

UFO Occupants in United States Reports

BY CORAL LORENZEN

Mrs. Lorenzen, who, with her husband in 1952 founded the Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (APRO) of 3910 E. Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona, now edits the informative *APRO Bulletin*. She is one of the longest-serving and best-known researchers in the UFO field, and is author of a fine book, *The Great Flying Saucer Hoax*

When I first considered a research article dealing with UFO "entities" in the United States, I anticipated documenting approximately 15 to 20 cases, because landing and occupant cases prior to 1964 seemed to have been confined largely to other countries. I was somewhat surprised, therefore, to find that, excluding the contactee cases (George Adamski's Venusians, etc.) there were 29 on record. Unfortunately, some of these are cases in which the observers do not care to be identified, and others are cases which stretch the credibility of even the most seasoned UFO researcher.

Death Valley

The first reported occupant case purportedly took place on August 19, 1949, in Death Valley, California.¹ According to the story, two prospectors witnessed the crash-landing of a disc-shaped flying object. Two small "men" jumped out of it and the prospectors gave chase. They lost the little fellows in the sand dunes, and when they returned to what they thought was the landing site, the craft was gone. This incident took place in the early years of the UFO mystery and as far as I know has not been thoroughly checked out, although it is mentioned often in UFO lore. It has not been exposed as a hoax, however.

We are all familiar with Frank Scully's "little men", which he described in quite a bit of detail in his book, *Behind the Flying Saucers*. Although generally rejected by most researchers in the early years, subsequent incidents seem to indicate that Scully was either telling the truth or that he was a prophet. Small humanoids, which generally answer the description given by Scully, have been seen on several occasions since, as we will see.

Red Springs

Another fragmentary report comes from Red Springs, North Carolina, where in December of 1951, a Mr. Sam Coley and his two children reported seeing a low-hovering disc-shaped aircraft with a "human"-shaped occupant inside.² Coley was reportedly interviewed by the State's Director of Defense and the local police chief, the latter of whom expressed his "loss of scepticism" after the talk. There was no detailed description of the

"occupant", but the source material tends to accept Coley's story.

The Flatwoods Incident

Probably the most frightening landing incident in the early years, considering the physical description of what was thought to be an occupant, and its actions, is the "Flatwoods, West Virginia" incident, which took place on the night of September 12, 1952.³ At sunset on that evening, a group of youngsters saw what appeared to be a "meteor" land on the top of a nearby hill. Similar observations of a low-flying meteor were made in that vicinity on the same night, together with many others along the central Atlantic seaboard.

The boys decided to investigate and started towards the hill. Along the way they stopped at the home of young matron Mrs. Kathleen Hill and she, her two sons and a 17-year-old National Guardsman, Gene Lemon, joined the group and they made their way to the top of the hill.

The first thing the crowd observed was a large globe or sphere beyond the crest of the hill. One of the boys said it was "as big as a house". Another boy said he heard a "throbbing sound", and still another reported hearing a "hissing sound". At about this juncture in the sequence of events, one of the group saw what was thought to be animal eyes in the branches of a tree and shone a flashlight beam towards it. The whole crowd then saw what appeared to be a huge figure just under the lower branch of the tree. It seemed to be about 10 or 15 feet tall, had a blood red "face" and glowing greenish-orange "eyes". The lower part of the thing was in the shadow, but Mrs. May thought she saw clothing-like folds. The apparition "floated" slowly toward the observers, who fled hysterically down the hillside in the direction from which they had come.

Some of the group were violently ill during the rest of the night, and this fact was verified by the editor of the local paper. He was one of several who searched the hill shortly afterwards, but found nothing. On the following day, however, he and others found marks on the ground, including two parallel skid marks and a large circular area of flat-

tened grass. A strange and irritating odour lingered close to the ground.

The Flatwoods incident is one which was accepted by researchers, partly because of the large number of observers and partly because of the supporting evidence, but I suspect that the non-human characteristics of the "entity" was also a large factor, for by and large researchers in the United States would have hesitated to accept, yes, even strongly resisted the idea of humanoid UFO operators. It was generally felt that UFO occupants would not be likely to resemble human beings. The Flatwoods case is one of the few occupant cases involving a "monster".

Brush Creek Visitations

"Little men" returned to the scene in 1953, when two gold miners working a claim near Brush Creek, California, reported to police that two midget-sized saucer pilots had been visiting the creek near their claim.⁴ The first incident took place on the 20th of May, the second on the 20th of June, and the two men expected that they would return on the 20th of July.

The veracity of the miners, John Q. Black, 48, and John Van Allen, was attested to by the owner of the Brush Creek store, who said the two miners had a very good reputation and were not "drinking men". Both the men unhesitatingly told their story to Sheriff's Captain Fred Preston four days after the second encounter. Black had actually seen the little men, while Van Allen had only seen the landing marks, which he said were a foot wide and looked like the tracks of "elephant feet".

Black described the occupants as "about the size of a midget" (this could be anywhere from 2½ to 4½ feet tall), and said they were very broad-shouldered. The one who got out of the craft wore something like a parka (a piece of clothing which covers the head as well as the trunk of the body), and that his arms and legs were covered with a heavy tweed-like cloth fastened at the wrists and ankles with "buckles or ties of some kind."

Some of the detail was not included in press reports, and at the time APRO was only 1½ years old and did not have a member in that part of California who was willing to make the long trek into the brush country to interview Black and Van Allen. Some of the available detail, however, is as follows: In each instance, on the 20th of May and on the 20th of June, the object landed at almost exactly 6.30 p.m. The "little man" got out, scooped up a bucket of water in a shiny pail and handed it to someone inside the craft. When the little man saw Black, he hurriedly jumped into the "saucer" and it took off at high speed, making a hissing sound which resembled the 'sound of steam coming out of a boiler'. The saucer, silver in colour, appeared to be about seven feet in diameter and six feet thick, with a tripod landing gear and a little dome "in front". It landed on a sand bar in Brush Creek and Black was within 50 yards of the saucer on each occasion.

The U.S. Air Force was notified of the incident,

but it is not known whether or not an investigation was implemented. On the 20th of July, however, Black and Van Allen were not the only ones at the site. Publicity brought crowds of people anxious to see the "little men". Snack bars were set up so that no one would go hungry during the vigil, and although the size of the reception committee would have warmed the heart of any ordinary person, the saucer pilots didn't show up. Perhaps they got wind of the fact that Black had asked permission of the Sheriff to shoot one of them, and that bow hunters were present in force with blunted arrows with which to stun and capture them. As a result of all this hoop-la, it was conjectured by some sceptics that perhaps Black and Van Allen, and others, had fabricated the story in order to publicise the area for reasons of commerce. This theory does not hold up very well for various reasons, and mainly because the disappointment of not seeing the little men or their craft on July 20 precluded the appearance of any more sightseers later.

"Flying" Entity at Coldwater

Coldwater, Kansas, was the site of the next "little man" appearance in September of 1954.⁵ The exact date of the incident is not known to me, but the story appeared in a clipping from the Lincoln, Nebraska, *Star* in late September. According to *INS* and the *Star* story, young John J. Swain, 12, son of a farmer near Coldwater, had been returning to the farm from the fields at about 8 p.m. on his father's tractor when he suddenly spotted a tiny man no more than 20 feet away from him behind a terrace in the field. The small figure had a very long nose and very long ears and when he moved he seemed to "fly". Young John watched as the little man "flew" over a small hill to a saucer-shaped object which was hovering about five feet from the ground. "It opened up", the story said, and the little man ("no bigger than a five-year-old child") then popped inside, the thing "lighted up" and took off at a considerable speed.

The Swain boy went home, told his parents, and they in turn called the Coldwater sheriff, who came and questioned John. The Sheriff cautioned them to stay away from the place where the boy had reported seeing the "thing", and came back next day and, with John and his parents, went out to examine the site of the landing. They found wedge-shaped tracks in the soft dirt, which did not appear to be "human", in other words, made by ordinary shoes.

Besides the clipping, which came to us via Reverend Albert Baller, an APRO member in Massachusetts, I have a copy of a letter written to Reverend Baller by John Swain, dated October 3, 1954, which I quote: "You ask me about the saucer I saw. I was disking in the field when I saw it. We had tractor trouble. It was late when we got it finished. It was cooled off some, so I worked till 8 p.m. Then I unhitched from the disk and came in. I met it about 400 feet, and didn't see it. I came on a (word not legible but believed to be "terrace"). He was crouched behind it. He jumped

up and looked at me, and kind of floated. He jumped into the saucer and it lighted up and took off. It went out of sight. I told Mom and Dad about it. We talked it over. Then Mom called the sheriff. He came down that night and questioned me. He said he would come again in the morning and look and see if there were any tracks around. There was. He sent the reports to Washington, D.C." Signed, John Swain. Unquote.

The letter adds a note of authenticity to this case in my opinion, and the strange tracks indicate the presence of something out of the ordinary.

Although I have presented only five cases so far, we begin to see that there is a diversity of descriptions where occupants are concerned. I believe there are good and logical reasons for this, the main one being that individual interpretations of any observed thing differ simply because of the individualistic nature of man. Most of us are familiar with various types of test to determine such diversity of interpretation. The most simple way of demonstrating this is to give five or more children a piece of paper and pen or pencil, show them an object, and then have them describe and draw it. Prolonged observation of the object, with adequate opportunity to observe details, results in quite similar interpretations and drawings. The shorter the observation, however, the more diverse will be the interpretations. Also, different people observe and concentrate their attention on different details of a given object.

Four "little men" near Cincinnati

The now defunct *Orbit*, official publication of the Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects Organisation (CRIFO) of Cincinnati, Ohio, contained a scantily-detailed article about "little men" in the September 2, 1955 issue. Because of lack of names, and other supporting evidence, I would not ordinarily include such a tale, but *Orbit's* editor, Leonard Stringfield, is a highly reputable researcher, and I am certainly very aware of the fact that most people reporting strange men in conjunction with landed UFOs prefer not to be identified. Several weeks prior to the 2nd of September date, according to Stringfield, a prominent business man of Loveland, Ohio, saw four "strange little men about three feet tall" under a certain bridge near Cincinnati. He supposedly reported the observation to the police, whereupon a guard was placed at the bridge.

Because this case was dealt with rather scantily in *Orbit*, readers had to wait until Stringfield's book, *Inside Saucer Post 3-0 Blue* came out to get any details, and even then it was difficult to work up the cases as they were not presented in documentary style, but rather in bits and pieces. Nevertheless, the information is most interesting, for other cases were also listed:

Strange Stockton Creatures

On July 3, 1955, Mrs. Wesley Symmonds of Cincinnati, Ohio, was driving through Stockton, Georgia, on her way to Florida. She claimed she saw four "bug-eyed" creatures near the road. The sketch of the creatures based on her description

shows little bipeds with rather thin arms, large eyes and pointed chins. Two, in the background, appeared to be turned away from the observer, one was bending over with what appeared to be a stick in its hand, and the other had its right arm raised, and was facing the observer. This creature had large, bulging eyes, a cap-like affair on its head (or what appeared to be a cap), no visible mouth, a long, pointed nose, and a chin that came to a sharp point. Its long, thin arms ended in claw-like appendages.

Branch Hill, too

In attempting to track down the "under the bridge" case, Stringfield, with the help of Ted Bloecher of CSI (Civilian Saucer Investigations), New York, ferreted out a case which is probably more illuminating than the others with which he dealt: At about 4 a.m. on a morning in March, 1955, Mr. R.H., of Loveland, Ohio, was driving through Branch Hill on his way to Loveland. His headlights suddenly illuminated what appeared to be three men kneeling at the right-hand side of the road. He first thought that someone was hurt, so he stopped his car to have a better look. It was then that he discovered that the figures were non-human, about three feet tall, and greyish in colour, including their clothing. The clothing appeared to be tight-fitting, and stretched over a "lop-sided" chest which appeared abnormally large on the right side and bulging from the shoulder to the armpit. Over this bulbous area hung a slender arm which appeared much longer than the opposite member. Legs and feet were not discernible because they were obscured by the vegetation in which the entities stood, but the observer got the impression of "something baggy".

The heads of these creatures, said R.H., reminded him of a "frog's face", mostly because of the appearance of the mouth: it was a thin line cutting across the smooth, grey face. The eyes, which lacked brows, looked normal, the nose was indistinct, and the top of the head appeared to have a painted-on hair effect, comprised of what looked like rolls of fat running horizontally from above the eyes, over (or around) the whole head.

Mr. R.H., said the middle one of the three, which was closest to him, was first seen with his arms raised about a foot above his head and appeared to be holding a dark coloured chain or stick which gave off blue-white sparks. As R.H. approached, this entity lowered the object to about the area of the ankle.

The observer said he wanted to approach closer to the creatures, but by the time he reached the area of the front fender of his car one of them made an "unnatural" move toward him as if motioning him not to move in, so for about the next three minutes he simply stood and looked, too amazed to be afraid. Stringfield closes this incident, before summing up, with the cryptic remark: "The next thing he knew he was on his way to Fritz's office" (Chief of Police).

Riverside incident

An incident which allegedly took place at Riverside, California, in August of 1955 but which was never adequately investigated, concerned a group of children ranging in age from 4 to 14 years who claimed they had seen saucers and "little men". This smattering of information was published in *Saucer News* for October-November 1955. The information given by the children was termed "contradictory", but no newspaper or other source was quoted by the *Saucer News* Editor. The article containing the Riverside incident stated only that one boy said he was climbing a tree when the first of a series of saucers arrived. A silver arm motioned to him, he said, and "I just floated off into space from a housetop". No mention was made of the means by which the boy got onto the house, except that he "sort of slid over there". Other youngsters in this group claimed they had seen the boy leave the roof and fall straight down, landing on his head but unhurt. Another child said that he saw a 3½ feet tall man who got out of a saucer which was resting in a nearby field. The creature had a "big red mouth, big red eyes and four diamond-shaped things where his nose should be". Another boy told reporters he saw the strange man carrying two guns, with which he paralysed two of the boys.

The last case is currently under investigation by one of APRO's Advisers, geologist Dr. Philip Seff, and we hope that the years have not dimmed the memories of the youngsters involved. Quite often youngsters, though not capable of giving an educated interpretation of what they see, can make quite an unbiased report.

Hopkinsville mystery

Probably the Granddaddy of all "occupant" sightings in the United States is that which occurred on August 22, 1955, at the home of the Sutton family, near Hopkinsville, Kentucky.⁶ The basic details include the beginning of the episode, when visiting relative Bill Taylor went out to the well for a drink and came back to tell of a "spaceship" which had landed in a nearby field. Just a scant few minutes later the aroused household saw a small spectre-like figure approaching the house. It appeared to be lit by an internal source, had a roundish head, huge elephantine ears, and a slit-like mouth which extended from ear to ear. The eyes were huge and wide-set. Only about 3 or 3½ feet in height, the creature had no visible neck, and its arms were long and ended in clawed hands. Although it stood upright, it dropped to all fours when it ran.

According to the Suttons, several of these creatures roamed the area adjacent to the house, climbed trees and climbed up on the roof. At one point Sutton fired a shotgun through the screen door at one of the little creatures. Although struck and knocked over by the blast, the little creature got up and scuttled away on his hands and feet. Later, Taylor walked out by the same door, only to be confronted by one of the creatures on the roof, apparently grabbing for his head.

This weird sequence of events continued for the

greater part of one night, and finally the family scrambled to the car and drove into town to report their plight. Deputy Sheriff George Batts and two Kentucky State police came to the house, but found no evidence of the little men's presence or the space ship. However, researchers who interviewed the Suttons and carefully investigated the whole affair, including Isabel Davis of New York (Civilian Saucer Investigations) were inclined to believe the incident did take place. Local investigators, including Chief of Police Greenwell, said that "something scared those people—something beyond reason—nothing ordinary". One investigator with medical experience noted Sutton's rapid pulse beat of 140 beats per minute, which is twice the normal rate.

The contact claim of Reinhold Schmidt

Although generally discounted by UFO researchers, and probably partly because of ensuing publicity and events, the Kearney, Nebraska "landing" and "contact" claim of Reinhold Schmidt, is nevertheless interesting, for several reasons.⁷

The general gist of this story is that Schmidt, a grain buyer from Bakersfield, California, came to Sheriff Dave Drage's office late on the afternoon of November 5th, seemed frightened and asked to see a minister (The Sheriff's office is hardly the right place to find one of these). Schmidt then said he had been driving near Kearney when his car engine stopped. He found he was within about 20 yards of a silver blimp-shaped object about 100 feet in length, 30 feet wide and about 14 feet high, which stood on four post-like legs.

Schmidt approached the object, whereupon the "staircase" came out and two "middle-aged" men searched him for weapons, then took him inside, where he stayed for a half-hour. They told him they would have to be there for a little while and he "had might as well come inside". The people, two women and two men, all middle-aged and wearing ordinary clothing, were working on some "wiring". When they moved about, they "slid" instead of walking. While there, he was told nothing about the ship and its occupants, nor was he given any message as most contactees claim. Schmidt said they told him to tell the people they were doing no harm, and that in "a short time" he might "know all about it". He was then asked to leave, the ship lifted straight up silently, and disappeared into the sky. After it left he found he could start his car again.

Most UFO enthusiasts are familiar with what transpired later. Schmidt was grilled by the better part of that night by Air Force and civilian law enforcement officers, eventually pronounced unstable and "very ill" by psychiatrists, and committed to an institution. Later, after release, he set about lecturing about his experience, other "contacts" and the poor way in which he was treated by the authorities. It is generally felt that he later embroidered his original story and that tended to discredit him. During his incarceration another similar incident was related to the press which was apparently unknown to officialdom or ignored, or both:

Dogs involved

At about 6.30 a.m. on the morning of November 6, 1957, 12-year-old Everett Clark, of Dante, Tennessee, arose and let his dog Frisky outside.⁸ He saw an object in a field about 100 yards from his home. He thought he was dreaming, he said, and went back inside. About 20 minutes later he went out to call his dog and found that Frisky and other dogs were across the road in the field by the object. Outside the object were two men and two women, apparently normally dressed. One of the men grabbed at Frisky who growled and backed away. He grabbed at another dog, which attempted to bite him, so he let it go.

During interviews later, Everett said the people talked like "German soldiers" he had seen in movies and on television. When they got into the ship it looked as if they "walked right through the side, as if it were glass". The object took off straight up and made no sound. It was long and round, he said, and of no particular colour. Asked by a reporter if it could have been translucent, he said he guessed so.

Other information which bears on the incident: One of the men had motioned to Everett to come to him, but Everett declined. He was questioned by reporters to ascertain whether he had heard of the Schmidt incident and apparently he hadn't. (The Schmidt story was just hitting news wires late on the preceding night and didn't appear in Knoxville papers until the 6th.)

Everett's High School principal said he was a serious and honest boy. His parents said he was upset when they arrived home from work that morning (both worked at a nearby knitting mill) and his grandmother said that he called her after the incident and was "hysterical".

When reporter Carson Brewer went to the field with Everett and others, he himself found an oblong ring of pressed grass. He found he could not make a similar marking unless he walked round and round at least a dozen times. The impression was 24 feet by 5 feet. Everett said the object was considerably larger than that, however. His father remarked later: "I don't think he made it up, but I still don't believe it".

On the road from Memphis

On November 7th, a Tennessee truck driver for Cook Truck Line reported meeting three "little men" on the road about 15 miles north-west of Meridian, Mississippi on Miss. State Highway 19.⁹ He was on his way to Meridian from Memphis, Tennessee.

The driver, Malvin Stevens, of Dyersburgh, 48, is described by his fellow workers and company officials as a "reliable family man" not given to practical joking, and they stated they were inclined to believe that he saw what he said he had seen.

Stevens stated that at first he thought the object was a weather balloon. He said it had a single propellor blade on each end, and a third propellor on top. Stevens got out of his truck and was met by the three little men who come out of the object.

They were about 4½ feet tall, wore grey clothing and had "pasty white faces". He said they seemed friendly and wanted to talk, but he couldn't understand their "chattering". "I stood there for what seemed like an eternity," he said. "They got back into the machine and it took off—straight up". When he first spotted the object it had no effect on his car engine, as was the case in some stories of UFO landings. People to whom he talked upon arriving at Memphis said Stevens was visibly shaken and "white as a sheet". Although the experience lasted only about two minutes, Stevens said it seemed like an eternity.

New Jersey meeting

Another "dog" story took place in the evening of November 6th, if we can believe John Trasco of Everittstown, New Jersey.¹⁰ He claimed he went outside at dusk to feed his dog and saw a brilliant egg-shaped object hovering in front of his barn. He was confronted by a three-foot being with putty-coloured face and large frog-like eyes. Trasco said he thought he said, in broken English: "We are peaceful—people, we only want your dog." To which, thoroughly frightened, he replied: "Get the hell out of here." The creature then fled into the object which took off straight up.

Mrs. Trasco also claimed she saw the object from inside the house, but did not see the "little man" due to some shrubbery near the house, although she heard the voice and her husband's angry command. It is not known if certain details were ever cleared up, as they were not contained in subsequent issues of the CSI Newsletter, but were mentioned only nebulously in the *Delaware Valley News* on November 15th. One of these questions involves whether there were more than one "entity", for Mrs. Trasco is quoted as saying that her husband tried to grab one of them, and got some green powder on his wrist which washed off. He also found some of the green powder under his fingernails the next day.

The "little man" was dressed in a green suit with shiny buttons, with a green tam-o-shanter-like cap, and gloves with a shiny object at the tip of each. His face was "putty coloured", had a nose and chin and large protuberant frog-like eyes.

At Playa del Rey

A strange story about stalled cars and little men was told to authorities and the press on the morning of the 6th when Richard Kehoe (not to be confused with Donald Keyhoe, of NICAP), an employee of General Telephone Co. of Santa Monica, California, related his early morning experience. This is another tale which has fallen into ill-repute because of the reluctance of researchers to accept human-like occupants as real, and the lack of corroborating witnesses.¹¹

Kehoe claimed that while driving along Vista del Mar (View of the Sea) at Playa del Rey in California (a beach area) at 5.40 a.m., his engine stopped, as did the engines of three other cars. When the drivers got out to see what was wrong, they saw an egg-shaped space ship wrapped in a "blue haze" on the beach. Kehoe claimed two "little

men" (about 5 feet, 5 inches, which isn't really small) got out of the object and asked questions of him and the two other drivers, such as: "where we were going, who we were, what time it was, etc." He said their skin appeared to be yellowish-green in the early morning light, but that otherwise they looked normal. He said they were wearing black leather pants, white belts, and light-coloured jerseys.

The two other drivers were identified as Ronald Burke, of Redondo Beach, and Joe Thomas, of Torrance, and Kehoe claimed Thomas called the police. He said the little men sounded as though they were talking English but that he couldn't understand them, and said simply that he had to go to work. The men got back into their ship and it disappeared into the sky, whereupon his car started up immediately. The ship was egg-shaped, tan or cream in colour, with two metal rings around it upon which the object apparently rested, according to Kehoe.

Old Saybrook Close-up

The foregoing report faded into nothingness as other reports flowed out of newsrooms across the United States in the ensuing days and months. The next landing incident took place at Old Saybrook, Connecticut, on December 16, 1957, and was carefully investigated by CSI, New York.¹² Because of the reliability of the witness, this is probably one of the most important of all the "occupant" reports.

In the early morning of December 16, at between 2 and 3 a.m., Mrs. Mary M. Starr, a resident of Old Saybrook, and a holder of two degrees from Yale University, was awakened by bright lights passing by her bedroom window. The bedroom is located on the second floor of her cottage, the floor being 15 feet above ground level. She was looking north.

Looking out, she saw an object just coming to a stop about ten feet from her house. It appeared to be about 20 feet long, dark grey or black in colour, with brilliantly lighted portholes. The object remained motionless about five feet about the ground, and had no protrusions of any kind.

Through the "windows" Mrs. Starr saw two forms which passed one another, going in opposite directions. What appeared to be their right arms were upraised, reminding her of stewards carrying trays, but no hands were visible. They wore a kind of jacket, their "heads" were square or rectangular, of a reddish-orange colour, with what appeared to be a red bulb located at the middle of the "head". The feet were not visible. A third form entered from the left and Mrs. Starr leaned forward in an attempt to see his face better, and at that point the portholes faded and the entire shell began to glow. Immediately a sort of antenna of about 6 inches in length rose from the top of the object at the end nearest Mrs. Starr. It appeared to oscillate and sparkle. This "antenna" continued to glow and sparkle for about five minutes, and then the craft began to move to the right, back in the direction from which it came. It made a very abrupt right-angle turn, turned bluish-grey again, and small circular lights outlined the entire rim where the portholes had been. When it was over the nearby marsh it tilted steeply and shot up into the sky at the speed of a

jet at take-off, but without any sound what so ever

Considering the fact that the object, while nearby, was just above the clothes line, yet she (Mrs. Starr) could see the upper part of the tool shed above the object, it is assumed that the object had to be about 6 feet thick, and probably 20 feet in diameter. Therefore the "occupants" were no more than 4½ feet tall.

The Old Saybrook incident is the last 1957 "occupant" case, and it seems that the November-December time period was a popular one for landing incidents. Most people will recall that the November, 1957 flap came close on the heels of the launching of the first space satellite by Russia. A few months earlier, however, according to the Milford, Pennsylvania *Dispatch*, a Miss Frances Stichler observed a strange object and its occupants. Although no exact date is given, the December 19th issue of the *Dispatch* says the incident took place in May, as follows:

Miss Stichler's encounter

Miss Stichler, who lived on a farm near Milford, was doing chores in her barn at 6 a.m. when she heard a whirring sound and looked up. She said a flat, bowl-shaped object of about 20 feet in diameter, with a rim 3 to 4 feet wide, came into view over the barn about 15 feet above the ground. When it stopped with one side tilted toward her, she saw a man clothed in light grey, tight-fitting helmet, and loose shiny grey suit, perched on the broad rim of the object. His feet and legs seemed to be concealed from view in the lower portion. His position was on the rim opposite Miss Stichler so that he was facing her. He seemed to be of average size, had deep-set eyes, a long face with a "quizzical" expression, and was quite tanned. Just as Miss Stichler got over her initial shock, the object left towards the south-east, making a "spinning" sound, and streaked out of sight. She claimed she said nothing about the sighting as she had no corroborating witnesses, and didn't think anyone would believe her. She eventually told about it after the other sightings of UFOs and occupants during the November-December "flap".

The "little men" or occupants seemed to have disappeared from the scene in the United States after December, 1957, although there certainly may have been some which were not reported for fear of ridicule. Our next case deals with a little man, although there is no craft involved.

Arizona 1960

A lady whom I know well and whose word I trust, reported the following incident to me, and I quote from her written report verbatim:

"Joe, I and the two children were on our way to California on vacation in early June, 1960. It was the night of the 9th, about midnight, and we were about 15 minutes (15 miles) east of Globe, Arizona, heading west. Joe was asleep beside me and the kids were fast asleep in the back seat of the car. I was driving through hills through which the road winds and dips. The Cadillac was performing beautifully and I maintained a steady speed of about 65 miles an hour.

"At about 12.15 I began pulling round a right-hand turn and when I straightened her out, my headlights hit a small figure about 100 yards ahead on the right edge of the highway. It was facing to my left, about to cross the road, it seemed. My immediate reaction was to let up on the accelerator, and the heavy car slowed immediately as we were on an upgrade. Simultaneously, the figure turned so that it faced me, then turned again and ran off into the brush out of range of my lights and off the road.

"The second I saw that thing my heart came up in my mouth and my stomach turned a flip-flop. When I got my wits, a few seconds later, I called out to Joe and tramped on the accelerator. He didn't respond right away, so I jostled him and he sat bolt upright. Then I told him what I had seen: The little figure, no more than twice the height of the posts which held the metallic reflecting road-guard (about 3 feet tall, the thing was), was small, broad-shouldered, with long arms, dark in colour, and it had a head shaped somewhat like a flattened ball—almost like a pumpkin. In this head were two yellowish-orange glowing "eyes". I recall that when it was in side view there was a light beaming out beyond the face. I saw no nose, or mouth or ears. The body was not as well defined as the head, and I got the impression of hair or fur.

"When Joe finally got the gist of what I was telling him he told me to stop and we would go back. I told him that if he wanted to go back he could, but we would go to Miami or Globe; he could drop us off, then he could go back by himself, but neither my children nor I were going back there on that lonely dark road. By then I had pushed the Cad to 85 miles an hour, in a hurry to see lights and people again. He didn't insist, so we kept on, stopped in Miami, then continued our trip."

The significant thing about this incident—besides the veracity of the observer and her husband's verification of her near-hysteria—is that the "entity" closely resembled the "little men" seen in Venezuela in 1954. Despite the absence of a visible craft, the other three points make this incident acceptable, in my opinion, as a "UFO occupant" sighting.

The Eagle River case

On the 18th of April, 1961, at 11 a.m., Joe Simonton, a 60-year-old chicken farmer of Eagle River, Wisconsin, allegedly witnessed the landing of a UFO in his yard.¹³ This is probably one of the most controversial cases I have ever investigated, and in the diverse spectrum of U.S. saucer groups it has aroused opinion, suspicion, controversy, charges and counter-charges to such an extent that the truth seems almost indiscernible. The original story is basically that:

At 11 a.m. that morning, Simonton was startled by a strange, loud noise outside and above his farmhouse. He stepped to the window and was surprised to see a silvery object coming down vertically in his yard. He approached the object (with no fear), whereupon a hatch in the upper portion opened and he saw three dark-skinned men inside. One of them handed him a silvery jug with two handles,

made a motion like drinking, apparently indicating that he wanted water. Simonton took the jug, filled it and handed it back. Looking into the object, he saw a man "cooking" on some kind of flameless cooking appliance. There were several small perforated cookie-like objects beside the griddle, and Simonton motioned that he wanted one, whereupon one of the men handed four of them to him. Then the object took off at a 45-degree angle and was gone in just a few seconds. As it left, pine trees near the take-off path bowed over, apparently as a result of air turbulence as the object went over them.

Although APRO had good representation in Wisconsin, we weren't fast enough to obtain one of the controversial "cookies", which Joe Simonton, who had eaten one, said tasted like cardboard. NICAP of Washington, D.C., obtained one, as also did Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force's consulting astrophysicist. Simonton then had only one left and hesitated to part with it.

After several days of much exploitation of the incident by news media, NICAP announced that the affair had had too much publicity, and that they did not intend to analyse the "cookie". On May 3, Simonton told the UPI that if "it happened again, I don't think I'd tell anybody about it". The same wire story quoted a NICAP statement which said that organisation planned no further action and had more important things to investigate. Several NICAP members in the general area of Eagle River were a little upset about this, for NICAP had jumped into the affair, accepted the attending publicity, and then dropped it without thoroughly explaining their actions. The NICAP "cookie", then reposing in the hands of Alex Mebane of New York, was not mentioned again.

The most recent word on this affair comes from an APRO member in Minnesota who claims that one analysis with which he is familiar yielded the information that the cookie was made of corn and wheat flour, as well as other ordinary ingredients, but that the exact origin of the certain type of wheat was not known. This is another case somewhat similar to others (where the occupants are concerned) including the Playa del Rey (Kehoe) encounter, which was botched in the beginning by overzealous publicity hounds who were diametrically opposed to the idea of "little men"—or any sized men, for that matter.

The "men" involved were small, about 5 feet tall, had dark hair and skin and wore dark blue knit outfits with turtle neck tops and knit helmets similar to those worn under headpieces such as crash helmets. They either had no beard, or were clean shaven. The whole episode lasted about five minutes and Simonton observed a few details of the inside of the craft. It was dull black, instrument panels included, he said, and somewhat like wrought iron. One of the occupants appeared to be cooking and stacked beside the "stove" were some of the "cookies". One man took care of getting water, and the other stayed at the instrument board. The two who were cooking and watching instruments

did not look around. Just after Simonton obtained the cookies, the man hooked a line or belt into a hook in his clothing near the waist, closed the hatch, and the object raised to 20 feet above the ground, then took off straight south.

The object itself appeared "like two washbowls turned face to face". The sound Simonton heard before coming out of his house was like "knobby tyres on a wet pavement". The craft hovered a short distance (probably only a few inches) off the ground all during the episode. The hatch was about 30 inches wide and about 6 feet tall. All this, Simonton admitted, was guesswork.

Down on the Farm

Our next several occupant reports occurred during that historic period in the Spring of 1964. On the morning of April 24, according to dairy farmer Gary T. Wilcox, of Tioga City, New York, he was visited by the occupants of a flying saucer.¹⁴ At shortly before 10 a.m. he was spreading fertiliser in an open field and stopped to go and check a V-shaped field on another part of the farm which was almost completely surrounded by woods. As he approached the field about a mile from his dairy farm, he saw a shiny object which he at first thought was a discarded refrigerator that had been there for a time. As he drew nearer he realised it was not, and thought it was a wing tank from an aeroplane which had fallen there. The object was a shiny metal which resembled aluminium, was about 20 feet long and 16 feet wide, and shaped like an egg. He saw no door or hatch, but two small men (approximately 4 feet tall) suddenly arrived on the scene dressed in clothing which appeared to have no seams and a hood which covered their faces completely. Each was carrying a tray of what appeared to be soil removed from the field.

One of the men commenced to talk to Wilcox, informing him that they were from Mars, that he needn't be afraid and that they had talked to people before. His English was very smooth and effortless. Wilcox said that he thought someone was playing a trick on him. One man stood by the craft, the other about five feet from Wilcox, and the voice seemed to come from the body rather than the head area.

The conversation then turned to a discussion of organic material, including fertilisers. They seemed to be interested in this facet of farming, and said that where they came from they grew food in the atmosphere. Among other things they said they could only travel to earth every two years and were currently using the Western Hemisphere (for a base?). They then asked for fertiliser, and when Wilcox went to get it, the craft took off. Wilcox got a bag of fertiliser, left it in the field and next day it was gone.

Socorro

April 24 was a red-letter day, for it was at about 6.50 p.m. that evening that Socorro, New Mexico patrolman Lonnie Zamora chased a blue flame in the sky and ended up staring at an out-of-this-world

contraption in a gully south of town.¹⁵ He was initially chasing a speeder, and when he saw the flame going down in the general direction of an isolated dynamite shack he was afraid there had been an explosion and headed for that area. In following a faint desert trail he was barely able to get his car to the area because of the rough and rocky terrain. When he approached the mesa beside which the object had landed, he got a glimpse of it up a draw, then drove up on the mesa and stopped his car and got out. As he approached he heard "two loud metallic bangs". He took a few steps toward the gully and got a good look at the thing just as an ear-splitting roar filled the air. Amid the dust he saw the egg-shaped thing rise to about 20 feet, the roar ceased, a high-pitched whining sound was heard and the craft took off to the south-west, fast, and was gone.

Zamora's first glimpse of the object as he approached the mesa also showed two forms, "like a young boy or small adult" in white or beige clothing standing "on the side" of the craft. One seemed to look toward him with surprise. Because of the distance (about 450 feet) he could see no features or other details. Mr. Lorenzen and I were the first investigators to reach the scene (with the exception of the FBI and Army Intelligence who were stationed there), and after two days came away convinced that Zamora had seen an unconventional aerial object and its operators.

Conklin Case

Another incident which is similar to the Tioga County affair, allegedly took place on the 16th of July at Conklin, New York.¹⁶ Five young boys claimed they saw a space man and his craft just two miles from their home. The field where the incident took place is favoured by youngsters because of a proliferation of huckleberry bushes. When questioned closely and threatened with punishment for fibbing, they broke into tears, but none of them would retract their original claims.

The boys were: Edmund and Randy Travis, 9 and 7 years of age, Floyd Moore, 10, Billy Dunlap, 7, and Gary Dunlap, 5. Mrs. Travis said she first learned of the experience when three of the boys came running to her house shortly after 12.30 p.m., seeking a jar of water. "They said they were taking some water over to the spaceman", she said. "They said they couldn't understand what he said, but that it sounded like he needed water". An adult was sent after the other two boys and met them walking home from the field. They at first denied seeing the spaceman, afraid of a spanking because they didn't think anyone would believe them. They were separated from one another and questioned. When Mrs. Travis convinced them they should tell what they had seen, this is what they told:

They had come upon the creature in the field. He was about the size of a "little boy", had a human-looking face, and was wearing a black suit and black helmet. The helmet had antenna-like wires on top and white lettering (unidentified by the children) across the front. It was wearing a plastic or glass

lens over its eyes and was making a peculiar noise which sounded like it came out of a pipe. They described it as similar to the noise made by a kazoo.

The spaceman walked towards the vehicle, part of which was obscured by bushes, and was shiny "like a car bumper". He stepped up on top of it, and it was then that the children asked if he needed help or water. Then the creature seemed to "fall backwards" from the top of the vehicle. At this point the children left the field and ran toward home. An observer who visited the field later noticed the matted foliage where the boys said the vehicle was. There were also three depressions around the matted area as though whatever had crushed the foliage was supported by columns or legs.

During the Virginia Flap

The March, 1965 issue of *Saucer News* yields the following undated description of a landing and occupant story in Virginia. Unfortunately, no source is given, either, except that it is a "news report" which is dated January 23, 1965. An industrial worker claimed he witnessed the landing of two noiseless, unlighted UFOs which came down in a wooded area, apparently in the vicinity of Lynchburg, Va. The two craft, he said, were 20 and 80 feet in diameter. Three creatures, 37 inches high, disembarked from the small ship and approached to within 12 yards of the observer and he "froze" in his tracks. They were humanoid types, except for their small stature and strange eyes "which looked right through me", he said. The little men uttered unintelligible sounds, then turned around and walked back to the object from which they had emerged. A door opened, they entered, and the opening appeared to seal itself so there was no evidence of an opening when it was closed. The encounter purportedly lasted about 30 minutes, having begun at 5.40 p.m. The size of the creatures in the foregoing account, besides the strange eyes (often mentioned in connection with "little men" in other countries) prompted me to include this tale despite its lack of attribution.

Weeki-Wachi Springs

Most of us are familiar with the Brooksville, Florida, sighting of March 3, 1965, in which 65-year-old John Reeves claimed he watched a five-foot spaceman and his craft near his home on the outskirts of Weeki-Wachi Springs, Florida.¹⁷ This is another incident which was badly botched by local and out-of-town pseudo-researchers. The basic facts: Reeves claimed he came upon the object while out walking at about 2 p.m. He spotted the object some distance away, approached it by a circuitous route, then saw the "spaceman", which approached him and looked at him. The craft was 20-30 feet in diameter, and about 8 feet thick. Around the circumference there was an arrangement of "slats" which resembled venetian blinds which opened and closed just before the object ultimately took off. The craft rested on four "legs", and a cylindrical affair with disc-shaped "steps" provided entry into the craft from underneath.

The "creature" in this instance was dressed in a silver-grey, tight-fitting, stiff-appearing suit, atop which was a helmet much like a glass bowl inverted over its head resting on its shoulders. The head inside was covered by dark material which covered the hair area. The ears, mouth and nose appeared normal, but the eyes were large and very wide set, with a "flat" area between. The hands were covered by mittens which appeared to be very pliable and the same colour as the suit. Reeves did not notice the footwear.

Reeves claimed that the creature, while approaching the saucer from some bushes, spotted him and came towards him and just looked at him. Then the "man" drew a small black box from "his left side", it "flashed", whereupon Reeves started to leave. He lost his hat, stopped to retrieve it, turned, and the box "flashed" again. He saw no flash attachment, doesn't know if it was a camera or not.

Footprints were later found, but unfortunately the photographer who took the photographs (and hawked them at \$30 per set) did not bother to take long-range shots of several sets and valuable information was lost. Reeves later claimed that the spaceman came very close to him and knocked his helmet against his (Reeves') head, then conversed with him via mental telepathy. This latter has been discarded as embroidery of the basic story, for the assertion came a considerable time after the original story was told.

Among other machinations at the location, local researchers attempted to prevent others from getting further information on the incident after the initial story got out. However, Reeves does not seem to be sufficiently knowledgeable about UFO lore to have concocted such a detailed story, so the original tale seems genuine. Two pieces of tissue-thin paper containing strange marks and found at the site by Reeves were obtained and decoded by Air Force technicians and was found to bear the trite message: "Planet Mars—are you coming home soon—we miss you very much—why did you stay away too long." Other markings were not decoded. It has been hypothesized that if the landing and "contact" are real, it was a deliberate attempt to mislead humans, the paper and its message being a hoax by the "spaceman".

Townsend's tin men

Three tiny "tin men" star in the case near Long Prairie, Minnesota, on the 23rd October, 1965.¹⁸ According to his story, Jerry Townsend, 19, a fledgling radio announcer, was driving from Little Falls to Long Prairie at 7.40 p.m. on the night in question. At about 4 miles out of Long Prairie he rounded a curve, his engine, lights and radio went dead, so he braked his car. Ahead of him was a rocket-shaped object about 30-40 feet high and ten feet in diameter resting on three fins in the middle of the road. Townsend got out of his car, walked around toward the front fender, then stopped at the sight of three little beer-can shaped "objects" which came from under the ship toward him. They were six inches high, walked on two "fins", and when they stopped

a third fin came down in the rear. He saw no faces, eyes, etc., and said they moved with a side-to-side waddling gait. They seemed to be watching him. After what seemed to be an eternity, he said, they went under the big "rocket", and disappeared into it. The object then took off. The "colourless" light which issued from the bottom of the "rocket" went out after it was airborne. The object's take-off, Townsend said, looked like someone had lifted a flashlight off a table.

The wrap-up on this case included inquiries to teachers and friends. Townsend got a clean bill of health as far as his reputation for honesty was concerned. After the object left, he drove to Long Prairie where he told of his encounter at the sheriff's office. Sheriff Bain told me via telephone that Townsend had a good reputation, was not a drinker, and that he had been visibly frightened by his experience. Bain and Long Prairie Police Officer Lavern Lubitz returned to the spot where the object was reportedly seen, and found three parallel strips of oil-like substance about four inches apart and a yard long on the surface of the road. "I don't know what they were, but I've looked at a lot of roads and never saw anything like them before," Bain told reporters later. He also told me that two hunters observed a lighted object taking off in the vicinity of the road where Townsend claimed he saw the rocket and the "tin men".

Entities—but no vehicle

Reports out of Washington, U.S.A., in August, 1965, told of three non-human-appearing men seen by two girls near Renton. Our source is *Saucer News*, which as usual does not give newspaper attribution, but inasmuch as we had been tipped off about this sighting by other sources, we include it here, however sketchily. According to the report, at about 7.30 a.m. one morning two girls got out of their car on a highway and were approached by three men who had been in a bean field. The beings had white-domed heads and protruding eyes. The faces had no expression, the eyes were "grey like stone", and the lower part of the faces appeared deeply tanned. They wore armless v-necked jerseys of a purple shade with white shirts underneath. The frightened girls ran about 50 feet past the men (?) and when they looked back the beings had disappeared. No craft was seen in connection with this incident.

Nightmare incident near Cisco Grove

The last incident I will present in full detail is the most spectacular report I have ever examined, and although APRO has not completed its investigation, sufficient work has been done so that we feel it is an authentic incident and important to the documentation of "occupant" incidents.

On Labour Day weekend of 1964, three men from the Sacramento area of California, drove into the mountains near Cisco Grove (not far from Truckee) to do some bow and arrow hunting. The bow hunting season, which precedes the usual deer season,

had just commenced. On the afternoon of September 4th, the three men were hunting a ridge some distance from their camp. As dusk approached, they were separated from one another. Our principal, "Mr. S" (who wishes absolute anonymity) was to proceed along the ridge and approach camp from a certain area. When he reached the end of the ridge he found it ended in a sheer drop to the canyon below and he realised he would have to retrace his path and find another way to get to camp. He started back, in the dusk, and came to a canyon with a granite outcropping, few trees and sparse brush. At this point he heard what he thought was a bear by the crashing sounds it made, and took refuge in a tree. Shortly, confident that the bear had gone, he got down and built three signal fires hoping to attract attention of rangers, not knowing they had already left the area.

Then Mr. S saw a light below the horizon and thought it was a lantern and that his friends were looking for him. But when the light darted up and over a tree he realised it wasn't a lantern and thought perhaps a search and rescue helicopter was coming. When the light came in his direction, then stopped and hovered motionless without any sound; he realised this was something out of the ordinary and went back up into the tree.

This tree is important to the incident. It is 25-30 feet high, big enough at the base so that it cannot be encircled by a man's arms, completely branchless up to 12 feet, with sparse but sturdy limbs above it. Mr. S climbed to the 12-foot mark and stayed there for a time.

The light Mr. S had seen appeared to be 8-10 inches in diameter and white. It appeared to be accompanied by two or three other objects which stayed at a regulated distance from it. Remember at this point it was dark with a moon rising, but nevertheless this canyon is partly shaded from the moon's light. Shapes and things were therefore indistinct. The light then circled around Mr. S's tree, a flash was seen, and a dark object fell to the ground. Then he noticed a "dome-shaped affair" 400 to 500 yards away, apparently on or near the ground.

Noises like someone moving in the brush attracted Mr. S's attention, and he saw a figure emerge from a patch of manzanita brush. The creature seemed to be examining the manzanita. Then, from a slightly different direction, another figure approached and the two came towards the tree in which Mr. S was perched, stood at the base and appeared to look up at him. He occasionally heard a "cooing" or "hooting" noise to which the two always reacted, but he doesn't know if the sound came from them or from an owl in the area. The reaction of the "occupants" might have simply been curiosity about the noise. The only other noises he heard during the night was the sound of movement in the brush and once he heard the sound of what he thought was a generator.

At this point, a third figure came from the direction of the dome. It seemed to move in a different

manner from the first two, making more noise, and it seemed to run into bushes, going over or through them rather than around as the others did. At this point Mr. S moved farther up the tree. The three figures' descriptions are as follows:

Numbers one and two were about 5 feet 5 inches, Mr. S's best estimate. They were clothed in a silvery-grey material with a covering that went up over the head straight from the shoulders. No facial features were visible at any time. The third "entity" was grey, dark grey or black. It, too, had no discernible neck, but two reddish-orange "eyes" glowed and flickered where the "head" would be. It had a "mouth" which, when it opened, seemed to "drop" open, making a rectangular hole in the "face". The mouth extended completely across the face area.

Mr. S saw figures number one and two more clearly than the others, for they came in from an area bathed in moonlight. Figure number three came in on the shadowed side of the canyon. Its eyes appeared to be about 3 inches in diameter.

The first two figures attempted to get to Mr. S by boosting one another up the tree, but apparently did not know how to climb a tree. The third entity (which Mr. S calls a "robot") seemed to be just watching and waiting, on a rock at the base of the tree. Then the nightmare began.

Mr. S readily admits he was badly frightened. He realised the object on the hill must have been a "flying saucer" although he knew little about them except from newspaper accounts. Throughout the night the "robot" tried to "gas" him with "smoke" which issued from its "mouth", while the other figures stood by and looked on, or tried to climb the tree. Mr. S climbed higher, belted himself to the trunk (the section where he finally settled was near the top and had a small diameter) astraddle a branch, and then began lighting pieces of his clothing, which he threw down at the strange beings. First he lit his cap, which flared up brightly (probably due to hair dressing, which is quite oily) and threw it down. The two figures backed away from the tree. Then the robot opened its mouth. Mr. S saw a puff of white smoke or gas, and seconds later he became light-headed and then unconscious. Each time this happened, he would awaken, probably only seconds later, sick and retching. He would then light another piece of his clothing or throw something at the things in an attempt to discourage them. He succeeded in starting several small fires on the ground, hoping to attract attention from someone, or to discourage his tormentors. Altogether, he tore apart and burned his camouflaged oversuit, his jacket and his cap.

Before he began setting fires, Mr. S shot three arrows at what he thought was the chest section of the robot. When the arrows hit they struck a spark as they made contact with the robot, suggesting that it was made of metal, and succeeded in knocking the robot 2 or 3 feet away.

Mr. S threw his canteen down, which one of the silver-suited entities picked up, and both of them examined. All in all, he threw his bow, his canteen,

and a pocketful of silver coins besides bits of burning clothing.

Mr. S seemed interested in the fact that the "robot" had "sense enough" to get upwind at times before emitting the "gas". He never saw the gas after it came out of the mouth, but always became unconscious just seconds after its issue.

Finally, at about dawn, when the east was just starting to get pinkish with the first light of the sun, the two "men" figures stood back from the tree, another robot joined the first, and they stood facing each other at the base of the tree. Suddenly sparks and a glow filled the area between their chests, and a cloud of "gas" issued from them. This time Mr. S did not know for certain where the gas came from. There was such a lot of it that he saw it proceed upward towards him, then it finally engulfed him. He blacked out and when he regained consciousness all the entities were gone. He was extremely nauseated, and was hanging, limp and exhausted, his head and legs and arms dangling. He feels they left him "for dead". He was bitterly cold from exposure in the 38 degree temperature, having only his T-shirt, levis, underclothing, socks and boots left. He waited a while, then got down and looked around.

Mr. S said he got another scare when he spotted smoke issuing from near a rock, but found it was only the smoke residue from one of the fires he had started during the night. He tried to orientate himself, then started for camp. Finally, sick, frightened, cold and exhausted from his ordeal, he laid down. Soon he heard one of his friends whistling, got up and the two located each other, then went back to camp.

When Mr. S got back to camp he found that one of the other men had nearly gotten lost, but had been close enough to camp to see the lantern and to get there safely. The other man had apparently seen the craft, for he told about the bright, glowing large light which slowly came down the evening before. Mr. S told his friends about his experience, and they believed him, not only because they knew him, but because of the light one of them had seen.

I learned about this particular incident quite by chance through rumours in the Sacramento area, and notified Dr. James Harder, one of APRO's advisers. Dr. Harder contacted Mr. S, taped an interview, and after hearing the tape we felt it was worth further investigation. At present, the preliminary interviews by a qualified psychiatrist have been made preparatory to either sodium amytol or hypnotic trance questioning. We feel that Mr. S may have information buried at a subconscious level which may shed considerably more light on the whole incident. We are reasonably certain that the episode took place and was a true physical experience, and therefore the trance questioning is not being undertaken in an attempt to discredit him in any way.

During the course of the investigation and Mr. S's questioning, we found some interesting facts: Mr. S reported his experience to Air Force personnel, who suggested that he may have been the unhappy subject of a prank by teenagers or local Japanese

people (?). They did not seem to take his account seriously.

In January, 1965, or thereabouts, Mr. S read an article by Major Donald E. Keyhoe in a popular magazine, and wrote his experience to him. Paul Cerny, of NICAP's San Francisco Bay Area Subcommittee interviewed Mr. S, but apparently their investigation stopped there. At any rate, to my knowledge there has been no indication of further investigation by that group.

It is tempting to attempt an analysis of this strange incident at this time, but the reader can readily recognise the general resemblance of these two entities to others on record: the silver-suited figure and especially his helmet resembles the "man" seen by Reeves in Florida in March, 1965, as well as the principal male figures in the Antonio Villas Boas ["Adhemar"] incident of 1957 in Brazil [See *The Most Amazing Case of All* in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for January/February 1965, and *Even More Amazing. . .* in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for July/August and September/October, 1966]. The robots, especially their glowing eyes, resemble the monstrous thing seen at Flatwoods, West Virginia, as well as the "Old Saybrook" entities mentioned in this article.

Summing up

"Little men" such as those described by Frank Scully, the Death Valley prospectors, the farm boy in Kansas and the Brush Creek prospectors, are only a few of the many accounts of diminutive saucer operators. So they would seem to be one definite category. Facial characteristics are seldom described, usually because of the fact that the distance between the observer and the observed is so great that it precludes close scrutiny.

Although the facial features of the "little men" described in *Orbit* are anything but humanoid in appearance, we can do little in the way of interpretation as is the case in most other entity episodes, because there is always the possibility of some kind of headpiece or mask being used. The surreptitiousness of the UAO entities in the past years indicates an unwillingness for contact with humans. Only in the last few years have we been confronted with cases coming from apparently credible and reliable witnesses relating to close-up contact and voice communication. This may be a simple matter of our "visitors" being ready for contact. Most of us entertain the idea that the UAOs monitor our communications, and it certainly seems, if they have similar vocal cords, that they should be capable of learning our languages given adequate time.

A certain segment of UFO researchers (which happen to be in the majority in my country, unfortunately) resisted the idea of humanoid UFO objects until the famous Socorro case of 1964. To attempt to convince these people that their attitude is emotionally rooted would be a waste of time. Therefore, those of us who are deeply interested in every phase of the UFO mystery, have been greatly hampered by our own colleagues. The modus operandi of these "researchers" is to gather every kind of report

but to suppress those which are not personally acceptable—thus preventing others from the type of correlative work which needs to be done with *all reports*.

To sum up, it would seem that we are dealing, even at this juncture, with only a mass of reports involving various types of bipeds who apparently navigate or at least ride in unconventional aircraft. In order to be scientifically correct, we cannot assume more than that. But if, as a young nuclear engineer stated, we have an "intuitive feeling" and deviate from the scientific method occasionally, we can at least begin to get a glimmering of the pattern behind these reports.

Early on the morning of March 23, 1966, Mr. Eddie Laxson, 56, of Temple, Oklahoma, came upon a fish-shaped silver object on Highway 70 near the Texas-Oklahoma state line. Laxson is an experienced electronics instructor at Shepard Air Base at Wichita Falls, Texas. He got out of his car, approached the object and saw a man dressed in "GI fatigues" (work uniform) standing by the craft. He turned back to his car to get his camera, and when he turned round the man was getting into the object via a ladder and the craft took off vertically. Laxson, familiar with aircraft, could not identify the object, although he got a good look at it. The letters TL41, arranged vertically, were easily visible on the ship. It was learned later that a truck driver approaching from the opposite direction saw the same object. Laxson is sure that the object is a "secret test vehicle", but if Anderson, the truck driver, is telling the truth when he says other drivers have seen similar things on the road in the same area in the near past, we have a ridiculous situation in which some U.S. Government agency is flying test machines outside the confines of guarded test ranges. What else, then? Test vehicles from another country? Hardly. Such is not the *modus operandi* of any government.

Our only possible answer, then, is that our "visitors" are modifying their own craft to resemble earth aircraft, and dressing their crews to resemble ours. Why? That's a good question. If we hypothesize that they are attempting to confuse us, we only come up with another question: why?

It is my sincere hope that the contents of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW'S Special Issue on Entities will, eventually, help to shed some light on this knotty problem.

REFERENCES

- 1, 2 CSI (Civilian Saucer Intelligence, New York) Newsletter; Jan. 28, 1956, p. 2.
- 3 CSI Public Meeting Digest; May 24, 1965.
- 4 *United Press*, various clippings; June 25, 1953;
- 5 *Lincoln, Nebraska Star*; September, 1954.
- 6 *United Press, Chicago Sun Times, Omaha World Herald*, etc.; August 23, 1955.
- 7 *UP, AP, Chicago Sun Times*, etc.; November 8, 1957.
- 8 *Knoxville News-Sentinel* (Tennessee); November 6, 1957.

- 9 *El Paso Times* (Texas); November 8, 1957.
 10 CSI Newsletter; December, 1957.
 11 *Los Angeles Mirror-News*; November 6, 1957.
 12 CSI Newsletter; July 15, 1959.
 13 APRO Bulletin, various clips, member reports; May, 1961.
 14 Binghamton, N.Y. *Sun-Bulletin*, other clips;

- May 1, 1964.
 15 APRO Bulletin, clips, personal investigation; May, 1964.
 16 Binghamton, N.Y. *Press*, others; July 17, 1964.
 17 APRO Bulletin, clips; March-April, 1965.
 18 APRO Bulletin, clips, telephone interview; Nov-Dec. 1965.

U.S.A.

Questions on the Occupants

BY DONALD B. HANLON

The time is now

Indications are that 1966 will be the year in which some rather solid steps will be taken to further the scientific analysis of the UFO phenomenon. Recent public opinion polls in the U.S.A. have shown that 40% of the populace accept the fact that the phenomenon represents a physical reality. This recently acquired 'respectability' will, no doubt, have considerable influence on officialdom's handling of the problem. With this increasing recognition will come a slightly more advanced type of enquiry. After the concept of 'unknown aerial objects in our skies' has succeeded in impressing itself upon the populace, the next logical line of questioning would concern itself with the culture whose technology is represented by these objects. Therefore researchers should consider the time as being ripe for a thorough and comprehensive study of what is *potentially the most significant and revealing category* of UFO report, and certainly the last which 'orthodox' science could be expected to investigate, and that is the Type-I category of landing with occupant.

The data contained in this category can be employed in an attempt to define the origin and purpose of the supposed visits, but only after the material has been viewed collectively in a search for correlations and possible invariant factors. The researcher is confronted with an incredibly wide range of descriptions. It would seem, at first glance, as if 'our visitors' had made a deliberate and concentrated effort to confuse us. One meets with "one-eyed giants", "hairy dwarfs", "robots", "little men in luminous suits", "blond-haired and slant-eyed Christ-like beings" and so on.

This wide variance has led certain researchers to believe that if the extraterrestrial hypothesis is to be considered valid, then it is likely that we are receiving the scrutiny of more than one alien culture.

Excluded data

In an attempt to narrow the field of investigation Jacques Vallée¹ has dismissed reports of "giants" *completely*, and will consider cases involving blond-haired "men" with caution. On a purely statistical basis Vallée's judgments are well-founded, but one cannot, and must not, dismiss the individual testimony of a witness solely on such a basis. It would be all too easy to ignore a potentially significant

observation by employing this criterion. Even the "little green men", which have been considered an entirely mythical product, can be found to have some basis in fact, however slight, as indicated by the Valensole² and Villa Santina³ incidents, both of which appear to be authentic.

With respect to the blond-haired "men", an objective researcher will admit that, while certainly not accepting the reports at face value, one does meet with a remarkable degree of consistency in individual testimonies.

One of the earliest (if not *the* earliest) accounts of this type was related by Mr. William C. Lamb (Vallée quotes another of Mr. Lamb's observations in *Anatomy*. . .). The witness describes an encounter with a 7 feet tall being wearing a green sweater, and having shoulder-length blond hair. This vague incident allegedly took place in Wyoming in the year 1890, when the witness was but five years of age⁴.

Another rather obscure report of this type comes from the Panorama City, California, area, where on July 20, 1956, it is averred that three separate witnesses, all of whom shied away from publicity, independently claimed that they had observed a huge ball-shaped object land close to their respective locations. From this object emerged three beings approximately 6 feet 8 inches in height, with long blond hair, and clothed in tight green suits. In two of the reports the beings allegedly made gestures of friendship. When this story is compared to the contact claim of Professor Joao de Freitas Guimares of Santos City, Brazil⁵ a remarkable similarity between the descriptions given by the witnesses will be seen to exist. Professor Guimares claimed to have been invited to take a ride in a spacecraft by two beings approximately 5 feet 10 inches in height with long blond hair and wearing greenish one-piece suits. This incident took place in July of 1957, one year after the Panorama City incident.

It is evident that we could not accept any of the above claims solely on an individual basis. However, it should be noted that when parallel descriptions are found to exist, they are quite often more than a coincidence regardless of whether they are due to hoax, psychosis, or objective reality.