

Gateacre man as he arrived home from work at 8.10 p.m. 'It was bright enough to read a paper by for a few seconds' he said. 'In some ways it looked like a comet with a fiery tail. When I last saw it, it disappeared over the tenement flats at Gateacre, travelling towards Widnes.'

## AUSTRALIA

### Thousands witness New South Wales sky objects

"Thousands of people in eastern New South Wales last night saw a group of unidentified flying objects cross the sky from north to south", says the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* of March 6. The report continues:

"Observers said they remained visible for periods ranging from a few seconds to two minutes.

"Neither meteorological nor RAAF authorities could account last night for the mystery objects. The Air Force had no aircraft in the area at the time, but Professor S. T. Butler, Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Sydney, said he was 'inclined to believe that the mystery objects were aircraft.'

"Professor Butler said he did not believe the objects were satellites because of their behaviour pattern. 'Their speed and colouring, as well as the number, make it unbelievable that they were satellites,' he said.

"I am also inclined to doubt the meteorite theory because of the length of time for which they were viewed, their clarity and their formation pattern. That leaves, at this stage, only one possibility—aircraft."

Later in the same report we learn that: "The Director of the Belfield Observatory (Mr. G. Patston) said 50 members of the N.S.W. Astronomical Society at Belfield observed the objects for about 30 seconds.

"Mr. Patston added: 'We could not see them through telescopes because they were moving too fast. The objects appeared about 7.40 p.m. about 30 degrees above the horizon and about 25 degrees west of north, travelling the south-east.

"The looked like a bursting sky-rocket.

"We recorded eight objects in the group. They had glowing heads and bright reddish-orange tails about 20 times longer than the heads. The first

object had vanished while the last one was crossing the sky about 50 degrees behind it.'"

According to a report in the *Sun-Herald* of March 7: "The height, speed and path of the objects made it almost certain they were parts of a satellite, said Mr. G. Patston, director of Belfield Observatory.

"He said he would ask U.S. satellite authorities if one of their satellites was due to leave its orbit at the time the flying objects were seen."

Top marks for a really novel explanation to Dr. Bart Bok, of the Mount Stromlo Observatory, who, according to the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*—"said mystery lights reported over N.S.W. tonight probably resulted from the movement of Jupiter into the evening sky. This could have caused reflections in the atmosphere, producing flashes, Professor Bok said.

"He said the movement of Jupiter occurred for about a month in each year. Reports of flashing lights were common at these times.

"The lights probably would be visible for several days, Professor Bok said."

(Credit to Michael G. Howes of Roydon, Essex.)

## BRAZIL

### Saucer drops electronic device

The following account, translated for us by Gordon Creighton, comes from the Rio de Janeiro daily *O Jornal* of February 7, 1965. The article, which appeared under the headline "FLYING SAUCER" OR NOT, IT LEFT BEHIND THE PROOF, was datelined Fortaleza (N.E. Brazil), February 6:

"A mysterious aerial craft, which was immediately taken to be a flying saucer, dropped a strange and complicated piece of machinery at Tabuleiro do Norte, a place in the interior of this State of Ceará.

"Terrified, a large number of people watched the flying saucer shoot across the sky at a great height, displaying intense luminosity. It then stopped abruptly, as though suddenly brought to a halt, and then moved off again at high speed.

"One of the witnesses, perhaps one of the bravest of them, was the farm-worker José Guerreiro Chagas. He ran towards the place where the

object fell that had been dropped by the strange machine (which, so far as he was concerned, was a flying saucer). He found the object, and then ran as fast as he could to the local office of the *Diários Associados*, the News Agency here in this State Capital (Fortaleza), and handed over to them his find. The latter, in fact, resembles a small electronic device, used perhaps on a balloon for investigation of the Stratosphere and sent up from some meteorological post.

"The farm-worker's story, related to hundreds of members of the rural populace here, is causing a tremendous sensation."

*Not only does this sound like a UFO: it sounds also like a typical cover-up. If the sighting is causing a sensation, then the authorities are bound to say it was off a balloon. The curtain of silence has descended on Brazil—EDITOR.*

## CHILE

An old report that has come to us recently in a batch from Argentina, is this item which the daily newspaper *Córdoba* quoted from the Chilean newspaper *La Tercera de la Hora* in its issue of May 28, 1964: "A large area of the coast of Chile was agog after a spectacular sighting between 8 and 9 p.m. on April 9, when scores of people in the seaside resorts of El Quisco, San Antonio, Cartagena (all lying just south of Valparaiso), had seen an impressive display of aerobatics by a saucer. The first witnesses were a party of local officials and professional men who found themselves and their car beneath the saucer which blinded them with its dazzling light. It then flew out to sea, where it danced and zigzagged about, changing colour from time to time, and shooting out red flashes. In shape it was a flattish disc, with portholes around the edge. The Chilean paper's comment was: 'This report presents just one more problem for the investigators who, all over the world, are trying to find out what these strange luminous bodies are, which have astonished and amazed the population of vast areas of Chile, and where they come from.'"

The *Córdoba* paper adds: "Coming on top of the recent happenings in Uruguay and the one at Socorro, close