

GHOST-BOMBS OVER SWEDEN

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Our contributor, a regular correspondent of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW in Norway, prepared his article in English.

DURING the Summer of 1946 numerous strange objects were seen in the night skies of Sweden. Their origin was certainly not earthly, because the highly technically developed countries find no explanation for the phenomena, and those who might have known said nothing. The objects appeared suddenly and disappeared as mysteriously as they had come, leaving people wondering. . . . The first time anybody saw one was, as far as I know, in the very beginning of July.

July 2; Gevle: At 20.00 hours an object of unknown origin was seen in the sky. The altitude was estimated at 30,000ft. "The body was greyish and at the rear a bright light was seen." (*Svenska Dagbladet*.)

July 8; Norrköping: This time a sphere-like object appeared, moving eastwards. "The object was like a sphere, diameter about 2ft. The colour was grey. No sound was heard." (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 9; Norrby: Something surrounded by fire fell from the sky. Nothing more was said about the incident. (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 9; Björklund: At 14.30 hours several people observed a luminous sphere travelling towards the North-East. (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 10; Orebro: At 14.30 hours a new sphere appeared, moving towards the North-East. (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 10; Stockholm: At 14.30 hours a similar object was seen, but this time the size was bigger and its body was more like a cigar . . . "its breadth was a half-moon diameter and its length was ten or perhaps twelve times the diameter of the moon. It was bluish like a comet." The object was travelling in a westerly direction. (*Svenska Dagbladet*.)

July 11; Orebro: In the middle of the day a triangular-shaped "thing", about 60ft. in breadth, fell into the sea towards the East. (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 11; Otterslettan: At 7.30 p.m. "a

shining object was seen in the sky. Somebody said it was about 3ft. long. It left a trail of smoke." (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

July 11; Lindköping: "Late in the evening a rocket-like thing was observed by numerous people. At the rear one could see a line to which a copper-like sphere was fastened." (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

Until then there had been just a curious interest in these "meteors" and nobody considered them to be anything of special interest. However, on this particular day a meteor fell to the ground at Njurunda and left the witnesses wondering, for it was nothing like any meteor seen before. In fact it was unlike *anything* seen before. . . .

"We were just having our tea, when a luminous object like a sphere, so big that it nearly overshadowed the sun, came from over the treetops at about 40 degrees and hit the ground just a few feet from some children playing on the beach. The object emitted a fiery trail at the rear, which extended for some 100ft. or so. This was very much like a welding torch flame. This happened at 2.30 p.m. Naturally we both hurried to the hole which the 'bomb' had made on the beach. It was just a few inches deep, but about 6ft. across. We started to gather up bits which were left of the bomb. They looked like some kind of porous slag. The colour of the stuff varied from brownish to black. Some of the bits were almost like dust, and when touched, our fingertips started to ache as if the dust were acid. These pieces also left a peculiar smell. . . ."

This is a part of the story the Swedish pilot, Linden, told the Norwegian newspaper, *Arbeiderbladet*. Later the bits were sent for analysis to Dr. Becklund of Cellulosebolaget at Kubikenborg, who found that the material contained some carbon and a considerable amount of organic matter. In addition he found a small metal cylinder, just an inch long, which contained something not unlike a tiny chessboard. Conclusion: Just some

driftwood and iron-slag commonly found on beaches.

Organic matter? Was it, I wonder, some kind of advanced civilization conducting a survey that had lost one of their pilots that day? The general opinion was that it might have been a secret Russian weapon since there existed real evidence that something very material was "up there". An article in the distinguished Norwegian newspaper, *Aftenposten*, carried the heading: "New fireballs seen over Sweden". The article dealt broadly with the phenomenon:

"The fireballs seen in the sky are becoming a growing mystery in Sweden. Some people believe them to be meteors, while others believe them to be bombs of unknown nature directed towards Sweden. . . ." (July 11, 1946.)

The following day the same newspaper carried a new story:

"The Swedish Army informs our correspondent that some of the observations may be explained. *Aftenposten* has been in contact with bomb experts who can tell that the phenomenon has been observed so regularly that meteors can certainly be excluded . . . ! However, one cannot be quite sure . . . there is much to indicate that the objects may be guided missiles that do not contain explosives."

But why should anyone have been interested in despatching secret weapons over Sweden? Better to have gone to a deserted place to test them. In addition one might ask who was capable of making such weapons at that time? The German experts had fled to the U.S.A., and those few who had been captured by the Russians were known not to be capable of making such weapons, a fact known to the Swedish Army.

Despite all the speculation:

July 12; Rasunda: At 7.00 p.m. a really strange object was seen. "It was very much like a huge soap bubble with drops on its brim. It sailed slowly towards the North-West." (*Dagens Nyheter*.)

I think this indicates rather new principles of propulsion and construction. Said *Aftenposten* on July 17, 1946: "A large number of rockets have been observed during the past few days. They have been seen all over Scandinavia, and even from Finland we have received stories about objects moving with tremendous speed in the night skies. It is now believed that they are rockets constructed on entirely new principles."

Norway too

In the morning edition of *Aftenposten* for July 20: "Is someone experimenting with a flying-X in Norway?"

In the middle of Norway there is a big lake called Mjösa. At a small farm at the southern end of this lake a farmer and his family had witnessed a strange object at short range. He and his son were working outside the barn, while his wife and daughter were working at a small hill-top just near the farm. It was 12.00 noon, the sky was clear, the lake completely calm, and everything as it should be on a warm summer's day. Then suddenly his wife heard something:

"A strange sound was suddenly heard in the air", continued the newspaper account. "Perhaps an aeroplane was coming at low altitude. The sound, however, was not like the noise from an aeroplane. Instead, it was more like a mighty wind blowing. Soon afterwards they saw two rocket-like things that passed over their heads at such high speed, and so low that they threw themselves to the ground. They

could see the treetops swaying from the air pressure.

"In the yard, Sigvat Skaug and his son were standing and watching the flying-X from a somewhat greater distance, perhaps 150ft. Skaug says that they were very much like the V-1 that he had seen in pictures. Ordinary aeroplanes they certainly could not have been. They were cigar-shaped and appeared to be about 7ft. long, with wings extending 3ft. from the body and fastened 3ft. from the nose, almost at the middle. *The wings fluttered as if they had been made of material.* They did not see any kind of fire. The missiles passed overhead close together, one just a little ahead of the other, on a parabolic course. They then fell simultaneously into the lake, throwing the water several feet up in the air."

There were still those who maintained the objects must have been meteors. A professor claimed they were only a *fata morgana*, and that such things usually do not fall from the sky. The Army was serious about it, but like the majority they could say very little.

More objects seen in Sweden

July 22; Norbotten: "The Swedish Army was searching for an object which fell into a lake. The thing had left a large hole in the mud at the bottom, which should indicate it had been something real." (*Göteborg Handel & Sjöfarts Tidning.*)

July—Norrland: "A silvery-coloured torpedo was seen in the sky. It moved

at an almost uncanny slow speed, and its altitude of flight was very low. After a time it disappeared behind some clouds." (*Dagens Nyheter.*)

July 23; Melaren: "A ball of fire left a bluish light in the sky . . . it was very much like a swan without a head." (*Dagens Nyheter.*)

July 26; Oslo, Norway: "At 00.53 hours an explosion was heard all over the town, and some saw a light. The police believed it came from the air." (*Aftenposten.*)

July 29; Övrekallix: "The Army reports that a ghost-bomb had entered the lake, Kölmjervsjön. The object was rocket-like, about 9ft. long, and some painted letters had been seen on its side." (*Dagens Nyheter.*)

The Army, having made a semi-official investigation during July, promised at the beginning of August to produce a report on the observations. This report never materialised, possibly because of so-called "national security"; or perhaps the investigation led to results that they did not dare publish either for fear of not being believed, or of creating mass hysteria. The theory that the objects were comets or asteroids had been rejected by so many scientists that it was no longer of interest. All that remained was wild speculation mingled with the feeling that these things were not of earthly origin.

[*Mr. Överbye's article will be concluded in our next issue—EDITOR.*]

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