

the apro bulletin

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THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

October, 1978

AUSTRALIAN PILOT MISSING



Map of Bass Strait area

OBJECT SIGHTED, CONFIRMED BY RADAR.

At about 10:15 p.m. on the evening of Wednesday, April 5th, Dennis Kiteveles, a civilian aide Dispatcher with the Baldwinsville, New York, police department, was at his brother's home in Warners, New York. He was inside the house when a power outage, lasting for perhaps 20-30 seconds, took place. Then his brother came in and said he had seen two bright white lights over a wooded area.

Dennis laughed off the report on the lights, his brother and his wife got into their car and went into Baldwinsville, and then Dennis and his wife drove to their home, which is a short distance from the brother's home.

They went into the house and their son looked out a window at the back of the house and yelled to his parents. They all looked out the window and saw a large object like two plates put together at the rims-around the midsection were red, blue, yellow and green lights which appeared to be revolving around the object.

Mrs. Kiteveles and the son watched from inside
(See Radar - Page Four)

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON BASS STRAIT - KING ISLAND AFFAIR

BY Bill Chalker, B.Sc. Honours

APRO Field Investigator

Widespread media coverage has been afforded an extraordinary incident that purportedly took place over Bass Strait, the ocean passage that separates Victoria (mainland Australia) and Tasmania. The events revolve around the alleged disappearance of a young aircraft pilot en route to King Island, a large Island to the northwest of Tasmania. The pilot and plane were missing early on Saturday night, October 21st, 1978 and initial reports made no mention of any possible UFO connection. The proverbial "cat got out of the bag", late on the following day, when news of a UFO event being involved first leaked out, which is unprecedented in terms of official statements in other spectacular cases. With Monday morning, the media throughout Australia were not only carrying accounts of the incident, but were quoting from actual transcripts from the taped conversation between the pilot and Melbourne Flight Service.

The circumstances surrounding the event are well documented. The pilot, Mr. Frederick Valentich, 20, of Avondale Heights, a suburb of Melbourne, Victoria, had taken off from Moorabbin Airport at 6:19 p.m., Saturday, October 21st, in a \$43,000 single-engine Cessna 182 aircraft owned by Southern Air Services of Moorabbin. Only the pilot was on board.

Valentich intended to fly to King Island for two reasons: to pick up cray fish for the officers of the Air Training Corps, where he was an instructor, and to log up more night flying time. He was an inexperienced night flier and although this was the first time he had flown the trip at night, he had gone several times before. He intended to get back to Melbourne at 10 p.m., to join his family in a reunion with friends. The young pilot had flown with an unrestricted license since February, this year and had an instrument rating.

He flew over Cape Otway (which has a light house) at about 7:00 p.m. At 7:06 p.m. the first hint of something untoward came when Valentich contacted Melbourne Flight Service. The copy of the transcript of the conversation follows. It speaks for itself:

WHAT THE PILOT SAID:

7:06 pm: Pilot to ground -- Is there any known traffic in my area below 5,000 feet?

(See Pilot - Page Two)

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AERIAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, INC.

3910 E. Kleindale Road
 Tucson, Arizona 85712
 Phone: 602 — 793-1825 and 602 — 326-0059
 Coral E. Lorenzen, Editor
 Norman Duke, Richard Beal,
 Brian James, Lance P. Johnson,
 Robert Gonzales, Artists

A.P.R.O. STAFF

International Director L. J. Lorenzen
 Director of Research James A. Harder, Ph.D.
 Public Relations Hal Starr
 Secretary-Treasurer Coral E. Lorenzen
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 Staff Librarian Allen Benz
 Office Manager Sheila Kudrle

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Pilot

(Continued from Page One)

Flight Service Unit: "Negative -- No known traffic."

Pilot: Seems to be a large aircraft below 5000 feet.

Ground: What type of aircraft?

Pilot: I cannot confirm. It has four bright lights that appear to be landing lights...aircraft has just passed over me about 1000 feet above.

Ground: Is large aircraft confirmed?

Pilot: Affirmative; at the speed it is travelling are there any RAAF aircraft in vicinity?

Ground: Negative.

Ground: Confirm you cannot identify aircraft?

Pilot: Affirmative.

At 7:08 p.m. Aircraft: Melbourne, its approach from due east of me. It seems to be playing

some sort of game. Flying at speed I cannot estimate.

FSU: What is your altitude?

Aircraft: 4500 ft.

FSU: Can you confirm you can't identify aircraft?

Aircraft: Affirmative.

Then, three minutes after his original transmission, Valentich reported again:

Aircraft...It's not an aircraft. It's...(break in transmission).

Ground: Can you describe aircraft?

Pilot: It is flying past. It has a long shape. Cannot identify more than that...coming for me right now. It seems to be stationary. I'm orbiting and the thing is orbiting on top of me. It has a green light and sort of metallic light on the outside.

Valentich then told ground control the object had vanished.

Ground: Confirm it has vanished.

Pilot: Affirmative. Do you know what sort of aircraft I've got...Is it military?

Ground: No military traffic in the area.

7:12 pm: Pilot: Engine is rough-idling and coughing.

Ground: What are your intentions?

Pilot: Proceeding King Island. Unknown aircraft now hovering on top of me.

Ground: Acknowledge.

Then came the long metallic noise and contact with Valentich's aircraft was lost.

When the Cessna failed to arrive at King Island on schedule at 7:28 p.m., light aircraft began a visual and radio search, but nothing was found. Conditions at the time were clear; a mild northwesterly breeze was accompanied by unlimited visibility. The Cessna was equipped with a life jacket and a radio survival beacon. Nothing had been heard from the beacon.

An RAAF Orion (a long range maritime reconnaissance aircraft) from Edinburgh, South Australia, conducted a "tracking crawl" following the course taken by Valentich's Cessna and continued searching all day Sunday. The only thing found Sunday was an oil slick lying some 18 miles north of King Island. On Monday, October 23rd, the search continued and shipping was sent to sample the oil slick to determine whether this was oil or aviation fuel. What was first thought to be debris in the area turned out to be packing cases and plastic bags floating in the sea.

THE WITNESS

Frederick Valentich was considered to be a competent pilot and was highly thought of. He was the son of Mr. & Mrs. Guido Valentich and one of 4 children. Mr. Valentich during interviews on October 23rd, was quoted as saying that his son was "a believer" in UFOs, and apparently undertook an interest in the subject which may or may not have eventuated from a previous UFO sighting. Eight to ten months ago ca. January to March, 1978, he apparently claimed he saw "a brightly lit object" in the western sky flying at tremendous speed from south to north. His father also stated that his son had read a lot on the subject and was quoted as saying he had

purportedly seen "secret UFO files". Just what this does to a percipient's credibility in the post "CE3K" days cannot be assessed in this case because of Valentich's disappearance. But certainly it will figure heavily in further enquiries into this extraordinary case.

THE THEORIES

Inevitably, the incident has come in for its share of speculation as to what happened. Transport department officials suggested the pilot may have become disoriented and somehow inverted his plane and what he saw was either reflections of his own lights or those of the light houses at Cape Otway and King Island! However the 6 minute conversation on record gives no such indication and the type of plane would only operate for some 30 seconds upside down before the motor would stop from fuel starvation. Experienced pilots publicly stated they found this explanation almost as extraordinary as the events themselves. Meteor activity was also suggested as a stimulus. Apart from the UFO hypothesis, the possibility of a hoax cannot be entirely ruled out, however the matter is far from resolved with the disappearance.

DISCUSSION

The obvious similarities with the Kinross and Mantell cases looms large; however, the object described also reminds us of the Coyne Ohio helicopter case of 1973. Another single-engined plane disappeared without trace in Bass Straight on December 24, 1969. The plane crashed in the sea 8 km off Cape Otway on a flight from King Island. No trace of wreckage was ever found. King Island itself has had a number of reports in past years including a spectacular report in 1976 (see enclosed clipping from "King Island News", April 14th, 1976). The date of this "beam" case was Saturday, April 10th, 1976. If the pilot remains missing the case could escalate into a classic mystery; however if the pilot is found alive and well, speculation will centre on three hypotheses: Either he experienced the UFO sighting as described, he underwent a severe disorientation or finally the event was a hoax of some sort. If he is found dead and his wreckage is found, the matter may or may not be satisfactorily resolved. Only time will tell.

NOTE: This preliminary report is based on details determined by our enquiries, from press reports (see clippings enclosed) and the many radio and TV reports carried on October 22nd & 23rd. Further "postscripts" will advise of subsequent developments as they happened, and a more detailed report will follow in a few weeks' time once matters are resolved one way or another.



Frederick Valentich

POSTSCRIPT 10/24/78

1. The "Australian" (10/24/78) mentions a report of a light plane making a mysterious late-night landing in the western district, not far from the Cape Otway area, at about the time of the alleged UFO encounter.
2. Other facts mentioned in my preliminary report on this affair must be taken into consideration if the missing pilot turns up. Officials are generally pessimistic about finding the pilot alive.
3. The possibility of a genuine UFO encounter or a remarkable hoax looms large in this case.
4. Further reports will follow as they come to hand.

(Editor's note: At this writing, rumors are flying to the effect that Valentich's girl friend says that she "knows" that he is alive, etc. If any of these rumors bear fruit we will carry a follow-up in our next issue.)

NOTE:

Addressograph plates are filed by zip code, when submitting address changes please include both old and new address and old and new zip codes. Thank You!

Radar

(Continued from Page One)

the house, and Mr. Kiteveles called the Onondaga County Sheriff's office and described the object while watching it move up and down and back and forth; then he went outside. They felt that they watched the object for between 15 and 20 minutes and Mr. Kiteveles estimated it was at about a mile altitude, and between 2,000 and 2,500 feet away.

All three of the Kiteveles heard a "whirring" or "buzzing" sound which persisted until an airplane passed beneath the object, whereupon a bright white light shot out from the end of it, toward the ground, and then the object was no longer there. Mr. Kiteveles also said that in addition to the maneuvering, the object also wobbled (a common characteristic of discs).

The object was in the northeast, and the airplane which passed beneath it was on an easterly heading. The sky was clear and viewing was excellent.

During the interview with Mrs. Kiteveles, Field Investigator Robert Barrow learned that the bright beam of white light was "real quick" and lit up everything, including her sister-in-law's house which is a short distance down the road. "It lit up her bedroom," Mrs. Kiteveles said, "like a flashbulb going off."

Additional information: the object was observed above a forested hill, beyond which is the new Western Reservoir, and Mr. Barrow feels the object may have been over that reservoir.

The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office was told by the Federal Aviation Agency that an unidentified return registered on radar on the night of the sighting, but the next day the Federal Aviation Agency denied it when pressed by the media.

An interesting sidelight to this case is that a Mrs. Margaret Hargett, of Baldwinsville, New York, and her son, saw what they presumed to be a helicopter the same evening at 9:50 p.m. They said the object had a "tail" with a propellor and a blue light. She called the Sheriff's office and was told there was no helicopter in the area at the time. The object had red, yellow, blue and green lights (not typical of helicopter riding lights). A neighbor "heard" it, and thought it strange that the sound persisted for such a long time (no description of sound). She (the neighbor) saw a flash of white light, then thought no more of it.

"BIGFOOT"

This periodical has not carried information relative to the phenomena labeled variously as "Yeti" in India, "Sasquatch" in Canada and

"Bigfoot" in the United States, in the past, because of the lack of evidence that they were connected with aerial phenomena. However, the information gathered by Dr. Derr and Dr. Sprinkle in the Rocky Mountain ranch report, currently being serialized in the *Bulletin*, demonstrates that in at least one incident, "Bigfoot" and UFO occupants were linked.

Therefore, from time to time, the *Bulletin* will carry a condensation of those "Bigfoot" cases which come to our attention.

On April 30, a member of the Yakima Indian Tribe on the reservation near Yakima, Washington, reported to William Vogel, a staff fire control office of the Indian Agency's forestry division, his encounter with a "Bigfoot" on that date. He had driven his car to Logy Creek, then walked a mile to a spot near Logy Falls, to fish. He was sitting on the bank fishing when he heard the brush and grass crackling behind him. He turned around, thinking another fisherman was coming, and was shocked to see a seven-foot tall, hairy, upright animal standing there. As he stared at it, it gave a blood-curdling screech and began to violently shake a sapling it was hanging onto.

The witness (who declines to be identified) dashed across the creek in such haste that he tore his clothing and punched holes in his rubber boots. As he retreated down the opposite side of the creek, the creature kept pace with him on the other side, almost until he reached his car. His mother said that he was badly frightened when he reached home. There have been other similar reports in that general area in the past.

Twenty-year-old Bobby Bussinger and his eighteen-year old wife, Beckie, have had some strange experiences at their home near Vidor, Texas. The previous tenants of the house, which is owned by Mrs. Bussinger's father, had left because of strange occurrences in the night. The Bussingers had heard howling and yelping, and glimpses were seen of an elusive figure roaming about, clawing at the windows.

On Monday morning, June 19, one of the Bussinger's eight dogs was missing and two of them had been maimed in the hind-quarters and died.

That night after the sun set, the disturbance began again. Bussinger decided to confront whatever was outside, so he got his 12-gauge shotgun and, by the light of the full moon, walked to the edge of his cleared lot. There he was confronted by an erect figure with shaggy, muscular body, which appeared well over 6 feet tall, which came toward him. He fired at the figure as he turned, then ran back to the house. He said he "barely made it." The pounding, screaming and clawing at the window continued and Bussinger called the Sheriff's office.

Sheriff's Deputy Jack Reeves responded to the call and drove to the Bussinger residence. After arriving and talking to the Bussingers, Reeves walked to the timber line where he heard growling

and howling in the distance. As he entered the woods the sounds came from farther away and he realized the creature had backed off. After talking to Bussinger again, Reeves decided to move his patrol car a block away and wait for the prowler's return. As he sat in his car he got a radio message that something was at the back of the Bussinger house scratching and banging on the window screens. He had been gone only 5 minutes. When he drove into the Bussinger's driveway the "prowler" had backed off again but Reeves saw it at about 50 yards off, a large figure between two small oak trees. He shone the spotlight on it and it moved into the woods. The Bussingers packed their belongings and went into Beaumont with Reeves.

Reeves says he considers the situation extremely serious and told reporters there would be a follow-up and possibly a stake-out.

Mrs. Bussinger says she will not return to the place until the thing is caught. Before all the trouble started Mrs. Bussinger had walked a well-worn path in the woods to pick berries and on one occasion saw a crude lean-to made of scrap lumber and three tree limbs, in the distance at the far edge of the timber.

Our next "Bigfoot" case comes from Crossett, Arkansas where, on June 26, 10-year-old Mike Lofton was alone outside his trailer home feeding his puppy when the dog began to whine and tremble as if afraid. He looked up and was startled to see a creature approximately 7½ feet tall, covered with hair, and its arms extended above its head. From the ends of what appeared to be fingers, long, beak-like claws protruded. The creature was about 50 feet away.

Mike jumped up, ran into the trailer and got his father's 22 caliber rifle. He then ran back to the door and fired at the "thing" 7 times. *The Creature* gradually turned and started back into the woods, toddling somewhat like a baby.

The boy then called the police who, when they came to investigate, found some blood and hair but no tracks. The blood and hair was sent to Little Rock for analysis. The foregoing information came from Mike's mother, Mrs. Sonny Lofton, as the police would not release any information.

Several teenagers, one of whom was a girl, reported seeing a creature "seven to nine feet tall" with red, bulging eyes and a head "as wide as a tractor tire" lurking in a wooded area surrounding the town of Butler, in Richland County, Ohio on July 8th and 12th. Both sightings took place at night.

Please Send Address Changes
With Old and New Zip Codes

MULTIPLE PHENOMENA ON COLORADO RANCH

Report on the Investigation of UFO Experiences on a Rocky Mountain Ranch

By

John S. Derr, Ph. D.

APRO Consultant in Seismology
and

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph. D.

APRO Consultant in Psychology

PART FOUR

18. Box With Blinking Lights

Jim: I went back to the law officer and had a talk with him and he started telling me about some of the incidents that had happened again and about how he had pictures. He said they have a box and he had seen it on occasion. He had seen blinking lights, where there shouldn't be any, in trees, and such. He said he was out on a patrol one night and he saw, in a group of trees, this box that was blinking. He said he didn't want to go in alone so he raced back to town and picked up another law officer to go with him. When he got back, the trees were gone, the box was gone, everything was gone. He thought they had gone into the ground; he had seen things go into the ground before. He is reasonably convinced that they just go into the ground; I've never seen that happen.

19. Black Box Makes Angry Sounds

Jim: There is one piece of what you might call physical evidence on the ranch; there is a big burned spot on the top of the hill approximately 35 feet across where nothing would grow the first year--it's beginning to grow in a little now. On a compulsion, the older boy, Joe, and I drove up there one night and parked at the circle. In the trees, a bright yellow light, not bright I guess, a little dim but yellow--looked like an old car headlight, just shined on the car--the back was toward the trees. We got out and walked over and there was a box on the ground. I told Joe to stay back about 10 feet. It was making a buzzing sound just like zzzzzz and there was light like inside it but not on it. Hard to describe. It was night but there was a full moon and as I walked to about four feet from it, it changed its tone entirely. It sounded like a bunch of angry bees. The sound went up so I back away and I told Joe to go back to the car and watch me as I walked up to the box. We then walked back to the car and I told Joe that whatever happens, do not leave the car. Then I walked back and the box was gone. Following that is the part that Barbara prefers that I leave out.

Barbara: Absolutely!

Investigator: Are you leaving it out because it's personally embarrassing or because it's terrifying.

Jim: Too incredulous, that's the part that is too

kooky, frankly. And she requested that I didn't. And I don't think that close encounters of the third kind are really interesting to anyone except to whom they happen.

Barbara: If something should happen, something should go wrong and our names should be connected with this, I could face it but I could not face this other situation. And I'm too psychologically upset--almost destroyed--by this whole thing anyway and I'm trying very hard to keep from feeling that I have experienced something that I didn't experience--or did I experience it and can't remember, or what.

(At this point, Barbara is shaking so badly she can hardly light her cigarette. She has been practically chain smoking since the beginning of the narrative.)

20. Large Bird, Dog Notes Strange Scent

Jim: There were quite a number of other things. I think they fit pretty much into a pattern. One afternoon I went out walking in the woods and I saw a bird that was about three feet tall. I got one clear side of it--it was brown and had three feather-like appendages on its head. We have a whole set of animal books and I went through them trying to track it down. I didn't find that any such animal existed on earth as I knew it. I tried to follow it and it went around those rolling hills and was gone. I came back to the house, and as I was coming through the fence, there was a slight snowstorm. We have this huge coon hound, and as I approached the fence, the kids saw me coming (they could just barely see me in the snow). The dog saw me and came running, and when he got to the fence, he stopped and started barking and growling when he got close to me. When I passed, he picked up some kind of an odor and wasn't letting me through the fence. That scared the kids and they went running into the house, thinking that something was coming--they could just see the shape on the hill. The dog was still not letting me through the fence even though I was talking to him. It took three or four minutes of hard talking before my own dog let me through the fence. And I had been crawling all around where this unusual bird-like thing was. And I really thought about what it could be or how it could be, and I've come up with no data at all, except that it was a very unusual animal. And then it was just gone. And I don't hallucinate--you know; I mentioned that I took acid--but I've never had a conscious hallucination in my life, that I'm aware of. And I'm sure that if I had, it would be over more than birds at the ranch, because I never had them off the ranch.

21. Buzzing Sound Comes into House

Jim: One night very late, I was lying on my couch--it was a particularly black night--no moonlight, no stars--and I told Barbara that there was not much sense in my staying awake cause I couldn't see anything anyhow. I used to wait for

the chickens to crow to go to sleep. It really messed up my schedule, cause I felt that somehow I had a duty to protect everybody. I slept with a shotgun all night. When I lay down on the couch there was just enough light remaining to see a little. I looked up, and right at the window--there was no place to stand as it was a high window--was the outlined shape of a man looking at me. He had on some tight-fitting apparel--I couldn't see any colors--just the black outline. I got up and I went to Barbara's bedroom.

Barbara: He rapped on the door. Most of what I have told you is what happened to me. This is the other thing that happened to me and me alone. I had the same thing: the blood pressure, the heart beat, the difficult breathing. I was sitting straight up in bed when Jim rapped on the door. I was trying to light a cigarette and I dropped the match on the bed in my state of terror. I opened the door and he came in and said that he had seen something strange out in front and wondered if I was alright. I told him I was having the same kind of symptoms and that I was very concerned that I was developing a heart problem. But I had gone in and had tests and they said no; I was very tense but nothing else was wrong.

Jim: She was very upset so I sat down on the bed and asked if there was anything that I could get her. I took her pulse and sat and talked to her; because when we have had really close contact at the house, it is hard to describe the feeling. People get naturally upset; they don't see anything, but as part of the pattern, I figured she would be upset when I went to the bedroom--and she was. I had put a big black chair in front of the front door. We were sitting in there just talking and the front door opened and it hit the chair with a bang. And I jumped up and went running in the front room and the door was closed again. I went back in the bedroom and I sat down on the bed and I was telling her that it was just the wind or something. The next thing was this voice that came inside of my head just like a loudspeaker. It said, "We don't need to open your door to come into your home." I don't remember if that was the exact wording. And I told Barbara what I had just heard and she looked at me in a funny way.

Barbara: I thought he was losing it--I'll be honest--he knows I thought it.

Jim: And then a noise started in the front room like a buzzing noise like bees.

Barbara: It came all the way through the house to right outside my bedroom door. This I heard too.

Jim: She was holding on to my arm until she gave me black and blue spots and I frankly didn't want to get up and go into the kitchen to see what it was--I was glad she was holding on to me. And the sound just went away then--nothing more. I was sure that something was going to come into the bedroom but it didn't.

22. Huge, Cone-shaped UFO

Barbara: We were going into town very early one morning just after daybreak and just at a sharp bend in the road. . . I think Charlie was the first one that saw it. He said, "Look at that big thing over there." I looked and Harry looked and it was cone-shaped. And I couldn't tell you the size because I don't have the ability to judge size. I didn't think of what it could be. I thought--weather balloon, whatever, I didn't really pay any attention. I told Jim about it. He had gotten some books at that time. He had one that had a picture of a cone-shaped one and that's exactly what it looked like.

Jim: From the description I got from all three of them, it was immense; it was hundreds of feet, at least, across. It was six times the apparent size of a farmhouse $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away, you know, in comparative sizes. It was a huge ship.

23. Hairy Creature Mimicks Barbara

Barbara: I had only one other sighting of the animal that they described to you. I assume from what I saw later that what I saw carrying the box was the animal--only because it looked like that would be what it was--that is an assumption. We have had no less than 20 people see "Big Foot" at the ranch. Jim stepped out onto the porch without turning the porchlight on. I was in the dining room and he rapped on the window several times without turning around and I saw him and I went to the door and opened it and came out behind him. He led me into the porch and said, "If you want to see one, I can show you where it is." And he started lining up the trees. The living room light was not on but the dining room one was casting sort of an oblique light. I leaned forward to look out and he said, "Right between those two trees, look very closely. "I do not have 20-20 vision with my glasses on but I could see it. It was hunched over, and as I leaned out to look at it like this, using my hand to shade my eyes, it leaned out and went exactly like that to me. It was large and it was stooped down and it did lean down and go just exactly like I did.

Jim: The only night that we saw a large number of them was the night we picked up the kids at school. We were going back to the ranch. Do you remember when that meteorite came down over Colorado--some time last year. We got a very clear view of that--it was right ahead of us on the road. It exploded and came down right in front of us. It looked to me like it hit the ranch. We got to the ranch and talked about it and heard about it on TV--I would swear it was magnesium--it flared that brightly.

24. You Can Arouse Their Curiosity: Voice from the Stereo

Jim: We have some friends from Texas who got a pretty big "jolt" at the ranch!

Barbara: They have had some very serious problems develop because they were there when a

very bad thing happened.

Jim: Trust me to tell what I want to tell, will you?

Barbara: Alright.

Jim: We have been guaranteed confidentiality--the man is a professional. I know how to upset "them", and a lot of the things that scare Barbara involve their taking punitive action against us. I found that when I had guests that I wanted to see something, I could get a stack of wires and go out and get very busy with them, like I was putting something up. We would go back to the house and watch, and within a short period of time, they would be up there checking out what we did, and everyone could get a view of them. I did it several times, as sort of half a joke. Dan, the friend from Texas, was giving the old "you're not giving me that kind of junk, are you?" Electronics is his field, and he is a computer expert with a large company, and he is impressed with his own self-importance. Well, I went up deliberately to stir them up. I found that certain elements very much upset them--silver being the main element. I have a large collection of Indian silver jewelry and I discovered inadvertently that they shied away from silver. So I went up to the circle, the burned spot I spoke about, and stuck silver bracelets in the ground along with the wires, like I was really putting something intense up. I came back to the house and we were all sitting playing Risk. I didn't know what would transpire but I hoped I would upset them. About two in the morning, the lights went out in the house, right on schedule. This voice came out of nowhere again and it wasn't FM; it was obviously intended to be terrifying and sounded like a computerized voice--very mechanical-sounding. It was coming out of every radio and TV speaker in the house. We were sitting right in front of a console stereo, and the voice came out of it, and I can almost recite the words exactly. They are burned into my memory. "Attention, we have allowed you to remain. We have interfered with your lives very little. Do not cause us to take action which you will regret. Your friends will be instructed to remain silent concerning us."

Barbara: That's very close.

Jim: That's just about the words. Well, Dan was extremely thrilled when the lights came back on, cause he said, "Now, I'm in my field." He asked if he could take apart our TV set and stereo.

Barbara: He was quite good electronically; he guaranteed that anything he took apart, he could get back together again.

Jim: And he started to dismantle it. He went through the whole unit and he said that he couldn't figure it out, but that his technicians in Texas, when he got back, would. He checked and the stereo was off; the phonograph was on when the lights went off but the radio receiver part was off; it was on phono. We found out that the type of transmitter it would take, from even close range, to cause a signal of that intensity to go through the house would be beyond our means to ever put up.

Barbara: But Dan was still sure that it was a hoax. His wife and children were all upset and crying, and Dan took his daughter off into another room and told her that they needed to find out if it was a trick or not. He told her to go back out and tell us she was frightened and wanted to leave immediately. He thought that if she acted upset enough and if we were playing a trick on them; rather than ruin the whole vacation, we would admit it. I got very upset and said that they couldn't start back to Texas in the middle of the night and I would call a friend in town to see if they could stay there. Then Dan talked to his daughter and they all calmed down and they stayed. And he just told us this weekend that he knew if it was going to ruin the whole vacation, and if it had been a trick, we would have admitted it to him. He had decided, to save his own sanity, that it was somebody else with a massive capacity pulling a hoax on us, and that we were gullible enough to go for it.

Barbara: Needless to say, Dan never found the trick. He went over the whole house; he even dumped the laundry bags. He went over everything. I was glad the house was clean.

25. Don't Trust Senses Unless Two or More See

Barbara: Really, we didn't mention the fact that, often, when the wall pounding was going on or when there would be a larger number of disks or the animal would be around more; quite often all the electricity would go off. I absolutely freaked out if anybody wanted to go out and check the breaker on the corral until after things had calmed down. We would check house breakers and eventually, go out to the corral and the breakers would be on out there. We developed a system of nobody going by themselves and nobody making a big issue out of something that at least two people didn't see or hear. Because it was too easy to get paranoid. Once I went out the back door and heard this horrible sound in the corral and screamed and freaked out and came running in. Everybody went out with flashlights and it was a cow that had gotten trapped in the corral. It's very easy to get into that and I could see my children doing it. Everything strange that happened--a sudden windstorm that came up, a sudden fog that would roll in--would be the space creature. It was becoming an absolutely paranoid thing--it was very frightening.

Jim: I think we suffered as heavy on the mutilations as anyone I had heard of. We lost six cattle in two years. That is a pretty heavy amount of loss. In light of the fact that I was watching that land so carefully, I was determined to catch whoever it was. The reward was so high--I wouldn't have minded it at all. It now comes close to half a million dollars. The paranoia had gone down now--two years ago in the county, you didn't dare stop on the side of the road. Those people were carrying high-powered weapons and they would shoot anything that moved. It was really

tense, and I can see the law officer's point of view, but I don't think you solve it by sweeping it under the rug when it is continuing to go on. The mutilations haven't gone down at all. Remember when the big mutilation thing was going on--well, they haven't gone down at all.

Investigator: When you have a problem you don't know how to deal with, sweeping it under the rug isn't good, but what do you do instead?

Barbara: I wish someone would come up with a very neat package to answer that.

26. CE III

Jim: Will you remove me from my promise?

Barbara: Oh, Jim!

Jim: Trust me.

Barbara: Alright.

Jim: Because I want to get it out of my mind too and then forget it.

Barbara: Alright, go ahead.

(NEXT ISSUE: *The Terror Grows*)

Letters

Dear Friends:

In the April, 1978 Issue of the APRO Bulletin, there is a letter printed on the inside front cover from Donald Todd, Field Investigator from Rhode Island. This letter was a reference to a lecture by Allen Hynek.

I can't tell you how happy I am to see someone else finally agree with my thinking, and go into a good account of "debunking" the well-publicized Dr. Hynek.

I also went to a Hynek lecture on the 4th of July in Evanston, Ill., and almost fell asleep. Absolutely nothing new to report, and just a rehash of the same old stories.

Also, in the APRO Bulletin of several months ago, there was an excellent review of a recently published book, "The Eye and the Camera". Again, it was a fine debunking of a book filled with a lot of gibberish, but alas, unfortunately for me, I had already gone thru a lot of trouble obtaining the book, to my chagrin.

Your articles are realistic and factual, something that is sorely needed in the UFO Field. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

PETER G. SORRENTI,
165 N. Cady Dr.,
Palatine, ILL 60067