

The performance was repeated once again before the object disappeared for the last time at about nine o'clock. Staff-Sgt. Du Toit's 13-year-old daughter, Ingrid, was one of the most enthusiastic watchers last night. The family intends to look for the object again tonight at the same time. It was seen by other families in the neighbourhood." (Credit for the above three reports goes to our reader Mr. Philipp J. Human, of Umkomaas, Natal.)

Strange lights over Kimberly

We are indebted to Mr. Philipp J. Human for the translation of the following account which is taken from *Die Vaderland*, Wednesday, February 21:

"Three strange objects were seen in the sky above Kimberley by a number of residents at 1.05 this morning. Seven railwaymen who were on night duty at the Alexanderfontein shunting ground near the airport, saw the objects travelling through the sky from the south. Two of these persons, Mr. W. P. Steyn, of 14 Compound Road, and Mr. S. Jooste, of 18 Silson Road, said that they saw three bright objects appearing from the south. They looked like rockets, but travelled horizontally. Two were smaller than the third and seemed to leave a trail of sparks behind.

"The third and largest object seemed to become illuminated just before disappearing as if it had exploded. There was no sound.

"Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Human, of 6 Barnato Road, Hadison Park, also saw these objects. They appeared from a southerly direction and were very high. Mr. Human states that the two smaller objects left a trail behind, and seemed to travel a short distance ahead of the bigger one. The latter seemed to be placed in the centre of the other two.

"The smaller objects disappeared, but the third one, which was as broad as the rainbow, suddenly gave a flash just before disappearing."

(Mr. Philipp J. Human writes to explain that the Mr. and Mrs. Human referred to are namesakes and not relations.)

AUSTRALIA:

Somerton Mystery

A Somerton man has reported seeing mysterious flying objects over the Adelaide Hills at 6.15 p.m. on Sunday, November 19. He is Mr. Guy Page, of Somerton, an amateur astronomer.

"There was a cluster of about six to eight objects, due east of Somerton. They were crescent-shaped and travelling at high speed," Mr. Page said today.

"I had binoculars trained on the Adelaide Hills when they came into sight. They were not visible with the naked eye. I watched them for about ten minutes before they disappeared into cloud."

Mr. Page reported the sighting to the Bureau of Meteorology, but said he was mystified as "what I saw definitely wasn't a weather balloon. I didn't report this before because if you do people seem to think you're a crackpot. But when I read where two policemen saw something yesterday, I decided to report it."

[Two police constables reported on November 2 seeing an unidentified flying object while on duty in the Adelaide Hills.]

Mr. Page should be told it is no use arguing with a Bureau of Meteorology. He may have seen what they didn't, but they know what he hadn't. (Account taken from the *Adelaide News*, issue of November 22, 1961.)

NEW ZEALAND:

Greymouth Incident

We are indebted to Miss Aileen O'Donel for sending us the enclosed cutting from *The Press* of February 3:

"Two men fishing off the 17-Mile Rock between Greymouth and Westport had an unusual sight at 8.15 o'clock tonight (February 2).

"Messrs. Norman Darney and Joseph Howard, of Runanga, said that a bright red ball-shaped object with a white cone emitting a bright blue flame appeared from the western horizon and disappeared over Canterbury. Mr. Darney said it was the size of a small house. He estimated the height at 20,000 feet.

"Both he and Mr. Howard had a very clear view of the object in the cloudless sky. Mr. Darney said he was anxious to know whether any other persons had seen the object on the West Coast, or in other parts of New Zealand. He said the object was travelling at 'terrific' speed."

Brilliant sky object

This report, kindly sent to us by Mr. V. E. J. Allan, is taken from the Dunedin *Evening Star* of February 6:

"A mysterious bright, bullet-like object flashed across the New Plymouth sky on Sunday night. Local fishermen who watched the object for about ten seconds said that it was definitely not a falling star or comet. Mr. H. Edwards, who was fishing off rocks near the New Plymouth Railway Station, said the object scorched a path from north-west to south.

"It was a brilliant object and appeared from nowhere. It looked like the front of a bullet, being mostly white with a reddish tinge in front," he said. "I have seen falling stars and comets before and this object did not resemble either. It was quite big and was falling at a terrific speed."

"Mr. Edwards said the object had a short tail and as it disappeared it flickered. Another fisherman, who was fishing in the same spot, described the object as a 'round white ball.'"

SOUTH AMERICA:

UFO causes death

The *UFO Investigator* for January-February reports that at Santa Rita, Venezuela, a fisherman drowned when he and panic-stricken companions jumped from their boats as a huge, glowing

object approached. The incident occurred on October 6, 1961, at about 11 p.m. An enormous UFO appeared from the north, its glow lighting up the town. As it slowly crossed Lake Maracaibo, casting its glare on the fishing boats, dozens of terrified fishermen leaped overboard. One man, Bartolme Romero, went down in the frantic swim for safety. The others made shore, unnerved by the encounter.

In Santa Rita itself, alarmed inhabitants watched the strange object pass slowly over the city. The UFO was visible five minutes before it vanished to the south, leaving a reddish, exhaust-like trail. As the *UFO Investigator* points out, the slow movement rules out any fireball or meteor answer.

U.S.A:

Earth calling all worlds

The London *Daily Express* reported in its February 5 issue:

"A secret meeting of top U.S. scientists to discuss the possibility of communicating with other worlds was disclosed today (February 4). Some of them consider it a strong possibility that messages from beyond the solar system are impinging upon the earth. The question is how and where to look for them.

"Among those who attended the meeting at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory was Dr. Melvin Calvin who has just been awarded the Nobel Prize for chemistry.

"The *New York Times*, which revealed the meeting today, reported:

"At least one participant in the talks, Dr. Philip Morrison, Professor of Physics at Cornell University, believes that if the world survives its present crisis, a large part of human effort may go into trying to establish contact with remote civilisations.' But Dr. Edward M. Purcell, professor of physics at Harvard, was convinced that journeys to other planetary systems 'Belong right where they are—on cereal boxes.'

"Some scientists came away

with the conviction that two important steps must be carried out as a prelude to any major listening programme, the newspaper said:

"ONE: To demonstrate the existence of life elsewhere in the solar system. TWO: To show that there are planets in orbit around nearby stars.'

"Both of these are thought to be within the grasp of present technology."

A 30-mile chase

The *UFO Investigator* for January-February reports that a Mr. and Mrs. Richard DuBois, of 13481 Shirley Street, Westminster, California, were returning home on the night of October 21 from a holiday and were driving along Route 60 in New Mexico and that apart from their car the highway was deserted. It was about 2 a.m. when a brilliant ball of white light flashed down across the car, slowed, then turned back and followed alongside. "At first, I thought it was an airplane making an emergency landing," said Mrs. DuBois. The strange ball, however, streaked back into the sky. The witnesses conjectured that it might be an odd moonlight reflection but soon had to discard that explanation, for the bright object again flashed down, racing ahead of the car, then slowed to let them catch up.

"We were really frightened by this time," Mrs. DuBois said. Their alarm increased when the strange device pacing them suddenly separated into four smaller, glowing objects. Flying alongside, the formation kept pace with the car until a service station appeared ahead. When DuBois slowed down, the four UFOs flashed upward and went out of sight. When the terrified couple told their friends of their experience they were laughed at.

Another close approach to a car was reported on September 19-20, 1961, in New Hampshire, when a Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hill while driving around midnight saw a bright object in the sky. Using his binoculars he saw a band of light, convex as if on the edge of a flattened disc. The object seemed to be rotating.

Moon war warning

The London *Daily Telegraph* on March 17 reported from New York: "Mr. Dandridge Cole, a leading space scientist, believes that if the Russians reach the moon first they might shoot down American spaceships trying to land. He told the Institute of Aero-Space scientists in Los Angeles that if Russia set up bases at each lunar pole and four around the equator they could then lay claim to the whole moon.

"Protests at the shooting down would carry no more weight than in previous cases when our aircraft had been shot down. A retaliatory attack against their moon bases would be aggression in the eyes of the world and might well lead to nuclear war."

Our advice is not to worry. Space travel will probably broaden the mind.

RUSSIA:

Venus life clue

According to the London *Daily Telegraph*, March 20, reporting from Moscow, Professor Vladimir Prokoviev of the Crimea astrophysical laboratory, nitrogen has been found in the upper atmosphere of the planet Venus—a pointer to organic life existing on that planet.

Soviet Saucers

In June, *Zuercher Woche* (Switzerland) published an objective article with the title "Soviet Russia and the Riddle of the Flying Saucers." Among many other features the article mentions the Russian astronomer Basykin, of the Moscow Observatory, who gives it as his opinion that "it is by no means impossible that such phenomena exist and have existed for a long time. It is only recently that man has started observing the heavens constantly with highly developed instruments."

Mention is also made of the Russian theory that the two moons of Mars are artificial satellites.

(Acknowledgements to *Prediction*, February, 1962, issue.)