

May 1, 1964

Saucer Report Examined

By the Associated Press

Socorro, N M

Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University, an astronomer who is a special consultant to the United States Air Force, has visited the secluded hill where Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora reported seeing an egg-shaped object fly away from a draw April 24, 1964.

Other reports have followed. The Socorro report and another at La Madera in northern New Mexico were similar in that state and military authorities confirmed a scorched area where the object was supposed to have landed, and wedge-shaped impressions that appeared to have been left by some type of landing gear.

Dr. Hynek would not offer an opinion on just what Officer Zamora saw.

He said he had investigated many such sightings but "this is one of the clearest — no that's not the right word, just say it is one of the soundest, best substantiated reports as far as it goes."

Soil Samples

"Usually one finds many contradictions or omissions in these reports," Dr. Hynek said. "But Mr. Zamora's story is simply told, certainly told without any intent to perpetuate a hoax. The story, of course, was told by a man who obviously was frightened badly by what he did see. He certainly must have seen something."

Dr. Hynek said soil samples have been taken at the Socorro site to "see if there are any particles in the ashes or at the site that might be foreign to this area."

Dr. Hynek also was interested in the wedge-shaped impressions.

From the observations by Zamora and other authorities, the impressions apparently were fresh," he said. "I wish we had a picture of them."

But with all the people tramping around there, there isn't anything to see now."

He said the lack of radar contact reports bothered him.

"So often we have such a contact and then can trace the object to some natural phenomena or aircraft," he said.

Strange Markings

The scientist also discussed the markings that Officer Zamora said he saw on the side of the object, a red, inverted V with bars through it.

"Listening to his [Zamora's] description, the first thing that came to my mind was a cattle brand type of marking. I wish we had a picture of it. It does not ring a bell as to any kind of insignia that I am familiar with."

Dr. Hynek said that a report that the Air Force had asked Officer Zamora not to discuss the markings was false.

"No one in the Air Force even suggested that nothing should be said about the markings," he said.

Dr. Hynek also was asking universities in the state if they knew of any geophysical group working in the state.

"These people often have some strange type of vehicles and aircraft they use in these rugged areas when taking radioactive samples," he said.

Dr. Hynek did not visit the site near La Madera northwest of Española where a Santa Fe resident reported seeing a similar craft and where the scorched ground and other remains were similar to the Socorro sighting.

He said he would have no comment on other parts of Officer Zamora's report, including that of seeing what appeared to be two figures in white coveralls outside the craft.

FROM S J LARSEN
FILES

Pentagon Interested

Sat. Apr 25

Socorro Officer Saw Two Men Step Out of Big UFO

SOCORRO, April 25 (AP) — A report by a Socorro policeman that he saw an egg-shaped flying object land near here yesterday has the FBI and military authorities interested.

Officer Lonnie Zamora said he not only saw the object but also saw two occupants who alighted after it landed about one mile southwest of Socorro in a draw.

State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez said he received a call from the Pentagon and the caller indicated the site would be inspected by someone from Washington.

As Officer Zamora tells his experience:

While in his patrol car about 5:50 p.m. yesterday he heard what he thought was an explosion in the area where a dynamite shack is located. He drove to within 150 yards of the draw where he spotted what appeared to be an overturned car. Moving closer he saw two figures moving about outside the vehicle.

One looked directly at him. As Zamora moved closer he lost sight of the object behind a hill.

He continued driving to the draw and parked. He walked to within 200 feet of the object and again heard a roar. Taking cover behind his car Zamora saw the object of brilliant white metal, rise and hover about 20 feet off the ground. It then flew off to the west, rising gradually.

"I was scared," said Zamora, when he heard the deep roar. "I thought it was going to blow up."

Zamora said he called Sgt. Chavez on his car radio. Chavez joined him and both approached the site of the apparent landing. They found scorched ground and burned weeds.

They also found four 4-5-inch depressions in the ground which apparently had supported a heavy object.

Chavez said the impres-

sions were irregularly spaced with the distance between them varying from about nine feet to 15 feet. He estimated the length of the object at about 15 feet from the position of what apparently were landing gear legs.

Zamora said men who identified themselves as from Army intelligence at White Sands Missile Range took samples of the soil.

"Something definite-

ly landed there," Chavez said.

Zamora was described as a man not given to imagining things.

Besides the landing gear marks, Zamora said he found what appeared to be two round prints like heel marks. Another man who visited the site described the marks as looking like mountain lion pad marks.

An FBI agent visited the spot this morning.

DAY LEAD (UFC)

BY CHARLES RICHARDS

FLYING SAUCERS

APR 1964

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

SOCORRO, N.M., APRIL 27 (UPI)--IT'S A GOOD PLACE FOR A FLYING SAUCER. RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE ON THE WIDE OPEN NEW MEXICO DESERT, JUST 30 MILES NORTHWEST OF THE SITE OF THE WOLD FIRST ATOMIC BLAST.

SOCORRO POLICEMAN LONNIE ZAMORA SAYS HE SAW IT, AND POLICE AND MILITARY MEN SEEM INCLINED TO BELIEVE HIM.

ZAMORA IS A "VERY RELIABLE WITNESS," ARMY CAPT. RICHARD T. YOLDER, UPRANGE COMMANDER OF WHITE SANDS' STALLION RANGE, SAID. HOLDER, WHOSE HEADQUARTERS IS NEAR THIS CENTRAL NEW MEXICO TOWN, WAS CALLED IN BY LOCAL POLICE AFTER ZAMORA REPORTED SEEING THE OBJECT FRIDAY.

DEPUTY SHERIFF JAMES LUCKIE SAID HE BELIEVES "IT'S SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY, SOMETHING VERY FEW HAVE EVER SEEN."

"I WAS SCARED," ZAMORA SAID. HE SAID HIS EXPERIENCE TAUGHT HIM ONE THING: IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN, HE WILL STILL RUN AWAY LIKE HE DID FRIDAY, BUT HE WILL NOT TELL A SOUL ABOUT WHAT HE SAW.

ZAMORA SAID HE SPOTTED AN EGG-SHAPED OBJECT ON THE DESERT ABOUT A MILE SOUTH OF SOCORRO. HE DENIED SEEING ANY SIGNS OF LIFE AROUND THE OBJECT AND SAID THE MACHINE ROSE AND FLEW SLOWLY AWAY UNTIL IT FADED FROM SIGHT.

HE SAID HE SPOTTED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A PAIR OF WHITE COVERALLS NEAR THE SAUCER, BUT COULD NOT TELL IF ANYTHING OR ANYONE WAS IN THEM. THE OBJECT, ABOUT THE HEIGHT OF A CAR BUT LARGER, APPEARED TO BE MADE OF A SHINY, ALUMINUM-LIKE SUBSTANCE, ZAMORA SAID. IT FLEW AWAY AFTER HE GOT WITHIN ABOUT 100 YARDS, HE SAID.

TWO INVESTIGATING OFFICERS WERE AT THE SCENE YESTERDAY FROM WRIGHTLAND AIR FORCE BASE IN ALBUQUERQUE. MAJ. WILLIAM CONNOR AND SGT. DAVID MOODY USED A GEIGER COUNTER TO CHECK THE AREA. THERE WAS ONLY EVIDENCE OF AN UNUSUAL VISITOR WAS A BURNED BUSH AND FOUR SMALL DEPRESSIONS IN THE GROUND.

MORE

★

Santa Fean Reports Seeing UFO Landed North of Espanola

An unidentified flying object was reported to have landed and taken off near La Madera, north of Espanola, two days following the stop of a UFO in Socorro.

The evidence that Orlando Gallegos of Santa Fe reported was similar to that found in Socorro. He and his family went to visit his father, just north of La Madera, arriving about 12:30 a.m. Sunday.

Gallegos later told State Police he saw the object sitting on the ground in a gravel area when he went outside to chase away horses. He did not approach closer than 200 feet. He noticed a

ring of blue flame erupting from many jets around the bottom of the craft. The jets were noiseless and were turned off while he watched. He saw no persons around the craft which he described as a windowless bright metal, egg-shaped object and as long as a telephone pole, and probably 14 feet in circumference.

No one ventured out of the Gallegos home again during the night. The object was gone in the morning, but the ground was still smoldering.

A team of investigators at Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, was to visit the scene.

Whether it was the same UFO or another one is unknown, but Undersheriff James Luckie said a tourist told him in a cafe here Sunday night that a low-flying, bright object had nearly crowded him off U.S. 85 two miles south of Socorro between 7:30 and 8 p.m. The unidentified tourist was traveling north of 85, and the object going south.

EL DEFENSOR CHIEFTAIN
SOCORRO, NM
APRIL 28, 1964

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TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1964

Evidence Of UFO Landing Here Observed

City Policeman Zamora Reports Sighting Egg-Shaped Object and Views Take-Off; Tourist Sees Craft Just Before Landing

What appears to be substantial evidence of an unidentified flying-object landing and taking off in Socorro has been observed.

City Policeman Lonnie Zamora, a highly reliable source, saw a four-legged, egg-shaped object, and two persons in a gully a mile south of the courthouse shortly before 6 p.m. Friday. He saw the object rise straight up and take off, and disappear beyond Six-Mile Canyon to the west. Some of the evidence of the landing and take-off remained in the gully. There were four shallow holes where the object apparently landed on its legs; there were burned greasewood and seared clumps of green grass; there were two round, very slight depressions. No footprints were found.

Zamora said he saw lettering on the side of the UFO, and he sketched the lettering on a paper sack after the object had taken off. He did not believe the letter-

ing was in English, and he observed no numerals as there are on known aircraft. Zamora said he was not at liberty to further describe the lettering.

At least one other person — an unidentified tourist traveling north on U. S. 85 — saw the UFO just before it landed in the gully. Opal Grinder, manager of Whiting Brothers' Service Station on 85 north, said the man stopped at the station and remarked that aircraft flew low around here.

Grinder replied there were many helicopters in this vicinity. The tourist said it was a "funny-looking helicopter, if that's what it was." The man said further the object had flown over his car. It actually was headed straight for the gully where it landed moments later. The tourist also commented that he had seen a police car heading up the hill. This was Zamora's car.

Grinder did not know of the object at the time, and did not attach importance to the traveler's remarks.

A Tucson, Ariz., couple was here Sunday to interview Zamora for a scientific article on the object. The woman said a minister and 26 other persons in New Guinea had seen a similar object hovering for two hours at an estimated altitude of 400 feet. It was reported the observers had seen a man on the "deck" of the object.

Maj. William Conner of Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, was also here Sunday afternoon to interview Zamora. The major said he was not at liberty to comment. He and an Air Force sergeant visited the UFO scene. Use of a Geiger counter at the scene was reported to have brought negative results.

Capt. Richard T. Holder of Socorro, U.S. Army up-range commander with headquarters at Stallion Range Center on White Sands Missile Range, said Saturday:

"I was contacted on the evening of April 24 by local authorities and asked to provide assistance in identifying a reported UFO. After being appraised of the situation, I attempted to determine whether White Sands Missile Range or Holloman Air Force Base had anything that might produce the conditions described.

Neither White Sands Missile Range nor Holloman had an object that would compare to the object described. There was no known firing mission in progress at the time of the occurrence that would produce the conditions reported."

Zamora doesn't know what the object was, but for those who desire to speculate, there are three possibilities:

First, it may have been a top secret U.S. aircraft in an advanced stage of development.

Second, it may have been an advanced type of aircraft or space ship of another power.

Third, it may have been a space scout ship from another planet.

Whatever the object was, it probably was the first reported concrete instance of a UFO in New Mexico.

Policeman Zamora shifted from a routine task to a frightening, out-of-this-world experience in a few minutes Friday night.

He was patrolling Park Street where he had begun pursuit of a fast-traveling car, several blocks ahead of him. Zamora was almost on the old road when he heard what he described as a blast or a roar. His first thought was that an aluminum

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Thursday, April 30, 1964

Air Force Consultant Checks UFO Site Here

Dr. Hynek Feels Zamora's Account Solid, Not a Hoax

Socorro held the spotlight this week in the investigation of the report of City Policeman Lonnie Zamora that he saw an unidentified flying object last Friday in a gully a mile southwest of the courthouse.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, special consultant to the Air Force on unidentified flying objects, was here Wednesday at the request of the Air Force. He visited the site with Zamora, talked to him at length there, and interviewed others. He found the site so trampled by the curious that little of scientific value could be obtained.

The scientist said he had not seen a similar sight previously in his investigations.

No radar picked up an object so far as is known, and it should have been picked up if it came in from outer space or was cruising around this area, Hynek said. "This is the outstanding discrepancy in what otherwise is a very solid tale," (Zamora's ac-

count). I found nothing that tends to discredit Zamora. This discrepancy concerns me."

Maj. William Conner of Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, said here Wednesday there were no identified radar targets in this area between April 24 and 28. He came here with Hynek.

"It's a real pity, but no one's fault, that other witnesses did not see the object land or take off," Dr. Hynek continued. "A movie of this would have been priceless. I feel in my own mind that 'hoax' is ruled out but I should like very much to find a natural explanation, and I ask readers to let me know if any geophysical prospecting or experimentation had been going on in this area." (Dr. Hynek may be addressed at Dearborn Observatory, Evanston, Ill.)

Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy of Northwestern University, said that "as an astronomer, I am only too well aware of the huge distances in space that to me would make it most unlikely that this was a visitation from elsewhere."

He also said that to the best of his knowledge the reported object does not represent any secret Air Force device.

He declared the impressions made by the object are "the only tangible thing," and that is the chief interest in analysis of materials at the site. Dr. Hynek took samples at the site. The military had taken samples earlier. The main thing is to determine if there are foreign particles in the samples.

The red marking on the UFO, as described by Zamora, was an inverted "B" with a bar across it, Hynek reported. He declared no Air Force official had suggested the markings be kept secret and there was nothing classified about it.

The State Police here, sheriff's department, and city police made no attempt to keep any reports on the UFO secret.

After visiting the site, Hynek remarked that he was impressed with what a tourist attraction it had become. He added it was unfortunate the area was not roped off.

Since the reported landing and take-off of the UFO here, many other unidentified flying objects, or "flying saucers," have been reported.

Dr. Hynek said he was always impressed in cases like this with other reports that spring up, many of which come from what

"we can call 'repeaters' who seem to have the singular ability to see flying saucers almost on schedule. This might be called a gross violation of the laws of chance."

All flying saucers exist, says reports, Hynek said. He gave this definition of the aerial phenomenon:

"A flying saucer is any aerial citing or phenomenon which remains unexplained long enough for someone to report it."

He said he had come at the Air Force's request to get as many facts firsthand as possible "before the incident becomes legend."

The impressions which Hynek called "the only tangible thing" were those apparently made by the four legs of the object as it landed.

Zamora described the object as egg-shaped, and on his first view of it he thought it was an overturned car. He happened on the incident because he believed at first an explosives storage building near the gully had blown up. The noise, however, apparently came from the UFO on landing and later on take-off.

The policeman was an estimated 450 feet away when he first saw the object. Standing beside the UFO, with their backs to him

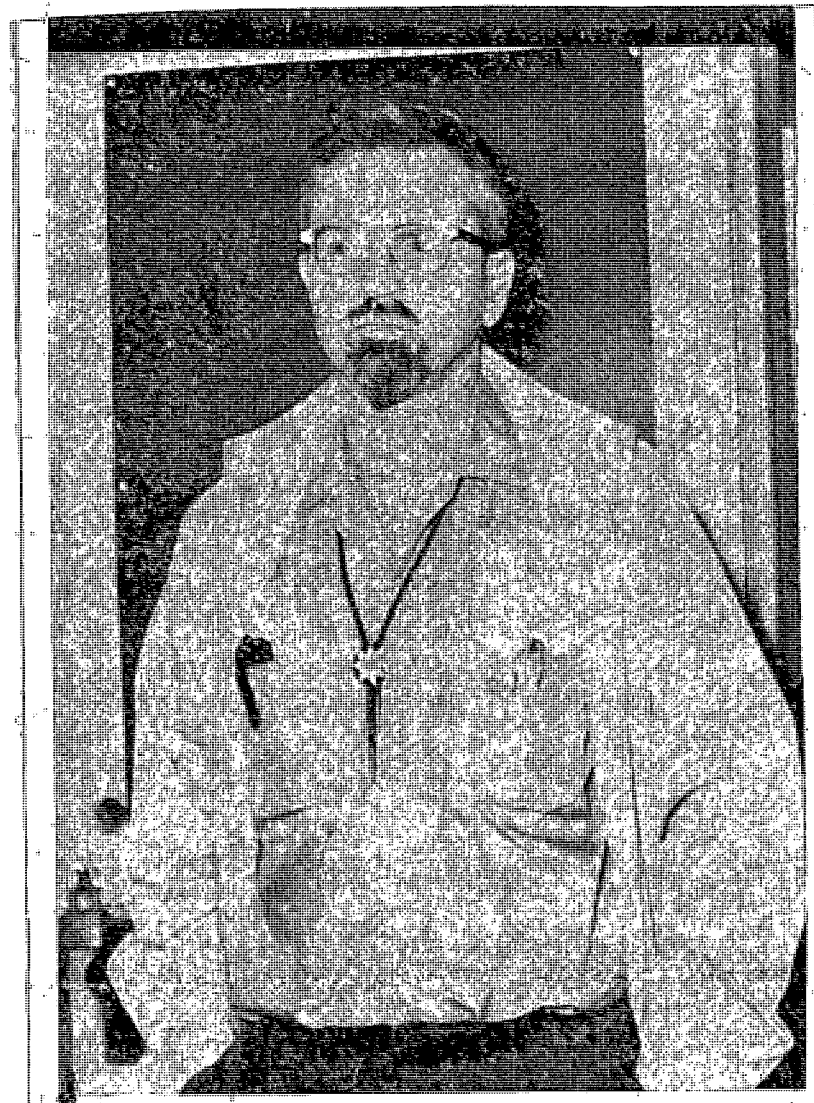
were what appeared to be two small persons in white coveralls. He did not see them when he was 50 feet from the object as it took off and disappeared over Six-Mile Canyon to the west.

Robert White of Socorro, cattle inspector, who arrived at the site less than half an hour after other police officers got there, was interviewed Wednesday by Hynek. White told a reporter that the tracks were fresh and they had to be made by an object. He said further the two shallow round impressions, left in addition to the four larger ones, were made by a different object than those on which the UFO landed. These two reminded White of a shoe heel. There were no prints within the circles, however. White added these were not any known animal tracks.

White was coming into Socorro from the north when he heard State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez asking State Policeman Ted Jordan by radio to come to the scene. The inspector asked Chavez what the incident was, and the latter then asked White to come there.

Green snakeweed and green greasewood, and clumps of dry grass had been seared by a flame of some kind at the site. Green greasewood does not burn easily.

The incident drew another investigator to Socorro Wednesday. He was Ray Stanford of Phoenix, Ariz., a member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, with headquarters in Washington. He also visited the site and talked with several persons. Stanford said he was not an official investigator for the committee.



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SOCORRO, NM

NICAP

CE III

JUNE 24, 1964

"It is unfortunate that only one witness reported the object, and that no photographs were obtained."

Sends Its Consultant

The air force sent one of its leading civilian consultants, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern university astronomer, to New Mexico to look into the report, which spoke of an object with red markings on a silvery side.

Hynek, heading home from Albuquerque last night, said he was "more puzzled now than when I arrived." He spoke of the lack of radar contact with the reported object, and the absence of surface disturbance to indicate a thrust sufficient to lift it from the site where it was reported on the ground.

Has No Explanation

Washington, April 30 (AP)—The air force said today initial investigations have failed to explain an unidentified flying object reported at Socorro, N. M., last week-end.

"Nothing out of the ordinary was observed on aircraft tracking screens in the area at the time the object was reported," it said.

The statement quoted air force investigators as saying,

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, IL
MAY 1, 1964

FROM S. J. LORSON
RUCS

NICAP

**ADMIT FLYING
OBJECT MAY BE
SECRET PLANE**

By *Gene Kanoff* Staff Writer
Albuquerque, N. M., May 2

(AP)—A university of New Mexico meteoritics expert says the strange craft a Socorro policeman saw April 23 probably was a vertical short take-off and landing aircraft operated by the air force.

Officer Lonnie Zamora touched off a flurry of unidentified flying object reports after describing a silvery, egg-shaped object he said he saw on the desert southwest of Socorro. Dr. Lincoln LaPaz said the air force experimented with the vertical take-off planes several years ago and what Zamora saw probably was a new secret model.

At White Sands missile range, Gene Kanoff, chief of administration for the National Aeronautics and Space administration at White Sands, said the lunar excursion module designed for the Apollo moon flight might fit Zamora's description but won't be built until later this year.

FROM S.J. LARSEN
FILES

25C? Not submitted to A.F. The Evening Press, Binghamton, N.Y. Apr May 7, 1964

DAIRY FARM CENTER OF INTEREST

Keep

Martian 'Visit' Stirs Tioga

24/Am 1964

By REID A. OCHS

Owego Bureau Chief

Newark Valley—A dairy farmer's report of talking with two Martians who landed in one of his fields in a spacecraft has Tioga County aroused with curiosity.

The report has brought inquiries by an official agency and has been a frequent topic of conversation in recent days in Owego's downtown streets.

The Tioga County Sheriff's Department interviewed the farmer, Gary T. Wilcox of Davis Hollow Road, and took a statement from him.

The Binghamton office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was informed of the incident. It notified the FBI's Albany office, which passed word on to the Air Force.

Mr. Wilcox, 27 who operates a 300-acre dairy farm a few miles northeast of Newark Valley, said that a "federal representative" also has been to see him about what happened in a secluded spot on his farm.

(The U. S. Air Force recently issued a report in its continuing study of "flying saucer" sightings. It said there was no evidence that unidentified flying objects were craft from other planets controlled by intelligent beings. Most sightings—all but 15 of 382 last year—turn out to have some logical explanation when all the evidence is gathered, it said.

(The Air Force also said there is no evidence that UFO's, whatever, if anything, they are, represent a "threat" to U. S. Security.)

Mr. Wilcox who was described by neighbors as a "hard-working" farmer, initially rebuffed a reporter's attempts to interview him about the incident, but finally gave this account of what happened:

On the morning of April 24, Mr. Wilcox, who works the farm alone, was spreading manure in an open field.

Shortly before 10 o'clock, he decided to check a V-shaped field on another part of the farm that is almost completely surrounded by woods. He wanted to see whether ground conditions would permit plowing.

AS HE APPROACHED the field, which is about a mile from his dairy barn, he saw a shiny object that he at first thought was a discarded refrigerator that had been in the field for some time.

He realized that the shiny object was not the old refrigerator as he drew nearer. His next thought was that it was a wing tank or some other part of an airplane that had fallen into the field.

The object was shiny and looked somewhat like aluminum. But it looked as if it would be more durable than aluminum and seemed to have metallic characteristics different from any he had ever seen before.

The object was about 20 feet long and 16 feet wide and was shaped like an egg. He touched it and felt no heat.

HE OBSERVED no door or escape hatch, but two human-like men suddenly appeared. They were about four feet tall, wore clothing that appeared to have no seams and had on what appeared to be a headdress with a full-face hood.

He could not distinguish any facial features because of the face hoods. They appeared to have arms and legs, but he could not tell whether they had feet and toes.

"Do not be alarmed, we have talked to people before. We are from what you people refer to as planet Mars," one of the figures said in smooth English.

HE THOUGHT this surely must be some kind of gag somebody was playing on him, but the conversation continued. One of the creatures stood about five feet from him and the other stood farther back, close to the spacecraft.

Their voices seemed to come from their bodies rather than from the headdress-covered heads.

"They were interested in or-

ganic material such as fertilizer," Mr. Wilcox recalled.

They expressed considerable interest in why he was spreading manure and in the various uses of fertilizers.

THE MARTIANS explained that they grew food in the atmosphere, but changes in the universe were expected to create problems. They said they were visiting earth to obtain information about organic material.

They appeared to know little about organic material and their questions were like those a child would ask. Each one carried a tray filled with soil, apparently taken from the field.

"When they talked about space or the ship, I had difficulty in understanding their explanations," Mr. Wilcox said.

"They said they can only travel to this planet every two years and they are presently using the Western Hemisphere."

The Martians said they land only during daylight hours because their ship is less readily visible in daylight. They expressed surprise that he had seen the craft.

The two figures said astronauts from earth would not be successful in space travel. Astronauts traveling in outer space would die after being in space a year because their bodies are not adaptable to such conditions, they said.

THE FIGURES asked whether he had any organic material. He said yes, and then was asked if they might have some.

He started to leave to get a bag of fertilizer for them. As he did so, the spacecraft took off.

The noise the spacecraft made was like an automobile idling. There was no turbulence, exhaust of fire or raising of dust.

"Within seconds the craft was out of sight," Mr. Wilcox said.

He returned to the barn, picked up a bag of fertilizer and took it to the spot in the field where the Martians had been. He left the bag of fertilizer there. It was gone when he returned the next day.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1964

Consultant Stops In City Briefly, Cites AF Interest

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, special consultant to the Air Force on Unidentified Flying Objects, said during a stop in Socorro Saturday that the reported landing and takeoff of a UFO here last April 24 is becoming "one of the classic cases."

The Air Force is "very much interested in the case," Dr. Hynek said, and there has been nothing to discredit the investigation. But, he said, "an acceptable answer" concerning the object observed by City Policeman Lonnie Zamora has not yet been found. Zamora observed the object in a gully a mile southwest of the courthouse about 6 p.m. April 24.

Like many other classic UFO cases, there is very little data on them, Dr. Hynek continued. If there had been movies of the object in motion or a photograph of the landed object, it would have been of great assistance, he said. There is no photographic evidence of any UFO, he added.

Reported UFO Sighting Here Becoming 'One of Classic Cases,' Dr. Hynek Says

Dr. Hynek came here on April 29 at the request of the Air Force to investigate the reported sighting. At that time, he interviewed Zamora and others.

He stopped in Socorro on his way from the University of Colorado at Boulder, to the Dearborn Observatory's Organ Mountains Station east of Las Cruces. He was accompanied by J. R. Dunlap, who, with G. G. Barton, is in charge of the Organ Mountains Station. Hynek is chairman of the Department of Astronomy of Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. Dearborn Observatory is at Northwestern.

The National Aeronautics and Space Agency has given Northwestern a new observatory to be built close to the present station

on the east side of the Organ Mountains, Hynek said, and a site is being sought. The new observatory, expected to be in operation in four or five months, is in recognition of work by Dunlap and Barton.

The new observatory will have a 24-inch electronic telescope instead of the 12-inch one with which the present observatory is equipped.

The New Mexico Tech Astronomy Club announced last May it hoped to be able to raise funds to install similar television equipment at the college observatory.

Dunlap said the second observatory will be equipped with a brand-new, especially designed television train for photographing the heavens.

The new station will be primarily for lunar patrol, including detection of any possible changes on the moon's surface, and it is also hoped the observatory will be able to contribute to knowledge of a suitable landing place for Apollo flights to the moon.

The new station will provide better observation not only of the moon, the closest object to Earth, but also the farthest galaxies (groups of stars). The photos will not be better than those taken by the Ranger, Dunlap said.

The station also is searching the moon's surface for any possible volcanic activity, a controversial subject among scientists.

Hynek said that if there are any non-Earth space installations on the one side of the moon visible from this planet — which is most improbable — the 24-inch telescope would be able to detect such installations if they were a mile in extent. He emphasized, however, that this is not the purpose of the telescope. Ranger could also detect any such installations if they were in the right area, Hynek said.

building used to store explosives had blown up. He forgot about the speeding car and headed up a very rocky, dirt road towards the building. On the third try, driving very slowly, he managed to get up the road which leads to the top of the mesa overlooking the gully where the UFO had landed.

The policeman said he first saw the object at an estimated distance of 150 yards, and he thought it was an overturned car. He was looking out of his car window as he drove towards the top of the mesa. Zamora said one of two persons at the UFO, whose back was to him, turned his head and looked straight at him. The two persons standing by the object appeared to be dressed in white coveralls, and at the distance Zamora saw them they appeared to be "child-like," that is, small. He did not notice what sort of headgear, if any, the two persons, presumably men, wore.

Zamora continued driving up the hill to get a closer look at the object and the persons. When he stopped his car on the top of the mesa and directly opposite the place in the gully where the UFO had landed, he saw it again, but the persons were not outside the object on which the sun gleamed brightly. He got out of his car and started towards the UFO. Then he again heard the roar or blast that had brought him to the scene and saw flames. Dust was flying around the object.

The policeman believed the

object was about to explode. He was about 50 feet from the UFO, and for protection he dropped to the ground and covered his face with an arm.

No explosion occurred, and Zamora also realized the object was not heading in his direction. He raised his head slightly. He saw the UFO, which seemed to be headed south on landing, rise straight up for an estimated 20 feet, which brought it about on a level with the police car on the mesa top. The object appeared to maintain this altitude beyond the explosives building, and due west in a straight line for about two miles to the perlite mill. On the other side of the mill the UFO gained altitude very rapidly, passed over Six-Mile Canyon, became a speck in the sky, and disappeared.

Zamora said there was a sharp whining sound at the end of the roar preceding the object's take-off. As the object got into the air, the noise quieted. The object did not leave a jet trail. Reports of other supposed UFO's have mentioned that they fly with little or no noise.

Zamora radioed the sheriff's office immediately after the object had taken off. State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez, State Policeman Ted Jordan, and Undersheriff James Luckie responded. Chavez and Luckie said the burned clumps of green grass and the greasewood were still hot when they arrived. The military later took samples of the burned earth for analysis.

An inspection of the scene Saturday morning showed the object had landed astride a narrow, rock-strewn dry wash in the gully. Officers earlier had circled with stones the four places where the legs of the object had touched earth. The holes were shallow, about a foot long by six inches wide. They did not appear to have been made by an object striking the earth with great force, but by an object of considerable weight settling to earth at slow speed and not moving after touching the ground.

The two legs of the object that Zamora saw probably were about 2½ feet long.

It was about 12 feet from one landing hole to the other on the west side and 15 feet between the two on the east side. The width probably was nine or more feet.

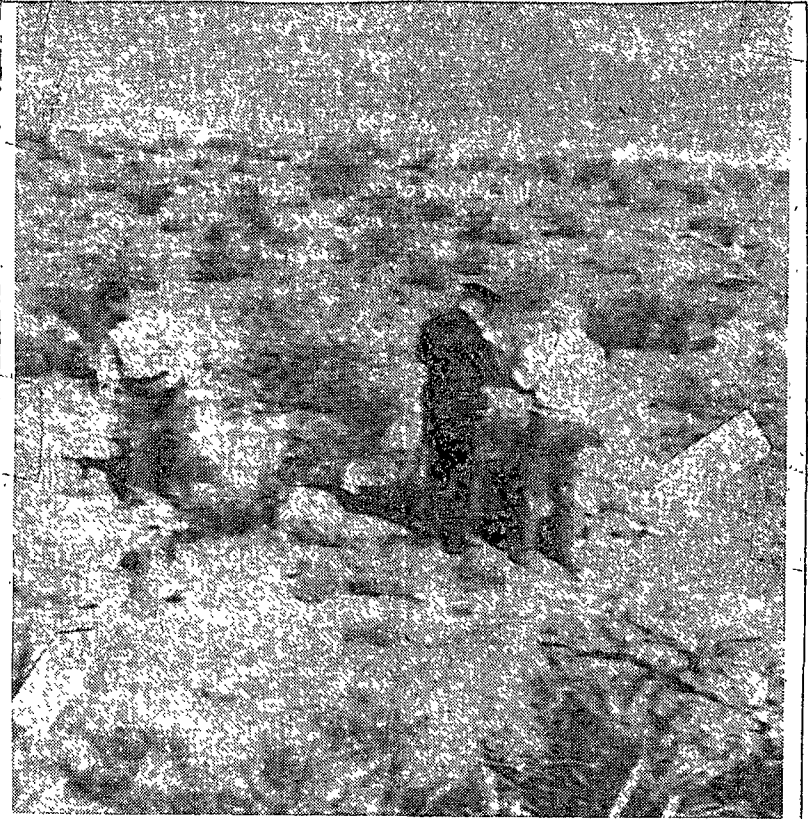
The clumps of green grass and two greasewood bushes seemed to have been seared all at once by an extremely hot flame. There were also broken branches on one greasewood.

The two round depressions were four and five inches in diameter, respectively.

The cause of the landing of the object, like its identity and its source, remain unanswered. Was the landing in the secluded, little-frequented gully for a test or caused by momentary mechanical difficulty?

After Capt. Holder was apprised of the UFO occurrence, he made a report of it to the proper agencies at WSMR. Investigation of the incident will be conducted by designated government agencies.

By Sunday afternoon hundreds of curious persons had trampled the scene and there was virtually no evidence left of the landing marks.



Where UFO Landed in Socorro: State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez and Lewis A. Reddell, publisher of El Defensor-Chieftain, stand at one of the stone-circled depressions (arrow) made by a leg of an unidentified flying object which landed in a gully a mile from the courthouse last Friday. The arrow in left foreground points to another depression made by a leg. Near the center foreground are burned greasewood and clumps of grass. The person at the left also looks over the scene, which had not been trampled by the curious Saturday morning when this photo was taken.

Socorro Part of Film on UFO's Completed; Zamora's Account Jibes With 16 Verified Sightings

Empire Film Studios of Hollywood, Calif., completed filming Saturday of the Socorro part of the documentary on Unidentified Flying Objects.

The title of the documentary will be "Phenomena — Seven Point Seven." Morry Malkin, public relations director for Empire, said the 7.7 is the percentage of 8000 sightings classified by the Air Force as UFO's.

The principal in the Socorro part of the documentary in color will be City Policeman Lonnie Zamora who saw the UFO on April 24, 1964, after it had landed in a gully a mile southwest of the courthouse and also observed its takeoff. Zamora reenacted his experience at the scene Saturday morning.

Michael Musto, executive producer of Empire, said Zamora's unchanged and straightforward account was similar to 16 other verified UFO sightings in various parts of the world.

The Empire men also "shot" interviews with several other persons in Socorro, who will be in the documentary.

One of the purposes of the documentary will be to show that neither hysteria nor panic were caused by the landing here.

Although the UFO landing was known to police officers and a few other persons on Friday, April 24, no public announcement of it was made until Saturday morning, April 25.

The reaction to the landing here was unlimited curiosity, and by Saturday night the hundreds who swarmed to the scene had virtually obliterated all traces of the landing.

Zamora set the time of his sighting of the UFO at about 5:55 p.m.

Malkin announced that the first public showing of the documentary will be in Socorro. The film, which is expected to run for 80 minutes or more, may be ready for showing in five weeks, but no date has been set for the premiere here.

What Zamora saw was a four-legged, egg-shaped object that had landed diagonally astride a narrow, dry creek in the gully. Musto said the four legs on the objects possibly were magnetic poles used for landings.

The policeman had heard what he believed was an explosion in a structure near the gully, which was used to store explosives. He forgot the speeder he was pursuing on Park Street and headed in the direction of the sound.

He first saw the object at a distance of about 150 yards and believed it was an overturned car. He saw two small persons standing by the object. They appeared to be dressed in white coveralls.

After first seeing the object, Zamora radioed the sheriff's office that he was going to check an accident. He then heard two sounds on his car radio which were something like the slamming of a door.

As Zamora reached the top of the mesa, he saw the object in the gully but the two persons had disappeared. He was then opposite the object. He got out of the police car and started towards the UFO. When he was about 50 feet from the object, he again heard the roar and saw flames come from the underside of the object. He dropped to the ground and covered his face with an arm for protection.

The UFO rose straight up from the ground for an estimated distance of 20 feet, and as it took off, Zamora said Monday, he

heard what he described as a "strange sound beam" emanating several times from the UFO.

The UFO maintained the estimated elevation of 20 feet until it reached the perlite mill due west of the gully landing site. On the other side of the mill, the UFO rapidly gained altitude, passed over Six-Mile Canyon, became a speck in the sky and disappeared.

Musto said the studio has a film on a UFO that was first sighted over Milan, Italy, and a half hour later landed in a pasture 18 miles from Milan.

After the landing, an antenna rose from the top of the object, and a person wearing white coveralls and helmet resembling the type divers use, emerged from the UFO. As persons nearby began walking towards the UFO, the person disappeared within it, the object rose, hovered for a few seconds and disappeared.

Musto said the film was verified by the Italian Air Force and Italian government.

Persons interviewed and filmed here by Empire included: State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez who arrived at the scene shortly after the UFO had taken off and disappeared; Mayor Holm O. Bursum, Jr., City Clerk Raymond L. Senn, Steve Torres, Jr., Mrs. Howard Terry, and Mrs. Vince Cardanalli. Walter Shrode conducted the interviews.

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EL DEFENSOR CHIEF Page 8

February 9, 1965

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(Continued on Page 8)

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(Continued from Page 1)

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The UFO rose straight up from the gully at an estimated distance of 100 feet and it took 10 seconds to disappear. Zamora said today, he

what he described as a "strange sound beam" emanating several times from the UFO.

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2 Objects Sighted At Polvadera, Luis Lopez Recalled

The reported sighting of an unidentified flying object in Socorro shortly before 6 p.m. last Friday prompted Mrs. John H. Cardwell of Luis Lopez Monday to recall two night sightings of strange objects last summer. The sightings were at Luis Lopez and Polvadera.

Mrs. Cardwell and her husband were watching television in their living room at 9 or shortly after on that night when they noticed a brightly lighted object through the large living room window on the east side. It was a dark, clear night.

The parents and their three children stepped outside to get a better view of the object slowly moving eastward. The object would become extremely bright white light and then dim. The lighted, moving object proceeded

slowly eastward, rose and cleared the mountains, which at this point are about six miles directly north of Stallion Site on White Sands Missile Range, Mrs. Cardwell said. The object probably was about a mile away when first sighted.

A month later Mrs. Cardwell mentioned the object to her mother-in-law, Mrs. Olen Cardwell, at Polvadera, and learned that the latter also had seen a similar moving object shortly after 10 o'clock at night. This sighting was about a month after the Luis Lopez incident.

The Olen Cardwells had retired for the night, Mrs. John Cardwell recalled. They believed they had turned off all the lights, but Mrs. Cardwell noticed that the kitchen, two rooms and 30 feet from the bedroom, appeared brightly lighted. She found the kitchen light was not on. Looking out the window she saw a brilliantly lighted object an estimated quarter of a mile away.

It was close to the earth and moving slowly in a half-moon arc, and brightening and dimming, like the object at Luis Lopez. In about 10 minutes, the object disappeared over the mountains to the east.

Mrs. John Cardwell theorized the arc-like motion might account for the brightening and dimming of the object.

EL DEFENSON CHIEFTAIN
SOCORRO, NM
APRIL 28, 1964



J. ALLEN HYNEK
Checking phenomena

N. U. Astronomer Studying Area of Flying Object

SOCORRO, N. M. (AP) — An astronomer from the Dearborn observatory at Northwestern university was here Wednesday to examine the secluded hill where a Socorro policeman reported seeing a mysterious, egg-shaped flying object.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the special unidentified flying object consultant to the air force, was sent to New Mexico after several reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects in the state.

He planned to visit the place where Policeman Lonnie Zamora said he spotted the object Friday.

Zamora said the object he saw was a brilliant white. He said there was a red marking on it like an upside down V with three lines across the top, thru the middle, and at the bottom. He said that from a distance there appeared to be two figures in white coveralls outside the object. It flew off with a roar when he approached, he said.

Since Zamora's sighting at least six reports have been made to authorities, including one from a youth who said he fired several shots at something about 100 feet in the air near Moriarty.

T. Sgt. David Moody of the aerial phenomena branch at Wright-Patterson air base, Ohio, is in New Mexico to assist Dr. Hynek, a Wright-Patterson spokesman said.

Dr. Hynek said his investigation in Socorro would determine whether he would visit Espanola, where state police Capt. Martin Vigil found the ground smoldering 20 hours after a reported sighting.

Authorities found scorched grass and four wedge-shaped indentations in the ground at the Socorro site and near Espanola.

Dr. Hynek said he hoped to finish his investigation here Wednesday.

He said he has found most people honest and sincere in reporting flying objects.

Many common things, however, are often responsible for such reports, he said.

"Meteors, flocks of birds, weather balloons, even the moon can lead to these reports," Dr. Hynek said.

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CHICAGO ILL
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84th Year

Won't Tell Soul Next Time

UFO Witness Sighs At Reports of What He Supposedly Said

By CHARLES RICHARDS

SOCORRO (UPI) — A policeman who gained sudden national attention Friday after he saw an egg-shaped flying object near Socorro said Sunday his experience had taught him something.

Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora said he would turn around and run, just like he did Friday evening, but next time he'd never mention it to a soul.

"There have been so many phone calls," he sighed. And most of Sunday he spent shaking his head over some of the reports of what he supposedly said about the incident.

"Maybe you'd better ask some of these other guys," Zamora told reporters. "I'm the only one who saw it, but they seem to know more about it than I do."

Denies Seeing Creatures

Zamora denied he had seen any little creatures around the object and said the unusual machine rose off the ground and flew slowly away in a southwesterly direction until it faded out of sight. It never got more than about 20 feet off the ground while he was watching it, Zamora said, contrary to reports the object had zoomed up and away from him at a high rate of speed.

Two investigating officers from Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque said reports a man from the Pentagon would come to Socorro also were false.

Termed 'Fantastic'

Capt. Richard T. Holder, a White Sands Missile Range commander, termed the incident "fantastic" but referred to Zamora as a reliable witness. "Neither White Sands nor Holloman Air Force Base has anything which would

produce the situation described in the report," Holder said.

Zamora said the craft cleared a dynamite shack by only a couple of feet as it departed. He lost sight of it within a matter of minutes, he claimed.

He noticed the object after he investigated a cloud of smoke about a mile south of Socorro. He was aware of the dynamite shack in the vicinity and thought at first it exploded, he said.

The craft was in a draw not visible from main roads. He first saw it from about 200 yards and thought it was an overturned car. He said he saw what appeared to be a pair of white coveralls, but whether anything was in them he did not know.

UFO Witness Sighs at Reports

Within 100 Feet

He eventually got within about 100 feet, and it was then Zamora said he noticed it was something out of the ordinary.

"It had red lettering of some kind on the sides," Zamora said. He said the object was on the ground, supported by four girder-like legs.

At the site, four five to six inch depressions were found as well as a couple of round tracks about four inches in diameter which officers theorized might have been made by occupants of the craft. They even went so far as to estimate by the depression that the tracks were made by a being of approximately 120-160 pounds.

On the spot where the object supposedly sat was a once-green bush, most of it burned bare by exhaust heat. Zamora said it was still smoking several minutes after the craft's departure.

Leslie J. Lorenzen, a member of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, drove to Socorro from Tucson to take samples of the soil and indicated the story was credible to him.

"Reliable people are seeing incredible things," Lorenzen said. "Similar things have happened all over the world and certain details correlate."

1964

APRIL 24

N.M.

A-4

The Albuquerque Tribune

A Scripps-Howard Newspaper 4/30/64

AF Can't Explain Socorro Sighting

WASHINGTON, April 30 (AP)—The Air Force said today initial investigations have failed to explain an unidentified flying object reported at Socorro, N. M., last weekend.

"Nothing out of the ordinary was observed on aircraft tracking screens in the area at the time the object was reported," it said.

The statement quoted Air Force investigators as saying, "it is unfortunate that only one witness reported the object, and that no photographs were obtained."

The air force sent one of its leading civilian consultants, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a northwestern University astronomer, to New Mexico to look into the report, which spoke of an object with red markings on a silvery side.

By Associated Press

After an extensive investigation into reports of unidentified flying objects in New Mexico, an Air Force special consultant on UFOs, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, could offer no explanation for the reports.

"I am more puzzled now than I was when I arrived

here," Dr. Hynek, an astronomer at Northwestern University, said last night before boarding a plane for Chicago.

Re-Enacts Sighting

He said he discussed the incidents with FBI agents in Albuquerque and had Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora re-enact his experience, the first of a number of reported sightings, in Socorro yesterday.

After Zamora said he saw an egg-shaped object fly away from a draw last Friday, other reports began to follow with increasing frequency.

In Santa Fe last night, a bunch of colored balloons apparently was the cause of a report of an unidentified flying object over U.S. 285 on the northern edge of Santa Fe.

Police all over the state have received other reports since last Friday.

After his investigation of the secluded hill where Zamora says he saw the object, Dr. Hynek said:

"There are two primary things that puzzle me — the lack of radar contact with these objects and the lack of extensive disturbance around the area where the object is supposed to have landed in Socorro."

No Evidence

Dr. Hynek said he found no evidence at the site of ignition of a thrust unit powerful enough to lift a vehicle the size Zamora reported.

"It's been bothering me that Mr. Zamora didn't see a great cloud of dust like this would have kicked up," he said.

He added, however, that Zamora was frightened at the time of the incident and unable to report his experience in detail.

Zamora re-enacted his entire experience for Dr. Hynek yesterday, from the time he first saw the object to the arrival of State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez, second man on the scene who arrived about three minutes later.

Dr. Hynek said the Socorro incident was "unique" among ones he has investigated, as he found no inconsistencies in the stories and had no conclusions of just what might have happened.

"I was hoping to find when I arrived here that Mr. Zamora had seen some sort of geophysical experiment," Dr. Hynek said, "but that explanation was ruled out by the speed at which this thing is supposed to have taken off, which is certainly better than 100 miles per hour."

He described Zamora's account of the sighting by saying, "Mr. Zamora's story is simply told, certainly told without any intent to perpetrate a hoax."

Takes Samples

Dr. Hynek said it was "unfortunate" that Zamora was the only person to see the object.

He said he had taken samples of the only tangible evidence of the landing — charred bits of grass and impressions made by four wedge-shaped objects which Zamora believes were landing apparatus.

Dr. Hynek said he was bothered by the fact that no radar units in New Mexico have reported contact with unidentified objects. He said he is informed that New Mexico is "virtually infested" with radars, many of which can make contact with objects flying at very low altitudes.

He said he intends to check with radar installations to see if any such contact has been made.

He said he would not visit the scene of a second reported sighting northwest of Espanola where a Santa Fe resident reported seeing a similar craft and where the scorched ground and other remains were similar to the Socorro sighting.

Dr. Hynek was interested in the Espanola sighting, but he said he would not have time to visit the scene, especially since it was another case of a sighting by only one person.

One possible explanation for some of the reported sightings came from Albuquerque yesterday, where U.S. government aircraft had been flying at low levels along U. S. 66 and U. S. 70-80 taking photographs with powerful electronic flash equipment.

Take Photos

The planes were taking the photos during both day and night times from Albuquerque west to Kingman, Ariz., and from Deming west to Casa Grande, Ariz., until Sunday, a Kirtland Air Force Base spokesman said.

1964

APRIL 24

N.M.

Thurs. April 30, 1964

The Albuquerque Tribune

LaPaz Thinks Zamora Saw Secret Plane

Meteoritics Prof
Believes UFO
Pogo-type Craft

Related UFO news on Pages
C-4 and D-6.

By JERRY SMOTHERS

A top scientist here said today he believes he has solved the mystery of what it was Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora sighted last Friday that subsequently swept many New Mexicans into a dither over unidentified flying objects.

Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, Institute of Meteoritics director at University of New Mexico, said it's probable the officer saw a modern VSTOL, a vertical short-takeoff and landing aircraft which behaves much like the craft Zamora came upon.

Dr. LaPaz has a picture of such a propeller-driven craft in a publication he receives, the U. S. Naval Institute Proceedings, March, 1964, issue.

He said the picture is several years old and that some military agency is probably now secretly testing a "super-Pogo" type craft with different markings on them.

'Probably Classified'

"The newer models are probably highly classified," he said.

LaPaz said the type of craft he is talking about rests on legs which could account for the marks Zamora saw in the sand.

The plane can take off straight up and hover like a helicopter, much as the policeman described, LaPaz said. The plane can be used as a troop carrier and for pinpoint drops of high explosives, he said.

"We live in times that are almost incredible," he said in discussing the fast craft capable of carrying heavy loads. "There is no need to believe we're being invaded from outer space," he said, commenting on a recent wave of excitement over a rash of reports of UFO sightings.

"Anyone living outside this troubled globe would be displaying absolute nonsense to come here," he said.

No Such Planes Here

A Kirtland AF Base spokesman said no such planes operate from there and he knows of no such flights anywhere in the state.

The Kirtland spokesman feels such planes would stir up considerably more dust on takeoff than Zamora reported. LaPaz feels that a propeller-driven craft would not disturb the soil substantially.

"In my opinion, this is what Zamora saw," LaPaz said.

He said Zamora is unquestionably reliable and has a good record as a lawman. "It's obvious he took pretty brutal treatment from a lot of his associates after reporting this," LaPaz said.

He criticized newspapers for publicizing flying saucers that newsmen themselves don't believe exist.



SLUMBERING PROGRAM? Dr. Lincoln LaPaz of University of New Mexico today turned up this photo in recent Naval Institute publication, saying he believes modernized version of this VSTOL aircraft is being secretly tested by the military and is what a Socorro policeman saw last Friday. Since then, there has been a wave of excitement in New Mexico over unidentified flying objects.

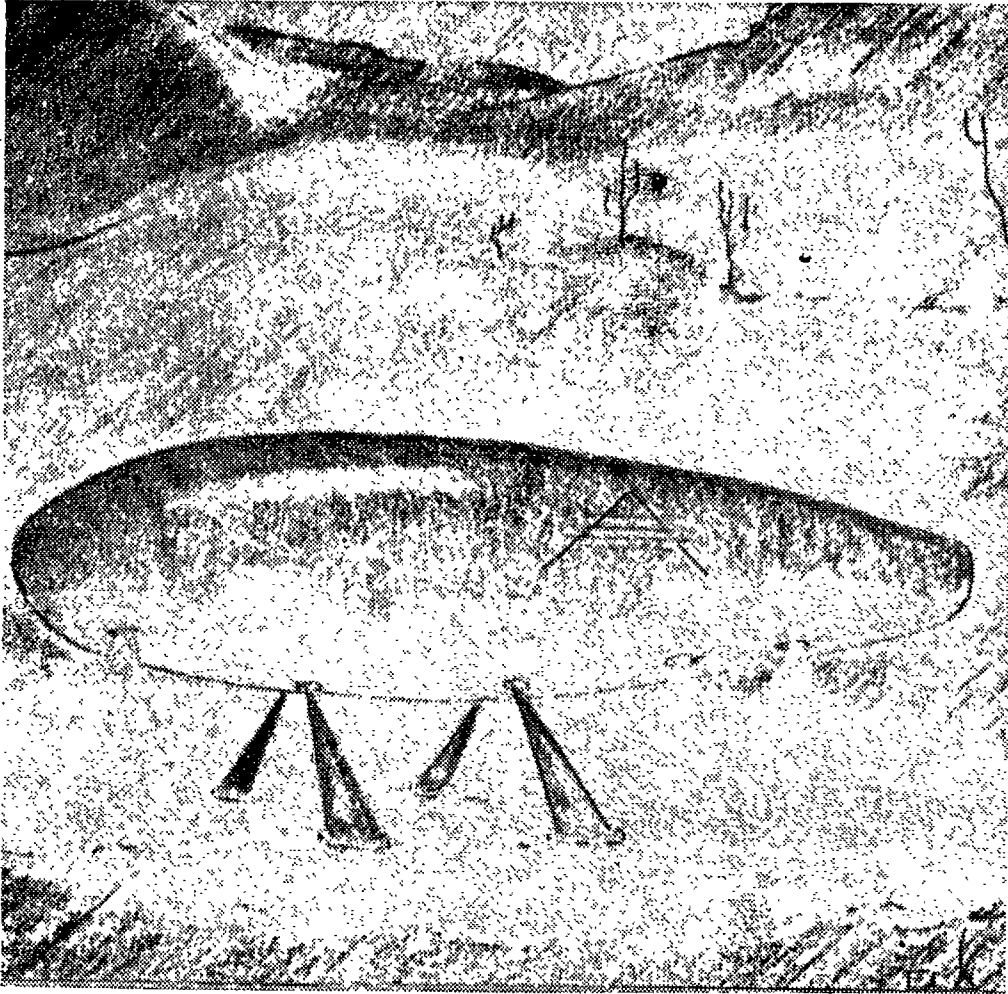
1964

APRIL 24

N.M.

ROSWELL DAILY RECORD—20

THURS., APRIL 30, 1964



IS THIS IT?—Here's an artist's conception of the unidentified flying objects reported seen this week over the state. The drawing has been made from newspaper accounts of six persons who say they saw the craft. Two persons, one a policeman, said they saw it on the ground as it is shown here. On the side is lettering seen by one observer, and the craft is supported by four legs. Fire is spurting from jets on the bottom. It is about as long as a telephone pole. Artist is Edda Allen, of Santa Fe.

(UPI Telephoto)

1964

APRIL 24

N.M.



TELLS OF SIGHTING — Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora tells how he spotted an egg-shaped flying object near Socorro Friday, Zamora said the unidentified machine rose off the ground and flew slowly as he watched. With Zamora is Sgt. David

Moody, assistant to UFO (unidentified flying objects) investigator, Maj. William Connor of Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. Zamora is described as a "reliable witness." Other reports were later received.

SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

4/27/64

1964

APRIL 24

N. M.

Saucers 'Flying' Across Southwest

New Report In New Mexico Brings Out Air Force

SANTA FE, N. M., April 27
—(UPI)—New Mexico's addiction to flying saucers was in full bloom again Monday.

The latest report came from La Madera, 50 miles from Santa Fe, and brought out the Air Force, state police and reportedly the FBI.

State police Captain Margin Vigil said the report was of an object similar to that seen at Socorro Friday by policeman Lonnie Zamora.

Orlando Gallegos of Santa Fe told police he got within 200 feet of a huge metal object that looked like an egg-shaped butane tank. The object was on the ground near La Madera, a tiny community high in the New Mexico back country.

Gallegos said flames spurted from jets at the bottom of the object, which he said was as long as a telephone pole and about 14 feet around.

Gallegos said the object flew away as he approached.

Similar reports came from a Socorro teenager, an Albuquerque motorist and two men driving in the La Madera area.

COMMERCIAL APPEAL
MEMPHIS, TENN.
APRIL 28, 1964

Mistaken Identity Leads To Flying Saucer Reports

Approaching the study of unidentified flying objects from a coldly scientific viewpoint, there is insufficient evidence available to conclude that flying saucers actually exist, Dr. J. Allen Hynek told an audience at Choate School last night.

Dr. Hynek, an astronomer at Northwestern University's Dearborn Observatory who investigates reported aerial phenomena for the U.S. Air Force, acknowledged that he takes what might be regarded as "an unpopular viewpoint" in the opinion of some of the prep school students.

"I've been told that some of you believe or would like to believe in flying saucers. So would I," he said in opening his address. However, he continued, a great majority of the UFO reports emanate from nothing

more than misidentification of known objects.

He pointed out that the Air Force is primarily concerned with such reports from the standpoint of military security and that it is interested in anything the origin of mission of which is not readily discernible.

"The Air Force's prime concern is the threat to the nation that the reported objects might pose," he explained.

Jig Saw Puzzles

Dr. Hynek emphasized that unidentified flying objects do exist "as reports," but noted that "the reports we get are fragmentary. We have to put them together like jig saw puzzles in order to determine the stimulus of the report."

Citing a number of instances in which misidentification of known objects formed the bases for the reports of unidentified flying objects, he stated that "in science, there isn't much room for the word belief" and noted that accumulation of scientific knowledge depends on that which is publicly demonstrable.

Tracing the history of flying saucer reports, he said that they appear to come in waves and the modern wave started about 1947. "We are getting more and more all the time," he added. "There is about one a day reported to the Air Force."

"Wishful Thinkers"

Dr. Hynek conceded that there have been some reports for which no satisfactory scientific explanation has yet been presented — the recent report in Socorro, N.M., is one — but noted that most of the reports come from what he refers to as "credulity boys" or "wishful thinkers."

"It's amazing how many people see flying saucers when there are no witnesses and it's amazing how many of these people who report are repeaters," he said.

Pointing out how commonplace things may be mistaken for unidentified flying objects because of unusual conditions at a given time, Dr. Hynek noted that he had never seen a UFO but was under the impression he was seeing one during a visit to Chicago.

Describing the object, which

displayed a pattern of alternating lights, he said that he finally discovered that it was an airplane carrying an illuminated advertising message.

Since his own experience, he added, he has received a number of reports concerning the same plane from people who believe it to be a UFO.

While Dr. Hynek would not say positively that unidentified flying objects do not exist, merely that there is no evidence to prove that they do, he was more positive in his remarks concerning the possibility of interplanetary travel or visitors from outer space.

Unlikely Flights

Speaking on theories concerning the existence of life on other planets, he noted that while it is possible that there might be life on Mars, modern scientific evidence is against it because of its extremely cold climate.

Similarly, he noted that Venus, with a temperature range of between 600 and 700 degrees Fahrenheit, would be much too hot while Saturn, like Mars would be too cold.

Moreover, he pointed out, since the nearest star is some 236,000,000 miles—or 4½ light years — away, he has too great a respect for the distances involved — not to mention the navigational problems involved in pinpointing a target that is merely one of several million stars in any given galaxy — to admit the feasibility of interplanetary travel.

However, in reply to a question by George Early of the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomenon, who addressed the Choate students recently and was a member of the audience last night, he emphasized that he is not hostile to investigative efforts by any group.

"I'm still in the fact gathering stage myself," he explained.

El Defensor & Chieftain

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TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1965

Scientist Indicates Why UFO's Choose Area for Landings

A California consulting engineer and scientist indicates in a letter to El Defensor-Chieftain the possible reasons why Unidentified Flying Objects "choose your particular location for landings and close approaches."

The letter was received from Chan P. Thomas of Los Angeles, a former government scientist, in response to an inquiry concerning possible theories on the operation of UFO's. He is the scientific advisor to Empire Film Studios on the documentary film on UFO's, "Phenomena 7.7," part of which was recently "shot" here. Socorro was selected for a part in the film because of the reported landing of a UFO near the city last April 24.

The remainder of Thomas' letter follows:

"Several factors are involved; the main one can be directly attributable to the subsurface geology. I would suspect there is a multiplicity of faults, or several areas wherein sedimentary strata

(Continued on Page 8)

EL DEFENSOR-CHIEFTAIN

March 11, 1965

Page 5

Zamora Saw UFO, Not Flying Saucer

City Policeman Lonnie Zamora said Wednesday night that he saw an Unidentified Flying Object landed in a gully a mile southwest of the courthouse and observed its take-off last April 24, but he has never seen a flying saucer.

Zamora said he was trying to cooperate with persons who asked him about the UFO, which he described as egg-shaped, and he wished they would not ask him about a flying saucer which he has never seen and cannot describe.

The policeman said his account stands unchanged from that he gave on April 24 and the following day.

Phone your news to 835-0521.

Scientist Indicates Why UFO's Choose Area for Landings

(Continued from Page 1)

have been tilted to vertical, with the interlayer demarcations being planes largely in the N-S direction. The effect such subsurface disruptions have upon the energy distribution between the earth's core and the Van Allen radiation belts gives us the key to the answer.

"For 15 years I have been conducting theoretical research on the 'innards' of our planet, and through the search for this inner energy structure have literally stumbled onto many answers of heretofore unanswerable riddles: what is gravity; why do planets orbit and rotate; why do stars burn with nuclear fires; is the speed of light really a velocity boundary; and can a ship be built which will do everything people who claim to have seen 'flying saucers' say that those vehicles do.

"No, I'm not a watcher, nor do I belong to any UFO organization. However, I have derived the structure of nature's power plant — and how to build a controllable model of it — which reduces the realm of UFO's to plausibility and practicability. Moreover, it is now almost a certainty that gravity on the surface of any rotating planet — meaning pull per unit area — is nearly the same, no matter what its size may be."

Thomas opened his letter by saying "I have been told by Mike Musto (Empire Film Studios executive producer) and the 'Phenomena 7.7' crew that your locale is so UFO conscious it has become almost a community project."

UFO Is Sighted Streaking Over City

A small Unidentified Flying Object was sighted streaking southeast over Socorro about 11 p.m. last Friday.

The observer, a Socorro woman who asked that her name be withheld, said the "perfectly round" object with deep yellow or gold light, traveled at "tremendous speed."

She saw the object as it came over Socorro Mountain, and as it passed southeast over the city it did not seem far above the street lights. She saw the object from inside the house and heard no sound from it.

As the object passed over the east edge of the city and in the direction of the Rio Grande, the color changed to dark blue except for a spot of the deep yellow or gold light underneath the object. It disappeared southeast of the city.

It was the second UFO reported seen over New Mexico within three days. Early last Wednesday, Felix Garcia of Gallup reported sighting a UFO, or "flying saucer," from that city.

UFO Sighted Over Gallup

Felix Garcia, a baker at the Puritan Bakery in Gallup, saw a "flying saucer" Wednesday morning as he was going to work about dawn.

The object was traveling from east to west at high altitude and at a high rate of speed. Garcia said it was in view for only a few seconds and in that short length of time traveled all the way across the sky.

It was elongated — shaped like a cigar — was bluish-white and had a light in the center, Garcia said.

He saw it about 6:05 a.m.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1965

Film Studios Praise Cooperation Here In Film on UFO's

Michael Musto, executive producer of Empire Film Studios, Hollywood, Calif., has written a letter to Mayor Holm O. Bursum Jr., and the citizens of Socorro expressing the studios' appreciation for the cooperation received in filming the Socorro part of the documentary film on Unidentified Flying Objects. The film is entitled "Phenomena 7.7."

Musto's letter follows:

" 'Phenomena 7.7' is now completed. It will be viewed by countless millions of people throughout the world. It will open the door to facts heretofore shrouded in secrecy. It will prepare the entire human race for a better knowledge of the universe and possible neighbors who may have been observing our earth for centuries.

"You have witnessed without fear or panic, the landing of a UFO in April 1964." (This is a reference to the UFO which City Policeman Lonnie Zamora sighted about 6 p.m. last April 24 after it had landed in a gully a mile southwest of the courthouse. Zamora also observed the UFO's take-off.)

"You have contributed greatly by your untiring efforts to the documentation contained in our film.

(Continued on Page 8)

Film Studios Praise

(Continued from Page 1)

"You are not to be considered alone, citizens of Socorro, but patriots of the human race.

"We, of Empire Film Studios, express our most humble thanks to you for your unselfish contributions to 'Phenomena 7.7.'"

What's Round, Has 4 Legs, Burns Bushes?

CHAS AMER 4/24/64

SOCORRO, N. M. (UPI)—It was round, stood on girder-like legs, and scorched grass and bushes, but Socorro policeman Lonnie Zamora does not know what it was.

Zamora saw it and state policemen and air force officials Saturday saw what it left.

Zamora said the mysterious object was round and about as tall as a car. It was shiny and stood on four girder-like legs.

But when he moved closer to the object at dusk, all he found was four indentations in the ground and scorched grass and bushes.

Zamora told Sgt. Sam Chavez of the New Mexico state police. They took six other men to the spot and found four indentations 14 inches long and six inches wide.

White Sands missile range officials confirmed the markings and the burned grass. They reported the incident to the officer in charge of unidentified flying objects at Holloman air base near Alamogordo, N. M.

Holloman officials said they would investigate the incident.

FROM
S. J. LARSEN
FILES

NICAP

UFO cover-up continuous, claims 'zealot'

By GWEN ROATH

"At this point in time, neither scientists nor the general public can afford to believe UFOs are a figment of imagination," Robert Hastings, an independent UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) researcher, told an audience at Macey Center last Friday night.

Hastings, who calls himself a "zealot" on the subject, presented a 30-minute film along with an illustrated lecture on UFOs, contrasting what he said the government has told the public, with now de-classified documents about the incidents, obtained through the Freedom of Information Act.

Hastings cites a 1952 CIA document which states that the unexplainable objects are "not attributable to natural phenomena," and which placed in high priority the study of the phenomena.

One of the first observed occurrences by officials, according to Hastings, was shortly after H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds" had frightened the nation, and

the government, afraid of a paranoid public, dismissed the UFOs as caused by weather and other natural phenomena.

That cover-up has continued until the present, Hastings says, and during the lecture he contrasted the "official version" with other documents of the incident.

Incidents he covered included the "Betty and Barney Hill" experience in 1961, in which the couple supposedly were taken into a UFO and queried. UFOs were reported in that area by an airline pilot, Hastings said. Hastings also talked about the famous "Marsh Gaa" incident in the 1970s, and related the huge blackout over New York City in November, 1965 to three UFOs seen hovering over the power sources there.

"It is my opinion," Hastings said, "that the primary reason the government declines to (tell the truth to the public) is that many sightings are

related to nuclear power facilities and ICBM silos."

Hastings himself first became interested in UFOs, when in 1967 he was present at an air traffic control tower on Malstrom Air Force Base, near Great Falls, Mont. "Five UFOs were tracked on military radar," he said, "and for half an hour they hovered over nearby ICBM silos, violating sensitive air space. Then they flew off at an estimated speed of 5000 miles per hour."

There has been only one time, to his knowledge, he said, that the U.S. has tried to shoot at a UFO. It was in Tehran, Iran, and a F-4 was sent to investigate the flying object. The F-4 came close enough to get a radar reading, which determined the object to be the size of a 707 tanker, according to Hastings.

The object and the F-4 flew south of Tehran, Hastings said, and at one point,

the F-4 attempted to fire on the object. "But at that instant, the weapons and communication system went out." When the pilot turned around to return to base, the instruments again were working, he said.

"I believe the public has a right to be aware of" the existence of these UFOs, Hastings said, telling the audience they could "take it or leave it."

But Hastings said that the 400-plus documents obtained through lawsuits, show that there is "an abundance of hard evidence at this time of an ongoing cover-up."

For persons interested in knowing more about UFOs, Hastings recommended the book "Clear Intent" by Lawrence Faucett and Barry Greenwood. And for obtaining copies of CIA and Air Force documents, persons can write to Fund for UFO Research, P.O. Box 277, Mount Rainier, MD. 20712, he said.

President Johnson called upon the nation's business leaders today to exercise restraint in decisions they make which affect general economic well-being.

He pledged in return that the government, too, would offer "restraint and respon-

sibility—a hand that means only to help and never to hinder so long as the public interest is being served."

Johnson's remarks were prepared for delivery to the U. S. Chamber of Commerce at its 52nd annual meeting here.

The President, in his call



Policeman Zamora . . . he "saw" flying saucer.

for business restraint, did not specifically mention his previous request for a hold-the-line policy on prices and wages to avoid a new inflationary spiral.

But in pledging government restraint and responsibility, he told the chamber:

"I ask from you only the same—restraint in those decisions you make which affect the general economic well-being, responsibility in choosing to support or not support the policies and proposals of your government which serves all the people."

Johnson took jocular note of what is a Republican complexion to the chamber.

"I suppose it might not be entirely accurate to greet

you as 'my fellow Democrats,'" Johnson said. "But I am proud to welcome you to your city—as, my fellow Americans."

That was Johnson's opening line. And his closing line was that he "must get back to your work at the White House and leave you to go back to work on me."

But despite those quips, Johnson told the chamber:

"In this new day, I do not accept the viewpoint—on either side—that business and government are inherently hostile opponents. They are—along with labor—natural and inseparable partners in building a more prosperous America. . . .

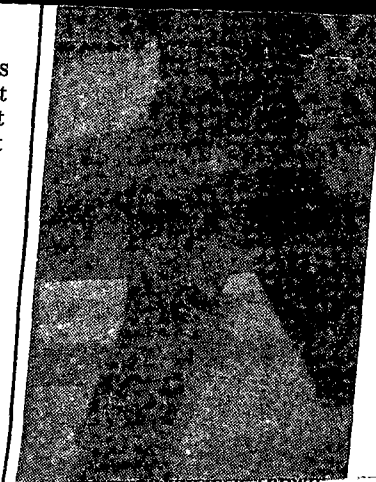
"You have only one government.

"Your task—and mine—is to make the government function, not to obstruct it and oppose it and prevent it from functioning at all."

Johnson asked the chamber to support what he called a "most vital" proposal to raise federal pay.

"Today in state and local governments throughout the land there are 1000 offices which pay more than the salaries of a cabinet officer," Johnson said.

Johnson said they pay their top career subordinates. The middle level federal positions pay less than half the comparable scales of business and industry."



Gen. Harry Truman is shown walking in familiar territory—the White House grounds—after meeting with President Johnson. — UPI Telephoto.

Flying Saucer... Strange Little Men... Here We Go Again, Folks

SOCORRO, N. M., (UPD)—A geiger counter failed to show anything yesterday in a test of the area south of Socorro in which an unidentified flying object was reported seen Friday.

Maj. William Conner, Kirtland AFB officer assigned to cover Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO), and his assistant, Sgt. David Moody, conducted the tests.

There was little left at the site yesterday to indicate where the object supposedly landed. Hundreds of curious onlookers have passed over the spot since the sighting was announced late Friday by Socorro Policeman Lonnie Zamora.

The object of all the tests was an egg-shaped craft, a little bigger than a car, which Zamora said he saw about a mile south of Socorro when he went to investigate what he thought was a dynamite explosion.

Capt. Richard T. Holder, a White Sands missile range commander, called the incident "fantastic," but referred to

Zamora as a reliable witness. Holder told reporters neither White Sands nor Holloman AFB has aircraft which would produce the situation described in the Socorro UFO report.

Reports the Pentagon would send a man to the area to investigate the UFO sighting were premature, Major Conner said. He said it was possible, but only if his inquiries and soil samples taken by White Sands and Holloman AFB technicians were inconclusive.

Zamora was busy denying reports he had seen two creatures about the strange craft and that it had zoomed up and away from him at a high rate of speed.

He saw it first from about 200 yards away, he said, and thought it was an overturned automobile. It was smoking and he saw something which looked like white coveralls, but he said he couldn't tell from the distance whether anyone or anything was inside them.

2 More Flying Objects Sighted in N.M.



Lonnie Zamora . . . tells how he spotted flying object.

—UPI Telephoto.

SOCORRO, N.M., April 27
—(AP)—A report of an unidentified flying object near Socorro Friday evening has been followed by two more reported unidentified sightings in the same area.

Socorro Policeman Bill Pyland said a girl, who didn't give her name, reported a fire in the hilly area one mile southwest of Socorro Sunday night.

Officer Lonnie Zamora, while patrolling in his car late Friday

afternoon, said he saw an egg-shaped object in a draw. When he approached, he said, the object flew away.

Pyland said the girl, about 18, said she was from 300 to 500 feet from the fire and she thought there was something in the flames.

Pyland said a search of the area described by the girl found nothing.

Representatives of the military and other officers who visited the spot where Zamora saw the object found burned brush and scorched earth. They also found four impressions in the earth,

which appeared to have been left by landing gear.

A motorist who identified himself to Pyland as George Mitropolis of Albuquerque, said that while driving north from El Paso Sunday he saw a "silver looking object go up, over a mountain, and down" out of sight near Caballo Reservoir.

He said he was near the junction of U.S. 85 and New Mexico 180 and the object appeared to be about a quarter of a mile to the east. He said it looked like "an upside down bathtub" about 30 feet in diameter. It had no lights, he said.

Evening Post 29-1964
IN NEW MEXICO

AF Investigates UFO Sightings

SOCORRO, N.M. (AP) — An astronomer from the Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University was here today to examine the secluded hill where a Socorro policeman reported seeing a mysterious, egg-shaped flying object.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, special unidentified flying object consultant to the Air Force, was sent to New Mexico after a rash of reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects in the state.

Officer Lonnie Zamora said the object he saw last Friday was brilliant white, about the size of a car, and had a red marking on it like an upside down V with three lines across the top, through the middle and at the

bottom. He said that from a distance there appeared to be two figures in white coveralls outside the object. It flew off with a roar when he approached.

Since Zamora's sighting at least six reports have been made to authorities, including one from a youth who said he fired several shots at something about 100 feet in the air near Moriarty.

Dr. Hynek said his investigation in Socorro would determine whether he would visit Espanola, where state police, Capt. Martin Vigil said he found the ground still smouldering 20 hours after a reported sighting.

Authorities found scorched grass and four wedge-shaped indentations in the ground at the Socorro site and near Espanola.

IN NEW MEXICO

Section A **PAGE**
28

D. T. H April 26, 64

Mystery Object Checked

SOCORRO, N.M. (AP)—Military authorities and the FBI are investigating a Socorro policeman's report of seeing an unidentified egg-shaped flying object.

City Office Lonnie Zamora said he was chasing a car on U.S. 85 Friday afternoon near this Central New Mexico town when he heard what he thought was an explosion. He said he drove to within 150 yards of a draw about one mile southwest of town when he saw what appeared to be an overturned car in the draw.

"I saw two figures in what appeared to be white coveralls like mechanics wear," Zamora said. "I lost sight of them behind a hill and drove closer and parked again."

Zamora said he then walked to within 300 feet of the object where he again heard a roar. He said he

saw a "brilliant white metal object about the size of a car) rise and hover about 20 feet off the ground. It then flew off to the west, rising gradually.

Army Capt. R. T. Holder, White Sands Missile Range commander

of the uprange Stallion Range, went to the site as representative of the range and Holloman Air Force Base.

"I reported to my superiors that neither White Sands nor Holloman had an object, or mission at the time of the reported occurrence, that compares with or that could produce the situation reported," Holder said.

Holder said there "were four spaced (9 to 15 feet apart) wedge-shaped impressions as four corners of a square in the scorched area. They were about four inches deep.

State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez said only that "something definitely landed here."

5. Socorro, New Mexico, April 24, 1964.

Patrolman Lonnie Zamora was following a speeder when he saw a blue flame to the southwest. He recognized the area as one which contained a dynamite shack and where teenagers sometimes tried to accelerate their cars up the steep slopes. He decided to investigate. Driving over a mesa, he caught sight of something which he interpreted as an automobile standing on end with two children or small adults dressed in white clothing and standing by it. He radioed Patrolman Sam Chaver, asking for assistance, and continued down through a gully where he lost sight of the object. Coming up across the next mesa, he parked and got out of his car, moving toward the gully to see the object. It was immediately apparent that he was not observing an automobile wreck. There was a hemispherical object standing on four legs and suddenly an ear-splitting roar. Thoroughly frightened, he turned and ran, collided with the hood of his car, and then threw himself on the ground, noticing again that the object was rising in a slanting trajectory toward the southwest. As it rose, it displayed a blue flame.

Upon investigation of the site, four distinct, rather deep impressions were found in the ground where Zamora claims to have seen the landing gear. Two smaller round depressions were in the place where a ladder was placed, leading to a marking on the object which could have been a door. Bushes below where the object had been were burning. Detailed investigations were carried out by the Air Force and by several private flying saucer investigating groups.

The sighting is a good one in terms of detail and primary evidence. A landing with observed humanoid "occupants" is also of interest. It is bad in only one respect; namely, that Zamora was the sole witness (one or two leads appeared, but other witnesses could never be located), but his apparent sincerity was impressive. Investigators studied the surrounding area for tracks of possible perpetrators of a hoax but could find none, although the ground was soft. The sighting is typical of many similar reports, particularly in France and Brazil, but occasionally also in the United States.

Probably the most tantalizing and mysterious sighting that was recorded during the first half of the 1960s was the one reported at Socorro, N. M., on April 24, 1964. The lone observer was a reliable police officer, a Sergeant in the Socorro Police Department, named Lonnie Zamora.

Dr. Allen Hynek in his report to Project Bluebook, after investigating the case, wrote that he considered "this one of the major UFO sightings in the history of the Air Force's consideration of this subject."

About the observer, Dr. Hynek wrote that: "Zamora, although not overly articulate, is basically sincere, honest, and reliable. He would not be capable of contriving a complex hoax, nor would his temperament indicate that he would have the slightest interest in such. He was simply a cop on duty, relinquished one discharge of that duty (chasing a speeding car) for another which he thought was of more immediate importance (investigating the possible explosion of a dynamite shack). His fright was genuine, and his feeling that he had seen something truly unusual is attested by the fact that he asked whether he should speak to the priest first before saying anything about it.

"Any question of hallucination seems clearly out. He is a non-drinking man, and is a solid, well-built, physically healthy individual. He is a cop who looks as though he could be pretty gruff with his customers, and in fact, his complaint about the UFO sighting was that it did not allow him time to give out his full quota

of tickets for the day."

Now in his own words, listen to Police Officer Zamora's description of the strange UFO he sighted:

"About 5:45 p.m., 4-24-64, while in Socorro 2 Police Car ('64 white Pontiac), I started to chase a car due south from west side of the Court House. Car was apparently speeding and was about three blocks in front of my police car. At a point on Old Rodeo Street (extension of Park Street south) near the George Morillo residence (about a half-mile south of Spring Street) the chased car was going straight ahead toward the rodeo grounds. Car chased was a new black Chevrolet. Chased car was still about three blocks ahead and I was alone.

"At this time, I heard a roar and saw a flame in the sky to the southwest, some distance away—possibly a half-mile or a mile. Came to my mind that a dynamite shack in that area had blown up. Decided to leave chased car go.

"Flame was bluish and sort of orange, too. Could not tell size of the flame. Sort of a motionless flame, slowly descending. I was still driving the car and couldn't pay too much attention to the flame. It was a narrow type of flame. It was like a 'stream down'—a funnel type—narrower at the top than at the bottom. Flame was possibly three degrees in width—not wide.

"Flame was about twice as wide at bottom as at top and about four times as high as top was wide. I did not notice any object at top, did not notice if top of flame was level. Sun was to the west and did not help my vision. Had on green sunglasses over my prescription glasses. Could not see bottom of the flame because it was behind a hill. No smoke noted. Noted some 'commotion' at bottom—dust? Possibly from windy day—wind was blowing hard. Clear sunny sky otherwise—just a few clouds scattered over area.

"Noise I heard was a roar, not a blast, not like a jet. It changed from high frequency to low frequency and then stopped. The roar lasted possibly 10 seconds—was going towards it at that time on the rough gravel road. Saw flame for about as long as I heard the sound. Flame was same color, as best as I recall. The sound was distinctly from high to low until it disappeared. My car windows were both down. No other spectators noted—no traffic except the car in front—and the car in front might have heard it, but possibly did not see it because car in front was too close to a hill in front to see the flame.

"After the roar and flame, I did not note anything while going up the somewhat steep rough hill—had to back up and try again, two more times. Got up about halfway the first time, then the wheels started skidding. The roar was still going on. Had to back down and try again before making the hill. Hill about 60 feet long, fairly steep and with loose gravel and rock.

While beginning third time (to climb the hill), the noise and flame were not noted.

"After I got to the top, I traveled slowly on the gravel road westward. Noted nothing for awhile . . . for possibly 15 or 20 seconds, went slowly, looking around for the (dynamite-storage) shack—did not recall exactly where the dynamite shack was.

"Suddenly I noted a shiny-type object to the south about 150 to 200 yards. It was off the road. At first glance, I stopped. It looked, at first, like a car turned upside down. Thought some kids might have turned it over. Saw two people in white coveralls very close to the object. One of these persons seemed to turn and look straight at my car and seemed startled—seemed to quickly jump somewhat.

"At this time, I started moving my car towards them quickly, with the idea to help. I had stopped about only a couple seconds. The object was like aluminum—it was whitish against the moss background, but not chrome. Seemed like it was oblong in shape and I, at first glance, took it to be an overturned white car. The 'car' appeared turned up, like it was standing on the radiator or trunk.

"The only time I saw these two persons was when I had stopped, for possibly two seconds or so, to glance at the object. I don't recall noting any particular shape or possibly any hats or headgear. These persons appeared normal in shape—but possibly they were small adults or large kids.

"Then I paid attention to the road while I drove towards the scene. Radioed to the Sheriff's Office Socorro 2, possibly 10-44 (accident). I'll be 10-6 (busy) out of the car, checking the car down in the arroyo."

"Stopped my car, was still talking on the radio, and started to get out when the mike fell down. I reached back to pick up the mike and then replaced the radio mike in its slot, got out of the car and started to go down to where I knew the object was."

"Hardly turned around from my car when I heard a roar, a very loud roar. It was not like a jet, not exactly a blast. It started at low frequency quickly, then it rose in frequency to a higher tone and rose in loudness—from loud to very loud. At the same time as I heard the roar, I saw the flame. The flame was under the object. The object was starting to go straight up—slowly up. Flame was light blue and at the bottom it was sort of an orange color. From this angle, I saw what might be the side of the object (not end, as first noted). From the flame and roar, I thought that it might blow up. The flame might have come from the underside of the object at its middle, possibly a four-foot area there—this is a very rough guess. There was no smoke, only dust in the immediate area."

"The object was smooth—no windows or doors (visible). As roar started, it was still on

or near the ground. I noted red lettering of some type, like an insignia, about 2¼ inches high and about 2 inches wide. Insignia was in the middle of the object.

"Noted object to rise to about level of my car, about 20 to 25 feet, I guess—and it appeared about directly over the place where it rose from."

Police Officer Zamora had started to run in great fear. He stumbled, bumped himself and lost his glasses. He jumped over the hill, intending to run down the other side. Just then the roaring sound ceased and he heard a sharp-toned whine, which started at a high pitch and fell to a lower pitch. As he describes it: "At the end of this roar was this whine and the whine lasted maybe a second. Then there was complete silence about the object. That's when I lifted up my head and saw the object going away from me. It appeared to go in a straight line and at the same height—possibly 10 to 15 feet from the ground, and it cleared the dynamite shack by about three feet. The shack is about eight feet high. The object was traveling very fast. It seemed to rise up and take off immediately across country. The object seemed to lift up slowly and to get small in the distance very fast. It disappeared as it went over Mile Canyon Mountain. It had no flame whatsoever as it was traveling over the ground—and no smoke or noise."

"Noted no odors. Noted no sounds other than (those) described. At that time I heard Sergeant Chavez (of the New Mexico State Police) calling me on the radio for my location. And I returned to my car and told him he was looking at me. Then Sergeant Chavez came up and asked me what the trouble was because I was sweating and he told me that I was white, very pale. I asked the Sergeant to see what I saw and that was the burning brush (in the area where the object had been). The brush was burning in several places. Then Sergeant Chavez and I went to the spot and Sergeant Chavez pointed out the tracks."

The UFO had left strong physical impressions in the ground where it had rested. Police Officer Zamora had an explanation for this: "When I first saw the object (when I thought it might be a car), I saw what appeared to be two legs of some type from the object to the ground. At the time, I didn't pay much attention to what it was—I thought it was an accident—(when) I saw the two persons."

"I didn't pay much attention to the two 'legs.' The two 'legs' were at the bottom of the object, slanted outwards to the ground. The object might have been about three-and-a-half feet from the ground at that time. I just glanced at it."

"As my (radio) mike fell, when I got out of the car, I heard about two or three loud thumps, like someone possibly opening or shutting a door hard. These thumps were possibly

a second or less apart. This was just before the roar. The persons were not seen by me when I got up to the scene area."

Officer Zamora is suggesting that the "thumps" were caused by the "two persons" entering a vehicle and slamming the hatches closed after them—although no doors or windows were observed. The case is not closed in the Project Bluebook files, but neither is it explained. After an intensive survey of all aircraft, research and conventional, that operate out of Holloman Air Force Base and the White Sands Missile Range, both nearby to the Socorro UFO sighting, nothing was turned up that even remotely resembled the vehicle described by Zamora. The sighting must be categorized as a highly mysterious "good unknown."

TIME/PLACE OF SIGHTING: April 24, 1964, at about 5:45 p.m. local time/Socorro, New Mexico.
DURATION: Not exactly determined, but at least 80 to 100 seconds.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS: One.

TYPE OF OBSERVER: Squad-car police officer.

NUMBER OF OBJECTS: One.

OBSERVER RELIABILITY: Good.

SHAPE: Roughly egg-shaped, standing on two girder-like legs.

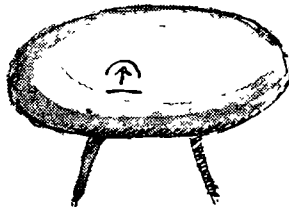
DIMENSIONS: About the size of a sedan automobile.

COLOR: Whitish, like aluminum.

SOUND: Loud roar (not a blast) that changed pitch from high to low frequency.

ALTITUDE: Ground-level, then rose 15 to 20 feet in air and took off.

SPEED: Very fast.



TACTICS: Settled to ground apparently with retro-rocket of some kind; observer noted a bluish orange flame that was shaped like an inverted funnel coming from bottom of the UFO. After it landed in a moss-covered arroyo observer saw two persons standing beside it, dressed in white coveralls; they seemed startled when he appeared at the scene, got back in the object and took off; observer described them as "normal in shape—but possibly they were small adults or large kids."

COMMENT: The UFO had no apparent windows or doors, its surface was entirely smooth. A strange red insignia about 2¼ inches high by 2 inches wide was centered on the object. A check with radar opera-

fors on duty at the White Sands Missile Range and Holloman Air Force Base, both nearby, disclosed no radar detection of *unidentified* aircraft in the area. But the UFO was flying low—no higher than 20 feet of altitude during its sighting—and could have thus been missed by radar because of ground-clutter. Also there was no record of unconventional research aircraft being tested in flight at the time in that area. The UFO left impressions in the ground where it was sighted and smoke appeared to be coming from a bush. Yet when a State Police sergeant later broke off a branch from the bush, it was cool to the touch. More than a month later, in an official communique to the Pentagon, the Air Force reported: "Information obtained during this investigation revealed that the sighting was legitimate and there was no indication that a hoax was being perpetrated." ■

The Great Saucer 'Wonk'

("WONK" IS A WORD MEANING TO WORRY AND THINK)

BY JEAN NICHOLAS

The recent, very reliable observation of a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) near Socorro, by City Policeman Lonnie Zamora, and the large number of other sightings reported since that day, have given rise to a rash of local discussion and theorizing. All of us could profit by a knowledge of the long history behind the so-called "saucer sightings," and perhaps even more importantly, by a knowledge of the psychology of these sightings.

The story of the UFOs in recent times begins in 1947, when a private pilot named Ken Arnold, flying near Mt. Ranier in Washington State saw nine disks flying along in a column. He estimated their size as 100 feet in diameter and their speed at over 1200 miles per hour. This report set off a whole series of other sighting reports, which have continued off and on ever since. Now here is where some of the psychology comes in. The Air Force took over the investigation of these reports, and under a variety of project names has carried the ball ever since. For reasons best known to itself, the Air Force has consistently vilified anyone who made a UFO report, yet at the same time has been systematically gathering such reports.

For quite some time, also, the Air Force has claimed that its investigation, having proved that all UFO sightings are fakes or

errors, has been closed; meanwhile continuing the investigation. The obvious result of this policy has been, first, to make the informed public extremely suspicious of the Air Force's, and its "experts" bona fides; and secondly, to make most persons unwilling to report any unusual occurrences they may happen to observe.

Let's go back a little. Disregarding the very ancient reports (such as, for example, Ezekiel's "wheel", see Ezekiel 1, 15 ff) an enormous number of instances may be gathered from newspaper reports, from a period predating and immediately postdating the invention of the airplane, of UFOs whose reported performance was completely beyond the technology of their day. I cite a few examples:

On Oct. 27, 1898, an observer in County Wicklow, Ireland, reported to the ultra-respectable British magazine "Nature" (comparable to our own "Scientific American") of having watched for about five minutes a golden, roughly triangular object in the sky which moved slowly and disappeared behind a mountain. The same magazine reprinted from the July 1898 issue of "Canadian Weather Review" a notice of a large pear-shaped object, sailing rapidly: the observer was a meteorologist. In 1899, on the morning of Dec. 30, a "luminous body" was observed by many persons in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. It appeared to stand still for 15 or 20 minutes, then moved off from west to east; the noise of its passage was heard.

A couple of particularly interesting instances which I have run across: one, reported by the New York Sun and New York Herald, in April 1897, tells of a "pear-shaped airship", seen by large crowds in Kansas City, Chicago, and numerous towns in Texas during that month; the other report is from Wales in 1905 where a cylindrical object, "seeming to have four legs", was seen over several towns during September of that year.

So much for ancient history. There are a multitude of such examples, which will at least prove that such sightings are not a modern phenomenon.

Since the Arnold report of 1947, which we may take as the beginning of the "modern" period of UFO reports (and, incidentally, the beginning of the unfortunate term "flying saucers" as far as I can discover, since Arnold described the objects he saw as being "saucer-like"), there have been hundreds of reported sightings. Because of the Air Force's pooh-pooh attitude, many more hundreds of sightings have been unreported. I can make this statement with some confidence, because we have talked with a great number of people on this subject and have heard numerous reports, by extremely reliable witnesses, who have refused to make their stories public for fear of being ridiculed. I'm going to tell a few of these stories briefly, but I am not going to name the sources, for the same reason: to protect these from irresponsible and cruel defamation.

There was the rancher and his wife who watched for half an hour an object not unlike Zamora's egg-shaped vehicle, which maneuvered, landed, and took off again within a half mile of them on their ranch near Quemado. There was the experienced dust-

er pilot who saw such an object coming in apparently to land on an unlighted strip at night, but veered away when the watchers were observed. A group of people, some now living here, saw a disk-like object and photographed it on the ground and in flight. We talked with a jet pilot who used to live here, who chased a UFO and was out-maneuvered and out-performed by it. And soon at such greater length than I have space for here.

And now I'll tell our own story of a UFO sighting. In my Pilot Log, under the "remarks" column, on the date June 2, 1960, appears the notation: "REDCAP.

Howard, UFO sighting near Pie Town". The circumstances were as follows. We had been called out by Civil Air Patrol to search for a Howard, a four-place aircraft, which had left Santa Fe on a flight to California with a commercial pilot and passenger, and was unreported at its destination (CAP in New Mexico, Arizona, and California had been called out on this search; parts of the plane were eventually fished out of the Pacific off Long Beach, having over-flown its destination in a fog.) The time was about 10:30 a.m. and the weather was clear. We had been assigned a search quadrant west of Datil, and were flying at a low altitude, less than 500 feet above the terrain, near U. S. 60, on an easterly heading, when out of the corner of my eye I observed another aircraft, below and to our left, silhouetted against the

ridge of hills which runs up from Datil toward Pie Town. My first thought, judging from its apparent size, altitude, and speed, was that it was another plane, of the Cub type (small and slow), which was also searching the area, and I indignantly called Nick's attention to it (indignantly, since it is extremely dangerous for two planes to search the same area simultaneously because of the risk of collision).

But as soon as we looked at this aircraft directly, we both saw that whatever it was, it wasn't a Cub or anything like it. The thing — let's call it a UFO — was about the size of a Cub, but we could not tell its shape. It proceeded slowly south until it came to the 9000-foot peak at the end of the ridge, then ascended vertically and with an extremely high rate of climb over the peak; and abruptly changing direction, it headed in a horizontal plane toward the Magdalenas, and disappeared in a few seconds. We were, of course, fascinated by this performance, several aspects of which interested us particularly. One: this could not possibly be one of the several delusions by which the Air Force commonly debunked all UFO observations: namely, it couldn't be the planet Venus, not silhouetted against the mountains; no weather balloon was ever known to behave like this; nor could it well be a

UFO's Are Sighted West, East of City

Unidentified Flying Objects were sighted in the sky west and east of Socorro last Thursday night and early Friday morning

by more than 10 persons.

The UFO's were seen from San Antonio, Socorro, and the northern part of Catron County. The one seen in the eastern sky would assume the form of a triangle just before it began to move.

The objects in the western sky were seen about 8 p.m. Thursday, and those in the eastern sky between 4 and 5 a.m. Friday.

Among the witnesses were State Police Sgt. Sam Chavez and State Policeman Don Novak of Socorro, State Policeman Vernon Mullins of Datil, A. B. Baca, Socorro mining operator; Nacor Martinez, county health department sanitarian; and C. P. Otero, El Defensor-Chieftain shop foreman.

State Policeman Mullins saw a bright object moving east at high speed, probably about 8 o'clock. State Policeman Novak, from San Antonio, saw a very bright light hover over the mountains to the west, descend and disappear. The location of the light may have been over the south ridge of Mt. Baldy in the Magdalena Mountains.

Baca and Martinez saw the object in the sky that assumed the form of a triangle and moved. Chavez observed the same triangle but said that it was stationary. The object was still in the sky at 5 a.m. when Baca stopped watching it.

Baca and Chavez estimated that the object was at an altitude of 10,000 feet. Baca said the object appeared to be over the Carrizozo area, and Chavez thought it might have been over the Oscura Mountains west of Carrizozo.

It was shortly before 8 p.m. Thursday when Novak, who had been parked in San Antonio, turned his car and headed west. He was about in front of the San Antonio Post Office when he said a very bright light suddenly appeared in the sky. He stopped his car, checked the direction with his compass which showed the light was due west from San Antonio. He looked at the object through binoculars. It was a "very bright orange color," Novak said, and then twinkled blue and green. It apparently hovered for about five minutes, and at that distance it was round shaped.

As the object began to descend, Novak said it appeared to have a wide beam of light on the underside shining towards the earth. He estimated it descended and disappeared in a minute. He said the object may have descended on the south side of Mt. Baldy.

After the light had disappeared, Novak radioed State Policeman Bob Hodges, who is stationed at Magdalena, and said "something is going on in your mountains." Mullins, who was apparently near the Catron-Socorro line, broke in and mentioned the object he had seen moving east at a high rate of speed.

Novak said there were clouds above the object but that the sky was clear between the light

and the mountains. The object appeared to be a very short distance above what may have been the saddle on Baldy's south ridge before it began to descend.

After Novak returned to Socorro, he telephoned the Langmuir Laboratory for Atmospheric Research, which is on a ridge of Mt. Baldy. He was informed that no one had been in the cupola of the laboratory at the time the lighted object appeared and nothing had been seen.

Otero was sitting on his front porch on West Place with a neighbor, Paul Anaya, when the latter called Otero's attention to the light. From Otero's house there is an unobstructed view of the mountains.

Otero said they watched the light, which looked about the size of a basketball, for about 15 minutes or until about 8 o'clock or soon after that. He said it was a hovering, round, white light that did not change color, and that it was not very high above the Magdalena Mountains, due west of his house. The light dimmed once, then became very bright, and started descending. After it disappeared behind the mountains, they noticed a glow such as outlines the mountains at sunset.

The men's wives also saw the object.

Martinez awoke Baca at 4 a.m. Friday after he had been watching the object in the eastern sky for sometime.

Observing the object through binoculars, Baca said that when it was motionless, the light was "very strong," and the object resembled a headlight, and showed green, pink, and yellow.

Just before the object began to move, it seemed to take the form of an almost perfect triangle, and blue and green light would jet from the "needle" or point of the triangle.

The object would move very fast in "hops," Baca said. Most of the movements were south with the "needle" pointing in that direction. The object hopped up and down a few times, Baca said, and once it did a sort of somersault and hopped north with the "needle" pointing in that direction. Neither Baca, his wife, nor Martinez heard any sound from the object. Nor was any sound reported heard from the object streaking eastward or the one that disappeared behind the mountains.

Baca telephoned Sgt. Chavez at 4:30 a.m. and asked him to observe the light. Chavez observed the object through binoculars. During the 30 minutes he watched the triangle-shaped object it appeared to be stationary and the point was downward and looked as if it were revolving. When the point of the triangle appeared to be revolving it threw off red and blue light at times. Mrs. Chavez and the children also observed the same phenomenon through binoculars.

About 7:30 p.m. Friday, Novak and State Policeman Frank Young observed a "weak, white light" traveling fast from west to east. The light was high in the sky.

phenomenon of temperature inversion. And secondly, this unknown aircraft showed a performance, of extremely slow, extremely fast, and vertical flight, of which no known aircraft was then or is now capable, while at the same time it showed every evidence of intelligent direction.

Well, now. At this time, 1960, the Air Force had announced to all and sundry that they had proved that there were no UFOs, they were no longer investigating reports of such delusions. Imagine our surprise when, having completed our search of the assigned area, and reported in at Grants, we casually mentioned our interesting experience, and someone said, in effect: "Hey! we got a reg on that!" Hasty search of the CAP Regulations turned it up, proper reporting procedures were initiated, and in a very few minutes I found myself talking to an Air Force officer over the "land line" (telephone to you) answering an exhaustive questionnaire for an investigation which, according to the Air Force, was no longer being investigated. I must add that the Air Force officer to whom I talked was most thorough in his queries, and very courteous.

The fact that we had seen something which we believed to be a UFO, and were not afraid to talk about it, has opened the gates of many peoples' reticence, people who had seen something peculiar, had observed it keenly, but had firmly clamped down on talk about it for fear of ridicule or downright vilification. Among the people we have talked to have been airline pilots, FFA personnel, military pilots who have chased "saucers" in high-performance jets, and failed to catch them, and general aviation pilots who have observed UFOs both from the air and from the ground. And self-styled "experts" to the contrary notwithstanding, these are

highly qualified and reliable witnesses.

What of the rash of reports that almost invariably follows any very "solid" sighting such as Zamora's? I think these can be roughly grouped into three categories. One group belongs in the obviously sensational category: there are always a certain num-

(Continued on Page 11)

The Great Saucer —

(Continued from Page 10)

ber of people in any community who will jump on any bandwagon, good or bad, which will get their names in the paper. Second are the honest mistakes, and there are plenty of these too. I remember once seeing a searchlight playing on scattered clouds, which had me completely fooled — a gorgeous performance of flying saucers — until I realized the cause. The problem here is to separate the wheat from the chaff, and the possibility of the honest mistake offers a tempting out to anyone who is determined to debunk any UFO report at any cost. Thirdly, there are the good solid reports. It is, of course, highly probable that such an object as Zamora saw would also be seen by others; also, that attention having been called to such an object, other persons would become more than usually observant, and would take courage from his statements to make their own reports.

The attempt to explain away the object Zamora saw as a "Super Pogo" is typical. To anyone who has never seen a Pogo it is convincing. The Pogo, however, could not possibly have made the observed and measured marks, since its tail, on which it lands, terminates in four rather small caster-type wheels. In addition, it is not egg-shaped and has wings. Add to this the fact that

people do not casually climb into experimental aircraft and go bawling about the countryside, and if they did they wouldn't sit down in gullies unless they were forced down, in which case they couldn't very well zoom off the moment someone approached. And if it did take off, it would raise a phenomenal cloud of dust.

One more factor remains to be commented on, and that is the factor of fear. I believe that this is the factor that make so many people determinedly refuse to admit the possibility of an extraterrestrial origin of the UFOs.

For some reason, many people, thinking of an other-worldly intelligence visiting this earth, cannot conceive of any attitude between them and us save mutual hostility. For this attitude I have neither respect nor understanding. That beyond this speck of dust, this little mudball in the sky, our Earth, there are multitudinous other worlds, we know. That on some or many of these other worlds life has evolved is only most probable; that other intelligences may be in many or all ways more intelligent than we is more than possible. And why should this cause us fear? To my mind, it is an enormous challenge, a great hope — that one day we may meet, and communicate in peace, with other worlds.

THE SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO LANDING - ADDITIONAL WITNESSES?

One of the most celebrated American UFO landings was the story of police officer Lonnie Zamora of Socorro, New Mexico who broke off chasing a speeder on April 24, 1964 at 5:45 PM to investigate a bright flash of light off to the southwest. Instead of finding a blown-up dynamite shack, Zamora saw a white, egg-shaped craft sitting on the rocky ground at the bottom of a shallow gully. An unusual insignia was seen on the side of the craft, and standing nearby were two men in white coveralls. When Zamora attempted to get closer to the UFO, the object flamed off with a roar to the southwest, just clearing the mountains. Irregularly placed imprints in the ground and some burned vegetation were the only signs of evidence that Zamora was telling the truth...for he was the only witness on record.



Lonnie Zamora in the summer of 1975 revisiting the site of the alleged landing of an oval UFO with two occupants in 1964.

More recently, the director of Austin, Texas' Project Starlight International, Ray Stanford, authored a book on the incident, *Socorro Saucer in a Pentagon Pantry*, which asserted that there were two other witnesses from Dubuque, Iowa who also saw the Socorro UFO. Stanford's source was an article from the Dubuque Herald, published five days after the event. The names of the witnesses, Paul Kies and Larry Kratzer, were provided in the article as well as their addresses (!) yet Stanford had not attempted to contact the men. Iowa UFO researcher Ralph DeGraw, well-known to IUR readers for his valuable assistance in two previous Iowa EM interference cases, succeeded in reaching the two men in his home state and (with the help of Pat Crowley) interviewed them separately last May. The full details of the interviews were printed in the September edition of

DeGraw's Private UFO investigations (PUFOI) publication, the UFO EXAMINER*. In brief, the men do appear to have been present in the approximate location and time to have observed Zamora's UFO, but there are seemingly striking discrepancies between the men's testimonies, as well as between their joint claim and Zamora's:

- Kratzer said he saw an oblong shape, possibly like an egg, with a red insignia...just like Zamora. Yet the insignia looks quite different and Kratzer places four portholes on the side. Kies, riding in the same car, claimed that the object was far too distant to make out a definite shape, let alone any details.
- Kies said the object was initially on the ground. Kratzer placed it 1000 feet up.
- Zamora had the UFO rise only 10 or 15 feet up, and then fly horizontally gaining altitude very slowly. No smoke was seen by him to leave the object. Kratzer had the object emit black smoke and rise vertically out of a cloud of black smoke, level off, and *then* fly horizontally to the southwest. Zamora did see dust get kicked up at first, but the sand there was light brown. Kies only claims to have watched a brief shiny "reflection" in the smoke *on the ground*.

Do these discrepancies, contained in accounts obtained fourteen years after the fact, disqualify the men as valid witnesses to Zamora's sighting? As DeGraw asks, if they didn't see the Socorro UFO, what *did* they see?

Interestingly, Kratzer told a gas station attendant in Socorro about his unusual sighting. He did not acknowledge seeing Zamora's cruiser; in fact, the attendant himself told the men about the Socorro officer's own sighting on the radio. Could Kratzer thus be the mysterious unnamed "second witness" whom, the Socorro legend has it, discussed his sighting of "Zamora's" UFO...a witness whom Dr. Hynek wanted the Air Force to seek out back in 1964?

ERRATUM

Last issue, in our Socorro witnesses article, IUR stated on page 15, line 37: "Stanford had not attempted to contact the men"; this should read "Stanford did not reach the men". Ray Stanford informs us that he tried to phone and write to the witnesses in Iowa but received no reply.

APR. 24, 1964

CE III

Socorro, N.M.

IUR SEPT. 1978

IUR OCT/NOV. 1978

'Talked With-Occupants'

Man Here Claims He Saw Saucers 5 Times

By MARTIN PASKIND

"I don't know why they picked me," said Apolinar A. Villa Jr. "I'm just an ordinary working man — just a mechanic.

"They said there was a purpose. What it is, I don't know."

Five times in about five years, says "Paul" Villa, he has seen flying saucers. Twice, he has talked to their occupants.

And once, he says, he returned from his encounter with a roll of film. If Villa is the victim of fantasy, it's fantasy in Kodacolor.

Villa, 47, lives with his son and daughter-in-law in a trailer behind 601 Niagara NE. Born in Tijeras, he attended Longfellow Elementary School and Lincoln Junior High School.

Quit School

He quit during his first year at Albuquerque High School. Since then, he served in the Army Air Force. A mechanic, Villa works for N. C. Ribble and Co. here.

"The pictures are authentic. They're the real thing," he says. "There are a lot of things I can't say — because so help me God, I don't think anybody would believe it. But the pictures are the real thing."

Villa who is not surprised at recent saucer sightings, took his pictures with a Japanese camera the last time he saw the saucers, he said. Last June 16, he said, he spent from 2:30 to 4 in the afternoon with the people — men and women — borne by the space machine.

The saucer's occupants, said Villa, were not superhuman. But they were superior to our species in physical

qualities, and in quality of knowledge.

Expect Volcanic Activity

Saucer crewmembers, he said, expect a large-scale renewal of volcanic activity along the volcano rim just west of here. And they expect it soon.

This year, they expect catastrophic war between Russia and China — a war that will involve many Asian nations.

Why hasn't Villa sought a place of safety? "We can't get away from what God has decreed for us," he said.

Villa's said his first saucer sighting came on the West Coast, when he conversed with the occupant of a small saucer.

Twice, the devices hovered over his home, then at 4137 Edith NE. The second time, the home was burned, Villa said. The burning was for disciplinary reasons.

Sighting Near Lindrieth

Once Villa sighted a saucer near Lindrieth. This was the largest—about 900 feet in diameter.

The saucer he viewed near Peralta was about 160 feet across, Villa said.

From it stepped a number of people from the far-distant galaxy of Coma Berenices, imaginably far distant from here.

In the meeting, and in telepathic contacts before and since, Villa said he acquired fragments of the star-men's knowledge.

It was his effort to convert parts of this knowledge to his own profit, says Villa, that resulted in a stream of ill fortune. His home burned—totally and without insurance.

He shot himself in the arm. He went through bankruptcy.

Friendly People

"They seemed to have

known me for a long time," said Villa. "There were lots of things they had answers for. They were a very friendly sort of people."

Friendliness notwithstanding, they left Villa in no doubt about what would happen should he persist in efforts to duplicate their devices.

Villa said the star-men are interested in New Mexico because of a magnetic fault in Farmington—their ships travel "magnetic lines."

"They put a lot of stress on New Mexico and parts of Arizona and Utah," he said. "They mentioned something about volcanoes."

Clothed in tight-fitting one-piece uniform, the star-men made an attractive crew. And what did they think of us?

"Their opinion is not that we're bad or good," Villa said. Nor will they attempt to save the human race from itself.

"They know that there is a super intelligence that governs all the universe and everything in it," he said.