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A second notice will be sent but these are expensive to process and mail, so save APRO the added expense and *remit your dues now!*

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UFOhio SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Papers which were presented at the APRO UFOhio Symposium in June, 1981 are available from APRO Headquarters based on the following price schedule. Prices reflect copying costs at \$.10 per page plus postage. Please order by number, title and author.

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IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

The annual general membership meeting will be held on the night of Saturday, December 3, in the Conference Room of the Southern Arizona Home Builder's Association (SAHBA) building at 2840 North Country Club Road in Tucson, Arizona. The main subject of discussion will be APRO's computer project and its implementation. We look forward to a large attendance.

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the apro bulletin

VOL. 31

TUCSON, ARIZONA

NO. 9

REMOTE WYOMING AREA REVISITED

STOP PRESS — UFO OVER IRAN

At printing time, Headquarters received a clipping from Teheran, Iran, with the following information:

At between 9 and 9:30 p.m. on the evening of July 15, 1983, many travelers on the Tehran-Semnan road, between Garmsar and Varamin, saw an orange glowing object on the ground at an estimated 2 kilometers (1.1 miles). As hundreds of startled onlookers, who had stopped to view the strange object, stood and watched, the object elevated to about 5 meters altitude and then swiftly disappeared from sight. (No direction or trajectory given).

One of the witnesses was identified as an instructor in ground operations at the Mehrabad Airport, but no name was given, although Keyhan, the newspaper in which the information was printed, stated that the man had left his name and phone number for further contact.

When asked why he didn't attempt to get closer to the object, the witness said that he was so startled and afraid that he didn't consider approaching the object, which was giving off orange rays of light "several meters long."

He further said that upon arriving at Teheran he contacted the Mehrabad Control Tower and reported the sighting. He was told that they had received other reports of the object but had no idea what it was.

When a reporter from Keyhan contacted the Central Command division of the Islamic Republic's Army, one of the high-ranking officers told him that, after the necessary research, there was no confirmation of the existence of "flying saucers." He further said that the object may have been "a space object (debris? - Ed.) fallen to earth."

The newspaper concluded the item with the suggestion that "it wouldn't hurt" to send research teams to the deserts which *frequently are subject to such reports.*

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Notice—Please read renewal notice on inside bulletin cover!

When an unconventional aerial object is observed more than once in the vicinity of a military installation or a heavily populated area, we researchers are not too surprised. After all, there is something of interest involved (at least to us). However, when a strange airborne object is observed in the same general remote area, miles from the nearest large contingent of humans, one must be more than a little curious. So it is with the case we will deal with here.

A strange blue light, which apparently led one snowmobiler to the location of two other stranded snowmobilers in a deserted area in northern Wyoming, was detailed in Volume 28, No. 10 of the Bulletin. That incident took place on April 6, 1982.

On August 11, 1983 Dr. David Dolese, a physician and surgeon from Alaska, was vacationing with friends at a ranch located about 14 miles southeast of Cooke City, Montana, in Wyoming. At 12:30 a.m., Dr. Dolese laid awake in a bedroom next to the north sunporch, and saw a flashing light through a window, a little south of east. It appeared as a yellow-white light and seemed to be quite close to the ground.

Dr. Dolese at first thought the light must have had some "human explanation", although he was intrigued by its appearance.

The object then moved slowly up above the trees, and drifted to the northeast, still flashing. It moved slowly, Dolese said, like a balloon drifting, for an estimated three or four minutes, until it was out of sight in the north, hidden by three or four tall trees situated between him and the object. No sound was heard.

We take up Dr. Dolese's narration here: "I judged its distance from me with difficulty, so its size is uncertain, but it was initially in the forest less than ¼ mile away. It was shaped like an asymmetrical sloppily-made asterisk with some of its projections of light longer than others. (See Dolese's sketch). It didn't look like an expertly-made, perfect object. It's light flashed slowly on and off. It was not at high altitude like a tumbling satellite, but was definitely only a few hundred feet high at its highest point. I thought its total size was two or three feet in diameter. I didn't know and still don't know what it was. A few hours earlier, we had thunder and lightning, but not at the time of the sighting.

"...I got up and watched it out the window initially, and then actually went into the bathroom and emptied my bladder while the light was still floating along, instead of watching it. I *should have watched it every*

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Remote

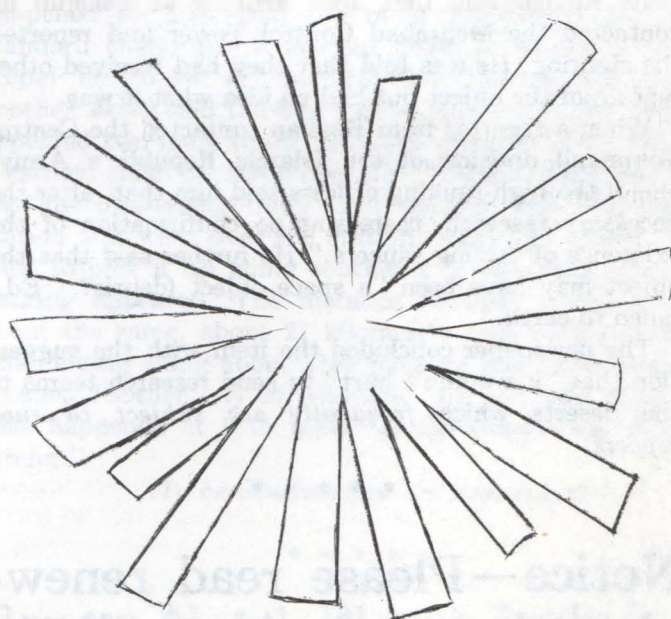
(Continued from Page One)

second and also I should have awakened others, but I didn't assess the sighting's unusualness accurately enough until later. When I came out of the bathroom, it was still visible but almost out of sight behind the tall trees to my left."

Later that day, Dr. Dolese and two others walked over the terrain that the light was initially sighted over, but found nothing unusual.

Subsequent "night watches" yielded some unusual long-distance objects but nothing to compare with the object seen by Dr. Dolese. Weather conditions on the 11th were: Scattered clouds, no precipitation, light wind, possibly from the west to the east, temperature about 50°, little humidity. There was no moon, no planets noticed, and no lights in the vicinity.

* * * * *



Drawing of object seen and described by Dr. Dolese.

Cattle Mutilations and the Imagined Culprit — A Psychological Perspective

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Besides omission, though, other kinds of accommodating errors can be found in mutilation theories, the most common and often the most striking being those attributable to the process of *rationalization*. Mutilation researchers with a bias towards the extraterrestrial hypothesis, for instance, often insist that many of the helicopters sighted near mutilation sites are, in fact, "alien UFOs in disguise." Conspiracy buffs, on the other hand, find this preposterous and subscribe to a far different notion: for them the choppers are state-of-the-art military craft "dressed up" as alien UFOs. Again, in both cases a prototypical representation of the phenomenon or schema dynamically guides the individual interpretations towards self-consistency and comprehensibility.

Likewise, the claim that a sizable amount of blood is found *missing* in many of the mutilated carcasses fails, say pathologists, to take into account 1.) that blood naturally gravitates to the *lower portion* of the cow's body and 2.) that biological disorders, such as anemia, often results in whitish tissues and watery blood which *disappears* very quickly or is not even recognized as blood at all.

As for the persistent claim that the animals do not appear to show any *sign of struggle*, Kagan and Summers queried Dr. John King, a world-renowned veterinarian pathologist from Cornell University and received the following reply: "There's nothing strange about an animal dying without struggle," Kind says. "There are so many ways an animal can die suddenly, just keel over, I couldn't name them all even if I tried. There are ruptured liver abscesses, they fall over dead in ten minutes. There's lightning. I would say that about fifty percent of cattle that die show no signs of struggle, they just fall down dead."

Besides Colorado, states such as Montana and Texas also found themselves confronted in 1975 with mutilation activity which betrayed the classic "method of operation". Keith Woverton, of the Cascade County Sheriff's office, claims to have investigated 50 mutilation cases in Montana, half of which were easily explainable by reference to natural predator and scavenger activity. Twenty-five of these cases, however, Woverton believed to have been due to some sort of human intervention. Interestingly, Leland Cade, a Montana reporter, interviewed 10 veterinarians who claimed to have been asked to assist Montana police in their investigation and could not get one to admit that they had ever seen anything which

definitely was *not* produced by predators.

This brings us then to the issue of human perception. Why does a rancher display such *confidence* in stating that particular classes of events (i.e. human-induced vs. predator-induced) are so sharply distinguishable, even though this is clearly not so? Have these ranchers fallen prey to some contagion of hysteria, as some sociologists believe? I do not believe this is so. What I think *has* happened is that ranchers, veterinarians, and police officials have combined their perceptions of the mutilation syndrome until a comfortable consensus has been reached. It is this consensus, then, which acts as their model of reality.

That such conformity of belief can occur must surely seem — especially to those of us who believe that a democratic society is capable of fostering only the highest ideals of independence — a logical impossibility. But here psychology can only hope that the disbelieving will recognize the subtle power of "group think", as it has been called, and how seductive the game can be. Sherif, for instance, in 1936 conducted an experiment in which subjects were asked to estimate distances of light movement in a completely dark room. Using a stationary light, Sherif observed the well-known autokinetic effect: the light appears to be moving even though it is not. Normally, one tends to see the light move between 1 and 5 inches; however, Sherif found that by introducing confederates into his group who gave deliberately false estimates up to 21 inches that non-confederates quickly adopted these arbitrary norms as being real (i.e. veridical). What I would suggest here is that, like mutilation events, subjects in the Sherif study were faced with a *supremely* ambiguous situation that was resolved through a kind of collective *bargaining*. And, like ranchers who reported mutilations as "classics" to police officials, Sherif's subjects were *equally* confident that their judgements had been formulated on their own, independent of any external influence. So much for the reliability of intuitive science.

Necropsy: The Shock of the Natural

Colorado — more than any other state — began pumping out mutilation claims in 1975 at a rate only *slightly* in excess of the growth rate of all mutilation theories combined. At least so it seemed. Between May of 1975 and December of 1976 the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) examined more than 200 claims of mutilation activity and found only 50 suitable for laboratory analysis. Out of this group, only 13 were confirmed as "willful mutilation with a sharp instrument." The remaining 37 were all classified as "predator-damaged." Moreover, it was noted by the CBI that among the 13 confirms, some

showed both knife *and* predator damage, indicating that the knife cuts had been made post-mortem. In addition, the CBI found no drugs, poisons, laser burns, or "odd influences" in any of the carcasses. From all indications, therefore, these animals had died from completely natural causes, such as hardware, pneumonia, rumen impaction (blocked intestines) and common bacterial infections. In their book, *Mute Evidence*, (Bantam, in press) investigative journalists Dan Kagan and Ian Summers discuss the findings of the CBI, dispelling many of the popular misconceptions which surround the mutilation mystery in general. In the so-called "classic" mutilation, for example, little or no bloating of the carcass is observed. Veterinarian pathologist, Dr. Albert McChesney, of the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine pointed out, though, that excess levels of mercury or arsenic in livestock often leads to metal poisoning which, in turn, kills off most of the bacteria that forms through autolysis in the animal's gut. The result, he says, is that one sees little or no decay, at least not until *new* bacteria can infiltrate the carcass from the ground.

One might object at this point and say that, while cognitive errors may develop out of ambiguous circumstances, one would not expect such errors in situations containing *no* ambiguity at all. Solomon Asch tested this hypothesis, in fact, in the 1950's, using, instead of a stationary light, two cards bearing lines of particular lengths. One bore one line while the other card bore three. Subjects were simply asked to match the line on the first card with the correct line in the second. Asch made certain that the match would be an each one for the subjects, and, in fact, points out that in *ordinary* circumstances subjects tend to make mistakes less than 1 percent of the time. Under group pressure in which confederates deliberately gave wrong answers, however, *36.8 percent* of 123 subjects demonstrated conformity! So much for democratic ideals.

The Persistence of Belief

If, indeed, the mutilation phenomenon can be accounted for by reference to the psychological concepts and ideas I have asked you to consider, why, we must ask, am I the only one who thinks this is so? Why do so *many* persist in believing that something diabolic is going on on the basis of what has really turned out to be incredibly unreliable information? I do not know for sure, but I do suspect it has a great deal to do with commitment. In the 1950's, you might recall, Leon Festinger and Stanley Shactner, two social psychologists, conducted their famous study of Marion Keech, a suburban housewife who claimed to have made contact with alien beings from the planet "Clarion" who predicted a terrible flood would engulf California on a certain future date.⁵ Keech also

claimed that those who accepted the truth of the prophesy and would gather at her home on that fateful night would be safely escorted off the planet in a flying saucer. A number of people did eventually appear at the house that night, and patiently awaited for the arrival of the aliens. They never came. But, during the group's stay, Mrs. Keech announced she had received another message. The aliens appeared to have been so impressed with the strength of the group's conviction that they had decided to save California from the flood. This news was met with enormous rejoicing. What Festinger and Shactner found so incredible, though, was that the members of this group became *more* committed to their belief in the aliens and subsequently sought out the news media and actively proselytized. Based on these observations, they describe five conditions under which they would expect to find increased commitment resulting from disconfirmatory evidence:

- 1.) The belief must be held with deep conviction, and must have some influence on the believer's behaviour (thus making it observable in part).
- 2.) The person must have, as a result of his belief, taken some nearly irrevocable action (e.g. public commitment).
- 3.) The belief must be such that real events can clearly refute the belief.
- 4.) The disconfirming events must be recognized by the believer.
- 5.) The individual believer must have social support subsequent to the disconfirmation.

Festinger *et al.* suggested that, *without* social support, few individuals would sustain a belief in the face of strong disconfirmatory evidence. Likewise, ranchers and police officials in close-knit, rural communities, subjected to *debunking* efforts by independent investigators and researchers would find it necessary to band together in order to combat what they might come to perceive as an official conspiracy. Only in this way might the disconfirmed belief be sustained.

In a 297 page report released in June of 1980 by former FBI agent Kenneth Rommel, one finds that of 90 mutilations *reported* in New Mexico as "classics" between February 1975 and May 1979, 77% were explainable on the basis of "available evidence." An additional 25 cases (personally investigated by Rommel and his task force) were likewise explained. The animals, Rommel concluded, all had died of "natural causes."⁶ In reading Rommel's report, one is simply amazed to find such glaring discrepancies between the physiological observations of ranchers and veterinarians.

Formal autopsy reports from universities and clinics which had been submitted tissue from purportedly mutilated animals in the states of Colorado, Texas,

Louisiana, Montana, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico *unambiguously* point to animals such as coyotes and badgers as the culprits — the stretching of animal tissue produced by post-mortem gas production and autolysis often giving the jagged edges of a bite wound the "appearance of knife cuts." Yet, ranchers scoff at these findings and *insist* that the "surgical" incisions present in the so-called "classic" cases could in no way be confused with the familiar flesh-chomping normally carried out by predators and scavengers.

As I said earlier, I *too* found it inconceivable that experienced ranchers would make such ridiculous mistakes, until I began to look at the situation a little more objectively. What I soon came to discover is that the ranchers and police were, at a certain point, no longer perceiving events but, rather, their *perception* of those events. The belief structure had become so abstracted that it lost its connection with the world and, in effect, became self-serving. In essence, as a group the ranchers and police officials were adjusting their perceptions in order to reach conformity. Bizarre as this is, I have been able to find no other plausible solution.

Conclusion

In a certain sense, I regret things have turned out the way they have. In the beginning, as one who was bursting with wide-eyed astonishment, I was sure I was on to something that was genuinely mystifying and important. I remember sharing these thoughts with Jacques Vallee who, too, seemed to feel something utterly phenomenol was taking place. His book, *Messengers of Deception*, I considered — in stark contrast to many others — one of the most significant contributions ever made towards a psychological understanding of certain features of the UFO problem. In many ways, I still do.

Recently, I was discussing my research into mutilations with an individual who was curious about its implications for UFO research in general. He told me that as one who had investigated UFO cases himself, he was interested in "data" and nothing but. Theories, he said, were of no use to him, there was too much information that was needed before any kind of theory could be entertained. I asked him what he meant by "data" and he proceeded to list a half a dozen or more things that he felt fit the bill. He mentioned radiation readings, ground traces, physiological effects, electromagnetic disturbances, the sorts of things that he considered "irrefutable." But then he said something that, quite frankly, I wasn't expecting. He said that if he could only *get the human observer out of the way* he was sure there wouldn't be so many problems. "How so?" I asked. "Because then," he said, "we'd be able to tell if there really is something going on, after all."

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GREG FALTERSACK CONFESSED

By Richard Heiden, Milwaukee, June 1983

The Nov.—Dec. 1972 bulletin featured the close encounter in suburban Milwaukee by Greg Faltersack, August 21, 1972.¹ Electromagnetic effect on his car were originally reported, but APRO's investigator found that the car's problems preceded the incident.

Near the end of the article was this paragraph:

"It has been found that the sister with whom Greg lives is a UFO enthusiast of the Adamski-contactee cult type and therefore Greg probably hears about the subject quite often. It was this sister who convinced Greg that he should report what he had seen, although he was reluctant to do so."

Greg later joined the contactee group himself. This was the so called UFO Education Center.² Recently a former member of the outfit told me that Greg had admitted to him that the sighting had never happened. He didn't know if Greg had admitted the hoax to anyone else besides his sister. However, the sister told him to keep quite about it, and not make a public confession.

I do know that the UFO Education Center has pronounced obvious UFOs to be "scout craft" or whatever, in order to get publicity for itself or gain members.³ So it does not surprise me that it should be a party to this hoax.

¹See also *Flying Saucer Review* 18:5, p. 29, with a date correction in 20:4, p. iii.

²See the *APRO Bulletin* 29:10, pp. 3-4.

³See, e.g., *Official UFO*, Sept. 1977, pp. 24-25; reprinted in *Official UFO Encyclopedia*, summer 1978, pp. 42-43.

OFFICIAL UFO SECRECY

A TEST OF AMERICAN LIBERTIES

By Robert F. Creegan

Citizen access to information which may affect human welfare and the advancement of understanding has been an essential characteristic of the Free Society, but absent in the case of tyrannies and totalitarian states. Beyond that, the American character has been celebrated for its openness, and American

democracy for the frankness of many of its greater leaders. Because of these important facts, secrecy and "cover up" concerning a topic of such wide public concern as UFO information is especially shocking. For over a decade official agencies denied in words or in substance that UFO investigations were matter of some official concern and with secrecy parameters. Lawsuits made possible by The Freedom of Information Act revealed that official investigations commenced some time before the famous Arnold sighting, and have involved numerous military and civilian agencies up until the present. Secrecy continues, as the information secured included admitted gaps, and indeed some agencies got court permission to hold back many documents which were admitted to exist. What was released does indicate some of the dimensions of the UFO problems and their urgency. The time has come to call for renewed Congressional investigations, since the legislative branch of government is the only or best defender of the public right to be informed, to learn more, and so to secure a basis for providing free science the resolute support that it needs if liberty is to survive at all.

What kinds of facts have been revealed thus far, now that the "cover up" has been partially penetrated? Suprising has been the occasional involvement of the Department of State in the face of serious UFO alerts in sensitive overseas areas such as the Persian Gulf States. Occasional reports from centers of defense related atomic energy development, including Oak Ridge, Savannah River, and especially Los Alamos are of intense interest, and actual landings have been reported from the Manzano security area in New Mexico as recently as 1980. In the 1970s there was a series of incursions by still unidentified craft at several military bases in northern USA and southern Canada. Of equal or greater interest, however, is a 1976 statement from CIA files which includes the remark that UFO related material is received "from many of our Science and Technology sources who are presently conducting related research."

Back in the 1950s the director of the FBI received from an agent the report that a military intelligence source had mentioned the recovery of crashed discs with deceased, diminutive yet humanoid occupants. Was the agency influenced by dreamers such as Scully, an early popularizer, or could it be that the much maligned Mr. Scully actually had reported some true facts along possibly with various inaccurate statements? This question is asked here without bias, and with the warning that some items released under the Act might be so called "disinformation".

That intense, continued investigative efforts continue, involving not only the so called intelligence community but also associated scientists of unquestioned competence, even brilliance, is no surprise to those of us who had been following developments

cautiously and as effectively as the policy of secrecy left possible. The only difference is that now enough has been made available to the public that a call for renewed Congressional action has a chance for success. Continued secrecy on these vital matters is an affront to a free society and more particularly is alien to the best in the American character. The time is ripe to let our elected representative know how much public support would be given to renewed hearings. Science must be given a real chance to solve this possibly catastrophic enigma, and that will require wider access to the evidences.

Letters —

Directors, APRO

Sirs;

When reading your bulletins one often is confronted with the phrase "scientific responsibility". All well and good, but it sure went down the drain when you published Mr. Jordan's bit on the cattle mutilations.

So the author felt it incumbent to consult four psychics, did he. He has to be *kidding*! Well, at least he has the guts to admit it. But what about a Ouija board? Is he using one of those, too? Good Lord, this guy is farther out than all those poor "misguided" witnesses he's been interviewing.

Sophisticated, learned prose should not be confused with "scientific responsibility", APRO.

With disappointment and
disgust, I remain,
Jack P. Swaney

Dear APRO,

Here are my dues and a little something for your computer fund. Glad to see you getting into them. I have a color computer TRS-80C, with 32K and having lots of use for it. Enjoy Sally Sheridan's articles and glad to see another use for computers.

Keep up the good work.

David L. Woolstrum

PILOT SIGHTINGS AND RADAR TRACKINGS

By Bob Gribble
Part II

(The following reports were received at the National UFO Reporting Center. Each incident is published exactly as it was described by the witnesses. NUFORC is a 24-hour UFO report hotline.)

April 16, 1978-Georgia-"About 7:30 pm we were flying northbound in a Cessna over Savannah Beach at 5500 feet. Radar told us we had Cessna traffic at our one o'clock position at 4500 feet and we told him we had him in sight. He passed on our right side a little below us. Just after he passed us we saw an extremely fast moving red and white object heading south, the same direction the Cessna was heading. The fast movement caught our attention at first, then it started oscillating up and down; it looked like it would go up a thousand feet and come down instantaneously two thousand feet, and it did this alternately.

"We told radar what we were looking at and he said he had nothing else on radar. We tracked this thing for about four minutes and it got behind us out of sight. The Cessna must have been following the conversation because he reported he had an object off his nine o'clock position, right now. I had a passenger with me and he saw it. It oscillated up and down with such extremely high altitude changes, and so fast, that it could not have been an aircraft. We thought at first because of the speed it was traveling that it was a meteor, but it was traveling on a horizontal plane. We were so awed by the abrupt altitude change of this thing that we just couldn't believe it."

June 4, 1978 - California - "I was flying in a Bonanza with my husband about 4500 feet and letting down over Pasadena at 1:30 p.m. when I saw a very strange object right in our windshield. It looked frosty, white, thick in the middle and it was tapered to both sides. It appeared to be round and I really thought it was going to crash right into our windshield. In the twinkling of an eye it went from a dead standstill to tremendous speed right up over the top of our plane. My husband turned the aircraft around and there was absolutely nothing, the object was gone. From where I was sitting it just suddenly appeared. It appeared in the upper right quadrant of the windshield. It looked frosty and cold and big. It gathered tremendous speed instantly, raised itself up and went over our aircraft. It appeared as if I was looking at the edge of a plate. It did not have a reflective quality like

something that was covered with metal. I think if it had not maneuvered to avoid us we would have hit it."

September 24, 1978 - Maine - "A police officer in Portland called me at about 9 p.m. and said he observed a large object in the sky. It was cylindrical in shape and did not have any lights on it. He asked me if I could verify it so I called radar. He got the radar up and he started picking up a target about 10,000 feet over Portland. The target remained on the screen for about 90 minutes. The police officer described the object as a grayish-pink in color, shaped like a bullet head, stationary most of the time but, when it did move, it moved at a high rate of speed and he could hear this humming sound. It had to be close to 60 feet in diameter."

November 15, 1978 - Eastern Washington State - "We had four interceptors up and three of them saw a green object. The first sighting was at 13,000 feet and he was concerned it was another aircraft coaltitude with him. Later another interceptor had radar contact at 40 miles away and he was at 35,000 feet. We decided to let one of the interceptors go over and see if he could get close to it and he descended to about 13,000 feet. He had radar contact at what he thought was about 15,000 feet. He got within eight miles of the object when he broke off because of very low fuel. He had radar contact but his radar couldn't lock-on to it. He was overtaking it by 400 knots at his speed so it appeared to be stationary. The pilot had visual contact with the object."

December 1, 1978 - Southern California - "My wingman and I were on maneuvers over the base about 6 p.m. My wingman called on the radio and said he had a light he wanted me to look at that was staying at his three o'clock position. So we went down south. We saw a white light that looked about the size of a basketball. It had an irregular pulse to it. When I first saw it, it was at his three o'clock and my three o'clock and we were making pretty hard turns at about 160 knots. The thing moved down to his six o'clock and he sees it moving back to his five o'clock and I said no, it's back at your six. We made a couple turns then he picked one up on me; that I've got one that's now joining back at my four or five o'clock. I said I think it's the same one I'm looking at but he's at your six o'clock. And then he says no, now he's moving up to the top part of your aircraft, look above you, he's right above you. I looked up for just a second and I couldn't see it and I went back and picked up his object and I'm watching him. And then my aerial observer bent around in his seat and picked up two lights that were right above my tail about 40 feet. Then they separated and moved away. All this time the other light stayed right on my wingman's six

o'clock, extended off at six, and closed off at six, and fixed out there. Before I leveled my wings his light moved over his aircraft and moved right out in front of him. Then I left, and he left, and the light accelerated and moved out of sight.

"In this exercise we were working with the ground troops and they have forward air controllers. The controller that was listening on the radio stated that he could identify three other lights in this circle flying with me and this other guy. He saw that from the ground. I said what did they do? He said there was one that kind of stayed at six with one airplane and the other two were maneuvering in a circle and were above one aircraft for awhile. He said that when one of us departed they departed, one left the circle then then the other two went right out after it, out of the circle and accelerated away and disappeared. I estimated we made about ten turns in a circle for about six or seven minutes." The pilot who reported this case said that during the flight the two aircraft flew over a well lighted area on the ground three times and, with each pass over the illuminated area he could see three circular objects silhouetted against the glow from the ground. The light following the other aircraft at the time was just a light, it had no body to it.

May 26, 1979 - Idaho - "At 12:05 a.m. I was flying along at about 10,000 feet coming out of Blackfoot and approaching Hailey. I looked up in front of me and I saw these five orange objects in a horizontal formation in front of me, and then they tilted - like an airplane would dip its wings - and I thought it was some kind of aircraft. Then they spread out and I knew damn well it wasn't an aircraft. Then the objects regrouped and they got into a vertical line, then they just got all mixed up. I thought I was going to get run over; they looked like they were coming right at me, the distance was closing. Then they lengthened the distance from me out front, then they went over to my left and my magnetic compass started spinning and my ADF started spinning. At that point they were in a straight line formation and then they just blinked out. I feel I watched the objects for 15 minutes. I did have trouble receiving on the radio because of heavy static and my engine started running rough." (During the entire period that the objects were observed by the pilot, unknown objects were tracked moving around the aircraft by surface radar.) "I saw another object in 1973 while flying near Austin, Texas. A large orange object appeared to the right of my aircraft and it was coming at me at a tremendous rate of speed. I knew it was fixing to hit me. I did a maximum pull-up and never did see it again."

At 2:40 a.m. the crew of a Braniff airliner flying at 35,000 feet from Seattle to Fort Worth, Texas also observed the orange objects below their aircraft. The pilot of a private jet flying from Boise, Idaho to Salt

Lake City, Utah, and located just ahead of the airliner, also observed the orange objects in the Hailey, Idaho area. As both aircraft reached a point about 50 miles southeast of Twin Falls, Idaho, the objects which were being tracked by radar over the Hailey area suddenly disappeared from the radar screen. At 2:53 a.m. the Braniff airliner - which was now 70 miles northwest of Ogden, Utah - reported seeing the orange objects again at his one o'clock about 30 miles west of Ogden. At the same time the objects were being tracked by radar at the same location given by the Braniff crew. The crews on Braniff and the smaller jet observed the objects until both aircraft were over Ogden, Utah. At about the same time the objects disappeared from the radar screen.

June 9, 1979 - California - I was flying toward Clear Lake from Marysville at 3:30 p.m. at 5000 feet and about five miles east of the south end of the lake. I observed a flashing object approaching me from the west on a collision course and it was closing in extremely fast. I hardly had time to bank to avoid it and it hovered for a second off my left wingtip. The way it maneuvered gave me the feeling it could have avoided me anyway. It was about the size of a large truck tire inner tube that was covered with tiny mirrors. It was sort of sparkling and reflecting the sunlight. It hovered 20 feet off my wingtip for a second and then continued on its course. It was gone out of sight in a second. I first observed it approaching at approximately 20 miles distant and it closed in on me in about 10 seconds."

July 2, 1979 - Southeastern Nebraska - "I just happened to walk into the radar room to make a standard check and I marked down a spot (on the scope) northwest of the station. The radar made another sweep and the blip moved again; and the blip appeared two more times the same distance apart and I marked them on the scope also. It came down 305° and the interesting thing is it headed right for the station and went over the station, whatever it was. I tried to pick it up going southeast of the station but nothing appeared. The distance between blips were about the same, about 21 kilometers and I figured it was moving along about 2160 nautical miles per hour. I called another guy in who saw the last two blips. This happened at 9:15 p.m. All the blips were very strong."

(To be concluded in the next issue)

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**Renew Now! Please include
your Zip Code!**

WE'RE SORRY!

The Volume 31, No. 9 and No. 10 issues of the *Bulletin* normally would have been in the mail around the 6th of October. We apologize for the delay. However, on September 12, Mrs. Lorenzen, the *Bulletin's* editor, was hospitalized for cardiac arrhythmia and associated malfunctions. She spent eight days of her 16-day hospital stay in intensive care. She returned home on September 28th, just in time to celebrate her and Mr. Lorenzen's 40th wedding anniversary on the 29th.

About a week later, on October 7th, Mrs. Maxine McCoy, APRO's membership secretary and integral member of the Headquarters staff, was hospitalized for a heart-related ailment. She returned home on October 13th. Both ladies are on the mend, but it will be some time before things entirely return to normal at the office. We hope the membership will be patient a little longer.

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THANK YOU!

Headquarters is grateful for the many inquiries by letter and telephone, concerning our welfare during the recent flood. Unfortunately, the information fed to radio and TV networks by the Tucson media indicated widespread flooding. That simply was not so. Several areas in the Tucson area (and in the state) were badly flooded but those in Tucson were largely confined to the flood plain areas where developers had built too close to the water. Neither APRO nor any of the members that we know of suffered any hardship as a result of the floods, but we do appreciate your concern!