention to collecting specimens of fauna? It would be surprising, indeed, if they overlooked the most interesting example of terrestrial fauna—man himself.

The case of Rivalino Mafra da Silva appears to be the first one—in the whole UAO history—where vanishing people and UAOs are definitely connected by direct evidence. Therefore, in spite of some incredible details we cannot explain (i.e., the happenings at night inside and outside Rivalino's house), I am forced to conclude he was kidnapped by two ball-shaped UAOs—in the presence of his own son. There is no other alternative. And—as they always repeat their moves—it is reasonable to expect that other similar cases will happen soon.

## Low Flying Disc In Washington

The "Whisky Ridge" area east of Marysville, Washington, played host to a disc-like object which was reported by many residents in the summere of 1962, and a reporter recently suggested that Whisky Ridge be re-named "Disc-Slope" if any more are seen. The most recent object was shaped like a whale, dipped down toward a field as though it were going to land, then headed off into the northwest. It made no noise, and travelled at about the speed of a small aircraft. The latter sighting was made by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Brooks on 17 September 1962.

## AF "Bugged" By UFOs At Truax

APRO member Herb Thrune of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, reported the following information which he heard on the radio on June 30 and about which he inquired and recorded: "For the past week reports of UFO have been reported to Madison, Wisconsin police. The objects were first thought to be "Echo" balloon. There have been three UFOs which fly erratically, mostly in the vicinity of Truax AFB, and they cannot be tracked on radar. Reports also came from Green county, to the west of Madison." Nothing was found in the Milwaukee Journal, and the Sentinel was inactive because of a union strike at the time, so no further confirmation was received.

## UFO Over Milwaukee, Wis.

At 1:45 a.m., CST, on August 3, 1962, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Thrune of Milwaukee, Wis., observed the passage of a huge light from south to north above their home. The couple said it appeared to revolve to the right, going faster than any airplane with which they were familiar. As it approached overhead position, a "huge sunflower-shaped light" blinked on and off. Mr. Thrune went out on the lawn between his house and the one next to him and watched as it sped due north over the Miller Brewnig Co. He said the incident happened so fast that it was difficult to determine the altitude. He felt the object was cigar-shaped, and it did not arc, but adhered to a flat, straight course at a very high rate of speed. The color was golden or orange, and there was no sound or contrail of any kind. Thrune is conversant with the types of planes usually in the area, and cannot identify the strange luminous body as anything conventional. Mitchell AFB is 8 to 10 miles south of the Thrune home.

## Light On Moon Observed

At 9:50 p.m., on August 12, 1962, Donald R. Westlake of Yorktown Heights, New York, observed a small star-like object on the dark portion of the moon. According to the report he submitted to a Valhalla, N. Y. APRO member, the moon was in its gibbous phase and the light was quite obvious. He was using a 16 power, 3-inch Bausch and Lomb Naval "Spy Glass." He at first thought it was a defect on the glass itself, and after checking this on a starfield, he turned his attention to the moon again. The object was as bright as the Ray system in Tycho but was well into the dark of the moon. He thought then it was a mountain top or peak just catching the rays of the sun. Westlake then got out his 2.5" refractor telescope and with 50X lens the object seemed to take on an oblong narrow shape. He used 90X and although it looked clear, the shape of the object remained the same. The object at no time seemed to move as would be the case if it was a star or planet occulted by the moon. Westlake then called his wife Mary and neighbor Alex Zajac. As they watched the object Mr. Westlake attempted to call a friend who lived down county and was also interested in this type of occurrence. As he talked to his friend, Mr. Zajac reported the object was beginning to fade. Westlake went back to the scopes and looked but the object was gone from sight. His friend with whom he talked on the telephone had told him that he also had been watching the moon prior to being called, but he had noticed no object. They all watched the moon until clouds covered it at about 11 p.m. EST and the object did not return. Westlake checked his Sky and Telescope magazine and could find no occultation scheduled for stars on that date. "Anyone who has ever witnessed an occultation knows that the star disappears instantly and does not fade out as this object did. The object in question appeared to be as bright as the lighted side of the moon. Any explanations sent to APRO will be forwarded to Mr. Westlake, who, incidentally, is a UFO skeptic.

## Teacher, Friends, See UFO

Arthur Sketchley, a school teacher, and five companions, observed two unidentified objects while driving near Winfield, 140 miles northwest of Calgary, Alberta, Canada at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, 1962. The objects were described by the observers as cigar-shaped,

(See Teacher, page 6)

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## Teacher . . .

(Continued from page 5)

long and slender and golden in color. The objects were observed in the western skies, and when in silhouette, appeared long and slender, but when viewed from another angle, looked fluffy at the sides. One eventually disappeared behind a cloud, the other was in view for some time. There is not sufficient detail in this sighting to thoroughly evaluate, but the description could fit a high altitude aircraft contrail reflecting the setting sun, thus appearing to be golden. This is also indicated by the "fluffy" description. However, the testimony that the objects were viewed from two different angles suggests that they changed position and this might lead to doubt as to their identity as contrails. As for the one object disappearing behind a cloud, if the contrail were from high altitude aircraft as, say, 50,000 feet, cloud cover at 10,000 could easily obscure them.

## Liberal, Kansas Sightings

On August 2, 1962, personnel at the Liberal, Kansas airport were shaken considerably when various colored brilliant objects "lit up the runways." Whether or not this indicates the objects were low enough and bright enough to actually shed light on the ground is not known. However, similar reports came from Albuquerque, N. M., Pueblo, Colorado, Garden City, Kansas, and Gypsum, Oklahoma. Central Airline Agent Fred Jones said about a dozen individuals at the Liberal airport saw the phenomena at about 8 p.m.

According to Jones, Capt. Jack Metzker, CA pilot enroute from Wichita, Texas, to Amarillo, told airport officials he saw the objects which he said were moving higher and faster than any plane he had ever seen. Metzker's aircraft was at between 5500 to 7000 feet at the time he sighted the objects.

Witnesses described the lights as about the size of car headlights, and they varied in color from white, green, blue to brilliant orange. There were four of the objects, Jones said, which moved singly across the sky. One became stationary over the airport and seemed to produce a landing-type light directly under it.

All sighting took place at approximately 8:45 p.m. The reports came to Liberal over the airport's telephone communications system. The FAA said no planes which could produce such lights were scheduled in the area at the time.

At Amarillo, Metzker made this state-

ment: "People I talked to after landing here seemed to think it was a meteorite, but it wasn't like any meteorite I've ever seen."

Witnesses at Pueblo described a blue ball of light traveling north.

## Rotating Ball—Wisconsin

APRO member Mrs. Forence Cummins reports a sighting by a friend who lives about 12 miles north of Thorpe, Wisconsin. Said friend was visiting daughter the week of 19 August, cannot place exact date, but incident took place during that week. The observer was outside with 11-year-old granddaughter when she saw a balloon-like object which was speeding across the sky—"sort of whirling." She illustrated with her finger, and Mrs. Cummins said the observer indicated a horizontal flight, although the object was rotating—somewhat like a circular "penmanship exercise." The woman called her daughter to see it, but the object had disappeared from sight by the time the daughter arrived outside.

## UAO Formation North Of Toronto

On July 2, 1962, an observer in Toronto, Canada, witnessed the flight of a formation of three white, round objects which passed overhead, directly north to the horizon. The observer said each was about the size of his thumb at arm's length. No noise was heard, but he said he heard a jet airliner go over shortly before or after the objects' flight. Time: 5:25 p.m., EDS. Nothing appeared in local papers about other observations, but a neighbor told the observer he and several others had seen a huge object hovering over the new Highway 401. No newspaper reports on this sighting, either. Observer in first named sighting is friend of APRO member and remains anonymous.

## Boys Sight Maneuvering UFO In 1961

On August 7, 1961 Danny Okrasinski, 12, Route 1, Gresham, Oregon, and James Towell, 12 also of Route 1, camped out in a field near their homes and while looking at the stars sighted a strange light which circled, hovered and started at intervals. They claimed it made several passes over Gresham and appeared to be very large as it came down close to the ground. They had seen it two weeks previously and the August 7 sighting made the second time they observed it.

## Books

It is with considerable pleasure that we say a few words about "Mars, The new Frontier—Lowell's Hypothesis" by Wells Alan Webb. In addition to reading the book, the Lorenzens had the pleasure of meeting the author in August while visiting APRO's Research Director, Mr. Brown, in California.

Some of the more humble of the saucer buffs will feel somewhat embarrassed to learn that this scientific contribution to our knowledge of Mars was published way back in 1956 (Fearon Publishers, 2450 Fillmore St., San Francisco 15, Calif.). Others, of course, may have already read it.

Although a clear and concise analysis of Lowell's Hypothesis constitutes a major part of the book, some pearls of wisdom inevitably take the reader's attention. Two chapters of considerable interest are Numbers 1 and 2: "Science and Controversy" and "Science and the Personal Factor," respectively. A close perusal of these two chapters will give the reader a larger insight into the necessary objectivity of a scientist, however frustrating the caution may seem to the layman.

To be brief, we would like to quote a few words from Chapter 10, Page 130, entitled "Strange Sightings": "The end that I hope to have accomplished by all of this is to induce scientific men at last to take that quantum jump, that revision in basic philosophy essential to tentative acceptance of Lowell's Hypothesis, an explanation that I believe correctly orients the phenomena of Mars. But I urge such acceptance as a trial, to stimulate inquiry; for I do not maintain that proof-positive has been established for intelligence on Mars, but that my correlation is corroboratory evidence, the best present answers for the facts of the network. I think that future research will establish for certain that Mars' canals are either the beaten footpaths of lower migratory animals or they are engineered conduits devised by intelligent beings for their survival on an oxygenless planet. Every effort should be made by scientists to resolve this question promptly."

Mr. Webb, a chemist with Hexcel Products, Inc., Berkeley, Calif., has also forwarded a copy of his paper entitled "Mars as an Object of Exploration and Settlement" and which was presented to the International Astronautical Federation, XIIth Congress, in October 1961, at Washington, D. C. The paper is a carefully outlined plan by which humans may be able to establish self-sustaining colonies on Mars. Mr. Webb's conclusions are interesting, to say the least.