



Sky Predators

All the curses of the firmament

By John Vincent Sanders

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The existence of strange, unclassified forms of life which may inhabit Earth's atmosphere has long been the subject of speculation and independent research. It is a fact that the myths and folklore of many cultures are rife with references to aerial apparitions like faeries, sylphs, elementals, and will-o'-the-wisp, and that sightings of these un-

usual things have occurred throughout history. Although many of these creatures are considered benign, there are troubling indications which suggest that others could be classified as *sky predators*.

Fiery Birds and Sky Snakes

Investigative journalist Scott Corrales has unearthed accounts of mysterious "in-

cendiary birds" which allegedly set fires in ancient Rome around 106 B.C.—and in Puerto Rico as recently as the 1970s (see "Paranormal Pyromania," *FATE*, October 1997). Researcher Trevor James Constable captured inexplicable aerial images while conducting infrared photography in California's Mojave Desert in the late 1950s. More recently, cinematographer José Es-

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camilla has astonished the world with compelling video and film images of fast-flying oddities he calls "rods."

The late Fortean journalist Vincent P. Gaddis related a disturbing account of a "sky serpent" in his 1967 book, *Mysterious Fires and Lights*. This creature, reportedly 18 to 20 feet in length, swooped low over a group of frightened observers in Crawfordsville, Indiana, in September of 1891. Eyewitness reports, which included a sworn statement from a local pastor, seem to indicate that it was a living thing with a flaming red "eye" and that it radiated "a hot breath." Similar creatures were reported in the western United States in the 1960s and '70s. A color illustration of a predatory sky creature, based on witness descriptions, appears in William Gordon Allen's 1976 documentary film *Overlords of the UFO*.

Gaddis also reported on a strange coincidence involving birds: "...[O]n September 11, 1948, thousands of birds of different species were killed or injured when they crashed into the Empire State Building in New York City, and into the transmitting tower of WBAL in Baltimore, Maryland." According to INS news dispatches, "...there was no fog and weather conditions were good..." at the time the crashes took place. Were all those birds actually trying to escape the pursuit of a sky predator not visible to human eyes?

Sky Falls and Aerogel

More than 30 years earlier, the May 1917 issue of *Monthly Weather Review* reported that hundreds of birds of varied species fell from a clear sky over Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Vincent Gaddis also reported a similar fall involving thousands of dead petrels near Capitola Beach, California, in August 1960.

Charles Fort's landmark *Book of the Damned* is filled with well-documented references to strange falls of jellyfish-like objects and other things, many of which were originally noted in such reputable scientific journals as the *Transactions of the Swedish Academy of Sciences*. Vincent Gaddis and naturalist/author Ivan T. Sander-son also collected news-media accounts of similar events and most recently, "contrail"



investigator William Thomas has discussed this phenomenon with talk-radio icon Art Bell. Although skeptics assert that there is no basis in fact to support the existence of sky predators, a recent scientific discovery might suggest otherwise.

In my feature article "Are Sky Animals Made of Aerogel?" (FATE, June 1998), I commented on the nature of an amazing new chemical compound. "Aerogel" is the result of a decade-long, multi-million-dollar research effort conducted by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. This amazing substance blurs the line between the solid and gaseous states of matter, and it can become lighter-than-air when exposed to even a small amount of heat. The National Aeronautical and Space Administration announced in 1999 that its "Stardust Mission" unmanned spacecraft would use an aerogel collector to scoop up particles from comet Wild-2 and return them to Earth. Scientists at Lawrence Livermore have dubbed aerogel "solid smoke" because it is actually possible to touch it without feeling it.

Interestingly enough, a retired Miami, Florida, police detective named Faustin Gallegos found an object that he could touch—but not feel—in the front yard of his home on the morning of December 28, 1958. It was a semitransparent globe about the size of a medicine ball, and although he tried to preserve a sample of the mysterious thing in a sealed glass jar, all traces of it literally vanished within a few hours. If aerogel is a rare yet naturally occurring substance, the possibility exists that some form of life might have evolved from it.

Mangled Aircraft

Perhaps the only modern account of a sky predator attack on humans was presented by best-selling author Charles Berlitz in his 1989 book, *The Dragon's Triangle*. Berlitz retells the story of a doomed aircraft, an account he attributes to researcher Robert Coe Gardner. According to Gard-

ner, a military transport plane took off from the San Diego Naval Air Station late one afternoon during the summer of 1939. Several hours later over the Pacific, the plane transmitted a desperate SOS, then fell silent. The stricken aircraft made it back to San Diego and managed an emergency landing.

After touchdown, ground personnel were horrified to discover that 12 of the 13 men on board were dead. The sole survivor—the copilot—died several minutes later. Reportedly, all the bodies exhibited massive, gaping wounds, and the exterior of the craft was badly damaged and torn open in places. It was also soon determined that the pilot and copilot had emptied their pistols at some unknown target. The whole episode was quickly hushed up, and Gardner would not hear of it until 1954.

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Many paranormal researchers have speculated that unknown forms of aerial life could be of extradimensional origin, and that occasional ruptures in the local space-time continuum could allow these creatures access to our skies, their preferred habitat.

Like so many other things in the world of the unexplained, the possible existence of sky predators is scoffed at by the scientific establishment. Not surprisingly, the leading paleontologists of the early twentieth century were absolutely certain that a species of prehistoric fish known as the coelacanth became extinct millions of years ago. Well, the discovery of living specimens of the coelacanth changed all that. Hopefully, scientists of the new millennium will heed the advice of Nobel Prize-winning physicist Edwin Schrödinger, "The first requirement of a scientist is that he be curious; he must be capable of being astonished, and eager to find out."

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Nordic-Type Alien Experience Cases

By Donald L. Worley

only important features in the nine cases that I have chosen.

What Is a Nordic?

This description applies to all the abductees in the cases I will discuss: these entities are beautiful and tall, with angular faces. They usually have long, blond hair, and breathtaking, bottomless blue eyes. That is not an absolute, because the eyes can change with emotion. Giant and human-sized Nordics also exist. Females and (rarely) children have been seen. The beings wear skin-tight garments or beautiful white robes. Their telepathic communications are soothing, and they project an intense feeling of love for the abductee. Some persons have remained in a euphoric state for weeks afterward.

Case #114, Virginia—Roberto (as in most of the other cases reviewed here, actual names are not used), a successful aeronautical parts dealer, once kidded his lifetime Nordic mentor, whom he calls Thor, about why he, a dark-skinned, dark-haired Brazilian, has such bright blue eyes. The entity has intense blue eyes, a predominant feature of the Nordics. So much of this blue-eyes business makes me wonder about gene manipulation.

As a baby, Roberto often played with little rust-colored beings on the farm in Brazil. Once in the USA, he instead encountered an assortment of the Grey types, whom he disliked. When Roberto was 17, Thor appeared. He would always be present, along with a beautiful red-headed woman, for the rest of Roberto's life. For years, Roberto never had a clue about what was happening and sought to escape by frequently moving. Once, along with more than 50 other persons, he was taken to a

subterranean place and shown scenes of massive destruction. On another occasion, he asked Thor just when all this was going to happen. The reply was, "Only the creator knows the time." Sometimes in his life when Roberto is fearful, Thor will come into his mind and reassure him that all is well.

Roberto has had "lost time" so often he has lost count. His underclothing is often on wrong, and he has three used shirts he has come back in that were not his. Recently his penis suffered minor damage and a black limo began to park on his quiet street. This was all too much for his wife, and she destroyed his questionnaire answers to me.

Sex With an Archangel

Case #110, Rural Missouri—Diane has had a lifetime of alien activity. Here is her description of one meeting with a Nordic: "As I lay listening to Grandmaw's TV in the front room, a very tall being appeared at the foot of my elevated bed. He was a male, had long blond hair, and wore a long white gown tied at the waist. I don't remember the features of his face except I thought he was beautiful. He also had white wings on his back that went from the top of his head to his feet. As he started to fade I asked him his name. He said his name was Michael the Archangel. I never knew what an angel was then. I ran to Grandmaw and told her, but she thought I was dreaming.

"I am very tense as I try to describe a later meeting with a Nordic.

"With the Greys, it's pretty cut and dried—routine, I guess. The Nordic experiences seemed to be more of a psychological test and emotions were high. I never know when he is going to enter my life or what the stage setting will be. In every

What can we learn from these kinds of cases? What do they reveal about the moral orientation of these entities who are such a vital element in the alien presence? Can they be angels, or can they just be cunning deceivers? Members of opposing groups? All one vast, centrally directed conglomeration? These questions are of the upmost gravity for our human species.

For the last 35 years, I have specialized, for the most part, in alien human abduction and the Nordic-type aliens. My conclusions are based on 45 of my cases where Nordics were involved. In my 71 other cases, the Nordics may have been involved, but the information was not forthcoming. My conclusions are also based on other cases that I have heard about elsewhere. Due to space limitations, I can highlight

meeting with him, I am made to feel emotions of the highest intensity a human can feel, whether fear, love, hate, etc. This time it was love for him and a sexual desire that went beyond anything on earth. I am purposefully blocking out a lot of it for I now feel sadness and much guilt. I cheated on my husband. It is difficult to explain the sex we had together, for it seemed to be 'other dimensional.' I was at his place and I remember the outside wall was glass. It went far, far beyond anything we can do on this earth plane. The orgasms were constant, fast, furious, and savage. I remember looking up once at his beautiful face. God! I could have consumed him!"

One time at a family picnic, Diane was sent to get the salt they had left in the house. When she returned, the feast was long since over. No one noticed their saltless meal or the more than two hours missing time. On another occasion, a fairy circle remained in the yard after Diane had been taken. She and the other kids walked in the circle and thought the tingly feeling in their legs was great fun.

This reminds me of case #116 just next door in Rush County. The abductee walked in the 18-foot-circle and then went in the house. The ceiling light immediately blew to smithereens.

Learning About Cuddling

Case #53, Ontario—Penny has a degree in philosophy. For years she wondered about her strange life. Then things began to fall into place. Her interactions with both the serene Nordics and several types of Greys have been very extensive. The Greys were fast workers. The blonds seem to be aloof supervisors who can speak English but choose not to. Penny's son and daughter were also involved in some of this with the two types, and one result was closer bonding. One little Grey sat on Penny's lap because it wanted to learn about human affection and cuddling. In an altered-state time, Penny found herself in a sexual union with one special Nordic. Penny was also shown scenes of coming destruction that had vivid geographic details. Having no knowledge of such things, this unnerved her. She was also told that the Nordics and

others like her would be present at the dimensional place to help the millions of souls displaced by these coming earth changes.

Case #89, Western Canada—"The Most High Reverend" occupies a position near the top of a large religious group (with tenets similar to the Amish) that extends over parts of Canada and the northern European countries. His lifetime of interaction with those he calls the non-Terraneans is mind-boggling. Many of his brethren know of the Nordics, too. As a child, he sat in the lap of his mentor, whom he calls "Gold." Gold's eyes have a golden sheen. He has been naked alongside one who was also naked and he was coupled to this one.

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On one momentous daylight occasion in the remote fastness at one of their religious ceremonies, Gold and some of his buddies materialized, partook of the bread and wine, and then vanished in wavy air just like they had arrived. This was seen by several hundred people and a pack of animals. Throughout his life, the Reverend has suffered damage in his groin region from abduction, but all in all his Nordic friends who chose him when he was a baby in Europe have kept a protective watch over him. He has a number of degrees and is a brilliant man.

I spent most of three summer months several years ago documenting his case. The Reverend insists that the Nordics do breathe, and do have a bathroom. When they were not sucking fluids out of him with tubes, he has been to their bathroom. He describes it as like an Asian toilet with suction to it.

Coming Destruction

Case #91, New Hampshire—Cheryl's nocturnal life with the blonds started when she was very young. She thought they were her other-time family. Both the Nordics and the Greys have told her that she is really them in human form. She is also acquainted with slightly shorter beings who look like Nordics with the same aura and strange eye colors, but they are dark headed. The closeness is lacking and they work more with the Greys. Two names come up often when she is talking to other abductees about the Nordics. These are the names "Malanie and Christance," and she wonders why. Like the Reverend, she has been in a toilet during abduction. Without knowing what the Reverend said, she also describes an Asian toilet.

She has also been shown scenes of coming destruction. The upper East Coast of the United States will almost be beach-front, up to the White Mountains. But this does not mean that it will be destroyed forever like the West Coast. The farther south down the East Coast you go, the worse the change will be. Across the Atlantic, a large part of Europe will be changed. The United Kingdom will become much larger, and the Mediterranean will be only a puddle.

Case #31, Kansas—For Donna Butts, it all began on her parents' farm in Kansas. On a hot evening in July 1950 at 2:10 A.M., brilliant light bathed the farm in a fluorescent glow. UFOs were present. Soon a glowing human-like figure appeared from behind the barn and told Donna's mother that in one year she would have a child that would be what he called a "prepared child." In November 1980, a gigantic, glowing UFO abducted Donna off the interstate in Kansas.

It was in 1984 that Donna began to see "the walking wonder" near the laundromat she visited. He was gorgeous, with aquiline features, sky-blue eyes, silver-blond hair, and a body any man would envy. He looked about 50 or 60 years old and drove a beautiful Rolls Royce. He began to call Donna, and finally she got the name Peter Lee Koney from him. Filming and recording attempts failed. The mysterious stranger was right about that. When he was as near

as a block away, Donna would get cold chills. Then came the day when he appeared as a sparkling white figure in a uniform, right in her front room. He looked solid enough, but she and others present could see through him before he faded away. Donna had suspected him of being some kind of a nut, but now she knew that he had to be from someplace other than earth. Thoroughly dismayed, she spent the afternoon shaking and smoking cigarettes.

Peter had urged her to receive his teachings, and now she was ready to listen. In the next abduction, she was taken to a huge, awesome throne room in a huge craft. With Peter in the lead, a number of things happened, including being given a light treatment, drinking a hauntingly beautiful blue liquid, and getting an implant through the ear. Later Donna was privileged to see many things and learn much. Her predictions as told to her by her benefactors are many. She says, "We can look at the Bible with the understanding of advanced intelligence. It has been termed a coded message unable to be understood until the last days. These are most assuredly *the* last days."

Life-Saving Intervention

Case #40, Colorado—I want to mention this case that I carry in my records under the name of "Horse" because of a remarkable thing that happened to this abductee. It is clear that this woman who has a law degree is being looked out for by the Nordics she experienced and of whom she can make such beautiful drawings.

This happened when her horse was walking on a dangerous mountain trail. It failed to make a crucial turn and stepped off the cliff edge into space. The next thing she remembered was being back on the trail. At the bottom, she said, "Wow! I could have sworn that she stepped off the cliff!" The other two riders sat there staring open-mouthed at her. All three had positively seen the horse step off the cliff.

Before I assess all of this, I want to mention a case that the late researcher Karla Turner exchanged with me.

This happened in my home state of Indiana on a farm near Floyd's Knob in the summer of 1954. A brilliant light beam

came through the ceiling of Nel's bedroom, and in it stood a blond, blue-eyed figure in a resplendent robe. Taking Nel by the hand and indicating the little Greys standing around the room, he said, "Do not be afraid, my child. These are mine." He then said, "I am the light of the world."

The shaft of light returned and he arose through the ceiling with it. Nel and her sister went up next. During the time the child was in the UFO, she managed to ask the glorious figure an important question. She asked, "Are you an angel?"

The entity replied, "Yes, but not like you have been taught."



Angels or Demons?

Are the Nordics angels? Let's hope we don't become lost in a maze of conflicting implications on this question.

In eight cases, we have the Nordics in their mentor-protector role. All these people enjoy good lives except Penny, who has a liver disease that may prove fatal in less than 10 years. Of course, all have had to endure the trials of criminal abduction. Even so, I'll count this sort of protective benevolence as a point in their favor as angels.

1. Since the Nordics could be in some kind of human species DNA-saving mode due to their often predicted monstrous end times, maybe the word "criminal" for abduction should not be used.

2. The association of the Nordics with all the unsavory alien crowd doesn't help their image as angels.

3. In three cases, we have the human/Nordic sex act in the out-of-body state.

This shall I say is very un-angel-like. In two cases, we have the male suffering sperm loss and temporary damage.

4. In three other cases, we have the entity existing and performing tasks in our dimension. This makes you wonder how much of this could be going on. These clearly identified themselves, but where are those who seem just like us and in what positions of power are they?

5. Their image is definitely helped in the cases where the entity had wings and claimed to be an angel, but not like we have been taught.

6. The way the Nordics are so adept at deceiving, with screen memories, shapeshifting, and what have you is no help to their angel image.

7. In two cases, we have specific claims that there are benevolent and evil groups. Whatever they are, it's the government's deepest secret. They certainly know immensely more about all this than I. Due to fear of social chaos, they never want you to know the truth.

My abductee #108, Marie, an Afro-American of Choctaw Indian ancestry living in Louisiana, is probably the most abducted, other-dimensionally aware person I have ever met. She says, "Because I can see and hear in spirit, I am able to contact other worlds 24 hours a day. There are negative beings as well as positive ones that are very busy on earth. People would be shocked if they knew how they are influenced by forces they cannot see but are around them often."

Recently Marie told me that three Elders (beings of light, white robed in a magenta-colored ray) and my own mentor, an Aztec/Nordic named X'tlan, want me to meditate more so they can give me more information and guidance. I am listening but knowing the hazards of twisted reality and illusion, I take a wait-and-see attitude.

I wish the Nordics were really angels, but I am forced to conclude that they are not. ■

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MYSTERIOUS GAS ATTACKS BY FLYING SAUCERS

By John A. Keel

At 9:15 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, July 4, 1967, Thomas Valley was sitting on his front porch in Youngstown, Ohio, when suddenly he found it hard to breathe. His neighbors also found their eyes watering and their lungs bursting as they ran indoors to reach for their phones. A few blocks away patrons in Lee and Eddie's Lounge stumbled frantically into the street and some collapsed as Lt. Howard Moore and Patrolmen Thomas E. Kelly and Geno DiFabio cruised along Market Street. They saw what appeared to be a large cloud of faintly luminous smoke rolling along the ground.

"We pulled into the lot to check if a fire had started," Lieutenant Moore said later. "When I got out of the patrol car I began to choke, got dizzy, and my eyes watered."

The Youngstown Fire Department rushed pulmotors and oxygen equipment to the area. "It was like a phantom cloud that made your eyes water and made you feel weak," Battalion Chief Glenn Schultz declared. Both the firemen and the police searched for the source of the gas but could find nothing. The mysterious cloud drifted away eastward.

That same night holiday celebrants on Cape Cod, Mass., hundreds of miles east of Youngstown, were watching strange lights dancing in the darkened skies as a massive power failure hit a large part of New England. There were reported UFO landings in Connecticut and on Long Island, N. Y., later that same night, and in the two weeks following the strange "gas attack," hundreds of citizens in the

Clouds of noxious fumes have suddenly descended on communities, literally driving people from their homes, farms, and businesses. Is it coincidence that these areas are also the scenes of heavy UFO activity — or is it deadly design?

Youngstown area reported observing low-flying circular objects and strange lights. Some witnesses claimed the objects gave off a smell "like burning tar."

Something about the UFO mystery literally stinks. Most often, it smells like rotten eggs, according to the many witnesses who have reported unseemly odors in the vicinity of hovering or grounded unidentified flying objects. Chemists interpret "the smell of rotten eggs" to mean the presence of hydrogen sulfide (H_2S), a volatile combination of hydrogen and sulfur which was known to the ancients as "brimstone." But other ugly smells and enigmatic clouds of unidentifiable gas have also been associated with UFOs.

The people in Youngstown will be startled to learn that a similar "attack" was recorded on Aug. 13, 1954, in far-off Singapore. An area covering two square miles around the Chiangi Airport was affected and everyone indoors and out was choking and crying copious tears for several hours that day. Authorities could never pinpoint the source. Normal air pollution did not

seem to be the answer.

Just as the assorted authorities have been obliged to explain away the thousands of UFO reports during the past three decades, so have they been forced to come up with some wild theories for the hundreds of "gas attacks" which have taken place during the same period. Most of these incidents have rated only a few lines in the back pages of your hometown newspaper if, indeed, they were mentioned at all. But they have been on the increase since the resurgence of UFO activity and are now occurring almost weekly somewhere in the world.

In May 1967, a large section of Naples, Italy, had to be evacuated because of an overpowering toxic gas which no one could identify. Its source was never determined. In June 1967, thousands of residents in towns along the southern shore of Long Island, N. Y., were awakened in the middle of the night by the potent odor of rotten eggs which was apparently rolling in from the Atlantic Ocean. Authorities tried to blame New York City's smoke stacks but they failed to explain how Manhattan's polluted air could drift out over the Atlantic and then drift back 100 miles further east.

On Jan. 19, 1968, everyone in Lower Manhattan held their noses as acrid, eye-smarting fumes poured over New York and Brooklyn, starting around 8 p.m. New Jersey's oil refineries took the rap for that one. Unfortunately, the New Jersey smells not only had to fight the ocean breezes, but they also had to build up after peak working hours. Fifteen large

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luminous objects had been reported just outside Manhattan in the vicinity of Jones Beach the week before, and the phones at neighboring Nassau Shores had been out of action from 6:30 to eight p.m. January 13th, the hours when the objects were reportedly active in the area. Between the 13th and the 19th there were extensive local power failures in the Bronx, Queens, and on Long Island—another frequent symptom of UFO activity. Could all these things have been mere coincidences? Until we can prove otherwise we will have to record them as such.

Speaking of coincidences, on Jan. 9, 1968, the town of Somerville, N. J. had to be evacuated because of gas fumes. Two days later, on January 11th, the 2,400 residents of little Archbold, Ohio, had to flee their town. Something smelled there, too. The remarkable thing is that apparently both of these incidents were caused by the same thing. We were told the underground gasoline storage tanks at local filling stations had ruptured and leaked into the sewer systems. Odd that two steel and concrete tanks in two widely separated towns should rupture within two days of each other and that the gasoline would not only find its way into the sewers but would linger long enough to create a crisis in both towns.

Equally interesting, and even more coincidental, is the wave of accidents involving trucks and trains carrying poisonous gases. There have been six such accidents recently and in each case large areas had to be evacuated until the gas dispersed. It would be unreasonable to blame these apparently random accidents on "flying saucers" even though the authorities have not been able to give us a good acceptable explanation for them.

The point remains: In nearly every one of these cases the areas had to be evacuated, sometimes for days.

Back in 1963-65, a section of Roger Mills County in Oklahoma had to be evacuated because an evil-smelling "something" had settled there and was systematically killing off livestock and making all of the inhabitants ill. Forty farms were affected by something that smelled like rotten eggs. Hydrogen sulfide really gets around. Roger Mills County is on the eastern tip of the state, far removed from any industrial complex—and a helluva long way from New Jersey. Total population of the county is only 5,000.

This "attack" began in January 1963 on the farm owned by the Daniel Allen family. According to Mr. Allen, they suffered "terrible odors which made us nauseated and ill with suffocating, coughing, diarrhea and burning of our flesh to a deep red." The Allen home, a concrete block ranchhouse built in

1955, started to crack and crumble. Within weeks the invisible "stuff" was peeling and blistering the paint and plaster and disintegrating curtains and clothing.

"Dishes were eaten until they looked like mice had chewed them around the edges," Mrs. Allen later told reporters Jack Porter and Tex Lowell. "Black holes were eaten in silver tableware, stainless steel articles and cooking utensils."

While eating supper on the night of Mar. 12, 1963, both Mr. and Mrs. Allen suddenly fainted. As soon as they recovered they fled, abandoning their furniture, clothing and housewares. They moved twice again to homes northeast of their original spread but the curious plague followed them. Dr. Frank Buster, the county health authority, warned them to move further away. Dr. Philip Devanney of Sayre, Okla.,

"... We might suspect that the entities take their own atmosphere along with them when visiting places where there are no factories spewing gases into the air. Thus Roger Mills County in Oklahoma was suffering a change in atmosphere ..."

told them, "You have only hours to live if you don't get out of what's poisoning you."

The evil "stuff" spread to the Woodrow Myers farm three and a half miles south of the Allen home. The Myers's cattle sickened and their three small children turned frail and pale, began to lose their teeth, and suffered fits of nausea, burning skin, dysentery, and coughing. Even the mice, birds and insects seemed to vacate the county. Forty farmers in the area appealed to Oklahoma Gov. Henry Bellmon, and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare joined the investigation. They concluded that "an air pollution problem does not exist in the vicinity."

The sheriff of nearby Hutchinson County, Hugh Anderson, was pressured into issuing a quarantine, preventing any resident of Roger Mills County from entering Hutchinson County "until such time as the stuff is identified."

Could the strange gas that took over Roger Mills County be related in any way to the UFO mystery? Oklahoma





has a long and complicated history of UFO sightings going all the way back to the late 1800s. A sizable "flap" took place there in 1909-10. Just across the border from Roger Mills County, in Texas, there has been a wild rash of sightings and alleged "contacts" throughout 1966-67.

In recent years there have been many little-publicized poltergeist cases in which the witnesses claimed their homes reeked with the odor of rotten eggs as objects such as ashtrays floated mysteriously around their rooms, door opened and closed by themselves, and strangeappings occurred in the walls. Ufologists all over the world are now making a serious study of the age-old poltergeist phenomenon, searching for possible links to the UFO mystery itself. Many witnesses are convinced that invisible entities are on the prowl and, for want of a better term, they are now called "Smellies." These "Smellies" seem to be almost always accompanied by a potent whiff of hydrogen sulfide gas. And many of the victims complain of headaches, fits of nausea and other physical symptoms after receiving a "visit" from a "Smellie."

The link between the "Smellies" and the UFOs is tenuous at best. But it does seem that there are more poltergeist and "Smelly" cases in UFO "flap" areas than in sectors where UFO sightings are rare.

In his book, *Flying Saucers Are Hostile*, Brad Steiger recounts the story of Harry Sturdevant, a night watchman in Trenton, N.J., who reportedly observed a low-flying cigar-shaped object on the night of Oct. 2, 1956. "There was a smell like sulfur or brimstone," Sturdevant claimed, "but it was different. I don't know what it was really except it was very nauseating and made me very sick. I lost my sense of taste and smell; my throat would not swallow properly. My stomach felt worse than the time I was overcome with mustard gas while fighting with the allies in France in WW I. I collapsed in pain and lay there on the ground for half an hour before I was able to drive."

The symptoms for hydrogen sulfide poisoning are "corrosive action on mouth, throat and esophagus, causes severe pain in throat and stomach," according to the Merck Manual, a medical dictionary used by doctors. Headaches, loss of smell, weakness, reddening of the face, and coughing are among the other key symptoms. Obviously, the families in Oklahoma suffered all of these things but, in their case, something extra was apparently added. That something was so corrosive that it ate its way through china-ware and silver, and weakened con-

crete. And it caused the children in the afflicted area to lose their teeth. What was that "something extra?" Therein lies a bizarre scientific detective story and an unexpected new controversy for the UFO-philes to haggle over.

Hydrogen sulfide is not a major air pollutant although it is a routine waste product in oil refining processes. When London, England, was buried in a thick, unnatural fog for four days, Dec. 3-7, 1962, over 4,000 people were afflicted with severe respiratory ailments, and 106 died. Investigating authorities blamed an inversion layer which, they said, kept industrial wastes such as hydrogen sulfide boxed in. But there had never been such a severe incident before—or since. Reviewing the data published on this event it appears that many of the victims of this "fog" suffered the same symptoms as the harassed farmers of Oklahoma. Since American authorities completely dismissed normal air pollution as a cause for the Oklahoma "attack," we are hard-pressed to relate the two. In view of more recent events, however, we can not afford to overlook the possibility that the London "fog" may have been somehow connected. In fact, our natural and unnatural air pollution problem may have a direct relationship to the UFO phenomenon.

During Thanksgiving week of 1966, a heavy smog settled over the northeastern U.S. from Maine to Virginia. And during that week there was an enormous UFO flap encompassing all of those states. The UFO activity seemed to concentrate particularly in New England and New Jersey. Responsible witnesses even reported mysterious objects over New York City. But, as with most of the UFO mystery, this seems coincidental and unimportant on the surface.

Two other apparently unrelated factors have been baffling serious ufologists. One is the repeated appearance of silicon substances at alleged UFO landing sites. Three puddles of silicon were found on a beach at Presque Isle, Pa. (July 31, 1966), after a carload of people reported seeing a triangular-shaped object land there. The Air Force collected samples and claimed it was nothing but urine. Policemen on the site also collected samples and had it analyzed on their own. It proved to be silicon, a basic plastic-like non-metallic substance. A similar substance was found at the site of the Socorro, N.M., landing reported by policeman Lonnie Zamora in 1964. Silicon has been repeatedly found at many other such sites. The Air Force persists in calling it "silica," which is common sand. Silicon dioxide (SiO_2) is the principal constituent of quartz and is also a most important ingredient in

the manufacture of glass and china.

The other puzzling factor is the continuous UFO activity within the immediate vicinity of—of all things—fertilizer factories! Such factories deal with nitrates and phosphates. In one recent case near Syracuse, N. Y., a family began to suffer from poltergeist-like phenomena, and a team of investigators headed by Prof. Gordon Evans and William Donovan, head of the Aerial Investigation and Research Corp. (A.I.R.), discovered their home was very close to a fertilizer factory. Trees in the vicinity had been cleanly knocked down in a row, indicating that something heavy and airborne had plowed through them.

Chemical factories along the Ohio River Valley have also been the sites of frequent low-level and hovering UFO activity in the past year, as have the large chemical factories in the vicinity of the Wanaque Reservoir in N.J. Early in my investigations in these areas I searched for a common denominator—a factor that might be present in each case. Hydrogen sulfide proved *not* to be that factor, although some of these factories were spewing sulfides from their smokestacks. Some of the factories along the Ohio were employing silicons in the manufacture of rubber but that also proved to be a false lead.

There is, however, one thing that all of these places have in common and it provides a startling key to what may really be going on. The immediate and obvious implications are so complex and so "far out" that many readers will reject it. You must remember that what is being offered here is a mere summary of the extensive data that has been collected.

Before I can spell out that common factor in acceptable terms I must discuss some other apparently unrelated mysteries. Then we'll try to add it all up.

Back in 1955, the late Gen. George C. Marshall allegedly made a most astonishing statement to the British ufologist, Dr. Rolf Alexander. "U.S. authorities have established the fact that flying saucers are manned by visitors from outer space," Marshall is supposed to have said. "And these visitors are trying to work out a method of breathing and staying alive in our atmosphere before landing and establishing contact."

In 1959, Gen. Nathan Twining, then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, wrote to Vice Adm. R. N. Hillenkoetter and remarked that attempts had been made to communicate with the UFOs, but they had failed because of "physical reasons."

A number of the people who have reported encounters with the "invisi-

ble Smellies" have said that they heard the sound of gasping and heavy breathing during their experience. Several "silent contactees" who claim to have had face-to-face confrontations with the UFO occupants have also reported that the entities seemed to have trouble breathing. Since none of these people can prove the validity of their stories, we are forced to accept them at face value. But this breathing problem is definitely a common factor in such reported encounters. Perhaps General Marshall was right. "Breathing and staying alive in our atmosphere" may be a serious problem to some of "them."

There seems to be a higher rate of "Smelly" activity and direct contact in the vicinity of chemical and fertilizer factories. Naturally this has been carefully checked to find out if the witnesses might not have been smelling the factories themselves. But most of these people had lived in the area for

"...Something about the UFO mystery literally stinks. Most often, it smells like rotten eggs, according to the many witnesses who have reported foul odors in the vicinity of hovering or grounded flying saucers..."

years and were convinced that the odors invading their homes had nothing to do with the factories. Although much of our data is still admittedly fragmentary, and investigating and correlating these factors is a tremendous undertaking, we can hazard a guess and say that it seems probable that some of these entities are able to breathe more easily in the immediate area of the factories. This would account for the apparent concentration of such stories around the plants.

Carrying this hypothesis a step further, we might suggest that the entities take their own atmosphere along with them when visiting places where there are no factories spewing gases into the air. Thus, Roger Mills County in Oklahoma was suffering a change of atmosphere. Toxic (to us) gases were introduced into the wide open spaces so that the UFOs and their mysterious occupants could exist there and operate from some kind of hidden land base. Since the county has become taboo land avoided by all the nearby inhabitants, the UFOs could operate

with impunity.

In other cases, such as the Somerville, N.J. and Archbold, Ohio, incidents cited earlier, the towns were evacuated because of the gas which *smelled like* sewer gas (hydrogen sulfide again), and maybe the entities were able to perform some mysterious errand there unhampered by the presence of troublesome humans.

This all makes a crazy science-fiction-like kind of sense but even this may be a simplification of what is really going on. We still have to travel far before we can arrive at a real answer.

Throughout 1954, thousands of automobile windshields suddenly shattered or became strangely pitted. Maybe it happened to your own car. Newspapers from Canada to Florida busily reported this peculiar phenomenon which actually began in 1952 and continued until the fall of 1954. It recurred in 1957. Police departments and investigating scientists were baffled. Plate glass store windows were also affected and hundreds of people in Toronto complained of a mysterious substance falling from the sky which burned their skins.

Whatever this stuff was, there was apparently a healthy (or unhealthy) rain of it throughout the U.S., and it had somewhat the same effect as the "stuff" that haunted Oklahoma a decade later and ate holes in the china.

In that strange summer of 1954, thousands of people reported unidentified flying objects in the skies over Rome, Italy. One of the witnesses was Mrs. Claire Booth Luce, then U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican, and she, like hundreds of other people in Rome, was stricken with an odd malady which sapped her vitality and reduced her to a thin, pale shade of her former self. Eventually her bewildered doctors decided she was suffering from lead poisoning—brought about by the lead content in the paint on the walls of her Rome apartment.

Hundreds of people around the little town of Barrie, Ontario, were laid low by "lead poisoning" three years later, during a massive UFO flap there in 1957. They became weak, nauseous, mentally confused, and their doctors were unable to alleviate their illness. The odd ailments lasted for about two weeks. Some residents complained that their water (mostly from private wells), turned green during that period. (In July 1967, the tap water in Civitavecchia, Italy, also turned a bright green and authorities shut down the town's plumbing while they searched for the cause. If they found it, it was never revealed.)

Clouds of gas, foul odors, pitted windshields, fertilizer factories, mys-

(Continued on page 63)

were returning from Havre, Mont. Around midnight, when they were about 15 or 20 miles from Robsart, Saskatchewan, a huge, fiery ball came down and seemed to settle gently on the ground. It lit up the surrounding prairie for miles. It seemed like midday, the light was so bright. It lasted for at least half an hour, then faded away."

UFOs would continue to appear in increasing numbers as the years went by, until finally, on June 24, 1947, Kenneth Arnold's report of nine "skipping" saucers over Mt. Rainier, Wash., would grip the public imagination and bring on an aerial phenomena onslaught that shows no signs of abating. Today, just as much as in the 1920s, the mystery challenges us and the answers remain elusive. ★

UFO GAS ATTACKS

(Continued from page 30)

terious maladies, green water—where is all this leading us and what has it go to do with "flying saucers?" It is leading us to still another unexplained phenomenon, something well-known to every UFO-ophile. We call it "angel hair."

For centuries there have been reports of this peculiar, cobweb-like material falling from the sky and melting away when touched. Ships at sea have been covered with it. Farmers have awakened in the morning to find their fields strewn with it. Many people have attempted to collect it and have it analyzed but it always seems to dissolve, even when in sealed bottles. In November 1954, a Mrs. Dittmar of Marysville, Ohio, reported seeing great quantities of the stuff spew out of a silver cigar. "It was soft and fine to the touch," she said, "but not sticky, and stretches without tearing, although it stains the hands green."

During my travels investigating new UFO incidents throughout the country, several people have told me of having witnessed falls of "angel hair" but only one man has claimed to have obtained a sample and had it analyzed. In August 1967, this man phoned me long distance. He identified himself as "Philip Berger," and said that he lived in Virginia and had been reading my articles. Ordinarily I would not even repeat the following story, since I have been unable to locate Mr. Berger and confirm it. But he came up with something so startling it might be a serious mistake to overlook it.

Mr. Berger said that his farm had been covered with strange strands of a substance that looked like "spun glass" (a common description for "angel hair"), and that he had managed to pick up some of it with a stick.

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He filled a plastic bottle to the brim with it, he said, and was staring at it as he talked with me. "Funny thing," he remarked, "the bottle is already half empty. I stuffed it full this morning."

He asked me what he should do with it and, on the spur of the moment, I suggested he rush it to the nearest druggist and see if they could suggest a nearby lab which might analyze it. Since it was "melting" fast, I proposed that he have the air in the bottle analyzed as well. Two days later he called me back. He sounded discouraged and apologetic.

"I went to a drugstore," he said, "and they suggested that I take it to a hospital. By the time I got to the hospital there was nothing in the bottle but a few slivers in the bottom. But there was an intern there who seemed very interested and he went through a lot of trouble. He did like you said, used some kind of spectrophotograph..."

"Spectroscope," I corrected.

"Yeah, that was it—a spectroscope. Anyway, he said there was nothing in it but some kind of ordinary gas."

"What kind of gas?"

"I think he said 'fluorine'."

I nearly fell off my chair. My research into the puzzle of the fertilizer and chemical plants had already led me to the discovery that the major waste product pouring from their smokestacks was fluoride! Mr. Berger was unable to give me the name of the intern but he promised to go back and get the man to put his findings in writing for me. The name of the hospital was "County General," which wasn't much help, and Mr. Berger didn't have a phone. He was calling me from a pay station. He gave me a mailing address and I wrote to him three times. None of my letters came back and I never heard from him again.

The problem here is to judge whether or not this was an honest man trying to be of help, or whether it was some outrageous prank. From the sound of quarters being poured into that pay phone the joke (if it was a joke), cost him several dollars and was quite pointless. At that time no one knew of my research into factory smokestacks and certainly no one knew that I was beginning to find correlations in fluoride. It would have been a very, very far-out coincidence for a hoaxster to have coincidentally come up with the very thing I was already suspecting—i.e., that "angel hair" was serving as a means for sowing fluoride into the atmosphere.

Fluorine in its basic form is a greenish-yellow gas which is both pungent and corrosive. Mix it with hydrogen and you have hydrofluoric acid (H_2F_2), a chemical which attacks silica and is widely used to etch glass.

Spray it on an automobile windshield and see what happens. Add it to hydrogen sulfide and you not only have a terrible smell, you have a gas which can give you fluoride poisoning. It could produce fainting spells, weakness, nausea and respiratory failure. Excessive exposure to this gas could cause the teeth to mottle and, in the case of a severe dose, cause the teeth to fall out. And apparently that is exactly what happened to those unfortunate farmers in Oklahoma. They were very likely exposed to a potent mixture of hydrogen sulfide and fluoride. Perhaps that Trenton, N. J., watchman suffered from the same mixture.

According to *The New York Times*, Aug. 20, 1967, citizens in the tiny village of Garrison, Mont., were up in arms over a small phosphate plant that was pouring fluoride gases into the air. "Fluoride gases from the plant have brought complaints of damage to vegetation, animals, and human health since the plant was moved to Garrison

"... If the UFOs are actually hostile, as many leading ufologists now contend, then a subtle long-range plan to poison our atmosphere with substances might make sense..."

four years ago." Federal, state and county officials ordered the plant to shut down.

Sodium fluoride is a deadly poison and can produce emotional and mental problems. It contains an almost undetectable substance known as "mechanicide," which can do horrifying damage to the brain, destroy will power, and create a feeling of helpless lethargy. These very symptoms were reported in the 1957 Canadian "epidemic."

If the UFOs are actually hostile, as many leading ufologists now contend, then a subtle long-range plan to poison our atmosphere with substances might make sense. On the other hand, if the UFO entities need to breathe fluoride gases, it would make equal sense for them to introduce it in small amounts over a very long period of time, giving us a chance to adjust to it. Hydrofluoric acid could be added to our atmosphere from the air by mixing it with some form of silicon which would generally disintegrate from the natural chemical

action before the resultant "angel hair" hit the ground. Occasionally, as in the 1954 windshield incidents, they might overdo it and release too strong a mixture. Normally, however, the H_2F_2 would "melt" high in the air and being hygroscopic it would absorb, or be absorbed by, the moisture in the clouds. An accidental overdose might produce a stinging rainfall, such as fell in Toronto, Canada.

It would be extremely difficult and very costly to make all the tests necessary to confirm this hypothesis. The problem is compounded by the unhappy fact that we are adding a considerable amount of fluoride to the air ourselves. In 1942 hydrofluoric acid was substituted for sulfuric acid as an alkylating agent in high test gasoline. So today automobiles are contributing to the fluoride in the air. In fact, fluorides are the third largest air pollutant in urban areas, following sulfur dioxide and ozone. UFO skeptics could easily point to this as a possible explanation for nearly all of the cases cited in this article. But I have not been able to find sufficient medical or chemical proof to make a purely natural explanation acceptable. The Oklahoma incidents are beyond natural cause. One or two cases of auto windshield damage would make it easy to dismiss the pockmarking as a local aberration, a freak combination of the necessary gases in a single area. But there were thousands of these cases scattered over the entire North American continent.

No, we must look deeper and study the situation very carefully and thoughtfully. The "Smellies" seem to be in our midst now, prowling homes near factories spewing out clouds of fluoride. Perhaps as the fluoride content of our air goes up, the visits of these mysterious critters—if they are critters—will increase. UFOs seem to be collecting like flies in areas where the fluoridated air is most intense. They have also been clustering around reservoirs in places where the drinking water is deliberately (though very minutely) fluoridated. Maybe they're even adding something of their own to our drinking water, as some ufologists have suggested.

Ufologists are unable to agree on many things in this complicated and contradictory business, but most of them concede that it is probable that more than one or two different "alien" groups are involved. There are many indications that these groups are in direct conflict with each other. This unprovable "fact" raises still another confusing possibility. It may be that one group is using fluoride gases to combat the presence of another group.

Our life here on Earth is based upon the carbon atom. Exobiologists at Har-

OTTO O. BINDER:

"Is shooting humanoid...
murder?"

UFOCATS

In the last several years,
the flying saucer problem
has taken an ominous
twist—bands of armed
men have begun
pegging shots at
these strange craft.
Now, some
investigators are
asking, what would
happen if an
occupant of a UFO
was killed and, even
more important,
how would these
alien beings react?

STORY BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE

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(STORY BEGINS
ON NEXT PAGE)

U.R., N° 1

GP

Speaking publicly for the Air Force, astrophysicist Dr. Allen Hynek (left), disclaimed published UFO reports. But worried service brass no longer ignores saucer sightings. At right, Air Force Major W. Hall examines sand markings made by UFO in Erie, Pa. Military aircraft have go-ahead to fire on saucers, though prominent citizenry demands peaceful policy. Photog Patterson (with giant's plaster foot cast, opposite page) intends to capture California's forest monster alive (shown diagonally above him). Concern for intelligent aliens is similar in Toulouse, France, where "Martian" (chalk drawing) visitors were seen.



"You have been duly convicted of shooting and killing a humanoid creature, a being from a flying saucer," said the judge sternly. "You are hereby fined \$100 for not possessing a hunting license."

Could such a farcical and tragic scene ever come true? Don't be too sure it can't.

"I'm going to crack down on flying saucer believers who go out with guns to hunt down saucer-riding little green men," firmly stated Sheriff John E. Kent of Augusta County, Va. "This thing has gotten completely out of hand. It is dangerous to county residents."

This was in January of 1965, and he was referring to a flurry of UFO sightings in Augusta County at that time, plus claims that little green men had been seen after saucers landed. Thereupon, some residents armed themselves and went out to hunt the creatures, according to Sheriff Kent (*Arkansas Gazette*, January 30, 1965).

"Anyone can go out at night," continued the Sheriff, "and see reflections in the sky. But anyone carrying firearms in the county without good reason will be dealt with according to the law."

Then he added thoughtfully that even if creatures from outer-space had landed, "who's got the right to mow them down?"

Sheriff Kent thereby opened up a wholly new and significant aspect of the UFO phenomena. If the little men occupying flying saucers are "humanoid"—that is, resembling humans in general except for size—is it illegal to "hunt" them like wild animals? And if a person should happen to shoot and kill an undersized man-like being with intelligence equal or superior to ours, is it murder?

This is a moral issue of cosmic importance, literally. With more and more sightings of landed saucers from which the occupants step forth, not only in Augusta County but around the world, are there any laws that protect these unknown visitors from wanton slaughter? There are always trigger-happy souls looking for new "game" and if no international law deters them, sooner or later they might create a new and bloody phase of the UFO story, with grave consequences for the rest of us.

The matter was put to the test immediately, in Augusta County. Sheriff Kent's blunt statements aroused John G. Goolrick, Justice of the Peace in Fredericksburg (*Free Lance-Star*, Fredericksburg, Va., February 2, 1965), to inquire about the legalistic aspects of this unique situation. Goolrick went to Robert Y. Button, Attorney General of the State of Virginia, and put this loaded question to him:

"Since I am a Justice of the Peace (and I might add that I am also a newspaper reporter), I am requesting an opinion from you as to whether any citizen can be charged under Virginia law with a crime if he shot or otherwise physically molested one of these little green men, without first being harmed by such visitors or invaders from outer-space?"

The universe may someday be governed by a code of law, but history will have to record that man's first test in the realm of "interstellar law" hit a reef. For Attorney General Button, whether consciously passing the buck or not, pondered this hot potato a while then stated that he knew of no section of Virginia code "that fits this situation."

Becoming more specific, Button

continued: "Title 18 of the Code, referring to crimes and offenses, frequently uses the word any 'person' who does such and such, is guilty of the specified crime referred to in the statute. Though it is not clearly stated, the implication is that it must also be a 'person' against whom the crime is committed" (my italics).

Button added reflectively that he did not know of anyone who had seen little green men "sufficiently close to be able to specify whether or not they are 'persons.'" However, he was careful to absolve himself from any onus of fostering "free hunting of humanoids" by saying further to Justice Goolrick: "Possibly some member of the legislature from your area, if he has sufficient scientific knowledge to back up his beliefs, can have a definition added in our Code as to whether 'little green men' are 'persons.'"

The Attorney General might have reflected, however, that if midgits on earth 3½ feet tall are "persons," why not human-like creatures 3½ feet tall from outer-space?

But the matter rested there without any further action. This is to be expected since such legislators, in the first place, are probably complete skeptics over flying saucers and consider it beneath their dignity to pass laws for the protection of little men from space "who don't exist."

But, assuming someday the UFO's are proved to be spacecraft from other worlds, one nagging question looms large—Is any being from outer-space, despite his physical appearance, a person under earthly law? Is it the possession of intelligence that makes a man a "person," and does this therefore make a

(Continued on page 53)

MYSTERIOUS GAS ATTACKS

(Continued from page 35)

were eaten in silver tableware, stainless steel articles and cooking utensils."

While eating supper on the night of March 12, 1963, both Mr. and Mrs. Allen suddenly fainted. As soon as they recovered they fled, abandoning their furniture, clothing and housewares. They moved twice again to homes northeast of their original spread but the curious plague followed them. Dr. Frank Buster, the county health authority, warned them to move further away. Dr. Philip Devanney of Sayre, Okla., told them, "You have only hours to live if you don't get out of what's poisoning you."

The evil "stuff" spread to the Woodrow Myers farm three and one-half miles south of the Allen home. The Myers' cattle sickened and their three small children turned frail and pale, began to lose their teeth, and suffered fits of nausea, burning skin, dysentery and coughing. Even the mice, birds and insects seemed to vacate the county. Forty farmers in the area appealed to Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon, and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare joined the investigation. They concluded that "an air pollution problem does not exist in the vicinity."

The sheriff of nearby Hutchinson County, Hugh Anderson, was pressured into issuing a quarantine, preventing any resident of Roger Mills County from entering Hutchinson County "until such time as the stuff is identified."

Could the strange gas that took over Roger Mills County be related in any way to the UFO mystery? Oklahoma has a long and complicated history of UFO sightings going all the way back to the late 1800's. A sizable "flap" took place there in 1909-10. Just across the border from Roger Mills County, in Texas, there has been a wild rash of sightings and alleged "contacts" throughout 1966-67.

In recent years there have been many little-publicized poltergeist cases in which the witnesses claimed their homes reeked with the odor of rotten eggs as objects such as ashtrays floated mysteriously around their rooms, doors opened and closed by themselves, and strange rappings occurred in the walls. Ufologists all over the world are now making a serious study of the age-old poltergeist phenomenon, searching for possible links to the UFO mystery itself. Many witnesses are convinced that invisible entities are on the prowl and, for want of a better term, they are now called "Smellies." (See SAGA, March 1968.) These "Smellies" seem to be almost always accompanied by a potent whiff of hydrogen sulfide gas. And many of

the victims complain of headaches, fits of nausea and other physical symptoms after receiving a "visit" from a "Smellie."

The link between the "Smellies" and the UFOs is tenuous at best. But it does seem that there are more poltergeist and "Smelly" cases in UFO "flap" areas than in sectors where UFO sightings are rare.

In his book, *Flying Saucers Are Hostile*, Brad Steiger recounts the story of Harry Sturdevant, a night watchman in Trenton, N.J., who reportedly observed a low-flying cigar-shaped object on the night of October 2, 1956. "There was a smell like sulfur or brimstone," Sturdevant claimed, "but it was different. I don't know what it was really except it was very nauseating and made me very sick. I lost my sense of taste and smell; my throat would not swallow properly. My stomach felt worse than the time I was overcome with mustard gas while fighting with the allies in France in W.W. I. I collapsed in pain and lay there on the ground for half an hour before I was able to drive."

The symptoms for hydrogen sulfide poisoning are "corrosive action on mouth, throat and esophagus; causes severe pain in throat and stomach," according to the Merck Manual, a medical dictionary used by doctors. Headaches, loss of smell, weakness, reddening of the face, and coughing are among the other key symptoms. Obviously, the families in Oklahoma suffered all of these things but, in their case, something extra was apparently added. That something was so corrosive that it ate its way through chinaware and silver, and weakened concrete. And it caused the children in the afflicted area to lose their teeth. What was that "something extra?" Therein lies a bizarre scientific detective story and an unexpected new controversy for the UFO-philes to haggle over.

Hydrogen sulfide is not a major air pollutant although it is a routine waste product in oil refining processes. When London, England, was buried in a thick, unnatural fog for four days, Dec. 3-7, 1962, over 4,000 people were afflicted with severe respiratory ailments and 106 died. Investigating authorities blamed an inversion layer which, they said, kept industrial wastes such as hydrogen sulfide boxed in. But there had never been such a severe incident before—or since. Reviewing the data published on this event it appears that many of the victims of this "fog" suffered the same symptoms as the harassed farmers of Oklahoma. Since American authorities completely dismissed normal air pollution as a cause for the Okla-

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During Thanksgiving week of 1966, a heavy smog settled over the northeastern United States from Maine to Virginia. And during that week there was an enormous UFO flap encompassing all of those states. The UFO activity seemed to concentrate particularly in New England and New Jersey. Responsible witnesses even reported mysterious objects over New York City. (See SAGA, Dec. 1967.) But, as with most of the UFO mystery, this seems coincidental and unimportant on the surface.

Two other apparently unrelated factors have been baffling serious ufologists. One is the repeated appearance of silicon substances at alleged UFO landing sites. Three puddles of silicon were found on a beach at Presque Isle, Pa. (July 31, 1966), after a carload of people reported seeing a triangular-shaped object land there. The Air Force collected samples and claimed it was nothing but urine. Policemen on the site also collected samples and had it analyzed on their own. It proved to be silicon, a basic plastic-like non-metallic substance. A similar substance was found at the site of the Socorro, N.M., landing reported by policeman Lonnie Zamora in 1964. Silicon has been repeatedly found at many other such sites. The Air Force persists in calling it "silica," which is common sand. Silicon dioxide (SiO_2) is the principal constituent of quartz and is also a most important ingredient in the manufacture of glass and china.

The other puzzling factor is the continuous UFO activity within the immediate vicinity of—of all things—fertilizer factories! Such factories deal with nitrates and phosphates. In one recent case near Syracuse, N.Y., a family began to suffer from poltergeist-like phenomena, and a team of investigators headed by Prof. Gordon Evans and William Donovan, head of the Aerial Investigation and Research Corp. (A.I.R.), discovered their home was very close to a fertilizer factory. Trees in the vicinity had been cleanly knocked down in a row, indicating that something heavy and airborne had plowed through them.

Chemical factories along the Ohio River Valley have also been the sites of frequent low-level and hovering UFO activity in the past year, as have the large chemical factories in the vicinity of the Wanaque Reservoir in N.J. Early

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IS SHOOTING HUMANOIDS... MURDER?

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humanoid the same? Or is it only the peculiar evolutionary process on our planet, which produced man in his present physical form, that determines whether he is a "person"?

If we interpret that key word "person" in the latter unenlightened way, then God help the humanoids in flying saucers! And God help us even more, after that.

For elsewhere than in Augusta County, Va., there have been not only threats of "hunting" humanoids but actual shootings, even if usually being just a reaction of terror. And they go back several years. Witness the following:

- In April of 1964, right after the famed Zamora sighting in Socorro, N.M., a rash of other sighting reports came in. State Policeman Thomas Richardson of Moriarty, N.M., revealed the case of a 20-year-old youth, Don Adams, who told of driving his car along U.S. 65, east of Albuquerque. The youth claimed he saw a UFO hovering ahead and his car drove under it. Suddenly, his engine died—a well-known "electromagnetic effect" caused by saucers.

Adams said he excitedly got out of his car and fired six shots at the hovering object, then reloaded and fired again. The state policeman could not say whether the youth meant a pistol or rifle. At any rate, Adams said his shots had no effect whatsoever on the UFO, since it did not crash and spun away.

- Michael Campeadore, 24, is a resident of National City, Calif. In his report to the police, he stated that he worked at the Paradise Valley Hospital, and was en route on May 6, 1967, to Salt Lake City to attend the funeral of his grandmother.

About 17 miles west of St. George on route U.S. 91, at 1:43 a.m., he heard a strange, loud humming sound. First he thought it was a truck trying to pass but he saw no lights in his rear view mirror.

Turning his eyes front again, he was startled to see an object ahead. He described the UFO as circular with a dome-shaped top, and the color of amber, glowing in the night. Then he went on:

"I got back in the car, grabbed my .25-caliber pistol and put a clip in. I fired a full clip at the object and heard the bullets ricochet, so I know it was solid."

That, incidentally, ought to give pause to the skeptics who say all saucers and UFO's are optical illusions or weather phenomena or ball lightning and such insubstantial things. Not even the ingenious apologists of the Air Force could maintain that plasma-gas balls could make the "ping" of a ricocheting

bullet.

- We move now to Wilmington, Calif., where Jack Hill, (60 of Long Beach) is a security guard—or night watchman—at the Lumber Consolidated Company (Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner*, July 19, 1967). Hill said he was in the yard, presumably at night, when he saw a strange object approach, about 80 feet long. The UFO loomed larger and swooped within 50 feet of the spot where Hill stood.

Panicked, he whipped out his service revolver. "I fired six shots," he explained. "Then the lights of the craft went out and it flew away."

- In December, 1954, the director of Barquisimeto College in Venezuela claimed his car was chased by a UFO and he fired at the object with his pistol. It flew away.

- Also from South America, this time from Argentina, comes the story of "Martians" trying to "abduct" people from a village called Torrent. The villagers drove them off the first time. The saucermen returned on February 6, 1954, but this time they were met by shotgun fire from the well-prepared villagers.

The gunfire seemed to have no effect on the beings but it did discourage further "abduction" attempts and they flew away, never to return.

- March 24, 1966, near Bangor, Maine: A motorist named John King, 22, told how a huge disk-like saucer had approached his car and hovered low over the ground. King described it as about 20 or 25 feet in diameter with a clear bubble-type canopy on top. King drew a .22-magnum pistol from his glove compartment and got out of the car.

"Then it began to hum or to whine... that was when I fired at it the first

time—accidentally. But as it continued to come toward me... I fired again. It turned away from me and... hovered over a big puddle of water. That was when I shot at it the third time and I think I must have hit it, for there was a *sping* and its light flashed up real bright and it took off."

Again we have a bullet ringing against metal, or something solid. Swamp gas, perhaps? At least these terrified people are adding new evidence to the reality of UFO's and their probability of being spacecraft.

- A student from Maracaibo, Venezuela, wrote to this writer, relating his experience. Almiro A. Finol was duck-hunting with a friend in a marsh. Two saucer-type UFO's appeared and one of them came within 250 feet, ominously. Almiro shouted, "Go away or I fire!" But the UFO came within 150 feet and Almiro fired his double-barreled shotgun. Reloading, he fired the second salvo at the other saucer somewhat further away. The UFO's then sped off.

- In May of 1964, a "repeat" UFO kept reappearing night after night near the village of Rio Vista, Calif. It was pictured as being torpedo-shaped by some, or like a dirigible by others, from three to five feet wide and 12 to 15 feet long. Not a big UFO as reports go.

One night some boys reported to the sheriff that they had shot at the UFO with .22 rifles. And again (as in two previous cases), they had heard the bullets make a metallic *twang*. Also each shot made the object light up a bright red, as if sensors aboard the craft were well aware of the gunfire. But there was not the slightest retaliation, for which the foolhardy boys can be thankful.

That the UFO's have some sort of sensor system that can forewarn them of gunfire—and prevent same—is apparent in the following case:

- In Isola, northern Italy, November

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14, 1954: A farmer hid in fear when he saw a bright cigar-shaped UFO land in his farmyard. Three "dwarfs" in metallic suits came out and centered their attention on caged rabbits.

The farmer crept into his house and came out with a shotgun. As he attempted to fire, two strange things happened. The shotgun failed to fire when he pulled the trigger, and secondly, the gun suddenly felt so heavy in his hands that he dropped it.

The little humanoids seized the rabbits and jumped into their craft. As it arose, the farmer regained his shotgun and fired but it was too late. The UFO streaked away at high speed.

There are a dozen or more other reports in which guns failed to fire. Also, some cases where a strange "paralysis"—another weird effect—struck the observer and rendered him helpless to move. One could say this was the "paralysis of fright" except that it happens too often in too many parts of the world to be a mere psychological reaction. Besides, most of the witnesses report a "tingling" sensation or a mild "electric shock" when the paralysis strikes them. And this condition abruptly leaves when the UFO's fly away.

• The following case has been reserved for last, for a reason. We shift now to Paris in August of 1965. In the outskirts of the city, an unnamed man spied a UFO in the sky and hauled out a rifle, firing 18 shots at it all told.

The volley brought a Paris policeman running, with the unlikely Parisian name of Dan Bills, who gave out his own verbal blast at the gun-toter. Bills said that he warned the man that such shooting could be dangerous, especially if the mystery object happened to really be an ordinary old airplane or jet.

But Dan Bills significantly added what has so far not been brought out in this matter. To reporters he admitted, in relief, that it could have been worse—if the UFO had *shot back*.

Now we come to the main crux of the entire problem—would the crash of a UFO, or the killing of its occupants by gunfire, precipitate *retaliation*? So far there is no known case of random firings harming either a saucer or a humanoid, as if they are "invulnerable."

And this leads us to the most dramatic case of all. In the previous reports, it was mainly the UFO itself that the person shot at, rather than its occupants. But now we come to the notorious Sutton case in Kentucky, that occurred the evening of August 21, 1955, between 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. One paper at the time headlined it extravagantly as—**KENTUCKIANS REPORT GUN BATTLE WITH "LITTLE MEN FROM SPACE."**

On a farm near Kelly, eight miles north of Hopkinsville, Ky., the Sutton family consisted of three children and

eight adults. One boy, Billy Sutton, had gone out to the well for water at seven o'clock when he spied a glowing circular object that settled down back of the barn. The adults, when informed, shrugged it off as a meteorite.

But around eight o'clock the dogs began to bark furiously, as if intruders were around. Two of the men peered out the back door and were dumbfounded to see a creature some 50 feet away who glowed like the dial of a watch.

The humanoid was about 3½ feet tall, wearing a shiny garment that looked like a "nickel-plated suit." Its head was unusually large for its size, the arms were very long, and the hands were webbed with clawed fingers.

When the goblin-like creature boldly stepped within 20 feet of the two men, Elmer and John Sutton grabbed up weapons—a .22-caliber pistol and a shotgun—and both blazed away.

The gunfire knocked the creature backward but it quickly recovered and ran away. Frightened that he might return, with companions, the Suttons turned off all lights, darkening the whole house. All doors were locked.

One of the women suddenly screamed that a horrible face was peering through a helmet into the dining room window. The two armed men opened fire and knocked the creature back, again without apparent harm, for he scrambled away into bushes.

After 20 minutes of silence, the men ventured outside, to spy a humanoid crawling along the eaves of the house. They blazed away but instead of falling, the creature seemed to "float" away among trees. After that, the visitors were gone for good.

The most baffling aspect of this shooting fray is that the men swore they had heard their bullets hit home, as if striking solid metal, and then ricochet off into the air. Yet the suits of the small beings were flexible, not rigid armor. Whatever material it was made of, it was impenetrable apparently to gun blasts even at close range.

Now, we come to the crucial point. Did the Suttons have a *right* to fire at the intruders, even though they were trespassing their farm? But certainly the Suttons would not fire at human trespassers if they were *unarmed*, as the humanoids were—at least, no weapons or return fire of any kind were reported.

Obviously, fear and panic alone triggered this one-sided "gun battle." But should we excuse the Suttons, and all those before, who with no real provocation started shooting at the strange visitors?

This has become, or will become, a sudden new issue in the whole flying saucer controversy—as if there weren't enough controversy already.

John Keel, noted UFO researcher, has pointed out that each year since 1964 the percentage of UFO landings and of saucer men seen on the ground is increasing steadily. If that keeps up, more and more humanoids will be encountered hereafter by people all over the U.S. and the world.

This automatically means an increase in haphazard shootings that might, for all we know, blaze up into a worldwide craze for hunting the "monsters" from outer-space.

Particularly because some of the UFO occupants *are* monsters, at least to our eyes.

The notorious Flatwoods, W. Va., monster, for instance, was described by a group of witnesses in 1952 as a fearsome apparition some 10 feet tall with a blood-red face and greenish-orange glowing eyes, draped in a witch-like black robe.

Other monstrous beings have been reported in West Virginia, notably the recent "moth-man" of satanic appearance including huge bat-like wings. From South America come reports of giant creatures that are not even humanoid, some with only one huge malevolent eye like the Cyclops, others with big melon-heads and no noses or mouths.

One could hardly blame a frightened person for firing at those inhuman creatures, though oddly enough no case has yet been reported of guns used against them. Perhaps the observers were too paralyzed by fear to even lift a gun.

Still, suppose those creatures are the "men" of another world? They may be highly intelligent, peaceful, benevolent beings despite their nightmarish makeup, just as if octopi or devilfish had evolved into thinking beings on earth.

If the "monsters" built the flying machines in which they arrive, then they obviously come from a civilized world of advanced science and technology.

But are they *persons*, and thus protected under earthly law from extermination? That is the big question.

Now let us shift to another phase of this to-kill-or-not-to-kill dilemma. Irresponsible people with guns are one thing but the Air Force with its strict discipline is another.

Yet the USAF has just as wantonly fired at UFO's many times. The evidence:

• Edward J. Ruppelt (now deceased) was the head of Project Blue Book from 1951 to 1953, the agency that checks out UFO reports for the Air Force. In his book, *The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects*, Ruppelt revealed a case where two F-86's were sent chasing a UFO, which was clearly detected by radar as well as visually. The two jets separated and one of them came down over a doughnut-shaped UFO. As the

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mystery machine began to pull away, the pilot—apparently under previous instructions—opened fire in the hopes of bringing the UFO down, but it easily out-distanced the jet in a steep, "impossible" climb.

- On May 31, 1954, Air Force officials in Japan confirmed that fighter planes in Korea had been pursuing and firing at any and all UFO's they spotted.

- The Fullerton, Calif., *News Tribune* of July 26, 1956, had this headline: PACIFIC NAVY FLIERS ORDERED TO ENGAGE SAUCERS (Honolulu, T.H., OCNS).

Denying it publicly, the Navy had privately ordered all trans-Pacific combat planes to "shoot to kill" if UFO's were encountered—though the Navy officially did not even believe in saucers, ironically enough.

Various investigators, Maj. Donald Keyhoe among others, have revealed general shooting orders against UFO's for years, though our fastest jets seldom get within firing range of the mocking masters of maneuvers who fly the saucers.

Far back in 1942 there occurred an inadvertent shooting at UFO's that highlighted one important thing—UFO invulnerability. It was wartime, and jittery Los Angeles feared a bold Japanese air-raid when several huge glowing objects appeared in the night sky of February 25th. Spotlit by powerful searchlights, the hovering targets stood out clearly as no less than 1,430 rounds of anti-aircraft gunfire poured into the sky at point-blank range. It was dead-aim firing at "sitting ducks," yet the UFO's continued to hover imperturbably amidst the bursting flak.

If the Japanese had had new aircraft like that, the outcome of the war would have been different. Luckily, they were UFO's or air-machines from another world that were not interested, apparently, in conquering us.

Not only machine gun fire and flak have been hurled futilely against UFO's, but also modern missiles.

On January 29, 1962, when a UFO appeared above Holland, a Netherlands Royal Air Force jet unleashed a Sidewinder missile that sped straight and true. At the explosion the UFO vanished, but no debris rained down. Quite likely, under cover of the smoke, the UFO had simply streaked away at the usual blinding velocity they display.

The Soviets, also, had no compunction against firing at UFO's. During the summer of 1961, a giant "mother-ship" swooped down over the city of Veronezh, releasing smaller "scout craft." A nervous battery commander gave the fire order and a salvo of anti-aircraft missiles roared up—only to explode harmlessly when still two kilometers from the mother-ship, as if striking an invisible

wall. A second salvo suffered the same frustrating fate. The third salvo was never fired for the scout UFO's then used some amazing EM-effect and short-circuited the entire base's electrical system, after which they leisurely rejoined the mother-ship and flew away. It was quite like a slap on the hand to the belligerent earthlings with their puny weapons.

All of which points up the strong likelihood that the UFO's are entirely invulnerable to any form of weaponry we know. If they weren't, the air forces of the U.S. and other nations—as trigger-happy as civilians indiscriminately firing pistols and rifles—would long ago have embroiled us in a ghastly interplanetary war. One which we could never win, if the saucer-men have the power to unleash electromagnetic death-rays and what-not that would down our aircraft like falling leaves.

Stupidity. That is the only word for mankind's reaction to the advent of visiting UFO's—to fire first and extend a welcome later, when perhaps it'll be too late.

One might well ponder how we would like it if the situation were reversed. NASA has a tentative code outlined for our astronauts when they visit Mars (too long to quote in full) in which it is stated that if native people are discovered there, no hostile move is to be made against them *in the hopes that they will welcome us in peace.* Even if attacked, the astronauts are to fire back only if necessary to protect their lives.

NASA forgot to add—for the benefit of the world at large—"do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

That NASA policy, by the way, is the only oblique "official" word regarding the possible presence of aliens on our planet. The Air Force, the government, the National Academy of Sciences, the U.N.—none of them has seen fit to make any slightest pronouncement protecting the presumed space-visitors from unwarranted attack.

Yet, the whole world may be faced with an enormously grave new issue. If the UFO's are real (as I believe they are) and if the occupants step out at times on "private property"—namely, the earth's surface—should they be shot at as "intruders" or "violators" if they are on peaceful missions?

Hanging fire here is something larger than mere planetary "private rights." One humanoid killed—if it happens—and we might be embroiled in *interstellar war*, or at least suffer grim retribution.

Furthermore, what they may do to future "galactic relations" we cannot guess. If there is some sort of "United Worlds" out there in our galaxy (as Dr. Fred Hoyle, Dr. Carl Sagan, and

other eminent scientists suggest), then earth might be forever black-balled as a "warlike world" and perhaps "quarantined" to keep our "warrior" astronauts from ever visiting other worlds, even in our own solar system.

That there are rational people who think twice before pulling the trigger is exemplified by something that may or may not be related to UFO's.

On October 20, 1967, Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin rode their pack-horses into the Sierra mountain wilderness northeast of Eureka, Calif. In a sandy arroyo, the horses suddenly reared and threw their riders. Both men were experienced horsemen and escaped injury. Then they saw what had frightened the horses.

A hundred feet ahead was a huge, hairy creature like a bear walking upright. A second look proved it was no bear but a man-like form—or woman-like form—with long legs and a *semi-intelligent face.*

They were excited for they had come upon the legendary *Sasquatch*, or Big-Foot of the Sierras, related in a way to the Yeti or Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas. Yet it might, for all anyone knew, be one of the "monsters" that seemingly emerge from landed UFO's, as in West Virginia.

Regardless of that, it is the men's reaction that counts. According to one interview report, one of the men immediately yanked out his movie-camera but the other instinctively reached for his rifle in his saddlebags, then paused thinking: *How can I shoot at something halfway human?*

Franke Beebe, well-known Vancouver naturalist, when viewing the color movies of the "Adorable Woodswoman" as she was dubbed, said it more plainly: "If . . . I saw a thing like this one, I wouldn't shoot. I'd be far too afraid of how human it would look under the fur."

These are reasonable, scientific men, who would also be the last to fire at any strange unarmed humanoids emerging from a UFO. But those who fired pistols, rifles, and shotguns at the humanoids, as in the previous cases, unfortunately represent a large body of frightened people in America and throughout the world.

That's why sober and serious questions are arising in the minds of Sheriff Kent of Augusta County and lawmen all over, as more and more UFO's are reported and increasing numbers of humanoids seem to emerge and stretch their muscles on earthly soil.

Are we one step from a grave error of cosmic scope? Will there be a sudden rash of shootings at UFO occupants by trigger-happy "humanoid hunters"? And under present-day law—or lack of law—they most likely could not be charged