

The report of Mr. McGregor's sighting was published in the November/December 1958 issue of the REVIEW, page 7.
—EDITOR.

From Switzerland

Sir,—I am so glad to hold in my hands the latest issue of the REVIEW, that I want to thank you for it. I suppose that eleven years ago, I was among your first subscribers from the Continent. And having been a good friend of our dear Waveney Girvan I know exactly what it means to bring out such a publication, regularly and neatly. . . .

May I congratulate you on your courage to print some of the South American claims, especially the story of "Adhemar". The fact that his account and his person was checked by Dr. Walter Buhler means much to me. I have known him for many years, and have met him twice here in Basle. I am sure he is a truth-loving man.

. . . I would feel fine if I could be of some help to the REVIEW: of course I would love to send you articles from the Swiss press but alas, there is absolutely nothing to be found. I often wonder why the lid is so much more tightly down in my country than in yours. I know our Military Intelligence Service own a fine collection of UFO photographs, and that they keep on file my own (former) publications, mostly translations from the REVIEW, but also a booklet with "UFO-Sichtungen über der Schweiz 1949-1958". To know of the interest in higher places surely is a kind of support and keeps me going, but the silence in all News Agencies is so complete and deep that the public at large has entirely lost interest. UFOs are forgotten in Switzerland. A few friends and I—the last of the Mohicans in this desert island—look with envy at the lively and stimulating scene in your country.—Miss Lou Zinsstag, Gerbergasse 45, Basle, Switzerland.

Power for spacecraft

Sir,—Having read your FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for many years now, it has puzzled me why the locomotion of the space craft is taken for granted to be a complicated process.

Perhaps I'm wrong, but I have thought many hours on this problem

of space craft locomotion, and have come to the conclusion that the answer must be a power relative to every planet in the universe. That power, of course, is static electricity, and its by-product, the field force, or an electrostatic field, with radiating lines of force being mutually repellent to each other.

The capacity of a spherical body in electrostatics is directly proportional to its radius in centimetres.

One would theorize that the field force of a saucer, thus aided by the added field force of Earth, has unlimited power for movement up to the corona limit of the sphere. This limit being increased by the consumption of static electricity in the form of the light on top of the saucer.

The lights shown also on the space men's belts could be some form also of static electricity stored for the purpose of shock defence.—S. D. Moorman, 1 Ferry Farm Cottage, Sudbourne, Near Woodridge, Suffolk.

The 1909 New Zealand Airships

Sir,—May I refer to Volume 10. No. 6—*The News Zealand "Flap" of 1909*—Have you any note of the reference in *Flight* magazine, of May 29th, 1909? It reads as follows . . .

"*Phantom Airships and Scare Headlines*: An absurd degree of credence has been accorded by a certain section of the daily Press during the past week or two to what were evidently ridiculously exaggerated statements that emanated from various parts of the country concerning the appearance of mysterious airships by night. Clever though the ruse has been, it was evident from the very first that either a practical joke was being played or that a bold advertising scheme was afoot. The lengths to which speculation of the wildest kind were allowed to go was neither beneficial to the new industry nor calculated to enhance the dignity of the British public in the eyes of foreign nations. Apart from that, however, the game played with illuminated toy balloons of orthodox cigar shape, towed by cars in the still watches of the night, was well conceived from an up-to-date advertiser's standpoint, and was carried out with conspicuous ingenuity and adroitness, while apparently a well known firm of auto-

mobile engineers may be suspected of deep complicity in it . . ."

It is interesting to note your reference to the Lithbridge/Caerphilly incident relates to May 18th—and I must say I think the bit about "Illuminated toy balloons of orthodox cigar shape" will provide you with yet another "explanation"!

Secondly in Volume 11. No. 1—The World Round-Up item *Whitby UFO* reads: "All of a sudden a white light seemed to streak out of it," said Graham. "The light went towards us and down . . ."

The following excerpt is from the last passage of a report published by the *Birmingham Post*, Correspondence column in August, 1954 (copy of letter attached) . . . "Its passage was absolutely silent. After the reddish orange flash before final disappearance, a perpendicular tail of whitish light shot downwards from the object. (From) Freda M. Haynes."

I have met Mrs. Haynes, and her description was of a quite solid object, which was relatively low—and the beam of light reminded her of a searchlight, suddenly switched on.—Tim Dinsdale, 17 Blewbury Drive, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks.

Another mystery from Florida

Sir,—We receive very little by way of reports in this country and even less from other parts of the world. We have organized a group in St. Petersburg called "The UFO Research Organization" and meet each month on the first Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Interest in UFOs has always been high in this area and is growing due to promotion by NICAP in Washington, D.C. However, we have experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining material that will satisfy the demand for more information.

You are probably aware that the news media in this country has an unofficial policy of withholding news of sightings until a more mundane explanation is forthcoming from the government. This has the result of keeping us completely in the dark since so many of the sightings just plain refuse to be explained away so easily as they would hope.

As an example: In November of

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