

from anyone who saw the object.

"A Weather Bureau official said it might have been a meteorological balloon. It was first sighted by council truck driver W. Dicker, of Mandurah, during his lunch break. He pointed it out to five of his workmates.

"Mr. Fletcher [an official] kept the object under observation for most of the afternoon. He described it as cylindrical and silvery, with a dark patch on top. He said it appeared metallic and shiny.

"It was visible to the naked eye for most of the afternoon."

PERU

Two very little 'men'

This strange account came to us by way of the *British Guiana Chronicle* of September 15, 1965—"An official of the Andes town of Santa Barbara has seen two tiny 'Martian' men only 80 centimetres (2 ft. 7½ in.) high, walking on the snow near there, according to reports reaching Lima.

"The official, Senor Sebastian Mancha, was reported as saying the Martians disappeared in a brilliant flash after walking about a few minutes last week-end.

"Hundreds of local people were also reported to have seen a squadron of flying saucers shortly afterwards."

VENEZUELLA

Air Force sightings near Caracas

The following account was told to Dr. Bernard Finch by an officer of the Venezuelan Air Force who is at present in this country (name and unit known, but not to be disclosed):

In August, 1965, a pilot of a bomber squadron was flying a round robin mission in a Canberra aircraft at 30,000 feet. Suddenly, beyond the left (port) wing tip he saw a very bright light flying line abreast. No stars were visible because of high overcast. The pilot estimated that the light was about 1,000 yards away from the aircraft, and because it maintained 'station' he made a sharp turn towards it. He was surprised to see the light continue in the same position, and although he maintained his new heading for about two minutes, the light did not move away from that side.

The pilot then made a second turn in towards the object, in the hope of approaching it. The result was the same, but this time there was a distinct change of colour (from bright white to yellow) although the shape

of the object remained similar. After the second turn, the navigator saw the light for the first time. Shortly afterwards it just disappeared.

Earlier incidents were also related. For instance, in July, 1958, a night flight for student pilots had just ended at a training field. It was 11 p.m. The three instructor pilots were about to leave the Base in a jeep when they saw a huge cigar-shaped object, bluish in colour, standing high over the gate. They stopped the jeep, jumped off to watch the strange object which soon afterwards began to climb vertically with tremendous acceleration.

At another station in February, 1956, an Air Force subaltern was making an inspection round between 4 and 5 a.m., and was just passing in front of the main hangar when he saw a big white disc making a low pass over the main runway. It disappeared very quickly.

[It is not often we are permitted to hear the kind of reports that are handed in to Intelligence by the airmen themselves.—EDITOR.]

U.S.A.

Wanaque Reservoir UFO

The following graphic account is taken from the *Newark Evening News* of January 12, 1966—"An unidentified flying object—'very white, very bright and much bigger than a star'—hovered silently over this astounded Ramapo countryside for hours last night.

"Hundreds of eye-witnesses in a 20-mile radius testified to seeing a flying saucer, first in Oakland, later over the Wanaque Reservoir where it lingered longest, then above Lakeland Regional High School, and finally over the Houdaille sandpit in Haskell. From there it appeared to move southeast toward Pines Lake in Wayne and suddenly disappear.

"The phenomenon was terribly strange," Mayor Harry T. Wolfe said. Having been alerted by local police that a UFO was circling over Raymond Dam at the Wanaque headquarters, Wolfe drove there to see for himself. With him were Councilmen Arthur Barton and Warren Hagstrom, and the mayor's 14-year-old son, Billy.

"Billy spotted the unidentified object at once. Flying low it glided 'oddly' above the state's largest water storage basin 'like a huge star,' he said. 'But it didn't flicker. It was just

a continuous light that changed from white to red to green and back to white.'

"The older observers estimated 'the oval' was between 2 and 9 feet in diameter.

"First word of the terrestrial visitor reached the North Jersey police radio station in Pompton Lakes at 6.30 p.m. After some 30 telephone calls from excited residents and motorists, the radio monitor contacted Wanaque Patrolman Joseph Cisco . . .

"Cisco radioed reservoir Patrolman George Dykman and even as Dykman was receiving the message two excited teenagers came running up.

"Dykman gaped along with Michael Sloat, 16, and Peter Melegrae, 15, and a few seconds later they were joined by Civil Defense Director Bentley Spencer and CD member Richard Vrooman. 'What the heck is it?' exclaimed Dykman. 'Never saw anything like it in my life.'

"Spencer proceeded to the top of 1,500-foot-long Raymond Dam with reservoir employee Fred Steines. From that vantage point he reported later that he saw "a bolt of light shoot down, as if it attracted to the water." He said it looked "like a beam emitted from a porthole."

"The saucer hovered for more than two hours over the Raymond Dam area before soaring out of sight. It reappeared over Lakeland Regional High School in the Midvale section of the borough. A bevy of photographers and reporters were on the spot, but before any pictures could be taken the mystery object vanished.

"Police headquarters continued receiving telephone calls all in the same vein of petrified wonder: 'I saw something weird—what is it?'

"Shortly after midnight word came from officials at Stewart Air Force Base in Newburg, N.Y. saying an Air Force helicopter with a powerful beacon had been on a mission over Wanaque about the time the mysterious object was cited.

"But, at 6.15 this morning, Major Donald Sherman, Stewart Air Force Base spokesman, denied that a helicopter, or any aircraft had been on a mission over Wanaque.

"Even the helicopter theory, however, failed to dissuade those who claimed they 'actually saw the flying saucer. . . .'

(Credit: R. J. Dufourd, Mount Dora, Florida)