

REPORT ON THE UFO WAVE OF 1947

By Ted Bloecher

**Introduction by
Dr James E McDonald**

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By

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Introduction

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Abstract

The Report on the UFO Wave of 1947 discusses the first contemporary wave of UFO sightings in this country, which reached its peak on July 6 - 7, 1947. It includes a detailed chronology of more than 850 UFO cases for June and July with complete references, primarily from 140 newspapers in 90 cities in the United States and Canada, but also from the files of NICAP and Project Blue Book, as well as references from a number of publications on UFOs.

About 250 of these reports are discussed in detail, with reference to patterns of appearance and behavior of the objects reported, to special types of witnesses, and to other special features. A summary of the period, the pattern of press coverage, and its effects on the subject, are discussed. Maps are provided to illustrate the daily distribution of sightings for the period.

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The little harlots will caper, and freaks will distract attention, and the clowns will break the rhythm of the whole with their buffooneries -- but the solidity of the procession as a whole: the impressiveness of things that pass and pass, and keep on and keep on and keep on coming.

The irresistibility of things that neither threaten nor jeer nor defy, but arrange themselves in mass-formations that pass and pass and keep on passing.

So, by the damned, I mean the excluded.

Charles Fort, from The Book of the Damned

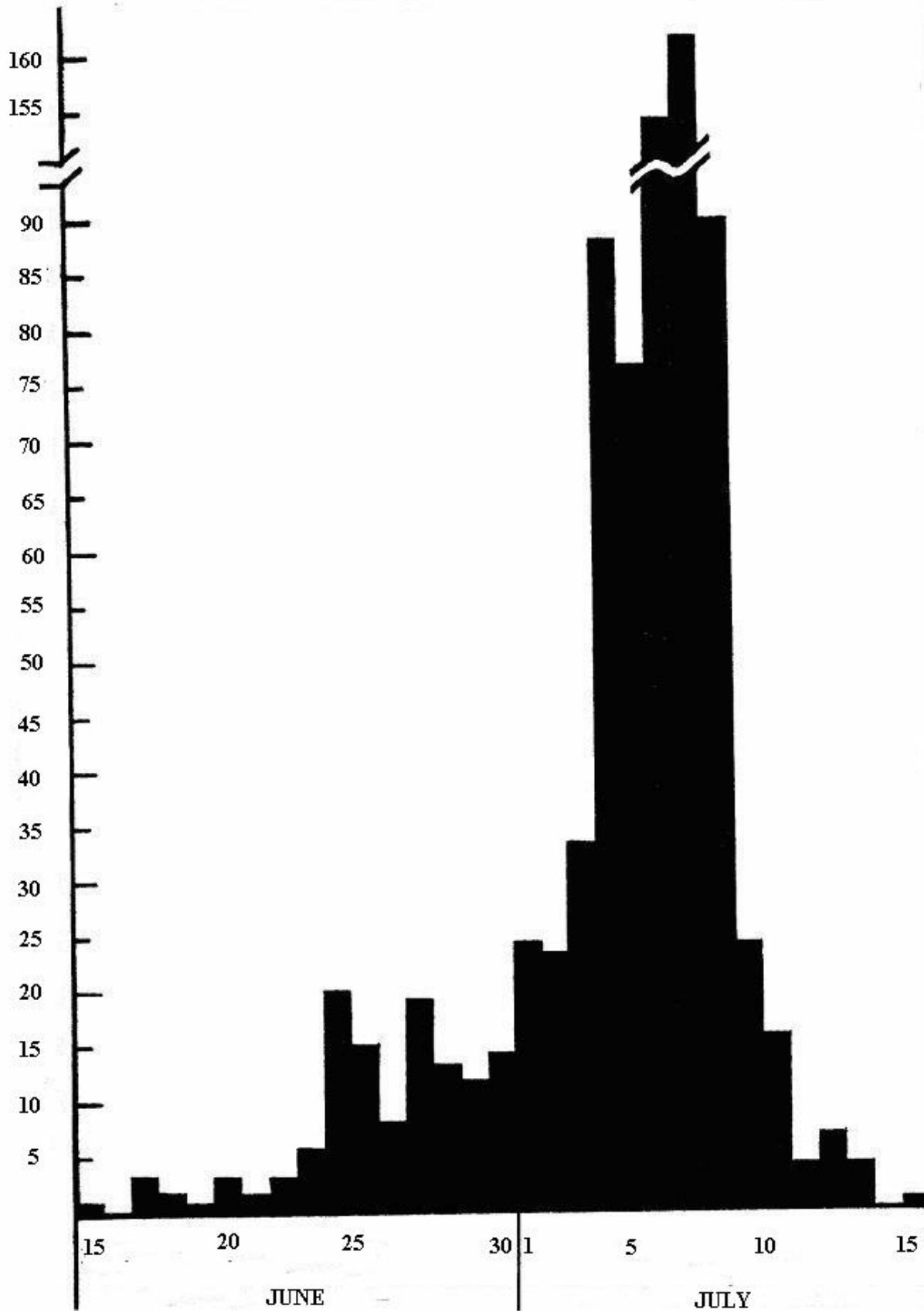


Chart Illustrating Number of Cases Daily, June 15 - July 15

INTRODUCTION

Just over twenty years ago, the problem of the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) burst into public attention. In a single two-week period in the summer of 1947, the UFO problem was laid in confusing disorder before the American public by means of banner headlines and wire-stories in profusion. In retrospect, it seems clear that the visible record of 1947 emergence of the UFO problem is primarily a journalistic record. Although scientists, the military, and a few governmental spokesmen took minor parts in the dramatic entry of UFOs onto the modern scene, newspapermen wrote and delivered the key lines that made the journalists role in the drama preeminent.

Hence, to reconstruct that eventful public emergence of the UFO problem, one must turn to the nation's newspapers and review the day-by-day (sometimes hour-by-hour) unfolding of the evidence -- evidence that something of truly unusual nature was occurring.

A few writers have already nibbled at the edge of a journalistic review of that curtain-raising two-week episode in late June and early July, 1947. In the present book, Bloecher gives us what will probably come to be regarded as the definitive analysis of that important episode in UFO and journalistic history.

His approach was straightforward: Because his professional work takes him to many parts of the country, he began several years ago to devote maximum possible time to digging into local library files of newspapers, in order to extract original 1947 press material reporting the UFO problem in all its dimensions. As his files grew he turned to other sources, including Air Force Project Blue Book files and files of independent investigatory groups. From all this, he has assembled and put into far clearer order than could have been apparent to 1947 readers a systematic recounting of the 1947 birth of the UFO problem. This book is the result of his studies. I commend it to the attention of all serious students of the UFO problem.

(iii)

Doubtless, most other readers will be as stunned as I was to realize that already in the first two weeks after Kenneth Arnold's Mt. Rainier report of June 24, 1947, press reports of other American sightings of highly unconventional aerial objects numbered not the dozen or so that most of us might recall, but many hundreds. Since Bloecher is careful to concede that his own searching cannot possibly have gleaned every last report from the 1947 press files, we can safely round upwards his collection of about 800 reports to an estimate that at least some thousand sightings of unidentified objects probably occurred within the United States in midsummer 1947, the bulk of these coming within a rather sharply defined wavecrest centered on about July 7. As Bloecher properly emphasizes, this clearly marks the episode as one of the outstanding sighting-waves on record.

(It would be most unwise to draw the conclusion that a thousand reports in about two weeks earns this episode the distinction of being the outstanding wave on record; unfortunately no other UFO researcher has done for other American waves the same kind of diligent searching that Bloecher has accomplished for the 1947 episode. Thus, the November 1957, episode might well outstrip the 1947 summer episode, if only there were reasonably full documentation at hand. And then, there are foreign waves in the running, too; September-October, 1954, as Michel's work has shown, constituted a most remarkable UFO sighting-wave in France and nearby parts of Europe.)

In the two decades that have passed since 1947, there has been distressingly little progress made towards elucidating the true nature of the unidentified flying objects. But, elucidated or not, they have refused to go away. Press fun-poking and curiously fallacious official "explanations" have most assuredly held up real scientific progress by conveying the distinct impression that the UFO problem has been only a nonsense problem. But ridicule and snide comments notwithstanding, citizens in all walks of life have continued to report, often in the deepest puzzlement and often in a state of suddenly-enhanced concern, that they have witnessed objects fitting no conventional natural or technological categories -- **unidentifiable aerial objects of craft-like nature**. This being so, it seems long overdue for the scientific community to put aside arrogance and prejudice, to overlook preconceptions and past glib comments about all the unbalanced persons who just don't know what they are seeing, and to dig into the facts. That those "facts" are, today, not objective instrumental meter-readings but anecdotal accounts of things seen by persons other than Nobelists, is unfortunate. **If only science had not been so casual back in 1947, so ready to believe what so many feature-writers and ill-informed official spokesmen had to say about UFOs, we might today have an abundance of meter-readings with which to work. But 1947 began a two-decade period of misinformation, so we are still hardly at the start of an adequate scientific examination of UFOs.**

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To understand how that lamentable situation came about, one must begin by reviewing the manner in which various patterns of reaction to the UFO problem became established almost within days of the Arnold report. Bloecher's work lays before us a fascinating summary of those crucial days of initial journalistic confrontation of the UFO puzzle.

To keep the record entirely clear, it is necessary that I draw special attention to the adjective "journalistic" in that last sentence. Bloecher does not here purport to present results of his own investigative reporting of UFO sightings in mid-1947. Nor is he able to vouch, on the basis of independent checking, for the reportorial accuracy of the hundreds of press accounts whose rise and fall he explores. Since we all know that standard press reporting falls well short of 100 per cent accuracy, we must not here equate press reports to scientific accounts.

To form my own estimates of the probable order of reliability of these 1947 reports, I undertook a search for witnesses in several dozen of the more intriguing 1947 cases discussed in the text. The results of this sampling were interesting; they

were also encouraging in the sense that they pointed to the generally correct impression one draws from reading all these press accounts: Even after reportorial errors and the like are allowed for, the mid-1947 episode seems to constitute a period of remarkable sightings by many level-headed persons.

In the course of my cross-checks, I found that the UFO problem has been with us so long that some key witnesses of the 1947 period are already dead. Others have moved away from the locales of their 1947 sightings and are not any longer to be found by the type of telephone-searching to which my own check had to be limited. A few, but only very few, have forgotten key details of what they saw and reported; but most emphasized the vividness with which they can still recall the unusual objects they saw, or the unprecedented performance characteristics that stunned them, back there twenty years ago.

In my search, I found one outright hoax that was exposed within a day of the initial press report. The victim gave full details to the same reporters that put the hoax on the wires; they weren't interested in clearing up the hoax, and it stood uncorrected in the files for Bloecher to add to his initial collection.

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And in the search I found many cases in which details of the sightings were erroneously reported, both in local and in wire stories. Newspaper reporting, to repeat, leaves a great deal to be desired in the way of accuracy -- whether journalists care to admit it or not. But what I found to be true from the checks I was able to make on about twenty-five more or less randomly selected 1947 cases for which I was able to locate one or more key witnesses was this: Even after one corrected the reporters' errors (wrong times, wrong directions, wrong shapes, wrong names, etc.), one still had left a high percentage of exceedingly interesting and basically unexplainable accounts of unconventional aerial objects. And frequently I found by telephone-interviewing of the witnesses that there was much more significance to the full sighting account than the original reporter had been able to put into his own press story.

Hence, I feel justified in asserting that Bloecher's account is much more than a journalistic review per se; I believe the picture that takes shape as one reads his account is a generally quite correct picture, the random defects of which are admittedly unfortunate but do not spoil the over-all image of an episode of great scientific significance.

I believe that it is important that many more such studies now be undertaken -- with resources that permit a full recheck of the type that I was able to conduct merely on a small-sample basis. Many physical scientists (unlike their confreres in the social sciences) scorn interview methods of acquiring data. I share their strong preference for meter-readings; but I deplore their unwillingness to look at anecdotal data when that's all there is immediately at hand. To escalate concern for the UFO problem to the level where funds and energies will be poured into the design of objective techniques of data-gathering (electromagnetic sensors, improved radar reporting, etc.) will require that science begin by carefully sifting anecdotal data. A first step therein

is that of assembling reports; and for the mid-1947 episode Bloecher has done just that for us.

The point I stress is that my own sample-check convinces me that the bulk of these 1947 reports must be viewed as reasonably well reported. This, in itself, carries very important implications. For it implies that within about two weeks hundreds and hundreds of American citizens saw phenomena for which science has no ready explanations. Venus, fireballs, sundogs, and the rest of the "misidentified natural phenomena" of which we have subsequently heard so much in official disclaimers, must be suspected in many more than a few of those reports. But then, as now, one has a large residue of quite inexplicable phenomena reported by persons who appear to be entirely sane, reliable, and often very articulate. And here and there, one finds true gems of the world of reports, cases where highly experienced persons saw objects which they could describe in no other terms than "machines" or "craft" or "vehicles" -- UFOs, briefly.

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What I see in all this as primarily important is the abundance of good case-material scattered through a dross of less reliable reports -- an abundance that official agencies should have recognized by late 1947 as constituting a problem of the utmost scientific importance. No such recognition appears to have occurred. The U. S. Army Air Force (which became the U. S. Air Force in January, 1948) quite naturally acquired official responsibility for the UFO problem before 1947 was over; there was understandable concern that these supersonic discs might be weapons of some hostile foreign power. They were maneuvering in our airspace, so our air force received and retained (or, as some subsequent developments suggest, couldn't get rid of) the responsibility for clarifying the mystery of the UFOs. Project Sign was created formally within the new U. S. Air Force on January 22, 1948, seven short days after USAF acquired its separate status within our Department of Defense. Project Sign, followed by Project Grudge and Project Blue Book, became the administrative vehicles in which headway was supposed to be made towards the goal of explaining the UFOs. In fact, those vehicles made almost no net progress; so one now looks back on twenty years of confusion and ineptitude, and one asks how it was ever possible that this bulk of evidence that burst out in mid-1947 became, itself, the greatest body of officially "misinterpreted phenomena" in scientific history. One must, I believe, read Bloecher's work with that question clearly in mind. How could so much evidence be brushed aside, ignored, and made fun of? How was the significance of the UFO reports widely ignored already in 1947? Historians of science are, I believe, doomed to incredulity that so much evidence got lost in an administrative shuffle and became only a first stratum underlying twenty-years-later deposits of more such startling evidence for the existence of a new scientific problem of extraordinary interest.

I write these introductory comments at a moment when I have behind me about eighteen months of intensive examination of the UFO problem. That examination has convinced me that, far from being a nonsense problem, the UFO problem is perhaps the outstanding scientific problem confronting mankind. Those are strong words, and I intend them to be; they are not lightly written. I believe we

must radically reorient scientific attitudes towards this steadily-growing body of UFO reports and that we must enlist the aid of really top-notch scientific talent in the difficult task of bringing ultimate order out of the chaos into which twenty years of ridicule have brought the subject.

(vii)

Bloecher's study has, for me, brought out at least one very significant insight into the "ridicule-lid" that has so long kept the bulk of the UFO evidence from open scrutiny. The populace itself has well-imprinted patterns of rejection of observations that do not seem to fit within the established world scientific picture.

I shall enlarge a bit on this. I have seen so much press and official ridicule of UFO witnesses in the course of my recent study that I have evidently overlooked somewhat the ingrained tendency for even untrained laymen to be reluctant to report openly something they have seen with their own eyes when it flies in the face of familiar experience. Bloecher's material shows, on close inspection, that even before any Air Force pronouncements, before any press-reported scientific scoffing in early July, 1947, witnesses were exhibiting quite definite reluctance to report the unprecedented aerial phenomena they had seen. This, for social scientists, deserves bold underscoring as an index of the scientific attitudes of our times. I smiled to hear an eminent American physicist deplore, on a recent television program, the public's credulity as evidenced by its willingness to take seriously the "flying saucer" reports. He shook his head in dismay that years of scientific education of the public had produced so little effect. In fact, he need have little worry on that score. Anyone who has done a substantial amount of direct witness-interviewing in UFO cases knows all too well how unwilling most persons (even those with no formal scientific training) have become with respect to open reporting of UFO sightings. But what I see in Bloecher's early press material is surprising evidence that this reluctance predates official and journalistic fun-poking concerning "flying saucers." Science has built into our population a very definite resistance towards acceptance of the odd and unusual, the bewildering and inexplicable. Exceptions there are, needless to say, but the bulk of the populace tends to be quite close-mouthed about observations of unexplainable phenomena. This disposition was quickly and powerfully enhanced by official scoffing, by scientific pronouncements made ex cathedra by the end of the first week of July, 1947, and since repeated over and over. But that disposition, Bloecher's studies reveal, was not created by those pronouncements. This I find exceedingly interesting, exceedingly significant, and rather surprising.

It might be pertinent, if space permitted, for me to give a summary of the roughly two dozen 1947 cases which I succeeded in checking in my sampling. I found it especially interesting to speak with a number of police and sheriff's deputies in the Portland, Oregon, area concerning the unusual July 4, 1947, sightings.

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This episode is officially explained in Air Force files as "radar chaff"(aluminum strips dropped to confuse enemy radar), yet it involved repeated sightings of numerous disc-shaped objects moving rapidly across the daytime sky over Portland. To listen to

those officers retell what they saw, how they reacted, and how their colleagues ribbed them was more than amusing. But to try to square all those sightings with "radar chaff" is simply annoying; the evidence bears absolutely no resemblance to observations of falling radar chaff. And so it has gone, over the ensuing years.

One 1947 case that does warrant more than passing mention here is a report that is not in Bloecher's material because it was never reported to press or official agencies. (One comes to realize that there must be a very large volume of other such reports that still lie fully covered by the ridicule lid.) The report came directly to me from a Tucson woman who happened to read a Time article on UFOs (Aug. 4, 1967) that made passing mention of Arnold's report of "seeing nine disc-like objects erratically moving through the air near Mount Rainier in 1947." Thinking that here, at last, must be a confirmatory report of what she and a friend had seen in early 1947 in Tucson, and noting my name in the same article, she telephoned me, thinking that I might be interested to know that she had seen "the same nine objects." But by the time we had gone over details, it was not obvious that she had seen the same objects as Arnold; but it was clear that her report must be entered into the UFO record.

Here is a brief summary: Mrs. H. G. Olavick and Mrs. William Down were the witnesses, and the date was Tuesday, April 29, 1947, according to Mrs. Olavick's reconstruction of related events and dates. (there is a possibility that this date is one week off, she pointed out; but that it was a Tuesday in late April or early May she regards as quite definite.) Mrs. Olavick was in her kitchen at 2101 East Hawthorne Street, Tucson, while Mrs. Down was out in the backyard patio. Suddenly Mrs. Down called her out excitedly, and both proceeded to observe what had caught Mrs. Down's eye. The time was just after the noon hour; Tucson's skies were completely cloudless. Somewhat north of their zenith lay an unusual, isolated, "steamy-fleecy" cloud at an altitude which Mrs. Olavick found difficult to estimate, though she recalled that it seemed lower than average for that time of year (thus, perhaps at or below 10,000 feet, say). No other cloud was to be seen in the sky. In and out of the cloud moved a number of dull-white disc-like objects that rose and fell in an erratic manner, occasionally disappearing into or above the unnatural cloud. She said that these objects were round in planform but were not spherical, for they frequently tipped a bit, exposing a flattened-sphere form. She estimates that they watched these objects cavorting near the cloud for perhaps five or six minutes before the entire group suddenly disappeared within the cloud or perhaps above it.

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After a minute or so, as she now recalls it, a new object, perhaps three or four times as large as the little objects, came out of the cloud on its east side. After it emerged, the small objects began to emerge also, taking up a V-formation pattern behind it. The V comprised a line of four-abreast just to the rear of the large object, then a line of three-abreast behind that, and finally two-abreast in the rear. Thus, the point of the V was to the rear (in the sense of the emergent and subsequent motion). This formation permitted the first accurate count of the small objects, nine in all. No sooner had the last pair emerged than all ten objects shot off to the northeast, climbing out of sight in a time that she thought was probably two to three seconds. She does not recall what happened to the cloud after the ten objects departed.

I have spoken with Mrs. Olavick several additional times, following her first call. Her account was presented in an unembellished manner, and her descriptions were carefully framed, specifying just which parts had become less distinct in her memory. But the basic vividness of her memory of this observation she stressed repeatedly. I had to explain that it was by no means clear that the objects she saw were identical with those reported by Kenneth Arnold two months later. When I queried her as to why she had not reported them, she pointed out that she and Mrs. Down were entirely convinced that they had been fortunate enough to witness some new American military vehicles about which the general public had not yet been informed. Later she heard of the "flying saucers," and she and Mrs. Down, when they rejoined their husbands in mid-summer in Iowa, told them about their own observation. The husbands, she recalled, made such a joke of it that they ceased mentioning it.

Here was a pre-Arnold sighting never reported officially. It was quite clearly not an observation of "new American military vehicles," nor can one readily square this with any phenomenon of atmospheric physics or astronomy. It is a UFO observation, and a rather interesting one. Bloecher's search has led to several other pre-Arnold 1947 sightings. Just a matter of days before this writing, I spoke on the telephone with Walter A. Minczewski, the U. S. Weather Bureau observer whose April, 1947, theodolite-tracking case is cited in the text. Minczewski emphasized that he had never reported it to other than his Weather Bureau superiors and hence was surprised to be called about it twenty years later. Yet his recollection of the details of the whitish disc-like object he had tracked one clear morning in Richmond, Virginia, was still distinct in his mind.

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But time is slipping on, and those 1947 witnesses ought to be interviewed in far more depth than anyone has ever done -- lest we lose their reports forever. The same is true of the innumerable observers of subsequent UFO incidents. Detailed case-studies and thorough episode-studies are sorely needed. Bloecher has given here the raw material for an episode-study of the initial 1947 wave of sightings; he has woven it into an orderly account of what was happening when UFOs first became public knowledge. I find this account absorbing reading and regard it as a substantial contribution to the study of the baffling problem of the unidentified flying objects.

James F. McDonald

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October 23, 1967

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Preface

During the past five years, while on several extended tours of the country, I had the opportunity to examine the back newspaper files of many local libraries in search of news reports of unidentified flying objects. I was particularly interested in obtaining information on the wave of sightings that had taken place during the summer of 1947, since few records of newspaper reports for that period are available. My search began in Portland, Oregon, where I knew that many sightings had been made. Not until I had consulted the local papers for the period, however, did I realize just how numerous those sightings had been. Intrigued by these preliminary data, I continued to examine old newspaper reports in the libraries of other cities I visited. In city after city I discovered the same extraordinary fact: that UFOs had been seen and reported in incredible numbers in June and July of 1947. I was completely unprepared for the vast amount of descriptive detail that lay buried in local papers. That this material had gone unnoticed for so many years was not really surprising, however, since in 1947 the subject was a novel one and few had any reason to believe it would persist, as it has. Therefore, no records were kept, other than the Air Force's file of investigated reports. The public -- and many officials -- assumed that flying saucers were merely some sort of transitory phenomenon and would soon go away. While interest was high at the time of the sightings, it died out not long after the wave had subsided and was not revitalized until the following year, when a new flurry of reports was made. By that time, the 1947 reports were old hat and lay buried in the newspaper morgues of libraries around the country.

On subsequent trips and, particularly, during the period from July 1966 to June 1967, I searched for material from areas I had not visited before; I discovered that my earlier efforts had been just a beginning. I began sending copies of my notes to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, in Washington, D.C., having been a member of that organization from its beginning early in 1957. These notes subsequently came to the attention of several people who felt, as I was beginning to, that the data were important enough to be made available to others involved in research on the subject. The material presented a vivid picture, and a far more complete one than had previously been available, of an important period of UFO activity -- a period that had hitherto been given little more than passing attention in the extensive literature on the subject. A special report was suggested as an appropriate means of making the data available. Fortunately, it was possible to write the report at an appropriate time -- the twentieth anniversary of the earlier events.

To supplement the information I collected as I traveled, the newspaper files at the Library of Congress were consulted to fill in areas I had not visited on tour. In all, more than 140 newspapers were examined, representing over 90 cities and towns in 49 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. Newspapers in Montana could not be consulted as I neither traveled there nor could find papers for that state at the Library of Congress. There are, however, references to several sightings in Montana that were carried by the wire services in other papers.

Two other sources for references were also consulted. The Air Force's Project Blue Book, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, has in its files

approximately 60 official reports of sightings through the end of July 1947, and notes were made on about two-thirds of these; lack of time prevented a complete coverage of this material. NICAP files also include a number of first-hand reports of sightings from the 1947 period; some of these came from the files of the now defunct Civilian Saucer Investigations of Los Angeles, which were turned over to NICAP after that organization discontinued its operations. A number of these reports are included. A few references have come from UFO publications and magazine articles as well.

The completed report provides a chronological listing of more than 850 sightings made during June and July 1947. The sightings were made in 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. This is basically a reference work and does not attempt to make a critical evaluation of every individual report, although certain cases have been selected as representing special aspects of UFO phenomena; these cases are given in more detail in Sections II, III, and IV. Newspapers have provided the basic source of information. Anyone who reads the papers regularly has few illusions about the reliability of news reports; if an account is not distorted it is as often pitifully short of hard-core facts. But these news accounts serve to demonstrate, if only as quantitative evidence, the extraordinarily widespread character of the 1947 UFO sightings. In a number of cases, Dr. James McDonald, senior physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, University of Arizona, has been able to contact the original witnesses and has thereby provided some indication of the general reliability of these news accounts. Most important, it is evident in these newspaper references that among the early sightings certain patterns of UFO appearance and behavior, usually thought of as a later development, were in fact first observed and reported in the summer of 1947.

Although a great amount of material was found by this research, there remains even more; without having access to local newspapers where many sightings occurred, it was impossible to obtain essential facts about these incidents. If a thorough search could be made of all newspapers throughout the country for this period, the total number of published sighting reports would, at a conservative estimate, be more than doubled. It would be enormously helpful if future readers of this report would consult their local libraries to supplement the material already collected, and send additional information to NICAP.

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One other significant fact points to the magnitude of the 1947 wave: again and again in news accounts reference is made to the hundreds of calls newspapers received, whereas only a fraction of these reports later appeared in the news accounts.

In order to avoid confusion over certain terms, the following definitions may be helpful to the reader. As used in this report, the term "wave" is any sudden and pronounced increase of UFO sightings on a national scale, above what is ordinarily considered an average daily rate. According to an interview in the Christian Science Monitor for September 3, 1965, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chief scientific consultant to the Air Force's Project Blue Book, said that in the official files the average daily rate of sightings for the first 18 years of reports was one to two sightings per day. (Both the Air Force files and NICAP's indicate that this rate has risen in the past two years). If

an increase in sightings has apparently resulted from an undue amount of publicity over one or two reports, and on careful examination shows a large proportion of misidentifications of natural phenomena, it cannot be termed a genuine wave.

The 1947 wave, which was unquestionably genuine, was not the first or last wave in this country, nor have UFO waves been confined to the United States. A major wave occurred here in 1897, when large numbers of citizens reported seeing what were then called "airships;" and just one year before the 1947 wave another had taken place in northern Europe, when hundreds of observations of "ghost rockets" were made. In this country other major waves occurred in March and April, 1950; July and August, 1952; November, 1957; August, 1965; March and April, 1966; and possibly in February, 1967 -- but without the amount of news coverage usually associated with waves. All of these major increases in sightings should be examined in depth for similarities and differences as part of the over-all study of the UFO phenomenon.

There have been increases of sightings in geographically isolated areas on numerous occasions, many times as part off a major wave but at other times independent of it. These are called "concentrations." Notable domestic concentrations were reported in the Carolinas in February, 1953; the Ohio area, August, 1955; the Dakotas and Minnesota, November, 1956; northern California, August, 1960; New Mexico, April, 1964; Maryland and Virginia, January, 1965; New Hampshire, in September and October, 1965; and in Michigan and eastern Long Island, as part of the major national wave of spring, 1966.

When a wave of UFO sightings takes place, there is simultaneously a marked increase in news coverage of the subject. The degree of news space allotted to "flying saucers" appears to be commensurate with the intensity of the wave. The resulting condition, called a "flap," was defined succinctly by the late Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of Project Blue Book, in *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* (Doubleday and Company, 1956, p. 189): "In Air Force terminology a 'flap' is a condition, or a situation, or a state of being of a group of people characterized by an advanced state of confusion that has not quite yet reached panic proportions." The marked confusion, experienced by a very great number of people in the summer of 1947, unquestionably puts the UFO wave of that period into the category of a flap.

A "sighting" is any observation of some unexplained aerial phenomenon. A "report" is the oral or written record of a sighting. A "case" refers to a report, plus other elements that are associated with it, such as information about the observer, an account of the investigation, references to the report, or conclusions drawn from the information gathered. For the purposes of brief reference in this report, each sighting is assigned a Case Number in the Chronology (Section V). In reports of sightings that may be independent observations of the same phenomenon, each independent report has been assigned a separate case number; and in reports in which several different sightings are made at different time intervals, or in different locations, but by the same witnesses, each independent sighting has a case number. Though this system tends somewhat to increase the statistical records, it does simplify the procedure of referring to specific sightings.

I would like to express my appreciation to all who assisted me in the preparation of this report: to Dr. James F. McDonald for his encouragement and helpful suggestions, as well as for valuable additional data on a number of cases; to Major Donald E. Keyhoe and Mr. Richard Hall, who kindly made NICAP's facilities available to me; to the NICAP staff, especially Miss Beau Sinkler, who prepared the maps; to Miss Lynn Catoe, of the Library of Congress, for her generous assistance in library research; to Mr. Thomas E. Pyne of the Interstate Commerce Commission, now retired, who supplied essential information on time zones for 1947; to Lt. Colonel George P. Freeman, Jr., who arranged my visit to Project Blue Book in January, 1967, and to Major Hector Quintanilla and his staff for their courteous assistance; to those NICAP members who provided useful data, including Miss Judi Anne Hatcher, of Los Angeles, Mr. Dudley Robb, of Montreal, and Mr. Jerry Rice, of New York City; and, particularly, to Miss Isabel L. Davis, of Washington, D.C., for all her helpful suggestions and practical assistance.

Ted Bloecher
Washington, D.C.
October 1967

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Section I - Summary of the Period

During the summer of 1947 a bizarre and inexplicable situation developed in North America for which, up to the time of the writing of this report, twenty years later, no satisfactory explanation has been forthcoming. Beginning in the latter part of June, people in widely separated places and from all walks of life began to report having seen shining, high-speed, strangely maneuvering objects in the sky. In most of these reports the objects were described as round or disc-shaped. For more than a week sightings were made in continuously increasing numbers. On July 4th the reports rose sharply and spontaneously, and for five days there was scarcely any part of the United States that had not been visited by these strangely elusive aerial objects. Reports came from many points in Canada as well. The number of sightings crested on July 7th, and during the next few days reports began to diminish until, about a week later, only a handful were being made from scattered sections of the country. Although the objects themselves had all but vanished, interest and speculation about them continued for some time after. A wave of sightings of unidentified flying objects had occurred. Flying saucers had become part of the language and the subject of fickle interest and ever-increasing confusion.

As most people familiar with the history of the UFO phenomenon are aware, the events of 1947 seemed to begin on June 24th, the date of the sighting made by Kenneth Arnold, while flying a plane over the Cascade Mountains of Washington. The date is partly justified, for it was the report made by this Boise, Idaho pilot and businessman, who sold fire-fighting equipment throughout the northwest, that opened the first chapter in the modern record of UFO activity. But Arnold's was not the first sighting of the period. For weeks before that people had been seeing unidentified objects in the sky and keeping the matter to themselves. An important result of Arnold's report was to elicit from these earlier witnesses their accounts of those previously unreported observations.

Reports Before June 1947

As early as the middle of April 1947, at the Weather Bureau in Richmond, Virginia, a U. S. Government meteorologist named Walter A. Minczewski and his staff had released a pibal balloon and were tracking its east-to-west course at 15,000 feet when they noticed silver, ellipsoidal object just below it. Larger than the balloon, this object appeared to be flat on bottom, and when observed through the theodolite used to track the balloon, was seen to have a dome on its upper side. Minczewski and his assistants watched the object for fifteen seconds as it traveled rapidly in level flight on a westerly course, before disappearing from view. In the official report on file at the Air Force's Project Blue Book, at Wright-Patterson Field, in Dayton, Ohio, this sighting is listed as Unidentified.

Another early sighting in the official files is the report by Byron Savage of Oklahoma City -- like Arnold, a businessman and private pilot. He had seen an object about six weeks before Arnold, on May 17th or 18th, and his report was one of the first to receive widespread attention in the newspapers immediately after Arnold's report had appeared. The Oklahoma City Times gave it prominent space on June

26th. At the time of his sighting, Savage had been out in his yard it was dusk, and the sky was still light, when he saw an object “come across the city from just a little east of south ... its altitude was very high somewhere around 10,000 feet, I couldn’t be sure. Funny thing about it, it made no noise. I don’t think it had kind of internal combustion engine. But I did notice that right after it went out of sight, I heard the sound of rushing wind and air. I told my wife right away, but she thought I must have seen lightning.” He further described the object as being of “a shiny, silvery color,” and very large -- “bigger than any aircraft we have.” He said it was “perfectly round and flat.” In the Blue Book file he described the object as appearing ellipsoidal in shape as it approached, and completely circular while passing directly overhead, on a course toward the northwest. In this account he said that it appeared “frosty white,” and that its speed was about three times as fast as a jet. It disappeared from view in about fifteen to twenty seconds. Although the sighting details provided by Savage are far more complete than those given for many of the official cases listed by Blue Book as “explained,” this report falls in the category of Insufficient Information.

Another case in the Air Force Blue Book files occurred on May 19th, sometime between twelve thirty and one p.m., at Manitou Springs, Colorado. Seven employees of the Pikes Peak Railway, including Navy veteran Dean A. Hauser, mechanics Ted Weigand and Marion Hisshouse, and T. J. Smith and L. D. Jamison, were having lunch when Weigand noticed a bright, silver-colored object approaching rapidly from the northeast. It stopped almost directly overhead and the group of men watched it perform wild gyrations for a number of minutes. Hauser said that the object, after having approached in a straight line, “began to move erratically in wide circles. All this time it reflected light, like metal, but intermittently, as though the angle of reflection might be changing from time to time.” It was difficult to get a clear idea of its shape, and even viewing it through binoculars did not appear to “bring it any closer.” They estimated its height at one thousand feet. For twenty minutes they watched it climb, dive, reverse its flight course, and finally move off into the wind in a westerly direction. “It disappeared in a straight line in the west-northwest in a clear blue sky,” Hauser reported. At no time did anyone hear any noise. An account of the sighting appeared in the Denver Post of June 28. The next day the Post reported that the witnesses had been interviewed by representatives of the 15th Air Force headquarters and the results of the investigation would be sent on to Washington. The results, perhaps unknown to the witnesses even to this day, were “possible birds.”

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Unlisted in the official AF files, but no less interesting than the preceding case, is Dr. Colden R. Battey’s sighting in the last week of May. Dr. Battey, a physician in Augusta, Georgia, had been fishing ten miles off St. Helena Sound, near Beaufort, South Carolina. At about eleven o’clock that morning he noticed a formation of four disc-like objects flying overhead in a southeasterly direction at a terrific rate of speed. The discs appeared to be spinning on their axes and were at an estimated altitude of about 20,000 feet. They were silvery and appeared “highly polished,” and on their undersides, Dr. Battey could see a “circular rim, or projection, about one-quarter of the way from the edges.” No sound was heard as they flew overhead. The formation sped out of view in less than twenty seconds. Dr.

Batthey's report of the sighting did not appear in print until July 6th, when the Augusta Chronicle gave it prominent front-page coverage. INS sent it out on the wires, where it was picked up by numerous newspapers around the country.

Other May sightings reported nearly two months after they had been made include several reports by housewives. Mrs. W. C. Clark, of Memphis, Tennessee, reported in the Commercial-Appeal of July 7th, that she had seen two objects "like tennis balls" fly over her yard around the first of May; and in Newark, New Jersey, Mrs. Rose Slawuta described in the Newark Star-Ledger of the same date how she had seen a "shining elliptical object" with a gold band around it, approaching from the west, on May 10th. The Air Force files contain a sighting from Milford, Iowa, on May 29th, which is listed as a "possible meteor."

The Importance of Arnold's Sighting

If Kenneth Arnold, while flying on business from Chehalis to Yakima on June 24th, had decided not to assist in the search for a C-46 Marine transport that had crashed on the slopes of Mount Rainier, the introduction to the modern period of UFO activity would have been quite different. He chose to make this side-trip, however, and as a consequence he became one of those persons who are in the right place at the right time. Shortly before three p.m. he was approaching the mountain from the west side, and as he began a turn of a hundred and eighty degrees toward the south, his eye was caught by a flash, as if "a mirror were reflecting sunlight at me." Alert for other aircraft, he looked around and saw, to his left and north of Mount Rainier, a chain-like formation of nine brightly scintillating objects rapidly approaching the mountain on a roughly southern heading. As they came closer, passing between him and the summit of the mountain, he could see they were nine flat, discoid objects arranged in a diagonally stepped-down, echelon formation, stretched out over a distance that he later calculated to be five miles. They were evenly spaced but for a wider gap between the fourth and fifth objects. As they crossed the snow-covered summit of Rainier and approached a peak to the south of it, he decided to clock their speed; since they were headed toward Mount Adams, the two mountains would make excellent reference points.

He began to time them as the first object reappeared from behind the outlier peak on the southwest flank of Mount Rainier. (He later identified this peak as Goat Rocks, but he may be in error as Goat Rocks is approximately halfway between Mount Rainier and Mount Adams.) The objects followed the hogback that stretches to the south, flying erratically and swerving in and out of the lesser peaks "like the tail of a kite." He noticed that the objects would flip from side to side, in unison, flashing brightly as they did so. He also noticed something else -- a detail he did not mention in his official report: as the objects flipped from side to side, they presented their lateral surfaces and Arnold saw that one of the objects appeared to be different from the rest, in the shape of a crescent. He hadn't attached much importance to it at first for, as he wrote of it later in *The Coming of the Saucers* (pp. 22-23), "I thought it was the angle from which I observed this particular one which made it look different and I wasn't completely positive about it."

The objects covered the fifty-mile distance between the two mountains in just one minute and forty-two seconds. Amazed, Arnold began making some rapid

calculations as he flew over the area to measure the distance. The results were astonishing: the discs had been flying at a speed of 1,700 miles an hour! To allow for miscalculation he reduced this figure by five hundred but even twelve hundred miles an hour was an amazing speed!

When he landed at Yakima an hour later he went straight to Al Baxter, general manager of Central Aircraft, to tell of his experience. The story quickly spread around the airport, and his descriptions and calculations were discussed with great interest by the pilots and mechanics there. And when Arnold later flew on to Pendleton, word of his strange experiences had preceded him, for on his arrival he found a platoon of incredulous newsmen, looking for a good silly-season story. They had only to meet the originator of this preposterous tale, however -- a pilot with more than four thousand hours of flying experience over some of the most mountainous territory in the United States; a reputable salesman of fire-control equipment over a wide area, who did much of his business by air; a deputy sheriff with the Ada County, Idaho, Sheriffs Aerial Posse department and hear his careful recounting of what had happened, to change their initial skepticism to keen interest. They went over and over his calculations of speed and the figure kept coming out the same. Nothing but rockets went that fast in 1947, and no one knew of any rockets being sent up over Mount Rainier.

(I - 2)

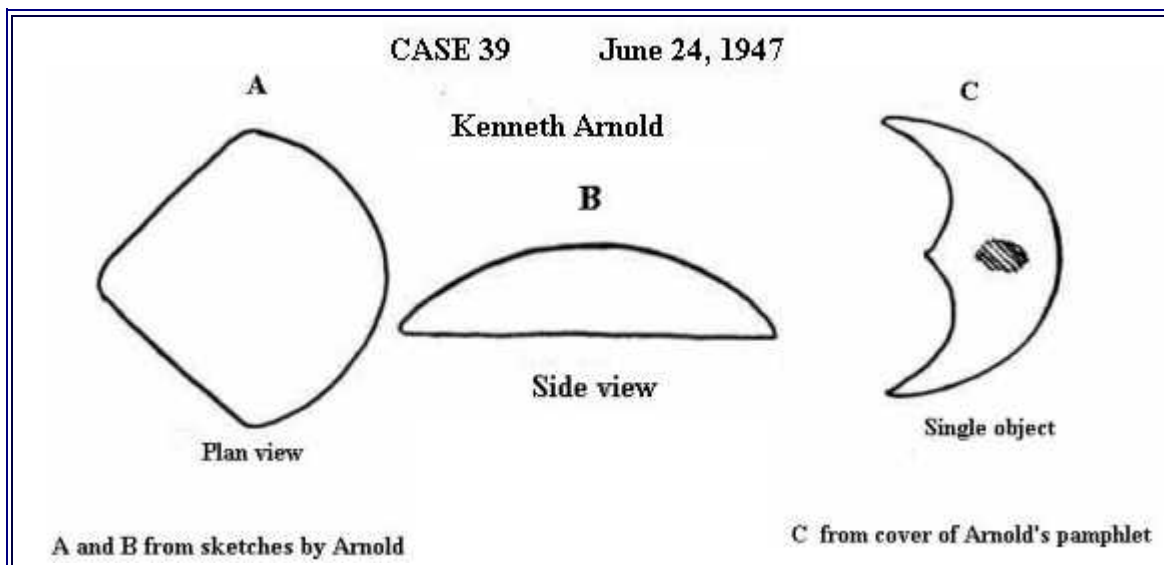
As a result of his meeting with newsmen in Pendleton, Kenneth Arnold's story was filed in a reasonably serious, straightforward manner, and appeared in newspapers all over the country the next day. In the more than one hundred and fifty newspapers examined for this report, a wire service account appeared in nearly every one, most often as a front-page feature.

In the Air Force files the sighting is explained as a "mirage," although it has often been referred to as an "unknown." Even the intelligence officers assigned to investigate the case, Lt. Frank Brown and Captain William Davidson, of Hamilton Field, California, were impressed with Arnold's sighting, for their report, in part, says: "It is the personal opinion of the interviewer that Mr. Arnold actually saw what he stated he saw. It is difficult to believe that a man of [his] character and apparent integrity would state that he saw objects and write up a report to the extent that he did if he did not see them."

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, scientific consultant of the Air Forces investigation of UFOs, was said to have found "inconsistencies" in Arnold's report when reviewing the case for Project Sign in late 1948 or early 1949. According to the Project "Saucer" Press Summary, released in April 1949, the problem lay in reconciling Arnold's estimate of speed and distance with his estimate of the objects size. Edward J. Ruppelt, in his book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, describes this question of estimates in more detail (p. 33). Arnold reported that the objects had been seen at an estimated distance of twenty to twenty-five miles, and estimated their size to be about "two-thirds the size of a DC-4," or from forty-five to fifty feet in length. The objection raised was that an object that size cannot be resolved by the human eye at that distance; therefore, Arnold's estimate of distance was said to be in

error, the objects having been much closer and traveling at subsonic speeds well within the range of normal aircraft. This argument ignored the fact that Arnold had established the distance with fixed reference points, and that it was his estimate of size that must have been in error, the discs probably being a great deal larger than he guessed. In view of Dr. Hynek's opinion that the objects were probably some kind of conventional aircraft, it is curious that the case is listed as a "mirage" rather than as "possible aircraft."

Within just days of the publication of Arnold's report, other accounts began to appear. At least twenty people from more than a dozen widely separated places reported that they, too, had seen similar objects. Some of these sightings had occurred before June 24th, some had been made on the same day as Arnold's, and a few were made on the days following. Most of the reports came from the northwest. The floodgates were now open for the rush of reports that were soon to follow. But it had taken a man of Kenneth Arnold's character and forthright conviction to open them by making public his own report. If it had not been for Arnold, which witness, and which report, might have been the first? It is not possible to single out any of the early witnesses, or cases, for not enough information about them is available. One point is certain, however: it is difficult to imagine that the sightings of strange aerial objects would have remained "hidden" much after June 25th.



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Other Reports, June 1 - 24

At least two-dozen sightings were reported to have been made before June 24th. As far as can be determined, none of them appeared in newspapers before that date. There are six reports in the Air Force files for the period June 1-23. One of these, a foreign report describing objects seen over Budapest on June 10, is not included in this report. The first official case for June describes an air-to-air observation by pilot Forrest Wenyon on June 2nd, near Lewes, Delaware (AF files have his name as Horace P. Wenyon). Wenyon reported seeing an object shaped like a mayonnaise jar as it flew across the nose of his plane (see Section III, p. 9, for

details). Another pilot's report was made by stunt pilot Richard Rankin, who saw two flights of a group of objects at Bakersfield, California, on June 23rd (see II-3). (The Air Force lists the date of this sighting as June 14th, although the press accounts, published on July 1st, give it as June 23rd.) None of the official sightings for this period are classified as "unknowns."

Of twenty-nine sightings occurring between June 1st and June 23rd, nearly two-thirds were made in the west, and nine in the northeast; about half the sightings were of a single object, while the rest describe two or more objects. Thirteen of these reports involved a single witness.

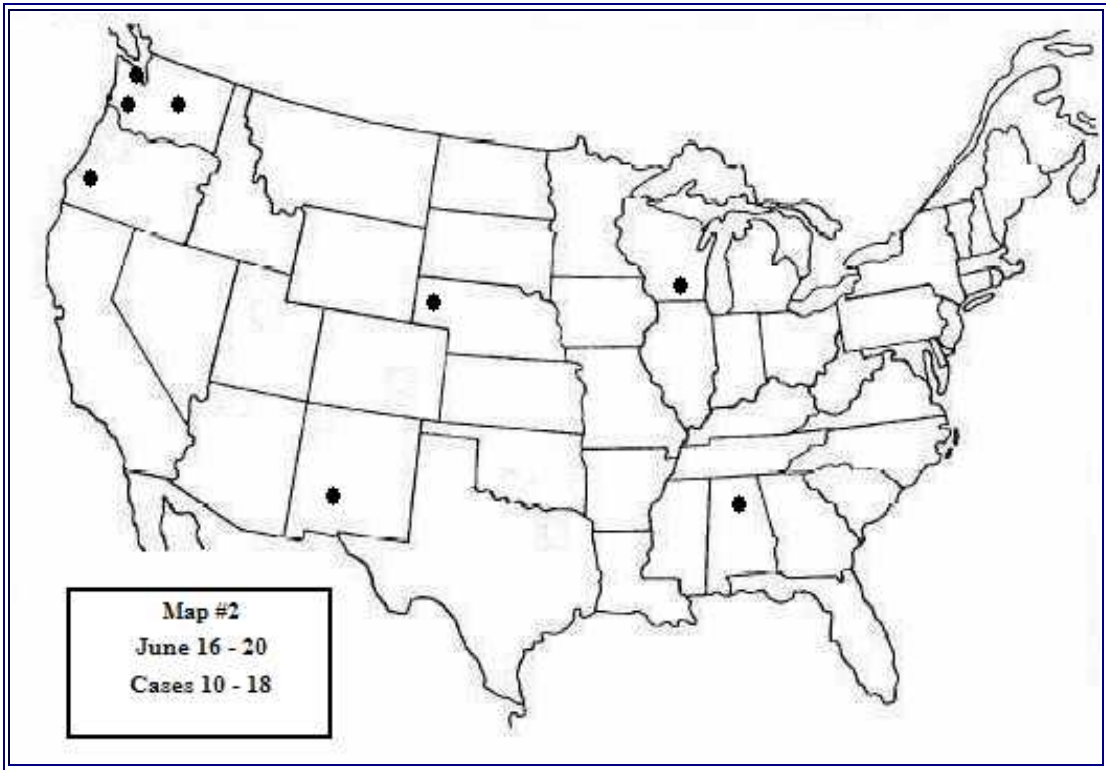
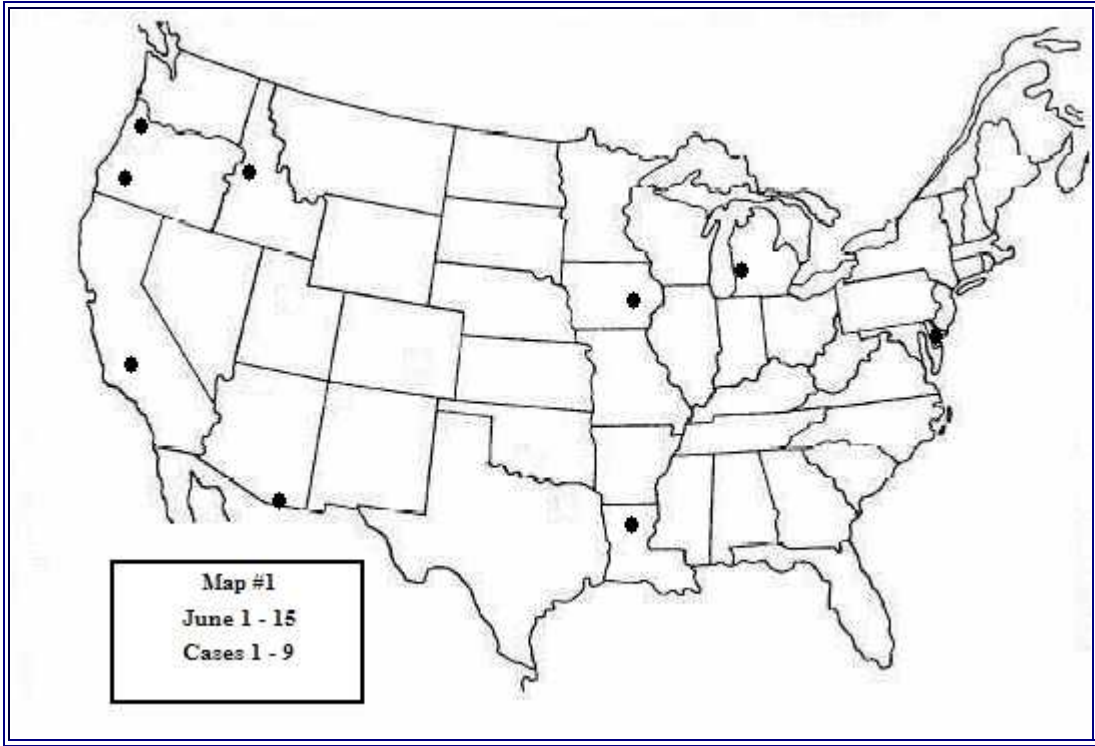
On June 24th, the day that Arnold saw his formation of nine discs, there was a sharp increase in the number of UFO sightings, from six on the previous day, to twenty. Of these reports, all but two occurred in the Pacific Northwest. Over half these reports appeared in the papers within several days of Arnold's account and one (Case 40) may be a ground confirmation of his sighting, although the reported directions are at odds with Arnold's. Most of the June 24th sightings are daylight reports; five occurred at night. About half of the reports are, like Arnold's, of multiple objects. The Air Force files list three sightings for that day: besides the Arnold report, one describes objects seen in the Oregon Cascades by a prospector, who noted electromagnetic effects on his compass while the objects were overhead (see IV-3); it is considered unidentified by the Air Force. The other, by the Lt. Governor of Idaho, was made in Boise, Idaho, and is considered to be "astronomical," although the sighting was made at three thirty in the afternoon (see III-16).

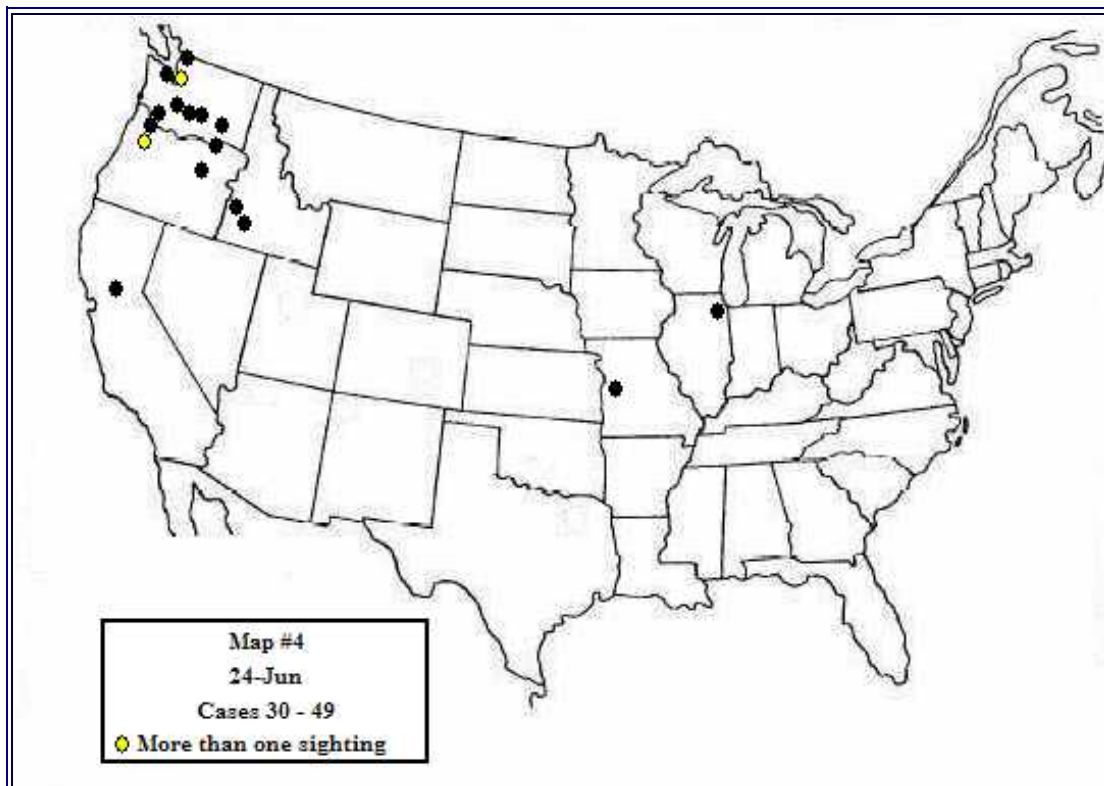
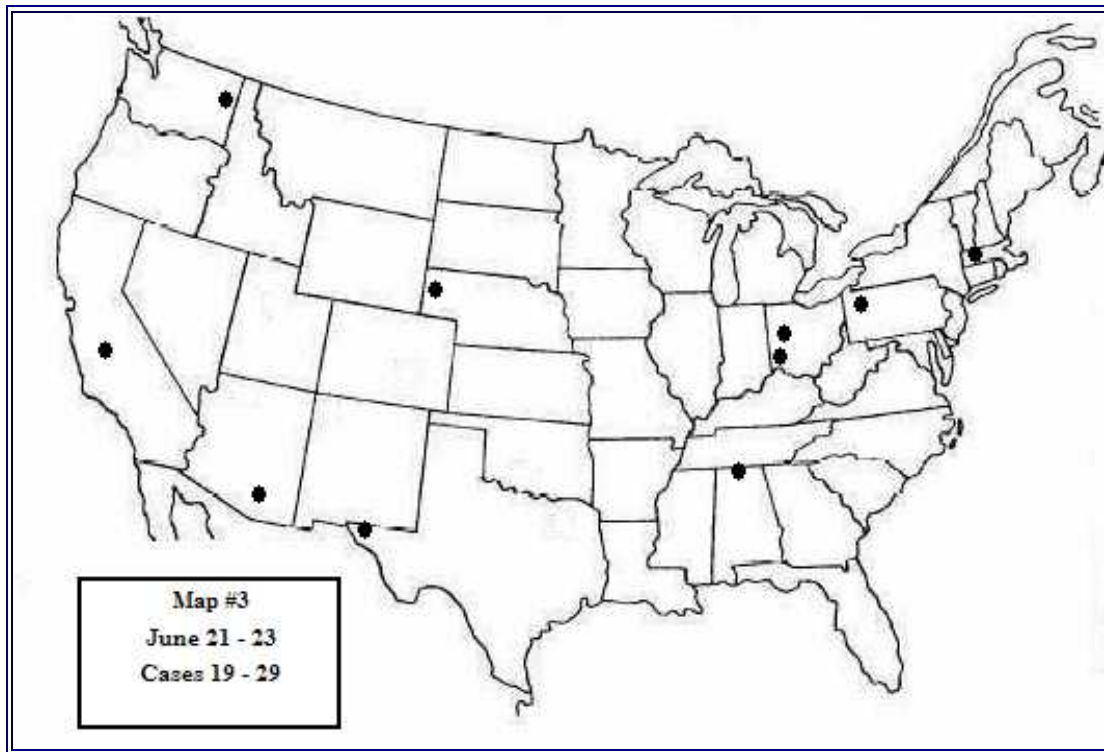
Published records have referred to a total of forty-nine UFO reports for the period June 1st through June 24th, by more than seventy-five witnesses, two thirds of whom have been fully identified. These figures raise an interesting question: why did none of these seventy-five witnesses report their unusual observations until after Arnolds story had been published? In a number of those reports, the witnesses tried to account for their initial silence. Richard L. Bitters, editor of the Wapakoneta (Ohio) Daily News, reportedly felt that his sighting of June 23rd was simply not a news story, and did not publish it until two weeks later when he changed his mind at the height of the wave (III-6); on the same night, two other Ohio residents made a similar sighting but delayed reporting it "until others had told of seeing them" (Case 28); E. B. Parks, of Hazel Green, Alabama, felt that the phenomenon he observed about the same time was "so unusual that it was not reported for fear others would disbelieve the account of it" (Case 29). Richard Rankin, who had not attached any "otherworldly" significance to his sighting of June 23rd (or 14th) at Bakersfield, California, assumed that he was observing the Navy's experimental "Flying Flapjack," the XF5U-1, even though "I couldn't make out the number or location of the propellers, and I couldn't distinguish any wings or tail" (II-3) so he hesitated to describe what he had seen "until others were reporting the same thing." And so it went: if the reason for not reporting these earlier sightings at the time they occurred is not exactly stated in every case, it is at least implicitly apparent the witnesses were afraid to report them because they were so unusual.

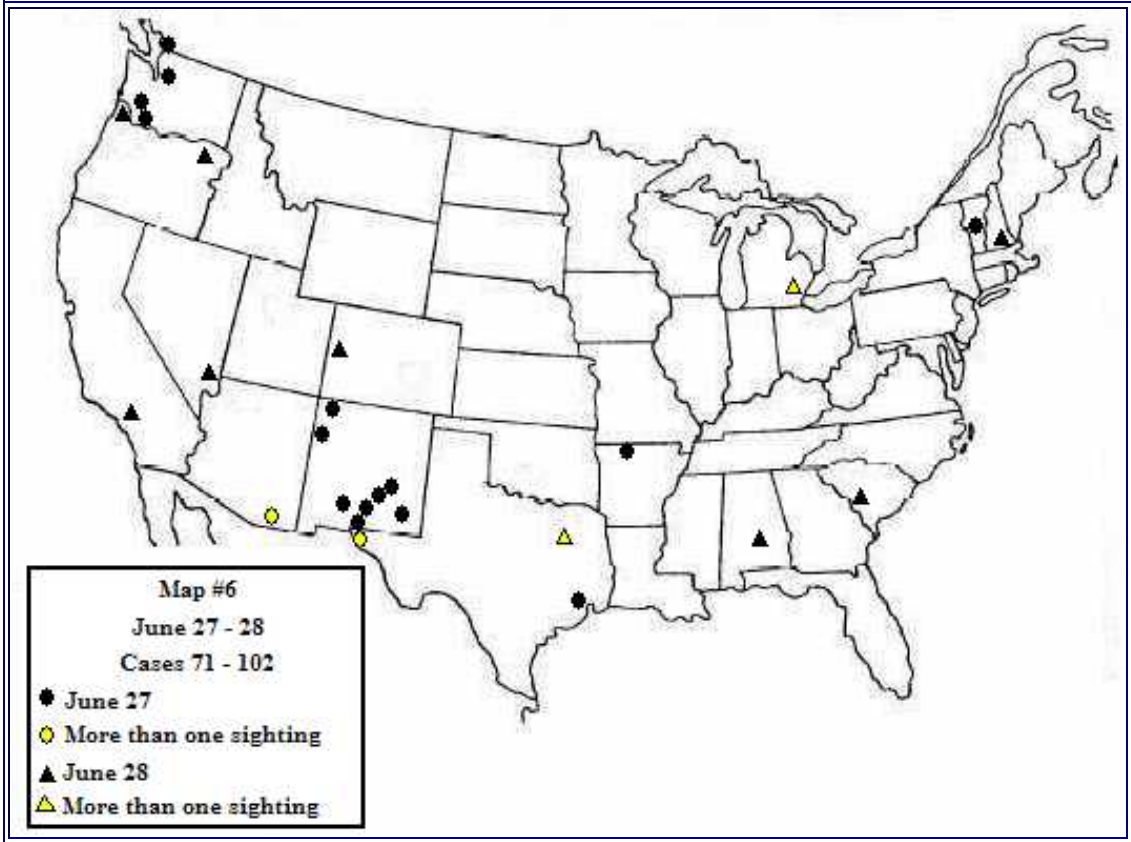
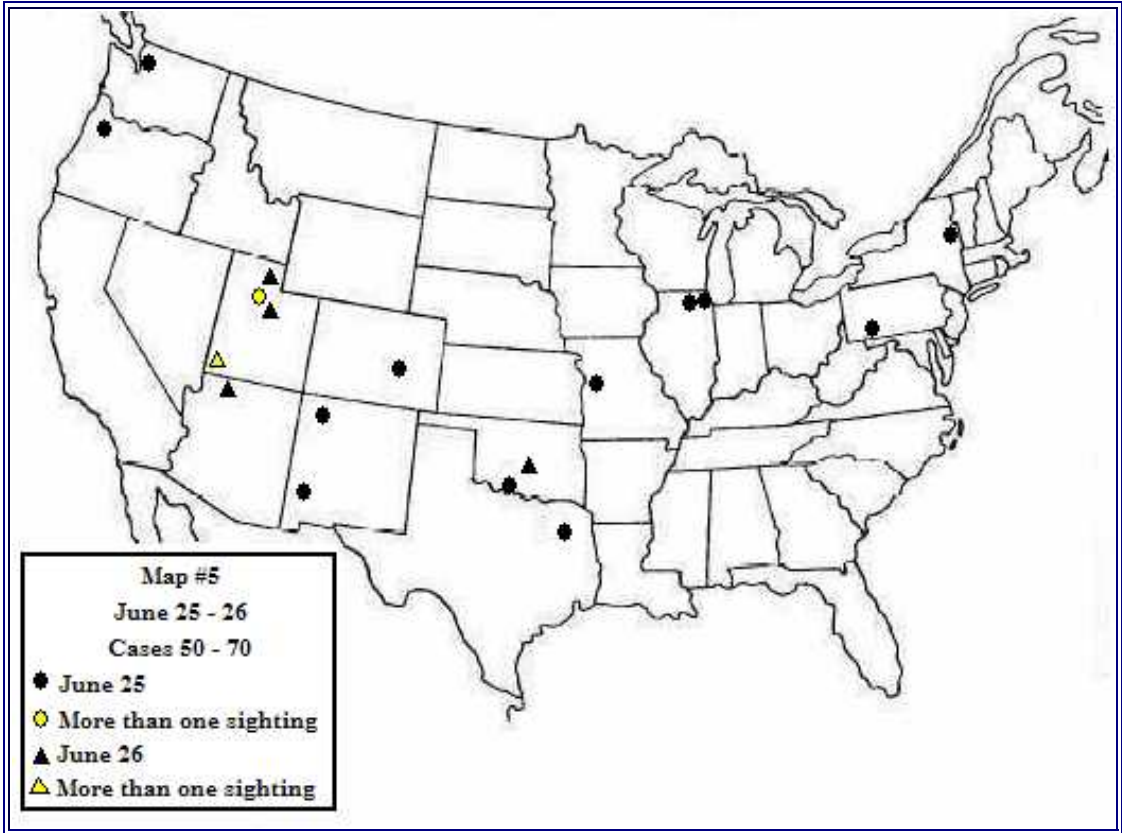
The Element of Fear

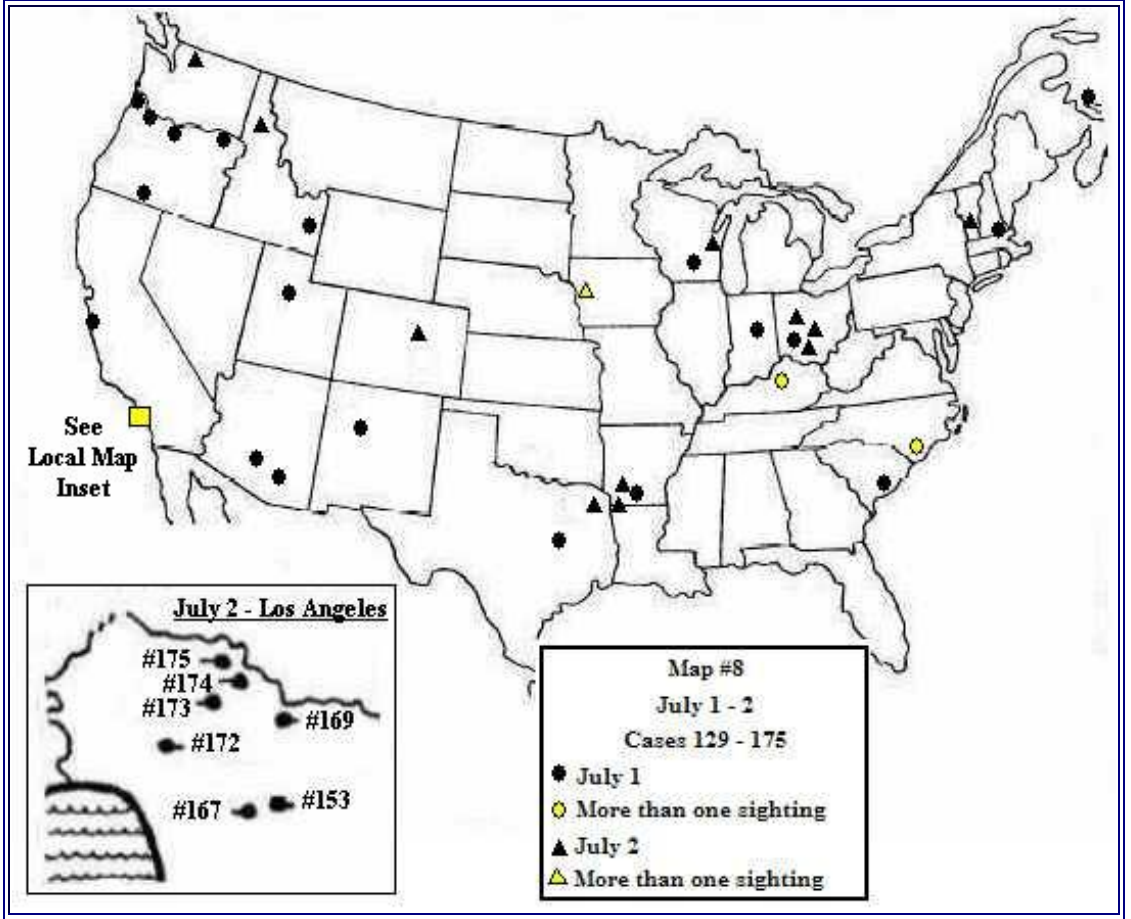
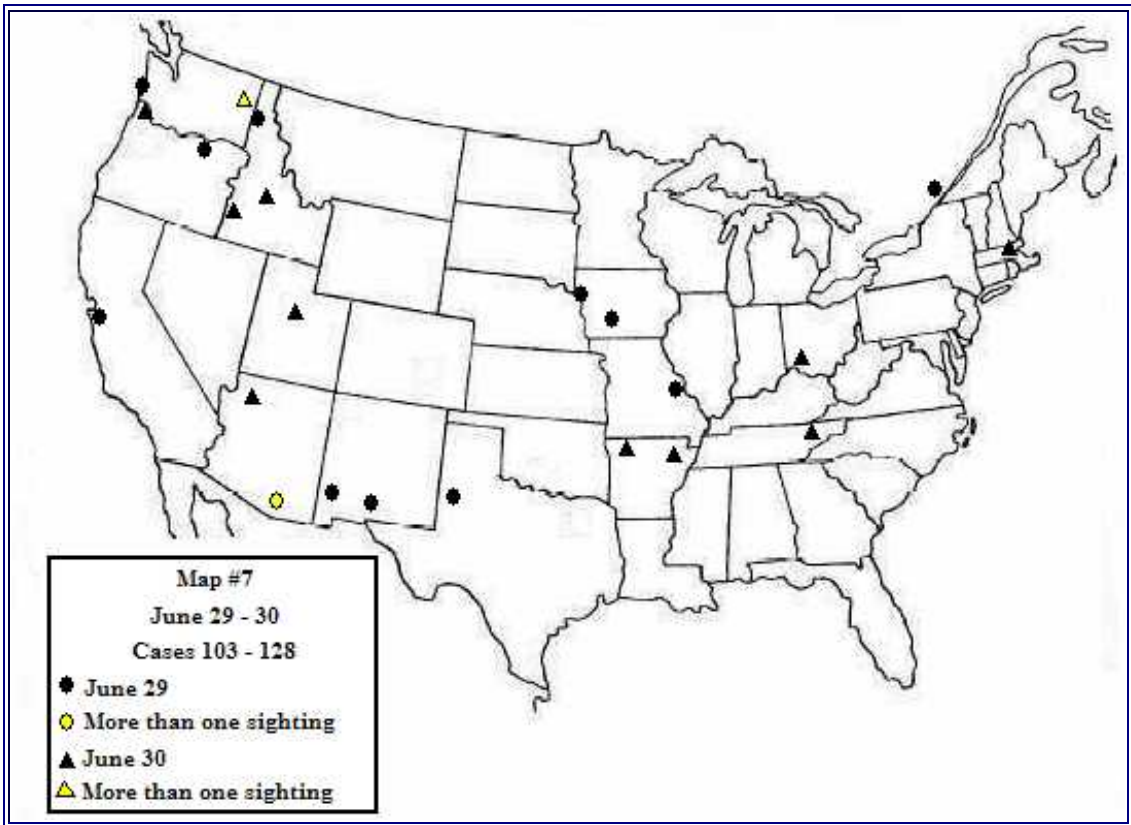
The 1947 UFO wave is perhaps the most fascinating of any to examine because of its unique position at the very beginning of the contemporary period of UFO activity in this country. There were no "attitudes" about UFOs in June 1947. There were no preconceptions, no misconceptions, no "policies" by either press or public, or by any official agencies, and certainly no pattern existed concerning the phenomenon by which comparisons might be made. Few people recalled the reports of "ghost rockets" over Sweden during the summer of 1946, and it was only during the crest of the 1947 wave, on July 6th and 7th, that any connection was made with those earlier phenomena. A few World War II veterans, who had observed "foo fighters" over Germany and in the South Pacific during the war, were now reminded of those earlier incidents by the widespread reports of flying saucers. But for most witnesses, the experience of observing strange aerial manifestations was completely without precedent and profoundly baffling.

We now know that after 1947 it could be expected that a UFO witness might be afraid to report a sighting publicly for fear of ensuing ridicule and intimidation. This is a reaction we have come to expect, one of the many psychological complexities of the UFO phenomenon that has developed out of prevailing public and official attitudes over a long period of time. But in 1947 there were no such precedents to create this type of fear; these witnesses had seen something unaccountable and their fear was of the unknown, a reaction to something totally new and unexpected. There was no place, outside of science fiction, for this kind of inexplicable experience: the appearance of some new phenomenon was not just frightening, it was against all common sense, and if something in someone's experience does not make any sense, it is not likely that this experience is going to be made public, at least not until it is discovered that others have shared the same baffling experience. And so to many, it must have come as something of a relief to read of Kenneth Arnold's sighting, and to discover that they had not taken leave of their senses and were not the only ones to have come face to face with something they were quite unable to explain or understand.









Sightings After June 24th

Arnold's report appeared in the afternoon and evening papers in the northwest on June 25th. On the 26th, morning papers were already carrying new reports. The first two to appear were those of Byron Savage, in Oklahoma City (see I-1), and W. I. Davenport, in Kansas City (see II-1). Savage, a businessman and private pilot, like Arnold, must have felt a special bond with the Boise observer, for he is quoted as saying, "I know that boy up there really saw them."

The Davenport sighting had occurred on June 25th and he, like Arnold, reported having seen nine objects, but with some major dissimilarities: the objects traveled in a loose formation, made noise, and left vapor trails. The only thing they had in common with Arnold's objects was their number, and their great speed.

So soon did Savage and Davenport file their reports that these two cases appeared simultaneously with Arnold's on the morning of June 26th as front-page, banner-headline stories in the Portland Oregon Journal. Later that same day, other reports began to appear.

There are thirteen reported sightings on record for June 25th, five of which were reported by the end of June. (Several of these cases are of uncertain dates, based on the newspaper data that were available.) Most of the sightings took place in western states, but New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Missouri also are also represented. Three of these sightings occurred after dark. Six are multiple object reports, four of which described two UFOs. At least nineteen people were involved in the reports, most of whom were identified.

On the following day, June 26th, the number of sighting dropped to eight, six of them, from the Utah-Arizona area, and one each in Oklahoma and Illinois. All were daylight observations except the one in Illinois, which is the only multiple-object report in the group. In this report, the witness, Mrs. J. M. Harrison, of Chicago, described watching a large fireball pass over at two a.m.; as it moved toward the northwest it diminished in size and broke up into two dozen small discs which whirled around so rapidly she was unable to make an accurate count of them (Case 64). The sightings of June 26th involved a total of thirteen witnesses, eleven of whom were identified by name.

On June 27th, the number of sightings rose again to at least nineteen. (Several other sightings reported in the Montreal Star a few weeks later may have been confirmations of the fireball meteor recorded by the American Meteor Society and described in Popular Astronomy, January, 1948, pp. 39-40; it was reported seen at 8:56 P.M. EST over upper New York state, moving roughly from the area near Albany toward Watertown, according to the astronomer, Dr. Charles P. Olivier.) Eight of the June 27th reports were from New Mexico, and three came from Washington state; one of the latter, from a town near the Columbia River called Woodland, was a most unusual and well-reported multiple-object sighting (see II-2). Three reports were made in Texas, but two of these, in El Paso, lack even the barest of details, including definite dates. Two reports were made in Arizona and one

each came from Arkansas, British Columbia, and Vermont. (The Vermont report, Case 86, might also be a confirmation of the New York meteor reports.) Four of these nineteen sightings occurred at night, although the two El Paso reports are uncertain; the remainder of the sightings were made by day.

For June 28th through the 30th, sightings averaged about a dozen per day; thirteen for June 28th (including two of uncertain date), twelve for June 29th, and fourteen for June 30th. The low percentage of after-dark reports remained about the same as earlier during these three days: thirty daylight sightings, seven after dark, and two uncertain. Over half of these reports came from the west. Other reports came from Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, Ontario, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee. Fifteen were multiple object reports, and of a total of nearly eighty witnesses involved during these three days, about sixty of them were identified in news accounts.

The Air Force files include seven reports from the period of June 28th through the 30th, none of them being classified as unidentified. Among the more interesting of these cases is a sighting by Carl J. Zohn, a Naval Research Laboratory missile expert, made at White Sands, New Mexico on June 29th (see III-18), and an air-to-air sighting made near Grand Canyon by a Navy pilot of two objects plummeting to earth on June 30th (II-12). Few of the thirty-nine reports for this period received headline attention when they were printed, and by June 30th newspaper coverage was not quite as widespread as it had been several days earlier. But UFO sightings would very shortly pick again as the July 4th holiday approached.

Explaining the Inexplicable

It can be expected that when people are confronted with some novel experience, they will try to account for it in some rational way. The more bizarre the experience, however, the less rational the explanations become. Flying saucers were about as bizarre an experience as one could imagine, so it is therefore not surprising to find that by the end of June, opinions and "explanations," as well as flying saucer reports, were on the increase.

The San Francisco Chronicle for June 27 printed a roundup of opinion regarding Arnold's sighting from assorted "experts." Captain Al Smith, a United Air Lines pilot, believed that what Arnold had seen were "reflections of his instrument panel," presumably in the Plexiglas canopy of his plane, although this is not stated. Elmer Fisher, Portland, Oregon meteorologist, suggested that Arnold had encountered "a slight touch of snow blindness from the mountain peaks."

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Dr. J. Hugh Pruett, University of Oregon astronomer and meteorologist, said that "persistent vision," often experienced after looking at objects such as the sun, "could have kept such reflections before him as they passed." Getting back on safer ground, Dr. Pruett added that the objects "were not of meteoric origin, for meteors do not dip and sway."

In his syndicated column on the same day, AP Science Writer Howard W. Blakeslee also tackled the Arnold report, stating that "in clear air the flash of sunlight from a plane can easily be seen for fifty miles. This flash is round, the shape of the sun. Any other reflection at a great distance is also likely to be round, coming from a small area on the plane." He also grappled with the problem of the high speeds: if these objects had been jet planes, "their speeds probably would be noticeable and could fit into the estimates, where sight gave the impression of something traveling at 1,000 miles an hour." He secured his grasp on this assessment by explaining that the eye rarely makes an accurate estimate of speed through the sky. To be fair to Blakeslee, perhaps he did not know that Arnold had established the distance between him and the objects based on familiar landmarks; on the other hand, perhaps he chose to ignore it.

Another "explanation" was offered on the same day by Lt. Colonel Harold R. Turner, at White Sands, New Mexico. In an AP account carried in many papers, Turner maintained, like Blakeslee, that Arnold had seen jet planes. "The White Sands Proving Ground commandant said that jet planes have circular exhaust pipes and that these, when heated, might give an illusion of discs." He, too, may have been ignorant of the facts: for example, that Arnold saw the objects first as they were approaching, north of Mount Rainier, in which position their "circular jet exhausts" would not have been visible. On the next day, following a series of reports from New Mexico, Colonel Turner rejected jet exhausts in favor of "meteorites," explaining that "they appear much larger and apparently are coming closer to earth than usual" (see III-9). It is perfectly clear that Colonel Turner did not know what a meteorite was, let alone flying saucers.

But someone who did know the difference between meteors and meteorites made a statement that was printed in the Denver Post of June 28. Dr. H. H. Nininger, an expert in the field of meteoritics, declared that the object observed by Byron Savage may have been a meteor; and in commenting on another New Mexico sighting of the previous day, this one reported near Shiprock by an associate, Dr. R. L. Hopkins (Case 81), Nininger said he believed that what Dr. Hopkins saw "could have been a meteorite falling somewhere in southeast Arizona." Dr. Hopkins, of Maitland, Florida, had been visiting Nininger at his laboratory in Winslow and had been near Shiprock, New Mexico, when the sighting was made. Regarding the objects Arnold had seen, however, Dr. Nininger said that those could not have been meteors; the descriptions of them sounded to him more like "mechanical objects."

Some explanations were as bizarre as the UFO reports themselves. One of the most original and imaginative explanations came the same day (June 28th) from the operator of a bottle-capping plant in Everett, Washington, and was carried widely by the wire services. Offered with apparent seriousness, this solution proposed that the little aluminum discs inside the bottle caps were set free when the bottle caps were melted down, rose up the chimneys on columns of hot air, and were then carried aloft by the winds to be reported as flying discs by numerous people throughout the country.

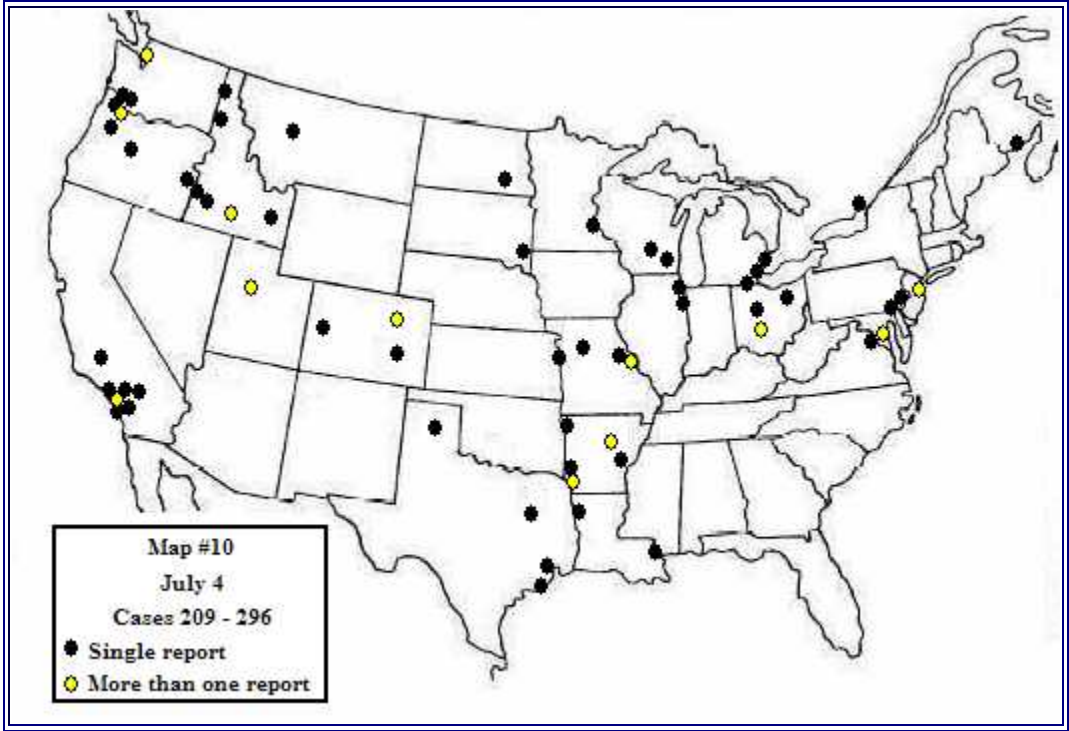
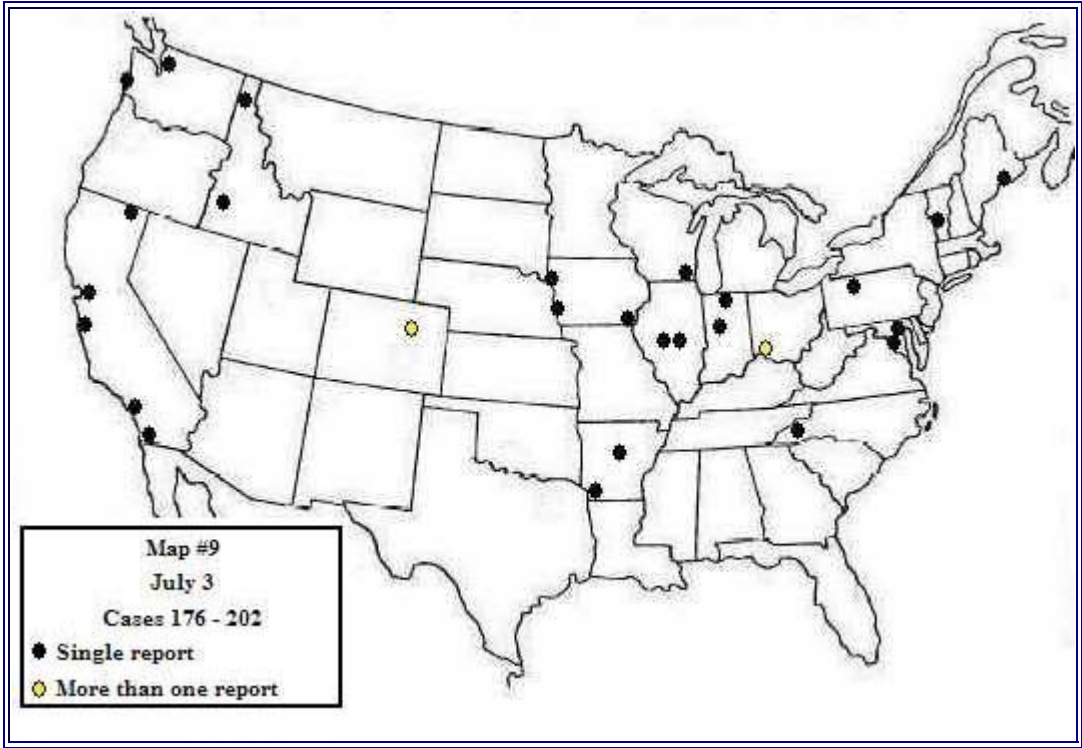
On June 30th another Army official spoke out. AP reported that Colonel Alfred F. Kilberer, intelligence officer of the Eighth Air Force, in commenting upon recent reports made in Texas, said bluntly that "the reports might be true, but I doubt

it." Two days later he, like his colleagues in White Sands, had further thoughts on the subject: in the Houston Post, AP quoted him as saying flying saucer reports were nothing more than "an interesting study in human psychology."

June Roundup

By June 30th sightings for that month had been made in at least thirty states and in two Canadian provinces. The largest number of sightings (twenty) had been made in Washington; runners-up were Oregon and New Mexico (thirteen each); Utah, Arizona and Texas (eight each); California and Idaho (six each); and the remaining states accounted for four or less, making a total of 128 sightings for the month. Daylight sightings predominated, totaling ninety; night sightings came to twenty-eight and ten were of undetermined times. Most people had reported seeing "round objects" or "discs;" some described the objects as "oval." Witnesses numbered more than 220 persons, representing a wide cross-section of professions, including pilots, scientists, police, public officials, physicians, teachers, students, forest rangers, newspaper men, railroad engineers, military men, housewives, a barber, a dentist, and a postmaster. Observations were made from planes in the air, from moving automobiles, from the inside of homes, through windows, but mostly from open areas outdoors. Instruments that had been used to observe UFOs included binoculars and theodolites, and in one report (Case 13) a photograph was said to have been taken (IV-3).

The vantage point of time allows us to view past events with an objectivity that was impossible as those events were taking place. Looking back today on the UFO sightings of June, 1947, it appears to be unmistakably evident that by the end of the month there was already enough evidence to justify a thorough scientific investigation into these unexplained appearances. It is understandable that such an idea occurred to scarcely anyone in mid-1947. What is so difficult to understand is why it took another nineteen years of continued observations and reports to get such an investigation underway.



The Buildup of Sightings, July 1 - 3

Although June had been a month of numerous and unusual UFO observations, the best was still to come. July began with an upsurge in the number of reports on the very first day of the month twenty-four reports, an increase of ten over the previous day. The following day produced only one less. (These figures, it must be reminded, are based only on the references examined for the purposes of this report.) Except for the southeast, the sightings for these two days appeared to be spread throughout the country fairly evenly, with about half coming from the western states. There are no reports in the Air Force files for July 1st and 2nd. Almost two hundred witnesses, nearly as many as for the entire month of June, were involved in these sightings, but half of them in one sighting alone: over a hundred spectators at an amateur ball game in Cincinnati saw two of the discs move slowly over the field on the evening of July 2nd (Case 161). In twenty of these forty-seven sightings more than one object was seen. It was several days before these observations were carried by the wire services, and comment in the press for those two days is almost nil.

On July 3rd the number of sightings rose again, with references to thirty-three UFO observations found for that date (including one of uncertain date). Distribution was still fairly general, but indications of a concentration in California that had begun the previous day, with eight sightings, continued on July 3rd, with five more. Among the more interesting reports for that date was the one made by John Cole, at Harborside, Maine, who is described in the Air Force files as an astronomer: a group of objects milling within a loose formation like a swarm of bees (III-18). It is considered unidentified by the Air Force. Another interesting report describes the landing, seen by a family of ten in Northern Idaho, of eight huge objects (II-12). This report should have been among those in the Air Force files because it had been reported to intelligence officers from the Spokane Army Air Base, and an intensive air search was carried out by two missions of the National Guards 116th Fighter Group. Local sheriffs deputies also made a ground search, but since no apparent trace of the objects was found, a report was probably never forwarded to Wright Field in Dayton.

Of the July 3rd sightings, twenty were made by daylight, ten by night, and for three the time is uncertain. There were fourteen multiple object reports, six of which describe formations of three objects. At least sixty-five witnesses were involved, of which fifty were identified by name.

During the five weeks from June 1st through July 3rd, sightings had been made in at least thirty-six states and three Canadian provinces; yet a UP story from Chicago, date-lined July 3rd and found in many morning papers for July 4th, headlined a rundown of reports, "Flying Saucers Seen Over 8 States." An AP account from Washington on the same date was a little closer to the truth: it reported that sightings had been made in ten states.

With the increase in sightings from July 1 to 3 came the expected increase in editorial comment and official statements. On July 2nd the Portland Oregonian

headlined an editorial, "Er -- Quack, Quack." The headline accurately condensed the substance of what followed.

On the following day, July 4th, official statements were forthcoming from Wright Field, where reports were being received and examined, and from elsewhere. In a July 3rd dispatch from Chicago, Major Paul Gaynor was quoted as saying that a preliminary investigation of reports had dropped "because of lack of concrete evidence." And from Washington, AP quoted an unidentified spokesman as saying that "the Air Force people are inclined to believe either that the observers just imagined they saw something or that there is some meteorological explanation for the phenomenon." Among the meteorological possibilities was a fanciful one involving icing conditions in high clouds that "produced large hailstones, which might have flattened out and glided a bit." The Washington spokesman added that a preliminary study of the reports "has not produced enough fact to warrant further investigation." Conversely, a report by INS from Wright Field, at the same time, stated that "officers of the Army Air Forces Air Material Command at Wright Field were asked by General Carl Spaatz, the Army's air commander, to check on the reports and try to ascertain what the discs are." Lt. William C. Anderson, public relations officer at the field, said: "So far we haven't found anything to confirm that the discs exist. We don't think they are guided missiles. As things stand right now, it appears to be either a phenomenon or a figment of someone's imagination." According to these spokesmen, the investigation at Wright Field was continuing, in spite of what spokesmen in Washington were telling the press.

These contradictory official statements established the ground rules and set the tone that would characterize the Air Force handling of the subject for the next twenty years, demonstrating clearly that its primary concern was not one of scientific investigation, but rather one of public relations.

The July 4th Deluge

Within twenty four hours after the release of these official statements events would begin to take place that would leave everybody civilians and military personnel alike in a state closely approximating Ruppelt's description of a flap. Reports of sightings, coming almost simultaneously from hundreds of bewildered citizens, were made to newspapers and police stations all over the country, and adjacent areas as well, from Southern California to New Brunswick, and from Louisiana to North Dakota. People everywhere were experiencing the beginning of one of the most massive waves of UFO sightings on record. Reports came from all kinds of observers: from picnickers and holiday crowds, from policemen and public officials, and from pilots, farmers, professional men, housewives and bus drivers.

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At Twin Falls, Idaho, sixty picnickers watched three formations of more than thirty-five objects flying overhead (II-5); and later in the evening, at Hauser Lake, near Spokane, more than two hundred persons saw a lone disc in the sky overhead (II-6); the entire crew of a United Airline flight watched two groups of discs near the Idaho-Oregon border at dusk (III-10); dozens of police and scores of citizens reported

seeing numerous discs flying over Portland, Oregon, early in the afternoon (III-15); air-to-air sightings were made by two private pilots, one in Idaho and the other in California (III-10); in Seattle, a Coast-guardsman took the first widely-publicized photograph of a flying disc overhead (IV-3); in Boise a UP newsman and friends watched a single disc fly directly overhead at a tremendous speed and disappear over the horizon in a matter of seconds (III-6).

But reports were not confined to the west: in New Orleans, a salesgirl saw a speeding disc fly over Lake Pontchartrain (Case 223); a group of people in Port Huron, Michigan, counted an assortment of almost twenty discs flying in various directions after dark (Case 276); a blazing ball of fire was seen hovering near the home of an Alexandria, Virginia woman early in the morning of the 4th (II-6); and a physician at the Pennsylvania Hospital for Mental Diseases saw an object with whirling jets, or wings, similar to an object reported seen several hours earlier by a Saint Louis mechanic and his family (II-14); and in Fayetteville, Arkansas, a farmer's livestock bolted when objects swooped overhead (IV-1).

Sightings continued into the evening hours with numerous after-dark reports of fast-moving lights and illuminated discs coming from many areas. The total number of reports through midnight on July 4th was more than double the number for the previous day. References to no less than eighty-eight specific sightings were found, spread over an area comprising twenty-four states and one Canadian province. Well over four hundred people from all walks of life witnessed the phenomena. Approximately two-thirds of all these observations took place within the daylight hours or dusk, and almost all of the daylight reports described discs, or round, or oval objects; included with the night reports were several accounts of fireballs. More than half of the sightings described a single object; the rest involved two or more, with some groups flying in V-formations. Most of the sightings were, as in earlier reports, very brief, describing objects flying in a straight course at tremendous rates of speed; reports of longer duration were also made, however, like the United Air Lines sighting in which the crew watched two formations of objects for a period of nearly fifteen minutes (III-10,11). A number of slow-moving and hovering objects were also described.

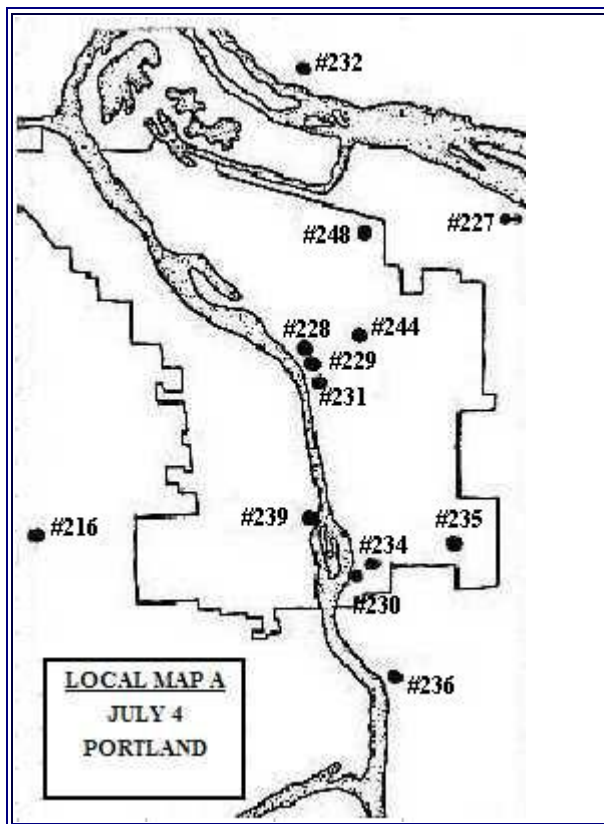
The effect of all these celestial displays was extraordinary. The next day, July 5th, newspapers all over the country gave front-page, banner-headline coverage to the sightings. Local papers featured reports of sightings coming from nearby areas, but the wire services carried more than thirty specific sightings from various locations. The Portland, Oregon reports and the United Air Lines sighting was by far the most publicized, given in a detailed and straightforward manner. As the Portland ("Er -- Quack, Quack") Oregonian remarked of the UAL case: "Their report, detailed enough to shake the most incredulous, left them (the observers) equally shaken." The photograph taken near Seattle by Coast-guardsman Frank Ryman was also given "top billing" in many newspapers as graphic evidence of the reality of the reported objects.

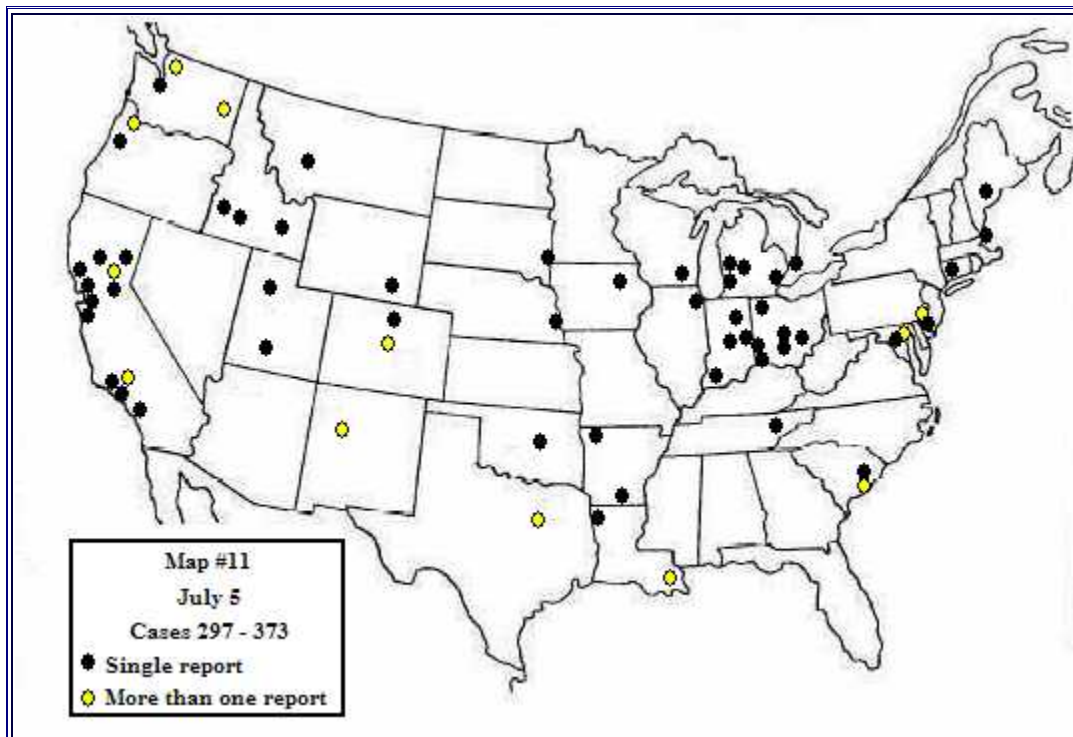
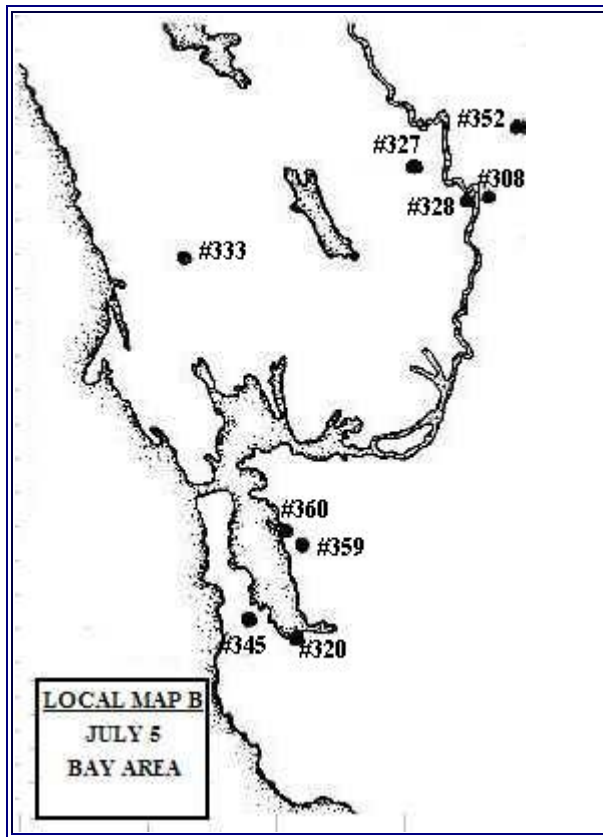
Sightings on July 5th continued at a high rate, although the references examined turned up eleven fewer sightings than on the previous day for a total of seventy-seven specific observations. These appear to be distributed over an even wider area than on July 4th, with reports from thirty states and one province. The number of witnesses again totaled in the several hundreds and covered the same

broad spectrum of occupations as on the previous day. There are other similar features to the previous days reports: two-thirds of the sightings occurred during daylight hours or dusk; a little more than half of these reports described single objects; and discs remained the most predominate shape reported, with several notable exceptions, such as the object described by two TWA pilots while flying over Neapolis, Ohio: the UFO had the shape of a propeller. (This is remarkably similar to a report from Spokane, Washington, on July 6th; (see II-17 for details.) On July 4th Oregon had the greatest number of reports, with sixteen; California was second, with ten. On July 5th, California led with fifteen, while Washington followed, with seven.

Generally speaking, newspaper coverage for these two days was matter-of-fact, reasonably detailed, and notably free of ridicule and innuendo. The sudden wide-scale nature of the phenomenon, the graphic vividness of the descriptions, and the undisputed character of the witnesses resulted in a serious-minded handling of the reports by the press. Unfortunately it was not possible for the press to sustain an objective attitude after July 6th, for a number of reasons. The single most important factor in stifling objective news coverage was the unprecedented outpouring of absurd "explanations," personal opinion, and outright invective against UFO observers, all of which served no other purpose than to confuse the issue and cast a pall of suspicion on all witnesses. And by July 7th, when cranks and practical jokers got into full swing, an aura of ridicule descended upon the subject that has lingered for twenty years. For this the press must bear a major responsibility, since it freely gave over its obligation of presenting the facts in favor of currying to the voices of irresponsibility and confusion.

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The Voice of Confusion

Hard on the heels of the July 4th reports came the claims and disclaimers of the experts invariably persons who had not seen UFOs, but spoke with some assumed authority for those who had. These so-called experts knew what the witnesses had seen, even if the witnesses themselves did not. Among the more irresponsible statements that appeared on July 5th was the one that originated in the Los Angeles Herald-Express, and was carried widely by AP. The story quoted an "unidentified" scientist, allegedly a nuclear physicist at the California Institute of Technology, who proposed the theory that the discs were the result of "transmutation of atomic energy" experiments that were being conducted at Muroc Air Base, White Sands, and some unspecified location near Portland, Oregon, as well as elsewhere. "These saucers so-called are capable of high speeds but can be controlled from the ground. They are twenty feet in the center and are partially rocket-propelled on the take-off." He maintained that "people are seeing things. Such flying discs actually are in experimental existence." Dr. Harold Urey, in Chicago, immediately threw cold water on this claptrap: "Transmutation of atomic energy sounds like gibberish. You can transmute metals, not energy." Another disclaimer came almost as soon from Colonel F. J. Clark, commanding officer of the Hanford Engineering Works of the Atomic Energy Project in Richland, Washington, who said he knew of no connection between atomic energy experiments at Hanford and "flying saucers."

Another "authority" on secret government devices was national commander-in-chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Louis E. Starr, of Portland, Oregon. AP reports that in Columbus on July 5th, in a speech to Ohio VFW members, Starr stated that he was "momentarily expecting word from Washington" concerning the "fleets of flying saucers," which would "help explain the discs." A telegram containing the information, said Starr, "was due here at three p.m. (EST)" and he promised to read it to his listeners. It seems never to have arrived. Whatever Starr's sources were he wasn't telling, but he did say he felt "too little is being told to the people of this country." AP does not mention how long VFW members waited around for that telegram.

In Detroit, INS quoted another "expert" -- this one an unidentified meteorologist -- who proposed that UFOs were from Mars; not spaceships, but merely "signals." With a freewheeling logic he asked, "why should it not be as logical for Mars to try to contact earth as for earth to contact Mars?" Admitting that it was an "unusual" theory, he offered no clues as to how these signals were converted into seemingly physical objects, nor did he specify what earthly experiments were currently being carried out in an attempt to contact Mars. His decision to remain anonymous was most judicious.

The Portland Oregonian ("Er -- Quack, Quack") of July 6th quoted several professional men and their various professional theories. Dr. Frederick A. Courts, assistant professor of psychology at Reed College said: "There may be some mass psychological explanation to the sudden rash of 'flying saucer' reports. When people expect to see something they frequently do . . . The whole thing could be the result of a general semi-hysteria due to the nervousness of the public over reports of atomic warfare and guided missiles." Disagreeing with his colleague was Dr. A. A. Knowlton, physics professor at the same college, who said: "In view of the

persistence of these reports, we cannot dismiss the 'flying disc' matter as simply another instance of mass hysteria." He went on to cite the impressiveness of the United Air Lines report, and suggested that the objects were "the result of secret experiments with guided missiles, either by our own or by foreign countries."

Colonel E. S. Ellison, head of the Portland Weather Bureau, remarked that a great number of balloons were sent aloft each day by meteorologists and at high altitudes these balloons frequently reflect the rays of the sun like metal; "balloons, however, could not reach the great speed attributed to the 'saucers' because even above the atmosphere, wind currents seldom exceed one hundred miles an hour." Dr. J. Hugh Pruett, Eugene meteorologist, who had earlier suggested that "persistent vision" might explain the objects that Arnold had seen, now observed more prudently that "I don't know what on earth these mysterious objects can be." He was certain, however, that they were not meteorites, for if they were, "someone would have found traces on the ground by now."

By Sunday, July 6th, a number of other astronomers had made their opinions known. Significantly, not one of their utterances indicated even the slightest degree of scientific curiosity about what this new phenomenon being seen in the sky might be. UFO reports were summarily dismissed by most of these scientists.

At a convention for astronomers held at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, diligent newsman polled the "experts" for their opinions. Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of Harvard College Observatory, said that unless he saw a disc himself, he had absolutely nothing to say. Dr. Charles P. Olivier, president of the American Meteor Society, (who later became a NICAP Board Member), told reporters that none of the astronomical observers with whom he was in touch around the country had seen anything resembling such objects, and added that while reports did not appear to resemble meteors, sightings might be expected to increase toward the end of July, when the Delta Aquarids made their annual appearance. Dr. Roy Marshall, of the Fels Planetarium in Philadelphia, wrote off all reports as "plain hysteria;" unless he saw one himself, he commented, he wouldn't comment.

In Chicago, two of the country's leading astronomers agreed that the reported discs "couldn't be meteors." Dr. Gerard Kuiper, head of the University of Chicago's Yerkes Observatory at Williams Bay, Wisconsin, agreed with Dr. Oliver Lee, head of Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory at Evanston, when the latter proposed that the objects were "man-made" and probably "radio-controlled." Lee said that "the Army, Navy and Air Force are working secretly on all sorts of things." He exhorted inquisitive newsmen to "remember the A-bomb, and radar signals to the moon."

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Judging from statements such as these, the "spirit of scientific inquiry" had no relevance when it came to UFOs, as far as the scientific fraternity itself was concerned. In twenty years the situation remains much the same, to the discredit of the American scientific community.

U. S. Government scientists and military officials were no less disdainful, according to a July 5th AP dispatch from Washington. Ivan B. Tannehill, chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau's division of synoptic reports and forecasts, said: "I'd like to see one first before I make a guess." An Atomic Energy Commission scientist echoed his statement: he'd be glad to guess what the saucers were "if someone will bring one in."

Dr. Newborn Smith, of the National Bureau of Standards, likened flying saucer reports to those of the Loch Ness monster: "Once the report gets around that someone said they saw something, a lot of people think they saw it too." He didn't think the discs were "natural phenomena," but suggested sightings may have been due to the "reflections of a distant plane." If he saw a good picture of one, "he might be able to tell what it is."

A spokesman at the Naval Observatory in Washington said only that from descriptions given so far, the discs "did not seem to be astronomical phenomena." A CAA spokesman said that all he knows "is what I read in the papers."

In an AP item from Sacramento on July 5th, public relations officer Major Duncan Annam, of McClelland Field, said there was no cause for undue alarm about the objects. "Lots of people are worried to heck about the things," he said, "but there's nothing to get excited about. If there were anything to them the Army would have notified us." He was inclined to believe they might be some "Army training experiment," but he admitted that this was just a personal opinion. He added that there had been no radar confirmation of reports around the Sacramento area.

And in Circleville, Ohio, residents got in an uproar over a strange device that was found on a farm. Attached to it were the remains of a balloon, and while it was evident that it was a meteorological device used to measure wind velocities, the seeds of confusion had been sown throughout the land and objectivity was in short supply. But the situation would worsen, and the sightings would increase.

Crest of the Wave, July 6th - 7th

While the Sunday papers of July 6th were giving front-page coverage to the reports of the previous two days, the number of sightings for that day soared to more than double those of July 5th. A total of one hundred and fifty-seven sighting references were found for observations made in thirty-seven states, three provinces and the District of Columbia. California again led with the highest number, a total of twenty-one sightings; Alabama was next with nineteen an increase due to a concentration of multiple-object reports by hundreds of residents during the evening hours. Another concentration of sightings occurred in Missouri, where a total of eleven observations were made. Over half of the reports for July 6th describe single objects, and witnesses numbered at least five hundred. Once again about two-thirds of the sightings were made during the daylight hours, or dusk. One photograph was taken, in Birmingham, Alabama, but little is known of it other than the brief mention in the local press accounts (IV-4).

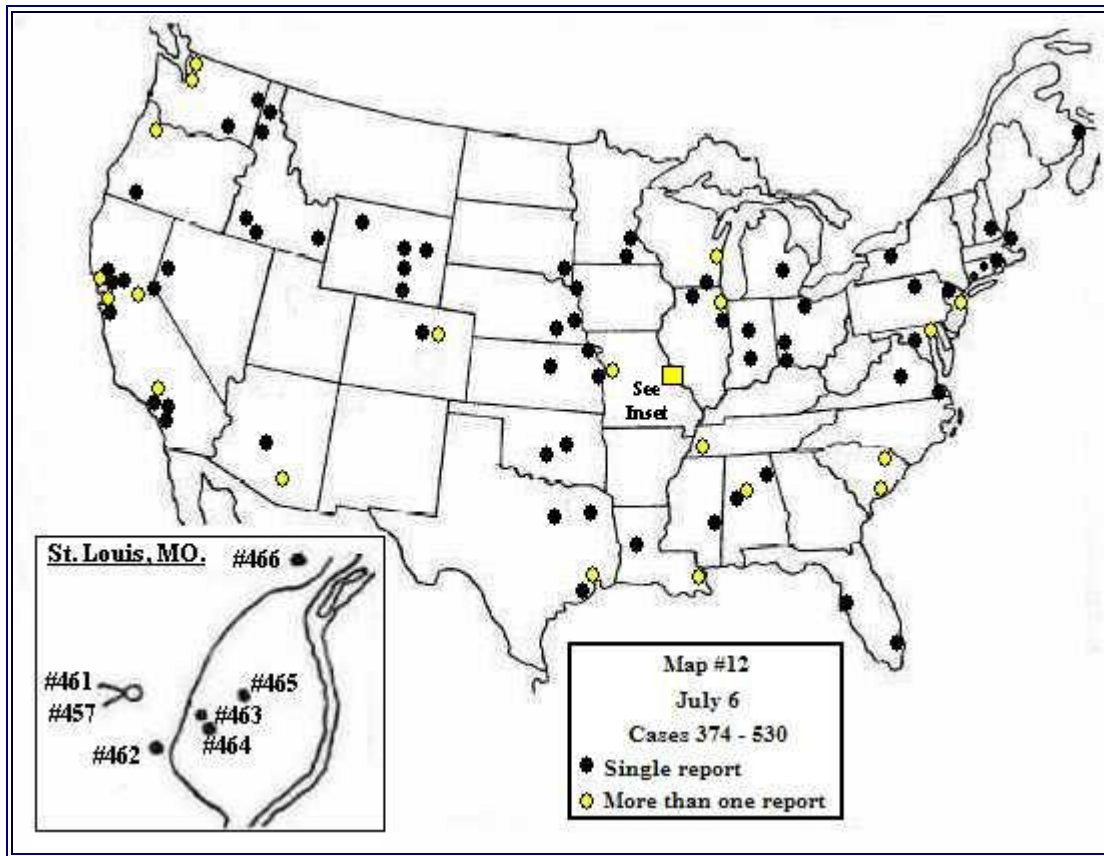
Of the four reports found in the Air Force files for July 6th, three involved military personnel. One report, from Birmingham, was made by an Army sergeant

and several of his neighbors (III-3). Nothing in the official report indicates the widespread nature of UFO activity over Birmingham that night, but local newspapers provide what may be independent corroboration of the sergeant's report. This case is officially explained as "fireworks."

The second official report was made by a Fairfield-Suisan Air Base Captain who, with his wife, saw an oscillating disc fly over their home at an unspecified time during the day; while no time has been mentioned, there were a number of reports of single objects during the afternoon of July 6th in the northern Bay region of California; without reference to a specific time, however, it is impossible to correlate any of these sightings with the Captain's report. It is officially listed as Unidentified (III-3).

The third military case is an air-to-air observation made by a B-25 pilot and his crew over Clay Center, Kansas, while flying from Ogden, Utah, to Kansas City. The object -- a bright disc -- reportedly paced his plane off the left wing until the pilot tried to close in for a better look, when it flew off at high speed. This object, seen at 1:45 p.m. (CST) in the afternoon, was listed by Dr. Hynek as "astronomical" (III-11).

The fourth official case, which was non-military, described the landing and ascent of a small disc near Tempe, Arizona, during the afternoon. For reasons unknown, the folder containing this report at Project Blue Book was empty, when examined for purposes of this report. It is listed as "insufficient information" in the official files (II-13). Another landing report, not among those in the Air Force files, describes a brief landing and ascent of another small disc seen near Pocatello, Idaho, at dawn. This object remained in an upright attitude, like a wheel, as it touched down and then took off (II-12).



Among other unusual reports for July 6th is one that describes a power outage at dawn in Acampo, California (near Lodi), which was associated with a "red glow" in the sky (IV-3). It is unfortunate that local newspaper accounts could not be consulted for more precise details.

On July 7th, the peak of the wave, the number of UFO reports reached a new high, with references found for one hundred and sixty-two sightings from thirty-seven states, a geographical distribution similar to the previous day. Washington led with twenty-two sightings; California, still an area of concentrated UFO activity, followed with twenty. Further east, Illinois became an area of heavy activity, producing seventeen reports. Daylight sightings once again outnumbered night reports by about two-to-one. As in the previous four days, single-object sightings exceeded the multiple-object reports, by about twenty on July 7th. Once again the total number of witnesses for that day was about five hundred. Three photographs have been referred to: the widely publicized Hixenbaugh photograph taken in Louisville, Kentucky; a photo taken near Pontiac, Michigan, of two objects, by tool-maker Albert Weaver; and two photos taken of a single object by William Rhodes, in Phoenix, Arizona. (See Section IV, on photographs.) The Phoenix case is in the Air Force files and is termed "possible hoax," although Kenneth Arnold describes, in *The Coming of the Saucers* (p. 52), how Intelligence Officers Frank Brown and William Davidson regarded the Rhodes photographs as among the several "we consider to be authentic."

Among the more interesting reports for July 7th was a sighting by five Ohio State University students in Columbus of three objects in triangular formation (II-6); a sighting by a Reno newspaper editor and his wife of a single disc seen flying over

that city (III-7); a report of three oddly maneuvering objects seen at Rome, Maine (II-10); a report from the Air Force files describing the analysis of the fragments of a small object that landed in an Omaha street - probably the only UFO report on record explained as "tobacco ashes" (IV-2), and the report of electromagnetic effects in the form of radio interference as six discs hovered over a power line in the Hollywood, California area (IV-3).

Most interesting of all, however, is a series of reports of a large disc accompanied by a group of smaller objects, which were described in several cases as having merged with, and seen emerging from, the parent object. The series began on the evening of July 6th in Tucson, Arizona, and then moving progressively clockwise around the circumference of the United States, with reports a few hours later at Palmdale, California; several hours after that in Tacoma, Washington; and then, during the next day, over Cicero, Illinois; and finally appearing over Manchester, Maine, on the night of July 7th (II-20).

With reports of sightings coming from all parts of the country, Air National Guard planes were being ordered aloft to search for the objects in many areas, particularly in the Pacific Northwest. Others stood by on the ground, ready to take off at a moments notice. The results of the air search were negative, which seemed to confirm the growing suspicion among many that there had been nothing in the air to begin with. Incredulity by both press and public was growing hourly and with each new report there was a disclaimer by some skeptic convinced that all of the reports were completely unfounded.

The Triumph of Ridicule

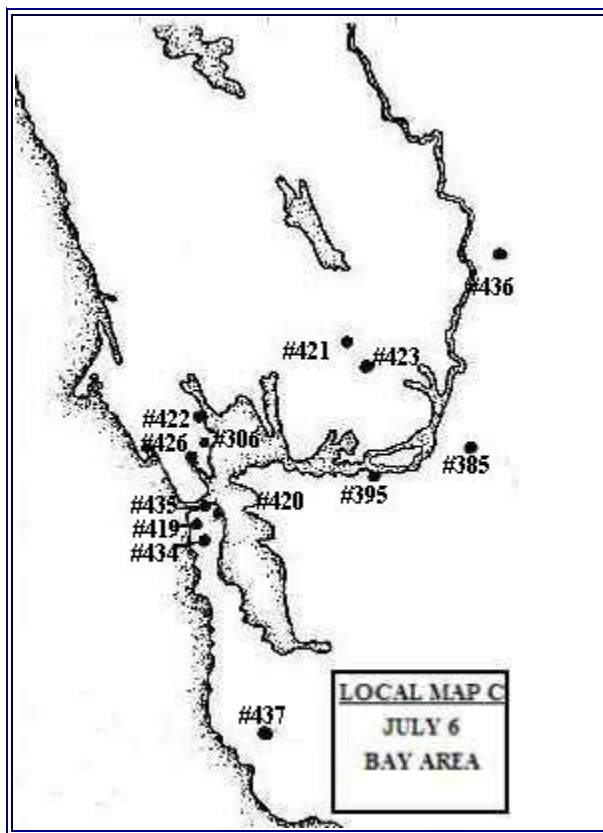
By the time the sightings for July 6th and 7th had been published, the newspapers were no longer presenting the facts with the detail and responsibility that had been given to the reports of July 4th and 5th. Skepticism, and in many cases outright ridicule, dominated news coverage of UFO sightings and those who reported them. A general attitude of "everybody's-doing-it-now" gave many news accounts more than a faint air of suspicion.

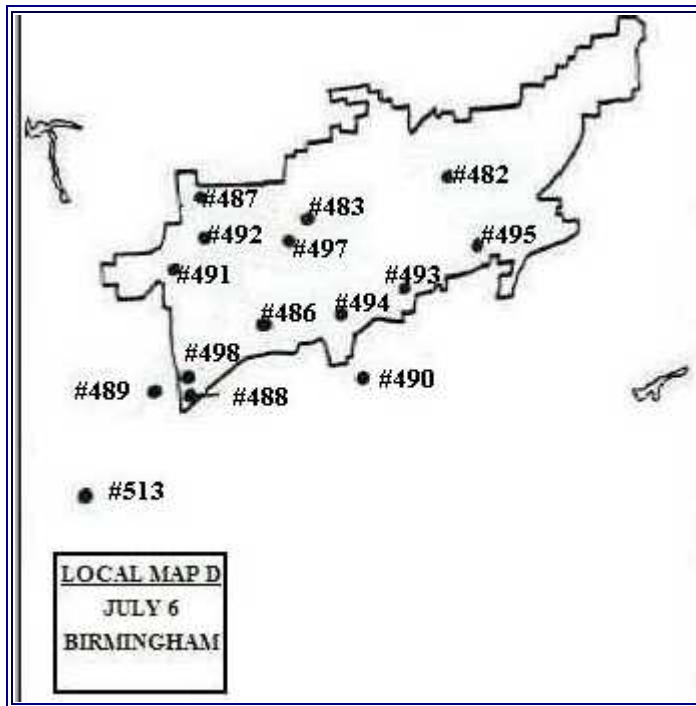
Some of the news reports were entirely misleading and details were manufactured for the sake of creating a more sensational story. For example, a perfectly "ordinary" UFO sighting made in Denver was sent out over the UP wires as follows: "George Kuger of Denver said he saw a flying disc with an American flag on it." There is nothing in the local account of Kuger's report that mentions flags, American or otherwise, but in hundreds of newspapers across the country, Kuger was made out a fool by the flagrant irresponsibility of the press (Case 427). Another example of its use of ridicule to not only debunk a report but make the reporter look foolish occurred in the wire accounts describing a Chicago woman who, on July 6th, reported that she had seen a "flying saucer with legs." By playing up the woman's unfortunate expression, "I thought for sure it was coming down and slap me in the face," when in fact she had probably been scared out of her wits, the papers succeeded in turning the report into something patently ridiculous. Had newsmen been more responsible, they would have known that just the day before, several Covington, Kentucky, women had also reported seeing an object with legs (II-15); and we now know that since 1947 there have been numerous reports of objects

with similar appendages. In still another case, the woman in Palmdale, California, who described the satellite object case as appearing like "a mama hen with her baby chicks," gave newsmen a real heyday of merriment; and yet this is probably one of the most significant reports to come out of the entire 1947 wave (Cases 528 & 530).

These are only isolated examples of the way in which the press resorted to ridicule because it had prejudged the value of a news story and no longer felt it was necessary or sufficient merely to report the facts responsibly. News coverage during the crest of the wave descended to regrettably low standards and established a modus operandi regarding UFO coverage that has characterized its handling of the subject ever since. It is one of the chief reasons why, twenty years later, it is a subject that remains damned to ridicule: the taint had been acquired at the very outset.

(I - 11)





Contributing significantly to the aura of nonsense pervading the press were the columnists, such as Hal Boyle, whose syndicated articles described in purposefully humorous fashion various wild and imaginary escapades aboard Martian spaceships. Cranks and crackpots added to the carnival atmosphere and proved to be irresistible to reporters looking for a byline: one San Francisco zany garnered considerable news space by claiming to have projected himself into outer space on an "astral plane" to discover the origin of the saucers; by means of mental telepathy he found out that the objects were "Nimbre A Theatos," or spaceships using the "dark side of the moon" as a base, dropping "Metaboblons" which may be mechanisms to counteract atomic radiation, although he wasn't certain, as his source of information, "the Dhyanis, rulers of Creation," were being pretty closed-mouthed -- or was it closed-minded? -- about the details. The San Francisco Chronicle made much use of this arrant foolishness, and the wire services gleefully passed it along to readers outside of the Bay area.

Hoaxsters and practical jokers made matters even worse: a number of financial rewards were offered by various individuals and organizations for the capture of a disc; these merely encouraged hoaxsters and resulted in the exploitation of many false reports (see section on Hoaxes).

At the same time, more and more confusing and uninformed "explanations" were being offered. On July 8th UP reported from Atlanta that airline pilots were throwing cold water on reports: Perry Hudson, East Airlines pilot, said he'd seen "many beautiful and strange cloud formations in the air but nothing that ever looked like a saucer," so he turned thumbs down on persistent reports, even from his pilot colleagues; if he couldn't see 'em, no one else could, either. T. P. Ball, chief pilot for Delta Airlines, termed all reports to be "imagination It certainly doesn't seem to be the first wave of an invasion from Mars." Another Delta pilot, J. H. Williamson, said, "a lot of folks must have had too much to drink." These opinions were echoed

by many other pilots, most of whom would not allow that anything more unusual had been seen than "some freak cloud formation." Aviation experts in Washington suggested that dials on instrument panels had been reflected in the sloping glass of the canopies -- neglecting, however, to account for the thousands of witnesses who had not been looking through a plane's canopy.

Other "experts" voiced opinions barren of any basic facts. In California, Professor L. D. Shane, director of the Lick Observatory, pointed out -- erroneously -- that no objects had been sighted by any "scientific observers." In New Jersey, Newark meteorologist William Weiner said that he could see saucers at will: "All you need to do is to rub your eyes very hard and look up at a bright sky." He gave no instructions for spotting them at night. Essex County psychologist Dr. M. W. Openchowski explained that "when a strange thing is reported seen it is reported seen again and again. It is a trait of human nature that people like to be in the know and participate in observing the unusual."

Here and there, an occasional voice of some reason was heard. In Syracuse, New York, Dr. H. A. Steckel, psychiatric consultant for the Veterans Administration, said, "they have been seen by too many people in too many different places to be dismissed so lightly." He was persuaded that they could be the "results of experiments by some unknown Government agencies."

On July 6th, UP reported that Captain Tom Brown, spokesman for the Air Force's Public Relations staff in Washington, D. C., said that the Air Forces had been investigating reports for ten days and "we still haven't the slightest idea what they could be. But we don't believe anyone in this country, or outside of this country, has developed a guided missile that will go 1,200 miles an hour, as some reports have indicated." Other government spokesmen repeated this disclaimer: "No such phenomenon can be explained by any experiments being conducted by the Army Air Forces," another Army spokesman reported on July 7th, and Rear Admiral Paul F. Lee, director of the Naval Research Laboratory, concurred. In a statement from Washington carried by UP on July 8th, an unidentified spokesman said the Army was certain of what the saucers were not: they were not secret bacteriological devices of some foreign power; they were not (again) secret Army rockets; and they were not space ships. He added that none of the saucer observers "were able to describe them accurately," but the Army would continue its investigation and, meanwhile, was "keeping an open mind."

Ruppelt reports (p. 39) that ATIC personnel at Wright Field in Dayton considered the UFO situation to be serious -- in fact, very serious. As with the press, confusion surrounded the investigation, confusion almost to the point of panic. While reassuring statements from official spokesmen were being carried by the press to a confused American public eager for some concrete news about the identification of flying saucers, the mysterious objects continued to appear over many areas, but in decreasing numbers.

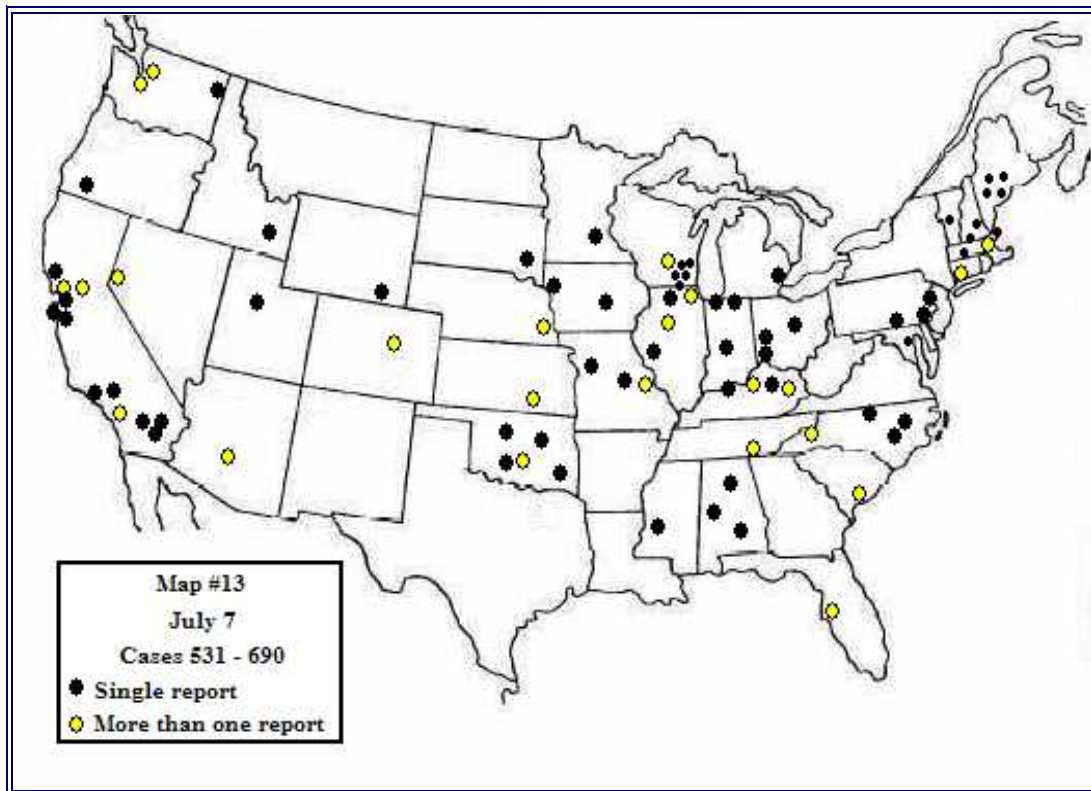
The Crest Breaks, July 8 – 9

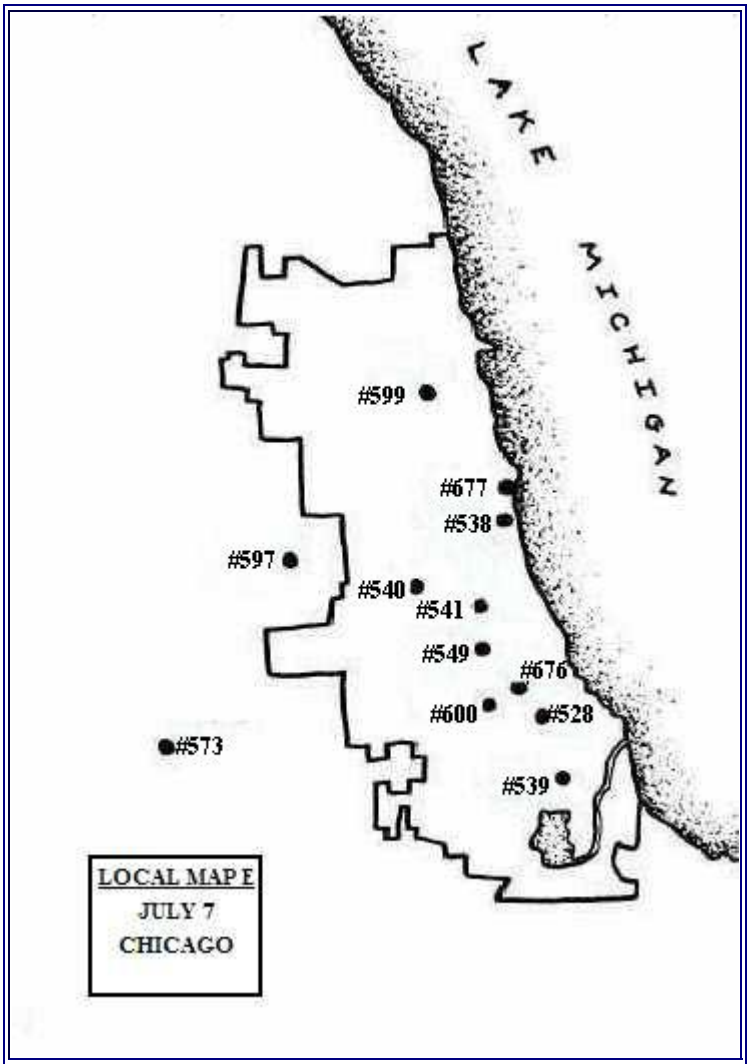
On July 8th the number of sighting reports dropped sharply. References to ninety sightings, about the same as for July 4th, were found, and the distribution was

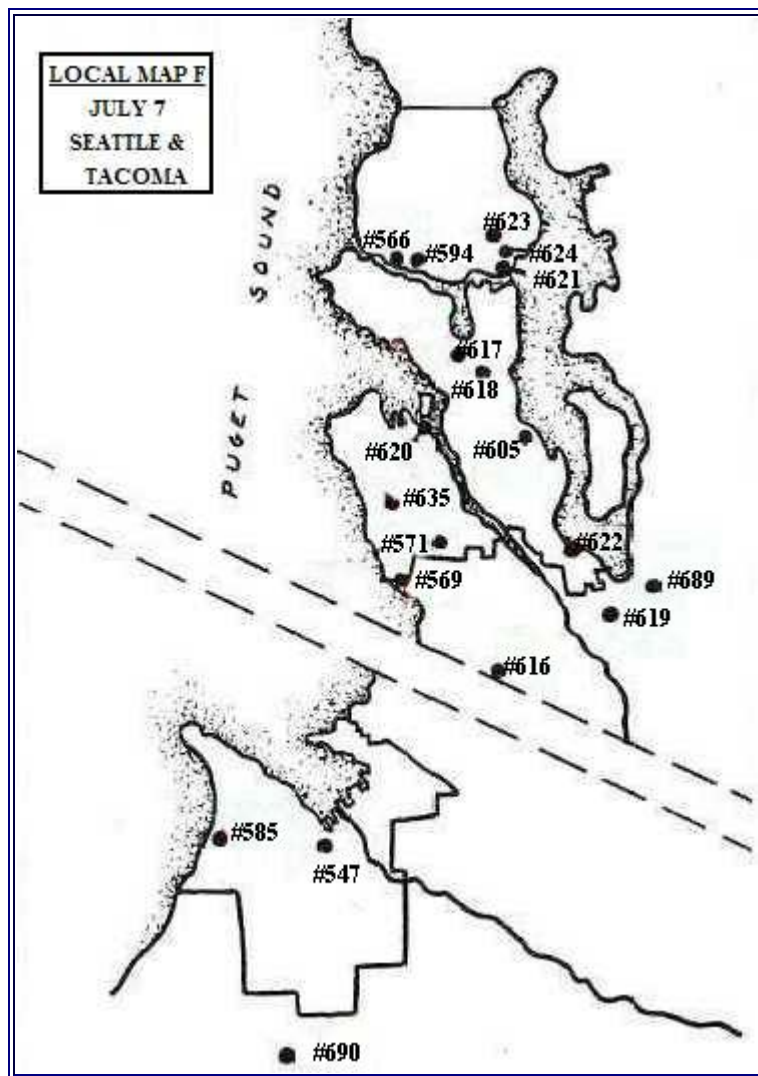
fairly even over twenty-seven states, although California continued to be an area of high activity, with nineteen sightings. Washington was second, with nine; Illinois had eight, and Oregon seven. For the entire five-day period the Pacific coast states were highest in the total number of reports: California led with eighty-six, Washington was second with fifty, and Oregon third, with thirty-two; following were Illinois, thirty-one; Alabama, twenty-three; and Missouri, twenty-two.

Even though the total number of all UFO sighting reports for this period is unknown, conclusions about geographical distribution derived from references examined are not entirely worthless, for the trend for western states to predominate appeared very early in the research; this trend continued consistently with the examination of new material.

(I - 12)







As with the previous four days, daylight sightings on July 8th were approximately two-thirds of the total number of reports. But the number of multiple-object reports went down considerably, totaling only twenty-three, as compared to fifty-seven single-object sightings. (For the remaining ten cases, the number of objects is not known.) Witnesses on July 8th were again more than five hundred, but most of this large total came from four cases, each of which was reported to have had many witnesses: two in California (Cases 734 and 766); one in Hawaii (Case 769); and one in New Jersey (Case 756). For the remaining ten cases, the number of objects is not known. Witnesses on July 8th were again more than five hundred, but most of this large total came from four cases, each of which was reported to have had many witnesses: two in California (Cases 734 and 766); one in Hawaii (Case 769); and one in New Jersey (Case 756).

Several interesting cases on July 8th were air-to-air sightings: a pilot flying near Pell City, Alabama, saw a disc about the size of an automobile wheel (III-12). The son of the governor of New Hampshire saw an oval object below his plane

as he and a friend flew near Alton, New Hampshire (III-12). A private pilot flying a seaplane over Puget Sound saw several discs above the Olympic Mountains to the west (III-12). A student pilot, employed by the Spokane Naval Supply Depot, observed a disc with a hole in the center as he flew in the vicinity of Mount Spokane (III-12). And an F-51 pilot from Muroc Air Base observed a flat, highly reflective object high above his plane as he flew over the Los Angeles area, south of the base (III-12).

This last report was the climax of a series of observations involving personnel at Muroc Air Base earlier in the day. Three separate incidents are recorded involving several prominent officers as witnesses (III-4). Ruppelt writes that the Muroc reports were "the first sightings that made the Air Force take a deep interest in UFOs" (p. 37), and they are collectively Case #1 in the files of Project Sign. The official explanation for the three sightings, however, is "balloons" -- in spite of the fact that in each sighting the objects were seen to move into the wind, and in one case were described as maneuvering in "tight circles."

On July 9th the number of sightings dropped even further, to twenty-four, about the same as on the first two days of July. The wave had spent itself and most of the objects had gone back to wherever it is they come from. The twenty-four reports on the 9th were made in thirteen states, and at least fifteen of the sightings were made during daylight hours. There were thirty-five witnesses, and the number of single and multiple-object reports were about the same. In California, reports dropped to a single sighting, and while there were four in Michigan, details of three of these cases, from the northern part of the state, were impossible to obtain. The fourth sighting, from the Air Force files, describes a close-up observation of a ball of bright, sparkling fire, about the size of a bushel-basket, seen hovering just above the ground by a Midland couple as they picked berries in the late afternoon. The object left peculiar traces, and an analysis was made of the fragments (IV-2).

There is one unidentified case in the Air Force files for July 9th, the report of aviation editor Dave Johnson's air-to-air observation at Boise, Idaho (III-12). Unofficial reports include two independent sightings of a group of about five objects, described in one report as having domes, like "cups riding in saucers" that made a "swishing" noise and left blue trails as they passed over Chicago in the early morning hours (II-13); a Spokane report that described three objects, one of which was observed to land on the banks of the Spokane River, although no traces were able to be found later; and the report of three teen-aged girls in Anchorage, Alaska, who saw a white disc zip across Elmendorf Field. With the Alaskan report, forty-eight out of the fifty states were represented by UFO sightings

Hoaxes and Mistakes

While newspapers still carried a few apparently genuine UFO reports -- often buried among a mish-mash of superficial nonsense -- the kind of stories that made headlines after July 8th were the sort a reader found impossible to take seriously. If a report wasn't an out-and-out hoax, it was an embarrassingly obvious mistake. One of those mistakes, given the widest possible publicity, had its origins near Roswell, New Mexico, when a farmer named William W. ("Mac") Brazel discovered the wreckage of a disc on his ranch near Corona, early in July. After hearing news broadcasts of

flying saucer reports, Brazel, who had stored pieces of the disc in a barn, notified the Sheriff's Office in Roswell, who, in turn, notified Major Jesse A. Marcel, of the Roswell Army Air Field intelligence office. The remnants of the disc were taken to Roswell Field for examination. Through a series of clumsy blunders in public relations, and a desire by the press to manufacture a crashed disc if none would obligingly crash of itself, the story got blown up out of all proportions that read "Crashed Disc Found in New Mexico."

According to AP on July 8th, public information officer Lt. Walter Haught made an announcement of the discovery: "The many rumors regarding the flying disc became a reality yesterday when the intelligence office of the 509th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force, Roswell Army Air Field, was fortunate enough to gain possession of a disc through the cooperation of one of the local ranchers and the sheriff's office of Chavez County." The effect of this reckless statement was equal to an atomic detonation; results were immediate. While newspaper deluged the air base for additional information, a search party was sent out to scour the landing site for additional fragments; the collected remains of whatever it was that had crashed on Brazel's ranch were taken to Eighth Air Force headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas. There, Brigadier General Roger M. Ramey tried to clarify matters by first explaining that no one had actually seen the object in the air; that the remains were of a flimsy construction; that it was partially composed of tinfoil; and, finally, that it was the wreckage of "a high altitude weather device." Warrant Officer Irving Newton, a weather forecaster at the Fort Worth Weather Station, had identified the crashed "disc" as the remains of weather equipment used widely by weather stations around the country when sending balloons aloft to measure wind directions and velocity. There remains the possibility that some super-secret upper-atmospheric balloon experiment had crashed near Corona, which would have accounted for all the confusion and secrecy involved in its recovery.

(I – 13)

Whether the pictured balloon equipment carried widely in the press was actually a photograph of the recovered fragments remained a question, but news editors should have been on their toes: other similar incidents had already been reported, like the discovery several days before of the weather device at Circleville, Ohio. The New Mexico incident created an uproar in Washington, and high Army Air Force officials were reported to have delivered a blistering rebuke to Roswell Field spokesmen for having fostered the confusion. But the damage had already been done and the next day "Another Saucer Shot Down" was typical of the headlines found in American papers.

Hoaxes and practical jokes were taking up just as much news space. One of the first admitted hoaxes had been created by a Los Angeles pilot, Vernon Baird, who had reported that on July 6th that he encountered a flock of "flying yo-yo's" while flying over Bozeman, Montana. One of Baird's "yo-yo's" got caught in his prop-wash and came apart like a clam, spiraling to the earth below. The story itself came spiraling to the earth very soon after when Baird admitted that he had made it up while "blowing the breeze around the hangar."

Others went to considerable trouble -- more trouble than just making up a far-fetched story: they made up the discs to go with it. One of these ersatz platters came crashing into the yard of a Grafton, Wisconsin, priest; it was promptly identified as a circular saw-blade. In East St. Louis, Illinois, someone sent a number of 11-inch pressed paper discs sailing from a roof-top; these were subsequently identified as locomotive packing washers. More elaborate contraptions were manufactured and sent soaring in Shreveport, Louisiana; in Black River Falls, Wisconsin; and in Clearwater, Florida. A thirty-inch device that landed in a Hollywood back yard on the night of July 9th was given considerable news coverage by the press when the finder put in his claim for a thousand-dollar reward, and while the culprit who originated the Hollywood hoax was not identified, four teen-aged boys in Twin Falls, Idaho, readily admitted their part in a similar hoax the next day, when the situation began to get out of control, as Army Intelligence officers confiscated the "disc" and began an intensive investigation.

One hoax that has gone undetected for over twenty years was uncovered by Dr. James McDonald at the time of this writing (see Case 613 in the Chronology; the information was received after the Chronology had been prepared.) In checking out a number of 1947 reports, Dr. McDonald discovered that the report of Fred Cloud, who saw an object rise up out of storm clouds over Raleigh, North Carolina, on July 7th, was the result of a practical joke by an unidentified "friend." Knowing Cloud had made a flight that day, this "friend" had made up the story when he encountered a newsman he knew, and the story appeared in numerous North Carolina newspapers the next day, much to Cloud's embarrassment. Cloud, whose first name was actually Fayette, not Fred, attempted to explain to the newspapers that the story was false, but they refused to run a subsequent denial of the original report.

Ebbtide, July 10th and After

With scarcely more than a dozen sightings for July 10th, the UFO wave of 1947 had almost completely subsided. Few if any of the reports were carried by the wire services. Concentrations of reports had broken up, although there were four sightings apiece for Colorado and Washington. Most of the reports for that day still came from western states, with two in Idaho, and one each in Arizona and New Mexico. The New Mexico sighting, made by Lincoln La Paz, is listed in the Air Force files as Unidentified (III-19).

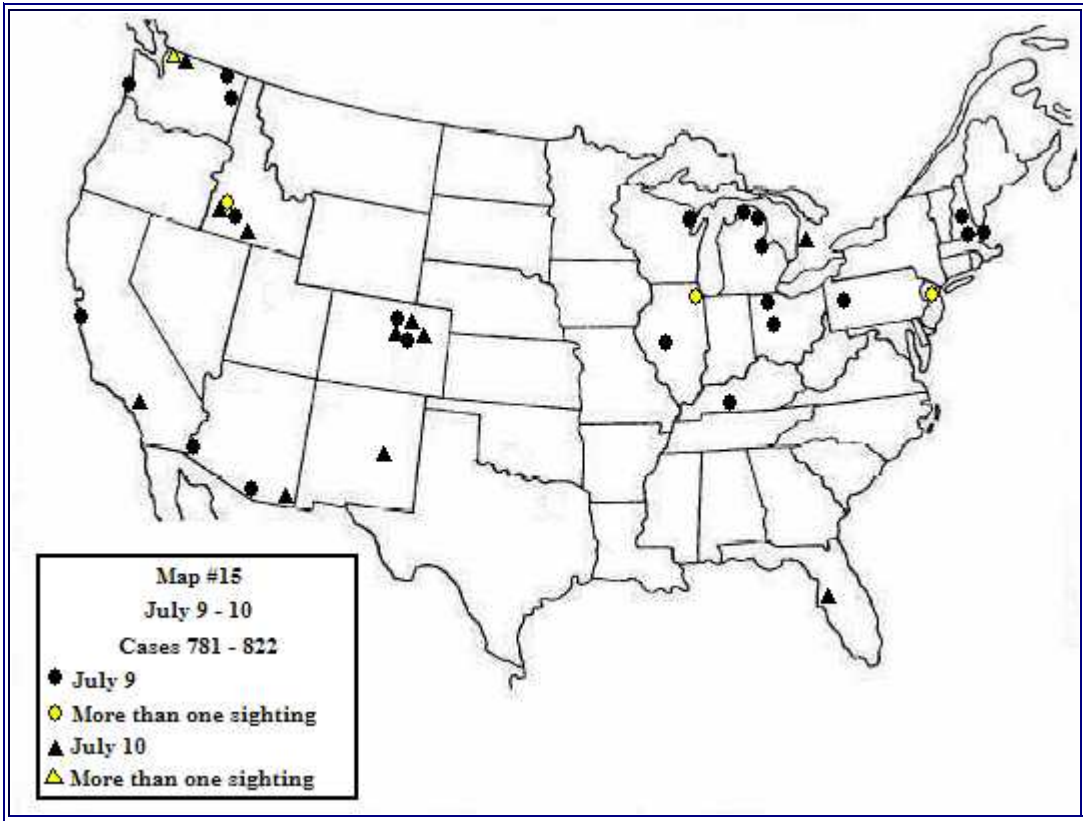
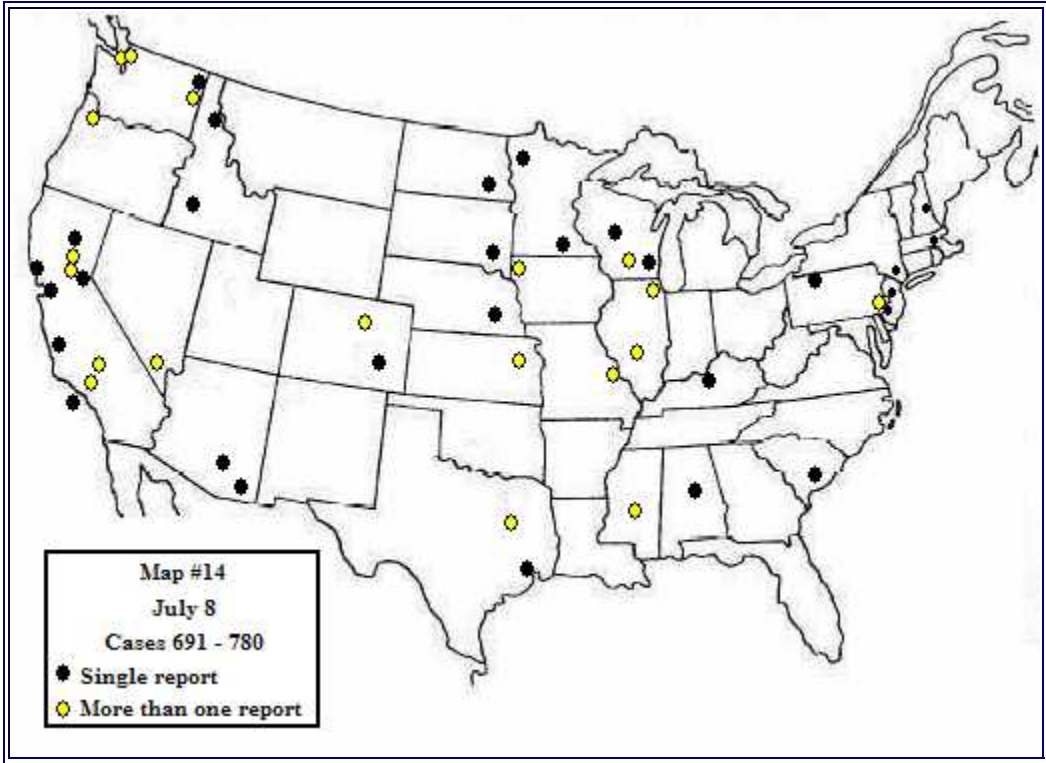
The Air Force files also contain two reports of sightings, on July 10th and 11th, from Codroy, Newfoundland. Notes were not made on these, but neither one is listed as Unidentified. Other July 11th reports were made in Florida and in Indianapolis, Indiana. On July 12th, two sightings were made in Boise, Idaho, and in Seattle, several Naval sentries at Sand Point Naval Air Station reported seeing a single object at about the same time that an independent report of three objects was made elsewhere in the city (III-6). Two more sightings occurred in Seattle the next day, and a disc was reported seen by a businessman and his wife in Gardner, Massachusetts (III-1). On July 15th, an official of the Civil Aeronautics Board, flying over Concord, California, made an air-to-air sighting of three groups of yawing objects (III-13).

After mid-July, the number of sightings dropped to an average of about one a day. Between July 16th and 19th, there were no sighting reports uncovered in the records that were examined. (A complete examination of the newspaper references for the period of July 16th through the 30th was not undertaken, so information for this period is fragmentary.)

The Air Force files contain another Newfoundland report for July 20th, which describes a series of "reddish" flashes seen in an overcast sky. The explanation given for this case is a "fireball," although there is a photograph purportedly showing a hole the object made as it passed through the clouds. Flashing lights were seen at Meriden, Connecticut on July 22nd, and between July 20th and 30th, Idaho was the scene of at least a half-dozen more sighting reports. One of these, an air-to-air observation on July 28th made by two more United Air Lines pilots over Mountain Home, was picked up by the wire services (III-13). On July 29th another military pilot reported seeing two discs near Hamilton Field, California; the report by this Army Air Corps Captain was classified as Unidentified by the Air Force (III-5).

Earlier on the same day still another air-to-air sighting was made, this time of a large group of small discs over Union, Oregon. The observer was Kenneth Arnold, and the UFO wave had come full circle (III-14).

By August the 1947 UFO wave was history. Ruppelt writes that "by the end of July 1947 the security lid was down tight. The few members of the press who did inquire about what the Air Force was doing got the same treatment that you would get today if you inquired about the number of thermonuclear weapons stock-piled "in the U.S.'s atomic arsenal (p. 39)." According to Ruppelt, no one had any idea what was going on relative to UFOs behind the barbed wire enclosing the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright Field. Suspicion-breeding secrecy seems to have been the policy from the very beginning.



During July more than seven hundred specific sightings had been made, with more than two hundred taking place in the three Pacific states alone. UFOs had been seen by thousands of North American citizens in every walk of life. (Sightings were not confined to North America, however; reports had appeared from such widely scattered locations as China, South Africa, France, South America and Iran.) But by the end of July, no more news reports of strange aerial visitors appeared in the press, outside of a small item buried in a local newspaper somewhere. To the satisfaction of many, the objects had departed and their existence amounted to nothing more than a rather unsettling memory. There was but one more flying saucer story to gain wide attention in the press -- an elaborate hoax that ended up in tragedy.

The Maury Island Mystery

The Maury Island Mystery allegedly began on June 21st, three days before Kenneth Arnold's first sighting. It subsequently involved Arnold, as well as Emil J. Smith, the United Air Lines pilot who saw nine discs on July 4th. It culminated on August 1st in the unfortunate deaths of two intelligence officers when their Army B-25 crashed near Kelso, Washington, on the return trip to Hamilton Field, following their involvement in the so-called "mystery."

About the middle of July, Arnold received a letter from a Chicago publisher who offered the pilot two hundred dollars to investigate an alleged sighting at Maury Island, near Tacoma, Washington. Arnold considered the offer for several days, and after consulting Dave Johnson, of the Boise Daily Statesman, he decided to accept the offer. On July 29th he flew to Tacoma and, just before making a landing at La Grande, Oregon, to refuel, he saw his second group of UFOs. Flying on to Tacoma, he found a reservation waiting for him at the Winthrop Hotel, which was strange, since he had told no one of his precise plans.

Shortly after his arrival, he got in touch with one of the Maury Island witnesses, Harold Dahl, who said he was a harbor patrolman and that he had seen six doughnut-shaped objects on June 21st. One of these objects had spewed out tons of metallic fragments some of which had damaged his boat and injured his son. Dahl first discouraged Arnold from pursuing his investigation, but the Boise pilot was not about to be put off after having come so far. Dahl next introduced Arnold to his boss, Fred Crisman. Crisman claimed that on the day after Dahl's experience, while he made an investigation of the reported sighting and the fragments, said to have been found in abundance on the Maury Island beach, he had seen the objects himself when they made a second appearance over the area.

Samples of the alleged saucer fragments were displayed and Arnold, intrigued because of certain similarities to a Boise, Idaho, report of July 8th (IV-2), decided to ask United Air Lines pilot E. J. Smith to join him in Tacoma. Smith, who lived in Seattle, arrived a few hours later, and Crisman and Dahl once again told their stories, with Crisman doing most of the talking.

Following this meeting, peculiar things began to happen. A reporter from one of the local papers phoned the two pilots in Arnold's room and said that an

anonymous man had tipped the paper off about everything that had transpired in the hotel room for the past two days. These calls continued and Arnold, plainly worried, decided to call Lt. Frank Brown, intelligence officer at Hamilton Air Base. (Brown had earlier investigated Arnold's sighting, as well as a number of others in the northwest.) Brown's trip to Tacoma was approved by his superiors and, with Captain William Davidson, he flew to Tacoma on the afternoon of July 31st in a B-25.

The intelligence officers met Arnold and Smith at the hotel, and the group was later joined by Crisman and Dahl. The officers listened to the story but apparently were not much impressed, for they made plans to return to Hamilton Field that evening, and without taking any of the "saucer fragments." However, before they left, Crisman loaded a box full of the material in Brown's car. On the flight back to Hamilton Field, a fire broke out in one of the bomber's engines. Two passengers parachuted to safety, but Brown and Davidson were killed when the plane crashed near Kelso, Washington, in the early morning hours of August 1st.

The unfortunate crash of the B-25, as well as the anonymous phone calls to the paper, combined to create a sinister air of mystery in the press, deepened by the reluctance of both Arnold and Smith to elaborate on their reasons for being in Tacoma. The mysterious informer told the paper that the B-25 had been carrying "saucer fragments," and even divulged the names of the two intelligence officers before the names had been released by the Army.

Arnold and Smith now found themselves in an awkward position, because they had summoned the two officers in the belief that they had come upon something important. Smith contacted intelligence officers at nearby McChord Air Base, to explain their part in the events. Intelligence officers began an intensive investigation, the results of which were made public about a week later.

In a statement released on August 8th, Fourth Air Force spokesman Lt. Colonel Donald L. Springer announced that the Maury Island sighting by the "harbor patrolmen" was unfounded, and "did not occur." Colonel Springer had investigated the boat that was supposed to have been damaged by the fragments and "found it intact." (This was confirmed by both Arnold's and Smith's examination of the alleged "damage.") The "fragments" were molten metal slag, said by Colonel Springer to be found "in great quantity in both that area and in other areas" where there were smelters located. "In view of this, headquarters will not pursue this particular Tacoma investigation any further."

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In addition to this, Ruppelt writes that it was learned that Crisman and Dahl had sent rock fragments to the Chicago publisher as a joke, stating that the rock "could have been" part of a saucer. "He (Dahl) said the rock came from a flying saucer because that's what [the publisher] wanted him to say" (p. 44). The publisher was the same man, of course, who had offered Arnold the two hundred dollars to investigate the report.

According to the San Francisco News of August 4th, "Mr. Dahl went to the United Press Bureau at Tacoma and denied he had any parts of a flying disc. He exhibited metallic stones, which he said he picked up on the beach at Murray (sic) Island shortly before the flying saucer craze swept the country."

The official report, according to Ruppelt, identified "one of the two men" as the anonymous informer who had been calling the Tacoma paper. (This was probably Crisman, as some of the calls were made to the paper while Dahl was in Arnold's hotel room.) Furthermore, neither Crisman nor Dahl were "harbor patrolmen: " they owned a couple of boats they used to salvage floating lumber in Puget Sound. Crisman, according to Arnold's own account in *The Coming of the Saucers* (p. 68), disappeared understandably soon after the crash of the B-25. Ruppelt reports that the government seriously considered prosecuting the two men but decided against it, as the story originated as a "harmless joke that had mushroomed, and the loss of two lives and a B-25 could not be blamed directly on the two men."

Arnold and Smith had been caught up in one of the most embarrassing and tragic hoaxes in the history of UFOs. The Maury Island "mystery" was a most unfortunate conclusion to the events of the 1947 UFO wave. It left a permanent impression in the minds of many that chicanery of this sort was typical of the entire subject of UFO phenomena. It is not surprising that people remembered this type of story and promptly forgot the hundreds of genuine sightings that had taken place.

Aftermath

In spite of the many negative aspects of the 1947 wave, there remains a substantial body of data that calls for serious consideration. Much of this 1947 material has not been readily available before. The events described in this report, taking place as they did at the beginning of the contemporary period of UFO phenomena in this country, have historical significance, in that many patterns of appearance and behavior can be traced back to 1947. Reports of UFOs in formation, UFOs buzzing cars, UFOs with satellite objects, and landings by UFOs, give additional weight to similar reports received in later years.

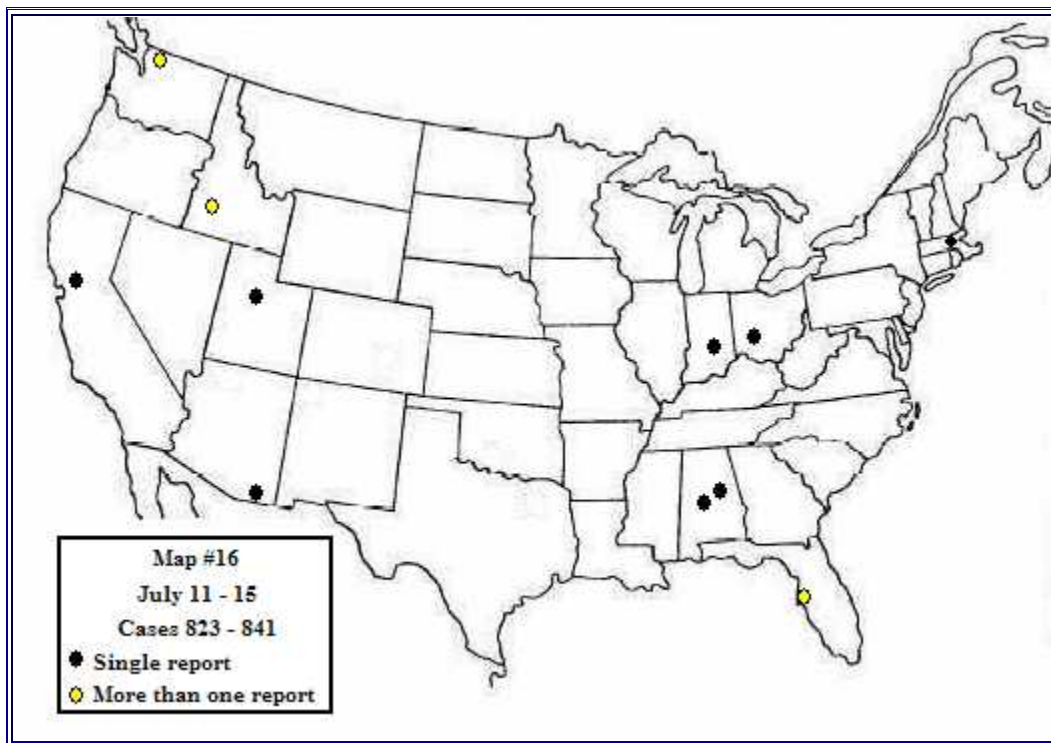
Three branches of the Establishment share the responsibility for preventing any serious investigation of the UFO problem: the press, the government -- primarily, but not exclusively, the Air Force -- and the scientific fraternity. Until these three influential groups unequivocally discard their long-standing bias against considering UFOs worthy of serious attention, the subject is bound to remain in limbo.

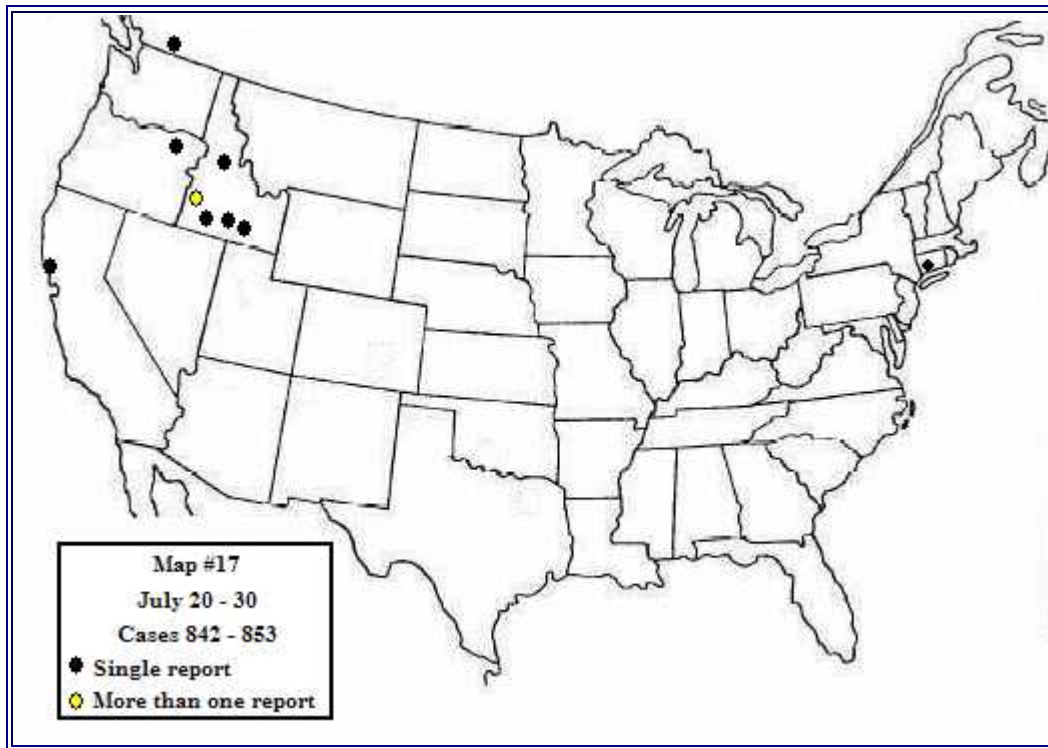
Since 1965, the press has displayed a somewhat more objective editorial policy with regard to the UFO problem; wire service coverage of UFO sightings, however, has not matched this editorial policy. For example, during February and March 1967, NICAP had received hundreds of first-hand reports of sightings, as well as many local newspaper accounts weekly, indicating that a UFO wave of considerable proportions was taking place. Yet this increase in sighting reports was not reflected either in the general press or by the wire services.

The extent to which government agencies, other than the Air Force, have been involved in the UFO problem is by no means clear at present; it appears certain, however, that the CIA has had a strong influence on the situation - at least since 1953. As for the Air Force itself, its role during the past fifteen years, apart from collecting UFO data, has been that of a public relations organization engaged in a determined program of statistical flummery. It has contributed little significant knowledge to the subject, nor is this its basic concern. Its primary responsibility is national defense, and since it has repeatedly stated that UFOs do not constitute a threat to national security, it would seem appropriate for it to terminate its connection with the subject as soon as possible.

Up until 1966, the scientific fraternity has made no real effort to shed light on the UFO mystery, although a few individual scientists have collected and investigated reports privately. The vacuum created by this dismissive attitude was temporarily filled in October 1966, with the selection of the University of Colorado as the recipient of a \$300,000 grant from the Air Force (later increased to \$500,000), to initiate a thorough investigation of the subject. Under the direction of Dr. Edward U. Condon, the Colorado Project, as it has been called, is scheduled to conclude its probe in mid-1968, with a report of its findings and recommendations to the National Academy of Sciences for review. Results of their inquiry will be made public at that time. Until these results are made known, whether negative or positive, the situation will undoubtedly remain the same as it is at present. But whatever those results may be, they will have a profound effect on the future status of UFOs.

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Section II - Patterns of Appearance and Behavior

The following selected sightings incorporate more details than could be included in the chronology (Section V); for example, conditions under which an observation was made, information about the witnesses, etc. A number of these cases have been checked by Dr. McDonald, and additional data are included in these reports. (This information was received after the Chronology had been prepared and is not included in the chronological listing.) The sightings have been classified into various groups illustrating certain similarities in the descriptions of the objects' appearance and behavior, such as those of shape, size and external features; of formations and maneuvers, etc.

Some of the sightings included in this section, as well as in Sections III and IV, are fragmentary, but they contain details pertinent to the particular category in question. All available data have been included from the sources that were examined; it is possible the other important details may still be obtained from the local news sources in cases where primary references were not available for examination.

The selection of sightings in Sections II, III, and IV does not necessarily imply endorsement as verified observations of UFOs. A number of cases, unfortunately, contain too few details, even in some primary sources, to be able to draw any final conclusions. Others, as discovered by Dr. McDonald in his personal cross-checking, contain certain inaccuracies; these are corrected in the additional information.

Loose Formations

Case 34 -- June 24, near Lonejack, Missouri: On the same afternoon that Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine discs in Washington, seven or eight "platter-shaped" objects were seen flying in loose formation about 30 miles southeast of Kansas City.

Lester Swingleson and his wife, Wilma, whose home was two miles north of Lonejack on U.S. Highway 50, saw the group of objects come into view from the southeast at high speed and pass overhead in a matter of seconds, proceeding in a steady course to the northwest that would have taken them over Kansas City. The Swinglesons described seeing white vapor trails streaming from each object. With them at the time were two young girls, the daughters of neighbor Harold Coy. At the time of the sighting, Swingleson was an electrician with the Sheffield Steel Corporation.

Case 52 -- June 25, Kansas City, Missouri: Had this sighting been made less than 24 hours earlier it would have been an independent verification of the Swingleson report. If the newspaper accounts can be considered accurate, however, the sightings occurred on two consecutive days.

W.I. Davenport, of 4518 Madison Avenue, a carpenter, was working on the roof of a house at 82nd and Holmes Streets when, shortly after noon, he heard "the faint sound of motors." Looking up he saw a loose formation of nine objects approach from the east. "They were flying in a group, with one a little to one side," he reported. "They were flying so fast that I barely had time to count them before they were gone." Davenport described them as "aluminum-colored" and as leaving vapor trails. In their flight westward, he said, they gave the appearance of being "radio-controlled,"

Case 85 -- June 27, Woodland, Washington: Two groups of loosely-bunched objects rocking back and forth as they flew over noiselessly, were reported seen over this small southwest Washington town during the afternoon. The report was phoned in to the Portland Oregon Journal late the same afternoon by the witness, Clyde Homan, manager of Tulips, Inc., a bulb-growing farm two miles south of Woodland, near the Columbia River.

Homan was sitting at his desk in the office when his eye was caught, by a bright flash through the window. He looked out at the sky "and saw these things in two groups, pretty close together. I didn't get the exact count -- there were four or five in the first bunch, and the same number in the second, which was behind the first some 400 or 500 yards," he reported in his call.

Homan said it was difficult to distinguish the shapes because the objects were "very bright, reflecting the sun like from metal -- not glass mirrors." He said the objects were "very flat, very very thin, particularly when you saw them on edge as they were banking." He estimated that they were going about two times as fast as an ordinary airliner, "maybe 600 miles an hour. There was no particular formation, except that they were bunched. The peculiar thing was the way they moved along -- tilting back and forth, tipping up and down, undulating --and every time they reached the right reflection angle the flashes came," he said. Homan was reminded by the Journal reporter that the day had been mostly cloudy, and he replied, "It was partly cloudy here, with sunshine occasionally through the clouds. And, anyway, the clouds were high and these things weren't over 1,000 to 2,000 feet up and were flying under

the clouds." By this estimate, the distance between the two groups was about the same distance above the ground.

Mr. Homan added, "There wasn't a sound, not a trace of a vapor trail -- just these things sailing along. As soon as I saw them, I ran to the warehouse and called the foreman, and he got to the door just in time to see them. They came over the hill back of us here from the north, and were following straight along the Pacific Highway. Just south of here they veered sharply to the southeast." Then they disappeared from view.

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Homan was puzzled by their silence. He supposed that they might be some novel type of jet aircraft, but he said he could not figure out why, if they were, there were no jet trails. "I am not too excitable and I have good eyesight, and I know what I saw this afternoon," he told the Journal. "I'm surprised," he added, "you don't have reports from others seeing them today,"

Case 442 -- July 6, Greendale, Virginia: Walter Broadwell, Jr., of Fordham Road, in the West End section of Richmond, was driving with his wife at 6:00 p.m. EST to visit relatives in Greendale, a town a few miles northwest of Richmond. They were discussing news reports of flying saucers when, according to Broadwell's account in the Richmond Times-Dispatch (7/7), Mrs. Broadwell suddenly exclaimed, "There they are now!"

"I looked up," Broadwell reported, "and there they were, ten or fifteen, and not more than a quarter of a mile away. They definitely could not have been airplanes, because I have taken flying lessons and I know what a plane looks like." Grouped in a loose formation, "they were just below the clouds, flying north, and shining like aluminum. They looked like saucers, although much larger, and seemed to be undulating and flying on edge most of the time." The Broadwells reported that they heard of no other reports of the objects from that area.

Checked by Dr. McDonald, the newspaper report is essentially accurate, except that it failed to mention that with the Broadwells was their daughter Ann, then seven years old. She was the one who first spotted the objects, according to Broadwell's account to Dr. McDonald. Broadwell reported that he pulled the car off to the side of the road to watch the objects -- about a dozen in all. He was unable to make a firm estimate of height, but put it at about 500 to 600 feet. They heard no sound, saw no lights, no exhaust. The objects moved lazily along, strung out loosely in more or less of a line. They twisted and flipped in an undulatory manner, but very slowly, reflecting the sun from their aluminum surfaces at times.

Broadwell estimated their speed to be about that of a small aircraft. Their diameters were about 25 feet, and they moved along most of the time on edge, in the attitude of a wheel. He saw no markings of any kind. When first seen, they appeared to be several blocks away, which confirms the newspaper's reference to a quarter-mile distant. They moved in a northerly direction, towards Washington. They, disappeared by getting smaller and smaller as they moved off into the distance in no particular

hurry, like "a happy little group," as Broadwell put it. McDonald had a favorable impression of the witness.

Case 732 -- July 8, Spokane, Washington: A group of more than ten people in Spokane reported watching a loose formation of discs flying over the city about noon. The witnesses, including the J. P. Tracy family, of E. 365 Third, and Mrs. A. L. Blanc and her son Jerry, as well as other neighbors, watched one of the discs break loose from the formation and appear to be "rolling through the air" like a wheel. This object seemed to be black on one side and silver on the other, according to the witnesses, and at times appeared to be shaped like a football. The observation turned the Tracy family from skeptics to believers of flying saucers, they said.

For other reports of loose formations, see Case 831 (III-13), Case 841 (III-13), and Case 850 (III-14).

Straight Line Formations

Kenneth Arnold's sighting (Case 39) would fall into this category, even though the line of nine discs he saw "swerved in and out of the peaks" between Mount Rainier and Mount Adams (I-2,3).

Case 33 -- June 24, near Joliet, Illinois: At 1:50 p.m. CDT, railroad engineer Charles Kastl, of 267 Webster Street, Joliet, was walking along a highway about ten miles east of Joliet when he saw a peculiar formation of nine flat, circular objects "going faster than any planes I ever saw." These nine discs, like Arnold's, were stretched out in a straight line at an estimated height of 4,000 feet and were flying in a direction from north to south.

"I could see no connecting link between them," Kastl reported, "but they acted as though the leading disc had a motor in it to power the others, because when it flipped, the others would, too. When it would right itself, the others would right themselves."

Kastl, who had 14 years of experience with the E. J. and E. Railway as an engineer, said the objects were "not very large." When asked by newsmen if he had been drinking, he answered sternly, "I was on my way to work, and you know a railroad man never touches the stuff on or before duty hours." His friends and neighbors all agreed that Kastl was not the sort of man given to telling tall stories.

Case 240 -- July 4, near Craig, Montana: Curt Dennis, Great Falls artist and sculptor, and his wife, were fishing on the Missouri River a few miles north of Craig at Hardy Bridge, about 38 miles southwest of Great Falls. During the midafternoon their attention was drawn to the sky by a brilliant flashing. Dennis looked up and saw a group of silver-colored objects to the south. Because they had to look into the sun, the configuration of the objects was difficult for the witnesses to make out clearly.

"They were flying in a single-file formation," Mr. Dennis said. "There were about 12 of the objects and they 'shined-up' like silver and looked like a string of plates going over." He and Mrs. Dennis watched the formation travel at high speed in

a northwesterly direction until they had disappeared beyond the high and rugged horizon to the northwest in a matter of seconds.”

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In his follow-up of this sighting, Dr. McDonald learned that Dennis was no longer alive, but he was able to get in touch with Mrs. Dennis, who verified the details of the original news report.

She had been the first one to notice them and called them to her husband's attention. She described them as round and disc-like, silvery and flashing in the sun. Their first impression had been that they were ducks, but the objects were too bright and too big. She added that it had been her impression that the objects -- at least ten of them, she recalled -- had been tumbling over and over, although at the time she said her husband was not so certain of this detail. However, Mrs. Dennis had put on a pair of sunglasses to view them, as they were first seen in the direction of the sun, and she suggested that this motion may have been an oscillation, rather than tumbling. She was certain that they were not moving smoothly, like aircraft. They were high up and, to her, looked huge. No sound was heard. Mrs. Dennis told McDonald that the experience came back to her vividly as she spoke of it over the phone. He was favorably impressed with the results of his conversation with her.

Case 315 -- July 5, Augusta, Maine: Newsman and program director Dan Kelly, of Station WRDO in Augusta, reported to the Civil Aeronautics Administration that he and a friend had seen a dozen disc-like objects flying northward over the city at 1:15 p.m. EDT. He said they were moving "very fast" and that they were in "a very straight line like a string of beads."

Kelly described the objects as being greyish in color and "about as big as a dime," traveling faster than any aircraft he had ever seen. Bangor officials, alerted by Kelly's telephone call at the time of the sighting, were on the lookout for the objects, said to have been traveling in their direction. However, no sightings were made from Bangor.

Case 481 -- July 6, Kankakee, Illinois: A formation of five disc-like objects in a row, which appeared to the witnesses to be "strung together" by invisible wires, was reported seen by Jesse L. Hendrickson, of Kankakee, as he sat on his front porch with a friend, Frank Abrogast, at 9:30 p.m. CDT.

The witnesses described the objects as "rolling along leisurely" on their edges, in the attitude of a wheel. Their height was estimated to be about 300 or 400 feet. The discs were luminous, casting a "light blue glow," and they appeared to the two men to be "about the size of ordinary dinner plates"-- an uncertain estimate, probably based on a relative comparison. The witnesses heard no sound, and they were both quite certain that the objects were not balloons.

Case 563 -- July 7, Redlands, California: A Redlands bread-truck driver, H. J. Stell, reported that he had seen eight disc-shaped objects at 6:12 a.m. PST, as he was making his deliveries. The objects were "swishing" overhead in a southwesterly

direction, headed toward March Field. Stell described the formation of discs as appearing "like silvery eggs in a straight line."

Case 580 -- July 7, Dorchester, Massachusetts: John Stewart, of 197 Talbot Avenue, reported that he had seen four silvery-white objects sometime during the day. He described the objects as "flying in a row," and traveling faster than a plane at an estimated altitude of 5,000 feet. Stewart added that a friend, with him at the time of the sighting, had also observed the objects but disagreed about their color.

Case 573 -- July 7, Willow Springs, Illinois: A "buzzing noise" coming from overhead caught the attention of Robert Meegan and his son John, 14, as the two worked in the fields near their home in Willow Springs, on the Des Plaines River a few miles east of the Argonne National Laboratories. Looking up, the Meegans saw "13 round objects all going east, single file in a straight line." None of these objects "weaved or wobbled," and the witnesses described them as being "bluish-grey" in color. The objects, reported as round and flat on bottom, were estimated to be "probably the size of a house" by the viewers.

V and Triangular Formations

Cases 25 - 26 -- June 23, Bakersfield, California: Richard Rankin, veteran flier and stunt pilot, was lying on a lawn at Bakersfield sunbathing at about noon, when he saw a formation of ten flat, circular objects flying overhead in a northerly direction. Nine of these disc-like objects were arranged in a V-formation, with a tenth object trailing along in the rear. He called their appearance to the attention of a boy working in the yard, and said that they were probably the Navy's experimental plane, the XF5U-1, or "Flying Flapjack," although he admitted that he looked in vain for "the number or location of their propellers, and I couldn't distinguish any wings or tail."

At 2:15 p.m., a second flight of the same, or similar, objects was seen flying in the opposite direction by the two witnesses, this time going from north to south. Rankin counted only seven discs in the second flight; they were still in V-formation, but this time without the straggler. He assumed that three of the "planes" had landed at their base, somewhere to the north.

Rankin said he hesitated to report what he had seen until he began to read of similar observations in the northwest and elsewhere. On July 1, a week after the sightings, he made the report public in Portland, Oregon. An official report was made to Hamilton Field Intelligence Officers Lt. Frank Brown and Captain William Davidson, and the Air Force explanation for what the pilot saw is "birds." For some background material, see *The Coming of the Saucers*, pp. 69-71.

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Case 854 -- About June 29, Jacksonville, Oregon: In a sighting report received following the preparation of the Chronology, NICAP obtained information about a V-formation of UFOs seen by a group of people on a Sunday either at the end of June or early in July. The date, believed to be June 29, had not been definitely established at

the time of writing. The report was sent to NICAP by Paul Cerny, of NICAP's Bay Area Subcommittee.

Early on that Sunday afternoon, a group of people had gathered at Jacksonville, Oregon, a few miles west of Medford, just above the California border. The group included Peter Vogel, M.D., and his wife (now Mrs. Kay G. Kuehnel, of Santa Clara, California, who recently reported the sighting to Mr. Cerny), eight other members of the Vogel family, and about ten others. About 1:00 p.m. PST, a V-formation of oval objects was noticed in the sky above Ashland, 15 to 20 miles southeast of Jacksonville. The formation was traveling northwest toward Medford, east of the observers. There were nine objects.

According to Mrs. Kuehnel, when first seen the objects were "as white as snow geese"; as they came closer they became blue-white, "like a fluorescent-bulb light." They were sharply outlined and seemed to be solid; "also translucent, like a light, pebbled, frosted bulb." The size of the individual objects was estimated as more than twice the diameter of the full moon -- presumably when the objects were nearest to the witnesses, although this is not stated definitely. There was no sound, and no vapor trails were emitted as the formation approached Medford. But when the objects seemed to be over the tower of Medford airport, they each made a spiral ascent, one after the other, and each went behind a cloud that had not been there before and which the objects themselves "seemed to produce."

After the objects had first been noticed in the direction of Ashland, Dr. Vogel went indoors and telephoned the Medford airport tower; Mr. Milligan, Airport Manager, said that he could not see anything. Vogel then ran to his car for his binoculars and camera, but by the time he returned the objects were already out of sight in the cloud, which seemed to be directly over the airport tower.

Both Ashland and Medford were visible from the hillside where the witnesses stood. As the towns are 20 miles apart and the formation had taken about 10 minutes to travel that distance, Mrs. Kuehnel calculated their speed at about 120 miles an hour. Asked to compare one of the objects to a common object that would have appeared similar in the sky, Mrs. Kuehnel answered, "No known object that large and featureless." The objects did not reappear, but the cloud "stayed an oval and stationary shape for over an hour."

Case 120 -- June 30, near Hailey, Idaho: Several observers reported seeing a flight of objects pass over between Hailey toward Galena Summit, in Idaho, during the afternoon. Walter Nicholson, of Twin Falls, said he saw "eight to ten" of the objects fly over in a V-formation, going in a northwest direction over Galena Summit. He said the left wing, or leg, of the formation contained five disc-shaped objects in perfect line, but the ones in the right leg "seemed to waver," and he was uncertain as to exactly how many there were. The objects were "extremely bright and moved very fast."

Hunter Nelson, a forest ranger at the Russian John Forest Ranger Station, said he saw seven to nine of the discs. He was marking timber about three miles from Galena Summit, according to the news account, when he saw the V-formation of objects flying directly overhead, at an estimated altitude of 10,000 feet above the

8,000 foot summit he was on. The newspaper report said he heard a "buzz" and observed vapor trails "not unlike those left by conventional aircraft." He said "it took the objects but a few seconds" to pass out of view.

In checking this report, Dr. McDonald found a number of inaccuracies in the newspaper accounts. In these, the sighting was reported to have taken place in Major Valley -- there is no Major Valley in Idaho. The sighting took place near Cherry Creek, in the Wood River Basin southeast of Galena Summit. Hunter Nelson, a State Forest Ranger, was assisting Nicholson select timber for cutting, for use in the latter's business as a builder. Their proper identification is not clear in the accounts. One Glen Brado, referred to in one of the news reports, had nothing to do with the sighting. The time, given as 4:30 p.m., was felt to be closer to 2:30 by Nicholson. Nelson specified that the objects were seen flying northwest, over Galena Summit - not north, as reported in one account. Although Nicholson's impression now was that the formation was flying northeast, the original account quotes him as saying the objects were seen flying northwest, over Galena Summit, which would agree with Nelson's description. No sound was heard nor any vapor trails seen, in spite of references in the news accounts.

Both Nelson and Nicholson agreed that the objects were in a V-formation, point foremost. Both recalled a momentary change of formation when the right wing began to swing forward but then fell back into line. The spacing between each of the objects was estimated as four to five diameters by Nicholson. He told McDonald that they maintained approximately uniform spacing at all times in a rather rigid manner. No flutter or swerving was seen. Both emphasized the high speed of the objects, "much faster than any aircraft of that day."

Neither could discern any shape of the objects because they were so high and small, like specks of bright light glinting in the sunlight. Occasionally they would disappear, as though not reflecting the sun at those moments -- indicating a possible fluttering motion. As they watched the men had to back up a small hill to keep the formation in sight as they receded into the distance. Duration was estimated by Nelson to be about 30 seconds.

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Both Nelson and Nicholson agreed that the formation passed more or less over Galena Summit. This would tend to confirm Nelson's impression that the objects were flying towards the northwest. Both witnesses were emphatic in saying these could not have been aircraft. Both emphasized the vividness of their recollecting the incident, and Nicholson said he could take Dr. McDonald to within a few feet of the spot from which the sighting had been made, even now. Nelson said "I can still see that formation," adding that "I have never seen anything like it before or since."

Case 237 -- July 4, near Twin Falls, Idaho: A. E. Mitchell, of Goose Creek, Texas, was visiting relatives in Twin Falls when, during a July 4th outing at Twin Falls Park, seven miles east of the city, he was one of seven persons who reported seeing a group of disc-like objects in a rough V-formation flying overhead to the west, at about 2:50 p.m. MST. They were flying high and at great speed, Mitchell reported.

About ten minutes later, Mitchell and a group of others, now totaling more than twenty, saw a second flight of nine or ten objects circling overhead in a loose formation. The objects gained altitude rapidly and, when almost out of sight, were seen proceeding westward. All the witnesses agreed that the objects were not in any well-defined formation while climbing (Case 238).

At 3:10 p.m., with a sizeable crowd of now nearly sixty persons peering skywards, a third group was seen circling and climbing. Mitchell reported that "I distinctly counted 18 before they climbed so high only two or three could be seen." He said that these objects, too, were last, seen moving westward, putting on a burst of speed as they departed (Case 243).

Case 290 -- July 4, Denver, Colorado: Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Walgren, of 1574 Eliot Street, were sitting on their lawn watching the fireworks at the stadium at Denver University during the late evening when they were startled to see a group of objects fly overhead in an extended V-formation. The formation disappeared quickly in a northerly direction at a high rate of speed. The objects were out of sight before the Walgrens could even get to their feet.

The witnesses described the formation of discs as giving the appearance of a "rippling, V-shaped cloud." The undersides of the objects appeared to reflect the city lights. As they passed over, the Walgren's described hearing "a hollow, rustling sound, like an air blast in an empty barrel."

Case 332 -- July 5, near Auburn, California: Kjell Qvale, an automobile salesman in Alameda and a former Navy pilot for five years, reported that he and a group of 50 other witnesses had watched a triangular formation of disc-like objects near Auburn at 2:30 p.m. PST, flying south.

Qvale said that the discs, seen first directly overhead, "appeared to be made of metal and looked like bright silver." He added that their round outline was clearly distinguishable. The objects were in view "for three or four minutes," he said.

"I have seen a lot of airplanes, and these were not airplanes. The only clue I could get as to their height, size and speed was the fact that they disappeared one at a time, high in the sky, and not over the horizon. This effect would be caused if they were very, very large and very high, and flying at a terrific speed -- 1,000 miles an hour," he said.

Qvale was one of the very few UFO witnesses in the 1947 wave -- one of two, to be exact -- who openly expressed the opinion that the objects seen could have been "space ships."

Case 372 -- July 5, Dallas, Texas: Dexter McEwen, of 4016 McKinney, reported that he had seen three disc-like objects flying near Dallas at 11:00 p.m.

"They were moving horizontally," he said, "but very high in the sky, like falling stars, only they left no streaks. They seemed to be moving in a V-formation," he added.

Case 518 -- July 6, Denver, Colorado: Harold Wallace, of 11009 East Colfax, reported he saw a group of disc-like objects "shooting" westward across the sky at 9:05 p.m. MST. He said they were in a V-formation and "made a dim light."

Two minutes later, Stephen Witkin, of 1325 Fairfax Street, said he saw two discs, of "a shiny, silver color," traveling to the southwest.

Case 387 -- July 6, New Orleans, Louisiana: Pvt. Robert G. Hellman, a Fort Bliss soldier visiting New Orleans, reported that he was on his way to his hotel early in the morning when he saw a formation of four discs that "flashed way up in the sky right above me on Canal Street." He said he wasn't "exactly surprised, for I had been expecting to see something of the sort. There were four of them, flying in a V-formation, one side of the V longer than the other; but the fact which struck me was this: the discs were colored, like colored saucers, pink and silver, whirling through the sky."

Case 451 -- July 6, New Orleans, Louisiana: At 5:10 p.m. on the same day, while boating on Lake Pontchartrain, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lee Brady, of 4125 St. Charles Avenue, in company with a party of four others, reported seeing a V-formation of three disc-like objects "at great altitude headed north at great speed." The witnesses described the objects as "round and shiny," and said that after being in view for three or four seconds, they "disappeared into a cloud." Among the others present were Allison T. Chenault, of 3231 Asheville Avenue, and Miss Lucille Coons, of 2014 Marengo Street. The other two witnesses were not identified.

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Case 558 -- July 7, near Greensboro, North Carolina: While driving near the Greensboro-High Point Airport, towards Greensboro, at 6:30 a.m. EST, Albert Riggs, of Charlotte, reported having seen a triangular formation of three discs passing rapidly overhead. The discs, grayish-black in color, had a slight side-to-side motion as they traveled approximately 200 to 300 feet above the ground. Riggs said that as they passed overhead, he heard "a zipping noise." He estimated their speed at 500 miles an hour, and they quickly "lost themselves in the distance."

Riggs, a cadet at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, said he had a companion with him at the time -- a hitch-hiking soldier he had picked up near Winston-Salem.

Case 662 -- July 7, Milton, Wisconsin: Three Milton, Wisconsin, college students reported seeing a V-formation of three objects late in the evening. The formation came out of the northwest and was described as moving in "a westerly direction." Paul Schroeder, John Potts, and Harris Buros watched the objects for two minutes before they disappeared behind some tall buildings. The young men described the objects as being circular in shape, aluminum-colored, rotating slowly and leaving vapor trails. Seen at a distance they estimated was about ten miles to the west, the three witnesses said the objects appeared to be at an altitude of about 4,000 feet.

Case 641 -- July 7, Des Moines, Iowa: Merle Steffenson, a 15-year-old high school student of 2327 Maple Street, reported that he saw three disc-like objects flying north in formation at about 6:00 p.m. CST, while he was riding his motor bike northeast on Avenue Frederick M. Hubbell. "They looked to me like they were awfully high," he said. "They must have been big because they were so high and still I could see them." Young Steffenson said they were silvery in color and that they traveled northward in a straight course "very fast." At one point "they turned at an angle and were so thin I couldn't see them," he asserted.

Case 650 -- July 7, Columbus, Ohio: Five summer students at Ohio State University were batting baseballs around on the varsity practice diamond at 7:45 p.m. EST when one of them noticed three oval objects flying in triangular formation overhead. The objects, noiseless, appeared to be of a dull, metallic color, were estimated to be about ten feet in diameter, and were moving at a high speed. The students were Charles Williams, 19 of Steubenville; Robert Fish, 19, of Akron; George Whitacre, 23, of Springfield; Wendell Rice, 20, of North Canton; and William Santschi, 22 of Alliance.

Whitacre, an Army veteran, saw the objects first. They were flying east, over the Glentangy River. He called them to the attention of the others, and none of the students were able to make out any apparent means of propulsion. They estimated the formation was at an altitude of 1,000 feet. The speed of the objects was so great that they were out of sight within 15 seconds. All five witnesses were in agreement on the details of the observation, but none of them had any idea what the objects might be.

Case 652 -- July 7, Manchester, New Hampshire: Two men made almost identical reports of seeing three yellow disc-like objects in V-formation moving northwest over the city at high speed about 9:00 p.m. EDT. Roger Plaisant, of 842 Clay Street, and Henry Ray, of 834 Somerville Street, agreed that the objects seemed to be high in the sky, and Ray added that they appeared "egg-shaped," and were quite bright.

Case 689 -- July 7, Tacoma, Washington: M. C. Streans, of 913 South L, reported that he had seen three discs from his bedroom window about 10:45 p.m. PST. They were in V-formation and flying at terrific speed, and were brightly illuminated.

At about the same time, Sgt. John Samuelson, of McChord Field, called the Tacoma News Tribune to report that he and Corporal Peter Walker had seen two discs flying at high speed and at great height over the Field, emitting vapor trails.

Hovering Objects

Case 123 -- June 30, Boise, Idaho: At about 5:45 p.m. MST, Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Donofrio, of 917 East Bannock Street, were driving westward just outside Boise to play golf when they saw a bright, silver object ahead of them, stationary in the sky. It appeared to the witnesses to be a "half-circle" in shape and was "just as bright and silvery-looking as a mirror caught in the rays of the sun." The witnesses added that it seemed to be "clinging to the edge of a huge cloud." They watched it for several minutes until they lost sight of it when driving under some trees. In the Air Force files this sighting is explained as a "sun dog."

Case 215 -- July 4, Alexandria, Virginia: Mrs. Martin Kole, of Valley Drive, Alexandria, was awakened some time after four in the morning by "something shining in her face" through the bedroom window. Looking out, Mrs. Kole saw a large, round object floating stationary in the southwest sky. She watched the "blazing object, about as big as the sun," for a few minutes, and then went back to sleep. The object did not move during her observation; it was still there when she went back to bed. No other reports of unusual objects in that area during the early morning hours were received.

Case 271 – July 4, Hauser Lake, Idaho: George Aster, of E. 3607 Fourth, reported that he and "at least 200 others" watched a disc-like object for a half an hour at about 7:00 p.m. PST at Hauser Lake, a few miles northeast of Spokane, just across the state line. Aster, the first one to see it, said "I pointed it out to the others and they all stood around and followed it for about 30 minutes while it circled overhead."

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He estimated its height at 20,000 feet. "It was going very fast," he said, in an account found in the Spokane Daily Chronicle (7/5), "and looked like a silver dollar as it circled overhead. Then suddenly it shot straight up into the air and vanished from sight." Others in Aster's party who said they had watched the object were his wife; Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Daerwold, of S. 665 Helena; and Mr. and Mrs. Noble Hunvlade, of S. 408 Freza, all in Spokane.

Dr. McDonald was able to contact George Aster and he learned the following: Aster and his party had been celebrating the holiday at Hauser Lake and were setting off fireworks when they first saw the object, which he described as plainly disc-shaped. When first seen, it was hovering, not circling, as reported in the press account. The sun was still up and they saw it clearly at an altitude they estimated was from three to four miles. It was shiny, like aluminum, and Aster thought it must have been at least 30 feet across.

It was not, as described in the paper, directly overhead, but at an elevation of about 30 degrees above the horizon. The "circling" motion described in the paper was clarified by Aster: while it hovered, the witnesses noticed a lateral motion from side to side by a distance estimated to be about its own diameter. There was no mistaking this motion, Aster told McDonald. It was not circling. After some time, the observers noticed a small aircraft heading toward the disc. When the plane came somewhat near the object, the latter shot up at tremendous speed and was quickly lost to view in "a fraction of a second."

Aster informed Dr. McDonald that Orville Daerwold, one of the original party, was now dead. His wife is alive and has remarried. The Hunvlades, who ran a grocery store in 1947, subsequently moved to Montana. Aster's recollection was that there were 40 or 50 other witnesses in their immediate area at the time who were also watching the object. He was emphatic that this could not have been an aircraft because of its peculiar lateral oscillations. After his conversation with the witness, Dr. McDonald was confident that Aster had described as best he could something that had actually happened.

Case 397 -- July 6, Tucson, Arizona: Wallace B. Magness, of 1132 East Blacklidge, employed at the office of the Air Materiel Command at Davis Monthan Field, and Miss Fay Edwards, of the same address, reported seeing a bright object at about 10:00 a.m. When Magness first observed the object, it was hovering in the eastern sky, stationary except for a wobbling motion, "like a kite." Magness said that "it did not glitter, as if made of metal, but looked like snow," and was exceedingly bright. After a few minutes, the object began moving in a northerly direction at great speed, "until it disappeared." Magness would not estimate its height or speed because he did not know the size of the object.

Dr. McDonald was able to locate Mr. Magness and learned that the details of the news account were essentially correct. Magness had been out in his yard working the morning of the sighting when he happened to look up and saw a very bright, round light in the eastern sky. He recalled it as being brighter than the sun. He told McDonald "I never saw such a bright light."

The object was stationary, as reported. It remained in one spot long enough for Magness to summon a neighbor, Mr. Weirson, who is now dead. He also called Miss Edwards, a roomer in the Magness home at the time; Miss Edwards has since married and is no longer in Tucson. Also present was Weirson's grandson, who was seven at the time.

After several minutes, the object suddenly moved off to the northeast, through Redding Pass. Magness described in some detail the amount of kidding he received at the Air Base where he was in charge of cost accounting in the Air Materiel Command office. Base personnel went to a good deal of trouble to rig up a mounted saucer which was presented to Magness by a Base official. With all the fun and games going on, there apparently was no time left to make out an official report of the sighting, for the case is not included among those in the Air Force files.

A possible confirmation of this report may have occurred with the sighting by the head football coach of the University of Arizona, made at about the same time. Niles Casteel saw a disc while driving east along East Speedway; however, Casteel described the object he saw as moving south at a rapid speed. (Case 396)

Case 385 -- July 6, Newark, New Jersey: A bright, blue-white object was reported by Mrs. Helene Berard, of 179 North 12th Street. She said the strange, round object hovered at tree-top level over her back yard during the early morning hours. This close-up observation unfortunately got no more coverage than this in the account from the Newark Evening News (7/7).

Case 550 -- July 7, Rutland, Vermont: Early in the morning Mrs. Albert Steele, of 13 Forest Street, was awakened by a heavy rainstorm. She noticed that the sky outside was bright and, believing it was time to get up, checked her watch. It was 2:05 a.m. EDT. Looking out her bedroom window, she was startled by the appearance of a brilliant object hovering directly over the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation gas plant.

The object, casting a bright light all over the immediate neighborhood, was oval in shape, and Mrs. Steele could see "jagged edges sticking out in all directions.

The edges were of different colors, but the center was like a brilliant white light," she said. Because it was so bright, it was difficult for her to watch it continuously for any length of time. Although she was unable to estimate its altitude, Mrs. Steele said that it was "not too high." It appeared to her to be "about the size of a bathtub." She woke up her husband, who glanced out the window, saw the light, and went back to sleep. The bright object hung motionless over the gas plant for 15 minutes. When the rain began to let up, it just "disappeared." Mrs. Steele described it "like nothing I have ever seen before."

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Case 542 -- July 7, Pittsburg, California: Mrs. Edward Puckhaber, of Pittsburg, reported watching a disc-like object hover over her yard for a short time before it moved off rapidly toward the east. With her were Mrs. William Deaver and Harold Brown, who verified her report. Local accounts, which were not available, undoubtedly contain further details.

Case 642 -- July 7, East Peoria, Illinois: In another report containing few details, Forrest L. Higgenbotham, a Caterpillar Tractor Company employee, is said to have seen 25 to 30 disc-like objects in a straight line, hanging stationary in the sky about 7:00 p.m.

Case 687 -- July 7, near Wessington Springs, South Dakota: Emmitt Barta, a farmer living 32 miles northwest of Mitchell, South Dakota, reported that about 11:00 p.m. CST he had been awakened by an aerial explosion outside his home. Through the window he could see that the barnyard area was momentarily lighted, and then two more explosions occurred, in a matter of seconds. Through the window, Barta said, he saw a bright red object, "about the size of a bushel basket," hovering over his farmyard. After a moment, the object disappeared.

Case 704 -- July 8, Chicago, Illinois: Miss Mabel Winterum, 4036 Western, reported seeing a round object "about the size of an apple" at 9:05 a.m. CDT. She described the object as spinning while "standing still" in one spot, before it suddenly took off at a rapid speed "right over the Martha Washington Hospital" at 2318 West Irving Park.

Abrupt Changes in Elevation

Case 8 -- June 12, Weiser, Idaho: Mrs. Herbert Erickson, of Route #2, Weiser, and a neighbor, reported that they had seen two small, round objects brightly glistening in the sun, flying over Weiser on a southeasterly course at 6:15 p.m. MST. One object followed the other, both at high speed, after an interval of several seconds. The sky was clear and the witnesses said the objects emitted vapor trails that held their shapes and drifted slowly across the sky for the next hour.

As the objects passed over, each made two rapid descents toward the ground, "shooting up and down," as Mrs. Erickson explained, before circling back up and resuming their southeasterly flight. Each of the objects had been in view for several seconds, according to the witnesses. Included among the sightings in the Air Force

files, the official explanation for this report is "contrails." Nothing is said about what is was that left them there.

Case 400 -- July 6, Logansport, Indiana: Fifteen-year-old Robert Miller, of Rural Route 5, had been harrowing a field six miles northeast of Logansport during the day when he heard a "whining roar" overhead. Looking up, he saw a disc-shaped object plummet down through an overcast sky. It hovered there momentarily, whirling on its lateral axis at high speed, and then suddenly rose up and disappeared into the clouds. Miller described the object as "plate-like" and grey in color, and said it moved at "a terrific speed." It "whirled like a top" at an estimated altitude of 15,000 feet before disappearing again into the sky. He said the size of the object appeared to be the same as that of a two-motored plane at about the same altitude.

Case 632 -- July 7, Phoenix, Arizona: Scores of Phoenicians watched two silver, ball-like objects race across the sky over the Salt River Valley north of Phoenix at 3:30 p.m. MST. A score of persons in the upper floors of the Heard Building had an unobstructed view of the objects as they crossed the sky from west to east.

Witnesses were all agreed on two main points: first one object was seen, moving in a straight, level course eastward; this was immediately followed by a second object moving in the same direction, but at a lower altitude. Both objects were identical in size and were traveling at very high speed. Toward the eastern side of the valley passage the lower ball climbed sharply in a sudden ascent to the level of the upper object and continued its straight, easterly course.

Estimates of the objects put them at "about 5,000 feet high," and they appeared to most people to be "about twice as large as an airplane." They were in view for about 25 to 30 seconds, and the estimated distance they traveled while under observation indicated a speed well in excess of 1,000 miles an hour. A number of the witnesses commented on the stillness of the air at the time of the sighting, noting that columns of smoke were seen rising straight up and flags were hanging limply on poles. This would rule out a possibility of the objects having been balloons carried rapidly eastward by high winds.

Case 674 -- July 7, Salt Lake City, Utah: "It was big enough so that when someone said, 'What's that in the sky?' no one had to ask where," said Mrs. Jack Coffey, of 464 Third Avenue, as she described a maneuvering "ball of fire" she and 14 others saw between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. MST. Mrs. Coffey had been horseback riding with a group of friends when they spotted the object from 13th South and 4th West. "We didn't have to look twice," Mrs. Coffey reported. The object was round, orange or amber in color, and appeared to be "on fire." Mrs. Coffey said it was quite bright and seemed to be "twice the size of the spot that appears on the sky from a searchlight." The object was below the clouds and seen to the west, moving in a straight line toward the north against the twilight sky.

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"We noticed it first when it seemed to make a vertical drop of several hundred feet," explained another member of the party, a former anti-aircraft gunner in World

War II. "Then it leveled out and moved rapidly northward. It seemed to be dropping just north of the Fairgrounds, as best we could orient it by the searchlight at the Centennial Exposition." The object was too far off to estimate its size. The group watched it for three or four minutes before it finally disappeared from view in the northwest sky.

Circling Maneuvers

Case 17 -- June 20, Hot Springs, New Mexico: On June 30, Mrs. Annabel Mobley traveled from Hot springs (now Truth or Consequences) to Albuquerque with her daughter, Luanne, to report to the Albuquerque Journal their sighting of ten days earlier.

She reported that she and her daughter had seen nine objects crossing the sky toward the northeast. These objects were in groups of threes and each group was revolving about in a "wheel-like circle." She said that the discs in each group "seemed to be fastened together by invisible cords." The three groups were all revolving at the same rate of speed. The witnesses thought at first that the objects may have been balloons, but they changed their minds after watching their weird behavior. Mrs. Mobley then thought that they may have been some kind of "gas bubble" set off by the earlier atomic explosions in New Mexico, until she read of similar reports elsewhere.

Case 36 -- June 24, Emmett, Idaho: In a letter she wrote to the Idaho Daily Statesman, a woman in Emmett said she had seen a group of objects maneuvering in the sky on the same afternoon that Kenneth Arnold had made his observation.

Asking that her name not be quoted, the woman reported that she had seen a group of round, shiny objects in the sky due east of Emmett "at what appeared to be quite a distance and height." She said the "shiny objects" were "weaving and circling very rapidly in formation. . .and after awhile they dispersed in all directions."

Case 228 -- July 4, Portland, Oregon: During the afternoon, while others were reporting seeing discs all over the city (see III-15), Frank Cooley, formerly a Marine Corps observer, and employed by radio station KOIN in Portland, confirmed the numerous reports of disc-shaped objects.

Cooley reported seeing twelve of the objects flying overhead at an estimated altitude of 20,000 feet. He flatly declared they were "operated and maneuverable devices," and believed that they were larger than generally supposed,

"They plainly exercised maneuvers in the sky," Cooley said. "At one time a number of the discs would get into formation and fly circles around another disc. It was hard to follow their behavior exactly because of the great height, their gleaming surface and their nature." He said that they could only be seen clearly when "tilted to catch the sun's rays." He was convinced, he added, that the discs were operated either "by some human or remote control." He quickly dismissed suggestions that they might be ordinary, lightweight objects "tossed around by air currents."

At approximately the same time that Cooley made his observation, a number of similar objects were seen from the windows of the International News Service office in the Journal Building (Case 229). INS employees said that "at first they appeared to be high-flying birds, as their motion undulated, and it appeared (as if) some kind of wings propelled them," INS reported.

"They banked sharply and without apparent system of direction. Two objects were so high that reports of their disc-like appearance could not be verified, but they seemed to move with high speed. They were last seen heading south after circling sharply over the west-side area,"

Case 277 -- July 4, Madison, Wisconsin: Mr. and Mrs. William Ecker, of 2071 Winnebago Street, reported that they had watched a strangely maneuvering object over Madison at 9:30 p.m. CST. The object was first seen by Mrs. Ecker, who called her husband out to see it. According to the witnesses, the object appeared to be flying in circles over Madison's downtown section, a mile south of their home. "It would fly in a circle for about five minutes," reported the Ecker's, "then shoot off a mile to the south, tear back again, stand still for a half a minute, and then start circling again." The Ecker's said the object, described as "round and bright," repeated this maneuver three times before it finally disappeared to the south in a straight course, "going very fast."

Case 373 -- July 5, Janesville, Wisconsin: A disc-like object performing similar maneuvers to those observed the previous night in Madison was reported by four people in Janesville. Mr. and Mrs. Al Sievert and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Roth told radio station WCLO that at 11:35 p.m. CST they had seen a disc-shaped object flying northwest "just like a plate on edge." The object was then said to have circled counter-clockwise in a wide, oval flight pattern "at terrific speed," stopping abruptly, and then flying out of sight at great speed. The object then came back into view, hovered momentarily for two minutes and then resumed the same counter-clockwise circling as before.

The witnesses described the color of the object, as varying from yellow to silver. Just before it disappeared, they noticed it had "three short tails," and when it vanished, they said it "just popped out." It had been in view for about ten minutes.

Case 742 -- July 9, Sacramento, California: For a period of 20 minutes, beginning at 1:45 p.m. PST, Mrs. Savina Rosetta, with her son, Dempsey, and several neighborhood children, watched a shiny, disc-shaped object maneuver overhead.

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"When I first saw it over Southside Place, it was moving north at about 1,000 feet up," Mrs. Rosetta reported. "Then it started to spiral up until I could hardly see it." After making its circular ascent, the disc leveled off and resumed its northerly flight. Mrs. Rosetta and the children finally lost sight of it at 2:05 p.m., high in the northern sky.

Sudden Stops and Reversals of Flight

Case 338 -- July 5, Albany, Oregon: At 3:20 p.m. PST, two Albany men, Ted Tannich and William Lemon, said they saw a silvery, disc-shaped object flying in a straight course to the south. The disc made a sudden stop, reversing its course almost instantaneously and moved back north. The entire maneuver took place in less than 15 seconds, according to the witnesses.

Case 441 -- July 6, near Greenwood, Missouri: Miss Helen Chiddix, of 711 Admiral Blvd., Kansas City, had been visiting her mother at her family's farm home, about one mile east of Greenwood. At 5:00 p.m. CST, as she was preparing to leave for her return trip to Kansas City by bus, Miss Chiddix said "I saw this object moving from south to north in the sky. At first I thought it was a shining airplane, for it appeared about that size and seemed to be moving at about that speed.

"My mother and I got out into the yard so we could see better, when it turned out not to be a plane. It was real large and silvery, and sailing along like a plate -- thick in the middle. It was as large as a big plane, and it sailed along flat, not too high and not too fast."

As it moved along steadily to the north, Miss Chiddix reported, it suddenly "turned on edge, returned south and vanished in the sky." She added that she wouldn't have believed her own eyes if her mother hadn't been there to confirm what she had seen.

Case 653 -- July 7, near Rome, Maine: Four members of a fishing party on Great Pond reported watching the maneuvers of three "weird objects" at 9:00 p.m. EDT. Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Williams, of 14 Toward Street, Waterville, and their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Grant, of 12 Toward Street, saw something resembling a "spinning rocket" come out of the southern sky at tremendous speed and abruptly stop overhead, where it remained hovering "like a ball of fire."

Shortly after that, a second object, similar in appearance, came hurtling out of the east, passing close by to the first object as it flew westward, disappearing into the clouds. Then a third object appeared, again coming from the east. This one stopped near the first object, hovered there motionless for a moment, and then continued its westerly course. Following the disappearance of this object, the first one began to move again and it retraced its path to the south at high speed. The display had lasted several minutes.

Various and General Maneuvers

Case 291 -- July 4, Salt Lake City, Utah: Former State Treasurer Oliver G. Ellis, his son Richard, and a neighbor boy, Kyle Sessions, reported that they had seen a group of disc-like objects going through strange maneuvers in the sky west of the city on the night of the Fourth.

Mr. Ellis said the luminous objects behaved like radio-controlled devices as they maneuvered in a horizontal, circular pattern. Then two of the discs suddenly broke loose from the group, as if they had been "snapped from the end of a giant pop-the-whip," and went careening southward at a terrific speed on a gradual slant toward the earth,

Following the disappearance of these two objects, the rest of the group reassembled and resumed their horizontal, circular movement, slowly working into a chain-like line, and then forming a V-shape, similar to a flock of geese. The formation of luminous objects then moved off to the southwest at a "terrific speed" until they disappeared from sight in the distance.

Case 671 -- July 7, Detroit, Michigan: Early on the night of the 7th, Mrs. Elizabeth Mason, of 1179 Wellington, reported that she saw two luminous, disc-shaped objects "sweep out of the horizon," and "bounce together a few times," before they faded from view, each in opposite directions. She described the objects as "round, red saucers, which were definitely not searchlights." According to Mrs. Mason, the discs made a "sort of splash" as they came together, although they did not appear to be "harmed by the collisions."

Cases 707-709 -- July 8, Denver, Colorado: From mid-morning until noon, several groups of UFOs made repeated appearances in the sky over Denver, in reports similar to those made in Portland, Oregon, on July 4, but without the same kind of widespread publicity and, typically, lacking adequate news coverage.

Reporting to the Rocky Mountain News, Fred Cullins, of 233 Inca Street, said he saw two groups, one of three and one of ten, dart through the sky from the west, scatter over the downtown area of Denver, and hover there for minutes before resuming formation and sweeping back to the west. He added that sightings of discs were "thick" all morning in his neighborhood.

Mrs. D. E. Marvin, 3432 West Gill Place, also saw several formations of discs; hers "swooped" out of the area of the sun at "terrific speed and altitude" and then flew back toward the vicinity of the sun. One of these objects, she reported, turned flat and "looked like a half-moon." Her aunt had phoned her from another part of town to let her know the objects were being seen.

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Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ebert, of 3375 West Custer Avenue, and three neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Groom, and Mrs. Ted Dilley, said they, and at least a half-dozen other persons on the block, had seen the discs from their backyards in the Westwood section of Denver. Ebert was the first to notice the phenomenon, and called his wife and others. He reportedly saw only one of the objects, which he described as "white and very high" and, as Mrs. Marvin had reported, appearing to "come out of the sun." He described it as "round and flat" and said there was no noise; it "appeared to leave vapor trails like a high-flying plane."

Others in the group reported seeing as many as five objects. Mrs. Ebert told of seeing several, which appeared to "dance in the sky, moving backward and forward and at times rising and falling." The witnesses in the Westwood area said the objects were visible for a period of an hour and a half during the morning, before they finally veered off to the west and disappeared.

Donald Wentee, eight years old, of 2321 Champa Street, reported that he had seen a disc from the roof of his apartment building (Case 728). He described its color as orange, said it was "the size of a quarter," and looked to him to be about 3,000 to 4,000 feet high. Its speed was much faster than a plane.

Private First Class Richard McNulty, and other patients lying on the lawn of Fitzsimmons General Hospital, saw a number of the objects at noon (Case 723). The discs were coming out of the southwest at high speed at estimated heights of 10,000 to 12,000 feet, and were visible only briefly before they disappeared.

Low-swooping and Car-buzzing Reports

Case 53 -- June 25, near Pueblo, Colorado: Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd M. Lowry, of 3405 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, were returning home by car from a six-week vacation tour. On the afternoon of the 25th, as they drove east near Pueblo, Lowry and his wife "suddenly observed a strange missile approaching at a high rate of speed." The object was oval-shaped, seen first at an estimated altitude of 2,000 feet, and descending rapidly toward the observers' car. It swooped down to 500 feet above the car. Following this object was another similar one, approaching on the same course.

"We were alarmed," Mr. Lowry reported. "As the first one approached, we could see it revolving at tremendous speed on its axis, even faster than its forward flight." As it reached a point just above and ahead of the car, "it suddenly veered off sharply to the right, and at the same time its companion did likewise." The objects then disappeared to the south in a matter of seconds. Mr. Lowry hesitated to make known their experience at first because he was afraid it would not be believed.

Case 93 -- June 28, Appleton, Colorado: H. E. Soule, of the western Colorado farming community of Appleton, told Grand Junction authorities that sometime during the day of June 28 he saw a two-foot disc of "non-shiny aluminum" color sail out of the northwest sky at an altitude of about 200 feet. The object "swooped" over his home, narrowly missing the roof, veered eastward and gained altitude quickly as it followed Highway 6 for about a mile, then turned southeast and disappeared from sight. Soule described its speed as "amazing," and said he heard no motor sounds nor saw any vapor trail.

Case 163 -- July 2, near DeKalb, Texas: City and county officials in the Texarkana area began an investigation of reports that numerous residents had seen UFOs in the vicinity of the Texas-Arkansas state line. One of the first sightings was made by Wendell L. Carson, a farmer near DeKalb, at sunset on the evening of July 2. Carson reported that he and his small son watched "dumbfounded" as a disc swooped noiselessly across his tomato patch at an altitude of 100 feet.

In his report, made the next day, Carson described the disc as "roundish," and said it shone like "a mirror reflecting the sun." He said that it had been flying "very fast," and added that he would have reported it sooner but was convinced he and his son must have been seeing things, until he heard of other reports in the area.

Another DeKalb witness, Mrs. S. G. Nichols, reported independently that she had seen a disc glide over her home at about the same time as Carson's observation.

In another report (Case 350) very similar to Carson's, a farmer in Fayetteville, Arkansas described a low-flying disc that frightened his cattle as it made a brief touch-down landing near his barn, three days later. (See IV-1)

Case 304 -- July 5, Waterloo, Iowa: J. E. Johnston, of Waterloo, reported that at 1:30 a.m. CST a high-speed object had flown over his home. He described it as a "bright, flat object about 12 feet, in diameter." (AP reported Johnston's description of its size as that of "a dinner plate.") The disc was flying about 25 feet above the ground and made a "rocket-like, swishing noise" as it flew directly over his house at a "terrific speed," Johnston said "It was too close to the ground to be an airplane. It was a terrible experience," he added. "It numbed me from head to foot."

Case 853 -- July 30, Tamarack, Idaho: John E. Ostrom, of Nyssa, Oregon, was driving an Army truck from Council to McCall, Idaho, on Route 95. At 4:00 p.m. MST, in the vicinity of Tamarack, he suddenly saw a small, silver, ball-like object approaching his truck head-on at a downward angle of about 30 degrees. As he instinctively covered his face with his hands, the baseball-sized object glanced off the roof of the cab, just above the windshield.

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He brought the truck to a halt several hundred yards down the highway and got out to see what damage had been done. The point of contact was perfectly clear, and the metal of the roof of the cab, just above the windshield, appeared to have been "melted" as if "by some terrific heat." Experts examining the damaged spot later, about the size of a silver dollar, said that it had the appearance of having been "welded," but Ostrom denied there had been any welding and insisted that the damage had been done by a small flying object.

Landings and Take-offs

Case 105 -- June 29, near Cliff, New Mexico: A rancher near Cliff, named Arthur Howard, reported that he had seen a round, shining object fall to earth in broken country near his ranch some time during the day. Later, two pilots, Bud Hagen of Hurley and Ed Nelson of Cliff, made an aerial search of the location. They found nothing, but they reported that at one point while flying over the reported landing site their plane flew through a layer of "stinking air" -- something for which they could find no explanation.

Case 115 -- June 30, near Grand Canyon, Arizona: Lt. William G. McGinty, U.S. Navy flight student, was flying out of Williams Air Base in the vicinity of Grand Canyon at 9:10 a.m. MST when he saw two circular, light grey objects descending straight down from an altitude of 25,000 feet, one after the other. They were moving at "inconceivable speeds," and he estimated that each was about eight feet in diameter. The two objects appeared to have come to earth some 25 miles south of the

southern rim of the canyon. This sighting is among those in the Air Force files, and it is explained as "probable meteors."

Case 200 -- July 3, near St. Maries, Idaho: Mrs. Walter Johnson, of Dishman, Washington, a Spokane suburb, reported that she and her family had been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Beeman, of Butler's Bay, on the St. Joe River in northern Idaho, after having spent a few days camping in the area. About 6:30 p.m. PST, on the 3rd, Ben Beeman, who had been working in his garden, suddenly "shouted for us to come outside of the house," Mrs. Johnson reported. When they had come out, at least nine members of the family, including Mrs. Johnson's sister and a niece, saw nine large objects (some counted only eight) flying out of the southern sky in a loose formation.

"With that mountainside as a background, we saw the saucers come in very fast, slow down jerkily, then flutter to the ground like leaves," she told the press, several days later. "The objects made no sound, Mrs. Johnson said. "Suddenly they stopped in mid-air, then started again. When they reached a point over a clearing in the timber, they stopped again and settled down a few at a time until they were out of sight. The mysterious part was that we could see them flutter down into the timber, and yet we couldn't see that they did anything to the trees."

The objects, thicker than discs and looking more like washtubs, were described by Mrs. Johnson as being "about the size of a five-room house." They glittered with the brilliance of a mirror in the sunlight, but "they must have given off the light themselves, because the sun itself was not visible." (Since it was too early for sunset, this must mean the sky was overcast, and the objects seen below the clouds.) "The area where they went down was several miles away," Mrs. Johnson explained, and darkness prevented any search for the objects that evening.

Besides having been seen by Mrs. Johnson's family, the flight and landing was witnessed by at least a half-dozen neighbors. After an aerial search, three days later, two missions of the National Guard's 116th fighter group reported no trace of the objects. Renewah County sheriff's deputies made a land search as well, but results of this are unknown, although if any traces had been discovered, it is likely that the findings would have been made known in the papers, since the sighting had been given such prominent news coverage. Mrs. Johnson reported the sighting to officials at the Spokane Army Air Base, but no record of it is found in the Air Force files.

Case 382 -- July 6, near Miami Springs, Florida: While vacationing in Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Walsh of Boston saw three objects "rise up out of the Everglades like some rare species of bird" from what may have been a landing site in the sparsely settled area. The couple were fishing at 6:00 a.m. EST in the canal, several miles north of the Hialeah Bridge, when they saw two round, silvery objects, followed by a third, ascend from the trees in the Everglades to a height of about 6,000 feet. Mr. Walsh estimated the size of the objects at ten to fifteen feet in diameter. He said they flew due south and quickly disappeared from sight.

Case 383 -- July 6, near Pocatello, Idaho: H. C. McLean, a touring Seattle resident driving through Pocatello, reported by letter to the local paper that he had seen a small disc float slowly to the ground in front of his car just after dawn. He described

the disc as about two or three feet in diameter, "about the size of a wagon wheel." It came down on edge, like a wheel in the road. "Something held it upright," he reported, and then moved it forward in "a series of short jerks," each move carrying it a foot or two further. "In the middle of the disc," McLean wrote, "I could made out a bulge, as if a plate had been welded onto the disc, and there were two narrow strips of metal running almost parallel to each other above and below this mid-section." The edge of the disc was surrounded by a tube that had a funnel-like opening at one end, "set into the disc's rim so that the latter could roll freely."

After having moved ahead about 20 yards, the object "rose easily and at once began to climb. I examined the place where the disc had landed but it touched the ground so lightly that it left no mark. I am convinced that the disc's flight was controlled, that it gave out signals indicating its position, and that it is harmless."

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Case 431 -- July 6, Tempe, Arizona: During the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Howell were in their yard at 317 Ash Street, with a neighbor couple. Suddenly they all noticed a circular object northeast of the house, floating down to the ground with a "kite-like motion." The object appeared to be about two feet in diameter, was flat and thin, made of some sort of aluminum, and looked "transparent."

The Howells and their neighbors watched the disc disappear behind a row of trees some distance away, and they quickly approached the area to get a better look at it. As they came to within 600 yards of the landing site they saw the disc ascend slowly into the air at a 45 degree angle, and then take off at a "high rate of speed" to the northwest, towards Phoenix, nine miles away. The Howells agreed that the disc was too small to contain a pilot. The Air Force conclusion about this observation was that there was "insufficient information" to find an explanation.

Case 803 -- July 9, Spokane, Washington: Cliff Markham, of North 1019 Crestline, Spokane, and members of his crew at the Layrite Concrete Producing Plant on Trent and Erie Streets, reported seeing a group of three disc-shaped objects spinning in the sky over the Sperry flour mill at 6:15 p.m. PST. Markham said they estimated the speed of the objects to be 50 or 60 miles an hour. One of the discs left the group and appeared to land on the bank of the Spokane River. Some of the men made a search of the area, but could find no evidence of the disc's having landed there.

Protuberances: Domes, Fins or Knobs

The report by Richmond meteorologist Minczewski in mid-April, describing a domed disc, would come under this category (see I-1), as well as prospector Fred Johnson's report on June 24 (Case 30), near Ukiah, Oregon, who described seeing five or six discs with fins, or tails (see IV- 3).

Case 94 -- June 23, La Grande, Oregon: On or about this date, Leland Jones, La Grande high school student, and two Catholic nuns, saw nine disc-like objects "weaving in and out of formation." Jones said "They looked bright and round and seemed to have fins."

Case 294 -- July 4, Denver, Colorado: While driving home at 11:00 p.m. MST from a holiday party, Mrs. John Perrin, of 1852 Wazee Street, saw "an aluminum-colored saucer do a flip-flop over the Union Depot." She said the object had "a big dome," and "a tail of flame." She was certain she hadn't mistaken it for a roman candle, or other fireworks.

Case 313 -- July 5, Denver, Colorado: Less than twelve hours after Mrs. Perrin's report of a domed disc seen over Denver, Ed Zimmerman, a veteran and rocket-motor experimenter, of 1354 Elati Street, spotted a disc from his back yard. The object was directly over the dome of the capitol building, moving in a northeast direction. Zimmerman was able to observe the disc with binoculars and described it as being shaped "flat, like a pie-pan," with "a bulge, or knob on top, like a pilot's cockpit." It was dull-aluminum in color and from it trailed a cloud of vapor, suggesting to Zimmerman some kind of jet propulsion or rocket power. He estimated the height of the object at between 5,000 and 6,000 feet, its diameter at about 20 feet, and its speed between 1,100 and 1,200 miles an hour.

Case 413 -- July 6, Hagerstown, Maryland: At 4:30 p.m. EDT, Mrs. Madelyn Ganoë, of 349 South Cannon Avenue, saw a group of five "saucer-shaped" objects flying eastward at "terrific speed" through cloudy skies. She described the flat objects as having "something on the back end" like a fin. Mrs. Ganoë said the objects emitted a sound "the likes of which I have never heard before." She described it as "like the roar of a far away train," but was otherwise unable to compare it with anything familiar. She said the objects were quickly lost to view when they disappeared behind trees.

Another report was made at about the same time, which may provide an explanation for Mrs. Ganoë's sighting: Park W. T. Loy, of 55 East Irvin Avenue, said he saw five P-80s flying over the local airfield and verified their peculiar noise. However, the only report of jets flying over the city was made by the Hansen Flying Service at the local airfield: two P-30 jets had flown over the field a half an hour earlier, at 4:00 p.m. No other reports of either jets or UFOs was made. There was an air show at Martinsburg, West Virginia, some twenty miles to the southwest, during the afternoon, in which a number of P-80 jets participated.

Case 752 -- July 8, Seattle, Washington: At 3:30 p.m. PST Earl Klenpke, of 9004 17th Avenue S.W., in company with his mother, saw a "very shiny, ovalshaped" disc with "a glass dome on top of it" flying over the city in a northwesterly direction. It was flying at a moderately slow speed, 75 or 80 miles an hour, and "moving in a straight line with an up-and-down motion." Klenpke estimated its size at about eight feet high and ten feet long. He and his mother watched it for seven minutes before it disappeared from view.

Case 786 -- July 9, Chicago, Illinois: At about 1:00 a.m. CDT, after returning home from a movie, William Valetta, of 4328 South Emerald, saw five or six objects streaking eastward as he stood on the sidewalk in front of his home. He described them as resembling saucers, with the cups sitting on top (domes). "They made a swishing noise," he said, and there was a "blue flame" coming from under each object, as well as what appeared to be smoke coming from the tops.

Just 15 minutes before, another report of four or five objects that made "a swishing noise" and emitted gaseous trails, like a "blue streak," was made by Thomas O'Brian, of 553 West 42nd Place and Timothy Donegon, of 4141 Wallace Street, as they stood outside O'Brian's house, just a few blocks from Valetta's home (Case 785). However, they described nothing that might have been domes, and the objects they saw were going southwest at a moderate speed of 180 miles an hour.

Appendages: Antennas, Legs, Propellers & Tails

Case 1 -- June, near Aloha, Oregon: While driving between Portland and Aloha at sundown, sometime in June, Mrs. August Krause saw an object making loops in the air. She described it as saucer-shaped, with the top more rounded than the bottom. She said the object would execute a loop with a slight hover at the top of each loop.

Attached to this object was a flexible appendage that bore a resemblance to the tail of a kite, in length longer than the width of the object, and with "small cross pieces at regular intervals" along its length. At the top of each loop, as the object remained momentarily suspended, the tail "did not droop," but remained fixed in position behind the object; then, as the disc continued its maneuver, the tail would follow in a flexible arc.

Mrs. Krause had stopped the car and rolled down the window to be sure she wasn't looking at some kind of reflection. She watched this strange performance for almost five minutes, during which time the object came closer and closer. Then it suddenly moved off in a straight line at high speed and was lost to view. Mrs. Krause had no idea as to the size or distance of the object, but there were clouds in the sky, and the object was below these clouds. She had it in view long enough to be certain of the peculiar behavior of the flexible tail.

Case 242 - July 4, near Pattonville, Missouri: About 5:00 p.m. CDT, while on a picnic on Old St. Charles Road, four miles west of Pattonville, Nova Hart, a St. Louis mechanic living at 2969A St. Ferdinand Avenue, his wife Marveline, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jackson, of 3906 Kennerly Avenue, St. Louis, saw what appeared to be an inverted, saucer-shaped object, "ribbed like a parachute canopy," gliding slowly in a westerly direction no more than 300 feet above the ground.

Hart, a former infantryman trained as an aircraft spotter, said "I've never seen anything like it. It looked more like a parachute than anything, though it appeared to have a propeller in the middle." The propeller, attached to the center of the underside, appeared to Hart to act "more as a stabilizer than a source of power." The object made no noise as it floated over the observers. It was silver-grey in color; one news account describes it as appearing "transparent."

As it moved in the direction of St. Charles, the observers said it "kept turning in a slow roll." The object was circular, between 20 and 25 feet in diameter, and had what looked to Mrs. Hart like "a ragged tail" on it (the propeller). They watched it for three or four minutes before it disappeared from view.

Dr. McDonald was able to locate Mr. And Mrs. Hart and interview them by phone. Neither could recall who first saw the object but Hart said they became aware of it when a shadow was cast on their party. They saw the curious object drifting slowly toward them at a speed of about 50 or 60 miles an hour, no more than several hundred feet off the ground. It was moving from south to north (not east to west, as reported in the press accounts). The upper surface was hemispherical, with ribbing, like a parachute canopy. Mrs. Hart compared it to the top of an umbrella. The object was silver-grey (not "transparent," as one press account had it), rather like some dull metallic surface covering -- "like the dull side of aluminum foil," as Mrs. Hart put it.

Hart explained the newspaper references to the "slow roll" the object performed: as it approached the viewers from the south, its near edge was tipped upward, exposing the underside. When it passed over them, it leveled off, and in moving northward, curiously, it tipped in the opposite direction -- that is, the edge nearest them was again tipped upward. This puzzled Hart. Aside from the slow tipping action, there was no irregular motion -- no spinning or undulating.

The underside appeared to consist of a red conical substructure, point down, and near the bottom of the cone (which Hart compared to "red plastic") was something like a propeller -- an appendage likened by Hart to "a rope ladder." Mrs. Hart said it had the appearance to her of a "tattered edge." It was about five or six feet in diameter, and was moving too slowly and was too small to be a source of motive power, in their opinion. The propeller puzzled them a great deal. It made no noise, they said.

The Harts mentioned a number of other people in the picnic area who were all watching the object. Several people came up and asked them what they thought it was. One man, in a truck, tried to follow it; he was last seen hanging out the door as his truck went down the road in pursuit of the object. Hart called the paper primarily to try to identify the object. He received a great deal of kidding about it and could understand why others were not reporting them. He was never interrogated by the Air Force.

Case 249 -- July 4, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Just about sundown, Dr. M. K. Leisy, junior intern at the Pennsylvania Hospital for Mental Diseases in the western section of Philadelphia (at Market and 44th Streets), was reading on the west porch of the hospital when his attention was drawn to the sky by a loud roar. He saw a big transport plane going over, which may have accounted for the noise, but he also saw something far more surprising: coming out of the north northwest sky was a dark, spherical object with a luminous halo around it. The object was flying below the clouds at a moderate speed, "about the same speed as the wind," and appeared to be propelled "by a set of whirling wings, or jets." After several moments, the object disappeared into the clouds overhead.

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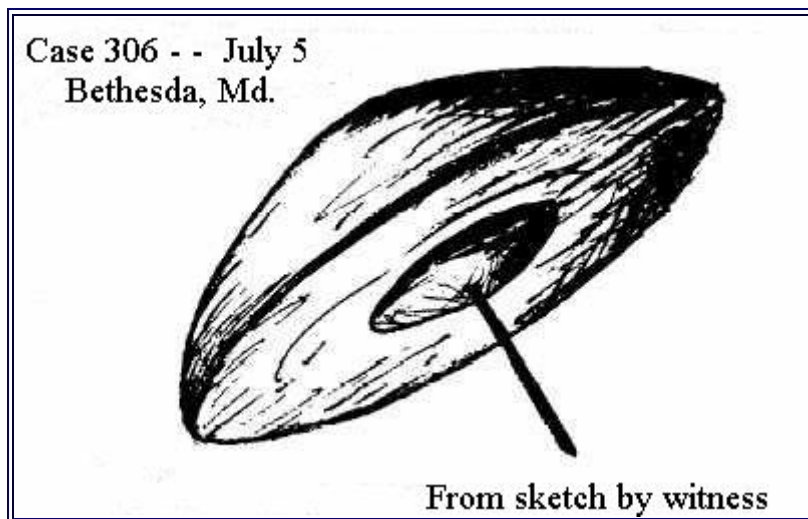
A check with various agencies disclosed that no balloons had been released over that area at the time, nor was it possible to confuse the object with anything connected with the fireworks display scheduled to begin after dark. Independent

reports of the same, or other objects, were made elsewhere in the western part of town at about the same time.

Case 287 -- July 4, Los Angeles, California: Herman V. Friede, an aircraft inspector living at 226 West 11th Street, described seeing an object "shaped like a lima bean" fly over Elysian park at 8:30 p.m. PST, at an estimated altitude of 5,000 feet. Friede said he could see what appeared to be two jet pipes sticking out from the rear edge of the object, with vapor trails coming from them. The leading edge of the object appeared transparent, Friede reported, and "could have been a cockpit." Friede's work as an aircraft inspector should certainly insure his being able to tell a conventional craft from a non-conventional one.

Case 306 -- July 5, Bethesda, Maryland: Jack LaBous, a Washington artist living in the 3500 block of East Capital Street, was riding on a Benning bus near Bethesda sometime during the morning when he saw a flat, disc-shaped object with a small dome-like shape on the underside, spinning high in the air at an altitude he estimated to be above 15,000 feet. He also noticed a stick-like appendage, like a radio antenna, protruding downward from the center under the object (see drawing).

Mr. LaBous worked for eight years as a visual artist for the Civil Aeronautics Administration; when he saw the object, he quickly made a sketch of it on the back of an envelope he had in his pocket. The detail of the "antenna-like" appendage is remarkably similar to the device described by Gregory Zimmer in Sioux Falls the following day (Case 452).



Case 330 -- July 5, Tacoma, Washington: In many sightings witnesses reported that a group of objects appeared to be "connected" by unseen wires or string, or by some other invisible means, because they moved in unison, or in a manner that suggested some kind of connection between them. In the following report, an actual physical appendage was reported seen joining two objects together.

Mrs. Lillian Emblem, of 1115 6th Avenue, reported seeing two objects at fairly close range. She said that the objects "really looked like two spools, joined together by a connecting rod." For about 30 seconds she and a friend, Mrs. Marie Reed, watched the objects move silently through the air at about the speed of a plane.

Case 322 -- July 5, Covington, Kentucky: Mrs. Dorothy Kreve and Mrs. May Lawrence, both of 434 Johnson Street, Covington, reported that they had seen a circular object "with legs" flying overhead during the afternoon. This altogether too brief account becomes more interesting when compared with the following report, almost equally as brief.

Case 401 -- July 6, Chicago, Illinois: This report is reprinted in its entirety, as it appeared in numerous papers on July 7. The original account could not be found in the Chicago papers.

Chicago, July 6 (UP)-- An excited woman telephoned a Chicago newspaper Sunday to report that she had seen a "flying saucer" and that "it had legs."

"I was standing on the porch," she said, "and I thought for sure it was coming down and slap me in the face."

Case 452 -- July 6, Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Gregory Zimmer, County Treasurer's assistant, reported that at 5:15 p.m. CST he saw a "round object resembling a balloon" fly over his house at 1328 West Sioux Street, as he lay in his back yard. The object flew over at high speed, "traveling faster than the fastest planes," according to Zimmer. It was described as generally silver colored, "like a Christmas decoration," while a part of the top appeared darker in color. The object was flying at an estimated height of nearly 10,000 feet in a southwesterly direction.

Zimmer said that the object had a "little tail sticking straight down," similar to the appendage described by Jack LaBous (Case 306), on the previous day. This "thread-like tail," instead of trailing behind the object, appeared more like a rigid projection underneath it.

Marine Ace Joe Foss, head of the Sioux Falls National Guard unit, sent a pilot aloft to look for the object, but the pilot reportedly saw nothing unusual. Kenneth Clark, a local meteorologist, said there had been a garden party for children at the Veterans Hospital during the afternoon, at which time helium-filled balloons had been used as decorations.

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He proposed that one of the balloons got loose and was the culprit responsible for the reported sighting. The hospital is southwest of Zimmer's home, according to the newspaper accounts. Apparently meteorologist Clark never considered the fact that for a balloon to be seen carried southwest by the prevailing winds, it would have to be released at a point somewhere other than southwest of the reporting witness.

Case 516 -- July 6, near Burlington, Wisconsin: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Nielson, of Waukesha, were returning home on Sunday night from Lake Geneva, and as they drove between Lake Geneva and Burlington, they saw a saucer-shaped object "with a propeller on front, larger than the saucer itself." Following this object, as if in pursuit, was a small cub plane. Describing the object as "slightly larger than a regular-sized saucer" (probably a relative comparison, as a "regular-sized saucer" would scarcely be visible at the height of a plane), Mrs. Nielson said "a light flashed at least twice from it." The plane pursuing the object was easily outdistanced by it, according to the witnesses.

Case 526 -- July 6, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Toward midnight, Mrs. Clarence Lasseson, of 606 West 31st Street, saw a mysterious object "at close range" outside her home. The disc-shaped object, which appeared to be about the size "of a ten-inch plate," had a propeller on its rear edge, and flew over her house at tree-top level, she reported. (The headline of this brief report says, "Click, Phht"-- whether this is a reference to some reported but unpublished sound heard by the witness, or just a headline writer's "sense of humor," is not known.)

Small Objects

The preceding case (Case 526) may also fall into this category, if it can be assumed that the news account is correct, and the witness did actually see the object at "close range."

Case 50 -- About June 25, near Connellsville, Pennsylvania: A Poplar Grove housewife, Mrs. G. Edward Hart, watched a formation of 13 small disc-like objects, "about the size of breakfast plates," float overhead and hover above an orchard near her home at about 3:00 a.m. EDT. The objects, seen at fairly close range, remained over the orchard for about ten seconds and then slowly moved on, Mrs. Hart said.

Case 255 -- July 4, Elliott, North Dakota: Virgil Been, a farmer near Elliot, reported having seen a small object "about the size and shape of a dinner plate, but green in color," early in the evening over his mother's farm, a mile and a half northeast of Elliott. His mother, Mrs. Glen Been, and his brother, Willard, also saw it as it passed close to the three witnesses, no more than 30 or 40 feet above the ground. It was traveling at a "high rate of speed." Been, a Navy veteran, said he had never seen anything in the service that resembled such an object, and added that there was no chance of their having mistaken it for some sort of fireworks.

Case 358 -- July 5, Pond Lake, Michigan: Mr. and Mrs. Willard Fisk, of 42 Delaware Street, Grand Rapids, were camping on Pond Lake when, sometime after dark, they saw "a brilliant, dark-red object, approximately eight inches in diameter, proceeding at an altitude of about 200 feet across the lake." They both described the object as "zigzagging through the air, dropping once as low as 20 feet above the surface of the lake." It made no noise and both witnesses saw some sort of light on it that flashed on and off several times before the object sailed upward and disappeared from view.

Case 399 -- July 6, Kansas City, Kansas: Miss Barbara Mehner, of 2309 South Glenwood Avenue, in the Intercity District, said she was playing baseball on a field near U.S. Highway 24 when a small, grey disc flew around her.

"I was facing west when something flew in from the side," she said. "It was dark grayish, about five inches across and flying two feet from the ground. It flew around me several times, then flew off south a short distance, came back and circled me three or four more times. Then it disappeared."

Case 501 -- July 6, Towanda, Pennsylvania: A close-up observation of two small "objects" was described by Mrs. A. C. Smith, who saw them hovering 20 feet above the ground. For a period of two minutes, they "bobbed about, merged together, and separated," she said, before they finally soared into the sky. According to Mrs. Smith, the discs were about six to eight inches in diameter and appeared to be "saucers of intense light." She did not believe they were solid objects.

Case 603 -- July 7, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania: Eight Gettysburg College couples reported seeing two flights of small objects at low altitude while they were on a Sigma Chi fraternity picnic near the Pennsylvania Monument on the historic battleground. About 3:30 p.m. EDT, five or six small, grey, shiny discs drifted eastward overhead at moderate speed, appearing to roll on edge as they flew. A few minutes later another group of six similar objects flew over in the same direction.

"Each time they were traveling in two distinct groups," said Frank Toms, a senior at the College. He estimated the size of the discs at six inches in diameter. They appeared to be at an altitude of "about 150 to 200 feet above the ground," he added. Among the witnesses present was Peter John, a sophomore from Camden, New Jersey.

Torpedo or Cylindrical Shapes

Case 6 -- June 2, near Lewes, Delaware: Pilot Forrest Wenyon's report of a "mayonnaise jar shaped object" falls into this category. For details see Pilots' Reports (III- 9).

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Case 104 -- about June 29, near Ottawa, Ontario: R. S. Gauthier, of Ottawa, and two companions, were in a boat on Lake Deschenes, eight miles west of the Canadian capital on the Ottawa River, when they saw a high-speed object crossing the lake from the north. There was no sound heard as it passed over at an altitude estimated by the witnesses to be about 1,200 feet. Mr. Gauthier reported that rather than looking like a "saucer," the object appeared more like a "flying stove-pipe" -- that is, cylindrical in shape.

"It was glowing such a white-hot color, you could almost feel the heat," Gauthier reported. "The light was blinding, almost like the sun." The object crossed overhead and passed out of view in 30 seconds, the trio reported.

Case 125 -- June 30, Knoxville, Tennessee: C.E. Brehm, University of Tennessee professor, sighted a "long cylinder" at night -- for details see reports by Educators (III-2).

Case 189 -- July 3, near Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island: Ewen McNeill, a farmer in Village Green, reported that at 5:45 p.m. ADT he had seen an object cross overhead as he worked in his fields. His attention was attracted to the sky by "a very bright light," which McNeill described as "even brighter than the sun."

The light appeared to come from the rear of a black projectile whose shape resembled that of a rocket, or a wingless plane. The flame behind this black object was blindingly white. Behind this white flame there trailed a long plume of smoke, in which could be seen occasional "puffs, which looked like smoke rings." The smoke trail appeared to be two miles long. The object was estimated to be at an altitude of 10,000 feet, and was traveling in an easterly direction at "tremendous speed." It was in view for 15 seconds.

Two other reports were made from other parts of Prince Edward Island at exactly the same time (Cases 190, 191). Neither report agreed with McNeill's in direction, or description of the cylindrical object he had seen.

Cone-shaped Objects

Case 598 -- July 7, Glasgow, Illinois: A brightly shining object "about a mile up" caught the attention of J. C. Star, restaurant owner in Scott County, at an unspecified time during the day. With the aid of a portable telescope he carried in the car, Star said he saw a "conically-shaped, highly polished object with a round base;" he estimated the base was 25 or 30 feet in diameter. He said that the object was oscillating slowly from side to side, and then suddenly "began to move swiftly toward the west" at about 300 miles an hour.

Case 758 -- July 8, suburban Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: According to the Philadelphia Inquirer (7/9), "scores" of Philadelphians had reported UFOs during the preceding evening. The number of objects reported ranged from one to a dozen. "Virtually all sections of the city and many in the suburbs contained at least one resident or visitor who reported he viewed the phenomenon," Only four specific sightings were printed; the descriptions in each case were exceedingly brief, as shown by the following report, quoted in its entirety:

Thomas Miller, 17, of 6448 Palmetto street, said he and a group of friends spotted one while playing baseball in Tookenay Park, Cheltenham Township. But when he and his playmates started to chase it, the "saucer" disappeared. Miller said the object resembled a huge lamp-shade, being cone-shaped and colored grey.

Propeller-shaped Objects

Case 340 -- July 5, Neapolis, Ohio: While ferrying an empty airliner from the east coast to Chicago, TWA pilot Captain John L. Dobberteen and copilot Frank Corwin, both of Washington, reported that they saw a strange-looking flying object below them when they were 20 miles east of Archbold, Ohio (approximately over Neapolis) at about 7:00 p.m. EST. The pilots were flying west at 4,000 feet. They said the object they saw had "the appearance of a whirling fan blade and was about the size of a cub plane, with no sign of a body, fuselage, or motor apparatus. Just a propeller-like

whatsit -- wings without a bird," as they put it. The object was slowly revolving as it moved forward at an estimated speed of 200 miles an hour.

The pilots flew slightly off course in an effort to see where the object was going. They watched it make two complete revolutions below them before it disappeared from view. Captain Dobberteen said he was certain the object could not have been an auto gyro, or similar aircraft. He added that it might have had the appearance of a disc-like object from the ground. "We thought it was a souped-up Fourth of July spin wheel (sic) when we first saw it," the pilot said. "But we know it couldn't have been fireworks." The TWA men continued on to Chicago and reported the whirling object to the air traffic control authorities because it had been flying in a commercial air lane and was thus a potential hazard to other planes.

Case 391 -- July 6, Spokane, Washington: Mrs. C. C. Jenkins, of N. 2201 Columbus, was watering her lawn at 7:10 a.m. PST when she saw two objects moving out of the northern sky. She described their speed as "oh, so fast." Mrs. Jenkins said the objects "didn't appear to be discs, but were more like the toy propellers children run with. They were aluminum colored, and one was above the other." The objects began to go straight up, she said, and quickly disappeared from view.

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V and Wing-shaped Objects

Case 227 -- July 14, Troutdale, Oregon: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Berry, of 915 N.E. Killingsworth Street, Portland, reported that they and an unidentified friend had seen an object that bore a resemblance to "a star" to the naked eye, as it traveled in a northeasterly direction over Troutdale at an unspecified time during the day. They examined the object through binoculars and said that through the glasses the object appeared to be V-shaped. It was flying in a straight, level course, but seemed to be "dipping a bit" as it flew along, and flashing in the sun, according to the witnesses.

Case 444 -- July 6, Darlington, South Carolina: While swimming in the Black Creek late in the afternoon, J. V. Watts, Jr., an attorney with the law firm of State Senator James F. Mazingo III, said that he had seen ten or twelve wing-shaped objects flying in a V-formation, and weaving up and down as they moved at a comparatively slow rate of speed. The objects appeared metallic and bore no resemblance to reported "discs" or "saucers," according to Watts; they were clearly wing-shaped. He saw no propellers or fuselage on them, and he estimated their speed at between 150 and 200 miles an hour, and their height at about 3,000 feet. He added that shortly after their passage overhead he saw an Army plane following in the same direction. He was of the opinion that the pilot of the plane could not have failed to see the objects ahead of him. However, no report of such an encounter appears in the official Air Force files.

Satellite Object Reports

Case 20 -- June 21, Spokane, Washington: While watching a plane fly over at 11:55 a.m. PST, Guy R. Overman, of Spokane, said his attention was attracted to several

flashing objects in the southern sky, ahead of and below the plane. The flashes came from one silvery object which appeared as "a more or less distinct line, or slim body," moving on a course to the south, or a little west of south. This object appeared quite large, and did not seem to be traveling as fast as the plane. Above this object and apparently at the same, or possibly higher, altitude as the plane, were two more smaller, less distinct objects, also moving in the same direction. These smaller objects, like the larger one, were silver in color and were also "flashing." The plane soon outdistanced all three objects, which disappeared after several minutes to the south. The sighting is among those in the Air Force files and is explained as "balloons."

Case 45 -- June 24, Portland, Oregon: William Kamp, of 5115 N.E. 22nd Avenue, a retired gas company employee, reported having seen a strange sight in the sky across the street from his home as he stepped out of the house at 9:00 p.m. PST. He saw "a large object which looked big enough to be a plane" flying in a northwesterly direction.

Just as he noticed the object, he saw a reddishwhite flare-like object being discharged; this bright object dropped straight down. Another similar object was discharged before the larger object disappeared from view in the distance. Kamp said "the object was flying too high and was too large for a Fourth of July rocket."

Case 126 -- June 30, Norwood, Ohio: Mrs. H. W. Stockwell, of 4000 Floral Avenue, reported that on the night of the 30th she saw a group of seven disc-like objects in the sky over Norwood. One of the discs, she said, was much larger than the rest and she estimated its size to be at least "a mile in diameter." She did not mention the sighting until a week later because she said she felt "a little silly about it. Now I think that if they are dangerous, everybody should know about them."

Case 454 -- July 6, Tucson, Arizona: The first in a series of satellite object sightings that occurred in a little more than 24 hours, and moved progressively around the perimeter of the continental United States in a clockwise pattern, took place at Tucson at 5:00 p.m. MST. Three disc-shaped objects -- one larger than the other two -- were seen by a retired lawyer, Joseph Hendron, and his wife as they sat outside their home at 521 North Warren Avenue.

"At about five p.m., my wife and I were sitting on the patio watching the cloud formations. I suddenly saw what first appeared to be a kite," the lawyer reported. "We then saw two more. They were coming from the east, in the direction of Davis Monthan Field, and went north. They appeared very high, and two appeared smaller than the other. In fact the two small ones seemed to gravitate back and forth from the larger one."

Mr. Hendron said the larger of the three objects seemed to be flying in a straight course, while the small ones "moved up and down and in and out from the larger one." He described their color as "silver, much the same effect as the sun would reflect from aluminum." Hendron asserted that after the objects had disappeared he speculated as to whether or not they might have been sent up by the weather bureau for "testing the atmosphere." He said "they did not appear to be going, very fast, but

that might be because of the height. They might have been flying high or low, I couldn't estimate, not knowing their size."

Dr. McDonald was unable to locate the Hendrons, but he did interview another witness to a sighting describing several objects shortly before the Hendrons reported seeing theirs.

Walter Laos (Case 453) had been sitting in his backyard at 723 East 1st Street at 4:30 p.m. when he saw a group of from four to six round objects to the northeast, over the Catalina Mountains. (The news account in the Tucson Arizona Daily Citizen reports the number of objects as two.) Laos told McDonald that the objects seemed to be flying near what looked like an ordinary cloud. They were moving northeast at a very high speed and at one point made a sudden descent toward the ground and swooped back up, disappearing aloft.

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They were dark in color, he told McDonald, but must have been shiny because they occasionally glinted. He called his family out, but by the time they got there the objects had disappeared. They had been in view for no more than 15 seconds. The news account quoted Laos as having estimated the objects' height at 5,000 to 6,000 feet, their speed at 200 miles an hour, and their size at about five to six feet. In that account he described their color as white aluminum. The account confirms their northeasterly heading, as described to McDonald. Although the direction is the same as that described by the Hendrons, the number of objects and exact time differ, so it cannot be said with certainty that the two reports were of the same phenomenon.

Case 528 -- July 6, near Palmdale, California: Mrs. Amy Herdliska, housewife living at Four Points in the Palmdale area, reported that she had seen a group of objects twice during the late evening behaving in a most peculiar manner. She reported to Sgt. W. K. Campbell, of the Lancaster County sheriff's substation that at 10:36 p.m., "over the mountains south of Palmdale, I saw what looked like a mama disc, with three to five little baby discs flying around her.

"The little ones would cavort around for awhile, then they'd fly back and seem to fly into the mama disc's pouch. Anyway, the mama disc absorbed the baby discs," she explained. Mrs. Herdliska said that the objects "were luminescent and clearly visible," and before they had disappeared to the south over the mountains, they were seen "separating" again. She reported that a second flight of the same puzzling objects was made again at 11:17 p.m. (Case 530).

Sgt. Campbell and other deputies made a routine check and said they saw "fleets of mackerel-like clouds 15,000 to 20,000 feet in the air." They did not see any of the discs reported by Mrs. Herdliska, and they wrote off the report by explaining that she may have seen "reflections of Hollywood arc lights" on the clouds.

The Los Angeles Herald-Express and the Examiner (both on 7/8) briefly refer to a sighting in North Hollywood at approximately the same time between ten and eleven p.m. Mrs. William A. Becker, of 6240 Sunset Avenue, reported that she had

watched "six or eight" discs for an hour from her home. "They were darting back and forth, crisscrossing the sky very high," she said. "They looked all of ten or twelve feet in width - I finally got tired of looking at them and went to bed." There is no indication that Mrs. Becker had seen the same kind of phenomenon as Mrs. Herdliska reported, but if Mrs. Herdliska's "mama disc and baby discs" disappeared to the south in the interval between her two sightings, North Hollywood is where they would be seen.

Case 556 -- July 7, Tacoma, Washington: A little more than three hours after Mrs. Herdliska had seen the second flight of mama and baby discs, a similar sighting was made by two Tacoma policemen. At 2:30 a.m. PST, prowl car officers Evan Davies and Stan Johnson were parked at North 33rd and Adams Streets with their headlights and motor turned off. Davies' attention was caught by a "streak" in the sky; looking more closely, he saw a strange spectacle. "I didn't say anything," he reported later. "Then I noticed Stan was watching it too."

"Do you see anything?" Johnson asked.

"Yeah, do you?" Davies answered cautiously.

"I thought I was crazy," Johnson remarked with relief. "I've been watching it for five minutes."

"So have I," his partner admitted.

The cause for this guarded exchange was the sight of a group of six or seven disc-like objects seen just below a bright moon in the southern sky. One central object, larger than the others, seemed to act as a sort of "flagship." The smaller objects would make repeated movements toward the large disc and then glide away to the south. The officers said the larger disc appeared to be "spinning like a top, and throwing off sparks like a bursting sky rocket," and then attracting the tiny objects back "like a mother hen with her chicks."

The officers estimated that the objects were at an altitude of about 10,000 feet. The smaller "and more distinct objects" began to move westward in a loose group, and vanished from view, while the large disc remained for a brief time in one spot, and then it too began to move westward. The men decided to give chase, and Davies radioed the police dispatcher, D. F. Erickson, "Car No. 5, Johnson and Davies to KGZN. We're chasing a flying saucer towards the Narrows Bridge site."

As they sped westward, the officers radioed their course and a running description of the phenomenon. Johnson said that although it was impossible to judge altitude, size, speed or distance accurately, the large disc appeared to move at tremendous speed and was the apparent "size of a softball." One of the smaller discs was seen flying over South Tacoma; later, another was seen to the west, over Hood Canal; a third, which flew out of sight in less than a minute, appeared over Commencement Bay. At one point, the large object made a rapid ascent of an estimated 5,000 feet above its former altitude at extremely high speed, "quicker than you could snap your fingers," according to Davies. He said that the parent disc "seemed a shade of red part of the time, particularly when it zoomed upward, but

most of the time it was a sort of luminous silver." (AP quoted him as saying its color turned from "brilliant red to purple to blue-white and back to red.")

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The officers finally lost sight of the object over the western horizon. In all, they had observed the phenomenon for a half an hour. At the police station, officers said an unnamed caller from South Tacoma had phoned in exactly at the same time to report seeing the same spectacle, and M. C. Streans, of 913 South L, reported he had watched the same phenomenon sometime after 2:00 a.m.

Dr. McDonald interviewed Evan Davies, who is still with the Tacoma police force, on two consecutive days by phone. Davies recalled that the night of the sighting was very clear. He and Stan Johnson were parked in Car D-3 near the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, facing west, when they first saw the objects. Davies compared the motion of the smaller ones to "sparks that shot out away from the main object but then would come back to it" like a "sparkler, except for their reentry." He put their altitude roughly at 10,000 feet.

Davies told McDonald that the most striking feature of the entire sighting was the way the objects would suddenly jump from one location to another spot "miles away." At one point they had shot up suddenly through a substantial vertical distance. About mid-point during the sighting the objects began moving south, then west, and they eventually disappeared in the direction of the ocean. Both Davies and Johnson agreed that these objects could not have been any conventional aircraft.

Davies added that there was another patrol car which had been alerted and he said that the officers in that car had also seen the objects. The name of one of the men he recalled as George Hager, no longer with the Tacoma police force but still living in Tacoma. Between Dr. McDonald's first and second interviews with Davies, the latter had talked with Stan Johnson about the sighting, and Johnson vividly recalled the way the objects jumped over considerable distances.

Case 597 -- July 7, Cicero, Illinois: At some unspecified time during the day, Richard Allen, 19, of 2935 South 29th, saw a formation consisting of one large disc, about the size of a blimp and silver in color, with three or four smaller discs following it in a straight line. The objects were seen flying over 29th and Laramie.

Case 660 -- July 7, Manchester, Maine: A report of an "illuminated galaxy of flying discs" seen by three members of a family during the evening was made. The objects were seen first by Charles Crockett, 15, as he was walking toward his home on the highway between Manchester Four Corners and the Augusta Country Club, at 9:30 p.m. EDT. The cluster of luminous objects was seen to the west, over the north end of Lake Cobbosseecontee. They were still there when he arrived home a few minutes later, so he summoned his mother, Mrs. Doris Crockett, and his grandmother, Mrs. Abbie Hallowell, who confirmed his observation.

Mrs. Crockett said that the lighted objects appeared to be just above the treetops at the north end of the lake. She described one circular, stationary light "that

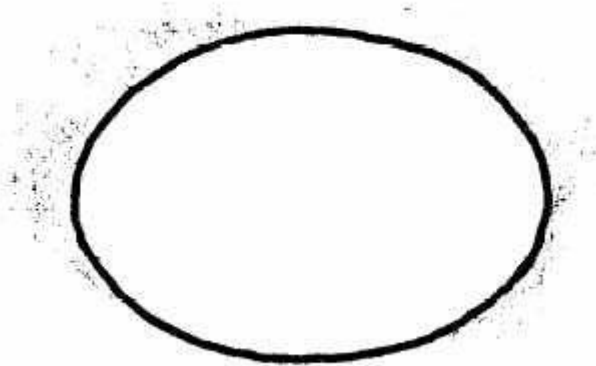
looked something the way the moon does breaking through a cloud." Bright flashing lights that appeared and disappeared were seen revolving around the stationary object. Mrs. Crockett said these lights resembled the "quickly cast beams of a flashlight." The central spot of light gradually faded, she reported, and then the whirling spots of light also disappeared.

Charles described what he saw as "about eight or ten smaller discs revolving around a big disc-shaped spot of light." The objects remained in view for fifteen minutes before they faded out of sight.

Spectators at an out-of-door boxing match in Winthrop, a few miles to the west, saw lights of a similar description at about the same time, but they were said to have been reflections of searchlights on clouds (Case 659). There may also be some connection with the sighting made near Rome, Maine, a short time before the Manchester appearance (II-10).

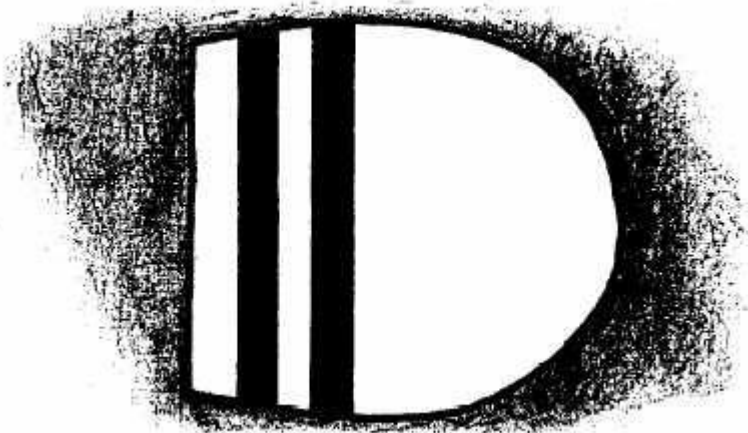
One other report that qualifies as a satellite object case is the sighting made earlier in the spring of 1947 by Mrs. H. G. Olavick and Mrs. William Down, at Tucson, Arizona, and reported directly to Dr. McDonald by one of the witnesses. Details of this report are included in the Introduction.

Case 84 - - June 27, Seattle, Washington



From description by Mrs. E. G. Peterson

Case 46 - - June 24, Seattle, Washington



From description by Mrs. Elvira Forsyth

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Section III - Special Types of Witnesses

The sightings in this section were reported by witnesses whose profession or occupation involve responsibilities above the average. These cases were selected on

the premise that professionally trained people are more likely to observe and report accurately.

Although any witness is capable of making an honest error in a UFO observation, some witnesses--airline pilots, for example--have exceptional qualifications for describing a sky-borne object. Similarly, a law enforcement officer would have little reason to make a dubious or questionable claim--in fact, just the opposite.

As in Section II, a number of these accounts are fragmentary. In some cases, primary sources were not available for examination; but in other brief reports, where the local account was available, the responsibility for its fragmentary nature is the reporter's, who did not obtain enough data, or the editor's, who decided that such detail was unimportant. It is more than likely that had the witness been asked, he would have been able to provide the essential information.

Businessmen

Case 259 -- July 4, Akron, Ohio: Two executives of the B. F. Goodrich Company reported that they and their families had seen a round, silver object at about 8:30 p.m. EST. Dr. and Mrs. Forrest Shaver, of 824 Crestview Avenue, had been motoring with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hoertz, of 489 Orchard Street. At the Shaver home, following the drive, an object was spotted flying in an easterly direction by two-year-old Elizabeth Shaver, who called it to the attention of the others. Dr. Shaver said that the object "looked like a balloon with a light inside," and Mr. Hoertz described it as "a light with a propelling device," although this "propelling device" is not described in the report.

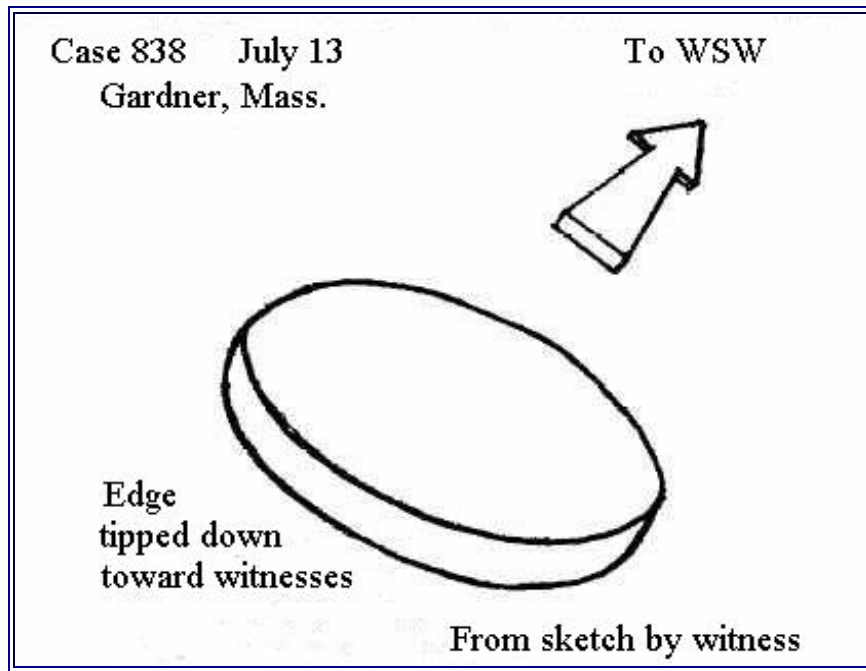
Case 309 -- July 5, Dana Point, California: John R. Street of Los Angeles, an insurance company executive, was spending the holiday weekend at Dana Point. At 8:30 a.m. PST on the 5th, he and his wife were sightseeing at San Juan Capistrano Mission when they saw two "saucer-like" objects "flying slowly up the canyon" toward the Mission, in a northerly direction. "The strange objects seemed to genuflect before vanishing into the distance," Street said. "It gave us an eerie feeling."

Ten minutes later, two disc-like objects were seen about 50 miles north northwest of Dana Point, at Eagle Rock, in northeast Los Angeles (Case 310). While it is possible that the objects may have been the same ones seen earlier by the Streets, there are too few details, as usual, to make any definite connection.

Case 341 -- July 5, Allegan, Michigan: Dan Conroy, who identified himself as manager of the J. C. Penney store in Allegan in his report to the Grand Rapids Herald (7/7), said that a party of 27 persons, including himself, had seen a large group of disc-like objects flying overhead while at a bridge club dinner at Lake Allegan during the evening. Conroy said that the objects were flying over at a "very high" altitude, going from east to west, and were silver in color. They appeared to be about 25 feet in diameter, he said, and while he counted 18 objects in all, others in the party said that they had counted as many as 21.

Case 838 -- July 13, Gardner, Massachusetts: Warren Baker Eames, Harvard graduate and president of an interior design company, was driving with his wife west on Route

2 near Gardner at 5:48 p.m. EDT when he saw a large, disc-shaped object in the sky ahead. It appeared to be moving in the same direction as the witnesses, and resembled a silver dollar both in shape and color. As Eames watched, the edge of the disc closest to them abruptly dipped down toward them and the object accelerated with a sudden burst of speed, going away from the observers toward the west northwest. When it dipped, Eames reported, "I could see the edge very clearly."



Educators

Case 12 -- About June 17, Madison, Wisconsin: Dr. E. B. McGilvery, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Wisconsin, had spent the evening playing cards at the home of Mrs. Mary North, on Middleton Road. He had hardly left the house, quite late, when he saw a bright, round object, about two-thirds the size of the full moon, moving through the sky from southwest to northeast.

Professor McGilvery described the speed of the object as "quite rapid, but not as fast as a meteor." It left no trail of light as a meteor usually does, and it did not appear to be fiery, but looked more like an "illuminated body." He called to Mrs. North to come look at it, but by the time she came out the object had vanished in the northeast.

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Case 67 -- June 26, Logan, Utah: Glen Bunting, a local school teacher, reported seeing a silvery object flying eastward at 7:43 p.m. MST. He told his wife about the sighting, and although she was reluctant to believe her husband's report, two other witnesses called the local paper independently to say they had seen the same object.

Case 125 -- June 30, Knoxville, Tennessee: C. E. Brehm, acting President of the University of Tennessee, reported that at 9:30 p.m. EST, while sitting with his wife in

the rear yard of their home at 1721 White Avenue, an object resembling "a long cylinder" was seen arching across the sky "at terrific speed, leaving in its wake a shower of sparks." Brehm said that "it happened with surprising suddenness and disappeared in a second or two, cut off from our view by our house." He described it as "the most peculiar phenomenon I've ever seen. I've seen many a falling star, but never one that behaved like this thing. It was high in the sky, though much lower than the stars." He said he was "mystified as to what the thing was, but probably it was one of those flying saucers we are reading about in the newspapers. It surely had all the earmarks," he added.

On the same night, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bellam, living on Route 7, also reported seeing a shining object in the sky, but described it as a "100 Watt bulb with a tail on it." The object made a whistling noise as it passed over at low altitude just a short distance away, above a nearby forest (Case 127).

Case 147 -- July 1, Charleston, South Carolina: Richard Bischoff, a teacher at the Citadel, in Charleston, was at his mother's home on Sullivan's Island, when he and three others saw an object fly overhead at 9:55 p.m. EST. While on the back porch with his mother, Mrs. J. Fred Bischoff, his sister, Mrs. Chandler Hewett, of California, and a neighbor, Mrs. J. Albert Von Donlen, a cry from Mrs. Hewett brought their attention to the disc-like object, of a reddish color, moving over at a terrific speed. One of the women said it appeared to be "between the size of a saucer and a tea plate," and the witnesses said it had "grown paler as it disappeared" from view to the south. Mr. Bischoff said he got only a brief view of the object.

Less than a half hour before that an object had been seen 150 miles northeast of Charleston, at Wilmington, North Carolina; reported by two independent witnesses, it was seen "flashing southward." A third witness, about a dozen miles south of Wilmington, at Carolina Beach, verified seeing an object flying south at the same time.

Case 456 -- July 6, Norman, Oklahoma: W. H. Carson, Dean of the University of Oklahoma School of Engineering, reported that he had seen three strange objects flying west over Norman at about 6:00 p.m. CST. He was alone in his back yard when the first object, of undetermined shape, flew over. His wife and three neighbors joined him immediately after and all five saw two more objects fly over in the same direction -- one slightly above the other. The witnesses had an unobstructed view of the objects from their position in the yard.

"From my observation of aircraft flying at various altitudes, I judged them to be 15,000 to 20,000 feet up," Carson said. "It was impossible at that height to determine their shape. However, they appeared to be moving at incredible speed." He said none of the witnesses heard any sound of motors, despite the fact that there was no wind at all when the objects flew over. Carson, who had scoffed at reports of flying saucers until he had seen them himself, reported that he planned to write to the War Department about the sighting, hoping that the information might be useful to the Army, if it had been conducting secret tests. If the Army, or War Department, received the information from Carson, it is not now included in the official files of Project Blue Book.

Case 424 -- July 6, Long Beach, California: Howard Shriver, an Army aviator during the First World War, and his sister, Miss Beulah Shriver, a school teacher, reported that they were returning to San Diego from Los Angeles by automobile when, between 1:15 and 1:30 p.m. PST, a disc-shaped object flashed across the sky just south of Long Beach. The disc, which they estimated to be 7,000 feet high, appeared to be flying north directly toward them when "it swerved broadside towards the ocean," and then "side-slipped" to the west and vanished from view. Miss Shriver said that in their "broadside" view of the object, it had the appearance of "a large serving dinner plate" reflecting the sun. Her brother compared its reflective brilliance to "a mirror's reflection of the sunlight." They viewed the object for three or four seconds before it disappeared from view. Both admitted that they had been "awed by the terrific speed and brilliance" of the phenomenon and were now "among the believers,"

Case 711 -- July 8, St. Louis, Missouri: Thiemo Wolf, school teacher living at 3515 Hartford Street, who had previously "doubted all reports of flying saucers," changed his mind when he saw one himself as it flew over St. Louis shortly after noon. Wolf said the object appeared to be about the size of an automobile and was pink, with a dark spot in the center. The object sped over his home at a height of from 5,000 to 10,000 feet, and disappeared "after swooping down out of sight."

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Meteorologists and Weather Observers

The mid-April sighting made by meteorologists at the U. S. Weather Bureau in Richmond, Virginia is included in this category (I-1).

Case 151 -- July 1, Louisville, Kentucky: U. S. Government Meteorologist E. E. Unger, in charge of the Weather Bureau at Louisville Kentucky, and a weather observer with over 30 years of experience, reported that he and his wife had seen a round, luminous object at 10:10 p.m. CST as they left a movie theatre in the Highlands district of the city. Unger reported that the object was flying, "close to the earth" and was "giving off an orange light." He said that his wife had seen it first, as they came out of the theatre. "It appeared to be traveling about 100 miles an hour toward the southeast," Unger said. "Of course it could have been an airplane, although the glow was too bright for wing or tail lights of a plane, and we didn't hear any noise, although it was quiet enough to have heard a plane motor," he explained. "I only know what I saw and I don't know what it was."

About an hour and a half earlier, J. L. Laemmle, of 710 South Ormsby, reported that he had seen a glowing disc "flash through the sky" (Case 146), and another sighting was made at an unspecified time during the evening by a Mrs. E. A. Simpson.

Case 347 -- July 5, Zanesville, Ohio: Weather observer and CAA Communications Operator Miss Barry Peruzzo, at the Zanesville Airport control tower, said that she had seen two disc-like objects flying over the field about ten minutes apart. She reported that she had seen the first "fairly oval" object at 8:55 p.m. EST, while she

was checking the ceiling visibility, one of her duties. "I had just stepped outside when the first object came over at about 5,000 feet," she said; it was flying under the ceiling of clouds. The second disc followed it five or ten minutes later (Case 353). "They went very fast, headed in a northeasterly direction," she added. The witness declined to estimate the speed of the objects, as she was uncertain of their size. "I saw them for only about 15 seconds at a time," she said. She heard no noise.

Army and Army Air Corps Personnel

Case 102 -- June 28, Montgomery, Alabama: Four Army Air Corps officers at Maxwell Air Base they had watched a strangely maneuvering light over the base at 9:20 p.m. CST. Captain William H. Kayko, Captain John H. Cantrell, First Lt. Theodore Dewey, and a Captain Redman, watched the bright light for 25 minutes. It was first seen to the west, close to the horizon, in the clear moonlight. It approached the observers in a jagged, zigzagging course, with frequent bursts of speed. In five minutes the light had approached to a point directly overhead, and the four officers reported that it then made a sharp, sudden turn toward the south, moving slowly southwest, where the witnesses lost sight of it at 9:45 p.m. They heard no noise. The report, from the Air Force files, is explained as a "balloon."

Case 250 -- July 14, Colorado Springs, Colorado: A Colorado Springs Air Base pilot, who did not want his name to be quoted, reported that he had seen a disc-shaped object near the field after he had completed a flight late in the afternoon. The pilot said that after he landed, while standing next to his craft, he glanced toward the east and saw a disc, "about the size of a dime" and about the same shape, making a rapid ascent into the sky. He said that the disc must have been extremely large, for it disappeared into clouds that were later estimated to be about 20 miles distant. He turned to several other pilots standing nearby to call their attention to it, but when he looked back, the disc was no longer visible. The ceiling was estimated to be at 20,000 feet at the time the disc vanished into the clouds. No official report seems to have been made.

Case 320 -- July 5, Mountain View, California: Home on leave from Hamilton Air Base, Sgt. Charles R. Sigala reported in San Jose that at 11:00 a.m. PST, he and his wife, with his mother-in-law and a neighbor, saw a silvery, disc-shaped object fly over his Mountain View home, at the southern end of the Bay area. The object, at an estimated altitude of 5,000 feet, was clearly visible to the witnesses as it circled over Black Mountain, the tallest, peak in the Monte Bello range, five miles southwest of Mountain View. It "dipped several times," and then headed westward toward the sea, Sigala reported. He said that the object appeared to be about "as big as an automobile," and made no noise.

Case 423 -- July 6, Fairfield Suisun Air Base, California: Army Air Corps pilot Captain James H. Burniston, and his wife, were in the yard of their home near the Base when they saw a "round, flat object" flying at an "excessive rate of speed" from the northwest to the southeast. The object "reflected the sun strongly" from its surface, according to Burniston, and in its passage across three-quarters of the sky it was seen to roll from side to side three times on its lateral axis. Burniston and his wife reported that they could see no wings or fuselage, and the object was estimated to be about the size of a C-54. It appeared to be flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet, the pilot

said, and was in view for almost 60 seconds. This report is one of the Unidentified sightings in the Air Force files.

While no specific time is given for the Burnistons' sighting, there were reports of single objects seen around the Bay area all afternoon: about midday a Hamilton Air Base private named O'Hara saw a disc on his way to the mess hall (Case 422); Charles Butler and his son, at Mill Valley, saw a disc hurtle over Mount Tamalpais at 1:30 p.m. (Case 426); and several reports of single discs were made in San Francisco during the afternoon (Cases 419, 434, and 437).

Case 498 -- July 6, Birmingham, Alabama: Army Staff Sgt. Ira L. Livingston, of 1354 Meadow Lane, was finishing supper at 8:45 p.m. CST, when he was called outdoors by his neighbor, Mr. Herman H. Sockwell, of 1360 Meadow Lane. Outside, his neighbors were excitedly watching a strange aerial display. A procession of round objects, glowing dimly, were moving singly through the southern sky to the southeast, in what appeared to be an arc rather than a straight line.

(III – 3)

As one would disappear from view, another would come in sight from the same direction as the previous ones. Livingston counted from seven to ten of them as they appeared, at an elevation he estimated was about 45 degrees. He put their height at 2,000 feet, and their speed at 500 or 600 miles an hour. He said they appeared to be about two feet in diameter, and were completely soundless.

In their account to the paper, Mr. and Mrs. Sockwell described the objects as "streaks of light flying very slow." Having heard radio broadcasts of flying saucers being seen over the city, Mrs. Sockwell had hurried outside to look for them. She was followed by her husband, and at least five neighbors, including Sgt. Livingston, gathered to watch the aerial procession. Mrs. Sockwell described having seen at least six of the discs flying "fairly low," and said they were "the size of a baseball," traveling in a "big curve from the southwest to the southeast." They came at intervals of one about every five seconds, she said.

Hundreds of others in and around Birmingham reported to police stations and newspapers that they had seen numerous objects between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. Among others reporting the "procession" were high school students Dan Smirl, of 1429 10th Place South, and Marvin Pharo, of 626 10th Avenue South, who said the objects were seen one at a time, increasing in number, and seemed to "go over the mountain" to the south (Case 494). A procession of numerous egg-shaped, fluorescent objects were seen flying "fairly low against the nearby mountain" for a period of more than half an hour by J. H. Chatham, a state mines inspector, and his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hockings (Case 495). Saucer-like objects described as "about the size of an auto-tire" were seen by Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Arnold, of 732 47th Way South, from the Arnold home during the evening (Case 496). Miss Connie Murdock, of 512 South 10th Court, said she saw nine luminous objects "like gobs of light moving around in the sky" (Case 497).

Numerous other reports of sightings were printed in the local papers, yet the Air Force file on Livingston's sighting gives no indication of the widespread nature of the phenomenon reported, or that it had been independently corroborated by many witnesses. The official explanation for Livingston's sighting is "fireworks."

Case 564 -- July 7, Denver, Colorado: Three Lowry Field soldiers, one a former aerial combat gunner, reported they saw an object flying near the Field at 7:45 a.m. MST. Technical Sgt. John Todd, Technical Sgt. Richard S. Walker, and corporal Bernade Sanchez, were all attached to Squadron I, Military Police, at Lowry Field. They first saw the object over the eastern section of the Field, near Guardhouse No. 2, where they were going on duty. "At first," reported Walker, "it looked like sunlight reflecting from an airplane." Sanchez obtained a pair of binoculars from the guardhouse, and all three men observed the object with the aid of the glasses. Several other M.P.'s joined them.

"It appeared to be traveling at about the cruising speed of an AT-6" (120 to 150 miles an hour), Sgt. Walker said. "It was just a bright spot and seemed the size of a dishpan. It made no noise. It circled to the south, back to the north, and then went out of sight to the east," he reported. Sgt. Todd agreed with Walker's description. "Although I have never seen anything like it, I believe, because of the way it looked and the fact that it made no sound, that it was a reflection from something on the ground -- something like the windshield of an automobile," Walker explained. Todd and Sanchez both agreed with this explanation. No official report was made out.

Case 712 -- July 8, Muroc Air Base, California: The first of three UFO sightings at this base was made about 9:30 a.m. PST by First Lt. Joseph C. McHenry, billeting officer at the Base. As he was walking toward his office he spotted two disc or sphere-shaped objects moving northward toward the Mojave Desert, and he called them to the attention of Staff Sgt. Gerald F. Newman, Technical Sgt. Joseph Ruvolo and Miss Jeanette Marie Scott, an office stenographer. McHenry said the objects, silver in color, were moving against the prevailing wind at a speed estimated to be 300 miles an hour, in straight, level flight. They appeared to be about 8,000 feet high. Three other persons were hailed, but by the time they had responded the objects were rapidly disappearing into the distance. A third object, however, came into view at about the same time, from the same direction as the first two; similar in appearance to the other objects, this one performed tight circles as it sped northward. Five out of the seven witnesses saw this object before it too disappeared. The Air Force explanation for these objects is "balloons."

Case 717 -- July 8, Muroc Air Base, California: The second sighting of the day at Muroc occurred about forty minutes later, and was made by test pilot, Major J. C. Wise. As he prepared to take off in an XP-84 for a test run of the new fighter plane, he glanced toward the north and saw what he first thought was a weather balloon, flying in an east-to-west direction. Taking note of the prevailing wind, he found that this object would have had to be flying into the face of it; its forward speed was 200 to 225 miles an hour, far too great for a balloon even if the wind had been in the right direction. He described the color of the object as yellow-white and its shape as spherical. Judging its size to be about that of a normal aircraft, or about 50 feet in diameter, its altitude was estimated as 10,000 to 12,000 feet. It oscillated with a

forward, whirling motion as it proceeded westward. According to the Air Force, this also was a "balloon."

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Case 727 -- July 8, Muroc Air Base (Rogers Dry Lake), California: The third Muroc sighting took place just before noon. A group of officers and technicians were assembled in Area Two at Rogers Dry Lake, east of Muroc, watching several aircraft prepare to carry out a seat-ejection experiment. As they watched their attentions were drawn to a peculiar object in the north.

Major Richard R. Shoop, of the Office of Technical Engineering at Muroc, reported later that his attention was called to the object by Colonel Signa A. Gilkey, another observer. In his report, Major Shoop said the thin, metallic object he saw was moving in a northerly direction at a distance he estimated to be from five to eight miles off. It was seen first high up, moving slowly in an oscillating fashion, and appeared to be about the size of a pursuit plane. It was then seen descending almost to the ground, but rose slightly before it was lost to view in the distance toward the mountains in the northwest. The object was of a shiny, aluminum color and its speed was slow, only about three times the rate of descent of the test parachute from the seat ejection experiment, which took place a short time after the object was first seen. Shoop said the observation lasted about eight minutes.

Another witness, test pilot Captain John Paul Stapp, said that at 11:50 a.m., he saw a silvery object, resembling "a parachute canopy" when first observed, traveling somewhat north of due west. As the object slowly descended, presenting a lateral view, it gradually changed its shape from hemispheric to oval, and two "knobs" or "fins" appeared at the top, crossing each other slowly and giving the impression of a slow rotation, or oscillation. It seemed to be flying more slowly than a conventional aircraft as it descended from an estimated altitude of 20,000 feet. Its diameter appeared to be approximately 50 feet. It descended toward the mountaintops to the northwest and was lost to view after approximately 90 seconds. No sound was heard. No vapor trails were seen, nor any visible means of propulsion.

Of the five men assembled to watch the seat ejection experiment, four had observed the strange object. In a collective report, all of the witnesses agreed that the object appeared "man-made, as evidenced by the outline and functional appearance" they had observed. Again, the Air Force explanation was "balloon."

Following a talk Dr. McDonald gave in Las Vegas, Nevada, in May, 1967, a man came up to him and said he knew one of the witnesses who had been involved in the Muroc sightings in 1947. He identified the witness as Oliver Earl Cooper. In August, Dr. McDonald was able to get in touch with Cooper, and it appears that Earl Cooper was the fourth observer referred to in the final sighting at Muroc on July 8, 1947. (His name was not mentioned specifically in the Air Force files.)

As Cooper recalled the incident for McDonald, he was with a group of four or five people on the west side of Rogers Dry Lake, near Area One (note discrepancy). They were at the east end of a 10,000-foot runway, looking east, with the runway to

their backs. He couldn't recall what test was being carried out, but thought it was a fuel test involving the XP-84. He recalled that a pilot had been one of the group (Stapp).

It was a hot, clear day. The object was first seen at about 20 to 25 degrees elevation to the east. According to Cooper's recollection, 20 years later, it was moving in a generally southerly direction -- possibly east southeast (approximately 180 degrees off from the directions listed in the contemporary report). He stated that everyone had looked up, but, that no one would say anything about it until it was noticed that the others were also observing it. He told McDonald that as the object moved south it stopped, then moved again before it disappeared. It moved in a horizontal path and Cooper recalled no irregularity of motion. He described the speed as not terribly fast -- his impression was perhaps ten miles an hour. He had a vague recollection of its moving a bit from side to side at times, but not fluttering -- just veering somewhat sinuously. He estimated he watched it for four or five minutes.

He described the shape of the object as elliptical, somewhat rounded; its color was off-white, with no glinting from the sun. The altitude was approximately 10,000 feet. Toward the end of the sighting he recalled the object as having accelerated somewhat before disappearing. He did not recall any other reports from Muroc that day, but he may have never had occasion to hear of them. He said that all of his group were asked to make statements on the sighting later. He did not recall the seat-ejection experiment, although his recollection about this point twenty years later can be expected to be vague, as well as for other finer details.

He told McDonald that later the sighting was explained to them as possibly a weather balloon. They were told that it changed apparent size because of "atmospheric conditions." Apparently no explanation was given for the balloons to have been able to fly into the face of the wind.

Case 852 -- July 29, near Hamilton Field, California: Captain William H. Ryherd reported that he had sighted two objects near Hamilton Field at 2:50 p.m. PST. They were traveling at high speed, one after the other, on a course to the south southwest. The first object proceeded in straight level flight while the second followed in what Ryherd described as a "guard" formation, swinging alternately from the right to the left. This sighting is among those Unidentified in the Air Force files.

Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Personnel

Case 194 -- July 3, San Diego, California: Two Navy Chief Petty Officers, Robert L. Jackson and William Baker, were at the Naval Station when they observed three disc-like objects approximately 20 miles west of the Station, over the Pacific Ocean. The officers said the objects, flying at an estimated speed of 400 miles an hour, came in from the west and circled, then flew back out over the ocean.

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"They were about half-way from the horizon," Jackson said. "They appeared to be round as saucers and were flying fairly close together in formation." The wire

service accounts of this report did not say whether a report had been made out to Navy officials.

Case 257 -- July 4, Lake City, Washington: Yeoman Frank Ryman, of the Coast Guard, photographed a disc as it flew over Lake City (IV-3).

Case 326 -- July 5, Seattle, Washington: Marine Sgt. Raynor L. Cain, of 3641 26th Place West, reported that at 12:40 p.m. PST he had seen two disc-like objects flying over the city. "They looked like night footballs - the silvered kind you use for games under lights. The first one banked slightly at about 8,000 feet, and then seemed to shoot up and out of sight, heading north. The second one, following about a minute behind, appeared to be wobbling in flight, but it, too, headed north, climbing out of vision," Cain said.

Case 403 -- July 6, Denver, Colorado: LeRoy Krieger, Aerologist Second Class at the Buckley Naval Air Station, east of Denver, reported he had seen a bright object which he was convinced "was not an airplane." At an unspecified time during the day, he and James Cavalieri, a Buckley Field hospital apprentice, reported they saw an object "round and shiny, like silver," to the east of the field, "shooting up and down." It made no noise, and after several minutes of this peculiar maneuvering, the object left at high speed. "It was going like a bat outa hell," Krieger reported. His companion agreed.

Case 769 -- July 8, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii: At 5:30 p.m., HST, more than 100 Navy men watched an oblong shaped object over the base at Pearl Harbor. It was described by most witnesses as "silvery colored, like aluminum, with no wings or tail, sort of round or oblong-shaped, and moving both slow and fast." The object was "very high," and moving westward toward Honolulu in "alternating bursts of speed" and in a "slow, zigzagging" flight path. Among the Navy men reporting the object were Yeoman 2c Ted Purdue, 21, of McClain, Texas; Yeoman 1c Douglas Kacherle, 22, of New Bedford, Mass.; Seaman 1c Donald Ferguson, 19, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Yeoman Morris Kzamme, 13, of LaCrosse, Wisconsin; and Seaman Albert Delancey, 19, of Salem, West Virginia.

Navy officials at the base reported that they had begun an investigation of the reports. A check of balloon flights was made and it was learned that at 4:35 p.m. a weather balloon had been sent aloft from the Honolulu Airport, but had risen quickly and was carried off to the southwest with prevailing winds. Honolulu police said that no reports had been received from the city. They confirmed that both military and civilian authorities were making a check of the reports. The sighting, however, is not among those in the Air Force files.

Case 835 -- July 12, Seattle, Washington: Seaman John C. Kennedy and Seaman Ben Bobberly were on duty at Sand Point Naval Air Station in northeast Seattle on Lake Washington when, at 6:35 p.m. PST, they saw what appeared to be a disc-like object flying overhead. "It was headed east, toward Kirkland, over Lake Washington," Kennedy later reported, "and at, I should say, a 12,000-foot altitude. It was silvery, perfectly round and made no noise that I could hear." He said they had reported the sighting to officers at the base.

In spite of its having been officially reported, it is not included in the Air Force files. However, at about the same time the two seamen made their observation, three disc-like objects were reported over the area around North 82nd Street and 11th Avenue, going north very fast and very high (Case 834). The two teenagers who reported this sighting, Arnold Bergh and James Calahan, said the objects were "silvery and flashing in the sun," and appeared to be "swerving a little, back and forth, and up and down."

Newsmen and Editors

Case 27 -- June 23, Wapakoneta, Ohio: Richard L. Bitters, editor of the Wapakoneta Daily News, had waited two weeks to report a sighting by his wife and himself on the evening before the day Arnold made his observation. He held off reporting the story, he said, because at the time "I didn't think it was a news story." Mr. and Mrs. Bitters had been to a movie, and on their way home, about 9:30 p.m. EST, they saw a "saucer-like" object "flying an uneven course in the sky, and weaving in an out off view."

The same night, at an unspecified time, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nelson, of 1013 Main Street, Cincinnati, some 90 miles south of Wapakoneta, reported having seen a saucer-like object "streaking over their home" and leaving a long trail in its wake (Case 28).

Case 228 -- July 4, Portland, Oregon: Radio station KOIN newsman Frank Cooley reports seeing maneuvering objects over the city (II-9).

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Case 258 -- July 4, Boise, Idaho: John Corlett, UP staff' correspondent and news manager, who was sitting in his garden with his wife and two friends, reported that they had seen a single disc-like object about 6:30 p.m. MST which crossed the sky in a matter of three or four seconds. Mr. Corlett reported:

"Before dark last night, as my wife and I and two friends were relaxing after dinner, a tiny white disc - one of the mysterious 'saucers' - scudded across the sky at a terrific speed. In just about the time it takes to turn your head, the silver object was nearly out of sight. Both my wife and I and our guests, Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Selby, caught a glimpse of the tiny object. Selby is a Boise artist. There was no noise - absolutely none that we could hear, either before or after the disc shot by. The sky was clear and we could not have mistaken a cloud for the disc we saw. At one point in its progress the disc was almost overhead. It was flying fairly high -- I'd judge at about 10,000 feet. Until last night, I didn't believe in them. But now I know those 'saucers' aren't just a myth, part of someone's imagination. It took seeing them with my own eyes to believe it."

Case 315 -- July 5, Augusta, Maine: Radio station WRDO newsman Dan Kelly reports a dozen discs flying over the city in a straight line (II-3).

Case 337 -- July 5, Charleston, South Carolina: While driving in the eastern section of Charleston with his wife in the late afternoon, News and Courier staff writer Samuel A. Cothran watched a silvery object following "a regular course almost due east" for two minutes.

"I saw a silvery, circular object," wrote Mr. Cothran in the News and Courier the next day, "traveling generally eastward high in the sky at 6:20 p.m. . . while pleasure driving on Charleston's waterfront. My wife saw it first and pointed it out to me. We watched it disappear over the Atlantic Ocean, after observing it for two full minutes. It was flying alone. There was no formation.

"It followed a steady course, without deviation. No wings or other projections were perceptible, although it seemed to me that a medium sized plane at a fairly high altitude would have been easily identified as such. I saw no glow or vapor trail, which have been characteristic of other Flying Saucer reports.

"We were not the only ones to see it. Several youngsters on the street saw it, becoming wildly excited, and they ran from one vantage point to another to keep it in view. It is not out of the realm of possibility that it was a high-flying plane, but if so, it was a strange contraption. It is not possible to say how high it was flying because I had no notion of its actual size."

Several independent sightings at about the same time were reported to the News and Courier. At almost the same time as the Cothran's sighting, Joseph Price Cameron, of Byrns Downs, who was also driving in an automobile, said he had seen a disc-like object, bright like aluminum, and apparently the "size of a dinner plate." It was moving fast directly over Byrnes Downs in the general direction of the Charleston Navy Yard, north of the city. Mr. Cameron established the time of his sighting at 6:17 p.m. (Case 336).

About 30 miles north of Charleston, H. L. Babson, of Monck's Corner, a crane operator, reported that around 6:00 p.m. he and a friend had been fishing on Lake Moultrie, near Pinopolis, when they saw an object to the south, "like a shiny clam." It was flying in the direction of Charleston, eastward. It appeared to Babson to "perhaps measure ten by ten feet." The front looked larger in thickness than the rear, according to the witness, and the bottom was rounded. Mr. Babson was certain that it was not an airplane, for it was flying much too fast and made no noise. On the lake, he explained, a plane's engines can be heard before and after it is in view (Case 334).

Case 578 -- July 7, Reno, Nevada: Under headlines that read "Tiny Speck Whizzes Across Sky Here At Unbelievable Speed--Many Reno Persons See Small Object," John Brackett, City Editor of the Reno Nevada State Journal, described in the July 8 edition his own sighting of the previous morning.

"Whizzing silently through the air at a high altitude and almost unbelievable speed, a flying disc or saucer. . . was seen in Reno yesterday for the first time. I was one of the few people in Reno who saw the object streak across the sky yesterday morning leaving intermittent trails of bluish-white vapor behind it. I watched it for less than two minutes. During that time it crossed the sky twice. Then, gleaming like a mirror reflecting the sun, it turned into the sun and disappeared.

"My wife, Wilma, who was hanging out the washing, spotted the thin string of vapor first. I was mowing the lawn nearby. She called my attention to it, and I told her it was probably a skywriting airplane. . . . Then we spotted the disc, moving from east to west high above us to the north. It looked like a tiny grey speck, and it was round. As we watched it, it emitted another stream of blue vapor that turned white as the object pulled away from it.

"It's a disc!" Wilma shouted. . . . The two small children of Mr. and Mrs. John Solaro, who live a few houses away from us on Mann Street, were with us and watched. They are Philip, 5, and Maty, 3. Within the space of seconds, it had reached the western horizon and we could see it begin to turn. It made no sound and I can't estimate the height. It was well above the few clouds. . . Suddenly I thought of my camera and ran into the house to get it. I obtained it within seconds but by the time I returned outside the mysterious object was traveling away from us to the east, into the sun, and I couldn't take a picture of it.

"As it neared the eastern horizon -- just above the mouth off the Truckee River canyon east of Sparks -- it dipped downward and turned to the south. For a moment it glistened and disappeared. We checked the time at 9:55 a.m. About two minutes later I looked at the sky again, and noticed two separate vapor streams running north and south, but I could see no discs. It appeared to me that the disc might have completed its southward swing and then disappeared to the north. . . ."

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Brackett reported that at least eight other persons in or near Reno saw the same object. He figured the distance over which the disc would have had to travel during the time it was in view and estimated it was moving at more than 1,000 miles an hour. There were jets in the sky during the morning, but a check indicated that they had flown over Reno at 10:11 and 10:16 a.m. The CAA advised him that it had received a number of calls from people who saw objects similar to the one reported by Brackett.

"At least ten Sierra Pacific Power Company employees, working in the open at Verdi, saw the same thing we did," Brackett wrote. "They clocked it at 9:55 a.m. and said they saw another at 10:22 a.m. Harry Rose, 450 Cheney Street, said the object, on its west to east sweep before it disappeared, took forty seconds to cross the sky - that jibes with my estimate that we watched it altogether for a minute and a half." Three other youths with Rose at the time were George Morrison, 802 Gordon Avenue; Kenneth York, 588 West Taylor Street; and Carnie Hall, 452 Washington Street. Brackett was unable to get the names of the other witnesses (Case 577).

Dr. McDonald was able to locate Brackett, who is now publisher of a paper in Visalia, California. His recollection of the sighting was somewhat vague, but he recalled both he and his wife having watched it cross the sky at an extremely high velocity. In his recollection was the idea that many others had also seen it and he wrote it up for the newspaper because there had been so many phone calls about it. He remembered the group of workmen in Verdi who had seen it, but could not recall any details about other witnesses. The job he held was a mixture of being city editor

and general reporter. He wrote up the account of the sighting on the afternoon of July 7, so it was a particularly freshly recorded report of what he had seen. He told McDonald that there had been a number of sightings recently in Visalia, and expressed interest in the problem from the point of view of the journalist.

Doctors

Case 23 -- June 22, El Paso, Texas: An El Paso Optometrist, Dr. G. Oliver Dickson, reported that at an unspecified time during the day he had seen a "blimp-like" object traveling over a mountain-top near the city. He said that although the object appeared "bright and shiny," it "did not reflect the sun's rays." Dr. Dickson estimated the speed of the object was about 150 miles an hour, and its size about 40 feet across and five feet thick. It was in view for 15 seconds,

Case 60 -- June 25, Silver City, New Mexico: Dr. R. F. Sensenbaugher, Silver City dentist, was driving with his wife and her sister, Mrs. C. B. Munroe, shortly after 8:00 p.m. MST when they saw a "luminous disc" sail out of the northern sky and disappear over the southern horizon. Dr. Sensenbaugher described the object's size as "about half the size of the full moon," and said it was "very brilliant, giving off a green light." The disc appeared to the reporting witness to be "far-distant," and it was not moving at an excessive speed, as, for example, a meteor would. The three observers viewed the object for six or seven seconds before it disappeared over the southern horizon.

Dr. Sensenbaugher reported the details of his sighting to Dr. H. H. Nininger, the meteoriticist, who concluded that the object was "definitely a meteor and probably landed 200 miles south of Silver City, in Mexico." However, the Sensenbaughers could not connect the phenomenon with anything they had experienced before.

Case 65 -- June 26, Grand Canyon, Arizona: En route to San Francisco to attend classes in atomic medicine at the University of California, Dr. Leon Oetinger, a physician from Lexington, Kentucky, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Leon Oetinger, Sr., and Miss Carol Street, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, had been spending some time sightseeing at the Grand Canyon. At an unspecified time during the day of the 26th, shortly after having left Canyon Lodge, on the north rim, they saw "a silver ball flashing through the sky" above the canyon. "It was a distinctly large ball," Mrs. Oetinger reported later, in San Francisco. She said it first "looked like an airplane, yet it was falling too swiftly for an airplane. It was in the sky one minute, and by the time I had called my son's attention to it, the form had swooshed to almost the horizon point. Then it was gone." Dr. Oetinger described the phenomenon in what his mother called "the conservative words of a physician." He said the body was moving extremely fast, "too swiftly for a falling plane."

Case 389 -- July 6, near Ashland, Oregon: Ashland physician Dr. S. Everett, and his family, together with C. E. Corry, superintendent of Ashland Park, and Corry's family, were camping on the banks of Rock River, near McKee Bridge. At 6:40 a.m. PST they saw a silver, disc-like object traveling in a straight line overhead at a high rate of speed. The witnesses estimated its altitude was approximately 7,000 feet -- gauged by an airliner passing overhead at the time. The object would have had to be

"quite large," Corry reported later, "to have been seen at that height." The sighting was reported to the Ashland Tidings the next morning.

Case 394 -- July 6, Lake Lotawana, Missouri: Dr. David S. Long, Jr., Kansas City physician, reported that while he was sailing on Lake Lotawana, a few miles southeast of Kansas City, at about 10:00 a.m. CST, he saw a formation of seven disc-shaped objects, each appearing about the size of a grapefruit, moving in a northerly direction at a rapid speed. He said that when he first saw the discs, they were passing directly overhead.

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Case 461 -- July 6, Ladue, Missouri: Dr. Walter Hoefer, of 23 Black Lane, Ladue, about six miles west of St. Louis, reported that at 7:45 p.m. CDT he, as well as his son and daughter, had seen "six round or oval objects flying in an apparently integrated manner," going noiselessly from the northwest to the south at a very high altitude. He hurried into his house to obtain a pair of binoculars, and each of the three witnesses was able to use them to view the object more closely before they disappeared from view. The discs were arranged in two groups of three each, "like a disc harrow." They were light-colored, and as seen through the binoculars, Dr. Hoefer reported that "each had a light spot in the center." He was unable to estimate their rate of speed. The objects were called to the attention of neighbors, several of whom thought they might be planes.

About the same time, several miles to the south at Shrewsbury, Mr. and Mrs. George Willson and their daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Downs, neighbors, reported seeing two groups of three discs each, moving eastward at high speed (Case 462). Farther to the east, in St. Louis, Mrs. N. P. McDonald and her daughter, of 5941 Scanlon Avenue, and Mrs. Walter Simonds, 5935 Scanlon Avenue, also reported seeing an eastward flight of six objects in two groups of three each (Case 463). Miss Lois Bogner, of 6338 Sutherland Avenue, made a similar sighting (Case 464), and six discs were reported observed by Leonard Coleman and his sister, at 5381 Pershing Avenue (Case 465). All these sightings were made at approximately the same time and, in spite of a difference in direction with Dr. Hoefer's report, are probably independent verifications of the same objects. (The difference in directions can be accounted for if one considers the possibility that the formation shifted to an easterly course following Dr. Hoefer's view of their passage; it's also possible he could have been in error about the direction.)

Airline, Military, and Private Pilots

Case 6 -- June 2, near Lewes, Delaware: Forrest Wenyon, from Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, a pilot with more than 30 years experience, reported that he had seen an object shaped like "a mayonnaise jar" cross in front of his plane as he was flying north over Lewes, Delaware. It was the second time he had seen an object of that description - the first sighting took place in September, 1946. (*This earlier case in the Air Force files has the name as Horace P. Wenyon*)

Mr. Wenyon said the object was flying on a "true course" eastward at an estimated speed of 10,000 to 12,000 miles an hour. The pilot was flying at an altitude of 1,400 feet in a Stinson 4-passenger plane when the second sighting took place. The object crossed his flight path at approximately the same altitude. Although it was going at a tremendous speed, Mr. Wenyon was able to note several things: the silvery, "jar-shaped object" flew with the lid part aft, and appeared to have some kind of rocket propulsion, The "lid" appeared to be perforated, and from these openings he could see white flames escaping. The object disappeared within a few seconds.

Worried because this projectile had been flying through commercial air lanes, and fearing a possible connection with a disastrous C-54 airliner crash just two days before at Port Deposit, Maryland, Wenyon notified the CAA, the FBI, and Eastern Airlines and told them about his observation. The FBI was not interested, and told him so. The CAA and Eastern listened to his report and said they would investigate. But more than a month later he heard of no results.

This sighting is included in the Air Force files -- possibly as a result of Wenyon's report to the CAA. It is explained as a "missile," which is in itself a mystery, as it is inconceivable that the U.S. Government would be testing experimental rockets on the east coast at that time, particularly in commercial air lanes.

Case 68 -- June 26, Cedar City, Utah: Just before sundown, Roy Walter, airplane and engine mechanic at the Cedar City Municipal Airport, and a private pilot, was flying a small plane northeast of the airport when he saw a "silvery streak" approach him at high speed at about his own altitude. It disappeared to the east between Cedar City and Parowan, he later reported.

Royce R. Knight, airport manager, reported that he, too, had seen the object, but from the ground. He said that as it went out of sight to the east, it "appeared to disintegrate in a ball of blue flame." When he first saw it approaching the airport, he thought it was "a silver-colored plane" -- until he noticed the "terrific speed" at which the object was traveling (Case 69).

Charles Moore, manager for Western Airlines, was driving to the airport when he, too, saw the object. He dismissed it as a "large meteor" or "falling star," he said (Case 70).

Case 83 -- June 27, Near Engle, and other New Mexico areas: In his statement about "meteorites" being "larger and coming closer to earth" (I-6), Lt. Colonel Harold R. Turner, White Sands Commander, said that "two reports" of "falling bodies" were being investigated, one in Tularosa and another near Engle, New Mexico. The Engle sighting was an air-to-air observation made by "Captain Dvyan, an Alamogordo Air Base pilot," who was flying in a private plane near the area of Engle at 3,000 feet when he "looked down and saw a ball of fire, with a fiery blue tail behind it." The object was about 2,000 feet below him, and he said he was certain that "it was a meteorite." The pilot reported that as he watched, the object "disintegrated in the air." Engle is a small town ten miles east of Hot Springs (now Truth or Consequences), New Mexico.

In his same statement (made in El Paso and carried by AP on June 28), Colonel Turner gave brief details of two other sightings that had been made at 9:50 a.m. on the 27th -- neither one of them in the Tularosa area. The first was reported by W. C. Dodds, a "track" or "train" inspector at White Sands; he had seen a "flame high in the sky" about one-half mile south of Hope, New Mexico, about 70 miles east of Alamogordo (Case 75).

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The second report was made by Captain E. B. (sic) Detchmendy, of the Ordnance Department at White Sands, who saw the "same flame" while driving through the St. Augustine Pass, about 20 miles northeast of Las Cruces, near the missile test center (Case 74). No information was provided by Turner concerning the "falling body" seen at Tularosa (Case 82).

In checking the 1947 edition of The Army Register to verify the dubious name of "Dvyan," no such name could be found. With the assistance of Miss Lynn Catoe of the Library of Congress, the Military Personnel Center in St. Louis was contacted, and they verified the fact that no "Dvyan" was registered in 1947. However, the records show a Captain Robert D. Dwan, who was born in Texas and was on active duty in 1947; he may be the pilot who made the air-to-air observation at Engle. The only Detchmendy on record at that time was Captain John L. Detchmendy, who had gone off active duty in 1944 but who was still active in the Reserves in 1947.

Since no specific time was given for the Engle report, it cannot be definitely connected with the sightings made at Hope and the St. Augustine Pass; there are, however, other reports in various parts of New Mexico at about 10:00 a.m. that might be independent confirmations of the sightings by Dodds and Detchmendy.

Hollis O. Cummins, of Capitan, 45 miles north northeast of Alamogordo, wrote to the Albuquerque Journal to report that on June 27 his mother and a neighbor had both seen a "shiny object" streak through the sky over Capitan at about 10:00 a.m. No direction is given, but according to Cummins, the neighbor, Irv Dill, said he believed the object had landed "to the left of the C (for Capitan) on Wilson Hill" (Case 77).

And in San Miguel, eight miles south of Las Cruces, Mrs. David Appenzoller reported that at 10:00 a.m. a "white object" that "looked like an electric light bulb," but larger, with a "yellow flame trailing from the rear," whistled over her house so low she thought "it would hit her." The object came from the northeast and disappeared to the southwest. The witness thought it had landed in a nearby cotton field, but a search of the area failed to uncover anything unusual (Case 76).

If directions could be confirmed, the observations at Capitan, Hope, San Miguel and St. Augustine Pass might show that the same object -- possibly a bolide -- had been observed from four different locations. But whatever was seen at Engle was not a meteor, as no meteor would be seen flying 2,000 feet below a plane.

Case 95 -- June 28, 30 miles northwest of Lake Mead, Nevada: Lt. Eric B. Armstrong, Air Corps pilot of Brooks Field, San Antonio, left Brooks at 2:00 p.m. CST for Portland, Oregon. An hour and 15 minutes later, at 1:15 PST, about 30 miles northwest of Lake Mead over Nevada wasteland, he saw a formation of five or six objects streak by his plane. He described them as white and circular and said they were in close formation in the four o'clock position off his right wing, at about 6,000 feet, flying a southeast course at an estimated speed of 285 miles an hour. They flew in a straight, horizontal path and seemed to Armstrong to be about three feet in diameter. They quickly flew out of sight in the opposite direction, behind the pilot. The Air Force explanation for this sighting is "balloon cluster."

Case 115 -- June 30, near the south rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona: Lt. William McGinty sees two objects plunge straight down to the ground (II-12).

Case 217 -- July 4, east of Moscow, Idaho: At Astoria, Oregon, Irving C. Allen, Chief of Airports Operations and Management in the 7th Region for the Civil Aeronautics Administration, reported that he had spotted a "disc-like" object while flying southward from Coeur d'Alene to Lewiston, Idaho, in the vicinity of Moscow, at 10:30 a.m. PST.

"The disc proceeded north across my plane's course from right to left and on a regular course. It was first spotted by my assistant manager, William Farrell, a passenger in the plane," Allen reported. The pilot said the object was "remarkably white" and moved north at a uniform altitude with a kind of "wavering" flight pattern. He estimated that it was "larger than the largest plane" as it crossed several miles in front of him as he was flying slightly east of Moscow. He and his passenger had it in view for five minutes.

Case 254 -- July 4, near Los Angeles, California: Private pilot Dan Whelan, of 1611 North Hudson Avenue, Hollywood, and a companion, Duncan Underhill, of the same address, had taken off from the Santa Monica Airport at about 5:00 p.m. PST in a private plane, bound for San Diego. Twenty-five miles to the south, approximately west of Long Beach, while flying at an altitude of 5,000 feet, they saw a disc-shaped object about 2,000 feet above them.

"It was traveling 400 to 500 miles an hour," Whelan said. "It was not spinning, but looked exactly like a skeet" (a rifle practice target). He said that the object was flying in a north by northwest direction, and both he and Underhill estimated the disc was "about 40 to 50 feet in diameter." Whelan admitted to the press that the appearance of the object "scared me silly."

Case 285 -- July 4, between Emmett, Idaho and Ontario, Oregon: United Air Lines Flight Trip 105 left Gowan Field, Boise, bound for Seattle, at 9:04 p.m. MST, with Captain Emil J. Smith at the controls and First Officer Ralph Stevens in the co-pilot's seat. Before they boarded the plane in Boise, someone had asked them if they had seen any flying saucers, and Smith jokingly retorted, "I'll believe them when I see them." Eight minutes later, both he and Stevens were converted into believers. As they flew over Emmett, Idaho, approaching a cruising altitude of about 7,000 feet, Stevens reached over to blink his landing lights, believing he had seen a plane ahead

at about the same level as the airliner. He called Smith's attention to it. They immediately saw four more, arranged in a "loose formation."

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"At first I thought it was a group of light planes returning from some Fourth of July celebration," said Smith, "but then I realized the things were not aircraft, but were flat and circular." Not believing their eyes, they called the stewardess, Miss Marty Morrow, forward. Without telling her what to look for, they directed her attention to the sky ahead of them. Looking out the cockpit window, Miss Morrow exclaimed, "why, there's a formation of those flying discs!"

The objects appeared "huge" and were dark grey, silhouetted against the bright evening sky. The pilots thought they were much larger than ordinary aircraft, although they couldn't be certain since they didn't know how far off they were. At no time was there any possibility of colliding with them. The discs were "smooth on the bottom, and rough on top," according to the witnesses.

As soon as Miss Morrow had confirmed their observation, Smith called the control tower at Ontario, Oregon, giving his position and flight direction. He asked the tower operators to step outside to see if they could see anything unusual in the direction from which the plane was approaching. The tower operators saw nothing, which led Smith to believe that the discs were larger and farther away than they originally estimated -- possibly as far away as 30 miles.

The objects appeared to "merge," and then disappeared to the northwest. No sooner had they gone out of sight when another group came into view to the left and ahead of them (Case 286). By this time the airliner had reached its cruising altitude of 8,000 feet, and was flying over rugged country toward the Blue Mountains, in eastern Oregon. In the second group, the discs were arranged in a straight line, three together and the fourth off by itself. "This group seemed to be higher than our flight path," reported the pilot, "and when they did leave, they left fast!"

The nine objects had been in view for at least twelve minutes, seen over a distance of more than 45 miles. Smith was certain that the objects had to be considerably larger than a DC-3 to have been seen for such a great distance. "They were nothing from the ground in the way of fireworks, reflections, or anything like that," he asserted. "They weren't smoke and I know they weren't aircraft. . . . They were bigger than aircraft."

These objects may fall into the category of Satellite Object Cases, as they were described as "merging" and separating at one point during the observation. The sighting is Unidentified in the Air Force files. Dr. McDonald was able to contact Captain Smith and learned he is currently Flight Manager for UAL at Kennedy Airport in New York City. Smith emphasized that he hasn't kept up with the UFO problem, and his recollections of that early sighting were somewhat vague. He did confirm having seen two separate groups of discs, neither of which could have been aircraft. He recalled that Stevens had spotted them first and mistook them for aircraft, flashing his landing lights as a warning. Smith asked him why he'd flashed them, and

Stevens called his attention to the objects. In his phone conversation with Dr. McDonald, he said it was difficult to recall the details but he thought that they had passed rather quickly out of view. They saw the second group just southeast of Ontario, Oregon. This time both he and Stevens saw them simultaneously. He recalled having called the stewardess up to the cabin, and she verified their observation. The sky was clear at the time -- not a cloud anywhere. They had radioed the tower at Ontario and asked the operator to step outside, but he must have looked toward the UAL plane, rather than into the twilight sky, for he saw nothing. Their radio conversation with the Ontario tower was overheard by other stations, so when they arrived at Pendleton for a scheduled landing, reporters were waiting for their story. He told McDonald that he recalled the bottoms of the objects as being flat, but their upper surfaces were less distinct. They might have been rounded or might have had some kind of superstructure, he thought. Smith had no UFO theories and emphasized that he did not wish to be tied in with any "suppositions," although he was willing to discuss as much of the sighting as he could remember with Dr. McDonald.

Case 402 -- July 6, Clay Center, Kansas: Major Archie B. Browning, Army Air Corps B-25 pilot, was flying from Ogden, Utah to Kansas City when, at 1:45 p.m. CST, he and his crew saw a bright, round, silver-colored object flying off the left wing of the plane at an estimated ten miles away. Browning was flying at 10,000 feet at the time, and the object appeared to be at a somewhat lower altitude. He described the object as "disc-shaped," and said it was flying in the same direction as the B-25 (eastward) in straight, level flight. It appeared to close in to several miles of the aircraft. Browning reported that it was about 30 to 50 feet in diameter, and said that when he turned the B-25 toward it for a closer look, the object accelerated and disappeared at a high rate of speed. In the Air Force files, the sighting is explained as "astronomical." How it got this assignment seems to be as puzzling as the object itself, unless, perhaps, the position of the object -- "at nine o'clock" -- was somehow confused with the time of day.

Case 574 -- July 7, near Elkhorn, Wisconsin: Kenneth Jones, a pilot and flight instructor with the Elkhorn Air Service, reported that at 11:30 a.m. CST, while he was practicing take-offs and landings with a flight student about 15 miles from Elkhorn, he saw a "white ball" moving along at an altitude of about 3,000 feet.

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Case 606 -- July 7, near Eagle, Wisconsin: Captain R. J. Southey, a pilot living in Burlington, heard of the sighting made earlier the same day by Jones and, with Clem Hackworthy, a friend, took a private plane aloft to "look around." At 2:00 p.m. CST, the two men saw a fast-moving, "silver thing," flying southeast over Eagle. They tried to photograph it, but the object quickly disappeared, and suddenly reappeared approximately ten miles away from the pilots.

Case 735 -- July 7 or 8, near Spokane, Washington: A young Dishman, Washington war veteran and student pilot said he had spotted a "flying disc" from his plane as he was flying at a 500-foot altitude in the Mount Spokane area during the afternoon. The pilot, James Davidson, a Spokane Naval Supply Depot employee, said "It was not

flying fast. It appeared to be the size of a wagon wheel. The side of the disc exposed to the sun was shiny. It looked like it had a hole in the center," he added. He reported that he had tried to take a photograph of the object. The negatives, however, "did not reproduce well." He said he hadn't believed reports of flying discs at first, "but I do now."

Case 702 -- July 8, Cook Springs, Alabama: An aviator who declined to make his name public told the Birmingham papers on the 8th that he had seen an object during a flight and wanted to know if there had been any other reports of "flying saucers" at the time. He had taken his plane up for an early morning flight, he explained, and at 7:05 a.m. CST had seen the object as he flew over Cook Springs. His attention had been caught by a bright reflection ahead of him, "like that from a mirror held against the sun." He changed his course, believing he had gotten "on the beam" of an approaching plane, but none appeared. Then, in the direction of the source of the flash, he saw silhouetted against the mountains a "round object about the size of an automobile wheel." He tried to catch up with it, but the speed of the object was too great for his plane. The object diminished to "about a foot in diameter and then disappeared into the haze."

He said he spent 30 or 40 minutes searching the area around Highway 78, ten miles east of Leeds, over which the object had first been seen, looking for a water tank or something else that might have caused the bright reflection. But he found nothing. Later, a check with the airport control tower at Birmingham revealed that no other planes had been in the air in the area at that time.

Case 733 -- July 5, Alton, New Hampshire: Thomas Dale, 26, son of Governor Charles M. Dale, and a veteran of more than eight years of flying, was piloting a private plane from Laconia to Portsmouth during the afternoon. With him was a friend, Jere Stetson, of Newfields. At 4:26 p.m. EDT, as they flew southwestward over Alton at an altitude of 2,800 feet, Dale and his companion saw a strange object about two miles away to the east and some 1,500 feet below their plane. It was approaching the young men at an "excessive speed," and in 15 to 18 seconds it had veered to the north, out over Alton Bay and Lake Winnepesaukee, toward Moultenboro, where it was lost to view. "I'm not saying it was a 'flying saucer,' or 'disc'," Dale told newspapermen later, "but whatever it was, it wasn't a conventional airplane." He said that it did not "in any way, shape or manner" resemble any type of known aircraft.

The two observers described the object as "definitely of metal construction," about 20 feet long, and "not exactly round in shape." When it was first seen, the object was observed in profile against the trees on the ground below and to the left of the witnesses. Both Dale and Stetson said they "had never seen anything like it" in the air before, and added that its appearance left them both "flabbergasted." Dale had been an ATC pilot during World War II and was thoroughly familiar with all types of conventional aircraft.

Case 710 -- July 8, Seattle, Washington: Chet Proud, private pilot of 3040 N. 36th Street, was flying a seaplane over Puget Sound off Ballard at 9:00 a.m. PST when he saw "two or three" disc-like objects to the west, over the Olympic Mountains. In an

unfortunately abbreviated account in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer (7/9), he described the objects as flying "high and going very fast."

Case 761 -- July 8, south of Trenton, New Jersey: While numerous UFO sightings were reportedly taking place during the evening in Philadelphia and southern New Jersey (see Case 758, II-17), an anonymous sportsman-pilot bound for Trenton from Philadelphia reported that he saw an object described as "a red ball" traveling in a northeasterly direction over New Jersey. The object passed the pilot on his right and quickly outdistanced his small plane.

Case 755 -- July 8, near Los Angeles, California: About 4:00 p.m. PST, an F-51 pilot from Muroc Air Base, flying about 40 miles south of the base over the northern suburbs of Los Angeles, sighted a "flat, light-reflecting" object high in the sky above him. He was flying at 20,000 feet when he first spotted it, and he tried to climb up to it but was unable to get high enough. According to the Air Force files, this object was a "balloon."

Case 794 -- July 9, Boise, Idaho: About 12:15 p.m. MST, on his third day of aerial search for flying objects, on assignment for his newspaper, the Idaho Daily Statesman, pilot-newsman Dave Johnson's search paid off. While circling Gowan Field at 14,000 feet, preparing to land after having spent the morning searching in vain, he saw a dark object against a massive cloudbank to the east of Boise.

"I saw it clearly and distinctly," he wrote in his account for the Statesman next day. "I turned the airplane broadside to it and pulled back the Plexiglas canopy so there would be no distortion. The object was still there. It was rising sharply and jerkily toward the top of the towering bank of alto-cumulus and alto-stratus clouds. At that moment it was so round in shape I thought it was a balloon.

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"I opened my radio and called the Boise Civil Aeronautics Administration communications station. . . . I asked if the Weather Bureau had just released a balloon. The answer was no, that a balloon had not been released for several hours. With that I snatched my camera out of the map case and began firing. I held the button down for ten seconds and then looked again. The object was turning so that it presented its edge to me. It then appeared as a straight black line. Then, with its edge still toward me, it shot straight up, rolled over (at) the top of this maneuver, and I lost sight of it."

Johnson said that at one point during his observation, which lasted 45 seconds (the Air Force files record duration as "at least 12 to 15 seconds," and AP as "nearly two minutes"), he saw the "sun flash from it." Checking with Gowan Field tower for other aircraft in the vicinity, Johnson learned that there was a P-51 behind him, which he couldn't see, and a Fairchild C-82 packet flying over Boise, which he could see as it passed below him. The P-51, according to Johnson, was requested to search for the object, but he reportedly found nothing.

Later in the afternoon Johnson discovered that ground observers at Gowan Field had seen an object similar to the one he reported. Observers included National Guard pilots Warren Noe, Bob Ayers, and Ferm Sabala, the latter a Guard photographer. The time of their sighting, however, was about 2:00 p.m. (Case 800). The film Johnson had taken of the object, when developed, showed no sign of it. Johnson's report is among the Unidentified sightings in the Air Force files.

Case 831 -- July 12, Utah Lake, Utah: A report of a 1947 sighting was given to Dr. Frank Salisbury, botanist with Utah State University, by Earl Page, a relative and private pilot. The account was first published in the APRO Bulletin in May, 1962.

Page, who lived in Kennewick, Washington, was flying from Las Vegas, Nevada, to Salt Lake City with his wife Beulah and their son Ron. When they were over Lake Utah, flying north, they saw "six or eight objects coming towards us and slightly to our right. They were at the same altitude as we. I did not notice them until we were practically to them. As they passed I banked the plane sharply and flew after them for a few minutes, during which time they left us as if we were standing still.

"Size is difficult to estimate in the air, but I would guess they were not over six feet in diameter. They were silver-white, oval top and bottom, much like two saucers face to face. They were closely spaced. They fluttered as a group for a second or two and then stabilized for a second or two, alternately between these two modes." According to Page's log, the incident took place at 2:30 p.m. PST.

Case 841 -- July 15, Concord, California: Reported by San Francisco news columnist Jack Burket, this sighting was made by an observer with impressive qualifications: Colonel Frank A. Flynn, a veteran Army airman, a lawyer, and an examiner for the Civil Aeronautics Board. He was flying from San Francisco to Sacramento in a Vultee BT-13 when, at 12:15 p.m. PST, over Concord, he saw what he first thought was a flock of large birds heading towards him.

"But as they passed me, they took on a different form. They were shaped something like giant birds but they had no necks or tails. There were from a dozen to fifteen of them and they yawed along in a sort of see-saw manner, flying at three different levels, down to 3,500 feet, and about 200 feet apart."

Colonel Flynn estimated their size as about 15 feet across. He swung his plane around in pursuit of the objects but they quickly outdistanced him. Their speed was "far in excess of 200 miles an hour," according to the pilot.

Flynn described the objects as being very white on top and when they flipped he was able to see they were grey and black underneath. Colonel Flynn said there was no place where a pilot could have been seated. At their closest point, Flynn estimated them to be about a mile away. They reminded him of the radio-controlled target ships developed by the Navy during the war, and although he looked for one, Flynn could not see any master ship in the area.

Case 849 -- July 28, between Mountain Home and Boise, Idaho: Captain Charles F. Gibian and First Officer Jack Harvey, of United Air Lines Flight Trip 105 (the same as Captain Smith's on July 4), were about to begin their let-down over Mountain

Home, preparatory to landing at Boise, 45 miles to the west, when Harvey saw an object ahead of and to the south of their plane, silhouetted against the bright western sky. The time was 8:34 p.m. MST. Harvey thought at first the object was a plane, and turned his attention to the instrument panel to reduce power for the let-down. When he looked back, the object, which at first appeared to have "considerable substance," was seen rapidly diminishing in size.

Captain Gibian reported that Harvey had called his attention to the object "as he would have done if it had been an airplane." The co-pilot had asked, "Is that plane going east or west?" When the object began to diminish rapidly in size, it appeared to be going toward the northwest at very high speed. Gibian described it as "going like hell when it disappeared." Both men watched it vanish from view.

Gibian said the object appeared to be at 9,000 feet as their airliner began descending from an 8,000-foot altitude. It also appeared to be "weaving," as if "it were going through choppy air." Gibian said that the air at that time was somewhat bumpy. He was convinced the object was no airplane. Although he couldn't estimate its distance, he said that if it was "40 miles or so distant from the airliner, it was as big as an airplane." Both pilots agreed that they had never seen such a thing before, and they expressed their concern over possible military experiments being carried out in commercial air lanes.

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Case 850 -- July 29, Union, Oregon: While flying en route to Tacoma to investigate the Maury Island "mystery" (see I-15), Kenneth Arnold was approaching the airport at La Grande, Oregon, for a refueling stopover. He began his let-down over North Powder, about 20 miles southeast of La Grande. He was directly over Union, at an altitude of 5,000 feet, when he looked down at the clock on his instrument panel. It was 6:55 a.m. MST.

"As I looked up from my instrument panel and straight ahead over the La Grande Valley, I saw a cluster of about twenty-five brass-colored objects that looked like ducks. They were coming at me head on and at what seemed a terrific rate of speed. I grabbed my camera and started rolling out film. Even though I thought they were ducks when I first saw them, I wasn't taking any chances.

"The sun was at my back and to my right. These objects were coming into the sun. I wasn't sighting through the viewfinder on my camera, but was sighting along the side of it.

"As this group of objects came within 400 yards of me they veered sharply away from me and to their right, gaining altitude as they did so and fluttering and flashing a dull amber color. I was a little bit shocked and excited when I realized they had the same flight characteristics of the large objects I had observed on June 24.

"These appeared to be round, rather rough on top, and to have a dark or a light spot on the top of each one. I couldn't be absolutely positive of this because it all happened so suddenly. I attempted to make a turn and follow them but they

disappeared to the east at a speed far in excess of my airplane. I know they were not ducks because ducks don't fly that fast."

Arnold described the formation as a "cluster more like blackbirds than ducks," but each object was larger than a duck, about 24 to 30 inches in diameter. He said "they rather wheeled on edge, flipping as they went as efficiently as when they were flat in reference to the surface of the ground." He made a few inquiries around the field while his plane was being refueled at La Grande, but no one there had seen the objects.

He learned later, however, that "several farmers in the vicinity of Union had observed what they thought was a peculiar cluster of birds that morning." Understandably, Arnold did not report this sighting to the newspapers, nor to the Air Force. He told Dave Johnson about it, but the first published account appeared in *The Coming of the Saucers*.

Police and Law-Enforcement Officers

Case 118 – June 30, Spokane, Washington: During the afternoon two independent reports of a disc-like object seen over the city were made, one by a sheriff's officer.

John Mourning, county night jailer, submitted an official report to the sheriff's office describing his observation of "a bright, shiny object coming from the west," and flying at an altitude above that of most planes. The object "appeared to be round," and had no wings or apparent means of propulsion. Mourning said he had heard no motor sound, and declared that "jet planes are very slow in comparison to what I saw."

David Allen, 18, reported that he, too, had seen an object during the afternoon. While he was washing windows in the downtown area, he saw something that "looked like a silver dollar, and was going very fast." His observation might be an independent verification of Mourning's report; had the reporter taken time to include some basic facts, such as the time of the sighting and the direction of the object, speculative assumptions about "possible verifications" would be unnecessary. (Allen's sighting is Case 119.)

Case 158 -- July 2, San Francisco, California: Sergeant David Menary, of the State Highway Patrol, was driving onto the Golden Gate Bridge from the Lombard Street approach shortly after 2:15 p.m. PST, when he and passenger Walter Castro saw six small objects plummet down past the bridge and into the Bay.

"They were close together," Menary later reported, "about a foot apart. They were silver and shiny, about as big as a football but shaped round, like a basketball. They were falling, down, straight down, I couldn't estimate how fast. They fell into the Bay, east of the bridge. That's the last I saw of them." Castro, a San Rafael garage owner, confirmed Menary's description. Neither had any idea what they might be or where they may have come from.

Commenting on this report from his office in the Presidio, Army Major Steve Monroe brushed the sighting off. "I can see the same thing right now," he told

reporters. "Friday is the Fourth of July, in case you've forgotten, and some of the boys are down on the waterfront trying out the fireworks." But as far as Sgt. Menary was concerned, what he and Castro saw fall into the Bay "were no fireworks."

Case 202 -- July 3, Springfield, Illinois: Police officer George Mayfield, of 820 East Division Street, reported that at about 9:30 p.m. CDT he saw four objects which he first thought were "falling stars." However, their "straight flight pattern through the air" and "their odd, flat shape" fitted them to the descriptions of flying saucers reported elsewhere, he said.

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Cases 230-236 -- July 4, Portland, Oregon: The first report of disc-like objects seen over the city came at about 1:00 p.m. PST when Jon Metcalfe, employed at Oaks Amusement Park, said he saw them over the Park and reported the sighting to Park superintendent William LeRoy, who then notified police headquarters.

At approximately the same time, Patrolman Kenneth A. McDowell, feeding the pigeons in the parking lot behind Precinct House No. 1, said that he noticed the pigeons "become quite excited over something." Looking up, he saw five large, disc-shaped objects dipping up and down in an oscillating fashion. They disappeared quickly, at great speed, two going south and the remaining three going east. McDowell hurried into the station to report what he'd seen (Case 231). At 1:05 p.m. Dick Haller, Police Radio Officer at headquarters, sent out an all-car alert to all patrolmen to report any aerial objects seen over Portland. The response was almost immediate.

Across the Columbia River, at Vancouver, Washington, Clark County Sheriff's Deputies Fred Krives, Clarence McKay, and John Sullivan, having heard the alert, went outside to check. They reported seeing 20 to 30 disc-like objects streaking over toward the southwest, directly above the Court House. They were "dark, not flashy," and were reported to have looked like "a bunch of geese." They were flying in a single line, Krives said, "strung out in what appeared to be evenly-spaced intervals." The objects were breaking formation as they flew southward, "peeling off to the side" over Portland, about three to five miles away, deploying to the south and west. The witnesses described hearing a "low humming sound," or "drone," as the objects flew over (Case 232).

Dr. McDonald interviewed Krives by phone and learned the following: Clarence McKay (now Sheriff of Clark County) had not been one of the original witnesses, but seven or eight deputies had been present, including Sullivan, Joe Kurth, Bill Giles, and a deputy named MacKeag. The objects were seen to the southwest, over the Court House, at an angular elevation of about 30 to 35 degrees. The objects, about 20 in all, were receding from them, going southwest. They were in several groups, the first of which had about seven objects in it. The tail end of the formation split off the main line and formed a separate line, rising above the others. They were round and disc-shaped, and estimated to be about 1,000 feet high. Their speed was about that of conventional aircraft. He was emphatic in saying these objects could not have been regular aircraft, however.

Almost simultaneously, sightings were made by Harbor Patrolmen at the Irving Street headquarters in Portland. Captain K. A. Prehn, Pilot A. T. Austad, and Patrolman K. C. Hoff said they saw three to six disc-like objects, resembling "chromium hub-caps, shining and flashing in the sun," going south at an estimated altitude of 10,000 feet. They appeared to wobble and oscillate as they flew, "turning and weaving," so that at times a full disc was seen, and at others only a "crescent," making it difficult to be certain how many there were. They were flying at "terrific speeds" (Case 233).

Dr. McDonald spoke with Prehn by phone and the news account checked out. Prehn was in his office when one of the harbor pilots called him out. He recalled the afternoon as being clear with a bright sun. He saw three objects, like hubcaps face-to-face. They were headed south, and seen to the east, sailing along about the "speed of an aircraft." They were close enough to see their shape distinctly; their outlines were sharp, not hazy, and they looked silvery, metallic. The other two men were Pilot Austad and Patrolman Kent Hoff. None of them were ever interviewed by the Air Force. Prehn had gone inside to get a pair of binoculars and when he got back, the objects were gone. He is now retired.

Responding to the all-car alert, according to the Portland newspaper accounts, were Patrolmen Walter A. Lissy and Robert Ellis, in Car 82, near Oaks Amusement Park. Both were veterans, and Lissy was a private pilot. They described seeing "three flat, round discs flying at terrific speed in a straight-line formation" to the south. The last disc "fluttered rapidly to the side in an arc." The objects appeared white against the clear blue sky, with occasional "flashes," and were estimated to be at 40,000 feet. The two witnesses heard no sound, and saw no vapor trails nor any apparent means of propulsion (Case 234).

Dr. McDonald was able to interview Walter Lissy by telephone and learned there were several substantial errors in the original news account. Robert Ellis was not the second witness; Lissy was with Officer Andrew Fox at the time of the sighting. During press interviews later, Ellis had stepped in for the purposes of photographs when one of the other witnesses was not present, which accounted for the error. It was Lissy's recollection that they had seen six or seven objects, rather than three, as reported in the press. He and Fox heard the alert and saw them high in the sky, near the zenith, somewhat west of south. They were zigzagging and making sharp angle turns. As a pilot, Lissy said he knew these turns were too sharp for any aircraft. He confirmed their position near Oaks Amusement Park.

Another patrolman reporting to headquarters was Patrolman Earl Patterson, in Car 13, who was approximately three miles from Lissy, in the southern suburbs at Southeast 82nd Avenue and Foster Road. He said he had seen a single disc come out of the west, going at "terrific speed" at an estimated 30,000 feet. The disc was aluminum-colored, or "egg-shell white," and did not appear to reflect the sunlight. It passed under the sun and, without decelerating, made an abrupt 90-degree turn "with no difficulty" and proceeded toward the southwest. Because of its strange behavior, Patterson, a former Army Air Corps pilot, was of the opinion that the object could not have been a plane (Case 235).

Dr. McDonald spoke with Patterson by phone about the sighting. He was alone in his patrol car at the time, at Foster Road near 80th. He saw only a single object, as reported, but it did not make any "90-degree turn," as stated. He said it traveled across the sky from northeast to southwest in an arc at rapid speed. He said it was aluminum-colored -- not "egg-shell white" -- and it did reflect the sunlight, "like an aluminum plane." It appeared to be extremely high but he said it was difficult to tell its height. There was no sound, no vapor trails. He told McDonald that its speed was what had impressed him most.

At about the same time the rest of these observations were being made, Sergeant Claude Cross of the Oregon State Police Department said that he "plainly saw" two or three objects from his headquarters at 9200 S.E. McLoughlin Blvd., in Milwaukie, due south of Portland. They were seen to the east at an "undetermined height" and were following each other in a northeasterly direction at a "terrific speed." He said they looked like "toy balloons, almost pure white, and (they) traveled sideways with no flashing." Dr. McDonald did not interview this witness (Case 236).

Meanwhile, scores of residents called the newspapers and police stations reporting similar objects (see II-9 and II-18). In the Air Force files, these sightings are explained as "chaff" - strips of aluminum foil used for radar interference. While a flight of B-29 bombers, followed by a flight of P-80 fighters, had crossed over the city a short time before the sightings, there is only one reference in the press that would even remotely suggest that something resembling chaff had been discharged over the city: Burl Nolisich, 64, of 6604 N. Burrage Street, claimed he saw a plane fly over at 1:00 p.m. and said he saw foil or aluminum pieces nearby, swirling along on the wind currents, appearing as if they had been dropped by the plane. Apart from Case 231, the cases contained in the Air Force files are derived entirely from the accounts found in the local press the following day -- and many of these were not accurately recorded. If there was any first-hand information on the July 4 sightings over Portland other than Patrolman McDowell's report, it was not there when the files were examined for the purposes of this report.

Case 360 -- July 5, San Leandro, California: Members of the San Leandro police department reported having seen a disc circle over the city at 7:00 p.m. PST after they had received approximately 15 calls about the object. Officers Bill Williams, S. D. Capitola, and Tony Gomez said the disc-like object approached from the west and circled over the area for a half an hour. Capitola said it appeared to be between 5,000 and 10,000 feet high, a "white speck about the size of a dollar." He said the object disappeared to the south. Most of the San Leandro police officers on duty saw it, as well as members of the fire department. Police in Oakland received five calls from people who said they had seen the object.

Case 425 -- July 6, Elizabeth, New Jersey: Patrolman Frederick Schlauch, of the Elizabeth police force, went off duty at 5:00 p.m. EDT. He had just finished changing a tire on his car when he saw two shiny objects moving erratically through the sky. Schlauch said that the objects "resembled chrome plates" and were "diving in a fluttery fashion, like pursuit planes." The two discs, traveling in a northeasterly

direction toward New York City, were going at an estimated speed of 400 miles an hour. "They were not planes," Schlauch asserted, and said that as they were disappearing from view he realized that they must have been the shining discs being reported from other sections of the country.

Case 506 -- July 6, San Rafael, California: Policeman Arthur H. Fellows, 45, of 2022 Fourth Street, reported that he and three companions had seen a disc-like object in the eastern sky about 7:00 p.m. PST. He said that as it moved along, "it had a dipping motion," adding that "we heard a steady hum, which was not the kind of sound that an airplane makes."

Case 556 -- July 7, Tacoma, Washington: Police report seeing a large disc with smaller discs - see Satellite Object Reports (II-19).

Public Officials

Case 38 -- June 24, Boise, Idaho: Lt. Governor Donald S. Whitehead and Boise Justice of the Peace J. M. Lampert were in the latter's downtown office at 3:30 p.m. MST when they saw an object, through the office windows, to the west. With the two men at the time were Mrs. Lampert and the Justice's secretary. Whitehead described the object as being apparently motionless. It had "a brilliant head and a filmy smoke for a tail," and he added that had it been viewed at night, it would have looked, with its tail, "just like a comet." The object "dipped from view after about 20 minutes," sinking below the line of sight to the west "apparently with the rotation of the earth." At first the witnesses thought the object may have been a sky-writing pilot, because of the tail, but "we quickly changed our minds," according to Whitehead.

In the Air Force files the sighting is explained as "astronomical," and according to the 1949 Project "Saucer" Summary (p. 11), "Dr. Hynek said it seemed likely Lt. Governor Whitehead observed either the planet Saturn or Mercury." Neither Saturn nor Mercury have ever been known to be observed with the naked eye at mid-afternoon; however, the only information on this case in the official files at the time they were examined was a brief wire service account of the report; this did not include the time of day the sighting had been made. Unless more pertinent data have been removed from the folder, the astronomical assignment was probably based solely on Whitehead's remark that the object seemed to disappear with "the rotation of the earth."

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Case 59 -- June 25, Glens Falls, New York: Warren County Deputy Treasurer Louis Stebbins, reporting his sighting of June 25 almost two weeks later, said that he had seen "a bright object" that he believed to be one of the discs. With him at the time was a neighbor, Mrs. John G. Caffrey, who also saw it. From the description given, the observation seems to have been made at night; no time is mentioned in the available sources. Mr. Stebbins said the object, "about the size of an auto headlight," emitted "red fire in front and was trailing blue fire in its wake."

Case 131 -- July 1, near Chandler, Arizona: Pima County Juvenile Probation Officer Robert E. Johnson reported on July 7 that six days earlier he had seen "a lone disc hurtling through the sky" over the Pima Indian Reservation at 9:30 a.m. MST. The object was described as "silver-colored and discus-shaped," and Johnson said it was traveling at "a great rate of speed" in a fairly direct path to the north. He estimated its altitude at between 5,000 and 10,000 feet and said it was in view for two or three minutes.

Case 152 -- July 1, Albuquerque, New Mexico: Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce official Max Hood reported that while he was driving on Candelaria Road, in the northern section of the city, he had seen a "disc-like, bluish object following a zigzag path in the northwestern sky." He said that the object disappeared from sight in the vicinity of Volcano Peak after he had observed it for about 30 seconds. The observation was made at night, although no specific time was mentioned.

Case 176 -- About July 3, north of Alturas, California: Modoc County District Attorney Charles Leaderer and Dale Williams, Secretary of the Alturas Chamber of Commerce, reported that they had seen seven swift-moving, disc-like objects while driving through the Warner Mountains, near the Oregon state line, at an unspecified time. Both men, certain they had seen objects similar to those reported elsewhere, said that the discs were at an estimated height of 2,000 feet and were traveling at a tremendous rate of speed.

While the abbreviated wire service account of this sighting was the only available source of information, it is always possible that the primary sources might provide some of the basic facts regarding this observation -- i.e., the exact date, the time of the sighting, the exact location of the witnesses, the direction the objects were flying, their manner of flight, their formation, and the duration of the sighting.

Case 452 -- July 6, Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Assistant County Treasurer Gregory Zimmer's report of an object with a rigid tail (see II-15).

Case 444 -- July 6, Darlington, South Carolina: State Senator's Attorney J. V. Watts reports a V-formation of wing-shaped objects (II-18).

Case 515 -- July 6, near Covington, Kentucky: Covington Commissioner William Rolfes reported he had seen one of the discs while motoring along Dudley Pike in Kenton County at night. The object was red-colored, but Rolfes suggested that it may have been a searchlight.

Engineers and Technicians

Case 395 -- July 6, near Pittsburg, California: Frank Tylman, of 559 Frederick Street, San Francisco, a construction engineer and World War I veteran pilot, reported that while driving two miles west of Pittsburg with his son Danny, 9, at 8:20 a.m. PST, he saw a disc-shaped object flying rapidly in a southern direction.

"It was shooting toward Mount Diablo," Tylman said. "It revolved in a counter-clockwise direction, as we viewed it." He estimated the height of the object at approximately 3,000 feet and said that it was moving "faster than jet planes." He

described its width as about the same as a P-80, its color as silver, and its shape as "circular." He said "It had a definite thickness, being curved outward on both upper and lower surfaces. It left no smoke or vapor trail behind it. We heard nothing above the noise off the car and the wind." Tylman said it was in view for about 30 seconds before it vanished over the southern horizon.

Case 428 -- July 6, Encampment, Wyoming: In March, 1952, David A. Kenney, then an aviation instruments engineer with North American Aviation, and living in Redondo Beach, California, reported to CSI of Los Angeles that he and two others - his brother Joseph (now a NICAP member) and T. G. Moffett -- had seen an oval-shaped object in South Central Wyoming almost five years before. In a recent letter to NICAP, Joseph Kenney identified the exact location as Encampment. In David Kenney's letter to CSI of March 10, 1952, he wrote:

"On July 6, 1947, at 2:45 in the afternoon, I caught sight of an oval shaped object directly overhead and traveling north. Its span was roughly three times its chord and it flew with its span normal to its line of flight. It was visible nearly two minutes and did not appear to change course during this time. Along with two other witnesses present at the time, I was particularly impressed by its silence and the absence of smoke or vapor trails that would indicate conventional means of propulsion. Locale of the sighting was south central Wyoming. While accurate estimates of its speed, size, and altitude are impossible, our collective opinion was that it was very large and very high (by aircraft standards). When it had diminished to a barely perceptible speck, it was still well above the horizon."

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Fifteen minutes after the Kenney sighting, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gibson, of 2007 Oakcrest, in Casper, saw a glittering disc traveling fast at high altitude in an easterly direction (Case 430). Casper is about 100 miles north of Encampment and while the directions reported in the two cases differ, the times of each sighting are close enough to suggest a possible connection.

Case 655 -- July 7, near Medford, Oregon: Radar technician David W. Chase, of Phoenix, Oregon, saw a disc-shaped object passing overhead in an easterly direction at 5:20 p.m. PST. The object appeared to be flying at a speed of 600 to 700 miles an hour, at an estimated altitude of 10,000 feet. The disc was flying on edge, like a wheel, at right angles to the surface of the earth, and its large, circular surface gave off an extremely bright light, comparable in color to the light of an arc welder's torch; it also reminded the witness of a brightly faceted stone, such as a diamond seen under a brilliant light. The object seemed to be following the contours of the terrain below it, dipping or bobbing up and down in an irregular pattern as it passed over small hills and mountains 500 to 1,000 feet high. It was in view approximately 60 to 70 seconds.

Scientists

Case 109 -- June 29, near Las Cruces, New Mexico: Dr. C. J. Zohn, of Washington, D.C., a guided missiles expert with the Naval Research Laboratory, was in New Mexico to observe a V-2 rocket launching scheduled for July 3. About 1:15 p.m.

MST on the 29th, he was riding out to the testing grounds to examine the site, in a car driven by John R. Kauke, who was stationed at the Proving Grounds. Zohn was accompanied by an associate scientist from NRL, Curtis Rockwood, and his wife.

They were about a third of the way en route from Las Cruces, driving northeast on Route 17, when, according to Dr. Zohn, "Kauke suddenly spotted a glare in the sky" through the windshield of the car. "We all looked up and saw a silvery disc whirling through the unclouded sky," he later reported. Kauke stopped the car and Zohn, who was to the driver's right, rolled down the window to get a better look.

The object was ahead of and to the right of the witnesses. It was round, either disc-shaped or spherical, with no appendages such as wings, tails, or propellers, and it was moving in a straight northerly course at a rapid rate of speed. Kauke estimated that the altitude of the object was between 8,000 and 10,000 feet, although Dr. Zohn refused to make any guesses without knowledge of the size of the object. Kauke also described seeing a short vapor trail at one point during the observation -- something the others did not see.

For 30 to 60 seconds the four observers viewed the object, "and then it simply disappeared," Dr. Zohn reported. "We didn't see it again." Zohn, familiar with many types of guided missiles used by the Navy, said the object "did not resemble anything" he had ever seen before. A detailed report was made to officials at White Sands but according to newspaper accounts, this got the witnesses nothing but "fishy-eyed stares" and "knowing smiles." The Air Force explanation for this sighting is "balloon."

Case 133 -- July 1, near Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Canada: Dr. Charles K. Gunn, animal ecologist and head of an experimental fox farm in Summerside, was driving with his wife along a highway at North Bedeque at an unspecified time during the day. With the Gunns were friends of theirs, Mr. Roland Phillipson, who was manager of the Maritime Prices and Trade Board in Summerside, and his daughter, Anne.

Miss Phillipson was the first to notice a bright object moving rapidly across the sky, and she called it to the attention of the others. Dr. Gunn stopped the car and reported later that they had observed the object "quite plainly." Mr. Phillipson described it as "a shapeless object that glistened and gleamed in the bright sunlight." Mrs. Gunn said that it appeared like "a large star as it traveled across the clear blue sky." Dr. Gunn reported that the object made no noise and did not resemble an airplane. It was visible for about 30 seconds before it disappeared to the south. All the witnesses said they were sure they had seen "something unusual" and could find no explanation for what it might have been.

Case 187 -- July 3, Harborside, Maine: John F. Cole of South Brookville, Maine, identified in the Air Force report of the sighting as an astronomer, was at Harborside, on the eastern shore of Penobscot Bay, when, at 2:30 p.m. EDT, his attention was attracted to the sky by "a loud roar" overhead. Looking up he saw a loose, irregular formation of about ten objects moving northwest at a speed somewhere between 600 and 1,200 miles an hour. The objects within the formation were mostly light-colored, and each appeared to be from 50 to 100 feet wide; two of the objects "on the left

tangent of the formation" appeared to have "dark-shaped forms" which the observer thought might have been wings. The angular width of the entire formation was about one and one-half degrees in diameter when first seen, and the formation was at a 50-degree elevation to the north. The objects were milling about within the formation "like a swarm of bees," and Cole watched the phenomenon for ten to fifteen seconds as it moved rapidly through about 300 degrees of arc before disappearing from view in the northwest. In the Air Force files, the sighting is Unidentified.

Case 308 -- July 5, Sacramento, California: At about 8:00 a.m. PST, Dr. A. K. Carr, head of the Division of Animal Husbandry of the State Agricultural Department, was with his wife in their yard when they saw two brilliant disc-like objects come out of the west, one following the other and each trailing a "whitish vapor," which Dr. Carr described as "about the same size as the disc itself." The first object, flying high in the sky, was "round and brilliant, like a star," and while an estimate of its height was difficult to make, he said it appeared to be about 8,000 to 10,000 feet up and its relative size was "about four inches in diameter."

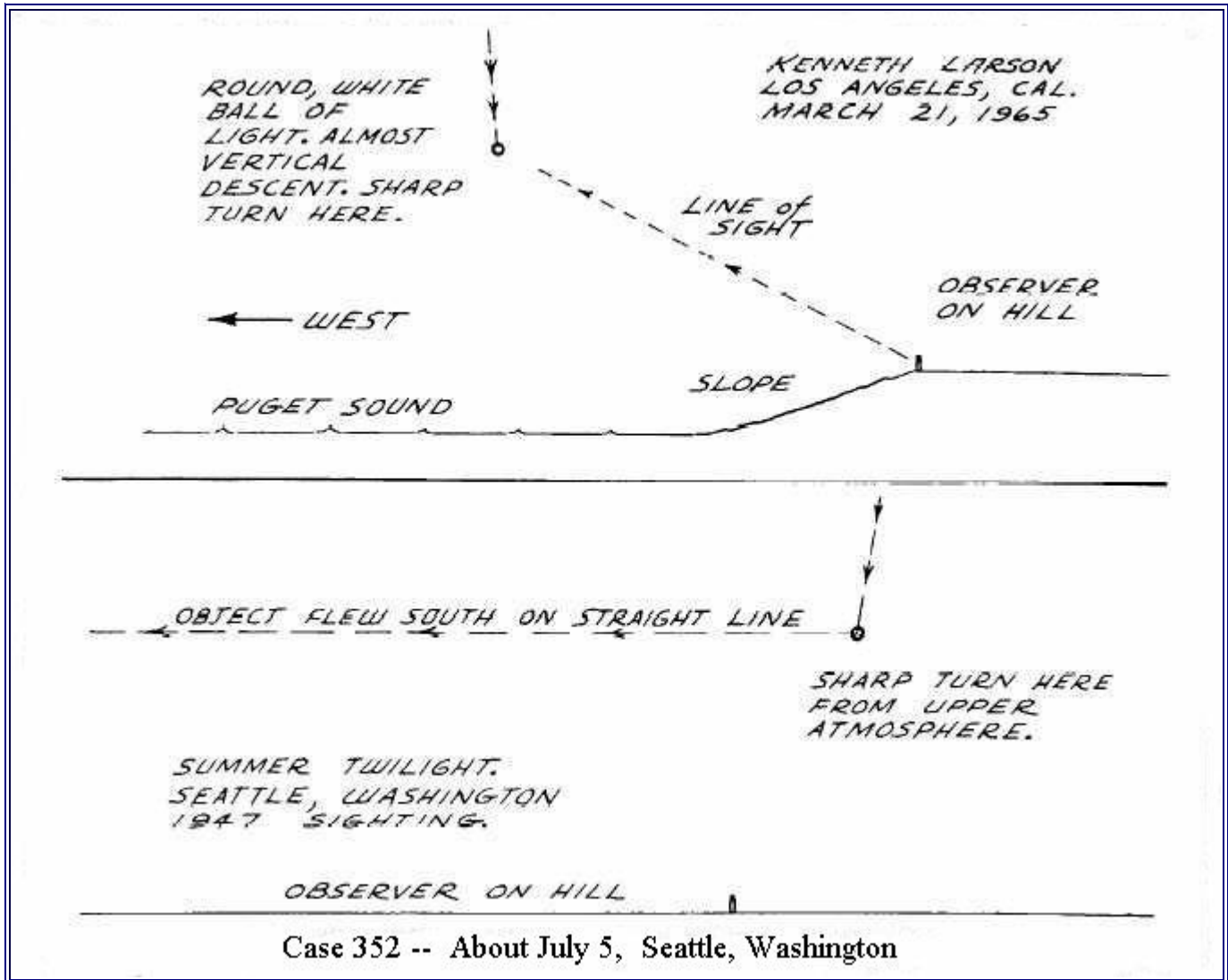
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When it reached a point in its straight course directly above Carr's home, it made a sharp 90° turn to the north and continued its flight northward, passing out of view. The second object, which had been following it, continued its straight course to the east. With the aid of a pair of 12-power, wide-vision binoculars, Dr. Carr watched the first object closely. He said that as it made its turn, it banked and appeared, at that angle, to be very thin. Mrs. Carr was watching the second object and she said that it appeared to be more "oval-shaped" than the first, and was flying at a somewhat lower altitude. The Carrs watched the objects for nearly two minutes before they both disappeared from view -- the one to the north and the other to the east.

Case 819 -- July 10, near Fort Sumner, New Mexico: Dr. Lincoln La Paz, of the Department of Meteoritics at the University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque, was driving from Clovis, New Mexico, to Clines Corners in the late afternoon. With him were his wife and two daughters. At 4:47 p.m. MST, in the vicinity of Fort Sumner, in the Pecos River Valley, all four almost simultaneously noticed "a curious bright object almost motionless" near the horizon to the west, amidst a thick bank of clouds. The object was ellipsoidal in shape and had "a sharp and firm regular outline, namely one of a smooth elliptical character much harder and sharper than the edges of the clouds," La Paz later reported. The luminosity of the object was "somewhat less white than the light of Jupiter in the dark sky," and did not appear to be "aluminum or silver-colored."

The object seemed to wobble slightly as it hung stationary at about 1° elevation; then, after approximately 30 seconds, it moved slightly upward and to the north and disappeared behind a cloud. Five seconds later it reappeared at a 2° elevation and about 5° north of true west. "This remarkably sudden ascent thoroughly convinced me that we were dealing with an absolutely novel airborne device," La Paz later reported.

After its reappearance, the object continued to move at a slow speed to the north across the clouds. "As seen projected against these dark clouds, the object gave the strongest impression of self-luminosity," La Paz said. After having observed the object for two and a half minutes, La Paz said it finally disappeared behind a cloudbank, determined by him to be about 20 to 30 miles off. Based on this estimate, the object would have been no less than 160 feet in length and 65 feet in width. An account of this sighting first appeared in Life Magazine, April 7, 1952, in an article written by Robert Ginna. In the Air Force files, it is Unidentified.



Section IV - Empirical Evidence

In most UFO reports there is nothing tangible to lay hold of; the evidence consists of the witnesses description of an object that he says behaves in such-and-such a way. In a small percentage of reports, however, evidence exists or was reported of something more than just a sensory impression of an aerial phenomenon. Such evidence includes reactions by animals to the presence of a UFO; electrical and electromagnetic effects occurring when UFOs were seen; deposits and traces, including fragments left by low-hovering or landing objects; and records on photographic film and radar screens of their presence. These elements, involving as they do features and circumstances beyond mere visual observation, are fragmentary; nevertheless, they provide clues to the character of the phenomena and offer supporting evidence of their actual existence. A few such cases (except for radar reports) occurred during the 1947 UFO wave.

Animal Reactions

Case 231 -- July 4, Portland, Oregon: Patrolman McDowell's report of the pigeons reacting to five discs overhead (see III-15).

Cases 263 and 350 -- July 4 & 5, Fayetteville, Arkansas: Henry Seay, a farmer living two miles north of Fayetteville, reported that on two consecutive nights, just before dark, his livestock bolted when unidentified flying objects swooped overhead. On July 4, Seay said, as he was rounding up cattle and horses, three yellow discs "about the size of pancakes, and whirling around at the same time," flying from 500 to 1,000 feet overhead, frightened the animals. The objects were reported as flying in a southwesterly path.

The following evening the same thing took place. The wire service accounts are not clear about details, but they report that a disc came down to about 300 feet and "dropped sparks, which were like dust on me," according to Seay. He said he believed the object had come down near his home, but that it was "nothing but ashes and dust when it hit." He commented briefly that "the animals sure do get up and go when they see those things."

Dr. McDonald was able to interview Seay by phone and clarified a number of points in the news accounts. He discussed the sighting on the evening of the 5th with Seay, since it seems to have involved a brief touch-down landing; the events of the preceding night were not covered, as the witness, now quite elderly, was quite reluctant to discuss it at all.

Seay told McDonald that he had been driving his cattle along his road near sunset on the 5th when he noticed a single object pass overhead. He became aware of its presence when something like dust fell on him. His arms were bare and although he felt the dust falling on his skin, it did not burn. The object appeared to be ten or twelve feet across and "the whole thing glowed." The cattle bolted as Seay looked up and saw the object. The cows, in front of him, all ran off to the other side of the pasture and it took him more than ten minutes to get them all rounded up. He had been driving them up to the barn for evening milking.

The object moved across the pasture and came down in front of him, on the south side of his barn, as he recalled. It only touched down momentarily, perhaps for a few seconds, at a distance of about 200 yards from him. He stated that he saw it on or close to the ground with the barn behind it. It had been moving to the northeast. The shape of the object was round and flattened. He heard no noise at any time.

After several seconds, the object rose up vertically about 30 or 40 feet and then shot off horizontally at a speed estimated as 50 miles an hour. It left a shower of yellow sparks as it took off. It flew over a field of oats, but did not damage the oats, although the sparks were seen falling to the ground.

The light emitted by the object was not blinding, but he could not see the shape very well. Dr. McDonald asked him if there had been any other reports from the area at the same time and Seay said there were others two or three miles away who saw it and described it similarly. He had talked to some of them but did not know their names, except for one man who came over to cut his oats several days later, and who had seen it. The man is now dead, but Seay would not give his name. He added that he had found no marks in the barnyard where the object had appeared to set down.

Case 787 -- July 9, Manchester, New Hampshire: Mrs. Earl O. Anderson, of 79 Kennard Road, was awakened at 3:50 a.m. EDT by the barking of dogs in the neighborhood. Looking out her bedroom window to see what the cause of the commotion was, she saw a "saucer-shaped light" slightly to the north of the Derryfield reservoir. The object was whirling about at a fast pace and continued this for a few minutes -- long enough for Mrs. Anderson to be certain she was not seeing a shooting star or some kind of a reflection in the starless sky. After several minutes the object finally passed beyond her view through the window in a diagonal slant.

Fragments, Ashes, and Traces

Case 19 -- June 21, near Titusville, Pennsylvania: Mill-worker Donald Bunce, of Troy Center, was driving to work at his plant in Titusville at an unspecified time of day when, he later reported, he saw an object "streaking through the sky." He said it hit the ground in a field nearby and he hurried to the spot where it came to earth. The object, glowing white and hot, was half-buried in the ground. Using a shovel that was in his car, Bunce scooped the object up, brought it to work and showed it to his fellow workers at the mill. He took it home after work and forgot about it, until reports of flying objects renewed his interest in having the object identified.

(IV – 1)

The object was described as being about five inches long, was oval in shape, was lightweight, and resembled a piece of coral. On July 8 Bunce took it to Allegheny College, at Meadville. At Allegheny, Chemistry Professor H. R. Rhinesmith "admitted he had never seen anything like it," although no tests of the fragment appear to have been made. The object was then taken to Gannon College, in Erie, where R. H. Mitchell, Professor of Geology, examined it. He first ruled out the possibility of its being a meteorite on the basis that there was no metallic content in

the fragment. He then pronounced it a "scoria" (a type of volcanic debris). But what it was doing flying through the air near Titusville, Pennsylvania, some 4,000 miles from the nearest active volcano, Professor Mitchell, or anybody else for that matter, was unable to explain.

Case 211 -- July 4, Hillsboro, Texas: An object about the size and shape of an ordinary saucer, that had not been seen in flight, was found in the garden of Bob Scott, a farmer living two and a half miles east of Hillsboro. Scott said that when he found it, "it was bright as a blow-torch, but it didn't burn me when I picked it up. I got to thinking about all these new inventions now-days, and it scared me. So I put it down. It sure didn't belong in my garden," he added.

He didn't mention the discovery until he met a friend, W. O. Kissick, and when the two of them went to investigate the object they found that it was disintegrating. Another friend, Joe Gerrick, of Hillsboro, also examined it and said that one of the remaining pieces "looked like tinfoil," but when they picked it up "it appeared to be celluloid." Whatever it was, most of it seemed to "have melted," subliming into a gelatinous residue. The men contacted Hillsboro newsman Dan Shults, who also viewed the remains. "It was a dusty, silvery substance," he reported. "I picked up some of the pieces and it wasn't like anything I'd ever seen before." Unfortunately, it seems that none of the material was given to appropriate authorities for analysis.

Case 685 -- July 7, Omaha, Nebraska: Fred R. Reibold, of 2315 Himebaugh Avenue, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Gertrude Sniffen, reported that at 10:30 p.m. CST they had seen "a flaming object" drop into the street in front of their home. The object was round, disc-shaped, and about the size of a silver dollar, and it lay in the street "burning with extreme heat." Newspapers were called and newsmen sent out to investigate. Before they arrived, however, an intrepid neighborhood boy kicked at the fragment, after the fire had subsided, and it "fell to pieces." When the reporters arrived, they scooped up the remaining ashes and took them away for analysis. The pavement was scorched where the object had lain.

The Omaha World-Herald reported the next day that chemical analysis, under Dr. C. L. Kenny, head of the Chemistry Department of the College of Dentistry, Creighton University, and carried out by two unidentified students, revealed traces of sodium, potassium, iron, aluminum, carbonate, sulphate, and unburnt carbon. According to Dr. Kenny, it was nothing more than "ordinary pipe tobacco." The report is included among those in the Air Force files. Interestingly, it is probably the only UFO on record that has been explained as "tobacco ashes."

Case 768 -- July 8, Boise, Idaho: Oliver Gregorson, Box 212, Boise, and Vesta Mitchell, of Route 5, Boise, reported to the Idaho Daily Statesman that they were about a mile and a half out of the city, on Route 20, at about sunset when they saw a number of silvery discs "twirling in the sky, large and very high." (The sun set at 8:28 p.m. MST on July 8.) They said that two of the objects appeared much larger than the others. They were shiny and reflected the rays of the setting sun, and as the two witnesses watched them, the two larger objects appeared to descend closer to the earth. Then, they said, the objects "turned red and vanished."

A moment or so following the disappearance of the objects, Gregorson and Miss Mitchell both saw "fragments of ash" floating toward the ground from the direction in which they had last seen the objects. They caught several samples of the ash as it came down, before it touched the ground. It was pearl-grey in color, and one fragment was of "a shell-like material with bits of ash plastered all over it." One of the fragments was about the size of "a rose leaf."

According to the news account, the witnesses gave the ashes to the paper, which in turn gave them to "the state chemist" for analysis. On the following day, the Statesman reported that results of the analysis indicated the fragments were nothing but ashes, probably from paper. Chemists said definitely that they were "not of a metallic residue."

Case 802 -- July 9, Midland, Michigan: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Edward Lane were picking berries shortly after 5:00 p.m. EST when they heard a kind of "puff" noise nearby. Looking up, they saw a ball of white, sparkling fire, like a Fourth of July sparkler, about the size of a bushel basket, no more than a hundred feet away. It was hovering several feet above a stretch of sand. After about ten or fifteen seconds, the fiery object "went out," and the object vanished. The only thing remaining was a peculiar dark substance on the sand, and some metallic fragments. The report, from the Air Force files, is explained as a "Possible hoax."

(IV – 2)

The results of the analysis of the fragments and sand samples were provided by the Air Force. Analysis does not, as such, constitute any proof of a hoax. On the contrary, it seems to confirm that something of an unusual nature did occur, although it does not seem on the face of it to be necessarily connected with UFOs.

The analysts apparently were given one sample of the metal -- an "irregular somewhat rounded pellet" which they state is principally silver. Impurities of one-tenth percent silicon are believed to be from sand picked up from the ground "before the metal solidified." The presence of molten silver in a berry patch is certainly odd, and rules out any simple "hoax." A sample of the dark residue in the sand was also analyzed and its chief constituents were iron, aluminum and titanium in amounts of one-tenth percent each. Some of the fine powder in the sand at the site proved to be chiefly thorite, a rare mineral.

According to a letter from Lt. Colonel Barnett B. Young, dated August 18, 1967, the incident, while classified as a hoax, "was not initiated by the observer."

Electromagnetic Effects

Case 30 -- June 24, in Cascade Mts., Oregon: On the morning of the same day that Kenneth Arnold made his sighting, a Portland prospector, Fred M. Johnson, saw a loose group of five or six objects in the Cascade Mountains of Oregon. He described them as "round, metallic-looking discs" and said they appeared to have tails, or fins, as they banked in the sun about 1,000 feet overhead. They were approximately 30 feet in diameter and Johnson turned his telescope on one of the objects for a closer look.

As he did this, he noticed that the needle on his compass was behaving in an unusual manner, weaving wildly back and forth while the objects were overhead. This strange reaction stopped as soon as the objects moved off to the southeast. They had been in view from 45 to 60 seconds. The Air Force classifies this sighting as Unidentified.

Case 386 -- July 6, Acampo, California: Residents of Acampo, a residential community just north of Lodi, reported that they had heard a loud roar and saw a strange glow in the sky just before dawn. At the same time, the entire town had a power outage. Mrs. W. C. Smith, wife of a high school physics instructor, said the noise was "like a four-motored bomber with its props feathered for a take-off." Looking toward the sky she saw a red glow just as all the power in the community failed. Neighbors reported having seen the same glow and hearing the same roar.

Erving Newcomb of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company threw cold water on any connection between the outage and "flying saucers." He said "a low-flying crop-dusting plane" had "probably struck a power line" and burned out a transformer. There were no reports of any damaged power lines and as far as anyone knew, there had been no crop-dusting going on before dawn on that Sunday morning.

Case 637 -- July 7, Hollywood, California: Six silver discs "like silver reflections" were reported by Ralph Whitmore, an advertising man. He saw them at 3:10 p.m. going northeast over Roosevelt Park in the direction of Mount Wilson (Case 636).

Around the same time, an anonymous man from the Hollywood area phoned the papers to report that he had just seen six discs "the size of small plates" hovering over power lines near his home when he went outside to find out what might be causing "strange noises" on his radio.

Photographs

Case 13 -- June 18, Eugene, Oregon: E. H. Sprinkle was one of a half-dozen Eugene residents who said that they had spotted a formation of round objects "racing overhead" on a course to the northeast from a hilltop outside Eugene at an unspecified time during the day. Sprinkle had with him a \$3.50 camera and took a snapshot of the objects as they raced over. The story was reported following the publication of Arnold's sighting. Enlargements of the photograph taken by Sprinkle showed "seven dots" in a formation "shaped like an X or a Y, lined up across the sky." Newspaper photographers, examining the snapshot, said the dots "might be a fault in the developing process." They said that such dots sometimes appear on a negative which has not been agitated while in the developer.

The dots were too small to show up on ordinary newsprint paper, but were visible on a glossy 8 x 10 print. Under a microscope, reported the Portland Oregonian, "they showed a similar shape." Associated Press, which briefly carried the report on June 27 in a roundup of sightings, erroneously stated that Sprinkle's photograph showed "nothing but empty sky." As far as can be determined, the photograph has never been published in any UFO literature. Attempts to obtain copies were fruitless.

Case 257 -- July 4, Lake City, Washington: Alerted about 5:30 p.m. PST by a group of neighbors who had spotted a disc-like object approaching the northern Seattle suburb from the south, Yeoman Frank Ryman, of the Coast Guard Press Information office in Seattle, dashed into his house at 12321 22nd Street N.E. and grabbed his Speed Graphic camera. He waited until the disc was directly overhead before taking a photograph, using Super XX film, shutter speed set at 1/50 and an F 22 lens opening.

Using binoculars, he observed the object closely. "The disc came over at about 9,000 or 10,000 feet. It was flashing silver in the sun, (and was) about one-tenth the apparent size of a full moon," he reported later. He said the gleaming disc appeared to change course slightly in its northern flight. "As the object hurtled through the sky," he said, "it seemed brighter at certain times than at others. I believe it was the way the sun hit it." Ryman heard no noise, no sound of engines. "I am positive there were no wings or fins in sight. It definitely was not a plane," he asserted. "I looked for wings and other possible projections as I watched it through the binoculars. I thought it conceivably could have been a weather balloon being blown along by a high wind. The Navy told me there was very little wind --about 10 to 12 knots at most. The object I photographed appeared to be traveling over 500 miles an hour."

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Ryman said that the object was in sight for four or five minutes and was observed by at least 20 others in the neighborhood. He contacted the Post-Intelligencer immediately, and the film was developed in the newspaper's darkroom. It showed a small, blurred white oval against the background of the sky. Enlarged, it is quite distinct (see reproduction), and the enlargement was reprinted widely by the wire services. The importance of this photograph is not so much what is shown on film, but in the circumstances under which it was taken -- one of the rare cases in which a photograph is made with numerous eye-witnesses who not only saw the object in the sky, but saw the photograph being taken as well.



Case 257 - July 4, Lake City, Washington (Ryman)

In the Air Force files the Ryman sighting is explained as a "weather balloon," although the speed of the object, as well as information on the wind at the time, appear to make such an explanation doubtful. The Air Force report on this sighting gives the duration of observation as ten minutes. In the newspaper accounts -- both local and wire service versions -- Ryman specifically says the object was in view for "four to five minutes." Whether or not Ryman changed his estimate of the duration in his official report is unknown, but it is perfectly clear that a ten-minute duration would be more acceptable to the Air Force in proposing a balloon explanation.

Reports by at least three people were made in other parts of Seattle about a half an hour before the Coast Guardsman's sighting. J. H. Oakley reported seeing a group of six objects at Bow Lake (Case 252) and, at about the same time, Charles Kamp, a Seattle Transit System driver, with his wife, saw several discs "over the University district" going west at high speed (Case 253).

Case 493 -- July 6, Birmingham, Alabama: Widespread reports of objects seen over Birmingham for more than an hour from about 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. CST (see III-3,4) alerted Robert Crossland, Birmingham Age-Herald copy reader. When he saw objects passing over his residence on 29th Street and Highland Avenue, he rushed to get his camera. His developed film revealed two round, white spots close together, against a black background, according to newspaper reports. One of the spots was larger than the other. Crossland said he took a 15-second time exposure. He said that five other persons were with him when he took the photograph. Efforts to obtain copies have not been successful.

Case 683 -- July 7, Louisville, Kentucky: As in Birmingham on the previous night, numerous reports of aerial objects were made at Louisville and in other Kentucky areas during the evening and night hours. Al Hixenbaugh, a Louisville Times photographer, said that when three bright objects flew over about 10:15 p.m. CST, he took a five-second exposure of them, capturing two on the exposed plate. Described in his report as "fiery balls," the objects on film appear as long streaks, due to the five-second exposure (see reproduction).



Case 683 - July 7, Louisville, Kentucky (Hixenbaugh)

Hixenbaugh took the photograph at Preston Street Road and Bickel's Lane. He said that while it was impossible to tell their shapes, the "fiery balls" did have tails like meteors. However, the objects traveled parallel to the horizon and did not fall in arcs, as meteors most often do. He estimated that the objects were from two to five miles away and about 1,000 to 2,000 feet high. (If his estimate was even fairly accurate, the objects were flying too low to be meteors.) Their speed, estimated at approximately 200 miles an hour, was too slow for meteors.

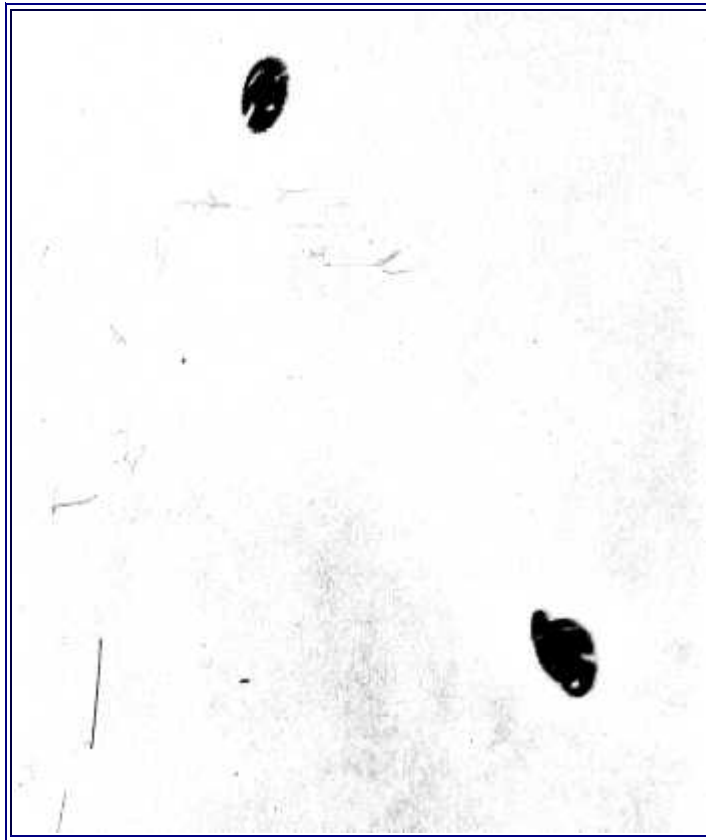
One of the many reports from Louisville and other parts of Kentucky, at about the same time, came from Robert Delara, of 2745 West Market, who also described seeing three fiery objects shooting northward. Delara said they were "too big for falling stars," but he said he didn't know what else they could be (Case 682).

Case 651 -- July 7, near Pontiac, Michigan: Albert Weaver, 37-year-old tool and die maker of Pontiac, reported that he and two unidentified friends had seen three objects

come "sailing over Orchard Lake Country Club" in the evening around sundown. According to Weaver, who said he had previously scoffed at reports of discs, he and his companions were "amazed" when three objects came into view over a hill, "about 150 feet high," and traveling at about 100 miles an hour.

The discs, Weaver said, were about two feet in diameter, about two inches thick at the edges, and four to six inches thick in the middle. They appeared to have holes in them, he said. His two companions disagreed with his size estimates: they thought that the diameter of the discs had been five feet. One man said "they appeared to have a control tower on top."

The photograph taken by Weaver shows only two objects, dark against the bright background of the sky, and with no reference points showing - at least in the available reproductions. One of the objects looks suspiciously like a phonograph record; the other is difficult to visualize as a disc, unless a large protuberance on one of its lateral surfaces is the "control tower" referred to. Nothing could be learned from the local papers about the photographer and local accounts were not available. (See reproduction)

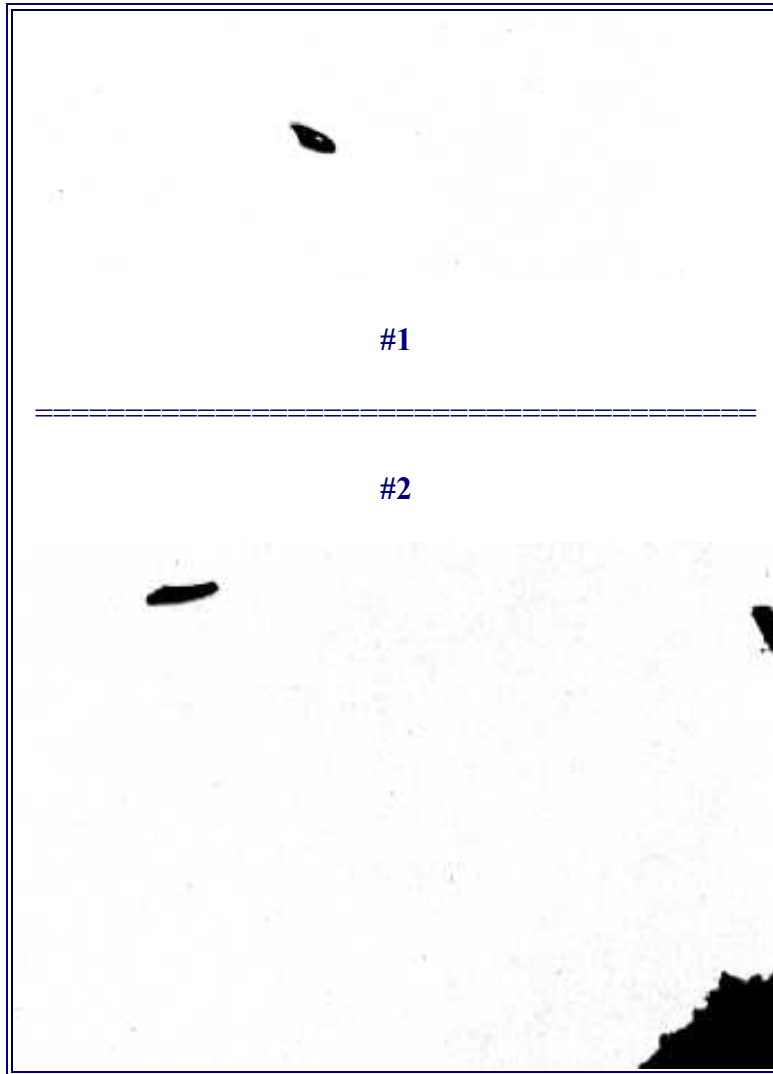


Case 651 - July 7, Near Pontiac, Michigan (Weaver)

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Case 675 -- July 7, Phoenix, Arizona: William Rhodes, of 4333 North 14th Street, who described himself as a "free lance scientist and inventor," was on his way to his laboratory behind his home at dusk when he heard a "whoosh" overhead. Looking up,

he expected to see a P-80 jet; instead, he saw a dark, heel-shaped object coming in from the west. It circled and banked at about 1,000 feet over his home. Rhodes grabbed his camera from the laboratory workbench and as the object banked in a tight circle for the second time, he took his first photograph. As it circled once again at moderate speed, he took another shot. Other than the initial "whoosh," which had caught his attention, there was no sound. Following its final maneuver the object took off at high speed to the southwest.



Case 675 - July 7, Phoenix, Arizona (Rhodes)

The photographs were reproduced in the July 9 edition of the Phoenix Arizona Republic, with accompanying details of the sighting. (The claim by a Chicago publisher that all July 9 issues had been confiscated in a door-to-door search is completely without any basis in fact.) A few weeks after the incident, an Army Air Corps Intelligence Officer and an FBI agent visited Rhodes and asked for copies of the photographs, as well as the negatives, which Rhodes turned over to them willingly. He later reported that efforts to get them back were unsuccessful.

In the Air Force files, the Rhodes sighting is termed a "possible hoax." Kenneth Arnold reported, however, that when he met Intelligence Officer Lt. Frank Brown in Tacoma on July 31, Brown said that Rhodes' photographs were among several "we consider to be authentic," explaining that copies had just been received at Hamilton Field (*The Coming of the Saucers*, pp. 52-53). It is also interesting to note that while Rhodes himself had no luck in getting his photographs back, officers at Hamilton Field willingly gave copies to Arnold on a subsequent trip he made to that base. Those same photos, given to Dr. McDonald by Arnold, were lent for the purpose of reproduction in this report by Dr. McDonald. The drawings below are included to give a clearer impression of the shapes in the photographs.



Case 734 -- July 8, Avalon, California: At 1:00 p.m. PST, several hundred people on Santa Catalina Island, off Long Beach, saw a flight of six disc-shaped objects pass over the Island. Among the witnesses were Army Air Corps veterans Bob Jung, Kenneth Johnson and Alvio Russo. Jung, a former aerial photographer in the service, was able to photograph one of the discs. Russo, a pilot who had flown 35 missions over Europe with the Eighth Air Force, estimated the speed of the objects at 850 miles an hour; Jung compared their speed with that of the Navy's "Tiny Tim" rocket.

"They were in two elements. of three each," Jung said. "The formation came in from the northeast and disappeared over the hills to the south of Avalon Bay." Jung, who was a professional photographer in Avalon, had his camera with him and took two shots before the objects vanished. The film was flown to the shore for processing, and as far as can be determined, only one had been printed; it shows a single oval-shaped, light-colored object of considerable size, with the superstructure of a ship at the bottom in the foreground. The printed copy is highly retouched. Efforts to obtain a copy of the print, or the original report, have not been successful.

Case 790 -- July 9, Morristown, New Jersey: In an account published in the Morristown Daily Record (7/10) there is a description of a sighting that presumably took place on the preceding morning. The witness was John H. Janssen, of Morristown, identified as "Airport Columnist" on the Record. He reported that he was on his way to the airport at mid-morning when he "caught a glint in the sky and, looking up, saw what he first took to be a group of airplanes. Closer examination revealed a formation of four disc-like objects floating in the air at about 10,000 feet. Janssen said he "quickly fitted a filter to his camera lens" and took the photograph

printed with his story. "I had only time for this one picture. While I was turning the film for the next exposure the lead disc suddenly shot upward and toward New York City in a dazzling burst of speed. The other three followed and all were out of sight in a twinkling of the eye. In my brief glimpse of the discs I did notice that the lead one was of a dull metallic color and the others appeared to be of a silvery hue.

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"From where I stood on the top of my car watching the strange craft," he said, "I guessed them to be anywhere from 100 to 300 feet in diameter. The circumference was the thinnest part of the ships and widened toward the middle where possibly they could be ten to twenty feet high-enough to provide living and operating quarters."



Case 790 - July 9 or 10, Morristown, N.J.

The photograph shows four bright objects, three of which are distinct ovals against the clear sky in a slightly curved line, while the fourth, at the top of the line, is less distinct. In the lower part of the picture is part of a cloud formation.

Janssen was the second of two UFO witnesses in the 1947 wave to publicly express belief that the objects were space ships. "I really believe these craft to be operated by an intelligence far beyond that developed by we earth-bound mortals and

(I) am inclined to agree with the theory that they are space craft from another planet." He went on to theorize on possible magnetic and antigravity methods of propulsion to explain the acceleration of the objects. "In all probability these are reconnaissance craft and as they have been seen all over the world and not only in this country, are probably making a thorough study of us and our terrain and atmosphere before making any overtures."

In the light of subsequent claims by Mr. Janssen, including a story purportedly taking place several weeks later and describing how his plane was stopped in mid-air for a number of minutes while being scrutinized by a pair of discs hovering nearby, the original sighting report and photograph must be viewed with a certain amount of suspicion. As the original photograph is no longer available, a drawing of the reproduction in the Daily Record is included.

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Section V - - Chronology and References

Section V - Case Number Cross Reference to Section/Page Numbers

(This is a new addition and was not part of the original report)

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Section V - - Chronology and References

Terms, Methods, and Conventions Used

The 853 cases in this section are arranged in chronological order. The data for each case are presented in nine columns, each containing four items of information, which is specified at the top of each column. Some of these items, or the methods by which they were derived, require an explanation.

In Column 1, the page numbers listed in the Cross References direct the reader to other parts of the Report (Sections I through IV, or to the Appendix), where the case is described in more detail. For some cases, additional information, or corrected information, was received after the Chronology was finished. Since it was not feasible to revise the Chronology at that point to incorporate the new material, it was included elsewhere, as shown by the Cross References. When such supplementary information about a case is available, the Case Number is followed by a double asterisk (e.g., 233**).

The category Related Cases refers to either independent reports of the same object(s), to other sightings made by the same witness(es), or to other cases having some special relevance.

The category AF Explanation refers to the official explanation for a sighting as found in the Air Force files. Since the official reports examined at Project Blue Book (see Preface) contain only a handful of the cases in the Chronology (approximately 6.5 percent), most cases are marked NIOF (Not In Official Files). The files after July 10 were not examined at Blue Book (except for Case 852), and these cases are marked OFNE (Official Files Not Examined).

Column 2 pertains to the time and date of the sightings. Since newspaper accounts often fail to mention the exact time of a sighting, a uniform system was worked out to transpose vague time indications into specific hours so that a time sequence could be established. When the exact date of a sighting is not given, the estimated date is shown as "about" (ab) or "not later than" (NLT).

Regarding the time of sighting, daylight observations could usually be separated from those made at night by internal evidence; a few reports, however, gave no clues whatever to even a general time of day or night, and these cases are situated at the beginning of the listing for the day. A number of general time indications have been mentioned in many cases and these have been given specific times by the following schedule, which involves a possible error of only about two hours either way, except for the "Daytimes" cases, for which a plus or minus factor of about seven hours must be considered.

| Time Indicated In Report Assignments | Local Standard Time |
|--|------------------------|
| ----- | ----- |
| Daytime | 1:00 p.m. |
| Early morning | 7:00 a.m. |
| Morning | 10:00 a.m. |
| Early afternoon | 1:00 p.m. |
| Afternoon | 3:00 p.m. |
| Late afternoon | 5:00 p.m. |
| Early evening | 6:00 p.m. |
| Evening | 8:00 p.m. |
| Night, before midnight | 10:00 p.m. |

Although local standard time was uniformly used in making these time assignments, some of the localities involved were actually on Daylight Saving Time in Summer of 1947; this is indicated by showing the Time Zone in parentheses--e.g., (EDT). A map of 1947 time zones and a list of the localities observing Daylight Time will be found in the Appendix, pp. 11, 13. Local time for all sightings was converted into Greenwich Mean Time (GMT); the conversion table is given on page 12 of the Appendix. An asterisk after the GMT (e.g., 0145*) indicates that at the local time of the sighting the next day had begun in Greenwich, England.

Column 3 contains information about the place of sighting. Canadian provinces are listed under States. Local Area gives the location of the witnesses. Column 4 lists names and addresses of witnesses, and column 5 their occupations. Married women were uniformly designated "Housewife," for it was felt, unless a specific profession was mentioned, that this would apply to most of the women witnesses who were married.

The next three columns give details of appearance and behavior of the objects; these are amplified for many cases in the Cross Reference pages. In the last column, the term Exhaust includes all emissions of smoke, vapor, trails, flames, etc. Traces includes fragments alleged to have come from a UFO, as well as marks left in the physical environment. Effects includes physiological reactions on human beings or animals, electro-magnetic effects, or photographs. (Also, if an object is seen to explode, this is referred to under Effects.) "NR" indicates that the feature was not reported; "None" indicates the known or implied absence of the feature from the report.

Other special abbreviations as used in the Chronology are as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Crk | Creek | Lk | Lake, like |
| Def | Definite | Lngh | Length |
| Dir | Direct(ly) | Nr | Near |
| Engr | Engineer(ing) | Pc | Piece |
| Gov | Governor | Refctns | Reflections |
| Hgt | Height | Sen | Senator |
| Ident | Identifi(fy, ied) | Tms | Times |

[Cases 1 to 853 Listed by Case Number](#) (The chronology is in a separate PDF document)

Section V - - Chronology and References

References Listed by Case Number

| Case No. | Sources | Case No. | Sources |
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| 1 | NICAP Files | 32 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 6/28 |
| 2 | <u>Ibid.</u> | | Tacoma <u>News-Tribune</u> (AP), 6/27 |
| 3 | Harrisburg <u>Patriot</u> , 7/7 | | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> , 6/28 |
| 4 | Grand Rapids <u>Herald</u> , 7/7 | 33 | Chicago <u>Times</u> , 6/27 |
| 5 | New Orleans <u>Times-Picayune</u> , 7/7 | | Detroit <u>News</u> (UP, White Sands), 6/28 |
| 6 | Wilmington <u>Journal Every Evening</u> , 7/8 | | Spokane <u>Daily Chronicle</u> (AP), 6/28 |
| | Philadelphia <u>Inquirer</u> , 7/8 | 34 | Kansas City <u>Times</u> , 6/28 |
| | Columbus <u>Citizen</u> (UP), 7/8 | 35 | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> , 6/29 |
| | USAF Files | | Sacramento <u>Union</u> (AP), 6/29 |
| 7 | Lorenzen, Coral, <u>The Great Flying Saucer Hoax</u> p.4 | 36 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 6/28 |
| 8 | USAF Files | 37 | Portland <u>Journal</u> , 7/4 |
| | Keyhoe, Donald F., <u>The Flying Saucers Are Real</u> , | 38 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/3 |
| | pp. 24, 158-59 | | Reno <u>State Journal</u> (UP, Boise), 7/3 |

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| 9 | Sacramento <u>Union</u> (AP, Scottsbluff), 7/8 | | San Francisco <u>News</u> , 7/3 |
| 10 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> (AP, Bremerton, 6/26, 6/27) | | UP in numerous papers for 7/3 & 7/4 |
| | AP in numerous papers for 6/27 | | USAF Files |
| 11 | <u>Ibid.</u> | | Project Saucer Summary, p. 11 |
| 12 | Wisconsin <u>State Journal</u> , 7/7 | 39 | USAF Files |
| | Milwaukee <u>Journal</u> , 7/7 | | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> , 6/26 |
| 13 | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> (AP), 6/27 | | Portland <u>Journal</u> (AP, Pendleton), 6/26 |
| | Portland <u>Journal</u> (AP), 6/27 | | Chicago <u>Tribune</u> (Pendleton, 6/25), 6/26 |
| | AP in numerous papers for 6/27 | | UP & AP in most papers for 6/26 & 6/27 |
| 14 | Birmingham <u>News & Age-Herald</u> , 7/9 | | Project Saucer Summary, pp. 1, 3-4 |
| 15 | Des Moines <u>Register</u> , 7/8 | | Keyhoe, <u>op. cit.</u> , pp. 21, 23-24, 66, 161 |
| 16 | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> , 6/28 | | Heard, <u>op. cit.</u> , pp. 1-3, 7, 70-71 |
| 17 | Albuquerque <u>Journal</u> , 7/2 | | Shalett, Sidney, "What You Can Believe |
| 18 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> (AP, Bremerton, 6/26), 6/27 | | About Flying Saucers," <u>Saturday</u> |
| 19 | Detroit <u>Times</u> (UP, Erie), 7/9 | | <u>Evening Post</u> , 4/30/49, p. 20 |
| | New York <u>Journal-American</u> (UP, Erie), 7/9 | | Ruppelt, Edward J., "What Our Air Force |
| | Philadelphia <u>Bulletin</u> (UP), 7/9 | | Found Out About Flying Saucers," |
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| | Keyhoe, <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 24 | | Ruppelt, Edward J., <u>The Report on</u> |
| 21 | Tucson <u>Daily Citizen</u> , 7/7 | | <u>Unidentified Flying Objects</u> , pp. 18-19, 32-34 |
| 22 | USAF Files | | Lorenzen, <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 5 |
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| | Los Angeles <u>Herald-Express</u> , 7/9 | 804 | Morristown <u>Daily Record</u> , 7/10 |
| 744-747 | Portland <u>Journal</u> , 7/9 | 805 | Beaver Falls <u>News-Tribune</u> , 7/10 |
| 748-750 | Los Angeles <u>Examiner</u> , 7/9 | 806 | Anchorage <u>Daily Times</u> , 7/10 |
| | Los Angeles <u>Herald-Express</u> , 7/9 | | Seattle <u>Times</u> , (AP, Anchorage), 7/10 |
| 751 | Spokane <u>Daily Chronicle</u> , 7/8 | 807 | San Francisco <u>Chronicle</u> , 7/11 |
| 752 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 7/9 | 808 | New York <u>Times</u> , 7/11 |
| 753-754 | Sioux City <u>Journal</u> 7/9 | 809 | Denver <u>Rocky Mountain News</u> , 7/10 |
| 755 | USAF Files | 810 | Lorenzen, op. cit., p. 7 (quoting |
| | Ruppelt, op. cit., pp. 38-39 | | Douglas Dispatch) |
| | Hall, op. cit., pp. 33, 130, 158 | 811-813 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 7/11 |
| 756-758 | Philadelphia <u>Inquirer</u> , 7/9 | 814-816 | Denver <u>Rocky Mountain News</u> , 7/11 |
| 759 | Springfield <u>Illinois State Journal</u> , 7/9 | 817-818 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/11 |

| Case No. | Sources | Case No. | Sources |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| 819 | USAF Files | 839-840 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 7/14 |
| | Ginna, Robert (with H. B. Darrach, Jr.), | 841 | San Francisco <u>News</u> , 7/18 |
| | "Have We Visitors From Space?," | 842 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> (UP, Idaho Falls), 7/21 |
| | <u>Life</u> , 4/7/52, Case 2, pp. 84, 89 | 843 | USAF Files |
| | Hall, op. cit., pp. 13, 49, 130, 149, 158 | | Keyhoe, op. cit., pp. 8, 21, 30 |
| 820 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 7/11 | | Project Saucer Summary, p. 11 |
| 821 | St. Petersburg <u>Times</u> , 7/11 | 844 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/22 |

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|--|
| 822 | CSI of L.A., now in NICAP files | 845 | Meriden <u>Record</u> , 7/23 |
| 823-824 | USAF Files | 846 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/24 |
| 825 | In error, this case number was not assigned to any sighting. | 847 | CSI of L.A., now in NICAP Files |
| | | | Vancouver <u>Sun</u> , 7/25 |
| 826 | Indianapolis <u>Star</u> , 7/12 | 848 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/30 |
| 827-828 | St. Petersburg <u>Times</u> , 7/12 | 849 | <u>op. cit.</u> , 7/29 |
| 829 | Lorenzen, <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 7 (quoting Douglas Dispatch) | | San Francisco <u>Chronicle</u> (AP, Boise, 7/28), 7/29 |
| 830 | Birmingham <u>News & Age-Herald</u> , 7/13 | 850 | Arnold, <u>op. cit.</u> , pp. 25-27 |
| 831 | APRO Bulletin, May, 1962, p. 5 | | Heard, <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 71 |
| 832-833 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/13 | 851 | Boise <u>Daily Statesman</u> , 7/30 |
| 834-835 | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> , 7/13 | 852 | USAF Files |
| 836 | Birmingham <u>News & Age-Herald</u> , 7/13 | 853 | Arnold, "The Flying Saucer As I Saw It," |
| 837 | Hall, <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 158 | | privately published in 1950, p. 13 |
| 838 | NICAP Files | | Arnold, <u>The Coming of the Saucers</u> , p. 168 |

Section V - - Chronology and References

CREDITS

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Drawings:

p. I-3 (Case 39), figures A & B, from the Air Force files on Arnold's sighting, adapted from reproductions in Flying Magazine, July, 1950, and figure C, adapted from the cover of Arnold's pamphlet, "The Flying Saucer As I Saw It";

p. II-15 (Case 306), from sketch by witness reproduced in Washington News, 7/7/47;

p. III-1 (Case 838) and p. III-19 (Case 352), from sighting reports in NICAP files;

p. IV-5 (Case 675), from photograph facing p. IV-5;

p. IV-6 (Case 790), from photograph in Morristown
Daily Record, 7/10/47.

Photographs:

facing p. IV-2 (Case 257), UPI;

facing p. IV-3 (Case 651), UPI;

facing p. IV-4 (Case 683), courtesy of the Louisville
Times;

facing p. IV-5 (Case 675), from K. Arnold to Dr. James
 F. McDonald, by courtesy of the latter.

Maps prepared by Beau Sinkler; drawings by Ted
 Bloecher.

Section V - - Chronology and References

Section V Addenda

Corrections on Dates, Times, Names, etc.

Prepared October 12, 2001

These changes are in the chronology highlighted in yellow

(This is a new addition and was not part of the original report)

| Case Number | Original Date | Corrected Date | Corrected Time | Corrected Name | Corrected Locale | Corrected Miscellaneous |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Case 148 | | | 9:00 pm EDT | | | Moving N |
| Case 163 | 2-Jul | 1-Jul | | | | |
| Case 176 | | | | | | Line formation |
| Case 182 | 5-Jul | 1-Jul | | | | Moved north |
| Case 209 | | | Ab noon CST | | 3 mi NW | Straight course |
| Case 226 | | | | | | Culver & 2 sons |
| Case 304 | 5-Jul | 28-Jun | | | | |
| Case 333 | | | | | | To NE, then E |
| Case 379 | | | 4:05 pm CST | Mrs. Sadie McCauley | | Straight, in line |
| Case 516 | | | 7:15 pm CST | | | |
| Case 532 | 7-Jul | 6-Jul | 3:15 pm EDT | Mrs Rosina Randall & son | | |
| Case 542 | 7-Jul | 6-Jul | 2:00 pm PST | Buckhaber(not Puck...) | | Shiny surface |
| Case 545 | | | | +Roy G Kennedy, Pt | | 2 discs, going E |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| | | | | Chicago | | |
| Case 646 | 7-Jul | 6-Jul | | | | |
| Case 662 | | | 6:15 pm CST | | | |
| Case 678 | | | 9:10 pm CST | | | |
| Case 683 | | | 10:35 pm CST | | | |
| Case 694 | 8-Jul | 7-Jul | Midday | | Meridian | 2 rnd, left smoke |
| Case 695 | 8-Jul | 6-Jul | 11:30 am PST | | nr Meridian | 1 round, silver, fast |
| Case 696 | 8-Jul | 11-Jul | | Ms Maude Lawyer | | Obj fell in flames |
| Case 697a | | Ab 28 June | | Robert Larkin | Feather River nr Oroville | 3 dark objs, 1 w/points, 1k umbrella |
| Case 697b | | 6-Jul | 5:05 pm PST | Mr/Mrs A.L.Watson and son Charles and daughter Connie | at home | 1 Lge disc, aluminum fast & high, lifted up & disappeared, SW |
| Case 697c | | 6-Jul | ab 5 pm PST | Mrs D D Wright | | 1 silver object, turned on its side, then level again |
| Case 697 | | 6-Jul | ab 5 pm PST | Harold Grass | nr Lake Wyandotte | 1 lg round thin disc turned on side and then flattened out |
| Case 781 | 9-Jul | 8-Jul | Daytime | Leo Sequin, of Martinette & Floyd Lecanne, of Menominee | | Filling station attendants |
| Case 784 | 9-Jul | 5-Jul | Evening | Frank Mifflin and wife Eva | | Straight course to S |
| Case 790 | | | 10:00 am EDT | | | |
| Case 793 | 9-Jul | 8-Jul | | | | |
| Case 823 | ab 10-Jul | 10-Jul | | 3 witnesses | | Bolide-like object, slow speed, high alt., steady course |
| Case 824 | ab 11-Jul | 10-Jul | | | Harmon Field | |

APPENDIX

Additional Data on Sightings

Important additional information on a number of reports was obtained by Dr. James E. McDonald in a series of telephone interviews with at least 30 of the witnesses who reported seeing UFOs in 1947. A list of those witnesses, with the case number, date, and location of sighting, is found below. In addition to those witnesses listed below, Dr. McDonald has interviewed Mrs. E. G. Rawlins (formerly Mrs. H. G. Olavick) on her sighting of ca. April 29, 1947, in Tucson, Arizona (see Introduction); and Mrs. L. A. Kuehnel (formerly Mrs. Peter Vogel) , of Santa Clara, California, on her sighting ca. June 29, 1947, at Jacksonville, Ore. (II-4)

1. Kenneth Arnold, Case 39 Sighting June 24, near Mt. Rainier, Washington

2. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weaver, Case 110 Sighting June 29, Tucson, Arizona
3. Hunter Nelson and Walter Nicholson, Case 120 Sighting June 30, near Hailey, Idaho
4. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bergh, case 155 Sighting July 2, Lewiston, Idaho
5. Mrs. Fred C. Nelson, Case 179 Sighting July 3, Omaha, Nebraska
6. Fred C. Krives, Case 232 Sighting July 4, Vancouver, Washington
7. Karl A. Prehn, Case 233 Sighting July 4, Portland, Oregon
8. Walter A. Lissy, Case 234 Sighting July 4, Portland, Oregon
9. Earl E. Patterson, Case 235 Sighting July 4, Portland, Oregon
10. Mrs. Curt Dennis, Case 240 Sighting July 4, near Craig, Montana
11. Mr. and Mrs. Nova Hart, Case 242 Sighting July 4, Pattonville, Missouri
12. George Aster, Case 271 Sighting July 4, Hauser Lake, Idaho
13. Captain Emil J. Smith, Cases 285 and 286 Sighting July 4, Emmett, Idaho & Ontario, Oregon
14. Henry P. Vanderhoef, Jr., Case 335 Sighting July 5, Boise, Idaho
15. Henry Seay, Case 350 Sighting July 5, Fayetteville, Arkansas
16. Wallace R. Magness, Case 397 Sighting July 6, Tucson, Arizona
17. Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Broadwell, Case 442 Sighting July 6, Greendale, Virginia
18. Walter Laos, Case 453 Sighting July 6, Tucson, Arizona
19. Evan Davies, Case 556 Sighting July 7, Tacoma, Washington
20. Charles Brackett, Case 578 Sighting July 7, Reno, Nevada
21. Fayette J. Cloud, Case 613 Hoax report July 7, Raleigh, North Carolina

Appendix 1

22. Oliver Earl Cooper, Case 727 Sighting July 8, Muroc Air Base, California
23. Mrs. Dave Johnson, Case 794 Sighting by her husband, July 9, Boise, Idaho

All but Cases 110, 155, 179 and 335 have been referred to in the text of the Report (see Chronology and Index for references). The information on these four cases is included in the Appendix, together with the original news account, for

comparison. In addition, information obtained from Mrs. Dave Johnson, widow of the witness involved in Case 794, is included.

Case 110 - From the Tucson Arizona Daily Citizen, 7/4/47: "Among Tucsonans who have reported seeing the mysterious discs in the sky are Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Weaver, 708 East 1st St. Weaver, a restaurant proprietor, said he noticed 9 or 10 of the discs in the sky about 1:30 p.m. last Sunday (6/29) while standing near North Stone and East Alameda Streets. He and Mrs. Weaver then went home to obtain a better look at the mysterious objects with binoculars."

Dr. McDonald learned from Weaver that at the time of his observation he operated the San Carlos Restaurant in downtown Tucson. He and his wife had stepped out the back door of their restaurant on the day of the sighting and, looking toward the northeast, saw a number of objects maneuvering over the Catalina Mountains. Weaver had the impression that the objects were somewhat to the south of the mountains and not much more than 2,000 feet above the ridge. They were almost too small to be able to tell their shape clearly, but Weaver had the impression that the objects were elliptical, or saucer-shaped. They were silvery, with a shiny finish, and the Weavers saw the glint of light from them when they flashed in the sun. He recalled there being six or seven objects (compare with "9 or 10" in news account). The objects were more or less hovering in one spot, and Weaver thought of driving to his mother's home (not his, as reported in the local papers) to get binoculars. This took him about five minutes and the objects were still in view when he got there. He found that the binoculars were of little assistance, and he had trouble finding the objects due to the small field of view, so he continued to watch them with the naked eye.

Shortly after he had gotten the binoculars, the objects began climbing rapidly towards the southeast. In about two minutes they were lost to view, moving much faster than normal aircraft. "I have never seen anything like it before or since," he told McDonald, and added that he and his wife have been watching the skies ever since but have not seen any more UFOs. He was quite definite that the objects he saw were no conventional objects.

Case 155 - From the Spokane Daily Chronicle, 7/2/47: "Flying discs were reported seen over Lewiston this morning and five persons said they had seen the objects. Their appearance, however, was described as long and narrow, flat on the ends and narrow in the middle, like airplane propellers.

Appendix 2

Mrs. Lloyd Bergh went out on the porch of her home at 13th Avenue just off 14th Street at about 8:15 a.m. She said she has read a lot about the 'discs' lately and always looks over the sky when she is outside. She said she immediately spotted four.

"Mrs. Bergh said she called her husband and an 11-year-old daughter, who watched with a 9-year-old neighbor girl. The Berghs notified Mrs. Bob Sergeant next door, who came out in time to see only one of the objects before they disappeared.

"Mrs. Bergh watched them through colored glasses and said they were all in a group, and were white and shiny. They were very high, she said, much higher than airplanes usually fly over the area. She said that they were going at a steady speed and apparently came in from the northwest and left in a generally southeasterly direction. They would dip and roll, but they did not appear to be spinning, she said."

At the time of the sighting, the Bergh's told Dr. McDonald, they lived at 1408 13th Avenue. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bergh, whom Dr. McDonald interviewed separately, said that the time of the sighting was about 7:00 a.m. (Mr. Bergh was due at work at 8:00 a.m.) Mrs. Bergh was hanging out clothes at the time. She said she had been quite skeptical of the reports of "discs" and wondered why, if everyone else was seeing them, she hadn't, so she resolved to keep an eye on the sky. It was with this in mind that she stepped outside and, looking up, saw the objects.

Both of the Bergh's emphasized that there were three, not four, objects, and that they in no way resembled "airplane propellers." Neither had seen the article in the Spokane paper and they could not imagine how such a description had gotten into the account. They said the objects were disc-shaped, like "two hub-caps face to face." Mr. Bergh emphasized that they were thicker in the middle. They were silvery (not white) and glinted in the sun. It was a beautifully clear day and although there were scattered clouds, at no time did the objects go in front or behind them.

Both witnesses stated that the discs flew with their planes vertical, like a wheel. (This description turns up in a number of reports.) That attitude may have given Mrs. Bergh the impression that the objects were rolling along but Mr. Bergh had no such impression and thought that his wife was wrong about that. The three discs moved along at a fairly high speed, maintaining a uniform distance from each other, but occasionally dipping down and up as if moving along the surface of a wave.

They were first seen to the southwest (not the northwest), high in altitude and angular elevation. They moved on an easterly course and finally disappeared to the southeast. Mrs. Bergh had time to get her sunglasses, which enabled her to watch the objects for a longer period than the others--a total duration of about three minutes.

Appendix 3

In that time, the Berghs were joined by their 11-year-old daughter, and a friend who was visiting the neighbors; Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Joliff, neighbors from several houses away; and, finally, Mrs. Bob Sergeant, from next door, who saw very little. The Bergh's recollections, according to Dr. McDonald, seemed to be quite clear.

Case 179 - From the Omaha World-Herald, 7/4/47: "An Omaha woman believes the city was visited Thursday (7/3) by 'flying saucers.' Mrs. Fred C. Nelson, 5530 Mayberry Avenue, said they appeared to be the size of dinner plates. She saw three of them about 3:30 a.m. They darted from the north and veered to the east. The objects were visible for about a second. Mrs. Nelson said they glowed with the same

brilliance and color as the full moon. Two of them were round, and the third one was oval, as though it might be tilted."

Mrs. Nelson was 53 at the time of the sighting, and according to Dr. McDonald, she still has a vivid recollection of the incident. There are several differences, however, between her recollections and the news account. She told Dr. McDonald that she had awakened during the early morning and looked out her bedroom window, next to her bed, to see what the weather was like. The window was open. She saw two (not three) "oval-shaped things" coming out of the north. They made a 90-degree turn without banking and veered off toward the east, where they disappeared. The total duration was only a few seconds. She had a clear, unobstructed view of them.

Mrs. Nelson said the outlines of the objects were distinct, not hazy, and they had the color of the moon, glowing with a pale white light. She said they appeared to be larger than the angular size of the full moon and looked oval when first seen; after their abrupt turn, their apparent projected shape changed and they appeared elliptical, symmetric fore and aft. No wings were visible and she said she had seen them so plainly that had there been any wings she certainly would have seen them. They did not reflect light, nor did they flicker or blink. But after they veered to the east they disappeared abruptly from sight, without "going behind anything." She agreed that they might have "blinked out."

Mrs. Nelson called the Omaha World-Herald later to find out if anyone else had reported seeing them, hoping to get a confirmation of her sighting. No other witnesses came forward. She recalled that at the time many people were laughing at those who reported "flying saucers." She remarked that had she seen them about a week later, she would definitely not have reported them because by that time the ridicule was very pronounced. She blamed the newspapers for this. Dr. McDonald said Mrs. Nelson was quite definite about her sighting without being contentious about it, and found her account of it coherent and articulate.

Case 335 - From the Boise Idaho Daily Statesman, 7/6/47: "Four flying discs were seen over Boise yesterday (7/5). Henry Vanderhoef, Jr., at his father's home at 1011 No. 9th Street, said he, his wife, his father, his mother, 6 or 7 neighbors, and Richard Shirley, saw three of the discs.

Appendix 4

"Vanderhoef said he saw vapor trails in the northwest, which merged into a cloud and then dissipated rapidly. From the cloud, before it thinned out, he said, there came a silver-colored, round object which wavered about, and then streaked away to the northwest.

"A minute or so later, he said, two more discs were seen coming from the cloud. They also wavered, then straightened out on a swift course to the northwest. The weather bureau said conditions at that hour, Saturday, would have permitted the formation and rapid dissolution of clouds at an altitude of 14,500 feet -- but, said the Weather Bureau, clouds formed normally would not vanish as swiftly as indicated by Vanderhoef."

Dr. McDonald learned from Vanderhoef that he had been with his wife at his father's home during the afternoon, relaxing outside with a group of neighbors. He was the first one to spot the objects. The day was perfectly clear and he saw the three objects together, nor did they come from or enter any clouds, as mentioned in the press accounts.

Their shape was round and probably disc-like, as they appeared to flutter and reflect the sunlight. Vanderhoef estimated their altitude at from 20,000 feet to 30,000 feet and said they moved overhead at times, and were seen at other times off in the distance. Sometimes they flew in formation and at other times they maneuvered alone, occasionally fluttering. At times they appeared to emit brief pulses of something resembling vapor trails, as they moved erratically. These did not stream out steadily from the objects but only came out as puffs, following sharp maneuvers. It was these violent maneuvers that struck the observer as so peculiar: he remarked that the G-forces must have been tremendous, and said the objects could not have been manned because of the sharp right-angle turns and sudden altitude changes. They were in view for close to 45 minutes.

Vanderhoef phoned the Statesman to see if they could send out a press photographer to take pictures of the objects, but by the time they got around to it, it was too late. Vanderhoef was in the Army Air Corps from 1939 to 1946, enlisted for four years and an engineering officer with the Eighth Air Force for four years. During the war he had been bombed out of his hotel during the V-2 attacks on England and, knowing that type of missile, was entirely satisfied that the objects he saw on July 5, 1947, were not any conventional aircraft. A pilot, he had worked together with Dave Johnson after the war in forming the Idaho National Guard. (Johnson was not the reporter who interviewed him for a story of his sighting.) He had known Kenneth Arnold for more than a year and felt that Arnold's story of his sighting was reliable.

Currently, Vanderhoef is employed as an investigator with the Idaho Department of Law Enforcement. He holds a private pilot's license and occasionally flies.

Appendix 5

Case 794 - Dave Johnson Report: The witness died in 1964 but Dr. McDonald was able to contact his widow. Mrs. Johnson still lives in Boise. She was not able to amplify the details of her husband's report, but she did send Dr. McDonald numerous clippings from Idaho papers that he had saved. She did mention, however, that her husband dropped all of his interest in flying saucers quite abruptly after some Army Air Corps personnel had advised him to "lay off." He had been an Air Corps pilot and was active in the Idaho National Guard, which left him no choice but compliance. Mrs. Johnson briefly described a sighting she made in 1953, and said she knew the Arnolds quite well, adding that Kenneth Arnold had become quite reluctant to talk about the subject. She regarded his original sighting as reliable.

Appendix 6

Listing of Newspapers Consulted, by States

| | |
|---|--|
| <u>Alabama</u> | <u>Georgia</u> |
| Birmingham <u>News</u> | Atlanta <u>Constitution</u> |
| Huntsville <u>Times</u> | Augusta <u>Chronicle</u> |
| Montgomery <u>Advertiser</u> | |
| | <u>Hawaii</u> |
| <u>Alaska</u> | Honolulu <u>Star-Bulletin</u> |
| Anchorage <u>Daily Times</u> | |
| | <u>Idaho</u> |
| <u>Arizona</u> | Boise <u>Idaho Daily Statesman</u> |
| Phoenix <u>Arizona Republic</u> | |
| Tucson <u>Daily Citizen</u> | <u>Illinois</u> |
| | Chicago <u>Herald-American</u> |
| <u>Arkansas</u> | Chicago <u>News</u> |
| Little Rock <u>Arkansas Democrat</u> | Chicago <u>Sun</u> |
| Little Rock <u>Arkansas Gazette</u> | Chicago <u>Times</u> |
| | Chicago <u>Tribune</u> |
| <u>California</u> | Springfield <u>Illinois State Journal</u> |
| Hollywood <u>Citizen-News</u> | Springfield <u>Illinois State Register</u> |
| Los Angeles <u>Examiner</u> | |
| Los Angeles <u>Herald-Express</u> | <u>Indiana</u> |
| Los Angeles <u>News</u> | Indianapolis <u>News</u> |
| Los Angeles <u>Times</u> | Indianapolis <u>Star</u> |
| Sacramento <u>Union</u> | |
| San Francisco <u>Call-Bulletin</u> | <u>Iowa</u> |
| San Francisco <u>Chronicle</u> | Des Moines <u>Register</u> |
| San Francisco <u>Examiner</u> | Sioux City <u>Journal</u> |
| San Francisco <u>News</u> | |
| | <u>Kansas</u> |
| <u>Colorado</u> | Topeka <u>Daily Capital</u> |
| Colorado Springs <u>Gazette-Telegraph</u> | Wichita <u>Eagle</u> |
| Denver <u>Post</u> | |
| Denver <u>Rocky Mountain News</u> | <u>Louisiana</u> |
| | New Orleans <u>Item</u> |
| <u>Connecticut</u> | New Orleans <u>Times-Picayune</u> |
| Hartford <u>Times</u> | |
| New Haven <u>Journal-Courier</u> | <u>Maine</u> |
| | Bangor <u>Daily News</u> |
| <u>Delaware</u> | Augusta <u>Daily Kennebec Journal</u> |
| Wilmington <u>Journal Every Evening</u> | |
| | <u>Maryland</u> |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <u>Florida</u> | | Baltimore <u>Evening Sun</u> |
| Miami <u>Herald</u> | | Baltimore <u>Morning Sun</u> |
| Tallahassee <u>Daily Democrat</u> | | Baltimore <u>News Post</u> |
| Tampa <u>Morning Tribune</u> | | Hagerstown <u>Morning Herald</u> |
| St. Petersburg <u>Times</u> | | |

Appendix 7

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Massachusetts</u> | | <u>New Jersey</u> |
| Boston <u>Globe</u> | | Morristown <u>Daily Record</u> |
| Boston <u>Herald</u> | | Newark <u>Evening News</u> |
| Boston <u>Record</u> | | Newark <u>Star-Ledger</u> |
| Boston <u>Traveler</u> | | Trenton <u>Evening Times</u> |
| | | |
| <u>Michigan</u> | | <u>New York</u> |
| Detroit <u>Free Press</u> | | Albany <u>Knickerbocker News</u> |
| Detroit <u>News</u> | | New York <u>Daily News</u> |
| Detroit <u>Times</u> | | New York <u>Herald-Tribune</u> |
| Grand Rapids <u>Herald</u> | | New York <u>Journal-American</u> |
| | | New York <u>Sun</u> |
| <u>Minnesota</u> | | New York <u>Times</u> |
| Minneapolis <u>Star</u> | | New York <u>World-Telegram</u> |
| St. Paul <u>Dispatch</u> | | Rochester <u>Democrat-Chronicle</u> |
| St. Paul <u>Pioneer-Press</u> | | |
| | | <u>North Carolina</u> |
| <u>Mississippi</u> | | Asheville <u>Citizen</u> |
| Jackson <u>Clarion-Ledger</u> | | Raleigh <u>News and Observer</u> |
| Meridian <u>Star</u> | | |
| | | <u>North Dakota</u> |
| <u>Missouri</u> | | Fargo <u>Forum</u> |
| Kansas City <u>Star</u> | | |
| Kansas City <u>Times</u> | | <u>Ohio</u> |
| St. Louis <u>Globe-Democrat</u> | | Cincinnati <u>Enquirer</u> |
| St. Louis <u>Post-Dispatch</u> | | Cincinnati <u>Post</u> |
| | | Cincinnati <u>Times-Star</u> |
| <u>Montana</u> | | Cleveland <u>News</u> |
| none consulted | | Cleveland <u>Plain-Dealer</u> |
| | | Cleveland <u>Press</u> |
| <u>Nebraska</u> | | Columbus <u>Citizen</u> |
| Omaha <u>World-Herald</u> | | Columbus <u>Dispatch</u> |
| | | Columbus <u>Ohio State Journal</u> |
| <u>Nevada</u> | | |
| Las Vegas <u>Review-Journal</u> | | <u>Oklahoma</u> |
| Reno <u>Nevada State Journal</u> | | Oklahoma City <u>Daily Oklahoman</u> |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Oklahoma City <u>Times</u> |
| <u>New Hampshire</u> | |
| Manchester <u>Morning Union</u> | <u>Ontario</u> |
| | Windsor <u>Daily Star</u> |
| <u>New Mexico</u> | |
| Albuquerque <u>Journal</u> | <u>Oregon</u> |
| Santa Fe <u>New Mexican</u> | Portland <u>Oregon Journal</u> |
| | Portland <u>Oregonian</u> |
| | Salem <u>Oregon Statesman</u> |

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Pennsylvania</u> | <u>Utah</u> |
| Harrisburg <u>Patriot</u> | Salt Lake City <u>Deseret News</u> |
| Pittsburg <u>Post-Gazette</u> | Salt Lake City <u>Tribune</u> |
| Pittsburg <u>Press</u> | |
| Philadelphia <u>Bulletin</u> | <u>Virginia</u> |
| Philadelphia <u>Inquirer</u> | Richmond <u>Times-Dispatch</u> |
| | |
| <u>Quebec</u> | <u>Washington</u> |
| Montreal <u>Star</u> | Seattle <u>Post-Intelligencer</u> |
| | Seattle <u>Times</u> |
| <u>Rhode Island</u> | Spokane <u>Daily Chronicle</u> |
| Providence <u>Journal</u> | Spokane <u>Spokesman-Review</u> |
| | Tacoma <u>News-Tribune</u> |
| <u>South Carolina</u> | |
| Charleston <u>News and Courier</u> | <u>West Virginia</u> |
| | Charleston <u>Gazette</u> |
| <u>South Dakota</u> | |
| Pierre <u>Daily Capital Journal</u> | <u>Wisconsin</u> |
| Sioux Falls <u>Daily Argus Leader</u> | Madison <u>Capital Times</u> |
| | Madison <u>Wisconsin State Journal</u> |
| <u>Tennessee</u> | Milwaukee <u>Journal</u> |
| Chattanooga <u>Times</u> | Milwaukee <u>Sentinel</u> |
| Knoxville <u>Journal</u> | |
| Memphis <u>Commercial Appeal</u> | <u>Wyoming</u> |
| | Casper <u>Tribune</u> |
| <u>Texas</u> | Cheyenne <u>Wyoming State Journal</u> |
| Dallas <u>Morning News</u> | |
| Houston <u>Post</u> | <u>District of Columbia</u> |
| San Antonio <u>Express</u> | Washington <u>Evening Star</u> |
| | Washington <u>News</u> |
| <u>Vermont</u> | Washington <u>Post</u> |
| Rutland <u>Herald</u> | Washington <u>Times-Herald</u> |

Appendix 9

Listing of Books and Magazines Consulted

A.P.R.O. Bulletin (May, 1962) Published by the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Tucson, Arizona

Arnold, Kenneth, "The Flying Saucer as I Saw It..." Pamphlet privately published by Kenneth Arnold, 1950

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Hall, Richard H. (ed.), *The UFO Evidence*. Published by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D.C., 1964.

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Keyhoe, Donald E. , *The Flying Saucers Are Real*. New York: Fawcett Publications, 1950

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Project Blue Book Report No. 14 Published by the United States Air Force, October, 1955

Project "Saucer" (Summary), United States Air Force Press Release M 28 - 49, April 27, 1949.

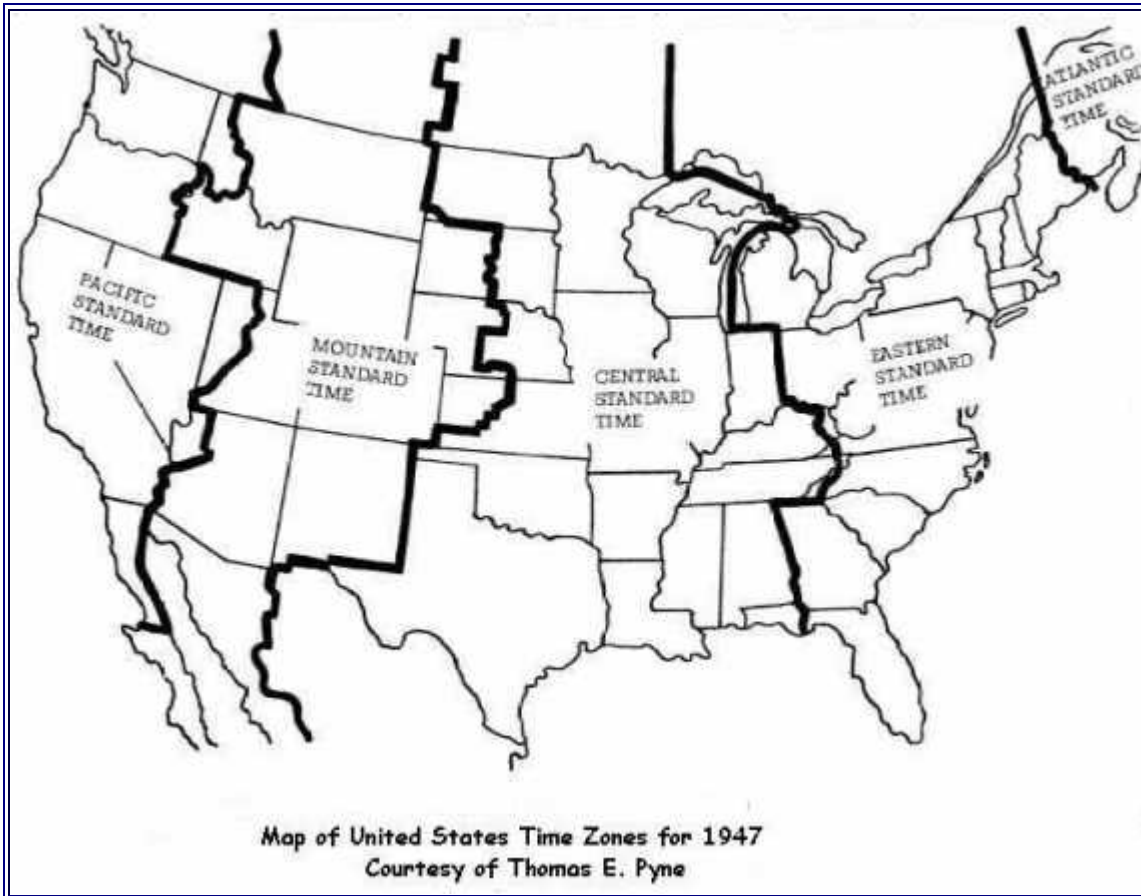
Ruppelt, Edward J., *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*. New York: Doubleday and Company, 1956.

Ruppelt, Edward J., "What the Air Force Found Out About Flying Saucers." True Magazine, May, 1954.

Shalett, Sidney, "What You Can Believe About Flying Saucers." Saturday Evening Post, April 30 and May 7, 1949.

Vallee, Jacques, *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*. New York: Henry Regnary Company, 1965.

Appendix 10



Time Zone Chart

HST = Hawaiian Standard Time

CST = Central Standard Time

EDT = Eastern Daylight Time

PST = Pacific Standard Time

CDT = Central Daylight Time

ADT = Atlantic Daylight Time

MST = Mountain Standard Time

EST = Eastern Standard Time

GMT = Greenwich Mean Time

| HST | PST | MST | CST | CDT | EST | EDT | ADT | GMT |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------|
| 2:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 0000 |
| 3:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 0100 |
| 4:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 11:00 PM | 0200 |
| 5:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 11:00 PM | Midnight | 0300 |
| 6:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 11:00 PM | 11:00 PM | Midnight | 1:00 AM | 0400 |
| 7:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 11:00 PM | Midnight | Midnight | 1:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 0500 |
| 8:00 PM | 10:00 PM | 11:00 PM | Midnight | 1:00 AM | 1:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 0600 |
| 9:00 PM | 11:00 PM | Midnight | 1:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 0700 |
| 10:00 PM | Midnight | 1:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 0800 |
| 11:00 PM | 1:00 AM | 2:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 0900 |
| Midnight | 2:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 1000 |
| 1:00 AM | 3:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 1100 |
| 2:00 AM | 4:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 1200 |
| 3:00 AM | 5:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 1200 |
| 4:00 AM | 6:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 1400 |
| 5:00 AM | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | Noon | 1500 |
| 6:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 11:00 AM | Noon | 1:00 PM | 1600 |
| 7:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | Noon | Noon | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 1700 |
| 8:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | Noon | 1:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 1800 |
| 9:00 AM | 11:00 AM | Noon | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 1900 |
| 10:00 AM | Noon | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 2000 |
| 11:00 AM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 2100 |
| Noon | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 2200 |
| 1:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 2300 |
| 2:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 0000 |

Localities that observed Daylight Saving Time in Summer, 1947

Sources: Local newspapers and the monthly Guide to the Railways, July 1947

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|
| Canada | | Maryland |
| Charlottetown, P.E.I. | | Baltimore Area |
| Chilliwack, B.C. | | Hagerstown |
| Economy, N.S. | | |
| Halifax, N.S. | | Tennessee |
| Ottawa, Ont. | | Chattanooga |
| Ripley, Ont. | | Hixson |
| St. John, N.B. | | |
| Summerside, P.E.I. | | Indiana |
| Vancouver, B.C. | | Bedford |
| Walkerville, Ont. | | Beverly Shores |
| Wallaceburg, Ont. | | Chester |
| Windsor, Ont. | | Huntington |
| | | Indianapolis |
| New England | | Lafayette |
| All areas except | | Logansport |
| Mendon, Vt. | | South Bend |
| | | Walkerton |
| New York | | |
| Annadale, S.I. | | Illinois |
| Brooklyn | | Chicago area |
| Buffalo | | Cicero |
| Geneva | | Decatur |
| Glens Falls | | Dolton |
| Rochester | | Freeport |
| Valley Stream, L.I. | | Joliet |
| | | Kankakee |
| New Jersey | | Peoria |
| The entire state | | Rockford |
| | | Springfield |
| Pennsylvania | | Willow Springs |
| Bradford | | |
| Connellsville | | Missouri |
| Gettysburg | | Ferguson |
| Philadelphia area | | Ladue |
| Scranton | | Pattonville |
| Titusville | | St. Louis |
| Warren | | Shrewsbury |

| | | |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|
| Wilkes Barre | | University City |
| District of Columbia | | Montana |
| Washington | | Butte |

Note: This list includes only those towns mentioned in this report

Appendix 13

Statistical Chart, by States, for June and July 1947

Time of Sighting

Number of Objects

| State | Cases | Daytime | Night | Unknown | Single | Multiple | Unknown | Witnesses |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Canada | 18 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 52 |
| Alabama | 28 | 4 | 23 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 0 | 75 |
| Alaska | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Arizona | 23 | 18 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 47 |
| Arkansas | 15 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 22 |
| California | 109 | 74 | 16 | 19 | 50 | 53 | 6 | 465 |
| Colorado | 36 | 30 | 5 | 1 | 19 | 15 | 2 | 80 |
| Connecticut | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 18 |
| Delaware | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Dist. of Columbia | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Florida | 10 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 22 |
| Hawaii | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Idaho | 43 | 39 | 4 | 0 | 27 | 16 | 0 | 510 |
| Illinois | 40 | 19 | 12 | 9 | 21 | 19 | 0 | 74 |
| Indiana | 13 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 31 |
| Iowa | 14 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 22 |
| Kansas | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 18 |
| Kentucky | 14 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 28 |
| Louisiana | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 18 |
| Maine | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 15 |
| Maryland | 10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 17 |
| Massachusetts | 14 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 20 |
| Michigan | 19 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 1 | 560 |
| Minnesota | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Mississippi | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| Missouri | 25 | 19 | 5 | 1 | 13 | 12 | 0 | 79 |
| Montana | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Nebraska | 8 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 15 |
| Nevada | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 37 |
| New Hampshire | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 13 |
| New Jersey | 15 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 125 |
| New Mexico | 17 | 16 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 31 |
| New York | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 13 |
| North Carolina | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 20 |
| North Dakota | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Ohio | 29 | 10 | 16 | 3 | 14 | 13 | 2 | 150 |
| Oklahoma | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 28 |
| Oregon | 54 | 49 | 5 | 0 | 26 | 28 | 0 | 110 |
| Pennsylvania | 13 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 35 |
| Rhode Island | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| South Carolina | 13 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 30 |
| South Dakota | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Tennessee | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Texas | 27 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 19 | 6 | 2 | 50 |
| Utah | 16 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 0 | 41 |
| Vermont | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Virginia | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 15 |
| Washington | 83 | 72 | 9 | 2 | 37 | 43 | 3 | 178 |
| Wisconsin | 27 | 11 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 7 | 0 | 58 |
| Wyoming | 8 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| Totals | 853 | 546 | 231 | 76 | 468 | 363 | 22 | 3283 |

Note: Included is the Kuehnel-Vogel sighting of about June 39 (no case number, see II-4), which fills in Case 825, omitted in error from the Chronology.

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