THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1965

DEPUTY SNAPS UAO COLOR PHOTO



Shown above is black and white reproduction of photo of UAO taken by A. Strauch in October.

At 6:10 p.m., on the evening of 21 October 1965, Mr. Arthur Strauch, Deputy Sheriff of Sibley County, Minnesota, in the company of four others, was returning from a bow hunting trip by car when he spotted a strange appearing object which appeared to be two thousand feet above the ground and one-fourth mile distant in the northwest. They were 2 miles west and 2 miles north of St. George. The group stopped the car and watched. Strauch got out of the car and watched the object with 7x35 binoculars, while the others watched from inside the car. The object appeared as illustrated on Page 3, through binoculars.

After watching for about ten minutes, the group drove down the road about a half mile and stopped. Strauch got out of the car and snapped the photo shown on this page, just as the object began to move. It moved into the wind (northeast) for what appeared to be several hundred feet, stopped for a few seconds, at which time its light changed from a bright white to a dull orange several times. It then moved toward the southeast at a high rate of speed and disappeared out of sight in the sky. As it passed over their heads, the observers heard an audible high-pitched whine, as made by an electric motor starting up.

The witnesses were: Arthur A. Strauch, 47, Deputy Sheriff of Sibley County, Minnesota, his wife, Mrs. Katherine Strauch, 44, housewife; Gary Martin Strauch, 16, high school student and son of Mr. and Mrs. Strauch; Donald Martin Grewe, 26, technician with Minnesota Valley Breeders Association, and his wife, Mrs. Retha Ann Grewe, 25, registered nurse. All witnesses check out as honest and reliable.

The camera used was a 1965 Kodak Instamatic. Strauch was using Kodak Ektachrome X-film, color slides EX 126-20. His camera was set for infinity. The time was set at .60 seconds, no flash.

While viewing the object as it hovered in the northwest, Strauch took four photos, using up the roll of film in his camera. The photo shown with this report was taken, as said before, later just as the object began to move. He did not

(*See Deputy, page 3*)

Airline Crewman Photographs "Saucer"

Barty Andersson, 41, a purser for the Scandinavian Airways System, claims to have photographed a saucer-shaped object as it took off from the shore of the Russian River on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, on the 5th of July, 1965. He didn't tell anyone at the time about his sighting as he was not sure that he had gotten anything on film. However, on the 2nd of August, he presented the developed 35mm Kodachrome color slide at the offices of the Anchorage Daily News. The picture, in vivid color, shows an orange spiral, which is reflected in the water below. Andersson's story:

On the 5th of July he and friends went to the Kenai peninsula to fish. Shortly efore 6 a.m., they arrived at the Sportsman's Lodge. His friends went inside for breakfast, but he sayed out, intending to take a time exposure of himself in the boat first. He set up his camera, tripped the time switch and headed toward the boat. About halfway to the boat, he saw the object rise from across the river. He said he stopped and at that point the camera took the picture.

Andersson said the object was round, flat on the bottom and raised like an upside down plate on top. He said he heard no sound, and that when he first saw it, it seemed to be floating about 12 feet above the ground. It was orange with "a shadow of dark blue near the top." He also detected an odor which reminded him of ammonia. The object reached an altitude about level with the treetops, then seemed to disappear.

Attempts to locate Andersson have so far failed. However, the Anchorage Daily News gave the information that the photo was taken on Kodachrome II film with his Cannon 35 mm camera, equipped with a 58 mm lens. The picture was taken at 1/125th second at a lens opening of f5.6. The black and white reproduction in the newspaper showed an upside-down plate-like object with a spiral of mist below it.

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Editorial . . .

It would seem appropriate at this time to set down in writing the general principles and attitudes which shape the editorial and public relations policies of A.P.R.O.—attitudes which have developed and matured over the fifteen years of APRO's existence.

We take as a working premise the existence of the UFO report as fact. We take as axiomatic the proposition that the existence of such reports carries such connotations and implications for mankind as to warrant intensive study with the aim of determining the cause or causes which give rise to said reports—especially those which describe actions of controlled vehicles (which we have called UAOs (unconventional aerial objects) to delineate these from the general term UFO).

Since the U.A.O. phenomena described is transient and of random occurrence and since the implication (that of space visitors) strikes at some of the basic tenets of our general world picture, we find one of the greatest difficulties to lie in the definition and recognition of the basic problem.

The military attitude seems, from a superficial viewpoint, to be a stumbling block in the path of research. It is our view, however, that Defense Department treatment of UFO cases is no different from their treatment of any "sensitive" incident.

In attacking this treatment, we would, in fact, be attacking the whole system of classification of national defense information.

We as UFO researchers have often lamented the fact that authorities in one branch of science sometimes make public statements in which they assume authority in some branch where they are quite unqualified. (For example it is quite common for an astronomer to step tacitly into the field of psychology in order to discredit certain UFO reports). It does not behoove us, then, to pretend expertness in the field of military intelligence strategy simply because a particular policy seems to frustrate our efforts.

A problem of this nature (the UFO) could be and should be answered by science. There is really no need to seek military endorsement.

It is our position that the military could not, with conscience, take any position except the one they are currently pursuing. They have two major considerations in this connection: (1) Intelligence and (2) Public Relations.

Both of these considerations are governed by a guideline called "aid and comfort to the enemy." Public admission that machines are penetrating our air space which we cannot identify, much less control, would be of aid and comfort to known enemies. The loss of face that would be involved is no negligible item either.

Long years of experience have taught the public what sort of answers they will get from the military. The fact that they continue to go to the military for answers suggests that in general the military public relations program satisfies the public and after all that is what it is intended to do. To put it another way—for most people reassurance is preferable to truth.

It is notable in this connection that the clamoring to "tell all" invariably comes from those who would not have to bear the responsibility of the consequences of such acts. The slogan "the people have a right to know" has a slightly hollow ring. The forcing of ideas onto people does not arise from a concern for their rights.

For the foregoing reasons we do not attempt to win converts to a cause or issue preachments and damnations. We publish what is going on. Those who wish to exercise their right to know may seek us out. Those who wish to exercise their right to NOT KNOW may ignore us. Our opinions do not carry the weight of an official pronouncement so our audience is left with a way out if the facts are as yet a little unpalatable.

A major goal is to interest scientists in the problem to a point where a much more effective research program can be manned; a program which would stimulate public discussion on a level that would do substantially more than merely generate fanaticism.

And last but not least, we will continue to gather, investigate, evaluate and correlate reports, study reports collectively, and interpret and publish the results, just as we have for 15 years.

Object At Laramie

On the 27th of August at about 9:30 p.m. several residents of Laramie, Wyoming reported the presence of a strange object sighted northwest of Brees Field. Most descriptions were of a bank of bright red and bluish-green lights which hovered and went straight up and down. One Laramie woman said the object showed up in the light of an airport beacon and the body of the light looked metallic behind the lights. She said the object moved off close to the earth in a north-westerly direction.

A Federal Aviation spokesman said that from the reports, the object could have been a balloon or a helicopter, but there was no record of either being in the area at the time.

Doctor Photographs UAO In Peru

Dr. Francisco Farah of Arequipa, in southern Peru, took several shots of an unidentified object as it hovered over a hilltop giving off a "glare" much like an acetylene blowtorch. In the photo the UAO had the shape of a hexadrum with fairly equal sides. Its movements were jerky, up and down and from side to side. Occasionally it stopped for five to six seconds, then resumed its movements.

Deputy . . .

(*Continued from page* 1)

get the rolls developed until he had filled the second roll. When he took them to the drug store to be sent for developing, he told the clerk that the first roll had not been locked into the camera properly—he found this out when he changed the rolls. The clerk said the roll would be no good and dropped it into the waste basket. When Strauch later called for his developed film and found the image of the UAO on the photograph, he asked the clerk to search the trash for the first roll, but the trash had been disposed of. Strauch feels that there may have been a chance that he got better photographs the first time, because the object had been hovering.

Environmental factors were: Wind from the northeast at 10 miles per hour, humidity about 50%, visibility unlimited, sun had just set, sky was clear. No fog, haze or clouds and there was about 40% darkness. The moon had not risen, and Venus was clearly visible in the southwest. One small star visible to the right and below the UAO.

Testimony of the witnesses differs only in minor details. Whereas Strauch said the object appeared as large as a quarter held at arm's length, his wife describe it as much larger than the evening star, Gary said it was like a quarter at arm's length, and so did Grewe. Mrs. Grewe said it was the size "of a large star."

Mrs. Grewe, Mrs. Strauch and Gary remained inside the car, while Grewe and Strauch got out to observe the object. They heard no sound. Grewe described the sound of the object as it went overhead as an audible whistling whine and Strauch said it was a "high pitched whining sound, as made by an electric motor starting up."

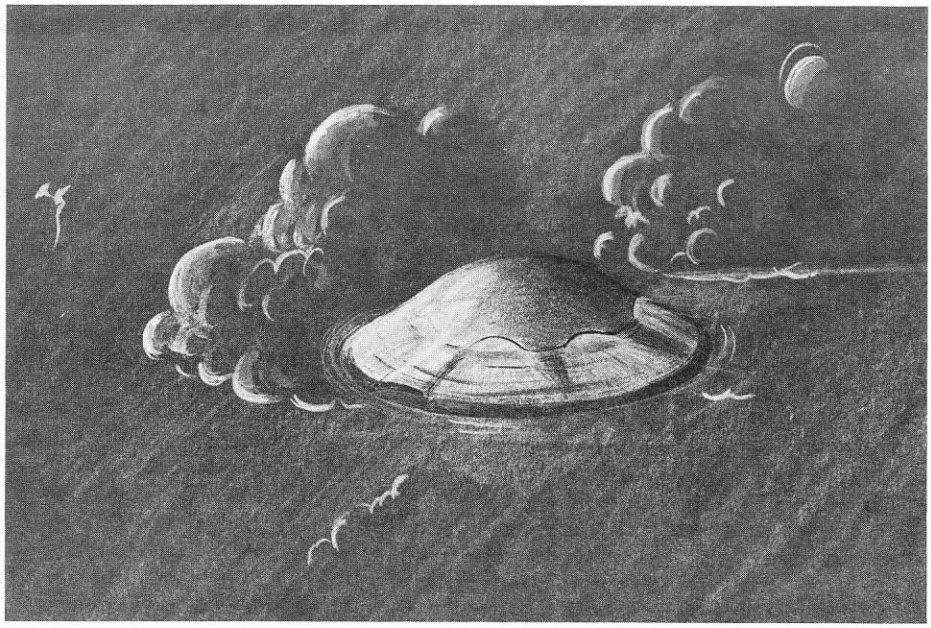
Mr. Strauch's description was most detailed as he viewed the object with the aid of binoculars. He said: "I have no idea what it was. All I can report is that it was different from anything I had ever seen in the sky. I'm positive it was a machine driven by some inner power that has tremendous speed. The outline was unmistakable through my binoculars, as that of a "flying saucer." In a letter responding to our request for more detail, Strauch stated:

"The rounded top of the dome was a metallic silver gray that reflected the rays of the setting sun, turning it (the bject) into a large orange ball. Surrounding the dome were four small port holes that emitted a bright yellow light. Just below the windows or ports was an area that glowed a light blue. This light seemed to be a reflection of some inner light or perhaps exhaust. From the edge of the blue light's reflection to the edge of the flat saucer surface (outer edge) the outer ring was rotating counterclockwise, causing it to throw off an aurora or halo of light that changed from orange to white with an overall tinge of blue and green. The extreme outer edge of the saucer glowed a bright orange and this part did not move or rotate.

"To my left, or I assumed, the front of the machine, was a black spot or perhaps an intake port for air. This indentation is visible on the picture but does not show up as clearly as I could see it through my binoculars. If there was another one on the other side, I do not know.

"The machine was not hanging or hovering parallel to the ground, but was at an angle, the front, as I assumed it to be, was tipped down about 15 degrees while it was hovering, and tipped even a little more as it left. I do not believe that the light went out in the machine, as it left and we lost sight of it, but rather that it had such tremendous speed that it just disappeared into space." Unquote.

A little about Arthur A. Strauch, principal witness: Born Princeton, Minnesota, June 28, 1918, son of a Lutheran pastor. High school graduate, worked his way through school and received diploma in 1964 from Gibbon High School. Attended special course in journalism and creative writing at Mankato State College. Veteran of World War II with five major campaigns and D-Day landing at Normandy Beachhead, also action in Africa, England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany with medals.



Rendition of Strauch object as viewed through binoculars — Staff Artist Richard Beal

Carried rank of First Sergeant, honorably discharged. Married, with 22-year-old daughter and 16-year-old son.

Appointed Deputy Sheriff of Sibley County, Minnesota in 1960. During pursuit of an escaped prisoner in 1961, severely injured and paralyzed from waist down. Although surgery and therapy have helped, Strauch is still disabled, and has turned to writing for a new start. He speaks and understands German and some French. His writing efforts consist mainly of hunting and fishing articles for the Outdoorsman magazine.

Object Lands At Venezuelan Lake

A round-shaped, very luminous and speedy object was seen at midnight on the 8th of September by many residents of Araure, Venezuela. The witnesses were many cattlemen on their way home. They said the object approached Valadero Lake where it appeared to land but they were afraid to approach the area.

On the same night, the crew of an LAV plane enroute from Caropano to Porlamar observed a glowing disc-shaped object over Margarita's Island. The plane was at 8,000 when the object was sighted, first by Captain Boada who called it to the attention of his co-pilot. The object passed up the plane and sped out of sight.

Have YOU sent in the UAO reports for YOUR area? All are important, whether or not they are printed in the Bulletin!

The Question Of The Power Blackouts

The 9th of November 1965 is a date which will no doubt be as easily remembered by millions of Americans as the 4th of July or Christmas. For our purpose in this dissertation, we will forego any detailed descriptions of the havoc and discomfort caused by the power outage in Northeastern United States as it is felt that all of the readers of this periodical are well versed with the basic facts.

The blackout, of course, was the topic of conversation at headquarters immediately because of the extent of the outage, the fact that we were aware of other blackouts during which UAOs were present, and several sightings of UAOs in the vicinity of power transmission lines in the northeast during the fall UAO activity. However, on the 13th, a press wire release out of Syracuse, New York, came to the attention of a West Coast member who immediately called headquarters.

As soon as feasible, the director contacted Mr. Weldon Ross and Mr. Robert Walsh of Syracuse, to get further details of their sighting of strange glowing objects in the vicinity of Syracuse at about the time of the blackout. Combining these facts with the presence of sightings, specifically over blacked-out New York City, we found some information which should not have been discarded in the overall evaluation of the incident.

As pieced together from the four-inch thick file of wire releases, news articles and personal reports, it appears that the first sign of trouble was at about 5:15 on 9 November 1965.

At that time, Consolidated Edison in New York was monitoring a flow of 300,000 kilowatts from the upstate facilities. Mr. Edwin J. Nellis, in charge of the plant, and others, had just been congratulating themselves on a "very orderly peak period" (when the lights first go on, commuter trains are operating, etc.) and they had an "excellent reserve in the system." Then the lights dipped and brightened again. Nellis checked his instruments, found every thing in order, the city's generating facilities were all indicating normal operation. But instruments showed an immense flow to the North. The Consolidated Edison facility at Flushing reported an operation of relays at a substation (which was unnamed) which indicated a fault some place in the interconnection (the cooperating companies and plants which make up the "grid.")

Nellis said he considered "pulling free" of the system, which is standard procedure under those circumstances, but thought he had time to telephone to get information on the problem. He had received three calls from Flushing, Orange County and Rockland County. He then put in a call to a Syracuse control station. It was at this time that the Syracuse station reported trouble to the north. Nellis then told Syracuse that he would pull free from the grid. He did not have time, and blackness settled over the city of New York.

Some of the quotes concerning those crucial 12 minutes from the time that the lights first indicated trouble, and the complete blackout at 5:27 are most interesting: A Consolidated Edison official later said that the sudden current drain had been unprecedented. "We never saw this happen before," he said.

A UPI release out of New York on the 10th, said that "Like a giant water main break, the interconnecting electrical power networks lost vast amounts of electricity through a main into a ground, causing last night's massive northeast blackout" and the quote is attributed to a Consolidated Edison spokesman.

It is important to note the time elements involved above, as we will see later. The first sign of trouble as noted in New York was at 5:15. Twelve minutes later the city was without power. On the 10th, Charles Hoppin, spokesman for Consolidated Edison, said it was not thought that any piece of generating equipment failed and that it seemed the transmission lines at some northern point must have started feeding directly into a ground, causing the power drain.

But New York was not the first to suffer. Canada was hit first. At 5:15. Please note italicized passages. In Toronto, the government-owned hydroelectric commission told the press that they ascribed trouble to a *high-voltage line south of Niagara Falls.* Power was moving into Ontario from New York State, then a "surge of electricity" flowed into the system at Cornwall, Ontario—*in the opposite direction to the normal flow at that hour.* Technicians at Richview control center in suburban Toronto spotted the reversal that could have damaged distribution equipment and pulled switches that isolated southern and eastern Ontario from the interlocking power network. Toronto blacked out at 5:15.

Significantly, the power drain apparently continued at least for several seconds for other areas blacked out, one by one. The problem was characterized as a "massive short circuit," among other descriptions. "An electrical disturbance" somewhere in northern New York, said Consolidated Edison spokesmen at one time. "Something happened in a high-voltage line south of Niagara Falls, New York," another release said. "Ten miles west of Buffalo," said another. At Syracuse, New York, the day after the black out, Edward L. Hoffman, assistant to the Chief System Electrical Engineer, said it was true that some generators went out of step with the interconnecting system, but that was a *secondary reaction,* and that "there was some kind of disturbance somewhere that caused them to get out of step. The source of this disturbance is not known."

Late on the 10th, after a scurry for explanations, and after President Johnson had initiated a probe, W. Ross Strike of the Hydroelectric plant at Ontario, Canada, complained that American officials refused to discuss the blackout with officials of his commission. "Our American counterparts have clammed up tight —that source dried right up," he said.

In a searching analysis of the problem, one theory being considered by the industry power experts behind closed doors on the 13th, was that the *trouble must have originated in upper New York State* where the Niagara Power Complex supplies power for much of the northeast, and that *major generating sources had to be involved."*

At first, the interconnecting systems, calculated to furnish a reserve for each other, was criticized.

On the 15th, a news release out of Washington, D.C., attributed the blackout to the failure of a "Q-29" relay at the Sir Adam Beck Plant No. 2 at Queenston, Ontario, a part of the Ontario Hydro-Generating System on the Niagara River. This, from the group which had complained, only 5 days previously, about the lack of cooperation of American officials. It seemed, then, that the whole situation had been fully explained.

BUT—later on the 15th, an AP release out of Washington said: "U.S. and Canadian officials reported their findings (concerning the broken Q-29) after a week of intensive study, but said that *they still don't know the origin of the surge of power that tripped out the relay."*

Nor did they have any recommendations for prevention of another such massive power loss."

What is the Q-29? It is a type of relay the measures the electric power load on a transmission line and sets a load limit beyond which circuit breakers will cut connections, much as a blown fuse does.

After the news about the Q-29 relay broke, the New York Times for 16 November carried a feature dealing with the whole situation, and specifically with the calendar of events on the 9th, the night of the blackout. Some passages are

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most interesting. After saying that there had been evidence that the problem was in Canada as early as the first night, but that American sources, possibly for diplomatic reasons, had declined to say so, the article went on to document certain happenings of that night:

A Mr. Gallant, of radio station CKGM in Montreal, Canada, had quoted an unnamed friend at the Sir Adam Beck plant who had said the trouble began there. At 10 p.m. that night, a New York State Power Authority official in Rochester said his agency believed the break had taken place along the transmission line between Rochester and Baldwinsville, a *town north of Syracuse. Later, the Texas White House indicated the trouble had been traced to a Niagara Mohawk substation at Clay,* 10 *miles north of Syracuse.*

At the end of the paragraph containing this information was the cryptic three words: "Again in error." It seemed that there was considerable preoccupation with an attempt to re-arrange the evidence of the night of the 9th of November.

By the 15th, APRO was quite aware that something was terribly amiss and not necessarily just a loss of power. For on the 13th came the information about huge fireballs seen near Syracuse. The general gist was that:

Mr. Weldon Ross, of Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, a part-time instructor-pilot, and a student, were in the air preparing to land at Hancock Field, Syracuse, "when the lights went out" on the 9th. Ross and his companion saw a huge fireball in the vicinity of the main power line. The New York Power Authority has two 345,000 volt lines that run from Niagara Falls to the Mohawk Power Corporation station in Clay.

After the blackout, early reports said it was possible the failure began at Clay but Niagara Mohawk officials said the Clay station was operating normally.

Early in the week, Syracuse's deputy aviation commissioner, Robert C. Walsh, had announced that he saw a fireball on the same night, which appeared to be a few miles south of Hancock Field, which would be in the vicinity of the power line.

The above information seemed to justify a couple of long distance calls to Walsh and Ross, which were accomplished by Mr. Lorenzen. He learned the following:

Ross was in the air approaching the field when the lights went out. Simultaneously or nearly so, they saw a ball of fire erupt in the vicinity of the power line. The ball was not a symmetrical thing, but gave the appearance of a "barn full of hay going up in flames." It lasted 10 seconds, then shrank to nothing. *This was at about* 5:15.

Walsh's experiences took place several minutes later. He was on the ground and was busy putting out emergency lights on the field (Hancock) when he saw the first ball of fire. He said it "came into being," grew to a huge size, then shrank into nothing, and that it resembled a huge mass of burning gas. Taking into consideration the time elements involved, the time was estimated at about 5:25 or thereabouts. The light appeared to be a few miles south of Hancock Field in the vicinity of the power line from Niagara Falls. Ten or fifteen minutes later, at about 5:35 or 5:40 or perhaps 5:45, Walsh observed another phenomena exactly like the first, but in a little bit different location.

Putting all this information together in a pattern, it appears that three separate "balls of fire" were seen in the vicinity of the power line that evening. The first failure, felt in Canada, was at about 5:16. The second big failure, after several other areas experienced the blackout, was New York City at about 5:27. In other words, the two fireballs coincided with two facts: The blackout in Canada, and the New York City blackout. Rhode Island blacked out at 5:30 and other areas "pulled free" of the "grid" and were without power for a very short time.

Other facts which must be considered in connection with the blackout are the two incidents related by columnist John Fuller in the 22 February issue of LOOK magazine, in which a disc, originating from a red cigar-shaped object, came earthward, skimmed along a power line, stopped, then extended a "silvery pipe-like" extension to the wire. The extension stayed there a few seconds, retracted into the disc, whereupon the disc climbed to the cigar, and merged with it or entered it.

The above two are only examples of incidents which indicate the UAOs' singular preoccupation with electrical power. If we are to take for granted, for the sake of theory, that UAOs are in fact extraterrestrial ships, then this is not a singular preoccupation, however. On page 175 of her book, "The Great Flying Saucer Hoax," Mrs. Lorenzen predicted the UAOs' interest in electrical power and water sources. Also included therein are examples of apparent effects of the presence of UAOs on electrical systems.

The main point of this article is that there is a preponderance of VERY UNUSUAL AND PERHAPS MEANINGFUL COINCIDENCES.

What could be the explanation for all this?

The object at Exeter on 3 September could have been measuring the parameters of that leg of the power grid—information which would be indispensable to the eventual disabling of the grid.

Mr. Gerdes, upon hearing of the blackout on the night of the 9th, came to the Lorenzens' home and professed his hunch that something peculiar was involved. He had only recntly read an article in the November 1965 issue of IEEE Spectrum about the "Automatic Control of Electric Power in the United States." It showed a diagram of the interconnecting systems across the country.

When the 13th rolled around and the information about the "fireballs" at Clay came to our attention, Mr. Lorenzen called Mr. Gerdes and asked him if the laser beams of his theory would produce any kind of atmospheric phenomena and he said that they could, and that they would quite likely produce clouds of ionized gas which would have a short but brilliant life at the point where the two beams met on the transmission wires. His theory, in brief, follows:

Two or more coherent high energy beams (e.g. infra-red LASER) could be aimed to intersect at some point along a high tension group of power lines. If the critical energy level was exceeded, a mass of plasma would be produced enveloping the wire group and causing a short circuit. To all intents and purposes this would appear to anyone monitoring the circuit as a massive short circuit or "flow of power into a ground."

The plasma formed would be visible to anyone who might be watching, but the sources, that is, the converging beams, probably would not if the frequency of the coherent energy was in the invisible spectrum. We stress coherent energy since it would not require focussing. The use of non-coherent, focussed beams is not ruled out, but this would seem more difficult to achieve.

The orange mushrooming clouds reported by some observers then would simply be dissipating plasma.

That something was amiss seemed evident, for a few days later, the New York Journal-American called Mr. Lorenzen and asked him about his calls to Ross and Walsh. When being interviewed by that newspaper, both men had noted that Mr. Lorenzen of APRO had called them. Unfortunately, the reporter apparently confused APRO with Mr. Lorenzen's employment and designated APRO as a

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Blackouts . . .

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"government-affiliated" or g a n i z ation. Shortly after that, APRO received several letters from people in various Eastern states reporting phenomena observed on the night of the blackout, as well as queries from other researchers about what we had learned. The latter were put off, of course, as the data had not been assessed and was not considered to be complete.

Some of the strange things possibly related to the foregoing phenomena recorded by this organization since the fall of 1965 are presented herewith:

On December 31, 1965, for the third time in two months, the electric clock of butcher A. L. Meredith in Toronto, Canada, reversed and went backward. The first time it happened was the week before the 9 November power failure. Power authorities say it must be due to some peculiarity in the motor design but Meredith cites the Swedish incident in which not only clocks, but elevators, and movie projejctors went into reverse, but gas pumps began siphoning gas out of cars instead of putting it in. The Swedes blamed the incident on a mistake in restoring phase rotation when a transformer was being repaired. An Ontario hydro power company said nothing like this had ever happened in Ontario.

On the 16th of November the Syracuse Herald-Journal carried an article relating to fireball sightings in the vicinity. Specifically listed were those seen and photographed by William Stillwell, Sexton of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He related that he had photographed them from his apartment window. He also observed them with a 117-power telescope with a 50-power eyepiece. The first sighting was on 16 August, and there have been 12 subsequent sightings. They are fast, and turn quickly. "We don't have planes that go that fast," he says.

The same artitcle quoted an unidentified 21-year-old girl pre-med student at Syracuse U. who said she saw a huge ball of fire a week before the blackout. Her mother refused to let their name be used, saying "we know the attitude of people about these things—we used to be that way ourselves until our daughter told us what she saw." She said it looked like a big pancake in the sky about 100 feet off the ground to the west.

The reports, said the Herald-Journal, generally pinpoint the sightings in an area northeast of Syracuse. Some of the reports came from Onondaga Hill, the city proper, Fayetteville, Fremont, Camillus and Lakeland.

Clay, New York, where Weldon Ross saw the fireball, is north of Syracuse, and so is Hancock Field. The power transmission line from Niagara Falls runs west to east, on the north of Syracuse, slants off to the southeast, then veers south.

UFO researchers were not the only ones who expressed doubts about the real cause of the Northeast U.S. blackout. In an editorial entitled "Technology and the Blackout" in the November 29, 1965 issue of ELECTRONICS Magazine, the following quotes are notable: "Cutting through the utilities' verbal smog" —"At a press conference that concealed rather than disclosed the facts"—"The average utility engineer is mystified by transients of the type apparently generated just before the blackout."

In the same magazine, an article in the "Probing the News Section"—titled "When the Lights Came On Again"—several bits of information were intriguing. On page 102 under Subparagraph 'Byproducts", the New York Transit Authority's problems were dealt with. NYCTA has its own generators, but they failed during the blackout also.

Under subparagraph, "Emergency Power," Electronics notes: "Of the 1,380 generators which Bell operated that night, it had trouble with one, WHICH HAPPENED ALSO TO SUPPLY THE AC EQUIPMENT THAT AMPLIFIES THE NETWORK'S VIDEO SIGNALS.

Other Blackouts

Close on the heels of the great Northeast U.S. power outage, there followed others around the globe. Following is a brief description of each with date, location and any unusual manifestations, whether connected or not:

1. Stockholm, Sweden, November 9. Blackout which lasted for several hours, attributed to the inundation of a 1,500 foot tunnel where the power cables for the city were located.

2. San Salvador, November 9. The electric power in this city was cut off and the blackout lasted for about one hour. Several surrounding counties also affected. The Power Company failed to discover the cause of the outage.

3. London, England, 15 November. A power failure which lasted for several hours affected the whole city of London at night, and also affected Birmingham. Public officials attributed the outage to the increased use of electric power due to the extreme cold. Public Utilities forced to diminish or cut off power in order to conserve.

4. Lima, Peru. 19 November. The central zone of Lima and the Rimac district engulfed in darkness for 20 minutes. Problem attributed to failure in Tavna transmission system. Considerable panic automobile accidents.

5. The Hague, 3 December. Eastern Netherlands without power for several hours. Attributed to "defect in power plant of Zwolle."

6. El Paso, Texas, 3 December, 1965. Over one million people, from Juarez, Mexico to Socorro, and in the east, Alamogordo, as well as Holloman AFB, White Sands Proving Ground, Fort Bliss and Biggs AFB (the latter two in Texas) were plunged into darkness. First reports said a defect at a gas plant in Juarez was the cause, then later it was blamed on a defect in two units of a power plant at Newman, New Mexico. The latter place is near where the famed Stokes sighting of 1957 took place, and the whole blacked-out area is the same area "visited" by UAOs in April and May, 1964 in an unexpected western UAO flap. More on this later. Reports of UAO sightings in El Paso expected momentarily which will be published later.

7. Conroe, Johnson City, Texas, 7 December. This was the third big blackout in the U.S.A. within 30 days. The electric power dropped for 5 minutes before the complete failure which lasted for 30 minutes.

8. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26 December. There is no explanation for the mysterious blackout which affected almost one half of the population of Argentina The affected land area was the capital and surrounding countryside. The blackout lasted for seven hours and the same inconveniences as suffered in New York City on the 9th of December were felt in Argentina. After the first hour, the water supply, which is pumped in to Buenos Aires with electrical pumps, also was affected.

9. Naples, Italy, 8 January 1966. Naples and all of Southern Italy except the Calabria area in the toe had a total blackout at night. Naples was blacked out for an hour and other cities as long as two hours. The AP release reached the U.S. said that officials of Italy's nationalized Electric Power Authority attributed the blackout to "an overload of four high tension lines feeding current southward from generating stations in central Italy."

Another item on the same subject came to us from member Joe Rolas of Venezuela, which noted that "a globe of fire appeared in the sky and hovered over Capri for several minutes and disappeared when two NATO surveillance jets approached it." Witnesses stated that household animals showed great

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nervousness while the object stayed there. The article from Venezuela also said that the Power Authority in Italy assumed that customers simply overused electricity because of the unseasonal cold.

10. Los Angeles, California, 24 January 1966. A blackout hit portions of west San Fernando Valley and west and south Los Angeles at 6:15 a.m. and the areas were without electrical power for from 15 to 30 minutes. The explanation was that a transmission line at the Haynes steam plant at Seal Bench had failed.

The Cherry Creek Incident

At about 8:20 p.m., on the night of the 19th of August 1965, Harold Butcher, 16, was operating the milking machine at his father's (William Butcher) dairy farm, located near Cherry Creek, New York. The boy was listening to a newscast from a portable radio, when he noted static-like interference which drowned out the program. The tractor to which the milking machine was connected then stopped. Outside the barn, a bull which was chained to an iron stake began to bellow and attempt to pull loose.

At this juncture the boy ran to the window of the barn and saw a large elliptical-shaped object with a reddish glow or vapor underneath it, as it appeared to land about a quarter of a mile from the barn. He heard a steady bee-beep sound. The object was on the ground for only a very few seconds before it shot straight up into the air disappearing into the clouds.

Butcher, using the phone extension in the barn, notified others in the house and they came out. All noted a strange odor in the air, and the clouds into which the object had disappeared glowed a greenish color.

Approximately a half hour later, the object reappeared and seemed to be circling the area. Harold's mother called the State Police. Troopers came, then notified the Air Force which initiated an investigation including a Captain and four technicians. They found a purplish liquid substance in several places, small two-inch indentations in the ground, as well as patches of singed grass and shrubbery.

APRO's investigator visited the Butcher farm, found Harold to be an intelligent boy who has quit school in order to run the farm, as his father is physically unwell. Asked why he was using the tractor for power, Harold said the unit which ordinarily powers the milking machine was out of order.

The bull which initially attracted Harold's attention to the outside, was fastened to the iron stake by a rope or chain which ran through a ring in his nose. He pulled so hard that he bent the quarter inch stake over to almost a 45 degree angle.

Upon further questioning about the object, Harold said it looked "like two turkey platters" lip to lip. The purple, viscous substance amounted to about a quart. Harold said that when he put some on his finger it was as if someone was putting pressure on the finger.

The Butcher boy also told our investigator, Perry C. Euchner, that the 16 cows, which normally yield from 3 to 4 cans of milk per day, were yielding only approximately 1 and a half cans per day for almost a week after the incident.

The Exeter, N. H. Case

A series of sightings at Exeter, New Hampshire in September are worthy of considerable space and comment:

At 12:30 a.m. on the 3rd of September Exeter Police Officer Eugene Bertrand was on routine patrol on Route 101. Just outside of town he came upon a woman parked alongside the road. He asked if she needed help and she excitedly told him that a flying object had chased her car from Epping to Exeter, occasionally diving on it. The object was surrounded by a red glow, and appeared to be elliptical in shape. Bertrand asked if she knew where the object was and she pointed to a bright light on the horizon. He watched it for a few minutes, reassured her, and proceeded on in his patrol car. He did not take the incident seriously, and did not get the woman's name.

At 2 o'clock Bertrand received a call from headquarters asking him to come and get a boy who had reported a UFO in the area, and investigate. He picked the boy up, and heard this story: Eighteen-year-old Norman Muscarello was thumbing rides, making his way from Amesbury, Mass., where he had been visiting, to his home in Exeter. He was on route 150 about 2 miles from Exeter when an object carrying four or five bright red lights came from a nearby woods and maneuvered over the field adjacent to the road. He was approaching a farm. The boy watched as the object moved over the Clyde Russell home and appeared to be hovering just a few feet above the roof. It made no noise, and seemed to be larger than the house. He estimated 80-90 feet. Then it moved back over the field and disappeared over the trees. The boy pounded on the door of the Russell home, shouting that he had seen a "flying saucer." The Russells woke up but refused to admit him, thinking he was drunk. Muscarello gave up and started down the road to Exeter. He flagged down a passing automobile and received a ride to the Exeter Police Station, where he related his experience.

Officers at the station later reported that Muscarello was white and shaken and barely able to talk. They called Bertrand who took him to the scene. When they arrived, the object was not there. They waited for several minutes, Bertrand radioed headquarters and reported that the object was not there. The dispatcher suggested that Bertrand examine the field before returning, so he and the boy went into the field. As Bertrand played his flashlight beam back and forth across the ground, Muscarello yelled that the object was coming. It was rising slowly from behind some trees nearby. Bertrand saw the large, dark object carrying a straight row of bright red lights which dimmed from right to left and left to right, alternately. It swung toward the two, appearing to clear a tree which was in the vicinity of 70 feet tall, and the object then seemed to be only 100 feet from them. Bertrand began to draw his gun, but changed his mind. He and the boy ran to the cruiser and Bertrand called headquarters. Within a few minutes Officer Hunt arrived and the three watched the object move away over the trees. It made no noise whatsoever.

These are the basic facts surrounding the three most outstanding sightings in the Exeter area. Another, related by John Fuller, columnist with Saturday Review, in LOOK Magazine, for February 22, 1966, is equally interesting but not corroborated by additional witnesses:

According to Fuller, young Joseph Jalbert, 16, of Exeter, observed a strange object one day in late October. Jalbert is an intelligent boy with a high scholastic record. On the day in question, he noticed a reddish cigar-shaped object high in the sky at dusk. A smaller reddish-orange disk emerged from it and slowly descended toward the ground. It appeared to draw nearer, then skimmed along the power lines and stopped within two hundred feet (his estimate) of him just a few feet over the wires. Then a silvery, pipe-like extension descended from the object and appeared to touch the wire where it remained for just a few seconds. It was then drawn up to the disk again, the disc took off at high speed, toward the cigar-shaped object,

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and merged with it.

Fuller did not relate what happened to the cigar-shaped object. This sighting is important, however, in view of the relationship of the small disc to the cigar, and the phenomena of the "silver pipe." See article on the "Great Black-out."

"Little, Little Men" In Minn.

A new type of "little man" was described by a young man who claimed he observed three in an encounter with a "Space Ship" on a Minnesota road in October 1965. The basic story:

Jerry Townsend, 19, high school graduate and fledgling radio announcer at KEYL in Long Prairie, Minnesota, rushed into police headquarters in that town at about 7:40 p.m. on Saturday, the 23rd of October 1965. He claimed he had come upon a strange object in the road between Little Falls and Long Prairie.

At 7:15 p.m. Townsend's car rounded a curve about 4 miles out of Long Prairie when he saw an object shaped like a rocket, "about 30-40 feet high and ten feet in diameter" which appeared to be resting on fins, in the road ahead of him. Just as he came around the curve, he said, his engine, lights and radio went out, so he put on his brakes. He stopped he thought, about 20 feet from it. He said that he first thought he might have been able to knock it over with his car if his engine hadn't quit. His idea was to get "some evidence" of what he was seeing. He then got out of his car with the idea of trying to push it over.

When he got to the front of the car three little creatures which looked like tin cans on tripods, and about six inches tall, came from behind the object. They had no discernible features. Townsend stopped, near the front of his car, with no desire to go closer. He said that although he could detect no features, he felt the creatures were watching him.

After what seemd an interminable time, the little objects went under the rocket, and disappeared into it. The "colorless" light which issued from the bottom of the rocket, went out after the rocket got into the air. Then his car radio and lights came on and the engine started without his having to touch the starter. He headed for Long Prairie as fast as he could go and went to police headquarters where he told his story.

Townsend was interviewed by Mrs. Lorenzen by telephone. He seemed to be truthful and genuinely impressed by what he saw. He would not be dissuaded about the huge size of the rocket, or the diminutive size of the "creatures."

Sheriff Bain was reluctant to discuss the incident, but did say that Townsend had a good reputation. He and Long Prairie police officer Lavern Lubitz returned to the spot where Townsend claimed the object had been. They found three strips of an oil-like substance about four inches apart and a yard long, all parallel with the road. "I don't know what they were but I've looked at a lot of roads and never saw anything like them before."

Inquiries to Townsend's High School principal and one teacher brought the opinions that Townsend is an honest young man. Bain and Lubitz both said Townsend was considered dependable, of good reputation, and Bain said he thought Townsend was telling the truth about what he saw.

Townsend, when interviewed, said he realized people would ridicule him, but he thought he should tell his story anyhow. He would not change any detail of his story.

The bizarre part of this account is the size of the "little creatures." Some added and very interesting details: When the little creatures moved, it was with the "front two fins," and when they stopped they put down a rear "fin," more or less like a stabilizer. It is possible Townsend was mistaken about the huge size of the ship and the small size of the creatures. However, they were clearly silhouetted against the light coming from the bottom of the "rocket." What is striking about this account is that the "little men" were cylindrical like the ship, using three fins for locomotion, and although their tops were flat instead of tapered to a point like the ship, they generally resembled it.

Driver Harrassed By Saucer

One of the most spectacular incidents which came out of the August "flap" in the U.S. is the experience of truck driver Don Tennopir of Route 1, Beatrice, Kansas. He halted a police car and blurted out the following story to Patrolman Quenton Kessler:

"I was driving north of Highway 15 about 25 miles south of Abilene, Kansas, carrying a full load of peanuts and was en route to Lincoln, Nebraska. I guess it was about 1:30 a.m., when all of a sudden all the lights on my truck went out. Then they came back on, then went off, then back on again. About this time this thing, saucer, or whatever, went over my truck with a sizzling or wind-like blowing sound. It scared the ——— out of me. It seemed to almost touch the cab, maybe it was 20 feet in the air, and it just swooped down over the road and hovered there no more than 100 feet i front of me.

"I tell you, I was standing on those brakes. I just didn't know what was happening. It looked like it was going to fall right in the middle of the road, but it didn't. I got my rig stopped and about that time this thing raised up a bit and slowly took off to the west and then headed south. I don't know how long it was there. It seemed longer than 20 seconds, but I was just too ——— scared to tell time.

"The thing looked round to me, I'd guess it was about 14 or 15 feet in diameter and sort of orange colored. This thing was shooting off reddish rays, kind of in spurts. The rays weren't really steady, kind of flashing.

"The object appeared to be like a saucer. I'd guess it was about two feet thick and the edge was round. There was a hump or something like that, in the middle. This hump stuck up about four feet or so. There was a dark spot in the hump, and this might have been a window or something. I just don't know." Unquote.

Patrolman Kessler later told Ed Corwin, reporter for the Abilene Reflector-Chronicle, that Tennopir was visibly agitated, and very pale when he related his experience. Corwin was called out of bed to hear Tennopir's story, and spent some time with him while he drank coffee and tried to quiet his nerves.

Blinking UFO Over Denver

Dozens of Denver, Colorado residents called authorities to report an unidentified object over the city on Sept. 27, which exhibited a chain or string of blinking lights with a red blinking light "in front or on top." Officials at the Stapleton International Airport Traffic Control tower who also saw the object said it appeared to be a sign with sequence lights blinking on and off. FAA officials suggested the object was an air advertising plane with a malfunction in the sign's electrical system, which made the sign unreadable. No record of an advertising plan over Denver turned up, however.

Two boys, 12 and 14, reported that they had seen two objects that same night — one over the Martin Company plant and another hovering over northeast Denver. The one over the Martin plant was a "big silver disc," they said, but no description was given of the othe object. Mr. Walter Renelt reported an enormous star, "10 times brighter than the brightest star" which he observed for 15 minutes.